

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING
APRIL 14, 2000**

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE: Clarence Williams, Chairman; Jimmy Mosconis, Eddie Creamer, and Cheryl Sanders, Commissioners; Amelia Varnes, Deputy Clerk; Alan Pierce, Director of Administrative Services.

ABSENT: Commissioner Bevin Putnal

1:10 P.M. Chairman Williams called the meeting to order. He explained this meeting was scheduled at the request of Dr. Humphries, President FAMU, to discuss the idea of constructing a division of FAMU or a campus here in Apalachicola. He introduced Eva C. Wanton, Associate Vice-President for Academic Affairs at FAMU, to the audience. He stated some time ago he started a discussion with the community about putting a FAMU education branch here. He said he wanted to take advantage of the natural resources; being the Apalachicola River, the Apalachicola Bay, and the Gulf of Mexico. He stated he felt the seafood industry was also very important. He said he felt FAMU could benefit from this area by placing a Marine Science College in Apalachicola. He stated this could be important in the future for aquaculture, etc. Dr. Humphries explained the reason he was here today was to prepare the Board and the community for a visit next Thursday from one of the highest-ranking individuals in NOAA, Scott Gudes, and several of his aides. He said the reason for the visit is a fact finding one and to discuss where a campus could be constructed if they decide to assist FAMU, financially, with the campus. He stated this visit was very important to everyone in Franklin County and especially our children. He said there would be a need for some apartments for the students and houses for the facility. He stated they would also need supplies, etc. Ms. Wanton presented a tentative agenda for their visit on Thursday, April 19, 2000 to Franklin County. Mr. Pierce, also Mayor of Apalachicola, said he would prepare a small agenda for their visit. Ms. Wanton said the important thing was to be nice and hospitable to the guests while they are in town. Commissioner Mosconis said he thought this was a wonderful idea. Ms. Wanton went over the agenda she had prepared for the group also. Mr. Pierce said he would do everything he could to make the group feel welcome. Dr. Humphries stated there should be about fifteen people in his party. The Board agreed they would do everything they could to accommodate this request.

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

Clarence Williams CLARENCE WILLIAMS, CHAIRMAN

Amelia Varnes AMELIA VARNES, DEPUTY CLERK