

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 6, 2001**

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

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

(Tape 1-32) Commissioner Putnal made a **motion to approve the minutes of the meetings held on January 16, 2001 and January 29, 2001.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-39) Commissioner Putnal made a **motion to pay the County bills.** Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

DONNIE GAY-FRANKLIN COUNTY UNIT-AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

(Tape 1-45) Mr. Gay said he was here today to ask the Board for permission to use Vrooman Park in Eastpoint to stage the annual Relay for Life. He stated the dates are April 27th and April 28th 2001. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion authorizing the Franklin County unit of the American Cancer Society to use Vrooman Park in Eastpoint on April 27th and 28th for their annual Relay for Life.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mr. Gay thanked the Commissioners.

DEWITT POLOUS-FRANKLIN COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL

(Tape 1-65) Alan Pierce, Director of Administrative Services, said he and Mr. Polous were here this morning to inform the Board of the Governor's intention to cut the Mosquito Control Budgets throughout the State of Florida drastically. Mr. Polous, Mosquito Control Director, said he had received a memorandum from the Governor's staff regarding the proposed cuts in the Governor's budget. He said this would greatly affect Franklin County. He asked the Board to assist them with this matter. Commissioner Mosconis said he thought the Board should send letters to the Legislatures, Senators, etc. informing them the County opposes any reduction in the Mosquito Control Budget. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion directing Mr. Pierce to send letters to Representative Will Kendrick, Senator Al Lawson and the Small County Coalition informing them of the County's opposition to the cuts in Mosquito Control Budgets for Franklin County.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Kendall Wade, the Clerk, said he too had just received some disturbing news about the Governor's Budget. He stated he had received and placed a copy of the fax from the Florida Association of Counties in each Commissioners mailbox. He said the Governor is notifying Counties he is going to shift the costs for the predisposition of juveniles to counties. Mr. Wade explained the Governor is trying to shift all of these costs to the Counties, which would definitely affect the millage rate. He stated the fax gave a county-by-county estimation as to the cost the

counties would have to absorb. He said Franklin County has an estimation of approximately \$89,000.00 or higher. Van Johnson, Solid Waste Director, said he had received information from the Governor's Office that Solid Waste Grants, etc. are going to be cut. He explained this would cut the programs in Franklin County as most of them are funded through these grants. Commissioner Mosconis said he would also like letters written opposing these cuts as well. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion authorizing the Chairman's signature on letters opposing budget cuts in the Juvenile and Solid Waste State Budgets.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

FRANKLIN COUNTY LIBRARY

(Tape 1-267) Mr. Pierce said he was asked by Ms. Eileen Annie, Director of the Franklin County Public Libraries, to ask the Board to consider adopting a Resolution of Appreciation to recognize the need for public library service for the residents of the County. He explained the Governor has designated the month of February as Library Appreciation Month. Commissioner Sanders made a **motion adopting and authorizing a Resolution acknowledging February as Library Appreciation Month.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Ms. Eileen Annie, who was present this morning, thanked he Board.

(Tape 1-310) Chairman Creamer said he wanted the Board to keep in mind the Governor is cutting the Literacy Programs in the State. He informed the Board there were eight graduates of the GED Program in Franklin County.

HUBERT CHIPMAN-SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

(Tape 1-325) Mr. Chipman informed the Board he hired Danny Moore to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Don Wilson.

(Tape 1-331) He told the Board his new employees would be attending the Department of Corrections Inmate Certification program the week of February 12th.

(Tape 1-339) He said they have completed the fence at the spoil site on Brownsville Road in Apalachicola. He stated they just placed the fence at the ends so vehicles could not get into the area.

(Tape 1-347) Mr. Wade said Johnny Haire, Ring Power Corporation, and Raymond Hall, FC Public Works, came to his office and asked him to request the Board authorize the Road Department to participate in the GSA Contract Caterpillar, Inc. has. He explained Mr. Hall informed him the County could purchase heavy equipment through this contract. He said not all of the equipment is included in the contract, but some of it is. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion for Franklin County to participate in the Ringhaver Equipment Company GSA Contract Caterpillar, Inc.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mr. Chipman explained that if the item(s) were not listed in the contract then they would still have to be bided.

ALAN PIERCE-PROPOSED COURTHOUSE ANNEX

(Tape 1-373) Mr. Pierce said Judge Russell and Judge Steinmeyer were here this morning to participate in his presentation to the Board regarding the proposed Courthouse Annex. Mr. Pierce stated David Kennedy, representing the County's Engineering Firm, Preble-Rish, would present the initial site plan this morning. Mr. Kennedy presented the site Development Plan for the Administrative Building for the Franklin County Commissioners. Mr. Pierce said the Board needed to decide if the County was going through a Design-Build concept or another way. Mr. Kennedy said the Board, at first, had decided or thought about using a pre-engineered building. He stated since then it has been decided a conventional building is better, especially if the County decides to add another floor to the building. He said they surveyed the lot and decided a 10,000 square foot building could be placed there. He stated the building would consist of brick and stucco as close to the Courthouse color scheme as possible. He said the cost for this project should be close to \$1 million dollars including furnishings. He informed the Board it would probably take approximately six months to finish the construction. He said the initial geo-technical survey would determine what kind of foundation should be used for a building like this with a potential floor addition. Commissioner Mosconis said the Judges and the other public offices would have to provide input into the construction of the building. Mr. Kennedy suggested he met with the different departments and Judges to see what their primary needs were than he would arrange the building to suit them. Commissioner Mosconis said he thought the plan was great. He said he would make a **motion authorizing the Chairman's signature on a design/build contract between Franklin County and Preble-Rish, Inc. for the construction of a Courthouse Annex to be located beside the current Courthouse contingent on approval of the contract by the County Attorney.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

BILL MAHAN-COUNTY EXTENSION DIRECTOR

(Tape 1-785) He said he received a flyer regarding the U. S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management competitive bids for wild horses and burros on March 24th and March 25th at the Florida A&M Conference Center in Quincy. He informed the Board there are sixty horses and twenty burros, which will be offered for adoption to qualified individuals.

(Tape 1-826) He informed the Board the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commissioner, Florida Marine Research Institute, Gulf of Mexico Program and Florida Sea Grant have joined forces to monitor the spread of Asian Green Mussels in Florida Waters. He said the mussel was found in the Tampa Bay area approximately two years ago. He stated that since then it has begun spreading both north and south of Tampa.

(Tape 1-918) He presented each Commissioner with the 2000-2002 Science Serving Coastal Florida: Florida Sea Grant Program Directory.

(Tape 1-937) He explained the Florida Draft Vv Risk Reduction Plan public workshops held in major oyster production areas around the state are now complete. He said during the meetings a total of twenty people representing the oyster industry attended to voice

their opinion and comments on the plan. He stated the comments would now be studied and if appropriate, incorporated into the plan. He said the "voluntary" plan would then be finalized and put into effect.

(Tape 1-990) Mr. Mahan informed the Board the Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference's Vv Education Subcommittee is planning a meeting in Biloxi, MS from February 20th through February 22nd. He said he is trying to get the Sea Grant Program to fund this trip for him. He asked the Board if they would be interested in paying his travel expenses if the Sea Grant Program does not. Commissioner Sanders said she really wanted Mr. Mahan to go to this meeting since it was very important. She made a **motion authorizing the payment of Mr. Mahan's travel expenses to Biloxi, MS on February 20th through February 22nd to attend the ISSC Vv. Education Subcommittee Meeting if the Florida Sea Grant Program does not.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

PUBLIC HEARING-REZONING 23.31 ACRES R-4 TO R-1

(Tape 1-1060) Mr. Pierce announced this hearing was scheduled to consider the rezoning of 23.31 acres in Section 27, T8S, R8W, from R-4 Single Family Home Industry to R-1 Single Family Residential. He said the property is owned by the Waddell's and they are both present this morning. He stated the Planning and Zoning Commission has reviewed and recommended approval of this rezoning. He said the benefit of the rezoning is that R-1 allows them to cluster, which Mr. Waddell has already done. He stated the BOA and P&Z Commission has approved this cluster request as well. He said however, the property does need to be formally rezoned. Jim Waddell said the preliminary plat meets all the setback requirements for wetlands, septic tanks, etc. He said while the clustering plan would allow 15,000 square foot lots this project will have one-half acre or more lots. Commissioner Mosconis said he thought this was a good project. Chairman Creamer asked if anyone from the audience would like to speak. After no response Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion approving the rezoning of 23.31 acres owned by the Waddell's in Section 27, T8S, R8W from R-4 Single Family Home Industry to R-1 Single Family Residential.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

VAN JOHNSON-SOLID WASTE DIRECTOR

(Tape 1-1140) Mr. Johnson reminded the Board this matter he is going to discuss was discussed during one of the recent Board Meetings. He said DEP is closing down non-permitted dumpsites in Franklin County. He informed the Board this past Wednesday he received a telephone call from Carrabelle City Commissioner Rita Preston stating that DEP had order the City of Carrabelle's dumpsite closed. He stated this measure has left the City of Carrabelle without a place to dispose of yard waste and no means to adequately transport the waste to the Landfill. He said he has been asked, by Commissioner Preston, that the County help the City by providing yard trash pickup with the knuckle boom truck two times a month. He stated if the Board decides to approve this request the Solid Waste Department could provide this service to the City of Carrabelle. He informed the Board the workshop to discuss these matters with DEP has been tentatively scheduled for February 16th at 11:00 p.m. in the Commission Room of

the Courthouse. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion authorizing the Franklin County Solid Waste Department to schedule yard trash pickups in the City of Carrabelle.** Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-1244) He said he visited Orange Beach, Alabama last Tuesday to observe a demonstration of a portable Air Curtain Incinerator for possible purchase by the County. He stated the unit he observed exceeded his expectation and performed exceptionally well. He said he had a 5-minute video explaining this unit and he presented the video to the Board and audience at this time. After viewing the video he continued with his report by saying the company manufactures these units in sizes ranging from 16-ft to 36-ft wide self-contained boxes. He said he felt the unit that would best serve the needs of Franklin County was a S-121, a 21-ft self-contained box for about \$93,000.00 plus freight. He explained 12 years ago the County purchased a Rabun Unit for \$40,000.00, which had to be offloaded by crane and assembled on site. He said a lowboy could transport this new portable unit completely assembled and ready for immediate use. He informed the Board, as he did at the last meeting, the Federal Government has purchased these units from Whitton Technology, Inc. as a sole source item. He explained there are funds available in the Landfill Tipping Fee Budget to purchase this unit. Mr. Kennedy informed the Board it would cost the County more to try to build one in place or repair the old one than to buy this new unit. He recommended the Board approve Mr. Johnson's request. Alfred Shuler, County Attorney, said he wanted the record documented that this was a sole source provider for this equipment. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion authorizing Mr. Johnson to purchase a Portable-Refractory Walled-Self Contained-Diesel-w/21 ft. combustion box, Model S-121 from Whitton Technology, Inc., for approximately 93,000.00 plus freight contingent on provision of sole source documentation.** Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-1583) Mr. Pierce asked the Board to allow him, while Mr. Johnson in his capacity as Recreational Director is here, to speak on a recreation matter. He said there are a number of residents interested in playing adult soccer. He stated WOYS reporter Michael Allen is actually part of that group. He informed the Board these individuals have been using school property, the gym and football field, to play and practice. He said because of the School Board's concern over liability they have requested the individuals pay \$20.00 per person for every 10 sessions to use their facilities. He stated if the County would recognize adult soccer as a County sponsored event then this activity can be added to the County insurance recreation pool. He asked the Board to recognize adult soccer as a County sponsored event under the direction of Rev. Hap Gregg, Methodist Church minister, for the purpose of insurance. Mr. Pierce said the County would pay for this insurance. Mr. Allen said he and Mr. Gregg are coaches as well and stated he hopes to have enough participation to have an entire County soccer league. Mr. Johnson said the coaches are automatically covered as well as any assistants. Mr. Pierce said the cost of the insurance is approximately \$250.00 a year for 30 players. Mr. Pierce stated the County still needed an Interlocal Agreement with the School Board for use of their fields for sports. Commissioner Mosconis said the County helps the School Board all the time

so they should be able to add a rider to their basic coverage for this activity. Mr. Pierce said he also wants direction from the Board to finish the Interlocal Agreement since teams are playing right now. Mr. Shuler advised it would be legal for the County to purchase a rider for the School Board's policy because it is legal for the County to give money to the School Board. He asked the Board if anyone had contacted the County's liability insurance carrier about this. He said if this is approved as a County function then if an injury occurs which exceeds the limits of the County's liability policy then it would become a County responsibility for whatever exceeds the amount of liability. He suggested someone talk to the County's insurance carrier and get all of these things checked out before actually assuming additional liability, which is what seems to be happening now. Commissioner Putnal said he would like to make a **motion approving this request contingent on Mr. Johnson and Mr. Shuler working out the details.** Mr. Johnson said, just for the record, this liability policy is for a million dollars. He stated soccer generally causes less injuries than football. Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. Mr. Pierce said he wanted Mr. Shuler to help finalize the School Board-County Interlocal Agreement too. Commissioner Putnal said he wanted them to work on that too. Commissioners Williams, Sanders, Mosconis, and Putnal for. Chairman Creamer against. 4-1 **MOTION CARRIED.**

DON BANTA-FRANKLIN COUNTY FOOD BANK

(Tape 1-1884) Mr. Banta thanked the Board for allowing him to address them this morning. He informed the Franklin County Food Bank is a non-profit volunteer organization, which provides food to the elderly and disabled families in Franklin County. He said the Food Bank is administered by a board of non-paid volunteers from the local community. He explained they are presently using the American Legion Building to dispense the food items, but as of March 1st the Legion will be charging the Food Bank \$1,500.00 per month rent to continue operating in their building. He said he was here today to ask the Board to allow the Food Bank to use the vacant County building located at the Road Department Yard on Bluff Road. He reminded the Board they have a strict budget and all they have are donated funds. He said they try to use 100% of the donations to purchase food items. Commissioner Mosconis informed Mr. Banta the building he was talking about needed a lot of repairs. Mr. Wade said the building is vacant. Commissioner Mosconis said the only stipulation is that they are careful about the County vehicles and materials stored there. He told Mr. Banta the gate would have to be closed at all times except when they are dispensing food. Mr. Banta agreed. Mr. Wade said he would check with the County's liability coverage. Mr. Shuler said he would like for the Food Bank to sign a Hold Harmless Agreement with the County. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion approving use of the County building in the County yard on Bluff Road by the Franklin County Food Bank contingent on a Hold Harmless Agreement implemented.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mr. Shuler said they would also need to provide documentation they are a non-profit charitable corporation.

ALAN PIERCE-DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

(Tape 1-2029) Mr. Pierce said he would like to present the following to the Board: a letter from Mr. Jerry Obert, FDOT, about the Carrabelle FDOT yard. Mr. Obert has

called him and said it would be a little while before the County sees any paperwork since FDOT is required to removed the existing underground gas tanks before they turn the property over to the County; A letter to him from FAA for the Board files that states the NDB, Non-Directional Beacon, at the Apalachicola Airport has been inspected and is working correctly; A letter to Timothy Edmonds from him asking St. Joe/Arvida donate to the County a single lot across the street from Sands Field in Carrabelle for use by the Solid Waste Department to place recycling bins and allow for some parking. The County happens to own another lot in the middle of the same block, and he has asked Mr. Dan Rosier to contact Mr. Barfield who owns some lots in this same block to see if he would swap our lot for his so the lot the County gets from St. Joe would then be contiguous to the lot the County would get from Mr. Barfield. These lots are each 50 X 100; A letter from him to Ms. Eva Armstrong, State of Florida Bureau of Land Acquisition, about the County's position on land acquisition, unless the Board wants the letter to be sent from Chairman, and then there needs to be a motion authorizing the Chairman's signature on the letter. Commissioner Sanders made a **motion authorizing the Chairman's signature on the letter to Ms. Armstrong.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED;** A letter from DCA to the Board saying DCA has approved the St. James Bay Land Use change and finds it to be in compliance.

(Tape 1-2270) He said at the last Board Meeting the Board agreed to schedule a public hearing to consider rezoning property on Alligator Point from R-1 to R-4, Home Industry, to allow a new resident of Alligator Point the ability to raise seed clams for the proposed clam aquaculture project in Alligator Harbor. He stated after the Board agreed to schedule a public hearing, but before any advertising was done, the applicant, Mr. Larry Joyner, agreed to ask the Board to not proceed with the public hearing because there was a great deal of opposition to the rezoning. He said, at the Board's discretion, he recommends they reverse themselves and vote not to schedule the public hearing until the Point residents have a chance to discuss the issue among themselves. Commissioner Sanders said she would make a **motion rescinding the action the Board took at the last meeting authorizing Mr. Pierce to schedule a public hearing to consider a rezoning request submitted by Larry Joyner, Alligator Point, and requiring Mr. Joyner to reapply for the rezoning change.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Ms. Lee Brown, a resident of Alligator Point, asked why, since she was a neighboring property owner, she had not received notice of this rezoning request. Mr. Pierce replied because the public hearing was never scheduled. He stated if it had been all of the adjoining property owners would have received a certified letter informing them of Mr. Joyner's intent to rezone his property.

(Tape 1-2370) He asked for Board permission to approve a request submitted by Shirley Walker, SHIP Administrator, to authorize her to use \$22,000.00 in interest accrued through the SHIP Program to be used in combination with \$17,000.00 in private insurance money to rebuild Ms. Marie Rochelle's house. He reminded the Board Ms. Rochelle's house burned down during the holiday season and was insured for \$17,000.00. He informed the Board Ms. Rochelle was a recipient of SHIP funds for work done on her house, but then her house caught fire and burned down. Commissioner Williams said he would make a **motion authorizing the use of \$22,000.00 in interest accrued through**

the SHIP Program to be used in combination with \$17,000.00 in private insurance money to rebuild Ms. Marie Rochelle's house and requiring Ms. Rochelle to provide insurance coverage for the value of her new house. Commissioner Mosconis seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-2443) Mr. Pierce said at the last Board Meeting he informed the Board the State had increased the funding for Emergency Management. He stated he was informed by Ms. Ruth Williams, Finance Officer, in order to take advantage of the funding the Board needs to move \$2,619.00 from Reserve for Contingencies to cover the change in funding. He explained the funding came with a match requirement, which was not apparent to him in the cover letter. He told the Board both he and the Emergency Management Director recommend the Board meet the match requirement. Commissioner Mosconis made a motion approving transferring \$2,619.00 from Reserve for Contingencies to cover change in funding for Emergency Management. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mr. Pierce explained further that the funding was increased through the Federal Government after the County Budget was adopted and he was not aware they had increased the funding.

(Tape 1-2485) He asked the Board to give the Planning Office some direction regarding the approval of the transmittal of a large-scale land use change for Mr. Bill Wells to the DCA for review. He explained, at this same meeting, the Board tabled a change to the definition of wetlands for further review until the next Board Meeting. He said State law allows for two large changes to the Comp Plan each year. He informed the Board that if he submits Mr. Wells request and the wetland definition separately the County will have already submitted the two requests, therefore the County could not send any more requests to the DCA until the year 2002. He recommended the Board direct him to notify Mr. Wells that he is not going to submit his large-scale land use change until the Board makes a final decision about the wetland issue. He said if the wetland definition is changed, then both changes can go together and count as one change. He stated he did not need Board action just the consensus of the Board. The Board agreed with Mr. Pierce and agreed to follow his recommendation. Commissioner Sanders asked Mr. Pierce to contact Mr. Wells about this decision. Mr. Pierce assured the Board he would contact him.

(Tape 1-2564) He gave the Board a copy of the Franklin County map completed by the FDOT. He said it is large enough to be placed on the wall in the Board Room. He told the Board he and the Clerk will decide on a suitable location to place the map.

(Tape 1-2602) He presented a copy of a letter from LUV Homes, the insurer of the Hollenbeck trailer in Eastpoint, stating they must move the trailer, or approve of someone else, which they will not do, otherwise the warranty of the trailer will be voided. He said the trailer should be moved out of the way this week, the appropriate trees cut down, and the trailer moved into the mobile home park in about two weeks.

(Tape 1-2622) Mr. Pierce asked for Board action to correct a scrivener's error in the Alligator Point PUD regarding the possibility of an 8-room motel, which was not

discussed by the Board. He reported he has discussed this issue with Mr. Barry Poole, applicant, and while Mr. Poole thought the Ordinance as written had safeguards, he does not object to removing the language about the 8-room motel in the PUD. He stated he had also discussed this matter with the County Attorney. Commissioner Sanders made a **motion authorizing the correction of a scrivener's error in the Alligator Point PUD regarding the possibility of an 8-room motel, which removes the language from the PUD.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-2684) He reported the FEMA contract for installing shutters on the Carrabelle Senior Citizens Center has been executed. He said he would now advertise for shutters to see what the exact costs will be.

(Tape 1-2700) He asked for the Board to approve a FEMA contract for a new roof on the Carrabelle Fire Station. He explained FEMA has allocated \$15,000.00 for the project, the State \$2,500.00. He asked the Board if they wanted to wait for confirmation from the City of Carrabelle on covering local costs before signing the contract? He stated he has also asked FEMA if it would be possible to pay for hurricane shutters on the new Carrabelle Public Library, under construction, instead of the new roof for the fire station. He informed the Board he has not received a reply and asked the Board if they wanted him to pursue that idea? He said the County does own the new library. Commissioner Mosconis and Commissioner Sanders said they didn't have any problem with putting the shutters on the new library. Commissioner Sanders said she felt the library would need shutters since it was so close to the water. Mr. Pierce said he didn't want the Board to take any action on the contract until he finds out if FEMA will allow the project to be shifted.

(Tape 1-2792) Commissioner Putnal said he would like for Commissioner Sanders to contact the Lanark Village Volunteer Fire Department to find out about the jaws-of-life. He stated he thought they were having a problem because the man that had them is sick.

(Tape 1-2864) Mr. Pierce interrupted his report at this time for a public hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING-BUDGET AMENDMENT RESOLUTION

(Tape 1-2869) Mr. Wade said the purpose of this public hearing was to amend the current fiscal year budget. He explained certain projects approved in FY 99-00 were not completed so therefore they will need to be added to the current budget. He read the following into the record: WHEREAS, Franklin County is a political subdivision of the State of Florida and subject to Florida Statutes Chapter 129 regarding preparation of budgets and, WHEREAS, Florida Statutes Chapter 129.06 provides for budget amendments and, WHEREAS, Franklin County Board of County Commissioners approved certain project expenditures for the Fiscal Year 1999-2000 and, WHEREAS, these projects were not able to be completed prior to end of Fiscal Year 1999-2000 and the Board finds it necessary to amend its Fiscal Year 2000-2001 budget to incorporate these projects and, WHEREAS, the Board has advertised the necessary amendments in the February 1, 2001, issue of the Apalachicola and Carrabelle Times and has held a Public Hearing as required by FS 129.06(f) and, WHEREAS, the Board intends to

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increase the following line items in its FY 2000-2001 General Fund budget: 001.398.980 Cash Carried Forward \$211,396.00; 001.30.516.3100 Clerks Software Application \$40,000.00; 001.51.526.6400 Ambulance Machinery & Equipment \$128,000.00; 001.51.561.3100 Weems Air Conditioning Project \$43,396.00 NOW AND THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Franklin County Board of County Commissioners adopts the amendments to its Fiscal Year 2000-2001 budget as stated above. THIS RESOLUTION ADOPTED by the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners this 6th day of February 2001. Eddie Creamer, Chairman Attest: Kendall Wade, Clerk. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion adopting the Resolution and authorizing the Chairman's signature on the Resolution.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

ALAN PIERCE-CONTINUED

(Tape 1-3025) Mr. Pierce continued his report at this time. He said he would like to give the Board a quick update on the Alligator Point Erosion Control Study. He reported representatives from Preble-Rish, Coastal Technologies, DEP and the County met with some 35 Alligator Point residents to be briefed on what the study reflects. He explained the Board will be presented with a more refined study in about 60 days, but read the following into the record: The consultants are looking at three options for stabilizing the shore in an area stretching for about 5,000 feet along the shore in front of the campground, which is the area eroding the fastest, and of course threatening the road. The options are: A. Beach enhancement-pump up beach sand to build the beach and protect existing shoreline. Initial cost is \$2.5 million, with a refurbishing cost of \$900,000.00 every 7-10 years. The high refurbishment cost is because there will be nothing to hold the sand in place, and it is expected to wash away that fast. B. Build offshore breakwater approximately 200 feet offshore. Initial cost is \$6.0 million, with refurbishment cost of \$500,000.00 every 7-10 years. The refurbishment cost is because of the large wave action from the open Gulf, which would eventually move the rocks. C. Build T-head groins and beach fill. These groins will stick out about 125 feet. Initial cost of \$3.5 million and refurbishment cost of \$500,000.00 every 7-10 years. Mr. Pierce said the USCOE is trying to figure out where the funds would come from, so that is unknown, but he said he believes someone said at the meeting that no matter what there will be a local match, which might be as high as 50%. He stated all 3 choices are set to withstand the 25-year storm event, which is essentially a 7-foot storm surge, which is what Hurricane Opal did on the Point. He said all 3 options leave the road in the same place and protect the shore, but do not give residents a secure evacuation route for storms above a Category 2 hurricane. Commissioner Sanders said she thought the meeting was very informative. She stated they had a lot of plans and options so there is hope for Alligator Point. Commissioner Mosconis said this same thing has been going on for many, many years and all the money in the County couldn't pay for it. He stated the County does not have the money available to take on this big of a project. He said the money will have to come from the Federal, State or both Governments.

(Tape 1-3400) Mr. Pierce said at a previous Board Meeting he received permission to seek funding from DEP for Stormwater improvements for Lanark Village, Eastpoint, and St. George Island. He said the Board chose to start the projects with Lanark Village

because it appeared to be the smallest and most easily solved problem. He explained after reviewing the requirements for DEP funding, which would be in the form of a low interest loan, and considering the County has not adequately discussed identifying any source of funds, which could be committed to paying a loan he recommended the County not consider a DEP loan for Lanark Village at this time. He informed the Board Preble-Rish has a proposal to evaluate Lanark Village and do a preliminary design for \$9,000.00. He told the Board, according to the Finance Officer, the County has \$9,000.00 in the Engineer Services Budget to do this preliminary design work. He said after this evaluation is done, the Board can then decide whether to borrow the funds to make the Stormwater repairs, or just budget the repairs in next years County budget. He stated the only reason to borrow the money is if the estimated repairs are more than the County can pay for in one year. He explained if the County does borrow the money a funding source must be identified. He asked for Board direction. Commissioner Sanders said she agreed with Mr. Pierce's recommendation and made a **motion approving Preble-Rish, Inc.'s proposal to evaluate Lanark Village and do a preliminary design for \$9,000.00.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-3522) He asked the Board to formally appoint Mr. Richard Vilasi, Lanark Village, to the Lanark Village Building Review Committee to replace Ms. Jeanette Pedder who resigned. Commissioner Sanders made a **motion appointing Mr. Richard Vilasi to the Lanark Village Building Review Committee.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-3543) Chairman Creamer asked Mr. Pierce if he had heard anything about the Board's request to meet with Lt. Governor Frank Brogan. Mr. Pierce replied he had not. He said he called Senator Lawson's Office since he made the promise to schedule a meeting and was informed by Senator Lawson's aide that she would let him know as soon as the meeting had been scheduled. Chairman Creamer said he didn't think the County had any time to waste so he wanted a letter written requesting an appointment. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion directing Mr. Pierce to send a letter to Lt. Governor Frank Brogan requesting a meeting with him to discuss important County matters.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-3613) Chairman Creamer asked Mr. Pierce if he had scheduled or heard from the DCA and USCOE regarding a workshop to discuss the Eastpoint Channel dredging project. Mr. Pierce replied he hadn't heard from them. Chairman Creamer said that channel is closing in and pretty soon boats won't be able to get in and out of the channel. He stated this is an urgent matter. Mr. Pierce said he would check into scheduling a workshop to discuss the Eastpoint Channel Dredging Project.

(Tape 1-3653 Continued on Tape 2) Commissioner Sanders said she attended the Lanark Village Association meeting last night. She stated she has had numerous complaints from emergency personnel who work around Lanark Village about the confusion of the back street in Lanark Village having several different names. She stated they asked her

what the chances were of having the street named the same. Mr. Pierce replied the County owns the street and can name it whatever the Board wishes to name it. He said he was sure there would be some complaints about having to change mailing addresses. Commissioner Sanders said the name of the street at the western end is Louisiana Street, the middle of Lanark Village is Oak Street, the eastern end is Pinewood and Third Street. Mr. Pierce said if the Board wanted to change the name this morning then he would notify the residents who live on the street. Commissioner Sanders made a **motion naming the back street in Lanark Village Oak Street and directing the Planning Office to notify the residents who live on this street of their new address.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

GATHANA PARMENAS-AMERICAN RED CROSS REPRESENTATIVE

(Tape 2-92) Ms. Parmenas introduced herself to the Board. She stated she lives in Franklin County and is a volunteer with the American Red Cross. She explained she is here this morning to request the Board to adopt a Proclamation declaring the third week in February, as Disaster Resistant Neighborhood Week as part of the 2001 Disaster Resistant Neighborhood initiatives. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion adopting and authorizing the Chairman's signature on a Proclamation declaring the third week in February, as Disaster Resistant Neighborhood Week.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

KENDALL WADE-CLERK

(Tape 2-163) Mr. Wade asked the Board, at the request of the Capital Area Community Action Agency, to appoint someone to replace Ms. Tammy Rae who resigned. He stated this person would represent the Board on the CAP Board. Commissioner Williams said he wanted the Board to appoint Betty Croom. Commissioner Putnal said he would make the **motion appointing Ms. Betty Croom to the Capital Area Community Action Agency Board.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 2-184) He said he was asked by a local citizen to write a letter to Congressman Boyd requesting some dredging in the Carrabelle River south of the Tillie Miller Bridge to eliminate the buildup of "sand flats" which restrict boat traffic in the area. He stated since the Board didn't have a regularly scheduled meeting for two weeks he went ahead and sent the letter to Congressman Boyd. He stated he thanked Congressman Boyd for all his help with the Two-Mile Channel, Bob Sikes Cut, Eastpoint Breakwater and the many other projects he has helped the County with.

(Tape 2-204) He stated he wanted the Board to know that, since it comes up sometimes, there was a motion made by Commissioner Putnal on June 20, 1997 which authorizes, on the County Attorney's recommendation, the County to accept the face amount of any George E. Weems Hospital Judgment for satisfaction and authorizing the Chairman to sign these satisfactions when completed by the County Attorney. He stated there has been some confusion regarding this policy and he just wanted the Board to be clear on this matter for future reference.

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(Tape 2-230) He informed the Board he had presented each Commissioner a copy of the EMS Wage Survey dated January 15, 2001. He said Susan Ficklen, Hospital Administrator, asked him to see each Commissioner got a copy of the survey. Mr. Wade said he received a fax from Michael Lake, Senior Vice-President, Centennial HealthCare, late yesterday afternoon informing the Board Centennial is assigning its rights, title and interest under it's lease with the County to DasSee Community Health Systems, LLC, on or before June 1, 2001. He said as soon as he received the fax he copied and placed it in each Commissioners mailbox. Chairman Creamer said he didn't know about the rest of the Commissioners, but he was sick and tired of the way Centennial was running the local hospital. He said he called Mr. Shuler to see if there was any way out of the lease for the County. He stated the County could get out of subleasing with this new company and he asked Mr. Shuler to comment. Mr. Shuler said he read the contract or agreement the County has with the Hospital and in Paragraph 19 it states subleases. Mr. Wade said he thought that Mr. Lake needed to be here in the meeting before this matter is discussed. Ms. Ficklen said Mr. Lake is here in the building and she left to find him. Chairman Creamer said he should have been in the meeting if he was in the building. Mr. Wade said Mr. Lake had gone across the street and Chairman Creamer said he would move on to Mr. Shuler's report.

ALFRED SHULER-COUNTY ATTORNEY

(Tape 2-319) Mr. Shuler said the Board, by motion, had changed two of the individual tipping fees. He explained these changes should be made by Resolution as the tipping fees are set by Resolution. He asked the Board to adopt the new Resolution he had prepared reflecting the new tipping fees the Board approved. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion authorizing the Chairman's signature on the amended Resolution reflecting the new tipping fees the Board previously approved.** Commissioner Mosconis seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 2-344) He informed the Board the Old Lanark Village Officers Club should be completely demolished by now and cleaned up. Commissioner Sanders said she went to check on the project and there are still two large piles of debris on the property. She asked Mr. Shuler to call and see when they will be finished.

(Tape 2-358) He said he had sent letters to several individuals in the Lanark Village District about code violations. He stated he has had no response to the letters.

(Tape 2-368) He stated the rental agreement made with Dr. Miniati for an office in the Old Health Department Building needs to be replaced by a lease, which has to be advertised. He said he advertised the lease.

(Tape 2-396) Mr. Shuler said regarding the fence encroachment matter on SGI. He recommended the Board not take any action since this is a problem countywide. He stated there are a lot of encroachments on County right-of-ways throughout the County. He said this matter seems to be of a personal nature as well.

HOSPITAL MATTERS

(Tape 2-431) Chairman Creamer said he would like to discuss the hospital matter now. He asked Mr. Shuler to address the lease the County has with Centennial. He asked Mr. Shuler if we have to accept a sublease if there is reasonable objection to it. Mr. Shuler said that was correct. He stated he read the lease and paragraph 19 specifically addresses this matter. He said Centennial does have the right to assign the lease, but not without Board approval. He informed the Board the approval should not be unreasonably withheld which he takes to mean the Board has the right to check out the qualifications and financial standing of the proposed assignee. He stated if they are a legal entity and meet all of the requirements and standards then the Board may have to approve it. Chairman Creamer said he didn't want to be considered or labeled the "bad person" because he is speaking out, but he felt he was not being unreasonable about this matter. He said the County has problems with Centennial and the bills not being paid. He stated if Centennial was doing a good job running the hospital then he wouldn't have a problem with them subleasing it, but they are not. He said he felt this would be the wrong thing for the County to do by subleasing the hospital. He stated the Board should remember the County is ultimately responsible for the hospital. Commissioner Sanders said she tended to agree with Chairman Creamer. Commissioner Mosconis asked Chairman Creamer what his solution was then. Chairman Creamer replied the Board needed to make absolutely sure everything is legal and if the County has to sublease the hospital then so be it. He stated if the County has to re-advertise for a company to run the hospital then it will just have to be done. He said he knew the County was ultimately responsible for the ambulance service as well. Commissioner Mosconis kept insisting the Board turn the matter over to Attorney Ben Watkins since he has always assisted the County with hospital matters. The Clerk informed Commissioner Mosconis that according to the paperwork sent to him Mr. Jan Hevier was representing Mr. Lake. He said Mr. Watkins wasn't in the office very much anymore. After discussion Commissioner Mosconis said he would make a **motion scheduling a public hearing for February 20, 2001 at 1:00 p.m. to discuss and hear Mr. Lake's presentation regarding his sublease of the hospital.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mr. Shuler said he would send notices to Centennial and Mr. Lake informing them of this hearing.

KENDALL WADE-CLERK-COURTHOUSE SECURITY

(Tape 2-1024) Mr. Wade said he wanted to inform the Board there was a problem with a person becoming violent during the filing of a restraining case in his office. He stated he wanted the Board to know the Security Deputy Montgomery did an excellent job, but the problem was he had someone under arrest in the Courtroom on the third floor and then the problem happened on the second floor. He said he and Deputy Montgomery worked it out, but he did see the potential for a problem. He informed the Board the holding cell outside the Courtroom has been completed and now if someone needs to be arrested they can be placed in this holding cell to keep them confined. He told the Board he spoke to the Clerk from Madison County who has a Courthouse similar to ours with many entrances to it. He asked the Board for permission to get the same security firm to come to Franklin County and do a security study of the Courthouse. He said this would give him some idea as to what can be done to help correct some of these problems. Chairman

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Creamer said he knew the County would have to have an extra security person for the new Courthouse Annex as well. Commissioner Mosconis said he thought this matter had been blown completely out of proportion. He stated the only reason Deputy Montgomery is here now is because of the incident in Port St. Joe. He said there has never been a security person for this Courthouse until recently because it was never needed and he felt one was really needed now. He said he knows there are isolated incidents, but the Board cannot overact. He stated if you go to the Capital in Tallahassee it has a lot of doors and there is almost no security. Mr. Wade asked Commissioner Mosconis if he knew how much security was in that building. Commissioner Mosconis said he didn't really know. Mr. Wade said you can't see it, but you can be assured it's there. Commissioner Mosconis said with one security office and some communication in the form of walkie-talkies, etc. there shouldn't be a problem. Mr. Wade expounded on the recent situation in the Courthouse where even his Deputy Clerks felt threatened. Mr. Shuler stated he too felt a comprehensive security plan for the Courthouse and the new building should be implemented. He said people don't go into Courthouses in the surrounding counties without passing through at least one metal detector and security people. He stated even in Calhoun County you have to pass through a metal detector. He said he can't even carry his pocketknife anymore because of this. He strongly suggested the Board consider a security plan of some kind. Hank Garrett, a resident of Eastpoint and a member of the audience, said he totally agreed with Mr. Shuler and Mr. Wade about the Courthouse needing some security measures. He stated it has to be addressed before a situation like what happened in Gulf County happens. Commissioner Mosconis said there is still no guarantee it won't happen. Mr. Garrett agreed and said it is not guaranteed, but it is just like the County participating in disaster preparedness; it never happens until you don't expect it to happen.

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

Eddie Creamer EDDIE CREAMER, CHAIRMAN

Kendall Wade KENDALL WADE, CLERK