

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 18, 2000**

**OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:** Clarence Williams, Chairman; Bevin Putnal, Jimmy Mosconis, Eddie Creamer, and Cheryl Sanders, Commissioners; Kendall Wade, Clerk; Amelia Varnes, Deputy Clerk; Alfred Shuler, County Attorney.

**9:00 A.M.** Chairman Williams called the meeting to order.

(Tape 1-25) Commissioner Sanders made a **motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on January 4, 2000.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-31) Commissioner Putnal made a **motion to pay the County bills.** Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**BILL MAHAN-COUNTY EXTENSION DIRECTOR**

(Tape 1-47) Mr. Mahan informed the Board he had attached several newsletters and publications, DACS Newsletter Florida Aquaculture, UF's Water Works News letter, and a copy of the new FL Sea Grant publication "Since the Net Ban", for the Board to review.

(Tape 1-73) He stated the Spring 2000 Distance Education Course Catalog is now available. He said undergraduate and graduate classes are offered.

(Tape 1-127) Commissioner Mosconis said he wanted Mr. Mahan to monitor the Spotted Sea Trout issue.

(Tape 1-190) Commissioner Sanders asked Mr. Mahan the status of the clam aquaculture project at Alligator Point Harbor. Mr. Mahan replied he had tried to contact John Gunter, DEP, but has been unable to reach him. He said he would continue to call him.

(Tape 1-197) He stated he also contacted the Clean Marina Program representatives to ask Commissioner Putnal's question about the fuel stations getting some sort of pump out facilities for commercial vessels. He said he has left several voice mail messages, but no one has returned his calls.

**HUBERT CHIPMAN-SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

(Tape 1-212) Mr. Chipman reported the employees at the Road Department had completed their Department of Corrections (DOC) inmate supervision recertification.

(Tape 1-224) Alan Pierce, Director of Administrative Services, said he had one thing he would like to discuss while Mr. Chipman was present. He stated the Shuler Family owns some property in the Forest. He said the road is named Hayes Place, which the County has listed on their road inventory. He explained the road does not reach the river or access anything except the Shuler property. He said Michael Shuler asked him to have

the road removed from the County inventory. He explained Mr. Prentice Crum and Mr. Chipman agree the road does not serve any County purpose. He asked the Board to authorize the removal of Hayes Place from the County Road Inventory. He reassured the Board the road only provides access for one property owner, Mr. Shuler. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion authorizing the removal of Hayes Place from the County Road Inventory.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mr. Shuler said the Shuler Estate owned all of the land around the entire area.

(Tape 1-333) Kendall Wade, Clerk, said that he would like to discuss the vacancy at the Road Department while Mr. Chipman was present this morning. Mr. Crum stated the Road Department needed an entry-level employee. He explained they would try to fill this position around February 1<sup>st</sup>. He said he needed Board authorization to advertise this position. He stated they had posted the vacancy notice on the bulletin boards at both the Road Department and the Landfill with no response. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion authorizing the advertisement of an entry-level vacancy at the Road Department and directing the Superintendent to make the necessary changes to create the entry-level position.** Commissioner Creamer seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mr. Pierce said he thought there was not an entry-level position available at this time. He explained there is a Working Supervisor position, Mr. Chipman's position, available. He stated since Mr. Chipman's promotion to Superintendent there has been no other internal transfers or promotions. He explained until some promotions or changes have been made internally then there is no entry-level position. Commissioner Mosconis said well then this needed to be done. Mr. Pierce replied that is entirely to be decided on by Mr. Chipman. Commissioner Mosconis said the proper changes need to be made before someone else is hired. Commissioner Sanders asked Mr. Chipman if he was prepared to promote within the Road Department. Mr. Chipman replied he was. Commissioner Sanders said if he is able to make those changes then she is going to agree with Commissioner Mosconis.

#### **VAN JOHNSON-SOLID WASTE DIRECTOR**

(Tape 1-433) Mr. Johnson said Henry Rochelle, Jr. was selected to fill the budgeted position within the Solid Waste Department. He stated until Action Truck Center delivers the knuckle boom truck the County ordered Mr. Rochelle will assist with right-of-way debris removal and ball field maintenance. He explained once the truck is delivered Mr. Rochelle will be the operator of the truck full time. He said the Department will then need a full time person to help maintain the ball fields. He stated the delivery date of the truck is March 1<sup>st</sup>. He asked the Board to think about hiring some additional personnel prior to that date. Commissioner Mosconis said he was wondering why couldn't he and Mr. Chipman get together and use that person during ball season. He stated then during the off-season the person could either work specifically for Mr. Johnson or Mr. Chipman. Mr. Johnson replied he would only need someone for the ball fields for about three or four months of the year. Commissioner Mosconis suggested he and Mr. Chipman work on a proposal and bring it back to the Board for consideration.

**ALAN PIERCE-DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

(Tape 1-496) Mr. Pierce informed the County he had received the Warranty Deed for deeding the County property on Highway 65, 26 acres, to the Franklin County School Board. He informed the Board the Chairman has already signed the deed. He said the deed will remain in this Board minute file until he receives the School Board deed for the property in Carrabelle.

(Tape 1-510) He presented the Board with the Planning and Zoning Office Year End Building Report for 1999. He said 1999 was the busiest year for new home construction in the last fifteen years. He said in 1994 the County issued 101 permits and this year, 1999, they issued 102. He informed the Board that last year only 86 permits were issued for new homes. He explained in 1998 the County issued a total of 709 building permits, representing the County and the City of Carrabelle, and collected a total revenue of \$149,000.00. He said in 1999, a total of 707 permits were issued and \$157,000.00 in revenues collected. He informed the Board the distribution of building around the County is about the same except housing picked up on Alligator Point and SGI, but dropped off slightly on interior sites such as Eastpoint, Lanark Village, and outside the City of Apalachicola.

(Tape 1-543) He submitted a copy of the DEP Permit Renewal for the Franklin County Landfill. He said the Landfill Permit has to be renewed every 5 years. He said Preble-Rish completed the permit.

(Tape 1-552) He reminded the Board of the public workshop being conducted by DEP on Tuesday, February 8, 2000, at 7:00 p.m. at the Alligator Point Fire Station. He said this workshop would be used to gather public comment regarding management and land uses for the Bald Point properties.

(Tape 1-562) He asked the Board to authorize the Chairman's signature on the application for Payment in Lieu of Taxes that Mark Curenton, Assistant Planner, has completed for the County. He informed the Board that because of the purchase of Bald Point, and some minor purchases, the State is increasing the amount by \$42,000.00, for a total of \$162,477.16. He explained the payment in lieu of taxes program runs for ten years on State purchases, and the County is in the sixth year of making this request and receiving payment. He said in the year 2005 the amount the County will receive should decrease, as land purchased in 1994 will no longer be part of the payment.

Commissioner Creamer made a **motion authorizing the Chairman's signature on the Payment in Lieu of Taxes Application for submission to the Department of Revenue.**

Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Commissioner Mosconis said since Franklin County was under the new Governor's State of Economic Concern then the County needs to make our Legislative Delegation aware of this and ask them for some time to replace this funding when it stops. He said there is only a small amount of land in Franklin County that is privately owned and paying full taxes. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion directing Mr. Pierce to send a letter to Franklin County's Legislative Delegation requesting they either continue funding**

**this Payment in Lieu of Taxes Program or find some other funding for Franklin County.** Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-632) He informed the Board the Census brochures the County agreed to purchase have been printed. He said the Census Bureau has increased the hourly rate for workers to \$9.25 per hour and 32.5 cents a mile. He stated a person from the Census informed him they need approximately 50 additional census workers.

(Tape 1-648) He informed the Board they needed to approve the final monetary allocation for Timber Island Boat Ramp. He said the total cost of the ramp was \$58,987.50 of which the State Grant paid \$45,000.00. He stated the Board approved spending Boating Improvement Trust Fund money, but since the County did not have an exact figure the Board now needs to approve spending \$13,987.50 from the Boating Improvement Trust Fund money on the Timber Island Boat Ramp. He said the ramp is being used a lot and is an example of a properly designed ramp by Preble-Rish, being properly built by the Harris Brothers. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion authorizing an expenditure of Boating Improvement Trust Fund money in the amount of \$13,987.50 for the final amount due on the Timber Island Boat Ramp.** Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-673) He informed the Board he went to a meeting at the Crooked River Lighthouse with people who are interested in saving the lighthouse. He said he climbed the 102 feet to the top and got a beautiful view of the coastline for miles. He stated there were 23 people in attendance at the meeting. He said he told them the County had too many projects and too little time to develop them all. He explained he told the group the County is more interested in playing a supporting role in saving the lighthouse, than the lead role, but the group needs to develop a plan and present it to the Board for consideration.

(Tape 1-697) Mr. Pierce said he received a letter from Amerigas concerning the offer the County made to purchase their property in Lanark Village. He said they are not interested in selling the property for \$4,000.00, but they might be interested in leasing the property. He stated since the Board's interest in the property is to get rid of the unsightly tanks, and to make a better recycling area, he would recommend the Board ask the Road Department to look at the Amerigas tanks to see whether they can use the tanks for watering tanks, and also whether they can move the tanks. He said the tanks have a 6,000-gallon capacity. He stated if the Road Department can move and use the tanks, then it might be the Board could make a reasonable lease offer. He explained Mr. Ronnie Bass is checking to see whether Amerigas has depreciated the tanks so they will have little or no value. Commissioner Mosconis asked why didn't the County offer to buy the property for \$4,000.00 and be responsible for disposing of the tanks. Mr. Pierce replied he would make that offer to them. Commissioner Sanders stated in the mean time she would make a **motion directing the Road Department to consider removing the tanks if possible.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. Mr. Pierce said the Road Department would not move the tanks until the offer was final. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mr. Pierce assured the Board he would contact Amerigas to see if they

would accept \$4,000.00 for the land and agreeing for the County to be responsible for moving the tanks.

(Tape 1-766) He said he needed Board action on the letter from the City of Carrabelle regarding the County assisting them with maintaining Baywood Estate Road. He stated maintenance usually means that the County will grade the street. Commissioner Sanders made a **motion authorizing the County to assist the City of Carrabelle in maintaining Baywood Estates Road.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-792) He informed the Board the County has received a letter, a copy of which has been provided to each Commissioner, from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission regarding the Spotted Sea Trout issue. He said the letter was from Mr. Russell Nelson and essentially defends the consideration of the new rules.

(Tape 1-863) He asked for Board action on a request from Jeanni McMillan, Jeanni's Journeys, Inc., on SGI, for permission to use the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street East on SGI, for a parking area for her business. He explained the street dead ends at her business. He said she purchased an existing building built by Buddy Fredericks and has put up a decorative wooden fence which she says will always be open and accessible. He stated she put up the fence to discourage people from dumping garbage and old cars in the area. He informed the Board the fence is waist high and does not act as a barrier to seeing the marsh. He said he told Ms. McMillan he would have to have Board approval for her to use County property. Mr. Pierce stated the County has allowed other businesses on SGI to use County property as long as they know they are using it with the Boards permission and can be withdrawn at any time. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion permitting Jeanni McMillan, Jeanni's Journeys, Inc., to use County property near her business at the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street on SGI for a parking area.** Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-906) He said a local landscape business owner, Local Color Landscaping, Inc., Cary Cloud, on SGI has written a letter complaining that the Planning Office issued a peddling permit to a competitor who is selling palm trees out of the back of his truck on SGI on County property. He explained he would consult with Mr. Shuler on the issue and report back to the Board.

**THE CHAIRMAN ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT THIS TIME AND ANNOUNCED THE MEETING, PUBLIC HEARING, WOULD CONTINUE IN THE COURTROOM ON THE 3<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR OF THE COURTHOUSE.**

(PH Tape 1-2) Chairman Williams reconvened the meeting in the Courtroom at this time. Mr. Pierce announced there were two rezoning requests. He stated he would like to address the first rezoning request submitted by Tom and Mary Baird for Lots 24-30, Block 6 West, St. George Island Gulf Beaches Unit 1. He asked if anyone in the audience would like to speak regarding this rezoning request from the Baird's to rezone their property from C-2, Commercial Business, to C-4, Mixed Use Commercial

Residential. Mr. Pierce stated he did not think this was a controversial issue and the Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approving this request. After no objections to the rezoning Commissioner Creamer made a **motion approving the rezoning request submitted by Tom and Mary Baird for Lots 24-30, Block 6 West, St. George Island Gulf Beaches Unit 1 from C-2 Commercial Business to C-4 Mixed Use Commercial Residential and authorizing the Chairman's signature on the Ordinance.** Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-38 Continued on Tape 2) Mr. Pierce explained the second request submitted by Eastpoint Timber, Ben Watkins, consisted of 524 acres in Eastpoint located east of North Bay Shore Drive, south of Twin Lakes Road, west of Otter Slide Road, and north of Old Ferry Dock Road to be changed from R-2 Single Family Residential/Mobile Home, and R-4 Single Family Home Industry to R-1A Single Family Residential Subdivision District. He said this property was the subject of the Golf Course Public Hearing held several weeks ago. He stated that before the Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z) had time to meet at the end of December Mr. Watkins came to the County Commissioners and presented this idea to the Commissioners. He said Mr. Watkins had a time line imposed by the prospective buyers of the property and asked the Board to go ahead and schedule and advertise the public hearing regarding this rezoning request for this property. He stated the P&Z Commission meeting was scheduled for the second week in January and in order to meet the deadline for advertising the Board agreed to go ahead and advertise this public hearing at the end of December knowing that P&Z wouldn't even know about the request until the middle of January. He said P&Z could have scheduled a special meeting to address this request, but due to the holidays he felt it just couldn't be done. He stated the Board has the right to schedule a public hearing, but traditionally they do not until P&Z has had a chance to review the matter so they can make a recommendation to the Board. He said P&Z did hear the request at their regular meeting in January and did not take any action on the matter. He explained P&Z members were upset the public hearing had been advertised without them hearing the matter first. He said they did not make a recommendation for or against the request. He stated essentially this project, if it is going to move forward, will need to have Eastpoint Water & Sewer (EW&S) as a participant because they are the ones who will provide W&S services to the subdivision. Commissioner Mosconis stated he felt this was clearly a deviation from the way the Board has been doing business. He said the County has a proactive P&Z Commission made up of volunteers. He said the Board has always relied on this citizen commission to provide or guide the County through these rezonings and land use matters. Commissioner Creamer said this is not the first time this has happened. Commissioner Mosconis said maybe so, but it sounds to him like this has been rushed through. He stated he did not have a problem with what was being proposed for this property, however he does want to make sure the P&Z members were not circumvented. Commissioner Creamer informed the Board he spoke to Ruth Schoelles, a member of P&Z, last night to seek her opinion on the request. He said she felt there was no friction, but that the matter had just been tabled because the matter was already scheduled for a public hearing. Nita Molsbee, Carrabelle, said she wanted everyone to know they did not try to bypass P&Z. She stated she called the County Planning Department to try and

schedule a special meeting of the P&Z, but was informed by Ms. Ward, P&Z Office, there was no protocol or provision regarding special meetings of the P&Z Commission. Gayle Dodds, Chairman of P&Z, appeared before the Board at this time. She said she wasn't going to say anything, but she felt she needed to. She stated Ms. Schoelles was 100% wrong. She stated P&Z listened for a long time to a lot of contention about this project. She said P&Z members were leaning toward agreeing to the project regardless of the contention. She explained one of the members of P&Z asked that since there was so much contention did P&Z have to do anything. She said Mr. Curenton, who was present at the meeting, stated well something needed to be done or decided since there was already a public hearing scheduled. She stated that brought all of them up short because if the Board wants a P&Z Commission then the Board needs to let them do their job. She said if the Board didn't not need or want the P&Z Commission then the members need to be notified because there are many other things they can do with their time. Ms. Dodds said if the Board is already going to plan a public hearing then why bother with their recommendation. Commissioner Mosconis agreed this was highly irregular. He said he is going to support the project since it is going to help EW&S get out of the dilemma they are in. Commissioner Putnal said he felt this proposal was being pushed through too fast. Commissioner Creamer stated he wanted everyone to know Ms. Schoelles did not speak or offer an opinion for anybody else on the P&Z Commission. He said he wanted that matter made public. He explained he thought Mr. Watkins has worked very hard and everybody has known this project was going to be considered. He said the Board spent hours listening to everyone when the proposal was discussed. He explained this was the very same property, but with a different proposal. He said he felt it was one he could live with. Mr. Shuler said he had not reviewed the procedure, but assumed Mr. Pierce had checked into the matter and decided this was proper procedure. Frank Venable, a resident of Eastpoint and owner of property near the proposed project, said he too thought the project was being rushed through. Jim Sisung, EW&S, said they are about three or four months from having the consent order filed against them lifted. He explained it will be lifted only when actual upgrade and expansion, from 165,000-gallon capacity to 175,000-gallon capacity, are completed. He said everything is in place and Mr. Watkins has promised EW&S he will work with them to acquire 19 or more acres from Mr. Watkins for the project. He said then they will be able to provide service to this project. He stated it will all go hand in hand. Betty Webb, EW&S, said Mr. Watkins approached them with an agreement and they have no problems working with Mr. Watkins. She stated in concept they agree with Mr. Watkins's proposal there are just some details that have to be worked out. She said personally she would rather see this multitude of homes using central sewer than having 500 septic tanks in place. Dale Anderson, Mark Rogers, Donald Johnson, George Allen spoke in favor of the project. Frank Venable, Tom Adams, Guy Hogan, Joyce Timmons, Ms. Greer, and Joe Eckstein voiced their opposition to the project. Commissioner Creamer said he would agree to the project except that he wanted assurances that Mr. Watkins would only develop the property at 2 units per acre instead of 3 units as the zoning category specified. Mr. Watkins said he would record covenants with the transfer documents so the covenants listing the requirements the Board requested follow the property in perpetuity. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion approving the rezoning request submitted by Ben Watkins for rezoning approximately 524 acres in Eastpoint located east of**

North Bay Shore Drive, south of Twin Lakes Road, west of Otter Slide Road, and north of Old Ferry Dock Road to be changed from R-2 Single Family Residential/Mobile Home and R-4 Single Family Home Industry to R-1A Single Family Residential Subdivision contingent on completion of the closing-2 units maximum per acre-contracting with Eastpoint Water and Sewer District for the sale of 19 acres for their expansion project and that water and sewer being available before building any houses. Commissioner Mosconis seconded the motion. Commissioners Putnal and Sanders opposed. Chairman Williams, Commissioners Creamer and Mosconis for. 3-2 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**REGULAR MEETING RESUMED AT THIS TIME.**

**ALAN PIERCE-CONTINUED**

(Tape 2-12) Commissioner Mosconis said he would like to make a **motion directing Mr. Pierce to send a letter of apology to the Planning and Zoning Commission members.** Commissioner Putnal said he would second the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 2-33) Mr. Pierce said Commissioner Sanders asked him to direct Robin Brinkley, FC Building Official, to investigate the condition of the Old Lanark Village Officer's Club in Lanark Village. He explained he had Mr. Brinkley go over to Lanark to look at the building. He said Mr. Brinkley informed him the building is in a deplorable state and should be condemned. Commissioner Sanders presented photographs of the building to the Board. She stated she had received numerous complaints about the building and children playing in or around the building. Mr. Pierce said the County does not have any real clear condemnation procedures. Commissioner Sanders said numerous letters have been sent to a Mr. LeFevere, owner of the property, about the building. Mr. Shuler explained the County does not have a comprehensive ordinance concerning condemnation of unsafe buildings. He stated the Board does have some general powers, but this property is within the Lanark Village Special Zone, which prohibits nuisances. He stated he could file an action in the Circuit Court to abate this building, which is considered a nuisance. Commissioner Sanders said she would make a **motion directing Mr. Shuler to begin the process of filing an action in Circuit Court regarding this problem.** Commissioner Mosconis seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 2-185) Mr. Pierce asked for Board action on a modified agreement with Preble-Rish. He explained that Preble-Rish Engineers had informed him last week they were going to have to modify their agreement with the County. He stated they wanted to reduce the amount of time David Kennedy was spending here because he is such a good employee they need him elsewhere. He said since the County is not currently doing much construction he agreed to try the following: reduce Mr. Kennedy to one day a week and have him available as needed at other times, and reduce payment to Preble-Rish from \$2,000.00 a month to \$850.00 a month. He assured the Board, that at this time, the County can get by on this, as Mr. Kennedy will still be here to do the SGI Park project and assisting on the Airport Road because of other contracts with the County. He

explained the only function that Mr. Kennedy recommends someone pick up is the sizing of culverts. He said at this time he would recommend the Board direct the Road Department to identify someone who Mr. Kennedy can train on the culvert issue. He said there are usually no more than 3 or 4 requests a week and most are very routine. He stated on any large or controversial project Mr. Kennedy will still be in Franklin County one day a week to consult and address those issues. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion authorizing the Chairman's signature on an Amendment to Engineering Services Agreement dated May 5, 1998 Preble-Rish Project No. 7.00.** Commissioner Creamer seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 2-236) He said the Board directed him to work with Mr. Shuler on solving the Harris Brothers property problem. He explained he understood the Board instructed him to offer St. Joe/Arvida \$5,000.00 an acre for the property, but the Board minutes do not reflect this. He asked the Board to clarify this for him. Commissioner Mosconis said he would make a **motion instructing Mr. Pierce to offer St. Joe/Arvida \$5,000.00 an acre for the property the County is seeking to purchase from them in Apalachicola.** Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** He encouraged any of the Commissioners that were interested in preparing the package the County plans to offer St. Joe/Arvida call or meet with him to provide input into the request.

(Tape 2-252) He stated last week he received notification of a new grant called the Land and Water Conservation Fund. He explained it had a cap of \$100,000.00 and a 50/50 match requirement, which can be in kind services. He said he talked with the DEP contact person who informed him there is a March 7<sup>th</sup> deadline for applications and that Franklin County has a good chance at getting one of these grants. He recommended that while the County is in the process of designing and building the SGI County Park we apply for this grant which if awarded would save the County from having to use the already reserved \$40,000.00 of leftover Sheriff's Office funds. He informed the Board there is a great deal of support on the Island for the Park, but everyone wants it to look nice, and at this time, more money is needed. He stated according to the DEP contact person the SGI Park would be an excellent program and would stand a great chance of being funded based on the criteria DEP considers. He asked the Board to direct Mark Curenton to submit the grant application for completing the SGI County Park including construction of the large pavilion, which was removed from the original plans because of the cost. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion directing Mr. Curenton to submit a grant application to the Land and Water Conservation Fund to use for the SGI County Park.** Commissioner Mosconis seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 2-293) Commissioner Putnal left the meeting at this time.

(Tape 2-313) He said the Planning and Zoning Commission met in regular session and recommends the following: Approval for Jerry Ison to construct a private pier on property located at 2524 Highway 98 East, in Lanark Village. There will be no mooring at this site and all State and Federal permits have been issued. Commissioner Sanders

made a **motion approving a private pier for Jerry Ison.** Commissioner Mosconis seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Approval for John Bisset to construct a private dock on property described as Lot 5, Heron Bay Village, SGI. All State and Federal permits have been obtained. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion approving a private dock for John Bisset.** Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** He explained the new Town Land Use Category was not discussed by the Commission, and will not appear on the agenda until more information is received. He said it is not expected since all of the property is back on the market.

(Tape 2-347) Mr. Pierce introduced Kim Shoemaker, Gulf Coast Workforce Development Board, to the Commissioners. He explained the agreement and budget was discussed at the last meeting, but the Commissioners were unsure of signing the agreement. He asked if the Board had any questions of Ms. Shoemaker and if not then the Agreement needed to be signed. Ms. Shoemaker explained the County had signed one of these agreements previously. She said there is no funding needed by Franklin County. She stated they receive their funds from the State and then they represent Bay, Gulf, and Franklin County to administer the funds for job training. She said this year they had about 8.5 million dollars. After discussion Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion authorizing the Chairman's signature on the Agreements between Franklin County and the Gulf Coast Workforce Development Board.** Commissioner Creamer seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 2-446) Commissioner Putnal returned to the meeting at this time.

(Tape 2-448) Commissioner Sanders asked Mr. Pierce to request a letter from the City of Carrabelle requesting their \$10,000.00 in recreation funds. Mr. Pierce said traditionally the County has paid the bills when submitted. He explained the County is responsible for keeping track of the funds.

(Tape 2-500) Commissioner Mosconis left the meeting at this time and did not return.

#### **BARBARA BONOWICZ-MEDIACOM**

(Tape 2-510) Ms. Bonowicz appeared before the Board to update them on Mediacom's project of installing fiber optic cable in Franklin County. She introduced Pat Holmes to the Board. Mr. Holmes said Lanark Village, Eastpoint, Carrabelle, and SGI had been upgraded. He said these areas had been tied in to the fiber optic system. He explained they are now in the process of obtaining the permits to start in Apalachicola. Commissioner Sanders said she and Commissioner Creamer were still receiving numerous complaints about MediaCom's service and reception. Jack DePriest, Carrabelle, voiced his complaints to Ms. Bonowicz and Mr. Holmes. George Pruitt, Eastpoint, asked what the density agreement was in the contract with the County. Ms. Bonowicz replied, after looking at the contract, housing density less than 20 homes per mile. Mr. Pruitt thanked Ms. Bonowicz.

**SHERIFF BRUCE VARNES**

(Tape 2-732) Sheriff Varnes said he would like to address the Board concerning the issue of medical care for an inmate at the jail that came up at the last meeting. He explained the inmate was examined by a local physician and found to have a gallstone, a small stone. He said the doctor decided she did not need immediate surgery. He said the inmate and her family was not satisfied with that diagnosis so they carried her to another doctor who gave them the same diagnosis. He stated then they were still not satisfied so he asked the family where they would like her sent. He explained he had his officers take the inmate, Jessica Poole, to a doctor of their choice. He said the appointment was made with a doctor, of the families choosing, in Tallahassee. He stated this doctor concurred with the other diagnosis that immediate surgery was not needed. He assured the Board this was not a life-threatening situation. He explained he was trying to hold off on this surgery because he did not know if this inmate was going to remain in jail or be released in a week or so. He said he could not see the taxpayer's of Franklin County having to spend \$28,000.00 to \$30,000.00 on this surgery when it was a non-emergency situation. He informed the Board that since all of this Ms. Poole has been sentenced to 11 months and 29 days in the Franklin County Jail. He said he is scheduling surgery for her and she will have her surgery. He stated he cannot override a doctor's diagnosis. He assured the Board that if a doctor tells him a person needs immediate surgery they are going to get immediate surgery, but if a doctor says it is not life threatening and can wait then the taxpayers should not have to pay for it. He said he was going by his procedures as a Sheriff and decide what is the best interest for this County and it's taxpayers. He reiterated Ms. Poole was receiving excellent medical treatment for her illness. Chairman Williams thanked the Sheriff for his time.

**KENDALL WADE-CLERK**

(Tape 2-815) Mr. Wade presented the Public Library Construction Grant Awards and Agreements FY 1999-2000 for approval. He explained the Division of library and Information Services for the State of Florida has been advised of a \$250,000.00 State General Revenue appropriation for Franklin County for construction of the Carrabelle Branch Library. Commissioner Sanders made a **motion authorizing the Chairman's signature on the Florida Department of State Division of Library and Information Service Public Library Construction Grant Agreement in the amount of \$250,000.00 for the construction of the Carrabelle Branch Library.** Commissioner Creamer seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 2-834) He reminded the Board they had appointed Fred Massey and Wilburn Messer as the City of Carrabelle ARPC representatives. He said Mr. Massey had withdrawn his name and someone else had to be appointed by the City of Carrabelle. He stated they had appointed Frank Mathes to replace Mr. Massey. He asked the Board to appoint Mr. Mathes to the ARPC as a representative for the City of Carrabelle. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion appointing Frank Mathes and Wilburn Messer as representatives for the City of Carrabelle to the ARPC.** Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-871) He said the Board had approved the purchase of an excavator and lowboy trailer for the Road Department. He explained necessary adjustments would need to be made so the Finance Office could pay for these items. He asked the Board to make a motion to increase Machinery and Equipment, 140.41.541.6400 in the amount of \$159,072.00 and decrease Reserve for Contingency, 140.99.584.9600 in the amount of \$159,072.00. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion to increase Machinery and Equipment, 140.41.541.6400 in the amount of \$159,072.00 and decrease Reserve for Contingency, 140.99.584.9600 in the amount of \$159,072.00 to pay for the new Road Department equipment, an excavator and lowboy trailer.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**ALFRED SHULER-COUNTY ATTORNEY**

(Tape 2-900) Mr. Shuler said he reviewed the Library Agreement the Board just authorized the Chairman to sign.

(Tape 2-924) He stated he had prepared and presented the Commissioners with a draft 4-wheeler ordinance. Commissioner Sanders said she wanted to wait until Commissioner Mosconis was present before any further discussion on the 4-wheeler ordinance. She said he was the one really pushing for this ordinance. Mr. Shuler said he would bring it up at the next meeting.

(Tape 2-960) Commissioner Sanders said she understood there has been some discussion about raising the MSBU Fire Assessment from \$28.00 to \$75.00. She said some of the people on Dog Island are concerned and upset about this. She stated she has received a letter from Mr. Charles Benedict asking for records and receipts as to where this MSBU money is being spent. She said that the County has a contract with the Dog Island Conservation District (DICD), as contractor, to administer the MSBU funds for Dog Island. She said in the contract it states the DICD shall maintain records of its receipts and expenditures of such funds, including invoices, bills and receipts, and shall make these available to the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners for a period of at least seven years after each calendar year. She said in order for people to have a clear conscience that the money is going to the appropriate places she was going to ask Mr. Shuler to send a letter to the DICD asking them for their receipts and expenditures of the MSBU funds for the past seven years. She said she would put that in the form of a **motion directing Mr. Shuler to send a letter to DICD requesting their receipts and expenditures of the MSBU funds, including invoices, bills and receipts for the past seven years.** Commissioner Creamer seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Commissioner Sanders said they are going to have to substantiate the need for additional funds before an increase in the MSBU assessment can be granted. Commissioner Sanders said this was just in regards to Dog Island. Marilyn Johnson, Eastpoint Volunteer Fire Department, asked if this increase was being considered for the whole county or just Dog Island. Commissioner Sanders replied she was under the impression it was Dog Island. Ms. Johnson said the Franklin County United Firefighters Association was working on that project. Don Johnson, Eastpoint, said about four years ago it was decided the Volunteer Fire Departments did not have to keep the MSBU funds separate from their general funds. Mr. Wade replied he was not sure they had to keep the

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funds separate, but they do have to report to the County what the money is spent on. Mr. Wade said he thought the Finance Office did ask all of the VFD's to submit a list of expenditures for the MSBU funds. He stated he believed all but one or two submitted the list. Commissioner Sanders said she wanted it to go back seven years. Mr. Wade said by law they have to give the County a breakdown of how they spend the MSBU money. Ms. Johnson said she could speak as a one-time treasurer for the Eastpoint VFD and they were required on a fairly regular basis to submit a budget to Mr. Wade. She stated the budget they work with is not all MSBU money, it is fundraising, etc. and it is the total budget. She stated they were told that they didn't have to have a total break down of the MSBU funds. Mr. Wade stated they do not have to submit a total budget to the County, but they did have to submit an expenditure break down of what the MSBU funds are spent for. Ms. Johnson replied they were told, and have continued to do so, to send the total budget to the County. She said no one has contacted her to have this procedure changed. Commissioner Sanders said the Dog Island MSBU funds are spent through the DICD under contract. Mr. Wade stated the only thing the County has legitimate control over, as far as auditing procedures, is over the MSBU funds. He said the VFD's have to submit to the County how the money is spent. Ms. Johnson said she was never told they had to have a separate budget for the MSBU funds. Mr. Wade stated it would be advisable to keep the MSBU money separate from the other fundraisers, etc. He said then you could use the checkbook to just go down and list the items the money was spent for. Ms. Johnson said this would not be easy for her. Mr. Pierce said in any case this was just for Dog Island.

(Tape 2-1219) Jack DePriest said he would like to address the Board at this time. He stated a lot of the property in Lanark Village is being inundated with used trailers out of Georgia and Alabama. He explained half of them do not even meet a camp quality mobile home. He asked if it would be possible for the Board to entertain some kind of ordinance that any trailers, as part of their hook-ups, have to pay a reasonable inspection fee to comply with the minimum regulations for these homes. He stated it is not serving our code very well when these trailers are just allowed to be dragged in here. Mr. Pierce agreed with Mr. DePriest. He said if you buy a used trailer you can bring it to Franklin County and people are bringing older and older mobile homes in here because they cannot afford the newer ones. Commissioner Sanders asked if the mobile homes are paying for the mobile home permit. Mr. Pierce replied yes they are. Mr. Pierce assured the Board he would check with Wakulla County and with several of the surrounding counties to see if they have an ordinance, which applies to this problem.

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD  
THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED.**

Clarence Williams CLARENCE WILLIAMS, CHAIRMAN

Kendall Wade KENDALL WADE, CLERK