

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 19, 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 1-33) Commissioner Sanders made a **motion approving the minutes of the meeting held on June 5, 2001.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-37) Commissioner Putnal made a **motion to pay the County bills.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

HUBERT CHIPMAN-SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

(Tape 1-43) Mr. Chipman said he didn't have anything to report to the Board this morning. He did say he was glad it rained to help settle the dust on the roads in the County.

(Tape 1-81) Commissioner Mosconis asked Mr. Chipman if he and the County Engineer had gone to assess the ditch on Earl Creamer's property located on Bluff Road in Apalachicola. Mr. Chipman replied he had visited the area with David Kennedy the County Engineer. Mr. Chipman said the area is clogged with leaves and other debris, as well as being over grown with weeds. Commissioner Mosconis asked Mr. Chipman if he couldn't take an inmate crew and remove a lot of the debris by hand. Mr. Chipman said that was the only thing he could do without a DEP permit. He stated he thought Mr. Kennedy was pursuing a permit at this time. He said they are going to clean out the whole ditch system all the way to the Highland Park area of Apalachicola by hand to see if that would help. Commissioner Mosconis said he would go ahead, to be sure all bases are covered, and make a **motion directing the County Engineer to pursue DEP permits, any ditch easements the County needs to maintain these areas and authorizing the payment of the DEP permit fee.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. Chairman Creamer informed the Board that he could not vote on this issue since Mr. Creamer was his brother. He said he would complete a Form 8B, Memorandum of Voting Conflict of County, Municipal, and other Local Public Officials.

(Tape 1-279) Kendall Wade, Clerk, said he wanted to discuss the adoption of the proposed Franklin County Personnel Rules. He stated these proposed rules were sent to each Department Head for review. He said they were ready to be adopted by the Board. Mr. Chipman and Mr. Johnson reported they had reviewed the rules and recommended approval of the new Personnel Rules. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion adopting the revised Franklin County Personnel Rules as submitted by Carson & Atkins, the**

County's labor attorneys. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for.
MOTION CARRIED.

BILL MAHAN-COUNTY EXTENSION DIRECTOR

(Tape 1-312) He said he survived 4-H County Camp last week. He reported a total of 111 campers attended the weeklong camp. He said 8 of those campers were from Franklin County, the other campers were from Holmes and Jackson County.

(Tape 1-340) He stated the Clam Aquaculture Workshops had been completed. He said the Extension Program would be offering some additional hands-on clam farming workshops for the successful lease applicants later this year or early in 2002. He informed the Board they also offered to coordinate the lease site survey if the applicants wanted the help. He reported as of 4:00 p.m. on Monday the DACS had received 57 applications with 8 from non-Franklin County residents. He said Want Prentis, DACS, informed him she had received a number of phone calls from people today telling her they were sending in applications via over-night express.

(Tape 1-440) He informed the Board he had attached a copy of a NY Times column titled "Gulf Coast Oyster Farmers Try Self-Regulation" by Greg Winter. He said he has also attached a letter to the editor by Al Sunseri, President of P&J Oyster Company, New Orleans, LA in response to the NY Times story.

(Tape 1-485) He presented a copy of the Index of Issues, which would be discussed at the Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference's Annual Meeting. He said all of the committee and subcommittee recommendations go to one of three Task Forces, then they make the final recommendations on the issue and pas them on to be voted on by the General Assembly. He stated the Vibrio Vulnificus issue is assigned to Task Force II. He said Task Force I covering issues related to growing areas and classification, Task Force II covers Processing Plants, and Task Force III covers ISSC's Administration issues.

(Tape 1-535) Commissioner Putnal asked Mr. Mahan to check into Farmers Home Loans for oyster farmers. He said since the oyster industry is included in the DACS they should be included in the Farmers Home Loan Program. Mr. Mahan replied he didn't think the government considered "wild harvesters" as an agricultural entity. He said they might consider aquaculture a farming operation. He assured Commissioner Putnal he would check into the matter.

VAN JOHNSON-SOLID WASTE DIRECTOR

(Tape 1-685) Mr. Johnson said he really did not have anything to discuss with the Board this morning. Commissioner Mosconis asked Mr. Johnson to address the Keep Franklin County Beautiful proposal to supply approximately 25 receptacles in Apalachicola, Carrabelle, and St. George Island. Mr. Johnson introduced Lucile Pilcher, Chairperson, Keep Franklin County Beautiful, and stated KFCB would like to have the Board's approval to install the receptacles on St. George Island at the beach access areas and the causeway area used by fishermen and then place the remaining receptacles in

Apalachicola and Carrabelle. Ms. Pilcher thanked the Board for allowing her to address them this morning. She reiterated what Mr. Johnson said and stated plans are underway for KFCB to furnish the materials and for the Franklin Work Camp inmates to build and install the receptacles. She stated the County should provide the pickup of the trash by the waste management company. She said the receptacles would be in the picket fence design currently being used in the City of Apalachicola. Mr. Johnson said the Solid Waste Department does not have the manpower or equipment to collect this extra trash. He said it would have to be handled by the local waste hauler. He stated the costs would have to be defined to see exactly how much they would charge the County. He said then the Board would need to allocate funds for this project. He reminded the Board the County provides KFCB with \$11,000.00 from a grant. He said this new costs may exceed the total grant amount. Commissioner Mosconis asked Mr. Johnson to check into the costs of having this trash picked up and report back at the next Board meeting. Mr. Johnson said he would. Chairman Creamer said this would probably have to be addressed in the Budget Workshops.

TERRY PEACOCK-ST. VINCENT'S NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

(Tape 1-934) Ms. Peacock said she was here with good news this morning. She stated she had a check in the amount of \$32,414.00 from the U. S. Department of the Interior. She said this represents the annual Refuge Revenue Sharing Payment for St. Vincent's National Wildlife Refuge in Franklin County. Chairman Creamer thanked Ms. Peacock for the check. She invited all of the Commissioners to St. Vincent's for a visit.

ALAN PIERCE-DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

(Tape 1-1157) Mr. Pierce informed the Board that he has informally heard from DCA they would be agreeing to the Comp Plan Amendment for St. James Bay, but the Comp Plan Amendment submitted for Bill Wells would not be approved since they felt it was inconsistent with the County's Comp Plan. He stated a formal letter from DCA should be sent to the County in a week.

(Tape 1-1177) He asked for the Board to approve a lease between the Board and the Governor and Cabinet, also known as the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, for the use of the FDOT complex in Carrabelle. He stated the lease is for 50 years, however, the lease would require the development and approval of a management plan before the County can alter the building. He asked for the Board to go ahead and approve the lease contingent on the County Attorney reviewing it. Commissioner Sanders make a **motion approving and authorizing the Chairman's signature on the lease between the Governor and Cabinet and Franklin County for use of the FDOT complex in Carrabelle for 50 years contingent on approval of the lease by the County Attorney.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-1220) Mr. Pierce said Jerry Obert, FDOT Property Manager, requested the Board write a letter authorizing the FDOT remediation agent, Westinghouse employees, and FDOT supervisor's permission to have access to the Carrabelle FDOT yard for the purposes of monitoring the cleanup of hazardous materials discovered around the fuel

tanks FDOT has already removed. He said this is necessary otherwise FDOT would not release the Carrabelle facility until the cleanup is completed, which might take two more years. Commissioner Sanders made a **motion authorizing the FDOT remediation agent, Westinghouse employees, and FDOT supervisor's permission to have access to the Carrabelle FDOT yard to monitor the cleanup of hazardous materials at the yard.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-1276) He presented the Board with the Lanark Village Drainage Improvements Feasibility Study. He informed the Board the cost to fund all of the needed improvements is approximately \$170,000.00. He said the main costs are replacing 1,200 feet of culverts and reshaping 560 feet of ditches. He told the Board he has asked the County Engineer if there was a way to piece together the improvements so the Board can afford to do them without borrowing money from DEP. He said Mr. Kennedy said the project can be done in phases, but all of the design and surveying work would have to be done for the entire project. He asked the Board to authorize the expenditure of \$15,008.82 for design and surveying. He stated the Finance Officer, Ruth Williams, instructed him to get approval from the Board to pay this expenditure and she would research exactly what fund it could be paid from. Commissioner Sanders made a **motion authorizing the expenditure of \$15,008.82 for design and surveying for the Lanark Village Drainage Improvement Project.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

BIDS-APALACHICOLA AIRPORT ACCESS ROAD CONSTRUCTION

(Tape 1-1448) Chairman Creamer announced the opening of bids for the construction of the access road at the Apalachicola Municipal Airport. The Clerk, Mr. Wade, opened the following bids: Anderson Columbia, Inc. and C. W. Roberts Contracting, Inc. Mr. Pierce informed the Board these bids were complicated and would have to be reviewed and researched by the County Engineer, the Airport Advisory Committee Chairman, and several other people involved in the project. He suggested the Board authorize the bids be reviewed by this panel and then have them report back to the Board with their recommendation. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion authorizing the bids for the construction of the Apalachicola Municipal Airport access road be reviewed by the County Engineer, the Airport Advisory Committee Chairman, etc. and directing them to report back to the Board at the next scheduled Board meeting with a recommendation.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

ALAN PIERCE-CONTINUED

(Tape 1-1527) Commissioner Mosconis asked Mr. Pierce to send a letter to the Opportunity Florida Committee requesting they add the Apalachicola Airport Advisory Committee to their list of contacts. He said he would make a **motion authorizing Mr. Pierce to send a letter to Opportunity Florida asking them to include the Apalachicola Airport Advisory Committee to their list of contacts.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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(Tape 1-1617) Mr. Pierce informed the Board he had met with various parties involved in the noise complaint brought up at a previous meeting by Dennis Houseman, Bluff Road in Apalachicola. He said he thought the neighbors are taking the responsible path and working the problems out.

(Tape 1-1635) He said he contacted a majority of the Commissioners on June 7th to declare an emergency situation at Alligator Point. He stated the action had to be taken to protect the road from further erosion. He said on June 8th and 11th rocks were placed along approximately 100 feet of the road just east of "My Blue Heaven". He stated he contacted DEP personnel and told them what was being done and was advised by them to search the area for turtle nests prior to placing the rocks. He said he then contacted Vickie Barnett, turtle nesting expert on Alligator Point, to check for nests, however none were found. He explained to the Board the County had 60 days to submit a permit to DEP for the work done on June 8th and June 11th. He asked the Board to direct Preble-Rish to design and submit a permit request to DEP for the rock revetment at a cost not to exceed \$7,500.00. He said the Board needs to be aware this effort is intended to satisfy the statutory requirements that apply when the County takes emergency actions seaward of the coastal control line, and not that the County is actually going to keep the rocks in place. He said Ms. Williams informed him funds were available for this project. Commissioner Sanders made a **motion authorizing Preble-Rish to design and submit a permit request to DEP for the rock revetment placed on Alligator Point on June 8th and June 11th, costs not to exceed \$7,500.00.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-1720) He stated he needed Board action to accept \$82,000.00 in DEP funds for construction activities related to hurricane damage on Alligator Point. He said these funds were leftover from some other DEP project and became available to the County because the County is doing what DEP requires, which is prepare a Beach Erosion Control Study of Alligator Point. He added he would need the Chairman to sign the contract when DEP sends it to him. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion to accept \$82,000.00 from DEP for construction activities related to hurricane damage on Alligator Point and authorizing the Chairman's signature on the DEP contract.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-1771) Mr. Pierce said he and Tim Turner, Emergency Management Director, are requesting the Board authorize the creation of a fulltime Emergency Management Secretary to be paid out of the State Emergency Management Grant. He explained this position is necessary because of the increased, and now year round work, the State expects of Emergency Management Directors. He stated, without going into all of the details, the County Finance Office would really like to see Mr. Turner have some clerical assistance. He said there are adequate funds for this position, and all applicants would be informed this is a grant-funded position, so if the grant were cut, then the position would be cut. He requested the Board allow him to advertise for this position immediately, so the person selected could start as soon as possible. Commissioner Sanders stated she thought when Mr. Mahan moved his office from the Courthouse out to the EOC building at the Airport his secretary, Christie Duncan, would assist Mr. Turner. Mr. Pierce replied

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it was possible for Mr. Mahan's secretary to help Mr. Turner, but he doubted Mr. Mahan would agree to it. He said he would hesitate to make any further demands on Mr. Mahan since he has already hired one secretary away from him. Chairman Creamer asked why didn't the Board consider giving Ms. Duncan a raise to help Mr. Turner. He stated he didn't think there could be that much work to be done. Mr. Pierce said there is a large amount of paperwork, which is backlogged at this time. He stated the problem is keeping up with expenditures and submitting these reports and invoices to the Finance Office in a timely manner. He stated the job is more of a bookkeeping responsibility than anything else. Chairman Creamer asked Mr. Pierce if this needed to be decided on today or could it wait until the next Board meeting. Mr. Pierce replied it could wait until the next meeting and at the same time he would contact Mr. Mahan about this proposal.

(Tape 1-1880) He informed the Board Curt Spitzer, who was retained by the County to do a preliminary study regarding redistricting in Franklin County, told him he has completed the preliminary analysis of the County's population. He said Mr. Spitzer would like to meet with each Commissioner individually to discuss this analysis. Mr. Pierce said he would be contacting each Commissioner to schedule a meeting on an individual basis with them. He said the Superintendent of Schools and School Board members would be included too. Mr. Pierce stated this would not be a public workshop and not considered a public meeting. Tom Hoffer, Franklin Chronicle, asked why the public could not be included in the meeting. Mr. Pierce answered that it would be easier for Mr. Spitzer to gather the information he is seeking by meeting with each Commissioner on an individual basis. Commissioner Mosconis said it wasn't any of the public's business. Mr. Hoffer took offense at this statement and Commissioner Mosconis said he was just kidding. Mr. Hoffer said it was in the public's interest to have these discussions in a public forum. Mr. Pierce said it was his understanding Mr. Spitzer would have an easier time meeting with each Commissioner individually so he could discuss with them the information he is compiling. He stated if the County did decide to proceed with this study then Mr. Spitzer would conduct the public hearings. Commissioner Sanders said this was the intent of her motion when the Board agreed to hire Mr. Spitzer. She stated he was only supposed to conduct a preliminary investigation to see if the County even needed to be redistricted. Commissioner Mosconis urged Mr. Pierce to inform Mr. Spitzer this matter did not need to be "dilly dallied" around. He stated this matter was under tight time constraints. Mr. Pierce said he would contact the Superintendent and School Board members of Mr. Spitzer's intention to meet with each of them individually.

(Tape 1-2007) He informed the Board the Planning and Zoning Commission met in regular session on June 14, 2001 and recommends the following: Approval for Dave Rabon to construct a private dock on Lot 4, Block 68, Unit 5, SGI-State and Federal permits have been received. Commissioner Sanders made a **motion approving the construction of a private dock for Dave Rabon on SGI.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Approval for Dr. Stephen Miniati to construct an office building at 637 West Highway 98, Apalachicola. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion approving the construction of an office building for Dr. Stephen Miniati in Apalachicola.** Approval for Tim and Christina Saunders to construct

a commercial seafood handling operation at Pirates Landing Marina on Timber Island to process jellyfish. After a brief presentation by Jorge Southworth, agent for the Saunders, Commissioner Putnal made a **motion approving the construction of a commercial seafood handling operation at Pirates Landing Marina on Timber Island for Tim and Christina Saunders to process jellyfish.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** The Commission postponed action on a request to consider rezoning parts of two blocks just outside the City of Apalachicola city limits until all of the affected property owners are notified. A petition had been submitted by some of the property owners and neighbors asking for a zoning change from R-2 to R-1, but there was concern from the Planning and Zoning Commission members that not everyone in the area knew about this request. The Commission directed the Planning Office to send out a letter to every property owner in the area to be rezoned to make sure they are aware of this request. Approval of a sketch plat of a 43-lot subdivision "Magnolia Ridge" at the corner of North Bayshore Drive and Twin Lakes Road for Jeanne Bonds and Jamie Crum. The lots will be one acre in size and the subdivision would have paved roads. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion approving a sketch plat of a 43 lot subdivision "Magnolia Ridge" for Jeanne Bonds and Jamie Crum in Eastpoint.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** This project has been scheduled for a public hearing to consider rezoning the property from R-2 to R-1. A letter was submitted and read to the Planning and Zoning Commission members from Nicholas Yonclas, an attorney represented a property owner asking for two platted lots on SGI to be slightly reconfigured. The Commission recommends the reconfiguration. Mr. Shuler said since the lots were owned by the same person and the lots were not going to cross onto another property owners land this would be considered a private matter. He recommended the County not become involved in this private ownership matter.

(Tape 1-2620) Mr. Pierce said, with Mr. Shuler's presence at the meeting in St. Augustine, the State agreed to allow Robin Brinkley and Rachel Ward, Building Department, to take their final State exams for their respective licenses. He stated they would have to take the test within the next 60 days.

(Tape 1-2661) He presented the Board with a copy of a letter to the Commissioners from Cherry Rankin, President, Franklin County Senior Citizen Center Board, regarding the complaint filed by Tina Shiver. He stated he would not make any further comments and let each Commissioner read the letter.

(Tape 1-2647) Commissioner Sanders invited each Commissioner and the press to attend a demonstration of the sand webbing-groin system at Alligator Point. She stated the presentation would be this Saturday, June 23rd at 9:00 a.m. at the Alligator Point Volunteer Fire Department. She said Charles Benedict would be making the presentation.

KENDALL WADE-CLERK

(Tape 1-2950) Mr. Wade presented the annual Florida Department of Corrections Interagency-Public Works Agreement for use of the State inmates by the County's Public

Works Department for the period July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002. He said the agreement is the same as last year, but would suggest the Board approve the Chairman's signature on the agreement contingent on Mr. Shuler reviewing it first. Commissioner Sanders made a **motion authorizing the Chairman's signature on the Florida DOC Interagency-Public Works Agreement for the period July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002 contingent on Mr. Shuler's review of the agreement.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-2969) He presented each Commissioner with a copy of a letter being sent by certified mail to people who have a delinquent Franklin County Revolving Loan Account by the Apalachee Regional Planning Council attorney, Ed Blanton.

(Tape 1-3008) He gave each Commissioner a copy of an Advisory Bulletin from the Florida Association of Court Clerks regarding Article V funding. He said according to the bulletin the Governor has vetoed all Article V funding being sent directly to the Counties that have been approved for funding for FY 2001-2002. He explained this means the \$100,00.00 the County was anticipating from these Article V funds would not be forthcoming. He said the money was to be used for completion of the proposed Courthouse Annex on the side of the Courthouse. He informed the Board Court Reporting Funding was being cut \$3.5 million. He stated all Counties would be affected by this veto.

(Tape 1-3249) Commissioner Mosconis said he would like to discuss the ARPC letter. He said he thought this letter was incorrect in making the County Commissioners the "bad guys" in this letter. He stated the letter should say the ARPC has a contract with Franklin County to administer the loan program. He asked Mr. Wade to call ARPC to stop this letter from being sent out. Mr. Pierce was instructed to go to Mr. Wade's office and call Mr. Blanton or ARPC to stop the letter from being sent out. Mr. Pierce returned to the Board Meeting and informed them that the letter has already been sent out.

ALFRED SHULER-COUNTY ATTORNEY

(Tape 1-3449) He updated the Board on several projects he is working on. He said he has written a letter to the Board concerning agriculture uses in a residential area.

(Tape 1-3470 Continued on Tape 2) He said he has been contacted by a representative from Franklin County regarding the Sumatra Cemetery. He stated the cemetery is in Franklin County, but also serves the residents of Liberty County. He suggested the Board appoint a Sumatra Cemetery Authority to check into these problems at the cemetery. He said apparently the people in Sumatra feel, due to lack of control, people are being buried in the cemetery that have no connections to the community. He said they think people are being buried there just because it is free. Commissioner Mosconis asked who actually owned the cemetery. Mr. Shuler replied he had not seen a deed to the County. He said there are references in some old deeds. He stated there might not be an actual chain of title. He said he thought if a Cemetery Authority was created then this would be the type of thing they could look into. Commissioner Mosconis asked if this would cause the Board to get bogged down in something they couldn't get out of. Mr. Shuler replied

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he didn't really know. Commissioner Putnal said he would like for Mr. Shuler to do some additional research into this matter and report back to the Board before a decision to form a committee is made. Commissioner Putnal then made a **motion directing Mr. Shuler to check into this matter and report back to the Board at the next meeting.** Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 2-107) He explained he was contacted by Curt Allen regarding the lawsuit the County filed against Mr. Allen. He said he has held up serving Mr. Allen since Mr. Allen wants to try to settle the matter. He stated he is going to negotiate a settlement with Mr. Allen. He suggested the Board allow him to try and negotiate with Mr. Allen.

(Tape 2-160) He stated he is working on the Hold Harmless Agreement between the County and Profundis for the use of Buck Siding Road in the case of an emergency such as a hurricane. He asked Mr. Pierce to meet with him after the meeting to get a legal description of the property. Mr. Pierce agreed to meet with Mr. Shuler this afternoon.

(Tape 2-186) He said he researched the cable TV franchise and rates as directed by the Board. He stated he is still looking into the matter, but feels there is really nothing the County can do since the Public Service Commission regulates this industry.

(Tape 2-244) He said he received a note and a copy of the County's 4-Wheeler Ordinance from an employee of the Clerk's Office. He said also attached was a copy of the Florida Statute. He stated the State Statute attached to the letter addresses the wearing of helmets, which is a non-criminal State offense. He explained the County Ordinance addresses not riding them on the County roads, which is basically a different subject matter. He said the reason the Ordinance contains a misdemeanor penalty is that the Florida Statutes, which allow this type of County Ordinance states a violation shall be punishable as a misdemeanor. He said he felt the County had to follow the State Statutes enacted. He stated he would research the matter. Chairman Creamer said he wanted the Ordinance to remain as it is. He stated if it's changed there would be a major problem with 4-wheelers again. He said he felt this Ordinance does deter a lot of problems. Commissioner Mosconis said he was a big proponent of this Ordinance. He stated he does not want 4-wheelers on the roads. Chairman Creamer said the parents are ultimately responsible for their children being on the 4-wheelers. He suggested filing criminal charges on the parents since they are allowing this to happen instead of filing criminal charges on the children. Commissioner Mosconis said they are getting the 4-wheelers from somewhere. Chairman Creamer stated they are being allowed on the roads to tear up the roads as well as private property. He said the parents are paying the fines anyway, why not have them pay the fines and have the child do community service hours. Chairman Creamer said he was not going to be agreeable to changing the penalty unless the penalty could be imposed on the parents.

(Tape 2-336) Commissioner Mosconis asked Mr. Shuler to render his opinion on this matter regarding meeting one-on-one with Curt Spitzer. Mr. Shuler said he thought it was legal for Mr. Spitzer to meet with the Commissioners. He stated the law requires that after each census the County would be required to redistrict if necessary. He

explained Mr. Spitzer could meet individually with each Commissioner. He stated apparently this was the procedure Mr. Spitzer followed in each County he does these studies in. Mr. Hoffer said he still felt it was unfair for the public not to be in attendance at these meetings. He stated Mr. Spitzer was being paid with taxpayer dollars. Mr. Shuler said, in his opinion, there would be no legal reason for Mr. Spitzer to not meet with the Commissioners on a one on one basis.

(Tape 2-516) George Maier, Carrabelle, asked the Board if they had made any decision on allowing him to have 2 electric meters on his property as he requested. He said the Board at the June 5th meeting decided to table the decision until today. Mr. Shuler reminded the Board Mr. Pierce recommended not allowing Mr. Maier to put two meters on the property. After discussion, the Commissioners agreed to follow Mr. Pierce's recommendation and not allow 2 electric meters on Mr. Maier's property.

TED MOSTELLER-AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

(Tape 2-976) Mr. Mosteller said the Apalachicola Airport Advisory Committee met last night and recommends the following projects from the JACIP Summary list be submitted to FDOT for FY 2002 processing: Construct Automatic Security Gates, Conduct Master Plan, Construct Stormwater Inlets and Ditches; the funds for the previous three projects would be FDOT and FAA matching with local airport funds and County in-kind matching: Construct 13 additional T-Hangars, Construct Maintenance Hanger (60'X60'), Construct Corporate Hangar/Office Space (60'X60'); the funds for the previous three projects would be FDOT matching and corporate matching funds. He asked the Board to approve these projects so they can request approval and funds from FDOT and the FAA. After discussion Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion directing Mr. Pierce to send a letter to FDOT requesting funds for these projects be included in the FY 2002 budget.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 2-1184) Mr. Mosteller informed the Board Doug Creamer has resigned his position on the Apalachicola Airport Advisory Committee. He asked the Board to adopt a Resolution of Appreciation for Mr. Creamer. He reminded the Board that just a few meetings ago the Board appointed Dan Garlick as an alternate member on the Board. He said now Mr. Garlick would move into Mr. Creamer's position on the Board. Commissioner Putnal said he would make a **motion directing Mr. Shuler to prepare a Resolution of Appreciation for Doug Creamer for his service on the Apalachicola Airport Advisory Committee.** Commissioner Mosconis seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

OTHER BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

BRUCE HALL-VICE PRESIDENT-APALACHICOLA RIVERKEEPERS

(Tape 2-1232) Ms. Hall said she was here today to bring to the Board's attention some items of great concerns regarding Florida's proposal for the Tri-State Water Allocation. She stated these negotiations have been ongoing for years, but just recently the Commission from Florida has arrived at a proposal they hope the two other states will agree too. She said she was asking and encouraging the Commissioners to attend the

meeting where this proposal would be approved in Atlanta, Georgia on Friday. She listed several items in the proposal that concerned the River keepers. She said this is a fifty-year agreement and stated she felt this was too extensive. After discussion Commissioner Mosconis said he would make a **motion directing Mr. Pierce to telephone the people involved in this hearing and notify them the Board wants to go on record as opposing this plan.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MICHAEL ALLEN-EASTPOINT WATER AND SEWER RATE INCREASE

(Tape 2-1700) Mr. Allen said he was not here representing WOYS radio station. He said he is hoping the other members of the press will report this matter to the citizens of Franklin County especially the citizens of Eastpoint. He informed the Board that the Eastpoint Water and Sewer District was increasing their rates. He explained they plan to charge hotels, RV parks, etc. by the lot or by the unit. He said if a hotel has 30 units then the owners would get 30 bills and if a RV park has 50 sites then the owners would get 50 bills from EPW&SD. He stated this, he was sure, would put all of the hotels and RV parks in Eastpoint out of business. He said he knew there was nothing the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners could do, but he wanted to be sure everyone was aware of what EPW&SD planned to do. He stated if would effect all of Franklin County and the economy here. Commissioner Mosconis said it sounded like to him EPW&SD was getting a little discriminatory with their thinking. Mr. Allen stated the Lanark Village Water and Sewer District tried to do this and was sued by a business owner there. He stated the business owner won the lawsuit. He said he hopes if there is anything anyone can do about this matter to please do so. Commissioner Mosconis stated he didn't think the regulating authorities would allow such a discriminatory action. Mr. Allen said the Public Service Commission has always approved such increases and then the citizens would have to file suit to fight the increase.

(Tape 1-1868) Commissioner Mosconis said he was just watching this situation with the City of Apalachicola. He stated his wife is the engineer for the project, but they do not discuss the project. He said he read a fallacy in the local newspaper. He said the headlines in one of the recent issues of the newspaper stated water rates in the City of Apalachicola would double. He stated in the City Commission meeting the water rates were only going to increase 50%. He said 50%, when he went to school, didn't equal 100%. He stated doubling the rate would mean a 100% increase not a 50% increase. He said then the public got upset and all up in arms about the headlines, which were not true. He stated misinformation is a problem and people should just deal with the facts. He said since Mr. Allen is a member of the press he should know. Mr. Allen replied he has been following this rate increase proposal for the entire time and getting information from anyone and everyone he can. Leslie Roberts, a reporter for the local newspaper, said people do need to know their utility rates are going up. Commissioner Mosconis agreed, but stated there is a big difference in a 50% increase and a 100% increase. Ms. Roberts agreed. Commissioner Mosconis asked Ms. Roberts if the newspaper retracted that statement or headline. Ms. Roberts replied they had not. She said she has since written another article about the matter reflecting a 50% increase instead of 100%. Commissioner Mosconis said he thought the initial story had already caused people to get

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upset. He stated people don't always see the retractions or a subsequent article in the newspaper to know the information was incorrect.

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

Eddie Creamer EDDIE CREAMER, CHAIRMAN

Kendall Wade KENDALL WADE, CLERK