

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
COURTHOUSE ANNEX – COMMISSION MEETING ROOM  
MAY 16, 2017  
9:00 AM  
MINUTES**

**Commissioners Present: Joseph Parrish – Chairman, Noah Lockley-Vice-Chairman, Cheryl Sanders, William Massey, Ricky Jones**

**Others Present: Marcia M. Johnson-Clerk of Court, Alan Pierce-Director of Administrative Services, Michael Moron-County Coordinator, Michael Shuler – County Attorney, Lori P. Hines-Deputy Clerk to the Board.**

**Call to Order**

Chairman Parrish called the meeting to Order.

**Prayer and Pledge**

There was a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes**

**On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Sanders, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the minutes from the meeting held on May 2, 2017.**

**Payment of County Bills**

**On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve payment of the County bills.**

**Mr. Rick Watson-Tax Collector**

Mr. Watson informed the Board a check for \$78,000 has been received from DEP for payment in lieu of taxes on state lands. He stated the live tax sale will be held on Friday, May 26, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the Grand Jury Room at the Courthouse. He reported the tax bills total over \$25 million and includes 18,000 parcels. He said there are 16,259 parcels that are not exempt. He stated there are 1,454 unpaid tax bills but some people will pay after the advertisement runs in the newspaper so the number auctioned will be a little less than 1,454.

Mr. Watson provided an update on the Rock by the Sea Festival. He explained there were people there from 26 different states and 2 foreign countries. He reported 2 events are held at St. George Island and 3 in other states but the event is identified with Franklin County. He said the function is for children's issues and \$125,000 was given to the University of Florida (UF) for their cancer treatment center. He explained \$55,000 was raised and a match was received from the founder of AOL and Columbia Presbyterian Hospital. He stated some of the children of the musicians have received treatment at this facility. He thanked the Board as TDC helps with this event. Commissioner Jones stated when his son was in John Hopkins Hospital in St. Petersburg last year he saw an advertisement for Rock by the Sea.

### Department Directors Report

#### Howard Nabors - Superintendent of Public Works

Mr. Nabors did not have any items for the Board. The Board did not have any items for Mr. Nabors.

Mr. DeWitt Polous, Mosquito Control Director, asked the Board for permission to purchase a new spray truck for his department. He explained funds have been received from FEMA and the Department of Health. **Commissioner Massey made a motion to approve the purchase of a new spray truck for the Mosquito Control Department. Commissioner Lockley seconded the motion.** Chairman Parrish asked if this money is in the budget for this truck. Mr. Polous answered yes. Chairman Parrish reported Mr. Polous has needed a truck and now the money is available. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

#### Fonda Davis - Solid Waste Director

Mr. Davis provided a report on the recycling program, as follows:

Annual Fuel	\$15,704.00
Glass freight	\$ 4,500.00
3 Employees Salaries	\$93,596.00
FICA 7.65%	\$7,160.00
Retirement 7.52%	<u>\$7,039.00</u>
	\$127,999.00
Recycling Revenue	\$35,763.45
Difference of	-92,235.55

Commissioner Lockley said he reviewed the numbers and they are losing money and he does not think it is worth it. Chairman Parrish asked if the recycling program is losing \$92,235.55.

Mr. Davis answered yes, and said this does not include the wear and tear on equipment. Commissioner Sanders asked if the 3 employees are just for the recycling program. Mr. Davis stated they are the drivers and the inmates sort the recyclables. He explained the containers are also used for other items. Commissioner Sanders asked where the employees would work if the recycling program was cut. Mr. Davis reported the Parks & Recreation Department could use some help. Commissioner Sanders inquired if they are paid from the recycling budget. Mr. Davis answered no. Commissioner Sanders questioned if the county will have too many employees if they decide to shut down the recycling program. Mr. Pierce pointed out the Solid Waste budget would be reduced but then the Parks & Recreation budget would increase. Mr. Davis stated the landfill could also use another person because they are working it with one equipment operator and one spotter. Commissioner Jones said if the cost of the employees is removed then the recycling program costs are \$20,300 last year and the County made \$35,000. Commissioner Massey asked where the recyclables are going to end up if the recycling program is stopped. He said these items are going to be thrown on the side of the road and in the woods. Commissioner Sanders suggested using small recycling bins like Mr. Pierce mentioned at the last meeting but only for the items the County recycles the most. She inquired which recyclables make the most money. Mr. Davis answered cardboard. Mr. Davis said glass generates the least amount of money. Commissioner Sanders suggested keeping the cardboard but deleting the glass. Commissioner Massey said it is all the other items that are being placed in the recycling bins that are creating the problem. Commissioner Lockley said the County is losing money. He stated if the County would go to mandatory garbage and trash collection then some of this problem will stop. **Commissioner Lockley made a motion to go to mandatory, across the county, garbage and trash pickup. Commissioner Massey seconded the motion.** Commissioner Jones said he does not want to do away with the recycling even though it is not making money because it provides a good service. He expressed concern that he sells a lot of oil and the used oil is not making it to the landfill. He reported everyone is concerned about the bay but disposal of used oil is a problem and the County should expand the recycling program. Commissioner Massey reported some people who are collecting garbage do not provide containers. He said bags are placed out for collection and garbage is scattered all over the area. He stated these collectors need to provide a garbage can to the residents. Chairman Parrish reported any contractor that is interested in mandatory garbage collection wants the County to pay for the service. He explained if the individuals do not pay the county for this service then the taxpayer is paying for this service. He said if there is mandatory garbage collection then every individual has to pay every month. He stated he is not in favor of the County subsidizing garbage collection. He reported if individuals pay their taxes and not the garbage collection then the taxpayer is liable for paying the garbage collection. Chairman Parrish said if mandatory garbage collection is done then it needs to be set up in a way where the individual receives the bill and pays for the service. Commissioner Lockley suggested getting a pay station. Commissioner Massey said he is not for the taxpayers paying for the service but they need to figure out a way to have mandatory collection. Commissioner Lockley agreed it should not be hard as the cities already have mandatory service. Commissioner Massey reported the City of Carrabelle does not have mandatory collection. He explained yesterday they picked up 61 bags of garbage. He reported the garbage

is then taken to a dumpster and the City pays Waste Pro to empty the dumpster. He stated someone dumped 16 bags of garbage in the graveyard yesterday. Commissioner Lockley said a pay station will pay for itself. Commissioner Sanders stated a year and a half ago someone was directed to look into this mandatory collection but the Board never received a report. She explained at the time she questioned if this could be done district by district. Commissioner Sanders said she brought up the question about districts as Alligator Point and Lanark Village were interested in mandatory garbage collection but some Commissioners did not want mandatory garbage collection. She stated she felt mandatory collection would have to be countywide. Mr. Pierce pointed out some counties have an assessment on the tax bill for garbage collection. He reported if they do not pay then a tax deed is sold so the County collects their money. Chairman Parrish said he does not think the Commission is going to take someone's land if they do not pay their garbage bill. Commissioner Massey suggested Attorney Shuler contact some other counties and see how they handle this matter. Mr. Moron reported last year the Board directed him and Mr. Davis to have discussions with Waste Management and Waste Pro and the companies did provide options but none of the companies want to bill individuals. Commissioner Massey stated there is a big garbage problem in the County. Commissioner Lockley agreed and said the County has to pick up the garbage. Commissioner Massey agreed and said they are constantly picking up garbage. He reported there were 6-7 mattresses on the back street in Lanark Village this week. Mr. Moron stated the Board talked about curbside pickup and received many emails. Mr. Moron reminded the Board Mr. Davis presented the costs but people did not want it. Commissioner Massey said they need to contact the City of Carrabelle and see how they want to handle garbage collection. Mr. Pierce stated the cities can both assess these costs on the water bill. **Commissioner Lockley withdrew his motion. Commissioner Massey withdrew his second. Commissioner Massey made a motion to direct Attorney Shuler to look for the best solution for the garbage in Franklin County.** Attorney Shuler requested Commissioner Massey include Mr. Davis and Mr. Moron in this motion. **Commissioner Massey amended his motion to include Mr. Davis and Mr. Moron in this motion. Commissioner Lockley seconded the motion.** Chairman Parrish stated he is not against garbage collection but does not think the taxpayers should subsidize the costs. Commissioner Massey said he feels the same way. Commissioner Jones reported the taxpayers are already paying for the garbage collection because the County is constantly picking up the garbage. He stated the biggest issue is the way the service is billed when it is done countywide. Commissioner Massey stated it does not matter what the Board does, Mr. Davis is still ending up with all the garbage. **Motion carried; 5-0.** Chairman Parrish reported the containers used for recycling are about to rust out so they either need some maintenance or the county needs some new containers. He said if the county uses smaller containers then they will have to pick them up more often. Commissioner Sanders asked how much of the container was household garbage and how much was recyclables. Mr. Davis said about half of the container was garbage. Commissioner Massey asked how much garbage was placed in the cardboard containers. Mr. Davis reported over half. Commissioner Sanders suggested the County address this issue during budget time as it is only about 2 months away. Chairman Parrish agreed the County needs to think out the recycling program but he would hate to see it stop. **Commissioner Sanders made a motion to take up recycling during budget**

**time. Commissioner Massey seconded the motion.** Mr. Davis said they need to reinstall the recycling container at Alligator Point and relocate the recycling container on St. George Island. Chairman Parrish said if these containers are placed in low visibility places then the county will have issues. Commissioner Sanders reported there is some opposition to the container at Alligator Point. Mr. Davis stated the county owns limited space for these containers. Commissioner Massey reported the citizens need to decide on a place for the containers. Mr. Sosebee encouraged the Board to consider roadside recycling when they address mandatory collection. He said the County should delay placing the recycling container at Alligator Point until they decide if it will be long term or not. Mr. Davis said he is receiving complaints from people on both side of this issue. Commissioner Lockley said they will throw garbage on the ground if the container is not there. Mr. Larry Hale, Suncoast Realty, informed the Board all of his rental homes have garbage collection. He explained people who do not have service overload other peoples' garbage containers and he has caught several people on cameras. He stated the county used a municipal service benefit unit (MSBU) for the fire tax and the fire service improved and insurance rates went down. He said this assessment is not affected by homestead exemption so everyone pays. He asked the Board to consider this option. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

Mr. Davis informed the Board he will be on vacation from May 29rd-June 3<sup>st</sup> and July 15th-18th.

Mr. Moron read Item #1 from his report:

1. Inform the Board that Senior Services contacted staff about using the Armory to store and pack the meals for delivery for seniors in Apalachicola, Eastpoint, and St. George Island. They need to move from their current location at the Holy Family Building on 6<sup>th</sup> Street. An employee would be in the Armory from Monday to Friday from approximately 9am to 1pm. Their client files will be kept in one of the locked offices previously used by IFAS Extension Office. Most of their activity will be in a room, previously used for storage, that is down the hall from the warming kitchen. The Armory will not be used as a congregate meal site; therefore, no seniors will be fed there. No meals will be heated at the Armory. This limited use by Senior Services will allow the County to continue rent the Armory during the week without any conflicts.

Commissioner Sanders asked if they will pay rent. Mr. Moron answered no. **Commissioner Lockley made a motion to allow Senior Services to use one room in the Armory to store and pack the meals for delivery. Commissioner Massey seconded the motion.** Commissioner Lockley pointed out the City of Apalachicola wants to charge Senior Services \$1,600 a month to use the current space. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

**Pam Brownell - Emergency Management Director**

Mrs. Brownell presented her report, as follows:

Action Items:

NONE

Information Items:

1. EOC Staff continue to promote our Re-Entry Tag program and encourage all residents to apply for their Re-Entry Tag. Staff are also encouraging all residents to sign up for the Alert Franklin at [www.franklinemergencymanagement.com](http://www.franklinemergencymanagement.com) for mass notifications.
2. Tress Dameron is teaching a Teen CERT class and has another adult class scheduled for May 30-31, 2017.
3. Pamela Brownell met with the National Guard and the US. Coast Guard May 10,2017 for their annually meeting.
4. Jennifer Daniels attended the Florida Department of Forestry's Fire Wise program at the Franklin County k-12 school on May 8,2017. We assisted with advertising by utilizing our notification system, website, and social Media.

Mrs. Brownell stated the third grant was received for the Residential Flood Hazard Mitigation Program in the amount of \$194,000. She said the contract will be presented when she receives it.

Commissioner Sanders brought into discussion the Legislature not funding any of the Emergency Operation Centers (EOC's). She said this is upsetting because Mr. Bryan Koon, Emergency Management, told her the Governor's priority was to address 12 at risk EOC's and he would try to help build new EOC's before the end of his term. Mrs. Brownell stated one county EOC was in a line item in the budget but it was not funded and neither was the design of the EOC's. Commissioner Sanders reported now there is no money to build an EOC.

Mr. Pierce read the following item from his report:

1- Board update on protocol for implementing future fire bans. At the last BCC meeting, the Board requested staff investigate who has the authority to implement a fire ban. Mr. Shuler asked me to make the phone calls to the State Fire Marshall's Office which ultimately led me to the Florida Forest Service. I have spoken to a number of people and I believe this is the proper procedure. First, the State Fire Marshall's Office has nothing to do with issuing fire bans, or even determining if one is appropriate. I got this from Mr. Kevin McCartney, Asst State Fire Marshall for the state, and he spoke with the State Fire Marshall.

The Florida Forest Service does regulate certain types of fires, as an example they control the burning of any brush fire that is more than 8 feet in diameter, and they also provide public outreach to local governments who want assistance in determining any local fire bans. I spoke to Mr. John Fish, Florida Forest Service headquarters in Tallahassee, and also Mr. Clint

Davis, Franklin County Forest Operations Manager. The Florida Forest Service does not issue bans outright, but they control burning by not issuing burn permits. If conditions are severe and broad based the Florida Forest Service might put out a notice that burn permits are not being issued, but the decision on the issuance of burn permits is made daily. The Florida Forest Service does not regulate such things as outdoor grilling, so if those are an issue then the local government must determine if such a ban is necessary and then issue said ban. The Florida Forest Service is ready to assist a local government in determining the types of bans that might be appropriate for a certain set of conditions.

Once the local government, in this case the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners, votes to impose a local fire ban then the county Emergency Management Office is responsible for sending out the notice. The local volunteer fire departments, local law enforcement, and Forestry personnel are all authorized to assist in enforcement. The request for a local fire ban can come from the Division of Forestry, any local fire department, or be the creation of the Board itself, but the approval and establishment of penalties of a local fire ban is the authority of the county commission and no one else.

Mr. Pierce reported there is no burn ban of any kind at this time in Franklin County. He explained Fire Chief Jay Abbott, St. George Island Volunteer Fire Department, has called and asked if the County would consider imposing a fire ban on St. George Island. He presented a handout addressing the fire ban the Board enacted in 2007, which was the last time a fire ban was addressed. He stated if the Board is interested in enacting a fire ban, Mrs. Brownell has spoken to Mr. Davis and can provide a report but it is a decision for the Board. He explained in 2007 the Board declared a drought exists and he read the items listed in the Ordinance. He stated Mr. Abbott has requested a fire ban for St. George Island. Mrs. Brownell reported Mr. Davis stated the humidity index is in the 400's and is usually over 500 before a fire ban is enacted. She stated he did say it is drier on the coast than most of the inland counties. She reported Mr. Davis will send her some websites so they can monitor the humidity index but basically the decision is up to the Board. Commissioner Massey stated Mr. Abbott should not make these decisions and it should be left up to Mrs. Brownell as that is her job. Mrs. Brownell said this is one of the reasons she wanted Attorney Shuler to review his authority as fire chief. Chairman Parrish reported the County has now laid out the protocol that should be used in these situations. He said the last time this was done was with coordination from everyone. He stated if this fire ban is enacted, it should be for the whole county. He reported in the beginning the fires were in South Florida but now there is a fire in Perry. Chairman Parrish said the ban would be in effect until there is significant rain to reduce the danger. Mrs. Brownell agreed and said usually counties re-address this matter every 7 days but the Board can re-address this at the next meeting in three weeks. Attorney Shuler explained according to Chapter 252, under a declaration of a state of emergency, it is mandatory for the County to re-address it every 7 days. He explained if the Board moves forward with the fire ban then they should plan to meet again next week. He went on to say at that time the Board has to decide if the state of emergency will be renewed and if a factual basis still exists. Mr. Ken Cloosby, a resident of Alligator Point, encouraged the Board to enact a fire ban on Alligator Point. He said at the last fire department meeting they discussed renters building beach fires. He reported

they have asked people to put the fires out if they see them. He stated it is extremely dry and he asked the Board to consider a countywide burn ban. Commissioner Jones asked what the County has typically done on fire bans and if the County has a public information officer. Mrs. Brownell said she is the public information officer for emergencies and Mr. Moron is the public information officer for non-emergencies. Mrs. Brownell reported if the Board wants a fire ban then it is a local state of emergency and she distributes this information through their facebook and website in addition to the local TV and radio. Chairman Parrish stated people are asking for this ban and he thinks they should do it everywhere because it is warranted. Mr. Pierce suggested following the language the Board adopted in 2007. **Commissioner Massey made a motion to declare a local state of emergency and impose a burn ban as was previously read into the record by Mr. Pierce.** Attorney Shuler advised the Board if there is a second to the motion, it will only be effective if there is a supermajority 4/5 or more vote of the Board approving the declaration of the state of emergency. **Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.** Commissioner Sanders pointed out the burn ban in 2007 was for Franklin County, not just certain areas. **Motion carried; 5-0.** Commissioner Sanders asked that copies of the burn ban ordinance be sent to all the fire departments and placed on the website. Chairman Parrish asked Mr. Moron to have Oyster Radio do a public service announcement on the burn ban. Mrs. Brownell stated her office will notify everyone. Commissioner Lockley asked if this burn ban includes the cities. Attorney Shuler advised the Board this includes the cities but the cities can pass an Ordinance if they do not wish to be part of the ban. Chairman Parrish stated Mr. Davis needs to post this notice at all county parks. Mrs. Brownell reported she will contact the realty companies as they have a notification system and her office will use the countywide notification system.

#### **Erik Lovstrand - Extension Office Director**

Mr. Lovstrand said in an effort to use the funding allocated by the Legislature for an IFAS facility, they have talked with the City of Apalachicola about the Harbor Master's House. He explained the City is interested as they have a building that needs renovations and they do not have a budget for the repairs and the County has this allocation. He reported they are proposing a lease for no money so the repairs can be completed and someone can occupy the building. He asked for time with the County Attorney to get a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) worked out that the Board can consider. He reported some information was included in the Board packets and he offered to answer any questions. Mr. Pierce said the money was allocated at the last Legislative session and is in trust at the Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services (DACS) for Franklin County. He explained a new subgrant agreement will be needed for the funds to go to Franklin County as the original subgrant was for the University of Florida (UF). He stated now that UF has backed out of constructing the building then the money will come to the County. He reported if the County is interested in receiving the \$180,000 for renovations on the building then they need to have an agreement with the City. He went on to say the DACS will need something from the County by December. Chairman Parrish asked if the renovations are within the budget. Mr. Pierce reported the estimate for the renovations is about \$100,000. Chairman Parrish said the remainder of the money could be

used for equipment. Mr. Lovestrand answered yes, but said the estimate does not include permit fees, architectural fees, engineering fees or professional fees to get the construction drawings done. He explained there should be enough money available with some left over to purchase furniture. He reported this would be a very practical and functional building for the Extension Office. Attorney Shuler asked what term for this lease the Board is interested in. Mr. Pierce suggested 25 or 50 years so the building will be available to IFAS as long as they can have it. Commissioner Sanders stated she has concerns about this lease and this is the first time she has seen it. She said the Board needs more particulars about this lease. She asked if Attorney Shuler has seen this proposal. Attorney Shuler said he knew there was a general discussion about the potential of using the funds on this building and that the architect had estimated the renovations would be around \$100,000. He went on to say he has not seen the specifics and was not aware this was coming up today. Commissioner Sanders reported she has a problem with a lease with the City of Apalachicola if it is not for a specific, guaranteed time. Chairman Parrish said Mr. Lovestrand is asking for Attorney Shuler's help in working out the terms of the lease. Attorney Shuler asked how the Board feels about the term of the lease. Commissioner Sanders reported the longer the lease is, the better it is. Commissioner Lockley asked if the Extension Office will be the only tenant in the building. Mr. Lovestrand answered yes. Mr. Pierce explained if the County is going to spend this money then they want total control of the building. Commissioner Lockley inquired if the County can construct a building for \$180,000 on county land. Mr. Lovestrand did not think they could as several other options were discussed with the architect. Mr. Pierce said definitely not for the square footage of this building. Mr. Lovestrand reported the building is 2,700 sq. ft. and has space for offices and the possibility of a conference room. He explained this building has room to build and grow the extension program. Commissioner Lockley suggested the County construct a building and then add on later. Mr. Pierce said the only place for the Extension Office to go is back to the Armory and the money could be used to renovate a space. He reported the UF does not want to go back to the Armory if at all possible because the space is much smaller. He explained \$180,000 is not enough money to design and build a new building. He pointed out construction costs are about \$200 a sq. ft. for commercial buildings. Chairman Parrish said the building would cost about \$500,000. Mr. Pierce agreed that would be the cost. Commissioner Sanders stated they may have to scale down what they want. Attorney Shuler asked if this will be for the exclusive use of IFAS or co-located in the future with other county needs. Mr. Pierce stated the money is allocated for IFAS so the improvements have to be dedicated to space IFAS uses but the lease will be with the County. Commissioner Sanders reported she is concerned about a lease with the City of Apalachicola and then giving the responsibility to the County. Mr. Lovestrand reported the Board would approve the terms. Chairman Parrish said the Board needs to ask the attorney to look into the contract, negotiate with the City and bring the information back to the Board before the Board decides to spend money. **On motion by Commissioner Sanders, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to ask Attorney Shuler to look into the lease terms and conditions and bring this information back to the Board.**

Commissioner Sanders inquired if Mr. Lovstrand has ever provided the information to Mr. Moron about the Duke Energy herbicide issues. Mr. Lovstrand reported he has not made contact with his expert but he probably needs to contact them again. Commissioner Sanders stated he needs to follow up as Duke Energy is trying to come back into the County to do some more spraying. Mr. Lovstrand said he thought the county was going to contact other counties. Mr. Moron stated he was waiting on the recommendations before he contacted the other counties. Mr. Lovstrand agreed to work with Mr. Moron on this matter.

## **County Extension Activities May 3 – May 16, 2017**

### **General Extension Activities:**

- Extension Staff assisted local citizens regarding insect pests in local pine trees, injured wildlife, and other topics.
- Extension Director attended an in-service training on new web publishing software that UF will be switching to soon
- Extension Director participated in quarterly County Extension Director Meeting.
- Extension Director gathering input regarding potential plans for locating an Extension facility in the City's Harbor Master house at Scipio Creek. Will be working with the Board and the County Attorney to draft proposal for City to consider regarding renovations to the building using legislative funding obtained previously for an Extension facility.

### **Sea Grant Extension:**

- Extension Director participated in the weekly planning call for the Dark Skies turtle lighting project. Purchase of lighting supplies for first round of retrofits has been accomplished.
- Extension Director coordinated with Franklin County turtle lighting specialist regarding additional lighting retrofit work in the County.

### **4-H Youth Development:**

- Extension staff recruiting youth for summer camp programming and working with citizens and businesses regarding scholarship donations to offset camper costs.

### **Family Consumer Sciences:**

- Family Nutrition Program Assistant is conducting health and nutrition programs in the local schools.

### **Agriculture/Horticulture:**

- Extension Director seeking additional input from UF faculty on herbicide use along utility right of ways to provide potential alternatives to existing spray program.

### **Lisa Lance-Library Director**

Mrs. Lance presented the following report:

- Carrabelle Branch is hosting free Ancestry Research workshops on Saturdays from 11-1 pm.
- Adult Gardening Events Program: Eastpoint Branch hosting *Garden Insects: The Good, the Bad and the Buggy* May 9 at 1:30, Carrabelle Branch hosting *Pruning Techniques & Plant Propagation* on May 16 at 1:30
- FCPL's Music as a Second Language (MSL) program: Brad Rhodes with Melodime visited some of the MSL students during their weekly lesson
- Carrabelle added a volunteer in April (Judi Ring) and one Eastpoint volunteer is working at Carrabelle for the month of May
- Eastpoint electrical issues have been corrected with a replaced receptacle and a new one added. Carrabelle: Batteries (backup) replaced on the Iboss for network outages
- Summer Reading Program: Build a Better World (all performers booked), Program dates: June 14 – July 28, brochures and calendars will be available soon. Communicating with local vendors (Eastpoint and Carrabelle) and securing prizes for children's/adults reading challenge drawing awards. Flag Raising at Carrabelle, June 14 at 10:30 (the previous flag needs replaced but was torn down by one of the wind storms) – kickoff to SRP 2017
- Shelf adjustments to existing shelving at both locations to maximize space (using flat shelves that are currently in storage)
- New (additional) STEAM 2 program coming soon for ages 5-7, separating from the 8-12 age group (space, innovation, and literary purposes)
- New children's program plans underway – ages 0-2 and 3-4 (suggested)
- Youth services meeting held at Wakulla Library April 13 to share summer reading program ideas and agenda. Staff in attendance: Wren and Audrey
- Library Director meetings attended:
  - WILD Board Meetings Apr 10
  - Public Library Cooperative Meeting in Tallahassee (2 days, Apr 5 &6)
- Library Director attended the FLA Conference, May 9-12 in Orlando
- Eastpoint Library Hours now effective May 1, Monday – Friday 9:00 – 6:00 (no Saturday hours)
- Friends of the Library hosted *Cinco de Mayo* Fundraiser, at Sometimes Its Hotter on St. George Island. It was a great success despite the lack of weather cooperation, raised \$1000
- Landscape beautification project planning for Carrabelle

Mrs. Lance said tomorrow she has a meeting with the schools and hopefully will work with a reading coach for the summer reading program.

Mrs. Lance stated they received the State grant check of \$74,000 and in a couple of months will begin working on next year's state funding.

### **Curt Blair-TDC-Report**

Mr. Moron reported Mr. Blair called and is sick today. He said the Board has his report. He reported Mr. Blair can be rescheduled to the first meeting in June or he can appear as he normally would the second meeting in June. Commissioner Sanders asked if he had any action items. Mr. Moron answered no.

**Numbers:**

- Collections: The Collections for February totaled \$ 60,422.61. While this is a strong number for February which typically runs around \$40,000, it is about \$4,000 less than February a year ago. .
- Visitor Centers: Our Visitor Centers saw 2,913 visitors in April

**Legislature Review:**

The Legislature finalized the state budget in an overtime session. The budget provides for only \$25 million for Visit Florida down from a high last year of \$85 million. We do not know what the Governor will do with the budget but his options regarding Visit Florida are extremely limited. It is hard to image any scenario that will not ultimately result in fewer visitors to the state. The TDC Board and vendors will be meeting soon to assess the impact of a cut in Visit Florida and chart a plan for the coming year.

**Contracts:**

We will be bringing our Visitor Center, Sustaining Grant and Vendors contracts to you next month.

**Writers and Visitors:**

April and May are particularly busy months for writers and visitors. We have entertained visiting travel writers from German, The Tampa Times and a free lance writer focusing on culinary activities this month. In addition, Apalachicola was featured during the WJHG Morning Show last week and we were able to highlight some of the many events that were occurring during their visit.

**FADS and Artificial Reefs:**

Our Board heard a presentation last week from Bill Mickler, member of the Organization for Artificial Reefs and the Coastal Conservation Association, organizations that have been involved in the placement of artificial reefs (including one recently off Carrabelle) and Fish Attraction Devices” (FADS). The Board is looking into increasing the county’s access to devices that provide for the attraction of a wide variety of fish species.

**Triumph:**

By now you know that the Legislature approved the Triumph bill in the last week of the Legislature. One of the provisions of that bill is to include Tourist Development Councils as possible recipients of Triumph funds. For years, the TDC has been a participant in a coalition of TDCs that include all eight of the “affected counties” identified in the bill. In fact this was the group that served as the conduit for the \$2.5 million in promotion monies Franklin County received in 2012. I met with fellow TDC Director Jennifer Jenkins from the Gult TDC who is the Chair of the TDC Coalition to request the organization work toward developing a proposal to the Triumph group.

**ZIKA:**

Our Board heard from a representative of the FC Health Department on the progression of the virus and its impact on Franklin County.

**PSA’s:**

The TDC Board approved six Public Service Announcements on protection of the bay to begin airing on FCTV. You will be receiving a link in your email that will take you to the videos to view.

**Artists:**

You have heard about the number of artists that have been in town recently with the Plein Air Group. In addition, our board approved two requests to help assist local artists in promoting the area as a venue for art. Our involvement with the Council on Culture and Art in Tallahassee will provide for marketing training to area artists. We have a meeting scheduled with the Carrabelle group and COCA on May 17.

**Robert Millender:**

In the closing week of the legislature the House and Senate both approved a bill designating portions of Highway 98 in Carrabelle as the Robert Clifford Millender Highway in honor of Robert who died of wounds suffered in Viet Nam.

The next TDC Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday June 14 at 2:00 P.M. at the EPVC.

**Mike Cooper-Weems-Report**

Mr. Moron reported the Board received an email from Mr. Cooper saying why he could not attend today. Mr. Moron said he called this morning and Community Hospital Corporation (CHC) had made a request for some reports and the reports were ready by Friday but due to a technical issue they were not uploaded until yesterday. He explained Mr. Cooper called him this morning and CHC has started to look at the data and will probably be on site the week after Memorial weekend. He said they will probably stay for a week to do that portion of the analysis. He reported Mr. Cooper will be rescheduled to attend in June.

**Rick Moore-Senior Center (Carrabelle)-Discussion**

Mr. Moron read the following item:

4. Inform the Board that Ms. Lisa Bretz of Area Agency on Aging, Mr. Rick Moore and Ms. Gathana Parmenas of the Franklin County Senior Center, and I participated in a conference call on Tuesday May 9<sup>th</sup>. During this call, we discussed how to improve communication between the two agencies and Ms. Bretz explained what additional information was needed from the Center so that they could receive funding. I reminded both parties that the Board provided this funding to Area Agency on Aging for two specific purposes, first to provide meals to as many home bound Franklin County senior citizens as possible and to provide match funding for health and personal services for these same seniors. Mr. Moore is here to address the Board today. Ms. Bretz is on your June 6<sup>th</sup> agenda.

Mr. Rick Moore, President of the Franklin County Senior Center Board, thanked the Board for allowing him to appear and thanked Mr. Moron for helping them resolve some communication issues with the Area Agency on Aging. He explained they are hoping things will move along better due to these discussions. Mr. Moore said the Center provides services to active senior

citizens and most of the citizens they serve are 70 years or older. He stated they offer 13 different activities such as line dancing and senior tennis. He explained socialization is a big part of the health situation with senior citizens. He reported the Center is open Monday thru Friday and operates with volunteers. He said there is no paid staff but there is a paid retired chef who prepares lunch on Thursday and a paid cleaning lady that comes in once a week. Mr. Moore stated they accumulate 400 volunteer hours a month which represents 10,000 participant hours a year. He said no agency or group in the county comes close to this number. He stated they serve Franklin County citizens who live here, pay taxes here and vote here. He invited the Commissioners to visit and see where their money is going. He said every Thursday they provide lunch and on June 15<sup>th</sup> the Sheriff is coming over to provide lunch. He informed the Board a fundraising fish fry is being held on June 24<sup>th</sup> and he invited the Commissioners to attend. Mr. Moore asked if there are any questions. The Board did not have any questions.

The meeting recessed at 10:30 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 10:45 a.m.

Ms. Jan Elser, Franklin County Senior Center Board, said this center saved her life when her husband passed away and she was lost. She encouraged people to visit the center. Chairman Parrish reported he understands the need for the Senior Center but explained their funding is limited. He thanked Ms. Elser for appearing at the meeting.

### **Mark Curenton-Board of Adjustment-Report**

Mr. Curenton presented the following item:

1. **RECOMMENDED APPROVAL: (Unanimous)** Consideration of a request for a variance to construct a vertical Board and Post Retaining wall around a Self-Contained Spoil Area within the 50 ft. Critical Habitat Zone to contain spoil material from a future offshore dredging operation. The property is in a VE Flood Zone and borders on the Apalachicola Bay. The property is located at the Northwest corner of Franklin Boulevard a/k/a as 41 West Bayshore Drive, St. George Island, Franklin County, Florida. The request is submitted by Garlic Environmental Associates, Inc, agent for George Floyd owner of AMM, Inc. **TABLED AT THE JANUARY 21, 2017 BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING.**

Mr. Curenton said the Board asked County staff to meet with Mr. Floyd and his representatives and they had discussions but Mr. Floyd is still requesting the same variance as before. Commissioner Lockley asked if they were not able to work anything out. Mr. Curenton stated they were not able to reach any kind of agreement. Chairman Parrish said the Board needs to either approve or deny the variance granted by the Board of Adjustment. **Commissioner Lockley made a motion to deny the variance. Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion.** Attorney Shuler reported this is a public hearing of sorts and the applicant needs to be given an opportunity to present information. He explained they made their presentation originally but they reserved the right to ask Mr. Curenton some additional

questions although they had concluded their presentation. He reported the applicant and his representative are present and if they have a different recollection then they need to say so. He stated they have a procedural right to ask questions of Mr. Curenton. Commissioner Sanders inquired if this is considered a quasi judicial hearing. Attorney Shuler reported all of the variance, special exception, etc. are quasi judicial hearings. Commissioner Sanders reported they asked to delay and staff cannot reach an agreement with them and this is the reason she seconded the motion. Attorney Shuler stated the applicant should be given an opportunity to present information. Chairman Parrish reported he asked for the original presentation to be tabled to give staff time to try to work out some of the issues. He said they have met and discussed this project but the applicant is going with his original request. Mr. Garlick said they are going with the original plan but he did meet with Mr. Curenton and they agreed on some areas but some areas they could not agree on. He stated they agreed on the wall around the basin and backfilling it and a wall around the waterfront and backfilling it to the elevation of 5 ft. Mr. Curenton reported he thought they talked about 4 ft. Mr. Garlick agreed 4 ft. is fine. He explained the differences arise about placing a wall in sand along the marsh. Mr. Garlick reported they have not resolved some questions and the wall requires a variance if it is placed within 50 ft. of the water. He explained they disagreed about whether sand can be placed in this 50 ft. setback. Mr. Garlick said it is not clear and the code says sand is prohibited and it talks about pervious and impervious areas. He reported they want to reserve on this issue because if this goes further that will be an issue that will come up. Mr. Garlick reported they talked about deleting the wall but Mr. Curenton still felt the sand was an issue, regardless of the height, and would still require a variance. Mr. Garlick stated because of this issue, they made the decision to move forward with their original request. Mr. Garlick asked if this is correct. Mr. Curenton agreed and said there is evidence of erosion along the bay shore of the site. He explained they have in the past given variances for people to address erosion. He stated they have talked about the possibility of placing a lower wall along the bay shore and backfilling behind it, which has also been allowed in other places in the county. He said the wall would not be 8 ft. but something lower. He reported his understanding is they want to proceed with their original request. Attorney Shuler asked if the question is whether putting fill constitutes development in the code. Mr. Garlick stated pervious fill vs. impervious fill. Attorney Shuler reported this matter is governed by the Critical Shoreline Ordinance and he read Section 3-Definitions, Paragraph 5 Development. He explained placing fill on a parcel of land does constitute development and requires a development order. He asked what section Mr. Garlick is referencing. Mr. Garlick stated he is referring to the criteria for determining whether or not a variance can be approved or what types of development can occur within the 50 ft. setback that are not prohibited. Mr. Garlick reported placing sand within the 50 ft. Critical Habitat Zone (CHZ) is a pervious material and requires a development order but they disagree on whether it requires a variance. He said there has only been one permit issued by the County which is the White Sands project at Alligator Point and they are not sure if the permit was issued correctly or not. He explained there is a wall so it should have gotten a variance. Attorney Shuler said there is a disagreement because in order to be granted a variance, which they have applied for to put the fill in the 50 ft CHZ, nothing in the Critical Shoreline Ordinance would allow the placement of fill either within the Critical

Shoreline District or the CHZ. Attorney Shuler explained the Critical Shoreline District is 150 feet landward of the waters and wetlands of Franklin County and the CHZ is 50 ft landward of the waters and wetlands of Franklin County. Mr. Garlick stated the reason they applied for the variance was because they wanted to place the wall within the 50 ft. area. Chairman Parrish asked if there is a difference is trying to prevent erosion as opposed to building an 8 ft. wall to hold fill on site. Attorney Shuler answered yes, in the Critical Shoreline Ordinance there is an exception under Section 5. He reported the applicant does have land zoned C-3 and there is an exception that would allow for water dependent structures to be constructed in the Critical Shoreline District. He explained Mr. Curenton advised him what the applicant is proposing would not qualify for the exception because the retaining wall and back fill are not a water dependant use. He stated there are other exceptions in the Critical Shoreline District for erosion control and shoreline stabilization structures. He pointed out Mr. Curenton's opinion is this does not constitute an erosion control or shoreline stabilization issue. Mr. Garlick said other than what they agreed to along the basin and waterfront. Mr. Curenton reported there are allowances in the code for erosion control structures and it has to be the minimum variance that will address the problem. Mr. Curenton stated there is obviously erosion along the bay shore and if they want to build an erosion structure on the bay shore and put fill behind it, he would probably support it. He went on to say an 8 ft. wall is more than the minimum that is necessary so they discussed a shorter wall of maybe 4 ft. He said shoreline erosion control structures are different from an 8 ft. wall to hold spoil for a spoil disposal site. Chairman Parrish asked if they applied for a variance to do the bay shoreline. Attorney Shuler answered yes, and said the application comes with approval from the advisory Board of Adjustment and the advisory Planning & Zoning Commission. Mr. Curenton explained there is not a separate application for shoreline erosion. Attorney Shuler agreed the application is for the total project. Chairman Parrish inquired if the Board can allow one portion of the project without allowing the other part. Attorney Shuler recommended the Board consider voting on this request as an entire package. Chairman Parrish said it seems Mr. Floyd should be entitled to do the erosion control that Mr. Curenton was referring to on the bay side but if it is all included together and they do not want the 8 ft. wall then they must deny the whole application. Chairman Parrish clarified one thing is allowable in the County Planner's opinion but one is not allowed but it is submitted as one project. He went on to say the Board cannot allow one without allowing the other because of the way it is presented. Attorney Shuler stated the Board does not have an application for a 4 ft. wall; they have an application for an 8 ft. wall which was the original proposal. Mr. Curenton said he thought they would modify their application for the shorter wall on the bay shore but they went with the original application. Commissioner Sanders stated this is why she seconded the motion because they are considering the original proposal which is the 8 ft. wall. Mr. Floyd reported a critical point is at the October, 2015 meeting, the Board unanimous approved a harbor dredge project and that the fill was to be placed in the AE flood zone. He explained at that time they did not want to put this fill in the V flood zone because they did not know how to get it permitted. He pointed out the marina project has been approved and will proceed as approved. He stated the spoil will be put in the AE flood zone along bay shore and it was part of the advisory Board of Adjustment that there will be a drainage system to insure water will

not pool on Bayshore Avenue and flood the businesses. He said there will also be a swale and vegetative cover on the sand. Mr. Floyd reported they started a lot of research and he presented slides depicting their website and the links to information about this project. He explained an email was sent to the Board with this information and also the results of the public records request. He said there will not be more than 10 boats in the harbor in an overnight capacity. Mr. Floyd reported 120 boats can be launched and retrieved. He stated an article was published in Coastline this month that also had this information, photographs and also the letters of authorization. Mr. Floyd commented public forums have been conducted at the AMM facility. He explained they did a public records request because Mr. Garlick told him there are a lot of breakwaters going in with fill behind them. He explained they received the results from the public records request and he will provide this information. He reported he tried to reach out to the Board through email and Commissioner Jones and Commissioner Massey visited the site and looked at the project. He informed the Board he hired an engineer, Ms. Gina Johnson, Southeastern Consulting Engineers, in response to the Board of Adjustment Advisory meeting. He said first they asked her to provide the engineering for the swale and the drainage so they do not flood Bayshore Avenue. He explained they discussed using the spoil to raise the level of the land around the basin so it does not flood when there is a full moon or storm induced higher than average tide. Mr. Floyd reported in her analysis wave ramp up and topping height is what mandated an 8 ft. height of the fill area and it could go in with or without a wall. He stated it is better with a wall so the fill cannot flow back into the bay. He presented a map showing where this area is located. He discussed the reduction of the land and said Hurricane Hermine reduced it even more. He reported they received a permit from DEP to do the beach restoration which they did but it is not complete yet. Mr. Floyd showed a road on the map that goes to a turnaround area on the site. Mr. Floyd reminded the Board Mr. Shannon Hartsfield, Seafood Workers Association, talked about the need for safe boat launch facilities and said the number of oystermen that would be needing facilities was 35-40. He reported there are not enough trailer parking spaces at the causeway boat launch. Mr. Floyd said he needs to allow for up to 100 parking spaces and 50-75 would have the ability to trailer a vessel in. He went on to say if they lose 50 ft. of the uplands border then he may only be able to get a one lane road. He stated Mr. Curenton agreed they could put fill around the basin because it was a manmade structure. Mr. Floyd stated all of this is a manmade structure from back in the 1950's and 1960's. He reported this land mass is water dependent because people pulling trailers come here and will need a place to park. Mr. Floyd stated they also want to promote youth education activities and are working with Franklin County Schools. He said the objective is to maximize the facility by having plenty of upland land to park trailers. He explained these will be gravel surfaces. Mr. Floyd discussed the public records request and building permits that were issued. He stated none of these permits had a FEMA analysis done about wave ramp up during periods of storm events and overtopping. He referenced the FEMA analysis that was done on his property and said there is a link on the website. Mr. Floyd pointed out none of these permits had the CHZ evaluated like his project has been critiqued. He stated these types of requests are already being approved on a regular basis. Mr. Floyd pointed out they did not get a complete response on the public records request as 3 of the items were excluded. He

requested the Board review all these documents as it is a great project although he does not understand why it is the most scrutinized project. He asked the Board to let him move ahead with this project. He offered to eliminate the wall and just put in sand as an alternative. Ms. Johnson explained she was hired after the approval was given to place the fill in the AE flood zone. She reported they were hired to do the stormwater along Bayshore Drive. She said Mr. Floyd wanted to see if it was possible to put additional fill in the V flood zone. She referenced the Franklin County Floodplain Ordinance and said fill cannot be placed in the VE flood zone at a slope greater than 5 to 1. She stated a vertical wall needed to come before the Board of Adjustment for a variance. Ms. Johnson said in the ordinance it says non structural fill can be put in at a slope greater than 5 to 1 and an engineering analysis must be done to see if the fill will be overtopped. She explained the analysis was done and presented to the Board of Adjustment. Ms. Johnson said the results showed the wave ramp up would come up to an elevation of 7.6 ft. so they determined an 8 ft. wall would be needed so it would not be overtopped. Attorney Shuler asked if Ms. Johnson is a licensed P.E. in the State of Florida. Ms. Johnson answered yes. Mr. Floyd said the drawings from this analysis were utilized in the master plan and he presented a slide of the master plan. He stated they can strike the wall and just place sand up to this height of 8 ft. as required by FEMA. Chairman Parrish asked about the requirements of the DEP permit. Mr. Floyd said the DEP permit does not require the wall but the FEMA analysis does. Chairman Parrish inquired if Mr. Floyd has to contain all his spoil on this site and cannot just let it wash into the water. Mr. Floyd reported all the spoil has to be contained. Chairman Parrish asked if the intention of the wall is to contain the spoil. Mr. Floyd said that is the intention of the wall. Mr. Floyd stated the uplands are already 6ft. which is only marginally more than the wall and the property is 1 ft. less than the causeway. Mr. Floyd said they can just try to do the sand but he would prefer a wall. He reported this will be similar to what has been done at St. James Bay Golf Course, the old Breakaway Lodge property and some of the permits he presented today. He stated these walls are used to prevent runoff and erosion. Attorney Shuler said his recommendation is the Board does not approve part and disapprove part of the application but considers the application as a whole. He explained the walls done at St. James Bay Golf Course and the old Breakaway Lodge property, were done as Planned Unit Developments (PUD's) or Development of Regional Impacts (DRI's) which are treated differently under the code. He stated this site has different criterion for the Board has to consider. He said an email was sent to Mr. Garlick and he questioned if the applicant is one of the corporate entities of AMM. He asked if AMM is a charitable corporation. Mr. Floyd said this is not correct. Attorney Shuler asked the name of the applicant. Mr. Floyd answered AMM is a not federally or state designated not for profit public entity run by a Board of Directors. He stated he does not own this entity. He explained this entity works just like a church. Attorney Shuler asked if this entity is the tenant of this property. Mr. Floyd explained there is an operations management agreement between the not for profit entity and the independent LLC's for each property and vessel based on the advice of his attorneys. Attorney Shuler asked if the property owner is HLS Property Management LLC. Mr. Floyd answered this is correct. Attorney Shuler questioned if Mr. Floyd is the managing member and controlling member. Mr. Floyd answered yes. Attorney Shuler explained typically the Board would not consider an application for a development order from

the tenant unless they have assurance the owner is aware of and approves of the application. Mr. Floyd said the reason this is set up this way deals with accident liability mitigation. He offered to have his attorneys send a letter to Attorney Shuler addressing this matter. Attorney Shuler reported as long as the Board has assurance that Mr. Floyd as the owner of the property through the entity HLS Property Management agrees and consents to them considering the application. Mr. Floyd agreed. Commissioner Massey asked Mr. Curenton why he thinks this is not a good idea. Mr. Curenton responded he based his objections because of placing fill in the 50 ft. CHZ. Commissioner Jones stated he was not elected and in office in 2015 when this project was addressed. He felt some of the ideas for the poster board wall came from the December meeting at Harry A's with the people who do the dredging. He reported at that meeting they told Mr. Floyd regardless of whether the architect was involved or not, they felt the calculations were way off and there was going to be a lot more fill than what he was told. He stated they said it would be the first dredging and it would not allow for future dredging. He reported twice he offered to help Mr. Floyd and stated this is a great idea and a horrible plan. Commissioner Jones said the next thing he knew the project was before the Board in January. He said he grew up on the bay and is going to do his best to protect the bay whether people agree with it or not. Mr. Floyd explained he relied on Ms. Johnson who did the engineering analysis as to the amount of spoil that would be produced. He said they procured a topographical survey and a submerged land survey and Ms. Johnson used those items to come up with the spoil estimate. He stated whatever the dredge operator said, he did not have access to those surveys so it might have been a rough guess. Commissioner Jones questioned if the decision of the Board in October, 2015 was based on inaccurate information and would be null and void because there is a lot more fill once they are further into the project and now they find out there is more to do. Mr. Floyd said that would be a legal interpretation. Mr. Floyd stated the amount of fill was an estimate and until they do the project they are not exactly sure what amount of fill will be produced. He said he relied on the experts. Commissioner Jones asked if the whole idea of the poster board wall came up before they talked to the guides from the dredge. Mr. Floyd answered yes, in 2015 or early 2016 after the engineering analysis with FEMA were done. He reported it became evident of the need for the 8 ft. height because of the episodic storm ramp ups and it was also a FEMA requirement. He said they completed this analysis and the CHZ evaluation. Mr. Floyd pointed out they need adequate parking spaces for this project to be effective and they need flat space for the boat trailers to park. Commissioner Lockley asked if they have reached an agreement yet. Mr. Floyd stated they are at an impasse. Chairman Parrish asked for public comment. Mr. Dan Tonsmiere, Apalachicola Riverskeepers, said buffers are widely recognized as an effective and necessary protection for water quality and wildlife. He stated there are alternatives to what Mr. Floyd has proposed that would better protect the bay. He said he thought Mr. Floyd had a permit for a living shoreline around the bay side to prevent erosion. He explained this would usually be accompanied by vegetation marsh in wetlands and upland plants to stabilize the area in the 50 ft. zone. He explained this has been done at Indian Creek Park and at the shoreline restoration at the Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve. He advised the Board this is not a good time to lessen the protection of the bay. He pointed out both the City of Atlanta and the State of Georgia have buffers requirements. Mr.

Tonsmiere encouraged the Board to protect the CHZ. Commissioner Massey asked if the high buffer is a good thing. Mr. Tonsmiere commented the track record for vertical seawalls is not good. He explained if they are not overtopped they can be good but must have rocks to break the wave action. He stated historically when the walls are overtopped; the sand is sucked out just like the wall is not there and sometimes the wall will fail. He reported when DEP allows vertical walls, they will require the placement of rocks. Mr. Floyd said the buffer (rock wall) is in place. Mr. Garlick stated a breakwater has been approved by DEP and is still in the process with the Corps of Engineers (COE). He explained breakwaters are good but they do not stop erosion. He reported people put up vertical walls because they are losing land. He reported to hold sand back sometimes this is the only thing to do. He explained there are surveys of this property that show the property receding in some areas and building up in other areas along the bridge. Attorney Shuler asked if this is a vertical seawall or a retaining wall. Mr. Garlick answered a breakwater and the variance request is for a vertical wall. He went on to say the breakwater will be offshore approximately 10 ft. Attorney Shuler pointed out this application is not considering a seawall but a vertical retaining wall to hold the spoil back. He stated seawalls are built differently, permitted differently and are required to have a rock revetment. Mr. Garlick answered along the waterfront that is eroding he and Mr. Curenton agree meets the criteria for shoreline stabilization. He explained their differences are about the wall along the marsh and the assumption that it is not eroding so it does not meet the criteria. Attorney Shuler said they are not pursuing that application. He stated their application is for the 8 ft. wall around the perimeter as originally submitted not a lower height. Attorney Shuler asked if the 8 ft. wall is a seawall or is considered a retaining wall to hold spoil. Mr. Garlick answered the wall would be landward of mean high water and will be a vertical wall that holds sand. Attorney Shuler questioned if seawalls must have rock rip rap in front of them on the water side. Mr. Garlick reported not if they are landward of mean high water. Mr. Tonsmiere said the shoreline restoration at Indian Creek Park has stopped the erosion and there is a full marsh and upland vegetation. He explained they are trying to have a native vegetative buffer along the water behind the breakwater which would help the wildlife and stop erosion. Chairman Parrish stated this is not what is being presented by the applicant.

**Motion carried; 5-0.**

The meeting recessed at 12:02 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 12:10 p.m.

### **Amy Kelley-Planning & Zoning-Report**

Mrs. Kelley read this item from the Planning & Zoning Report:

- 1- **Recommended Approval- Unanimous:** Consideration of a request for commercial site plan review to be done in two phases located on Lot 17, Block Y, Lanark Beach, Unit 1, 85 Arkansas Street, Lanark, Franklin County, Florida. The property is currently zoned C-4 Commercial Mixed Use. Phase 1 would include a temporary moveable office, 5

parking spaces and an open storage rack for a kayak rental business. In phase 2 a Commercial/Residential Building consisting of 1,000 square feet will be constructed with an attached open deck and a separate detached open observation deck. Request submitted by Colbert and Debbie Jones, applicants. Dan Garlick, Garlick Environmental Associates, Inc., agent.

Mrs. Kelley provided a map of this location and said it is adjacent to the Ho-Hum RV Park. She explained there is about 120 ft. to the shoreline and they could access their kayak launching directly off of Arkansas Street. Chairman Parrish asked if the lots are between the projected site and the shoreline. Mrs. Kelley answered yes. Chairman Parrish asked if they are owned by different people. Mrs. Kelley responded yes. Chairman Parrish questioned the time lapse between Phase I and Phase 2. Mrs. Kelley explained they are in the engineering phase of their home and once this is approved, they will place a movable RV on site and live there during the construction phase. She reported when they issue the building permit, they are allowed to reside in an RV for up to 18 months during the construction phase. Chairman Parrish asked if this will happen after they purchase the building permit. Mrs. Kelley answered yes. Mr. Garlick said the applicant understands and has already started the engineering process. Commissioner Sander stated these are the same questions she had and she talked with Mr. Garlick about this issue. Chairman Parrish explained they want to make sure they have a building permit before they get power and move an RV on the site. Commissioner Sanders reported at the end of the 18 months if they have not constructed a home then they must move the RV out. Mrs. Kelley explained they are proposing a mixed use residential with an office and a residence. Commissioner Massey discussed an email from a gentlemen whose real estate agent told them they could move an RV or camper on their property. Mrs. Kelley stated she received this email and sent it to all the Commissioners. Commissioner Sanders said she would like a copy of this email as she did not receive it and is the Commissioner in this area. Commissioner Sanders asked if the Planning & Zoning Department will monitor this construction. She reported the applicant needs to understand the road should not be stopped up and whatever they are promoting needs to stay on their property. She stated this street, along with Arizona Street, are used for kayak launching and mullet fishermen and she does not want this access blocked. Commissioner Sanders explained they can try it but she have concerns and will leave it to the Planning & Zoning Department to monitor it closely. **On motion by Commissioner Sanders, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve this request but ask the Planning Department to monitor it closely.**

Mrs. Kelley presented the following item:

**LAND USE AND REZONING APPLICATION:**

**2- Recommended Approval of a Public Hearing- Unanimous:** Consideration of a request for a Land Use Change and Re-Zoning from R-6 Rural Residential to R-1 Single Family Residential on a 6.54 acre parcel described as Lot 2, Emerald Point, 1301 Highway 98, Eastpoint, Franklin

County, Florida and a Land Use Change from Rural Residential to Single Family Residential. Request submitted by Dan Garlick, Garlick Environmental Associates, Inc., agent for Helen Claussen, applicant.

**Commissioner Massey made a motion to conduct a public hearing for a land use change and a rezoning change. Commissioner Lockley seconded the motion.** Mr. Garlick reported the property is near the high school. Mrs. Kelley offered a map of the area. The Board discussed the location of this property. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

Mrs. Kelley presented the following request:

**SKETCH PLAT APPLICATION:**

**3- Recommended Approval Contingent Upon the Final Approval of the Land Use and Re-Zoning at the Public Hearing- Unanimous:** Consideration of a request for Sketch Plat approval of a 3 lot subdivision on a 6.54 acre parcel lying in Section 23, Township 8 South, Range 6 West also known as Lot 2, Emerald Point, 1301 Highway 98, Eastpoint Florida 32328. Request submitted by Dan Garlick, Garlick Environmental Associates, Inc., agent for Helen Claussen, applicant. (Contingent upon land use and rezoning being approved)

Mr. Pierce recommended tabling this item until the hearing is conducted. **Commissioner Massey made a motion to table this item until the public hearing is conducted. Commissioner Lockley seconded the motion.** Attorney Shuler inquired if there are buildings on this site. Mr. Garlick answered yes, there is one. Mr. Pierce reported this is a long standing issue where a house was built and then a mother-in-law suite was constructed but there is only one residence. He explained the structure is a single family residence but the second structure has a lot of bedrooms. Mr. Garlick stated this is only one building as there is a breezeway that connects the buildings. He explained the owner is interested in selling the lots and there was no other good way to use this property. He explained there will only be one driveway to the lots. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

Mr. Moron read the following item:

**ZONING ADMINISTRATORS REPORT: LAND USE AND REZONING APPLICATION:**

- A) **Recommended Approval of a Public Hearing- Unanimous:** Consideration of a request for a Land Use Change from Industrial and Single Family Home Industry to Recreational and a Rezoning Change from I-1 Industrial and R-4 Single Family Home Industry to P-2 Recreational of a 6 acre parcel lying in Section 2, Township 9 South, Range 8 West, located just south of D.W. Wilson Park. Request submitted by the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners, applicant.

Mr. Moron stated this is part of the expansion for the D.W. Wilson Park based on the grant from FRDAP. He explained this parcel needs to be rezoned to P-2 like the rest of the park. He said this will give staff the opportunity to know their options and provide a site plan. **On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to schedule the public hearing.**

Mr. Moron pointed out Mr. George Floyd had a Planning & Zoning request based on approval of the variance. He questioned what the Board needs to do since the variance was not approved. Attorney Shuler said he understood Mr. Floyd had an approval from the Planning & Zoning Commission for the site approval but the approval was contingent upon approval of the variance. Mr. Moron agreed this is correct. Attorney Shuler reported his recommendation is to deny this request. Mr. Garlick withdrew the request.

### **Marcia M. Johnson-Clerk of Courts-Report**

Mrs. Lori Hines, Deputy Clerk, read the following item for the Board's consideration:

*1-I need Board approval of a contract renewal between the State Department of Revenue and the County which provides for State approved payments to the County for service of process in child support cases. To explain, when the State files proceedings in child support cases, our Sheriff's department may be required to serve papers on individuals involved with the cases. The Sheriff's Department usually charges a fee for that service of either \$20 or \$70 which is set by law, but they don't collect the money in these types of cases. With the contract, the County can be reimbursed at a rate of 66% which would help offset our costs of performing this service. The current contract was approved for 3 years in 2014, and this contract renewal period would run for 1 year from July 1, 2017 until June 30, 2018. Attorney Shuler has received a copy for review.*

**On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Sanders, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the contract with the Department of Revenue for the service of process in child support cases.**

### **Alan Pierce-RESTORE Coordinator-Report**

Mr. Pierce presented his report, as follows:

1- This item was handled earlier in the meeting.

2-Board action to approve an amended sub-grant agreement with DEP for the development of the improvements at Island View Park, and Board action to approve the amended agreement with Trust for Public Land to manage the sub-grant agreement on behalf of the Board. All funds associated with the project have been budgeted. The action this morning comes at the request of DEP. Mr. Shuler has reviewed the documents.

Attorney Shuler said he has not had time to review the agreement but if the County wants the money, they need to approve the agreement. Mr. Pierce asked for the agreement to be approved contingent upon Attorney Shuler's review. **On motion by Commissioner Sanders, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the amended sub-grant agreement with DEP contingent upon Attorney Shuler's approval. On motion by Commissioner Sanders, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the amended agreement with the Trust for Public Lands contingent upon Attorney Shuler's review.**

3- Inform the Board about the reaction at the APTA meeting, attended by approximately 50 people, on Saturday to the shoreline stabilization project that was discussed at the last Board meeting. After a 2 hour presentation/question and answer period with me, the APTA Board of Directors voted unanimously to support the further development of the Board's concept of a one mile shoreline protection for Alligator Drive, starting at the west end of Chip Morrison and going east to the beginning of the Mud Cove area. In a document generated by Mike Dombrowski, MRD, the DEP reference points would be from R-210 to R-216, or approximately 6000 linear feet of shoreline. In the Board's packet is MRD's conceptual plan and design.

The motion by the APTA Board was "After a good bit of discussion, the APSTA Board passed a motion to communicate to the Franklin County BOCC their support in continuing to pursue this project as presented by Alan Pierce and to advise the BOCC that APSTA will work with the BOCC to identify maintenance funding sources that equitably distribute costs among all the users of Alligator Drive."

There was a great deal of discussion about possible funding methods as a former senior staff with FDOT was there to lead the discussion regarding the practicality of a fee based system similar to the FDOT's SunPass, where residents would buy an annual pass for their vehicle, and then with current technology available a transponder and camera are erected at some place on the Point. Any car with a Pass goes through without stopping. Any car without a pass gets a citation issued through a central processing agency and a fee is collected. There would not be a gate or cash collected at any point. The former senior staff person said that there is a private road in Leon County that is already using such a system, and that they worked out an arrangement with the Turnpike Authority to be the processing agency for a fee. As you can see by the motion above, APTA is willing to provide assistance in developing a funding mechanism, and I told them several times that whatever the mechanism it had to raise \$250K a year.

At this point I am satisfied that the APTA community is aware of the risk they face, and they are willing to consider a project that they have to provide the maintenance funds for, so I am willing to tell the RESTORE workshop this afternoon that the Board will be submitting a RESTORE project for \$4M for a beach restoration project. The project as presented will have a 50/50 match provided by the state long term erosion control program, for which the county previously was awarded a 50/50 match. The total cost of the proposed project as estimated by MRD is \$8M.

If plans change, the Board can always direct that the application be withdrawn, but I believe I ought to inform other applicants of the Board's intentions because our application will consume most if not all of funding for the first phase of the MYIP. Board discussion.

Mr. Pierce said the Board has until July to make this decision but based on the discussions they need to let the public and other applicants know the County intends to submit a large project. Chairman Parrish reported if the County moves forward with this project, it will be to protect the road at Alligator Point because the Board has no other means to provide a road to the citizens should this road continually wash out. He explained FEMA funds have been drastically cut and it takes a long time to get repairs approved. He reported the current PW the County has submitted to fix the current road is now going through another review. Chairman Parrish reported the Board needs to give direction if they intend to use this money for beach renourishment to protect this road. Chairman Parrish stated Mr. Pierce needs to know whether or not to present this item to the Restore Advisory Committee (RAC). He said he is in favor of this project but Mr. Pierce needs to hear from each Board member. Commissioner Lockley asked what pot of money would be used for this project. Mr. Pierce answered the County Restore money. He said the first \$4 million of the County's \$23 million would go to this project. Commissioner Lockley stated he knows they need it and he wants to see them get it but there were only 50 people at the meeting Mr. Pierce attended. He questioned if all the people at Alligator Point are in favor of this project and will they pay the assessment. Mr. Pierce reported there will be some people who are not in favor of it but it was more widely accepted because of the hope of a user fee based approach instead of another assessment on their taxes. He stated the County has to have a guaranteed \$250,000 per year. He said there may be technology available now to do this without another property assessment which is what they are interested in looking at. Mr. Pierce pointed out in order for this project to be successful there must be a funding mechanism in place so the users of the road pay before this project goes forward and the County spends \$8 million. Chairman Parrish stated a 50% match will also be needed in case the area is damaged again. He reported the County is trying to get in a position to take care of this road should it wash out again in the next storm. Commissioner Lockley asked if the County can legally do this if they have not talked to everyone at Alligator Point. Attorney Shuler reported the last time the Board looked at an MSBU, they Board made the choice to send it to the ballot and the people voted it down. He explained the Board has the ability to impose the MSBU without sending it to a vote if they think that is the correct procedure to follow. Chairman Parrish asked what will happen if the transponder does not generate enough money. Mr. Pierce said he has emailed a consulting firm to have them look into this matter and offer some advice. He offered to work with everyone to get some numbers and see if this will work. Mr. Pierce reported it has to be a guaranteed source of income. Mr. Pierce said one option is an MSBU assessment that is the same cost of the annual pass and then the individual pays and gets an annual pass. Chairman Parrish asked how people who visit Alligator Point will get a pass. Mr. Pierce stated they could buy an annual pass or they would get a citation. Chairman Parrish reported if they do not pay the citation then the County will not generate the funds. Mr. Pierce explained the money will not rely on the person who comes down on a daily trip; it will rely on the property owners. Commissioner Sanders

reported she does want people getting a ticket if they go down a public road and do not pay. She said something needs to be done and this should have been done many years ago but the Board stood by a vote the people on Alligator Point took. She said she does not mind imposing this if the people want to impose something to take care of the match. Commissioner Sanders reported she wishes the Legislature would have taken action to address beach renourishment. She stated the County needs to research every avenue and be careful how they proceed with this company as some people did not have faith in the numbers that were presented by this company. Chairman Parrish pointed out Mr. Pierce wants to take this project to the RAC tonight. Mr. Pierce said this is a crisis on Alligator Point and if the County does not put something out there to protect the road then the taxpayers are going to have to pay for the road. He stated this is the best, safest, cheapest way to save this road by placing the beach in this area using Restore funds and state matching money. He went on to say the users will have to come up with the maintenance fee. He explained everyone who uses the road pays the same but the County may need outside assistance to work out the proposal. Chairman Parrish asked if the property owners will vote on this issue. Mr. Pierce reported the County needs to pursue this issue and the Board needs to make the decision. Commissioner Lockley suggested installing a pay station and collecting as people travel to the area. Mr. Pierce agreed the County could take this option if they want to. Mr. Sosebee said members of the community recognize the issue and want to spread the assessment out equitably but this matter needs to be explored because at this time there are more questions than answers. He offered to work with the County staff to explore the opportunities. Chairman Parrish said the County also has to receive the matching funds. He inquired if they want Mr. Pierce to tell the Restore Advisory Committee (RAC) today about this project. He asked if the County will have to come back for another project if the matching funds are not received and this project does not move forward. Mr. Pierce explained if this project application is submitted, the project scored and it is rated number 1 and then the County does not get the matching funds, then the County will just move to project number 2 on the RAC list. Commissioner Sanders stated recently Gulf County did the Stump Hole area and the area washed out. She questioned if they imposed an MSBU on the property owners. Mr. Pierce agreed and said it was imposed for the first sand pumping and then the area washed out so the Gulf County Board had to use their Restore funds matched with some beach renourishment funds to put the beach back when the residents have been paying for the first time it was done. Chairman Parrish explained the area washed out before it was certified so there was no FEMA reimbursement. Commissioner Sanders stated this same thing could happen in the Alligator Point area and she is concerned about this area because something happened like this before. She reported the people need to understand if the Board pursues this project then they may have to impose something on the people of Alligator Point. Mr. Pierce agreed it would affect the people in the service area. He reported there must be a relationship between the fee and benefit and that is why Nickerson & Gibson consultants are advising the County on these legal matters. Commissioner Massey stated at some point there will be a storm or something will happen and affect this area again. Mr. Moron asked if the pass is an issue between residents and visitors. Mr. Pierce explained the residents want anyone who uses the road to pay for it. Chairman Parrish said another issue is whether a charge starts at Highway 98 or just for this area. Mr. Pierce reported he would start

the pass at Highway 98. Commissioner Massey suggested making it a toll island. Mr. Pierce said it may happen. Mr. Pierce explained nothing is going to happen on this road during the 2017 hurricane season because FEMA is not going to approve the PW, a state permit will not be issued in time and there will not be a beach in place. He explained if there is a hurricane then this road will go away and he does not know what kind of road they will put back.

Commissioner Sanders pointed out the County is going to pave the road at a cost of \$20,000. Mr. Pierce reported this is the County's first opportunity to get a beach in this area without immediately burdening the people on Alligator Point for the initial costs because this is the first time this money is available. Mr. Pierce stated tonight is the first time RAC will be discussing applications but nothing is being turned in. He explained he wanted to tell everyone the County is going to submit a project. Chairman Parrish stated the county is not getting any help on the state and federal level and the County is not always going to have this money to protect the road. He reported this road could wash out before the permanent road is put back in. He stated no one is going to help with this road so if the Board does not take action to protect this road so they people can get to their homes then they are going to be in trouble. Commissioner Massey agreed the County has spent a lot of money with County employees working in this area 7 days a week. Commissioner Sanders reported this is the first time the County has had this money to address this road and she wishes they did not have to use the money for this area and had a good road but they don't. Commissioner Lockley said this is the County's priority but there are 2 cities that are also going to be looking for money. He asked if the cities will be a priority on the next round. Mr. Pierce explained the applications are scored based on the projects not on the agency submitting the project but the Board makes the final decision of what projects get funded. Commissioner Jones reported the timing is very good to have the money available to use. He agreed they do not want to use it there but they have to provide a road. Chairman Parrish reported if the County does not get the matching funds then the money will move on to other applicants. He said the Board needs to tell Mr. Pierce whether they want to submit this project or not. Commissioner Lockley stated he has no problem submitting this project as they need it but the cities are going to be looking for money also. Commissioner Massey reported the City of Carrabelle is looking for money to build a city hall. **On motion by Commissioner Sanders, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize Mr. Pierce to include this project in the MYIP based on the discussions today.** Mr. Sosebee thanked Mr. Pierce for attending their meeting and said he did an excellent job.

4- Inform the Board and the public that there is a workshop this afternoon at 4 PM for applicants interested in applying for county RESTORE funds. At this time the application period is set for May 15 to July 15, but the Board can extend if necessary.

5- Inform the Board that I was contacted by Ms. Sherrie McPhaul, Grants Manager with DEM, on Wed., May 11, to let me know that she will be our contact for all PWs associated with Hurricane Hermine. I asked her to check on the status of the large PW for fixing Alligator Drive. I told her it was very important that that PW be processed promptly. I have followed up with

other DEM staff that I know because it is imperative that our PW does not get lost with the change in personnel at DEM.

Mr. Pierce said he is hoping to hear from Ms. McPhaul on where the PW is at this time because it has not been obligated yet.

I also informed the large crowd at the APTA meeting of what I consider to be 3 great perils confronting them, and us. They are:

A) Hurricane season is 15 days away and the PW has not been approved. There will be no additional protection to that road for the entire 2017 Hurricane Season. If the road washes out I am not sure what access will be able to be made.

B) I was advised by Ms. McPhaul that it is possible the large PW will be required to go through an EA- Environmental Assessment. We are currently doing an EA on the relocation of Gulf Shore Blvd and it will take 9 months before it is completed. If we are required to do an EA on Alligator Drive, the scenario exists where no additional protection will be available to the road for the entire 2108 Hurricane season as well.

C) Despite Governor Scott's personal visit to Alligator Point almost 10 months ago, despite a letter being written by the Secretary of the State of Florida DOT, to FEMA asking that FEMA provide some assistance, neither the state or federal government have provided any tangible assistance for the road. I reminded the residents that they have a voice in all levels of government, and they need to call their Governor to find out why nothing more has been done for them.

If the Governor does not approve the waiver of local match required for FEMA funds, and the project we have designed for Alligator Point comes in at some higher number, say \$5M, the funds available in the Bald Point Trust Fund will be exceeded. The Board will have to decide how it is going to fund maintenance costs of the single most expensive road in the county.

6- Inform Board that the Environmental Assessment for the relocation of Gulf Shore Blvd is proceeding. In the next 60 days FEMA will publish a notice for public comment on the proposed relocation. The public notice is the last step in issuing a "Finding of No Significant Impact." Once the Finding is issued, then FEMA can authorize the conversion of the existing funds to make the relocated road a permanent road.

Mr. Pierce informed the Board the Apalachicola Airport passed the inspection without any issues on Runway 18/36. He reported Mr. Jason Puckett, Airport Manager, did a good job.

Mr. Pierce stated he talked with Mrs. Brownell about No Camping signs at Carrabelle Beach as it is creating a vagrancy/nuisance problem. He explained the Board passed an Ordinance in the 70's about no camping on public beaches and signs are needed at this time. Chairman Parrish reported signs are needed at all of the county parks. Attorney Shuler stated the County may need to amend this Ordinance as some of the parks were not in existence at the time. **On motion by Commissioner Sanders, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote**

**of the Board present, it was agreed to direct Attorney Shuler to look at this Ordinance and if it needs to be amended, bring it back to the Board.**

### **Michael Moron-County Coordinator-Report**

Mr. Moron presented his report, as follows:

1. This item was addressed earlier in the meeting.
2. Inform the Board that the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), through Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) funding, has started the advertisement of bids process for Indian River Creek Park Boat Ramp improvements and for Waterfront Park (aka Lombardi's) improvements.
  - Indian River Creek Park Boat Ramp will receive a new approach and boat ramp, access gangway and floating dock, and an ADA parking space for a vehicle and boat trailer. There will also be a new sidewalk and minor grading and roadway improvements.
  - Waterfront Park will undergo a renovation to the existing concrete building so it can become an education center and museum with educational kiosk. A pavilion will be constructed along with an elevated boardwalk with railings. Railings will be installed at the existing dock along with an ADA parking space and a sidewalk to the dock. There will be a new parking area along with interconnecting sidewalks, new chain-link fencing, two gates with directional signage, and traffic barriers and bollards. In addition, the existing metal building and elevated slab will be demolished.

Commissioner Jones said these projects have both been put out for bids and asked if the Board can look at the plans before the actual construction. Commissioner Jones said he does not want another surprise like the boat ramp project that was completely different than what they thought was going to be done. Mr. Moron agreed to get the site plans. Mr. Pierce stated this is frustrating because the County submitted these projects years ago and now the state has designed these projects without input from the county and are going out to bid and will manage construction without the County's input.

3. Inform the Board that Mr. Billy Fuentes, Eastpoint Water and Sewer District Administrator, sent a letter thanking the Board for its assistance and cooperation regarding the Franklin County Jail Lift Station. He read the letter into the official minutes.

Mr. Moron said he read this letter because there were some problems before but Attorney Shuler and Mr. Fuentes have done a good job of resolving these issues so everyone can work together.

4. This item was handled earlier in the meeting.
5. Board action to hire Mr. Dan Garlick to obtain an Environmental Resource Permit for the County. This permit is a Northwest Florida Water Management District requirement and will allow County staff to complete the site plan for the soccer/football field and basketball court at D. W. Wilson Park. This permit has become necessary as there are wetlands in a section of the area that is part of the Park's expansion project. The cost for this service should be less than \$5000 and can be reimbursed from the grant if there are available funds.

**Commissioner Sanders made a motion to hire Mr. Garlick to obtain an Environmental Resource Permit at a cost of less than \$5,000. Commissioner Massey seconded the motion.** Mr. Garlick said first a feasibility assessment should be done which includes a meeting with the NFWFMD. He explained if the Board starts the Environmental Resource Permit process there are already objections to the project and there will be engineering and surveying things that will come up. He reported there is an analysis that must be done because a federal government permit is needed also. Mr. Garlick recommended the Board authorize him to conduct a feasibility assessment first so he can then present the options. Mr. Pierce said the NFWFMD wants a pre-application meeting. He recommended Mr. Garlick be the consultant on this project. Chairman Parrish agreed and said the County needs to move forward to get the soccer field completed. Mr. Garlick explained if they cannot avoid the wetland then they will apply for the permit and minimize the impact. He went on to say if they cannot minimize the impact then they will start looking at mitigation so there will be other things to consider as the project moves along. He informed the Board the matter will move out of the scope of work when it involves engineering and surveying and there will be other costs involved. Chairman Parrish asked Mr. Garlick to keep the County informed of the costs. Mr. Garlick asked the Board to let him complete the feasibility assessment and then he will bring the report back to the Board. **Commissioner Sanders amended her motion to hire Mr. Garlick as the consultant for doing a development feasibility assessment. Commissioner Massey seconded the amendment. Motion carried; 5-0.**

6. Board action to authorize the Chairman's signature on a waiver and a Joint Participation Agreement (JPA). These documents would allow for the purchase and installation of mobile surveillance camera systems in the vehicles operated by the County's Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) that provides our Transportation Disadvantage (TD) program. The Board approved this request at your June 21, 2016 meeting.

**On motion by Commissioner Sanders, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the JPA and authorize the Chairman's signature on the JPA.**

7. Board action to authorize the Chairman's signature on CareerSource Gulf Coast (CSGC) request for an extension to provide direct services. Based on the attached memo the Department of Economic Opportunity has notified CSGC that if they want to continue as a provider of Direct Services a formal request for an extension is required. Some of the direct services provided by CSGC to Franklin County is accepting job orders from employers and assisting in locating eligible job seekers, helping job seekers register in the Employ Florida job matching system, case management services for people in demand occupational training and case management for welfare and food stamps recipients to ensure they remain in compliance with work requirements. Attorney Shuler has reviewed the documentation.

Chairman Parrish asked if they have an office locally and are helping people with jobs. Mr. Moron did not know if there was a local office but said he will find out. Attorney Shuler said he legally approved the document. **On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the extension of CareerSource Gulf Coast and authorize the Chairman to sign the document.**

8. Board action to authorize a 5k race on St. George Island on Tuesday July 4, 2017. "The Spritzer" is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual fundraiser for the Franklin County School Cross-Country team. In addition to the 5k race there will be a 1 Mile Fun Run/Walk. In the same manner as we have done in the past two years I recommend your approval is contingent on the race sponsor/organizer coordinating with the Sheriff's Department for traffic control and with the organizers of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade to avoid any conflicts. Attached to your Board packets are maps and other information regarding this event.

**On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize a 5K race on St. George Island on Tuesday, July 4, 2017 contingent upon the race sponsor/organizer coordinating with the Sheriff's Department for traffic control and with the organizers of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade to avoid any conflicts.** Chairman Parrish questioned if they are asking the Board to close any roads. Mr. Pierce explained the route of another race on St. George Island and said the roads were not closed.

### **Michael Shuler-County Attorney-Report**

Attorney Shuler notified the Board an executive session will be conducted on June 6<sup>th</sup> at 1:15 p.m. to consider the litigation St. Joe Company filed against Franklin County. He stated there is a proposed settlement for the Board to consider. He explained the Board will open in special session and then close the special session and go into Executive Session to confer with him and Mr. David Theriaque, outside counsel. He reported they will then close the Executive

Session and reopen the special meeting and the Board will be in a procedural position to make a decision regarding the proposal settlement.

Attorney Shuler reported a request has been sent to renew the lease of Dr. Sanalluh. He said all the prior leases have been for a 3 year extension but the letter requested a 5 year renewal. He stated the current lease expires in June, 2017 and they are proposing a lease until June, 2022. He explained except for the term of the lease, it is the same lease they have had for the last 6 years. **Commissioner Lockley made a motion to approve renewing this lease for 15 years.** Attorney Shuler pointed out there is a provision for either party to terminate the lease upon 6 months notice. **Commissioner Massey seconded the motion.** Chairman Parrish reported this will coincide with the lease for the Panhandle Players. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

### **Commissioners & Public Comments**

Commissioner Jones stated the Forgotten Coast Parrot Head Club is trying to help in the community and will have an event on Saturday but have not approached the County yet. He reported they will have a 5K walk and volleyball tournament to benefit the Alzheimer's Foundation.

Commissioner Jones said Mr. Hale will probably also speak on this issue during public comments. He reported there have been some issues with several accidents that have occurred coming off of Island Drive onto Highway 98 in Eastpoint. He reported Mr. Hale has submitted a request for the state to do a traffic study.

Commissioner Sanders reported the Gulf Consortium is meeting tomorrow at 2:00 p.m., central time, in Fort Walton Beach. She explained this is when they will make a decision about RFP's. She said a new company, Balmoral Company, has taken over the Board duties as far as sending out notices of meetings. She stated she will bring information from this meeting back to the Board.

Mr. Hale reported he has contacted DOT the last five years about the need for a traffic light on Highway 98 and Island Drive. He explained DOT commented the traffic count is not high enough but they always complete the study a week or two after Labor Day. Mr. Hale stated they have notified him they plan to do a study and it should be complete in the next 60-90 days. He reported any support from the County or Sheriff would be in the county's favor. He said a traffic light is desperately needed and in the summertime this is a very dangerous intersection for anyone making a left turn onto Highway 98 or school buses. Mr. Hale stated one of his employees was almost killed in an accident at this location about three years ago. He asked the Board to request that DOT follow through with a traffic light. He stated he does not know what the conclusion will be of the study but they always seem to find a reason not to approve the light.

**Adjourn**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:24 p.m.

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Joseph A. Parrish - Chairman

Attest:

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Marcia M. Johnson - Clerk of Courts