

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
FRANKLIN COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANNEX
MARCH 4, 2014
9:00 AM**

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Cheryl Sanders – Chairman, William Massey – Vice Chairman, Pinki Jackel, Noah Lockley, and Joseph Parrish

Others Present: Marcia Johnson – Clerk of Courts, Alan Pierce – Director of Administrative Services, Michael Shuler – County Attorney, Michael Morón – Deputy Clerk/Board Secretary

Call to Order (9:00 AM)

Chairman Sanders called the Meeting to order.

Prayer and Pledge (9:00 AM)

There was a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Minutes (9:01 AM)

There were no Minutes presented for approval.

Payment of County Bills (9:01 AM)

Motion by Massey, seconded by Parrish, to approve the payment of the County's Bills as presented; Motion carried 5-0.

Department Supervisor Report

Howard Nabors – Superintendent of Public Works (9:02 AM)

Mr. Nabors presented items to the Board.

Mr. Nabors informed the Board that one of his employees has submitted a 2 week notice and is asking for Board approval to advertise for that vacant position.

Motion by Jackel, seconded by Massey, to advertise to fill vacant position at the Road Dept.; Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Nabors would like to re-classify two employees, Tommy Sadler and Lamar Hardy, as working foremen. He said he would prefer to have two working foremen rather than having an Assistant Superintendent and one working foreman.

The Board and Mr. Nabors discussed this request.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Parrish, to approve request for Mr. Nabors to reclassify Mr. Sadler and Mr. Nabors as foremen which will eliminate the need for an Assistant Superintendent; Motion carried 4-1, Jackel opposed.

Mr. Nabors stated that he would like a salary increase of \$1,500 for the foremen.

Commissioners Jackel and Massey were in favor of waiting until Attorney Turner and the Board finalizes the new pay scales.

The Board discussed further.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Parrish, to increase salaries for two foremen, Hardy and Sadler, by \$1,500 each; Motion carried 3-2, Jackel, Massey opposed.

Chairman Sanders asked that staff forward this information to Lucy Turner, Labor Attorney.

Commissioner Parrish complemented Mr. Nabors on the amount of work being done with the small crew that he has.

Commissioner Jackel thanked Mr. Nabors on the Road Dept.'s work for the Chili Cook-Off and reminded him that the Eastpoint Rib Cook-Off was on March 15 and would need some assistance from his department.

Fonda Davis – Solid Waste Director (9:16 AM)

Mr. Davis presented his report to the Board.

CENTRAL LANDFILL SEMI-ANNUAL MONITORING WELLS TESTING:

FOR BOARD INFORMATION: Semi-annual testing was conducted on the monitoring wells at the Franklin County Central Landfill. Monitoring well MW-22 showed exceedances of total dissolved solids (TDS), benzene, sodium, arsenic, boron, and chloride. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection requests that the County initiate corrective actions in accordance with Rule 62-701.510(6)(c), FAC. Which states that evaluation monitoring shall continue and a Site Assessment Report be completed and sent to FDEP no later than August 11, 2014. No additional well installations or sampling activities will be needed. The required evaluation monitoring and Site Assessment Report have been coordinated with Trinity Analysis & Development Corporation at the approximate cost \$9600.

ACTION REQUESTED: None.

Chairman Sanders commented on this item and thanked Mr. Davis for the information.

Mr. Davis asked the Board to consider changing the job status of Jonathon Kelly to a permanent mechanic.

Motion by Jackel, seconded by Parrish, to approve request for Jonathan Kelly to be the permanent mechanic at Solid Waste Dept. and to advertise to fill vacant position; Motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Sanders stated that she asked Mr. Davis to attend the next Lanark Village Association Meeting to discuss trash problems.

Mr. Davis stated that the trash problems are Countywide and said he will discuss these issues at a later Meeting.

Nikki Millender – Parks & Recreation (9:22 AM)

Mrs. Millender stated that she was able to secure funding for 3 electronic scoreboards. She stated that she would like to have the Board send letters of thanks to Waste Pro, Duke Energy and Centennial Bank for providing funding for these scoreboards.

Motion by Jackel, seconded by Parrish, to send letters thanking Waste Pro, Duke Energy and Centennial Bank for purchasing scoreboards for youth league parks; Motion carried 5-0.

Mrs. Millender discussed issues with preparing Vrooman Park in Eastpoint for ball practice and ball games. She wanted the Board to know her crew is trying to get all of the fields ready for ball season.

Mrs. Millender informed the Board that March 28, 2014 will be Day of Ball.

Commissioner Jackel thanked Mrs. Millender for Parks & Rec's work on the Chili Cook-Off and for the upcoming Eastpoint Rib Cook-Off.

Commissioner Parrish thanked Mrs. Millender for efforts on purchasing the electronic scoreboards for the ball park.

Alan Pierce – Report

Mr. Pierce presented this item from his report.

9- Board direction on whether the Board wants to allow a limited number of vendors, like 2, to set up in specific areas at Carrabelle Beach Park. Ms. Nikki Millender has been approached by a vendor interested in selling ice cream during the summer. Ms. Millender has determined that

there is limited space if the Board wants to allow vendors in the Park. Vendors cannot set up in the St. George Island Park because of a reverter clause on the property that says the county cannot allow commercial activities within the property that was given to the county.

The Board discussed this matter with Mr. Pierce and Mrs. Millender. Commissioner Massey didn't want any of these vendors to hurt local businesses. Attorney Shuler stated that he would like the opportunity to investigate this request further before the Board takes any type of action. Commissioner Parrish stated that he wanted this process to be fair.

Motion by Massey, seconded by Jackel, to table this matter until Attorney Shuler investigates this request further; Motion carried 5-0.

Pam Brownell – Emergency Management Director (9:30 AM)

Mrs. Brownell had no action items for the Board.

Mrs. Brownell discussed storm readiness.

Action Items: None

Information Items:

- 1. The Management Experts and Emergency Management worked on bid packages for the EOC wind retrofit mitigation grant project on February 28, 2014. I will work with Alan on getting the bid packages out and on making sure we have covered everything and follow the proper producers for the county.*
- 2. Emergency Management has a county training and exercise needs planning session scheduled at the EOC for March 12, 2014 at 9:00am.*
- 3. March 13, 2014 my office will be attending the Region 2 meeting and will give me the opportunity to introduce my new staff members.*

Warren Emo – Armory Update (9:31 AM)

Mr. Pierce stated that he had asked Mr. Emo to look at four things that were critical in having the Armory functioning and usable at this time, which were to remove termites, solve the drainage issues, moving the restrooms and installing air conditioning in the building.

The Board and Mr. Pierce discussed the configuration.

Mr. Emo discussed the drawing that he distributed to the Board members. He stated that he had scaled the renovation project back in order for the Board to use available funding for these repairs. He stated that he will have a detailed price list available to the Board. He discussed some of the smaller details with the Board.

Mr. Emo stated that Florida Pest Control is going to do the termite control at a reduced price.

The Board discussed the cost of this project.

Chairman Sanders spoke in favor of the project and stated that she is glad to see that other people see the value in protecting and restoring the Armory.

Commissioner Jackel asked if a business plan will be submitted for the use of the Armory.

Chairman Sanders stated that the preservation of the building is more important than the business plan at this point.

Commissioner Parrish supported Mr. Emo's plan.

Commissioner Lockley stated that, with these improvements, there will be a higher demand for use of the building.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Parrish, to start Armory project (EMO No.137.11 Task Five) as presented by Mr. Emo for a total amount of \$91,057.00; Motion carried 5-0.

Recess (9:48 AM)

Chairman Sanders called for a recess.

Reconvene (9:55 AM)

Chairman Sanders reconvened the Meeting.

Re-Bid of County Hangar Improvements (9:55 AM)

Mr. Pierce opened the bids.

Ram Construction Base Bid - \$85,479.00 – Alternate Bid - \$117,329

Motion by Parrish, seconded by Lockley, to forward bid to AVCON for a recommendation; Motion carried 5-0.

Bid Openings – Alligator Point Road & Revetment (9:57 AM)

Mr. Pierce opened the bids for revetment repair and road relocation.

Revetment Repair

Coastline Clearing	Eastpoint, FL	\$164,064.96	Bond attached
Roberts & Roberts	Panama City, FL	\$117,860.00	Bond attached
GAC	Panama City, FL	\$112,625.00	Bond attached

C. W. Roberts Hosford, FL \$74,262.00 Bond attached

Attorney Shuler stated that, due to litigation, there will be a delay on this project.

Motion by Jackel, seconded by Parrish, to forward to staff for a recommendation; Motion carried 5-0.

Allen Feifer, of Alligator Point Taxpayers Association, discussed this project with the Board and Attorney Shuler.

Road Relocation

Roberts & Roberts	Panama City, FL	\$156,355.30	Bond attached
North Florida		\$164,488.75	Bond attached
C. W. Roberts	Hosford, FL	\$127,102.25	Bond attached

Motion by Jackel, seconded by Massey, to forward bids to staff for a recommendation; Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Lockley and Mr. Pierce discussed the timeline of this project.

Kim Bodine – Update on Workforce Activities (10:07 AM)

Kim Bodine, of Career Source Gulf Coast, provided and discussed handouts on the Work Force’s annual report. She stated that she was required to inform the Board that her agency has been re-branded by the Governor and will now be called Career Source Gulf Coast.

Commissioner Lockley and Ms. Bodine discussed the GED program.

Commissioner Jackel and Ms. Bodine discussed the process for eligibility for training and assistance.

Commissioner Lockley and Ms. Bodine discussed seafood workers who are not involved in the training and assistance, and they also discussed eligibility.

Commissioner Jackel and Ms. Bodine discussed the funding source for this program, which is Tropical Storm Debbie, not the BP oil spill.

Chairman Sanders stated her displeasure with the recently awarded funding not directly assisting the seafood workers.

Shannon Hartsfield, President of Franklin County Seafood Workers Association, stated that he is disappointed that the County will only get about \$4.5 million of the \$75 million funding that was recently awarded. He stated some of the other locations in the State that are getting some of the funding.

Commissioner Lockley and Mr. Hartsfield discussed how the \$4.5 million will be used in the County.

Mr. Hartsfield clarified the different funding sources and what each pot of funds could be used for.

Commissioner Jackel asked why barge shelling only was included in the request for the pot of funding from NERDA since it doesn't help the seafood workers of the County.

Mr. Hartsfield stated that the SMARRT group wasn't part of the barge shelling request. He discussed this request and funding further.

The Board discussed the \$1.8 million funding for barge shelling with Mr. Hartsfield.

Commissioner Lockley and Mr. Hartsfield discussed the qualifications for seafood workers to qualify for this shelling program.

Jackel stated she would like the State to communicate better with the Board when it comes to this type of funding.

Motion by Jackel, seconded by Massey, to send letter to Dept. of Agriculture and Governor Scott's Office opposing the strict use of the \$1.8 million funding allocation from NERDA for barge shelling only and would like the Board to have more input with manner in which the funds are spent; Motion carried 5-0.

The Board and Mr. Hartsfield continued the discussion regarding why the County will only receive \$4.5 million of the \$6.4 million funding that was recently allocated.

Chairman Sanders read a quote from a statement sent out by Congressman Southerland's Office.

Mr. Hartsfield stated what was discussed at the SMARRT meeting the prior evening, especially regarding the funding.

Chairman Sanders stated that she wasn't in favor of half, or more, of the funding going to administrative costs versus going to the families that need the money.

The Board and Mr. Hartsfield discussed the future administration of the program.

The Board was appreciative of the City of Apalachicola stepping up and doing the administration part of the funding for a minimum cost.

Chairman Sanders and Mr. Hartsfield discussed the qualifications for the program.

Chairman Sanders stated her interactions with Congressman Southerland's Office regarding the funding and how disappointed she was that they couldn't answer her questions regarding this funding.

Commissioner Lockley wanted to make sure that a broader amount of people receive funding from this program.

Motion by Jackel, seconded by Massey, to send letter to FWC and Governor Scott's Office inviting Jim Estes to the next Board Meeting to discuss this funding further; Motion carried 5-0.

The Board and Mr. Hartsfield discussed how the seafood house owners and dealers will receive funding from this program and the allowed uses for the funding.

Mr. Hartsfield stated the dates for the next Seafood Workers and SMARRT meetings.

Mr. Hartsfield and Ms. Bodine stated how much the Workforce will receive from this program.

Commissioner Massey stated that there has to be a grant writer to distribute the funding. Chairman Sanders suggested that the County consider a grant writer to assist with these types of programs in the future.

Commissioner Jackel asked about the amount of funding for facilities upgrades for dealers. The Board and Mr. Hartsfield discussed the amount of funding for the dealers and why they are receiving these funds.

The Board discussed restrictions to receive funding from the funds sent to the SHIP Program for assistance that disqualified a particular individual due to medical reasons. The Board suggested that the individual re-submit his application and have the committee re-evaluate it.

Ray Brownsworth – Hospital Update (11:01 AM)

Ray Brownsworth, CEO of Weems Hospital, reviewed his report with the Board.

Ralph Roberson, of Roberson and Associates, discussed the Special Purpose Financial Statement. He discussed the effect of the Affordable Health Care Act on the Hospital's financial state. He also discussed the process of insurance reimbursement, the importance of having a CFO and the use of the feasibility study. He explained that as the cash flow amount was reduced, so were the liabilities.

Mr. Brownsworth stated that the Hospital provides a lot of services to uninsured residents. He discussed the BLS schedule, insurance sign-up times, the switch in billing companies, and the payroll items, which are all on his report.

Chairman Sanders and Mr. Brownsworth discussed the cost of housing ambulances in Eastpoint.

Mr. Brownsworth stated that he will be glad to meet with the Commissioners at any time to discuss any concerns about the Hospital.

Commissioner Lockley asked about CHP users being covered for overnight stays at the Hospital. Mr. Brownsworth stated that there is no coverage at this time but recommended that the Board send a letter to CHP regarding this matter.

Motion by Jackel, seconded by Massey, to send a letter to Capitol Health Plan concerning their insured individuals being covered for overnight stays at the Hospital; Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Jackel and Mr. Brownsworth discussed reducing the hours of full time employees at the Hospital.

Commissioner Jackel asked if administration is doing anything to reduce the operational costs at the Hospital. Mr. Brownsworth explained what he is doing personally to contribute to the reduction.

Commissioner Jackel and Mr. Brownsworth discussed this matter further.

Commissioner Parrish agreed that there should be cutbacks, when necessary, to help make the Hospital self-sustaining. He asked that Mr. Brownsworth make the tough choices when needed.

Commissioner Lockley stated that he is also in favor of the cutbacks being spread across the administrative staff along with the hourly staff.

Marcia Johnson – Clerk of Courts (11:35 AM)

Mrs. Johnson had no items for Board action.

- 1. For information, Capital Health Plan has notified my office that Dr. Robert Head was added as a network provider effective March 1, 2014. Please take note that this is for pediatric care patients, and adults seen by the nurse practitioner at Dr. Head's office are not covered by Capital Health Plan. I have also received notice that there is a lab draw agreement now in place at Weems Memorial Hospital in Apalachicola and Weems Clinic East in Carrabelle which allows any member to have their labs drawn at these locations. The member does not have to be assigned to the practice, but should present their lab slip for collection pursuant to the lab hours at the location.*
- 2. For information, my finance office received a request from Weems Memorial Hospital last week to receive an early distribution of the sales tax revenue in order to be able to make their payroll. Prior to that, on January 29th, my office received and processed a request to transfer \$100,000 from the Hospital's money market account into their operational account due to Medicare being behind on payments. According to their cash balance report effective January 31st, there was a balance of \$95,956.57 in their operating account, and there was \$159,902.63 in the money market account. There is a grant account that reflected a balance of \$42,636.12, but most grant revenues are tied to specifically authorized expenditures. From their financial reports, it appears their payroll is approximately \$147,000 to \$148,000 twice monthly. I've attached a copy of the report from January 31, 2014 which gives balances back to April 30, 2011. Just as a reminder, the county is subsidizing the hospital beyond the 50% distribution for operating expenses out of the 1 cent sales tax revenue because the county also transfers an additional \$120,000 out of the 1 cent sales tax to subsidize clinic operations and the general fund provides \$505,592 for the ambulance service being run by the hospital for the county. Also remember, from November 2011 through April 2012, the hospital received the full 1% sales tax revenue in order to bring outstanding payable accounts current. There's an estimated \$1.4 million in the hospital's capital fund.*

Alan Pierce – Director of Administrative Service (11:35 AM)

Mr. Pierce presented his report to the Board.

1- Inform the Board that the US Dept. of Commerce has allocated \$6.3M for the Apalachicola Bay oyster failure. The funds will most likely be sent to FWC, and perhaps the Workforce Board, for actual disbursement as the two largest components of the funds are for worker retraining, and oyster bed restoration. Details have not been released on when funds will become available.

This item was addressed earlier in the meeting.

2- Inform the Board that the Governor has appointed his six appointments to the RESTORE Council. While the appointments are all from northwest Florida, only one, Mr., Mike Sole, has working knowledge of Franklin County and the Apalachicola Bay.

The Board members stated their displeasure with these appointments.

3- Board action to sign a letter requesting a boundary modification of an existing grant so that the county can be reimbursed for some to all of the funds used to purchase the property in Eastpoint behind the old Jr. Food Store and across the street from the Eastpoint pavilion. The state is willing to pay for an appraisal, and then reimburse the county for the appraised value of the land.

Motion by Jackel, seconded by Parrish, to approve the Chairman's signature on a letter requesting a boundary modification of existing grant so County can be reimbursed for some to all of the funds used to purchase the property in Eastpoint behind the old Jr. Food Store; Motion carried 5-0.

4- Board action to award low bid to Poloronis Construction for drainage and security work at the Apalachicola airport and to sign contract documents in the amount of \$375,199.35. Poloronis Construction's bid was for \$538,253.90 but the scope of the work has been revised to fit the grant funds available. The work that was removed from this project will still be done, but we are waiting for a soon to be released \$2.4M JPA for more drainage improvements at the airport to reschedule the work. The \$2.4M JPA work will also be bid out.

Commissioner Jackel expressed concerns of not re-bidding when the scope of the job changes substantially. Chairman Sanders agreed with Commissioner Jackel's comments.

Attorney Shuler explained that this matter is at the Board discretion.

Commissioner Parrish stated that the bidder shouldn't be penalized as the only bidder for the project.

Mr. Pierce explained why and how the project was changed.

The Board discussed this matter further.

Motion by Parrish, seconded by Lockley, to approve to award low bid to Poloronis Construction for drainage and security work at the Apalachicola airport and to sign contract

documents in the amount of \$375,199.35; Motion failed 2-3, Jackel, Massey, Sanders opposed.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Jackel, to re-bid project; Motion carried 4-1, Parrish opposed.

5- Board action to continue LAP certified status in order to be eligible to receive DOT funds. Examples of current LAP projects are: Bluff Road widening and resurfacing, Carrabelle multi-use path, and the Alligator Point Multi-Use path. The Board action is to direct the Chairman to sign the LAP agreements and to approve a Resolution appointing a staff person to fill the following required positions: Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Liaison Officer; Title VI Officer; Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action Officer, and Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator.

Motion by Jackel, seconded by Massey, to approve to continue LAP certified status in order to be eligible to receive DOT funds; Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Lockley and Mr. Pierce discussed funding from another project in Commissioner Lockley's district.

6- Board action to clarify the record that Ms. Carol Barfield is the Board's appointment for the Circuit 2 DJJ Board in place of Mr. David Walker.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Jackel, to approve to clarify record that Carol Barfield is the Board's appointment for the Circuit 2 DJJ Board in place of David Walker; Motion carried 5-0.

7- Board action to approve Emo Architects to create bid documents and supervise construction of replacement HVAC on courthouse. The existing units are over 20 years old and are no longer repairable. The new units will be more energy efficient. Estimated project construction cost is \$50K and will come out of courthouse maintenance.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Parrish, to approve Emo Architects to create bid documents and supervise construction of replacement HVAC on courthouse; Motion carried 5-0.

8- Inform Board that Mr. Cliff Butler has resigned from county Housing Board. Mr. Butler was an appointment out of Commissioner Massey's district. I have spoken to Commissioner Massey about a replacement.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Jackel, to send letter thanking Mr. Cliff Butler for his service on the County Housing Board; Motion carried 5-0.

9- Board direction on whether the Board wants to allow a limited number of vendors, like 2, to set up in specific areas at Carrabelle Beach Park. Ms. Nikki Millender has been approached by a vendor interested in selling ice cream during the summer. Ms. Millender has determined that

there is limited space if the Board wants to allow vendors in the Park. Vendors can not set up in the St. George Island Park because of a reverter clause on the property that says the county cannot allow commercial activities within the property that was given to the county.

This item was addressed earlier in the Meeting.

10- Inform Board that the NACo conference for which Mr. Brian Deloge, Leon County Commissioner, will be seeking the position of a NACo Vice-President will be held July 11-14, 2014. Board direction on whether Board members want to attend.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Jackel, to approve travel and expenses for Commissioners to attend the NACo Conference in New Orleans from July 11 – 14, 2014; Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Pierce stated that DEP will have a workshop regarding a Management Plan meeting on Tuesday, March 18th at 7 PM at the Apalachicola Community Center.

Chairman Sanders stated that she is still receiving complaints of leaning trees along Highway 98 between Carrabelle and the 10 Mile.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Jackel, to send a letter requesting the removal of trees along Highway 98 that could present problems during storm season; Motion carried 5-0.

T. Michael Shuler – County Attorney Report (11:51 AM)

Attorney Shuler had no report for the Board.

Commissioners' & Public Comments (11:51 AM)

Commissioner Jackel invited everyone to Eastpoint for the Rib Cook-Off and thanked everyone who helped with the SGIVFD Chili Cook-Off.

Commissioner Parrish commented on the Bluff Road re-paving project.

Chairman Sanders invited everyone to the Camp Gordon Johnson event this weekend.

Alan Feifer, of Concerned Citizens of Franklin County, and Mr. Pierce discussed the County's bidding process.

Mr. Feifer commented on cash flow and reimbursement at the Hospital. He discussed the importance of reviewing the information that will be presented on the feasibility study.

Chairman Sanders and Mr. Feifer discussed the dates for letters to go out regarding the upcoming budget.

Mr. Feifer suggested that reports from the Hospital aren't co-mingled, rather separated by departments, including requests for money.
Chairman Sanders commented on the importance of the one cent sales tax for the operation of the Hospital and clinics.
Mr. Feifer discussed the Hospital issues further.

Adjourn (12:01 PM)

There being no further business, Chairman Sanders adjourned the Meeting.

Cheryl Sanders, Chairman - FCBOCC

Attest:

Marcia M. Johnson, Clerk of Courts