

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
APRIL 3, 2001**

**OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:** Eddie Creamer, Chairman; Bevin Putnal, Cheryl Sanders, Jimmy Mosconis, 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 1-31) Commissioner Williams made a **motion to pay the County bills.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**ANITA GREGORY-APALACHICOLA BAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

(Tape 1-36) Ms. Gregory thanked the Board for their time this morning. She informed the Board she was here to introduce Mr. Gus Holzer, the co-producer on a new movie being made in Franklin County, entitled "Coastline". She said Victor Nunez, producer of the movie "Ulee's Gold", would be the writer, producer and director. Mr. Holzer appeared before the Board to inform them he was the co-producer of Mr. Nunez's latest project. He said he has worked with Mr. Nunez for twenty-five years and assisted him with feature stories on Marjorie Kenan Rawlings, Flannery O'Connor, John D. McDonald, and most recently "Ruby in Paradise" and "Ulee's Gold". He stated the project or story is about friends who grow up in a small town together and then they come back together to rekindle relationships, etc. He said Mr. Nunez plans on shooting in Franklin County and the crew has been scouting for about four weeks. He stated they would be shooting scenes from Apalachicola to Sopchoppy. He said the project should last about eight weeks and they hope to begin shooting around the first of May. He informed the Board they would be hiring some local crew and experts to work with them. He said they have been in touch with the local State agencies, the Sheriff's Department, etc. He stated it was a pleasure to be back in Franklin County.

(Tape 1-101) Ms. Gregory said she wanted to inform the Board and Mr. Pierce that the Apalachicola Bay Chamber of Commerce agreed to donate \$250.00 to the Franklin County Legislative Day in Tallahassee on April 11<sup>th</sup>. The Board and Mr. Pierce thanked Ms. Gregory.

**SHERIFF BRUCE VARNES**

(Tape 1-109) Sheriff Varnes informed the Board he needed to have the Chairman sign the annual Task Force Grant. He explained this grant is shared with the City of Apalachicola Police Department. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion authorizing the Chairman's signature on the annual Law Enforcement Task Force Grant.** Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-136) He said he also wanted to inform the Board he had received a copy of a letter, which was addressed to the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners, stating the Department of Corrections, DOC, would not be renewing their contract, which

provides DOC inmates for the County Jail, when it expires June 30, 2001. Commissioner Putnal said he had read in the Tallahassee Democrat the Governor was going to reconsider this matter. Sheriff Varnes replied he had been meeting with the DOC Secretary, Michael W. Moore, and he has been unable to get the DOC to even consider renewing the contract. He said Mr. Moore has told him there are plenty of DOC beds available for these inmates being held in local County jails. He stated he could understand if the State had beds available and were paying to house DOC inmates in local jails. He stated he has been assured DOC will be moving the inmates. He said he wanted this in the record where he informed the Board DOC would not be renewing their contract for DOC inmates with the County in June.

(Tape 1-181) Sheriff Varnes said not only is the State removing his DOC inmates they are going to privatize the food service at the local Franklin Work Camp. He explained the Governor is doing this all over the State as well. He stated privatizing the food service is supposed to either cut costs or at least keep costs the same, but according to the letter he received from DOC the meals will increase by 2%. He said the meals for County inmates purchased from the Work Camp cost \$1.05 per meal and he felt he couldn't prepare meals for this at the jail. He stated even with a 2% increase he still couldn't hire staff and prepare meals in the kitchen at the jail for that price. He said he just wanted the Board to be aware of this situation as well. Chairman Creamer thanked the Sheriff for informing the Board of these matters ahead of time. He said the State budget begins July 1, 2001 and the County's budget would not be adopted until September or October 2001 so he knew the Board would just have to work with the Sheriff. Sheriff Varnes assured the Board he would be as frugal as he could be while still meeting all of his State guidelines for operating the jail.

#### **CHARLIE WILLIAMSON-REQUEST FOR NO WAKE ZONE**

(Tape 1-392) Mr. Williamson said he wanted to address the Commissioners about the problem of the increased amount of damage caused by dangerous wakes by boats in the Apalachicola River near the downtown area of Apalachicola. He stated he owns a marina and was also a member of the Battery Park Advisory Committee appointed by the City of Apalachicola. He said about three months ago the City Commission adopted a Resolution to have the downtown waterfront area posted as a No Wake Zone, but discovered the City Commissioners did not have the authority to do this. He stated the County would have to do it. He asked the Commissioners if they had an ordinance regarding no wake zones on the Apalachicola River. Alan Pierce, Director of Administrative Services, replied he thought there was one. Mr. Williamson said if an ordinance is in place then there needs to be signs posted in this area to stop the high-speed boat traffic in the area. Commissioner Putnal said he would make a **motion directing the County Attorney to research the ordinances to see if one applied to this area for this problem and if so post the No Wake Zone signs where needed.**

Commissioner Putnal said he was unloading oysters at the Two-Mile Channel area and was almost knocked down by boats traveling at a high rate of speed. He stated the Marine Patrol needed to enforce these zones if they were not doing so. Mr. Williamson said he understood there used to be a No Wake Zone beginning where the split is at Scipio Creek down to the end where the River meets the Bay. He said the southbound

marker needed to be placed about one hundred yards downstream of the Two-Mile Channel cutoff. Mr. Williamson informed the Board he would be glad to share his information with Mr. Shuler. Commissioner Mosconis seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Commissioner Mosconis told Mr. Pierce he was going to have to be involved in this matter since he is also the City of Apalachicola Mayor. Mr. Pierce assured Commissioner Mosconis he would contribute and assist all he could.

(Tape 1-663) Mr. Pierce said he would like to discuss a similar matter. He stated Bill Mahan, County Extension Director, had given him some information on a grant to improve recreational boating. He explained the City of Apalachicola was not eligible to apply, but the County would be. He said the grant funds could be used to construct, maintain, etc. boating facilities. He asked the Board if they would like for him to apply for this grant. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion authorizing Mr. Pierce to apply for the Recreational Boating Improvement Grant.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-699) Commissioner Putnal said he asked Hubert Chipman, Superintendent of Public Works, to clean out the Eastpoint Boat Ramp. He stated what is happening is when the boats are loaded onto the trailer, instead of winching them up they are driving them onto the boat trailer. He said a bank of shells is being created there along the ramp. He stated if Mr. Chipman can't remove the shells then the County might have to hire the Harris Brothers to remove them with their crane.

#### **KENDALL WADE-CLERK**

(Tape 1-747) Mr. Wade said he wanted to request removal of some items from the County Inventory List. He stated he would like to do this while the departments involved were here to comment, if necessary, on the equipment. He asked for the following items to be removed from the County's Inventory List: Property #2181-IBM Printer, Property #A003021-IBM Computer, Property #A003151-IBM Computer, Property #2179-IBM Computer, Property #2214-IBM Computer, Property #2175-IBM Computer, Property #2187 & #2188-Computer, Property #A003562 & #A003563-2 Self Dumping Hoppers, Property #1509-Panasonic Typewriter, Property #A003687-1989 Ford Bronco, Property #315-1981 GMC Truck, Property #1520-1974 International Truck, Property #2146-1981 Ford Pick-Up, Property #1366-1983 Backhoe, and Property #2092-1990 Sweeper Vacuum. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion to remove the listed items from the County Inventory List.** Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

#### **HUBERT CHIPMAN-SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

(Tape 1-812) Mr. Chipman said he did not have anything that needed Board attention this morning. He stated his department was very busy trying to keep up with all of the road repairs.

(Tape 1-823) Commissioner Sanders asked Mr. Chipman and Mr. Shuler if when the Board designated a load limit on McIntyre Road near Carrabelle a 25 MPH speed limit was implemented too. Mr. Pierce replied he didn't think so. He and Mr. Chipman replied they thought only a load limit was set for the road. Commissioner Sanders said

she wanted a 25 MPH speed limit posted on McIntyre Road if possible. Mr. Pierce stated most of the County Roads have a 35 MPH speed limit posted on them. Commissioner Sanders stated she didn't think this road needed to be posted at 35 MPH. Mr. Pierce said he would get the County Engineer, David Kennedy, to go look at the road to see what his opinion would be. He suggested the Board make a motion contingent on Mr. Kennedy's recommendation. Commissioner Sanders made a **motion to post a 25 MPH speed limit on McIntyre Road contingent on approval of the County Engineer.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**BILL MAHAN-COUNTY EXTENSION DIRECTOR**

(Tape 1-878) Mr. Mahan informed the Board he received an e-mail concerning the proposed State of Florida job reductions. He said he attached a copy of the worksheet, which reflects the economic impacts of the proposed 25% reduction in the state workplace over five years. He stated the chart shows Franklin County losing 53 jobs with a financial impact of \$2,213,668.00.

(Tape 1-920) He reported he attached a copy of the Summer and Fall 2001 UF Distance Education Course catalog offering 23 courses, a copy of the "Science Serving Florida's Coast", and the new issue of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Service's newsletter on aquaculture.

(Tape 1-985) He updated the Board on the Alligator Harbor Clam Aquaculture Project. He said he has been informed by Mark Barrigan, DACS, that the next step will be to schedule a public workshop to review the lease application procedures and to answer any general questions people may have on growing clams. He said Mr. Barrigan thinks the workshop would be scheduled for some time in May. Commissioner Sanders reported the decision has been made by the Governor and Cabinet to allow Franklin County the first preference for the leases and Wakulla County the second. Chairman Creamer thanked Commissioner Sanders for all she had done to bring the aquaculture project to finalization for Franklin County. Mr. Mahan said he had contacted Leslie Sturmer, UF Extension Department, and Chuck Adams, Marine Economist, about assisting people with writing business plans. He stated they would be glad to come to Franklin County for a workshop. Commissioner Putnal said he has been contacted about where people are supposed to go for a Small Business Loan to start a clam business. Mr. Mahan stated Commissioner Sanders was going to contact the Florida Association of Counties for assistance.

(Tape 1-1170) He reported the Family Nutrition Program conducted by Cherry Rankin is near completion in the local schools. He said with the completion of the FCAT it is time for the annual 4-H/FDOT Seat Belt Safety, 4-H/Tropicana Public Speaking and 4-H Butterfly Development programs to begin.

(Tape 1-1190) He reminded the Board about the upcoming meetings and events, Conflict Resolution Training-April 17<sup>th</sup> through 19<sup>th</sup> in Pensacola, the ISSC's Gulf and Southern Atlantic Regional, Vv and Vp Subcommittee meetings-April 23<sup>rd</sup> through 27<sup>th</sup> in Biloxi, MS.

**VAN JOHNSON-SOLID WASTE DIRECTOR**

(Tape 1-1244) Mr. Johnson said last week Recycle Florida Today, Inc., e-mailed him a legislative update on the proposed cuts in the Solid Waste Management Grants. He stated according to them the Florida House of Representatives proposed budget contains \$14 million dollars for these grants. He said the Senate has a proposed budget cut of \$5.8 million. He explained the Senate's version will direct all of the 5.8 million to Counties with population of 100,000 or less and keep the funding at least at 80% of last years level. He said it appears to him the lobbying and resolutions are paying off. He assured the Board he would keep them informed of any further proposals or changes.

(Tape 1-1287) He asked the Board to allow the Chairman to sign an annual Application for Recovered Materials Certification. He explained this is must be in place for any County who handles, receives, or sells over 600 tons of recovered materials to certify to DEP annual. He informed the Board the Recycling Program recovered about 828 tons of material during 2000. He said the annual cost of this certification is \$50.00.

Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion authorizing the Chairman's signature on the annual Application for Recovered Materials Certification and approving the expenditure of \$50.00 to submit the application.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-1312) He explained there are 2 identical bills being considered by the Florida House and Senate, that if enacted, would require Animal Control Officers to receive additional training. He said the bill would require these officers to report to the Florida Department of Children and Family Services any suspected incidents of child abuse, which they might encounter while performing their animal control duties. He said the bill would also require persons responsible for investing child abuse to report animal abuse to the Animal Control Officers. He informed the Board if any of these bills are adopted then the effective date would be October 1<sup>st</sup>. He said another bill or bills being considered would allow Animal Control Officers to carry a firearm other than a handgun within their official vehicle. He explained the firearm would only be used to provide a swift and merciful means by which dogs might be destroyed in a humane and proficient manner. He said the bill will set forth requirements the Animal Control Officer must met before he can carry the firearm. He reported this bill would become effective when signed into law.

(Tape 1-1380) Chairman Creamer asked Mr. Johnson to have one of his Animal Control Officers to just sweep through Eastpoint and pick-up the stray dogs. He said he had seen a lot of them going hungry, hurt, etc. He stated he had rather see them at the shelter than on the streets starving to death.

**JANICE HICKS-FCPHU**

(Tape 1-1399) Ms. Hicks said Dr. Shakra Junejo, Director of the FCPHU, was here this morning to address the Board. Dr. Junejo submitted a letter to the Board asking for the Board's authorization to move funds as needed in and out of the Special Projects category of the Core Contract to meet operational needs at the Health Department. She said the Governor has announced his plans to cut Public Health Department funds. She stated she

did not know anything for certain, but wanted to move these funds in any case. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion authorizing Dr. Junejo, FCPHU Director, to move funds as needed in and out of the Special Projects category of the Core Contract to meet operational needs at the FCPHU.** Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**ALAN PIERCE-DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRTIVE SERVICES**

(Tape 1-1499) Mr. Pierce said Commissioner Mosconis wanted to discuss the Hospital Advisory Board the Board voted to establish due to the subleasing of the local Hospital. Commissioner Mosconis announced he would call the advisory board "The Blue Ribbon Advisory Board" and the Advisory Board would work similar to the Airport Advisory Committee, etc. He explained each Commissioner would be allowed to choose one representative from the District to serve on the Board. He stated he would like to place Chuck Marks on this Board to represent his District. Commissioner Williams appointed Retha McCaskill, Commissioner Sanders appointed Paul Parker and Commissioner Putnal appointed Barbara Robuluck. Chairman Creamer said he did not have anyone to appoint this morning, but would notify Mr. Pierce or the Board Secretary, Amelia Varnes, when he decided whom he was going to appoint. Susan Ficklen, George E. Weems Hospital Administrator, suggested the Board appointees meet with Mike Lake, CEO, DasSee Health Care Systems within the next 2 weeks. Commissioner Mosconis said he just wanted them to meet as soon as possible to try to alleviate some of these complaints, problems, etc. being discussed about the ambulance service in Franklin County.

(Tape 1-1771) Mr. Pierce presented a grant application and Resolution for an Emergency Medical Services Grant in the amount of \$3,654.48 to purchase 2 Ambulance Charging Systems and 3 Portable Suction Units. He explained these items have been requested by the ambulance service and will become property of Franklin County. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion authorizing the Chairman's signature on the Emergency Medical Services Grant and Resolution supporting the grant in the amount of \$3,654.58 to purchase 2 Ambulance Charging Systems and 3 Portable Suction Units for Franklin County.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-1820) He asked for the Board to approve a \$1,500.00 appropriation to fund Franklin County Legislative Day in Tallahassee on April 11<sup>th</sup>. He said according to Ruth Williams, Finance Officer, the Board needs to approve an increase in line item 001.27.519.4900 in the amount of \$1,500.00 and decrease line item 001.99.584.9600 in the amount of \$1,500.00. He invited the Commissioners to attend. He reported Senator Al Lawson and Representative Will Kendrick would be provided with tickets to disseminate as they saw fit. He stated the Realtor's Association and one of the local bank's in supporting the effort as well. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion increasing line item 001.27.519.4900-\$1,500.00 and decreasing line item 001.99.584.9600-\$1,500.00 to fund Franklin County Legislative Day in Tallahassee on April 11<sup>th</sup>.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-1900) Mr. Pierce presented a diagram of the proposed Courthouse Annex. He said the drawing shows the façade and building layout. He reported Willie Meggs, State Attorney, has approved the layout for the State Attorney's Office, which is being moved to the annex when it is completed.

(Tape 1-1993) He stated Larry O'Donald, DEP, is present this morning as requested by the Board to discuss the Stormwater mitigation requirements DEP has implemented for the new SGI Bridge. He explained FDOT officials were on their way to Pensacola this morning to meet with DEP officials to try and work out these storm water mitigation problems they have run in to while trying to build the SGI Bridge. He said he did receive a reply from DEP. Mark Kelly, Sverdrup Engineers, said he wanted to take Mr. O'Donald around the County to visit these Stormwater Permit requirement problems. Commissioner Mosconis and the Board asked Mr. O'Donald to see if something could be done to alleviate some of these problems. Mr. O'Donald said he would visit these areas and then report back to his superiors at DEP.

#### **DORIS PENDLETON-PROPERTY APPRAISER**

(Tape 1-2567) Mr. Pierce interrupted his report at this time to allow Doris Pendleton, Property Appraiser, to address the Board. Ms. Pendleton said she was here to ask the Board to move some money left over from last year's budget, budgeted for the new mapping system to another line item so they cause use the money as a match for a grant the Department of Revenue was waiting to approve. She said they have approved the grant and she needs approval to use this money for the grant match. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion approving the use of and moving left over funds from the Property Appraiser's last year's budget to this year's budget to use as match funds for a DOR Grant.** Commissioner Mosconis seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-2626) She informed the Board she had a problem with some property on SGI listed on the Tax Rolls. She asked the Board to direct the County Attorney to assist her in any legal matters that may arise out of this problem. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion directing the County Attorney to assist Ms. Pendleton, if needed, in this property dispute on SGI.** Commissioner Mosconis seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

#### **ALAN PIERCE-CONTINUED**

(Tape 1-2663) Mr. Pierce said he would like to inform the Board Robin Brinkley, Planning and Zoning Office, has been denied the right to take his Building Official Exam, just as Rachel Ward was denied. He said both of these individuals have passed exams proving competency in their respective fields, but a State board has denied them the right to take the exam because they do not feel Mr. Brinkley and Ms. Ward have the required years of experience. He informed the Board he would take Mr. Brinkley to the next meeting in May in St. Augustine to appeal his denial. He presented a copy of the response letter he sent to the State regarding the last letter they sent to his office. Mr. Pierce said the Governor and his staff are creating a terrible hardship on small counties.

(Tape 1-2796) He asked the Board to create a temporary power affidavit as recommended by the Franklin County Construction Licensing Board. He explained the purpose of the affidavit would be to allow contractors to have power turned on before the house was ready for the Certificate of Occupancy. He stated the Licensing Board thinks they should seek the County Commissioners approval since it was the County Commissioners, under a previous Building Official, decided to withhold permanent power until the house was ready for a CO. He said the Building Official recommends this as well. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion authorizing the creation of a Temporary Power Affidavit as recommended by the Building Official and the Construction Licensing Board.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-2866) He asked for the Board to approve the annual Hazardous Materials Analysis Grant in the amount of \$3,469.00. He explained Apalachee Regional Planning Council would complete the report as they have in years past. Commissioner Sanders made a **motion authorizing the Chairman's signature on the annual Hazardous Materials Analysis Grant in the amount of \$3,469.00 and authorizing ARPC to complete the report.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-2884) He asked for the Board to approve the Chairman's signature on the FEMA Disaster Relief Funding Agreement for Tropical Storm Helene, which was 10-inch rainfall event last September. He explained FEMA is still reviewing disaster requests. He stated Tim Turner, Emergency Management Director, has submitted many requests and with the Chairman's signature on this agreement FEMA will begin to release some of the funds. He stated before the funds are released the County will get verification of what projects have been approved. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion authorizing the Chairman's signature on the FEMA Disaster Relief Funding Agreement for Tropical Storm Helene.** Commissioner Mosconis seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-2944) He explained that as part of the State's promotion of emergency preparedness Mr. Turner has asked the Board direct the County Attorney to review a contract for debris removal in the event of a disaster. He said the State is pushing counties to have contracts in place for such services to help speed up the recovery effort in the event of a big disaster. He stated such a contract would only become effective under a Presidential Disaster Declaration and would be reimbursable by FEMA. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion directing the County Attorney to assist the Emergency Management Director, Tim Turner, in reviewing a contract for debris removal in the event of a disaster.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-2976) Mr. Pierce reported to the Board that a lady from his office, Rita Preston, has transferred to the Property Appraiser's Office. He said the effective transfer date is April 16<sup>th</sup>. He stated he still has a pool of applicants to interview from due to the recent hiring of a new person in his office. He explained, if he decides to hire another person, he would use those applications to select applicants to interview. He stated he has

checked with both Mr. Shuler and the County's Labor Attorneys about using the same pool of applications and they have both agreed it would be okay. He assured the Board he would keep them informed on the matter.

(Tape 1-3033) He presented the Board with a Grant of Easement from Sandra B. Marks to Franklin County for an easement right-of-way. He said this is for the County to maintain a drainage ditch around Mitchell McAlphin's property in Apalachicola. He reported it had already been recorded in the Official Records at the Clerk's Office.

(Tape 1-3063) Commissioner Sanders asked Mr. Pierce what was happening with the flooding problem at Lanark Village that they had last week. Mr. Pierce replied David Kennedy and a representative from Preble-Rish, Inc. have visited that area last week. He explained after speaking to the engineers it appeared the problem is not as wide spread as first thought. He said he was informed Preble-Rish should have a proposal to him by next week.

(Tape 1-3114) Chairman Creamer asked Mr. Pierce if he had heard anything from either DEP or the USCOE on the Eastpoint Channel Dredging Project. Mr. Pierce replied he has called both DEP and the USCOE and left messages with each department. He said no one has returned his telephone calls. Chairman Creamer said he thought the County deserved to hear something from them. He stated another thing was that the Lt. Governor had not replied to the letter the County sent to him about scheduling a meeting about this matter. Chairman Creamer stated he would like another letter sent to him asking him why he had not responded to any correspondence. Commissioner Putnal asked why someone couldn't call Senator Lawson since he is the one who said he would schedule a meeting with the Lt. Governor. Mr. Pierce said a letter was written to the Lt. Governor and a copy was sent to both Rep. Kendrick and Sen. Lawson. Commissioner Putnal said he would make another **motion directing Mr. Pierce to send a letter and to call Sen. Lawson, Rep. Kendrick and the Lt. Governor requesting a meeting about the dredging problem in Eastpoint Channel and asking why no one has responded to the County's correspondence.** Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-3245) Mr. Pierce reminded the Board of the Public Hearing scheduled for today at 1:00 p.m. to discuss the amendment to the Comp Plan and settlement of the lawsuit filed against the County by the Apalachicola Bay and River Keepers.

#### **KENDALL WADE-CLERK**

(Tape 1-3264) Mr. Wade said he received a letter from Florida Association of Counties regarding the reapportionment of counties and school board districts. He said the letter offers the services of Kurt Spitzer & Associates (KS&A) to assist counties in their redistricting projects. He stated he felt this redistricting was an important issue and the County should probably seek outside help. He informed the Board the School Board and County Commissioners would share equally in the costs of the proposal. Commissioner Sanders said she thought this would be a great idea. Commissioner Putnal said he wanted the district lines to stay just like they are. Mr. Wade said he thought this was going to

have to be done. Commissioner Mosconis said he wouldn't want a radical change. He suggested Mr. Wade check into the costs, time line, etc. with this group. Mr. Wade replied he would contact Mr. Spitzer to see how much he would charge to do this study. Mr. Wade said he would call Mr. Spitzer and have the information at the next meeting.

**ALFRED SHULER-COUNTY ATTORNEY**

(Tape 1-3428) He said the problem the Property Appraiser asked him to assist her with is that a deed has been recorded in the Official Records of the Clerk's Office with a vague description at best. He stated the Property Appraiser has been asked, by the Grantee of the Deed, to assess the beach areas, not including the County Park, in front of the old subdivision to that person. He said he was sure the County needed to oppose this request. He assured the Board he would take care of assisting Ms. Pendleton in this matter.

(Tape 1-3473 Continued on Tape 2) He updated the Board on several other projects he is working on as directed by the Board.

(Tape 2-133) Tom Hoffer, Franklin Chronicle, asked Mr. Shuler if the Commissioners were going to plan for a formal role of the public in the redistricting issue. He asked if they were going to have workshops, etc. Commissioner Putnal replied he didn't know. Chairman Creamer said he knew workshops would have to be held for public input.

**PUBLIC HEARING-AMENDMENT TO THE FRANKLIN COUNTY COMP PLAN-SETTLEMENT OF CASE FILED BY APALACHICOLA RIVER AND BAY KEEPERS-CASE NUMBER 01-00067-CA**

(Tape 3-1) Mr. Pierce announced the opening of this public hearing to discuss the wetland issue. He reminded the Board this matter had been discussed at several previous meetings. He said the issue today was whether the Board was going to adopt this new revised amendment or not. He stated the attorney for the Apalachicola Bay and River Keepers, Andy Smith, the attorneys for Carabelle Properties, LTD., Lewis, Longman & Walker, PA., Ed Steinmeyer, and the County Attorney, Mr. Shuler, have met and arrived at a suitable and agreeable settlement agreement which includes the new amendment to the Franklin County Comprehensive Plan. After discussion Commissioner Putnal made a **motion to transmit the proposed Amendment to the Franklin County Comprehensive Plan to DCA for approval.** Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** After the Comp Plan Amendment was adopted for transmittal Commissioner Putnal made a **motion authorizing the Chairman's signature and approving the Settlement Agreement in Circuit Civil Case No. 01-00067-CA, Apalachicola Bay and River Keeper, Inc., Martha DuPont, Joann Dittmer, and Jean Parmelee, Plaintiffs, vs. The Board of County Commissioners of Franklin County, Florida and Carabelle Properties, LTD.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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

Eddie Creamer

**EDDIE CREAMER, CHAIRMAN**

Kendall Wade

**KENDALL WADE, CLERK**