

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

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

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

(Tape 1-28) Commissioner Sanders made a **motion to approve the minutes of the meetings held on April 4, 2000 and April 14, 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.**

JAMES R. DEAN-RURAL DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST-USDA

(Tape 1-39) Alan Pierce, Director of Administrative Services, introduced Mr. Dean to the Board and audience. He explained Mr. Dean had telephoned him and asked to be allowed to speak to the Board this morning regarding the availability of financing for single-family homes. Mr. Dean thanked the Board for allowing him to briefly speak about some of the programs available through USDA Rural Development. He informed the Board that financing was available to municipalities and county government through direct loans from the Federal Government, which are long term and have low interest rate loans. He stated they do have business, industry, and not for profit organization loans also available. He said the main reason he is here this morning was to discuss the single-family housing. He stated they have two types of financing they could provide, a direct loan from the Federal Government; long term and low interest for low and very low income families, and Government Guaranteed Housing Program; available through mortgage companies and local lenders. He explained these loans are made by local banks and provide a 100% financing for moderate and low-income families for the total cost or appraised value of the home. He said this would include your closing costs in the loan. He also informed the Board there is no mortgage insurance on those loans. He introduced Joe Balkcom, USDA Community Development Manager, to the Board. He stated Mr. Balkcom comes to the Franklin County Courthouse on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month and gave the telephone number, 850-627-6365 Ext. 4, people would need to call to talk to him. Mr. Dean said he left a brochure and a business card with the Board Secretary if anyone needed to talk to him. He stated USDA financed the County Jail and was currently working with Lanark Village Water and Sewer District to finance their enhancements. Commissioner Mosconis suggested Mr. Dean place an advertisement in the local newspapers reflecting this discussion.

BILL WILLIAMS-OUTPAITENT THERAPY & COMMUNITY WELLNESS

(Tape 1-241) Mr. Williams, owner and CEO of Integra Health, appeared before the Board at this time. He said he has been working with Susan Ficklen, Administrator at

Weems Memorial Hospital, regarding an assisted living community and physical therapy services to Franklin County. He said they have physical, occupational, and speech therapy as well as wellness centers. He said he grew up in Gulf County and is very familiar with the deficits rural counties have in the health care field. He stated Gulf County residents, as well as Franklin County residents; have to travel to either Panama City or Tallahassee for specialty health or medical services. He stated he was asking the Commissioners to assist them do a feasibility analysis of the area to see where they can locate some land to build a retirement community and wellness center. He said his company owns the "Beacon Hill" assisted living facility in Gulf County. He asked the Board to appoint someone to represent them to come visit the facility in Gulf County. Commissioner Mosconis said he would go visit the site in Gulf County and represent the County as requested by Mr. Williams. Mr. Williams stated they were not interested in financial help since they are a privately held company. He explained they were a small company based in Beacon Hill in Gulf County with sites in Chipley, Marianna, Blountstown, Dothan and Ft. Walton. Commissioner Mosconis said he would suggest Mr. Williams work closely with the local hospital. Mr. Williams agreed. He stated his company would like to follow the Commissioners' lead and work directly with the hospital. He said they would consider, at this new location, providing dialysis services for patients in both Gulf and Franklin Counties. Commissioner Mosconis said the Board was probably going to allow the hospital to put a diagnostic center in the current Health Department location when they move to the new building. Commissioner Putnal expressed his concerns over patients having to go to Panama City or Tallahassee for these medical treatments. He said it is definitely a hardship on them especially since they are ill. Commissioner Mosconis said he would like to report on the meeting of the committee formed to study the air-conditioning need and the proposed diagnostic center. He explained he talked to Ms. Ficklen, as well as the maintenance person for Centennial Health Care, and was informed by them the air-conditioner could not be repaired. He said he would make a **motion to allocate \$50,000.00 for the purchase of a new air conditioning system for George E. Weems Memorial Hospital.** He stated he realized this would only pay for a portion of the system, but he felt Centennial could pay for the rest. He stated the money could be budgeted from the hospital rental account. Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

BILL MAHAN-COUNTY EXTENSION DIRECTOR

(Tape 1-671) Mr. Mahan informed the Board that he along with Dr. Chuck Adams, Florida Sea Grant Economist, were contacted by Mr. Eddie Gordon, President of the National Blue Crab Board, requesting help in contacting blue crab processors in Florida about a US International Trade Commission Survey that had been mailed to them. He said Mr. Gordon asked the Florida Sea Grant contact Florida crab processors to find out if they had received the ITC survey, if they understood the situation with imports, and if the firm planned on completing then submitting the survey. He informed the Board that foreign countries, especially China, are exporting crabmeat to the US markets at very inexpensive rates, \$8.00 for 2.2 pounds. He explained this price is below wholesale costs for many US crab processors and has resulted in the price and demand for US crab meat and crabs to drop nationwide. He said they contacted 16 crab processors around the state and found out 13 had received the ITC survey and all but one of them were planning on

completing and submitting the survey. He explained that the other three firms had not received the survey and all of them said they would like one to complete and return.

(Tape 1-771) He said the Florida Sea Grant sponsors an annual seminar series and said there will be a special lecture on "Viruses in Cultured Shrimp" given by Dr. Don Lightner, a renowned shrimp disease expert from the University of Arizona. He stated the lecture would be given on May 10th from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. at the University of Florida main campus in Gainesville.

(Tape 1-857) He reported on the Hunter Education Program Commissioner Putnal asked him to check into for him. He explained he contacted the FWCC Hunter's Education Office in Panama City about conducting classes in Franklin County. He said he was informed by them that they usually conduct a Hunter's Education Class in Franklin County in December. He said they told him if a group of youth, ages 10 to 12, who needed the class could be schedule then they would be happy to conduct a class. He said the person to contact was David Crosariol, 850-265-3676. Commissioner Putnal said he thought there was a tremendous interest in having a class in Franklin County. Mr. Mahan said maybe something could be put in the paper and on the radio instructing people to call the Extension Office if they are interested in creating a class.

(Tape 1-918) Mr. Mahan stated that April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. He informed the Board he attached some data from the Florida Winter 2000 "The Connection" newsletter published by The Family Source of Florida, Inc. He said he attached a blue ribbon recognizing April as Child Abuse Prevention Month.

DR. PHOTIS NICHOLS-PROPOSED DIAGNOSTIC CENTER

(Tape 1-978) Dr. Nichols thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak to them again about the proposed Diagnostic Center at the Hospital. He presented a letter to the Board and read the following into the record: "I am pleased to report on a good and productive meeting of the advisory board for the proposed Diagnostic Center for the Weems Memorial Hospital and the conversion of the old health department building for that purpose. The overwhelming consensus was for converting that building into a medical Diagnostic Center that would house, among other things, the following: CT Scanner, Ultra Sound Equipment, Densitometer, and Physical Therapy Equipment. The need is now and it is great. Many of our people should benefit from such a facility and I feel confident that many stroke victims will be able to be returned to a functional state after a brain attack. It is my understanding the Hospital will equip this building and operate the Diagnostic Center. In all fairness to them for their interest and initiative, the Commission should stipulate that the Hospital would have six months to furnish and start the new Diagnostic Center. Thank you for permitting me to participate in this endeavor." Dr. Nichols again stated he felt this was a most worthy cause. He stated he wanted to emphasize two things. He said he is very adamant about doing something to help stroke victims. He said he was at the Hospital one morning a few years ago when a very dear friend of his, the father of the Clerk, Ikie Wade drove up in his truck. He stated Mr. Wade blew his horn and when the emergency room people reached him they realized he had had a stroke. He said he managed to get to the Hospital, but couldn't manage to get

out of the truck. Dr. Nichols stated he was immediately transferred to Panama City for treatment. He said unfortunately the damage was already done and was so great and irreversible by the time he got to Panama City. He reiterated that today if the diagnostic center with the needed equipment was available, if somebody would drive up to the emergency room with similar circumstances the chances of his survival without brain damage would be enhanced greatly. He said if the determination can be made in a brain attack if it is a clot or bleed and the necessary medication given, it would greatly enhance all of the lives in Franklin County. He stated the need for a Densitometer was also great. He said one of these machines measures a person's bone density. He explained this is important in the diagnosis of osteoporosis and informed the Board of how early detection is so critical to people. He said it could make a difference in an older person either being bed ridden or able to take care of themselves if they have early detection measures. He encouraged the Board to go ahead and permit the Hospital to move ahead with this proposed Diagnostic Center. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion authorizing Centennial Health Care, Inc., George E. Weems Memorial Hospital, working with the local medical community, to proceed with the proposed Diagnostic Center and to send a letter to the Health Department informing them of this decision to use the building for this purpose.** Commissioner Creamer seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Susan Ficklen, Administrator Weems Hospital, said she would like to add that a mammogram machine would be included in the equipment for the center. Dr. Nichols said he just forgot to add mammogram machine to his list, but it definitely should be included.

HUBERT CHIPMAN-SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

(Tape 1-1276) Mr. Chipman said he didn't have anything for Board attention this morning. He stated everything seems to be moving on schedule. Commissioner Creamer said he thought Mr. Chipman and his crew was doing a good job.

(Tape 1-1293) He said he and the crew have really been tied down working on the Airport and SGI County Park projects. He reported they are almost done on SGI.

(Tape 1-1307) Mr. Pierce said the Board authorized the advertising of the two vacant positions at the Road Department at the last meeting. He stated the advertisement has not made it to the paper yet, but will be done this week.

(Tape 1-1321) Mr. Pierce stated that last Saturday Mr. Chipman was called to go to McIntyre Road to the area where they are logging. He said in order to protect the public since a safe road surface cannot be maintained due to the log trucks; he placed "Road Closed" signs on the road. Mr. Pierce said the road isn't really closed and the residents who live on the road know this. He stated he put the signs up to keep the public out so they would not damage their cars or get stuck. He informed the Board there had been a complaint made to the Sheriff's Office about whether the road is closed or not. He said he just wanted to bring the matter to the Board's attention. He stated the sign probably needed to post was a "Travel At Your Own Risk". Commissioner Mosconis suggested maybe a sign stating this road is for local traffic only should be put there. Mr. Chipman said he just couldn't keep up with the road damage done by the log trucks. He said the

road is passable and in good shape where the residents live. Commissioner Sanders agreed the road was good in that area. Mr. Chipman said he felt like the loggers would work with him and maybe find an alternate route. Mr. Shuler, the County Attorney, suggested another alternative, placing a "No Through Trucks" sign or something similar. Mr. Pierce stated Mr. Chipman was just using the signs he had at the time. Mr. Chipman said he needed some help with the message on the sign. He stated he needed a sign letting the public know the road is bad and could damage their cars. Mr. Pierce suggested he and Mr. Chipman ask David Kennedy, the County Engineer, exactly what the sign should state. Commissioner Sanders made a **motion directing the County Engineer perform a site visit to determine exactly what signage needed to be placed in the area.** Commissioner Creamer seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-1607) Commissioner Putnal asked about the status of the Sick Pool at the Road Department. He said the time is being used up and no one is placing time back into it. Mr. Wade and Mr. Pierce reminded the Board about the recommendation the Labor Attorney's made about the Sick Pool. Mr. Wade said in order to have and operate a Sick Pool 50% of the County Employees must participate. He stated the Labor Attorneys recommended the Sick Pool at the Road Department be used up in total and then do away with it completely. He said then if 50% of the County Employees want to join and form a Sick Pool then they would be allowed to do so. Mr. Wade continued to say that most County Employees donate sick leave time to coworkers as they choose too. Commissioner Mosconis said the Sick Pool was not designed to take care of someone who has a major illness such as a heart attack. He asked Mr. Shuler if Mitchell McAlphin had contacted him for assistance in filing his disability retirement claims. Mr. Shuler said he offered to help Mr. McAlphin, but has not seen him. He said the Clerk offered to help him too, but he hasn't been back to see either of them. Commissioner Mosconis said he wanted either the Clerk or Mr. Shuler to check on the status of Mr. McAlphin's claims for social security or disability retirement. Mr. Wade said he would try to get in touch with him.

VAN JOHNSON-SOLID WASTE DIRECTOR

(Tape 1-2025) Mr. Johnson said Cliff Butler, Franklin County Public Library Advisory Committee, approached him to see if the County would be willing to waive the tipping fees for the demolition of the Old Carrabelle High School Gym for the construction of the new Library. He stated he would recommend the Board approve this request. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion authorizing tipping fees being waived for the demolition project at the Old Carrabelle High School Gym for the construction of the new Library in Carrabelle.** Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-2051) He reported the material for the backstop and fence at Sands Field in Carrabelle has been received. He stated Mark Wilson, employee of the Road Department, should be in Carrabelle with an inmate crew this morning to begin the project. He said the material cost approximately \$5,000.00 and he said he anticipated the total costs to not exceed \$10,000.00 budgeted for Sands Field. He stated once the construction is completed he would like the Board to authorize him to purchase a pitching

machine for that complex. Mr. Johnson stated the games scheduled for Carrabelle were going to have to be held in Eastpoint until the project was completed. Commissioner Sanders made a **motion authorizing the purchase of a pitching machine for Sands Field in Carrabelle with any remaining budgeted funds for the project.**

Commissioner Mosconis seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** He said he would like to find a piece of property to purchase so the County could construct a new facility for the people of Carrabelle. He stated they are on him all the time since Eastpoint, as well as Apalachicola, has a new complex. Commissioner Mosconis said he was over there last year for their Day of Baseball and he didn't see anything wrong with the way things were being done. He said he didn't know what the problem was. He stated the Waterfront Festival was held at the facility and maybe that did hurt the field.

(Tape 1-2150) Commissioner Sanders said she would like to reiterate what Commissioner Putnal said about locating a piece of property for a new facility. She stated the next FRDAP Grant should be for this facility. Mr. Pierce said the Commissioners should locate a site for the County. He stated there are all kinds of things to be considered. Commissioner Sanders stated she wanted the facility to be a County facility. Mr. Pierce said the County should already own the property when a FRDAP Grant is submitted.

(Tape 1-2230) Mr. Johnson reported that several individuals, including Ms. Varnes, have asked that a walking path be placed around Ned Porter Park in Apalachicola. He stated he wanted to mention this. Mr. Pierce said he is applying for ICE-T money, FDOT Grants, which would be used for a sidewalk-walking path from the Apalachicola City Limits to Ned Porter Park. He said he is applying for the same money to place a sidewalk-walking path from Eastpoint to Vrooman Park.

(Tape 1-2253) He asked the Board to allow him to replace some very old equipment at the Landfill. He reported that to date he has spent \$41,000.00 of his \$50,000.00 Repair and Maintenance Budget to repair the 816 Compactor. He explained that a representative from Ring Power was here this morning to do further repair work. He said he could use the existing funds in the Landfill Long Term Care and Maintenance Budget to replace the 11-year-old compactor and the 21-year-old wheel loader. He informed the Board the estimated cost of this equipment is approximately \$300,000.00 and would not affect this year's budget or next year's budget. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion authorizing Mr. Johnson to advertise for bids to replace a compactor and wheel loader at the Landfill.** Commissioner Creamer seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-2311) Commissioner Mosconis said he had a telephone call this morning before the meeting from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission about a boat ramp at Brickyard. He stated he was informed by this gentleman it would not cost the County anything. He said he called right before the meeting and asked Mr. Pierce to check into the matter. Mr. Pierce reminded the Board the County had decided to build a boat ramp at Alligator Point. He said he didn't know if this would matter, but he wanted direction from the Board, if it became necessary, to decided which project they would

like done first. Commissioner Creamer said he would make a **motion directing Mr. Pierce to check into the matter and, if necessary to prioritize the projects, then Alligator Point Boat Ramp should be requested first.** Commissioner Mosconis seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Commissioner Mosconis said he wanted Mr. Pierce to go ahead and authorize this project if it is time sensitive.

GEORGE MALONE-COMPLAINT

(Tape 1-2450) Mr. Wade said that he would like to the Board to allow Mr. George Malone to speak to them at this time about a complaint he has. He stated he went with Mr. Chipman to the area Mr. Malone is complaining about in Apalachicola. He said they had tried to correct the problem where a man dumped a large load of construction material right in Mr. Malone's road to his house. Mr. Wade said the ditch is filled as well. Mr. Malone informed the Board his ditch is completely stopped up. He whoever did this seemed to be aiming for the land belonging to the American Legion Hall. He said he lives on the road East of the Legion Hall. He stated there are 3 houses on this road. He stated the material contained large concrete blocks and said he was told it was demolition material from the old Apalachicola High School Bus Barn. Commissioner Mosconis stated Kathy Cox, who also has a house on the road, called him to complain about the road being blocked too. He said he called Mr. Chipman. Mr. Chipman said he had worked on the road several times. Mr. Wade asked Mr. Chipman to go with Mr. Malone, this morning, and let Mr. Malone show Mr. Chipman exactly what the problem is. Mr. Chipman said he would go with him and decide what needed to be done. He stated then he would send a crew to take care of the problem. Mr. Wade assured the Board there would be no more material dumped there. Mr. Wade said he is the one who gave the gentleman permission to dump the fill material at the Legion Hall. He stated he even drew a map for them and they mistakenly dumped the material in the road. Mr. Wade said he called the gentleman and told him emphatically not to dump anything else on the property.

TUCSON ROBERTS-GARY CLARK-ECONOMIC DEVELOP COALITION

(Tape 1-2701 continued on Tape 2) Mr. Pierce introduced Mr. Roberts and Mr. Clark to the Board. He stated they are here to present a project to Franklin County. He said it would require the County to participate in a Regional Economic Cooperative. Mr. Roberts appeared before the Board to inform them he was here to present a new approach and new concept in Economic Development they are pursuing for an 8 County (Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Liberty, and Washington) region. He said it is called "Opportunity Florida" and was designed to fall under the Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern designation. He continued to present this proposal to the Board and asked the Board to appoint a member of the Commission to represent the County on the Board of Directors. He also informed the Board that to participate the County would have to contribute 10 cents per capita based on the most recent information available. He said the cost would be approximately \$1,100.00. After the presentation by Mr. Roberts and Mr. Clark Commissioner Creamer made a **motion appointing Commissioner Mosconis to the Opportunity Florida Board of Directors and budgeting \$1,100.00 for Franklin County to participate in this endeavor.** Frank Venable, Eastpoint, asked the Commissioners who would represent the Franklin County Seafood Workers

Association on this Board. Mr. Roberts said they would have the opportunity to become a member under the general business category. He stated the business people who join would elect their own representative to serve on the Board of Directors.

DANNY GAY-COMPLAINT ABOUT MEDIACOM

(Tape 2-183) Mr. Gay said he is having problems with Mediacom, the County's cable TV service. He stated in his opinion it is one of the "sorriest" cable companies around. He said they sent a brochure to his home reflecting the new rates for cable TV. He presented a copy of the brochure to each Commissioner. He said the basic broadcast cable includes, Channels 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 13. He explained he couldn't get Channels 3 and 9 on his television. He said he waited 3 weeks before he started to complain about not having the channels as advertised or notified in the brochure. He stated he called Mediacom 2 or 3 times to only talk to an operator. He said they told him they did not offer channels 3 and 9. He read the brochure to them and told them they mailed the brochure with this information to his home. He stated the brochure is no longer available at the cable company since his complaint. He asked the Board what he was supposed to do? He said he wanted to know where the community stands on getting some resolution to their complaints. Commissioner Mosconis said he is constantly getting complaints about the cable company. He stated he would like for someone from Mediacom to be at the next meeting to address these questions. Commissioner Sanders said she too gets a lot of complaints about Mediacom. Commissioner Creamer stated he feels the same way. Commissioner Sanders stated the Board has to ask them to come to a meeting at least once a month to hear complaints. She said she would like for Mr. Shuler to look at the contract and see what can be done. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion directing the County Attorney, Mr. Shuler, to thoroughly review the contract the County has with Mediacom to see what options the County may have.** Mr. Wade stated he knew the contract contained a cancellation clause whereby the County can cancel the contract with a 30-day notice. Commissioner Mosconis said he would second the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Commissioner Putnal stated he is also sick of the complaints. He said they just do not give people a choice; they force channels and prices on them. Ms. Varnes, Board Secretary, said she would provide Mr. Shuler, as well as each Commissioner, with a copy of the contract the County has with Mediacom.

PHIL DUNAWAY-ZONING ISSUES

(Tape 2-386) Mr. Dunaway appeared before the Board to say he wanted the Board to reconsider his request for rezoning his property off Brownsville Road in Apalachicola. He stated he felt he had been treated unfairly since the County has approved another development, in Eastpoint, that does not have the infrastructure readily available. Mr. Pierce said Mr. Dunaway must have been referring to the development the Board approved for Mr. Ben Watkins. He stated the difference was that Mr. Watkins was going to pay for the enhancements to the Eastpoint Water and Sewer Plant for his development. Mr. Shuler said he was not aware of anything that the Board has granted that is similar to what Mr. Dunaway is requesting. He said he believed Mr. Dunaway was requesting a multi-family zoning which has a larger density than the two units to the acre that was approved for Mr. Watkins in Eastpoint. He stated if somebody has three units on two acres then there may be a historical explanation; if the property was split up into different

parcels prior to the enactment of the Zoning Code. He said then each parcel would be considered a stand-alone parcel. Discussion continued. Mr. Pierce said the main problem is that Mr. Dunaway wants the same zoning the Board approved for Mr. Watkins in Eastpoint, but Mr. Dunaway is probably not willing to put up the money for the necessary enhancements to get water and sewer to his property. Mr. Dunaway said what about the recent placement of a doublewide trailer on the neighboring property on Kevin Road. He said Ms. Diane Rogers had one parcel, but has a house and two trailers on the property. Mr. Pierce replied Ms. Roger's property was split into three parcels, and recorded as such before the enactment of the Zoning Code. Mr. Pierce said her lots are lots of record duly recorded in the public records, three deeds to three parcels. He stated because Diane Rogers is a City of Apalachicola employee and he is Mayor he would ask that Mr. Shuler be directed to see if the Planning and Zoning Office made a mistake on the record. He said Mr. Shuler could look at the recorded documents and make sure everything is on the up and up. Mr. Dunaway said the issue of the protected Eagle's Nest located right across the street from Ms. Rogers was held against him. He asked why no one has done anything about the new double wide, which is close proximity to the Eagle's Nest. Mr. Pierce stated he couldn't answer that. Commissioner Mosconis then made a **motion directing the County Attorney to review this matter and report back to the Board with his findings.** Commissioner Creamer seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

CLIFF BUTLER-PRESIDENT-FRANKLIN CTY LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

(Tape 2-936) Mr. Butler asked the Board to allow the Library Board to move forward with advertising for Request for Proposals (RFP's) for architectural services, design-build of the Carrabelle Library Branch. He said they would like the Board to appoint the Library Advisory Board to be designated as the certification and selection committee for the Carrabelle Library Branch Building Project. He said they would like to inform the Board they intend to keep the Carrabelle Library Branch open during construction. He stated they are currently looking for a temporary site. Mr. Pierce said he would recommend the Library Advisory Board also be responsible for doing it all, so to speak. Mr. Wade reminded Mr. Butler that the invoices they submit would only be paid on Board Meeting days, the first and third Tuesday of the month. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion authorizing the Franklin County Library Advisory Committee to advertise for RFP's for architectural services, design-build of the Carrabelle Library Branch and designating the Committee as the certification and selection committee for the Carrabelle Library Construction Project.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Commissioner Creamer asked Mr. Butler if Gulf State Bank would be willing to allow them to use their building next to their Bank in Carrabelle. Mr. Butler said they do own the building, but it is only a shell of a building. He stated it has not been wired for electricity, however, he said that would be their final option.

ALAN PIERCE-DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

(Tape 2-1176) Mr. Pierce asked the Board to select a few time slots to hold a FDOT Public Workshop to discuss and receive suggestions on the FDOT work effort in Franklin County. He informed the Board the workshop might last at least 2 hours. He suggested

they schedule it for an afternoon of one of their future Board meetings. The Board instructed Mr. Pierce to schedule the workshop for an afternoon of one of their future meetings.

(Tape 2-1225) He submitted a copy of the signed copy of the Alligator Point Beach Erosion Study funded by DEP. He said the USCOE would be coming down today to begin their erosion study.

(Tape 2-1244) He presented a copy of the letter he has written ordering the Exeter Storm Shields (shutters) for the various public buildings in Franklin County. He said these are the type of shutters specified in a FEMA Grant the County received to buy them.

(Tape 2-1275) Mr. Pierce said the NOAA visit is still scheduled for Thursday, however, the agenda has changed somewhat. He stated he would keep everyone notified regarding the visit.

(Tape 2-1284) He presented the Board with a bill he received from St. George Island Cable for damage the County Road Department caused to SGI Cable's buried cable during the construction of roads for the County Park on SGI. He recommended the Board submit it to the County's insurance company. He said the total bill is for \$6,090.42. The Board agreed with Mr. Pierce to send it to the insurance company for payment.

(Tape 2-1312) He informed the Board he met with the Florida Housing Finance representatives to discuss the County's SHIP Program. He said they met with Ms. Shirley Walker, SHIP Administrator, that morning. He said they are going to continue to provide Ms. Walker with additional technical support to help keep the program moving.

(Tape 2-1322) He submitted a copy of 3 grant applications for hazard mitigation projects the Board approved in August of 1999, but for which FEMA has just now indicated it was time to submit full applications. He explained the Board had approved a fourth project, but FEMA representatives said that the County's \$34,750.00 would not go far enough to get the project funded and also that the project, the Sawyer Street revetment on SGI, did not merit approval. He informed the Board they did not need to take any action he was just submitting copies of the final applications.

(Tape 2-1354) He asked the Board for direction on the port-o-potties issue on SGI. He said he felt the County needed to provide at least two starting around June 1st until the County Park is finished. He stated 5 were placed on SGI during Spring Break this year without even 1 of them being vandalized. He said the owner, Ms. June Wilson, did not charge the County since they were not vandalized. He stated they were placed near the Sheriff's Substation on the Island. Commissioner Creamer said he thought they should be put there May 1st and then double the number in June. He reiterated there was no public facilities on the Island and the businesses were being overrun with people wanting to use their bathrooms. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion directing Mr. Pierce to place two port-o-potties on SGI beginning May 1st and then increasing the number**

on June 1st. Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED**. The Commissioners asked Mr. Pierce to use his own judgment on how many port-o-potties to place on the Island after June 1st.

(Tape 2-1434) He informed the Board the County has received a grant to elevate Ms. Alice Marie Pearson's house in St. James. He said Ms. Pearson would have to furnish the match amount or the local share in the amount of \$18,750.00. He stated this would allow Ms. Pearson to receive a total of \$75,000.00 to build what will essentially be a new house on top of her existing block structure. He asked the Board if they wanted to take any action as to the Chairman's signature on the grant before verifying that Ms. Pearson can meet the match amount. Commissioner Sanders said she would go ahead and make the **motion to authorize the Chairman's signature on the grant to elevate Ms. Alice Marie Pearson's house in St. James contingent on Mr. Pierce verifying Ms. Pearson can furnish the match amount of \$18,750.00.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED**.

(Tape 2-1487) He informed the Board the Planning and Zoning Commission met in regular session on April 9, 2000 and recommends the following action: Approval for Donald Sides to construct a private dock and boat lift on Lot 17, Bay Cove Village, SGI. All State and Federal permits have been issued. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion approving the construction of a private dock and boatlift for Donald Sides on SGI.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED**. Approval for Ron Judson to construct a private dock on Lot 2, Tract 45, East End, SGI. All State and Federal permits have been issued. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion approving the construction of a private dock for Ron Judson on SGI.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED**. The Commission took no action on two rezoning requests because the applicants did not appear for the meeting. This is the second time the applicants did not appear so the Commission will not put these items on the agenda until requested to do so by the applicants. The two requests had been made by Jean McMillan for property around Lanark Village and Junior Holland for property off of Twin Lakes Road in Eastpoint. The Commission also did not take any action on a request for a pole barn on commercial property because of a variance, which had been granted by the BOA. They did not want to be asked to rubber stamp development that had been approved by some other entity. The pole barn is for Mr. Frank Venable at the intersection of South Bayshore Drive and US 98, where there is currently a fruit stand. The pole barn will sit on the back edge of the property so Mr. Venable will have room for people to park and have the proper access of US 98. Mr. Venable has received a FDOT access permit for the project. He asked for Board action to approve the pole barn. Mr. Venable said he would use the pole barn as a wood shop to do a variety of things such as tongue-and-grove, custom cutting for contractors, etc. He stated it should save contractors from having to go out-of-town to purchase. He also informed the Board that once it gets started he should employ 2 to 5 people. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion approving Mr. Venable's request to construct a pole barn on his property at the intersection of South Bayshore Drive and US 98 in Eastpoint.** Commissioner Mosconis seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED**.

(Tape 2-1612) Mr. Pierce said his last item was to inform the Board that Tim Turner, EOC Director, was working on developing Shelter Management Training for potential volunteers in Franklin County. He said these people are needed when and if shelters are opened during a disaster. He stated Mr. Turner needs all the local residents he can get to volunteer. He said training begins June 6, 2000.

(Tape 2-1690) Commissioner Sanders asked Mr. Pierce if the FEMA funds, \$90,000.00, for the road at Alligator Point or for the revetment maybe could be used to extend the Alligator Point Study Project to Bald Point. Mr. Pierce replied he did not check into this. He said he would check into it.

(Tape 2-1714) She also asked if anything had been verified for Mr. Frank Gibson-Gibson's Road in Alligator Point. Mr. Pierce replied no it had not. He said the County Engineer came to work on Monday and was extremely busy with 2 projects requiring survey work. He said he has not given Mr. Pierce the final draft on Mr. Gibson's project. Mr. Gibson, Alligator Point, thanked Mr. Pierce for the update.

KENDALL WADE-CLERK

(Tape 2-1745) He informed the Board the Finance Office is preparing the letters, which will accompany the budget information to all of the Department Heads. He asked if there was anything further they wanted added to the letter. He said budgets have to be submitted by June 1st. Commissioner Mosconis said he just wanted them to know if they asked for any budget increases they better be ready to justify them. He also stated he wanted updates on all of the funds placed in budgets for the Y2K upgrades. He said he wants to make sure the money is either been spent or given back to the County.

(Tape 2-1810) Commissioner Mosconis asked if someone from the Pat Thomas Agency could come to the next Board Meeting to answer questions about this GRIT problem. Mr. Wade informed Commissioner Mosconis they had nothing to do with this problem. Mr. Wade gave Commissioner Mosconis a brief background on how the County ended up on the GRIT program for workers compensation insurance.

ALFRED SHULER-COUNTY ATTORNEY

(Tape 2-1870) Mr. Shuler continued on with the previous discussion. He said he knew the County had several outstanding claims. He stated the deadline for filing claims in Bankruptcy Court, GRIT Claims, is June 1st. He said he has not filed a claim against GRIT in Bankruptcy Court because Attorney Katherine Miller is supposed to be trying to initiate and finalize the settlement with Jerry Lolley. He said to implement the settlement it has to be released from the Bankruptcy Court by a lifting of the stay or a special order approving the settlement. He explained it also has to be signed by another judge other than the bankruptcy judge. He stated in the meantime the County has been paying the on going weekly compensation due these folks. He said he thought the County should also start paying for the prescription drugs used by the employees. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion directing the Finance Office to begin paying for the prescription**

drugs used by Mr. Lolley and Ms. Gay, the County Employees effected by this problem. Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mr. Shuler continued by saying he needed to file a claim in the Bankruptcy Court so the deadline would not expire. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion authorizing and directing Mr. Shuler to file a claim with the Bankruptcy Court on behalf of Franklin County against GRIT.** Commissioner Creamer seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mr. Wade asked if he had contacted Ms. Miller about paying Mr. Lolley and settling his claim. Mr. Shuler replied he had called Ms. Miller, but he had not heard from her. He said he is also sending her a letter about implementing this settlement. Mr. Lolley stated he was very appreciative of the County authorizing the payment of his prescription drug bills. He said he wanted to mention there have already been 2 counties reach settlements similar to his. He stated then these counties attorneys have turned around and filed their necessary claims with the Bankruptcy Court for reimbursement. Mr. Lolley stated these counties will be added to a list on a first come first serve basis and encouraged the County to go ahead and pursue his settlement so the County can go ahead and file a claim. Commissioner Putnal said he was going to make a **motion directing Mr. Shuler to contact these other counties to see how and when they were allowed to finalize their settlements.** Commissioner Mosconis seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Commissioner Mosconis said it sounded like Mr. Lolley knew more about what was actually going on than the County did. He asked Mr. Lolley if he hadn't negotiated a settlement with the company before the declared bankruptcy. Mr. Lolley replied yes he had.

(Tape 2-2340) Mr. Shuler said he was going to amend the lawsuit regarding the Old Lanark Village Officers Club to include the mortgagee.

(Tape 2-2390) He said he received the contract from Amerigas for the purchase of the Amerigas property in Lanark Village. He stated it contained several pages of environmental provisions and he felt they needed to be addressed. He asked the Board to authorize him to see if he can negotiate with Amerigas regarding these clauses. Commissioner Sanders made a **motion authorizing Mr. Shuler to negotiate with Amerigas regarding the environmental clauses and authorizing the Chairman's signature on the contract knowing the County may have to pay for an environmental survey.** Commissioner Mosconis seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 2-2513) He said he has prepared the final draft of the Title Loan Ordinance and said it was scheduled for Public Hearing on May 2nd.

(Tape 2-2540) He said the amendment he prepared for the Franklin County Personnel Rules referencing inmate supervision. He asked the Board if they were ready to adopt it today. He said he faxed a copy to the County's Labor Attorneys. He said they recommended removing a paragraph from the amendment and reported he has done so. After the Board reviewed the amendment Commissioner Putnal made a **motion adopting and authorizing the addition to the Franklin County Personnel Rules-Amendment**

#3-Inmate Supervision effective April 18, 2000. Commissioner Mosconis seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 2-2776) Ted Mosteller, Chairman Apalachicola Airport Advisory Committee, reported the trees are down and the contractor will be burning the stumps in a few weeks with the approval of the State of Florida Division of Forestry. He said the military training at the airport would soon be done. He stated the wind has blown a few of the parachuters off course. He updated the Board on several other issues concerning the Airport and assured the Board he would report back to them on any issues he feels needs to be discussed concerning the Airport.

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

Clarence Williams CLARENCE WILLIAMS, CHAIRMAN

Kendall Wade KENDALL WADE, CLERK