

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING
MAY 22, 2000**

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

10:00 A.M. Chairman Williams called the meeting to order.

(Tape 1-4) Alan Pierce, Director of Administrative Services, asked the Commissioners for clarification, if the Board members were comfortable with why they were here and what their role in this decision was. Commissioner Mosconis replied he was not. Mr. Pierce said he thought the Board had voted to allow the Library Advisory Board to review these engineering proposals and then return to the Board with their decision so the Board could make the final decision. Alfred Shuler, County Attorney, said he checked into the Professional Consultants Law. He stated the Board cannot delegate the decision, but they can accept advice, recommendations, etc. as part of the proceedings. He explained the Board will have to hear the presentations, rank them, and then negotiate with the first choice and if an agreement cannot be reached with the number one candidate then the Board must move on to the number two candidate. After Mr. Shuler explained this to the Board the following engineering groups presented their proposal to the Board and the Library Advisory Board: Harvard, Jolly, Clees, Toppe, Architects, P. A.-John L. Bozarth, Collins and Associates, Inc.-Bayne Collins and Richard Alan Price, CRA, Clemons, Rutherford, and Associates, Inc.-Greg Kelley. The firms were interviewed individually in the order listed above. After the interviews and a brief question and answer period the Board recessed the meeting at approximately 12:15 p.m. so the Library Advisory Board could conduct a brief meeting to discuss the proposals so they could make a recommendation to the Board.

(Tape 1-2402) The meeting reconvened at 12:40 p.m. Denise Butler, President of the Franklin County Library Advisory Board, thanked all of the firms for submitting their proposals and allowing them to interview them. She said the Library Advisory Board ranked the firms in the following order: 1. CRA-Clemons, Rutherford & Associates, Inc. 2. Harvard, Jolly, Clees, Toppe, Architects, PA 3. Collins & Associates, Inc. Commissioner Sanders said she would make the **motion accepting the Franklin County Library Advisory Board's ranking of the firms with CRA-Clemons, Rutherford & Associates, Inc. ranked number one.** Commissioner Creamer seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** After interviewing Mr. Greg Kelley, Project Architect for CRA, Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion approving the Chairman's signature on the contract between the County and CRA contingent on Mr. Shuler's approval of the contract.** Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Ms. Butler thanked the Board for their cooperation this morning.

(Tape 1-3268) Ms. Eileen Annie Ball, Executive Director, Franklin County Library, reminded the Board they informed her at the last meeting, May 16, 2000, that they would

consider her request for a pay raise for her temporary employee, Ms. Hatfield, at the Carrabelle Library. She stated there were two issues the Board was concerned with. She said Mr. Shuler was checking into how long they had to keep the position open for the employee out on worker's compensation and the other was asking the Board to keep Ms. Hatfield in a temporary employee position, but just raising her pay \$1.00 an hour. She asked the Board for the go ahead to give Ms. Hatfield her raise in pay. Chairman Williams asked the Board what they wanted to do? Mr. Shuler replied this temporary employee came to work in the place of Ms. Jackie Gay, who is out on worker's compensation, at the Carrabelle Library. He said the Board has kept postponing replacing Ms. Gay in case she is able to come back to work. He stated the County has had no indication she is able to come back to work or not. He explained he spoke with Lucy Turner, Carson & Atkins, about the matter. He said she sent him a form letter, which should be sent to Ms. Gay requesting the status of her return to work. He said it has been approximately two years since Ms. Gay left. He stated the proper procedure would be to send Ms. Gay a letter asking her to reply within 30 days informing the Board if she is going to return to work, providing a return date, or she has no intentions of returning to work. He said if she is not coming back to work then her employment will need to be terminated. He explained after that a permanent employee can be hired. Commissioner Putnal asked if Ms. Gay's benefits would be effected in any way. Mr. Shuler replied it would not effect her workers compensation at all. He explained two years is long enough to leave a temporary employee in such a status. He said if the Board wants to they can make a motion authorizing the Clerk to send that letter to Ms. Gay so this question can be answered. He explained the letter was prepared for the Clerk's signature and not the Chairman's. Commissioner Putnal asked if this was identical to Mr. Henderson's, Assistant Road Superintendent, situation. Mr. Shuler replied basically it is the same situation. He said what the employer normally does is to send a letter to the party stating the matter needs to be resolved. Commissioner Putnal said he thought benefits were important in this matter. Mr. Shuler said the Board needs to authorize sending the letter if they want it done. Mr. Wade suggested the Chairman sign the letter. He explained since the employee was considered a Board employee then it should come from the Board. He said the Board was the holder of the workers compensation insurance as well. Commissioner Mosconis asked Mr. Shuler who the attorneys said should sign the letter. Mr. Shuler said the letter was sent for the Clerk's signature, but he didn't know why. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion directing Mr. Shuler to check with Ms. Turner to see if the Board Chairman or the Clerk should sign the letter to Ms. Gay and authorizing sending the letter.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Ms. Ball asked the Board then in the interim to increase Ms. Hatfield's salary by a \$1.00 an hour. Commissioner Mosconis asked if there was money in the budget to cover this raise. Ms. Ball replied there was. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion authorizing a raise of \$1.00 per hour, \$7.00 to \$8.00 an hour, for Ms. Hatfield at the Carrabelle Library.** Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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

Clarence Williams CLARENCE WILLIAMS, CHAIRMAN

Kendall Wade KENDALL WADE, CLERK