

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
OCTOBER 17, 2000**

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

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

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Jimmy Mosconis

(Tape 1-24) Commissioner Sanders made a **motion approving the minutes of the meeting held on October 3, 2000.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-27) Commissioner Putnal made a **motion to pay the County bills.** Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**HUBERT CHIPMAN-SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

(Tape 1-39) Mr. Chipman said he was here this morning to request permission to purchase 1 tractor, 1 ditch mower, and 1 4X4 pick up truck for the Road Department. He informed the Board he would attempt to purchase the equipment from the State Bid List. Commissioner Sanders made a **motion authorizing the advertisement of bids for 1 tractor, 1 ditch mower, and 1 4X4 pick up from the State Bid List for the Road Department.** Commissioner Creamer seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-90) He stated he would also like permission to advertise for bids 1 lowboy tractor and 1 caterpillar front end loader with a 4 yard bucket. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion authorizing the purchase of 1 lowboy tractor and 1 caterpillar front end loader with a 4 yard bucket for the Road Department.** Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-98) He said he needed permission to hire one fulltime equipment operator with a starting salary of \$16,952.00. He explained this would be a promotional opportunity and he would post the announcement on the bulletin board at the Landfill and Road Department. He stated if he did not hire anyone from in house he would then advertise the vacancy in the local newspaper. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion authorizing Mr. Chipman to hire one-fulltime equipment operator with a starting salary of \$16,952.00.** Commissioner Creamer seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mr. Chipman informed the Board these items and the new employee had been approved within his budget.

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(Tape 1-148) Commissioner Sanders commented on the mosquito problem and how bad it was. Mr. Chipman assured the Commissioners DeWitt Polous, Mosquito Control Director, is working day and night on the problem.

(Tape 1-162) Kendall Wade, Clerk, said he had received several telephone calls last week about the junk trailers blocking boat ramps. He stated this person particularly complained about the Eastpoint Boat Ramp. He said it was a liability if the County moved them and a liability if they are not moved. Commissioner Creamer asked if there was an ordinance concerning this problem. Mr. Shuler, County Attorney, replied he didn't think there was an ordinance, but it was covered under Florida Statutes. Commissioner Creamer said he wanted to make a **motion directing Mr. Shuler to research the Florida Statutes and met with Mr. Chipman on how to handle this problem.** He stated if the Statutes designate the Sheriff's Department to tag the item then they need to tag them.

(Tape 1-320) Mr. Wade said he had received a telephone call from a lady in Georgia. He stated she explained to him she was walking in Alligator Point across from the campground when she fell and hurt her ankle and foot. Mr. Wade stated he instructed the lady to send him in writing exactly what happened. He said when he gets the letter he will send it to the County's insurance carrier. Mr. Chipman stated he didn't think there was anything wrong with the sidewalk. Mr. Wade suggested the Board direct David Kennedy, County Engineer, to go down to look at the site and come back to the Board, if needed, with a recommendation.

(Tape 1-385) Alan Pierce, Director of Administrative Services, said he wanted to discuss some matters while Mr. Chipman was here. He said the County has been declared a FEMA Disaster area because of Hurricane Helene; therefore, the County will be reimbursed for public costs. He said the Board traditionally has paid the County employees who worked for their overtime when the County is declared. He said most of the employees want to be paid. Chairman Williams and the Board agreed to pay the employees for their overtime accumulated during Hurricane Helene. Mr. Pierce said the Sheriff's Department is applying for their own FEMA disaster relief monies. He stated the main cost for the County regarded placing lime rock on various county roads.

(Tape 1-426) He informed the Board, according to Terry Jangula, USCOE, the Corps is through with the Two Mile Channel. He said they came back a few weeks ago and did some touch up dredging and they will re-inspect the channel in 3 to 6 months when a dredge is the area. He stated if there are problems then they will do some minor dredging then and if not the project will be deemed complete with no more dredging anticipated until another overall channel dredging is budgeted in probably 5 to 10 years. He said in any event the spoil disposal site at the Airport is now the County's responsibility and the County can begin hauling sand out of Cell #1, but if the Corps wants to do some additional dredging in 3 to 6 months the County will have to rebuild the dike where it has been damaged in the removal of spoil. He explained the County has two problems relating to the spoil site. He said one of the problems, because of its size and location, is people trespassing on the property. He suggested the County place a hog wire fence

around the perimeter to keep 4-wheelers out. He informed the Board that a hog wire fence installed, using County labor, would cost approximately \$5,000.00. He recommended the fence be paid for out of the Road Department's Supplies and Material Budget. Mr. Chipman said he didn't agree with that. Mr. Pierce said then the Board would have to pay for it from the Reserve for Contingency Budget. Mr. Shuler recommended the Board go ahead and put the fence up for liability purposes. Commissioner Sanders said she knew it was needed and made a **motion authorizing a hog wire fence be placed around the disposal spoil site near the Airport.**

Commissioner Creamer seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Mr. Shuler said "No Trespassing" signs needed to be placed on the fence. Commissioner Creamer said if there is a 4-wheeler ordinance then it needs to be enforced and people need to be ticketed if they go on this property. Mr. Wade said he would talk to Mr. Pierce about how to pay for the fence. Commissioner Creamer then instructed Mr. Pierce to contact Mr. Jangula and someone from DEP so he can sit down with them and discuss the Eastpoint Channel Dredging project spoil site. He stated there has got to be one found soon. Mr. Pierce said the other problem is associated with using the spoil material. He explained both the Landfill and Airport Road Relocation Project have a need for a great amount of the fill. He said he has estimated the County will spend roughly 3 months using all his trucks, his loader, and his grader almost every day in grubbing, clearing, and moving the necessary spoil for the road sub base. He said there are places where the roadbed is going to be raised 2 to 3 feet. He stated the Landfill also needs a large quantity of spoil material for cover, which again will tie up the trucks. He said the Board and the public is going to have to understand in order to complete both of these projects, Mr. Chipman is going to have to set some fairly long term schedule for his department's equipment. He informed the Board the road project is not quite ready to begin, but the Landfill needs the material now. Commissioner Sanders said she was concerned about the other needs that may arise in the County. Mr. Pierce stated he agreed, but this work had to be done, so Mr. Chipman will have run a tight schedule for his crew and equipment.

(Tape 1-676) He asked the Board if they wanted to submit a request to Fish and Wildlife Commission for their assistance in improving the boat ramp besides the Ochlocknee Bridge. He stated Mr. Tom Vaughn, Fish and Wildlife Commission, called the Planning Office and made this suggestion to him. Mr. Chipman said he is working on the paperwork reflecting the County has maintained the boat ramp. Commissioner Sanders made a **motion directing the Planning Office to submit a request to the Fish and Wildlife Commission for their assistance in improving the boat ramp besides the Ochlockonee Bridge.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

#### **VAN JOHNSON-SOLID WASTE DIRECTOR**

(Tape 1-730) Mr. Johnson asked for Board approval to have the Chairman sign the annual Service Agreement between the Board and the Keep Franklin County Beautiful Committee. He said to help aid the committee they will act as sub-grantees of the \$11,964-Litter Prevention Grant and \$2,000 out of the Recycling and Education Grant. Commissioner Sanders made a **motion authorizing the Chairman's signature on the**

**annual Service Agreement between the Board and the Keep Franklin County Beautiful Committee.** Commissioner Creamer seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-759) He said, as a follow up to Commissioner Creamer's request to hold Amnesty Days at the Landfill one Saturday per quarter, he is recommending that the one Saturday per quarter commence on January 20<sup>th</sup>. He explained this will be the start of the 2001 schedule. He said this would allow him to incorporate the dates into the new schedule before printing and distribution. He said he also recommends the Board allow him to pay the employee working on these Saturdays overtime from the Solid Waste Grants. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion authorizing Saturday Amnesty Days to commence January 20<sup>th</sup> and to pay the employee working out of the Solid Waste Grants.** Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-793) Mr. Johnson informed the Board the employee he recently hired to fill the Animal Control Officer's vacancy resigned after one week on the job. He said the employee told him chasing dogs and listening to people complain was not what he wanted to do. He informed the board he is now going through the selection process and hopes to have someone selected and hired by Monday.

**BOBBY MILLER-DOVE HUNTING ON LITTLE SGI**

(Tape 1-817) Mr. Miller said he would like to thank the Commissioners and the Clerk for their support in the dove hunting on Little SGI issue. He stated he would like to ask the Board to direct the Board Attorney to prepare and send a letter to the Apalachicola National Estuarine Reserve and any one else related to them that they must notify the Board of County Commissioners of any fishing or hunting changes or proposals they make to the State. He stated he would like the letter sent to the Fish and Wildlife Commission as well. He said the problem they had up the River was that for 3 years, not just recently, the River hunting has been closed at the same time the National Forest was. He explained traditionally it had been left open for 2 weeks after the forest closed. He said they have just now started to enforce this measure when in fact it was effective 3 years ago. He said he didn't know this and really didn't know anyone else who did. He stated this is the purpose of the County Attorney writing a letter to them. Commissioner Sanders said she would make the **motion directing Mr. Shuler to prepare and send a letter to the Apalachicola National Estuarine Reserve and the State of Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission requesting they notify the County Commissioners of any proposed hunting or fishing changes for Franklin County.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mr. Miller said he would be glad to met with Mr. Shuler to help draft the letter. Commissioner Sanders said the State of Florida has come and bought a lot of land in Franklin County and hunting is dear to her heart since she likes to hunt.

**JIM PARRISH-SMALL COUNTY TECH ASSIST PROGRAM**

(Tape 1-924) Mr. Parrish, Project Manager for the Small County Technical Assistance Program, part of the Association of Counties. He said they provide training and technical assistance services to the 33 small counties in the State of Florida. He presented the

Board with a Analysis of Revenue Options for Franklin County. He said his group provides, at not cost to the Counties, a variety of services. He explained they assist Counties with grant applications or grants in general, employee or supervisory training programs, assistance with comprehensive planning, certification of County Commissioners, etc. Commissioner Putnal asked Mr. Parrish why he thought Franklin County was being punished regarding road assistance help from the State because our budget is so low. He said they won't help us because of that. Mr. Parrish replied we were not the only county, but most of the other Counties were at the maximum level of 10 mils. He suggested the County contact their legislative delegation. Commissioner Putnal said he didn't think it was fair for the County to be punished because the Commissioners were trying to keep the citizens taxes low. Mr. Parrish agreed. Chairman Williams thanked Mr. Parrish for appearing before the Board this morning.

**JOHN ANDREWS-COMPLAINT PUBLIC BOAT RENTALS ON SGI**

(Tape 1-1178) Mr. Andrews introduced himself to the Board. He said he had lived on SGI since 1991. He stated they own a small house in a residential area one lot away from the Bay. He stated his neighbor, Larry Troy, was operating a boat rental and charter, Cool Change Charters, out of his house, which is in a residential area. Mr. Andrews informed the Board of the many problems he had with all of the boats and traffic the business caused in his neighborhood. He asked the Board what could be done about Mr. Troy conducting a business in a residential area. Commissioner Creamer said Mr. Troy informed him yesterday that he had an office on SGI at 151 Gorrie Drive. Mr. Pierce said he talked to Mr. Troy too and was informed by him he did have an office at 151 Gorrie Drive, which is a commercial area. Mr. Andrews said he didn't believe this because Mr. Troy is always at home. Mr. Pierce said if Mr. Troy is advertising his business as his residence address then he needs to stop. Ms. Violet Andrews expressed her concerns and complaints about Mr. Troy as well. Commissioner Creamer suggested he and Mr. Pierce get together after the meeting to see exactly what could be done. Mr. Pierce said after he and Commissioner Creamer went to see Mr. Troy's house on SGI he would send a letter to Mr. Troy and send a copy to Mr. Andrews.

**MONICA LEMIEUX-FLORIDA SEAFOOD FESTIVAL BOARD**

(Tape 1-1484) Ms. Lemieux said she was here this morning representing the Florida Seafood Festival Board. She explained they are doing the Festival a little bit differently this year in that the food service will be totally served by locals. She said local fishermen, etc will provide all of the food. She stated there would only be non-profit groups participating in the Festival food booths. She stated she is here today to ask the Commissioners to consider closing the Courthouse on the Friday before, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, so the Festival Board can use the parking facilities. She said this helps them tremendously with the limited parking spaces in Apalachicola. She said has talked to all of the Constitutional Officers in the Courthouse as well as the Judicial Staff and they have relayed to her they do not have any conflicts with this request. She stated they pay the Senior Class for the parking lot since they use it as a major fundraiser for the class. She said then the Festival can use the parking area. Mr. Wade said he thought the Courthouse was closed last year too. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion authorizing the closure of the Franklin County Courthouse on Friday, November 3, 2000, as requested by the Florida Seafood Festival Board and authorizing them to**

use the Courthouse parking area. Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mr. Wade asked if they would pay for the advertising announcing the closure of the Courthouse on that date. Ms. Lemieux replied the Festival Board would pay for the advertisement.

**ALAN PIERCE-DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

(Tape 1-1616) He presented the Board with a copy of the DEP notice of the removal of asbestos from the Old Carrabelle Gym. He explained there is a 10-day waiting period before the gym can be demolished to give DEP time to evaluate the notice. He said at this time he has verbal confirmation from Mr. Cliff Butler, Friends of the Library, that Mr. Jimmy Crowder is willing to knock the gym down for \$1,500.00, and the Friends of the Library will cover the demolition costs. He said the cost of hauling the debris away is still undecided, as he is not sure how much hauling the County can do and who else may participate in hauling the material to the County Landfill. Commissioner Sanders asked Ms. Eileen Annie-Ball, Franklin County Library Director, if Mr. Crowder was going to haul the material away. Ms. Ball replied he was just going to knock it down. Mr. Pierce said he is not sure who would haul the material away. He stated Mr. Johnson could use the material at the Landfill to build a roadbed for heavy equipment. Commissioner Sanders said the trucks will be busy on those other 2 projects, the Airport Road and the Spoil Site, to assist them very much. Mr. Pierce said he hopes in the 10 days the County will get approval to knock the building down and between now and then maybe something can be worked out about hauling the material away.

(Tape 1-1743) He asked the Board to approve appointing Mr. Herbert Sewell to the Lanark Village Building Permit Review committee. He said his address is P. O. Box 525, Lanark Village. Commissioner Sanders made a **motion appointing Mr. Herbert Sewell to the Lanark Village Building Permit Review Committee.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mr. Pierce said Mr. Ralph Dietz, Lanark Village Association, has asked that Mr. Sewell be appointed to the Committee.

(Tape 1-1762) He presented a copy of a letter from DEP regarding the County Park on SGI. He explained that again, DEP is asking for additional information.

(Tape 1-1783) He stated he would like to give the Board a copy of a letter from Weems Memorial saying its lab can accommodate the employee drug/alcohol testing for \$25.00 per employee. He said the actual charge will depend on what drug the employee is being tested for. He said they would be available for 7 days-24 hours for testing.

(Tape 1-1798) He presented the Board with the Level 1 Environmental Survey Assessment for the Lanark Village Amerigas property.

(Tape 1-1804) Mr. Pierce said he needed Board action to remove the old fire truck at the Airport from the County insurance. He explained the truck does not run, is 35 years old, and the County does not have any fireman stationed at the Airport to fight fires. He stated the truck needs to be sold at auction, or given away, or put on a low boy and

hauled to the Road Department. He said he has spoken to Ted Mosteller, Chairman, Apalachicola Airport Advisory Committee, about the matter and he agreed to have the fire truck moved from the Airport. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion authorizing the removal of the old fire truck at the Apalachicola Airport from the Airport and from the County insurance.** Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-1869) He informed the Board that Mr. Doug McKinney wants them to know he is interested in being the concessionaire for the fishing pier when the County gets the old SGI Bridge from FDOT. He said he told Mr. McKinney the Board has not made a decision on who is going to be responsible for the fishing pier, and he was probably 2 years early at this point. He said Mr. McKinney wants the Commissioners to know the R-2 area on Ridge and Wilderness Road in Eastpoint is full of junked cars and something needs to be done about it. Commissioner Putnal said there is a problem with junked cars in that area. Mr. Pierce said he would try to go over to Eastpoint and look at the area.

(Tape 1-1904) He said he has received a grant that the former Emergency Management Director submitted to elevate Mr. Ron Walter's house in Eastpoint. He explained Mr. Walters would be responsible for the local match, and just like the other elevation project the County started for Ms. Alice Marie Pearson he would have to be able to afford the match. He stated Mr. Walter's might not be able to come up with the funds either. He said he is not going to ask the Board to sign the grant until Mr. Walters verifies he can afford the match costs.

(Tape 1-1948) Mr. Pierce informed the Board the Planning and Zoning Commission met in regular session on October 10, 2000 and recommends the following action: Approval for Bruce Krueger to construct a private dock and boatlift on Lot 15, Block 89, Unit 5, SGI. All State and Federal permits have been obtained. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion approving the construction of a private dock and boatlift for Bruce Krueger.** Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Approval for William Kroll to construct a private boardwalk/observation platform on Lot 19, Windjammer Village, SGI. All State and Federal permits have been obtained. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion approving the construction of a boardwalk/observation platform for William Kroll.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Approval for James Carrell to construct a fishing pier on property described as just east of Yellow Hill on Highway 98, and further described as 25254 Highway 98 West, in Section 3, T8S, R5W. The Commissioner recommends approval of this pier even though it was received after the agenda was set, because they determined there was a hardship in this case to expect the owner to wait 30 days until the next Commission meeting. The hardship was that the man is handicap and had received his State and Federal permits, but has failed to get a County Building Permit. Planning Commissioner Dan Rosier, Mr. Carrell's neighbor, made the request. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion approving a fishing pier for James Carrell.** Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** On development in Industrial Zones Approval for John Collins to construct 2 buildings on an industrial parcel off Otter Slide Road in Eastpoint. The site plan contains adequate

parking and meets the setbacks established by the Board of Adjustment. Commissioner Putnal after questioning Ms. Collins made a **motion approving a site plan for John Collins on Otter Slide Road in Eastpoint.** Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**PUBLIC HEARING-MOSELEY LU AND REZONING REQUEST**

(Tape 1-2163) Chairman Williams said he was going to interrupt Mr. Pierce and begin the Public Hearing as scheduled at 10:00 a.m. Mr. Pierce announced this hearing was to consider a request from Ricky Moseley of Eastpoint. He said the Planning and Zoning Commission had also approved these changes. He stated Mr. Moseley has requested that his property, 6.38 acres in Section 36, T8S, R7W, have the land use changed from Residential to Commercial and the zoning changed from R-1 Single Family Residential to C-4 Mixed Use Commercial/Residential. He said no one has sent any written complaints or telephone complaints objecting to the changes. After no comments from the audience Commissioner Creamer made a **motion approving the land use change as requested by Ricky Moseley from Residential to Commercial.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Commissioner Creamer made a **motion approving the zoning change as requested by Ricky Moseley from R-1 Single Family Residential to C-4 Mixed Use Commercial/Residential.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**ALAN PIERCE-CONTINUED**

(Tape 1-2246) He said he would return to the Planning and Zoning Commission recommendations at this time: Tabled a request until November for Bill Wells at this request to consider a rezoning and large scale land use change on some agricultural land to R-6, one unit per ten acres on land north of Carrabelle. Approval to set a public hearing to consider a request for Mr. Ben Watkins for a rezoning and small scale land use change for 9.9 acres of land just north of Ridge Road from A-2 to R-2. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion authorizing Mr. Pierce to schedule a public hearing to consider a rezoning and small scale land use change for Mr. Ben Watkins.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Tabled a request until November for Freda White to consider a rezoning and land use change for 7 acres of land west of Carrabelle until she could furnish additional information to the Commission. Approval of a final plat for Whispering Pines Subdivision in Eastpoint. It contains 21 lots off C. C. Land Road and has paved roads built to County standards. The Mylar copy of the plat is not here, so if the Board wants they can approve the final plat contingent on review by the County Attorney of the title letter and the final plat. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion approving the final plat of Whispering Pines Subdivision in Eastpoint contingent on review of the plat and title letter by the County Attorney.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** The Commission heard 3 requests for special exceptions to construct cellular telephone towers in the County. The Zoning Code states that for special exceptions the Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing to consider the special exception, and it will receive a recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission. I am informing the County Commissioners of the requests, but it will be the BOA that actually grants the special exception. The commission recommended



approval of the special exceptions by a 5-1 vote. The 3 sites are, a 300-foot tower on the northern edge of Oak St./Pinewood Ave. Lanark Village by Big Bend Towers, a 300-foot tower on the northern edge of a parcel of land in St. Teresa north of US 98 by Big Bend Towers, and a 100-foot tower on property owned by Mr. Gil Barfield or the Old Buckeye Mill site in Carrabelle by American Tower. Sara Marxsen, Carrabelle, said the towers are really needed in the County. Mr. Pierce said this concluded his Planning and Zoning Commission report.

(Tape 1-2593) Commissioner Sanders ask Mr. Pierce if he had heard anything regarding Alligator Point. Mr. Pierce replied he had not. He stated he did fax a request to Congressman Alan Boyd's office regarding the 7 million dollar request to relocate the Alligator Point Road. He said he hasn't heard anything from the Congressman's office.

#### **KENDALL WADE-CLERK OF COURTS**

(Tape 1-2645) Mr. Wade said he would like to allow Gary Barber, Marks Insurance, and Jeff Darnell, Blue Cross and Blue Shield to update the Board on their proposal for health insurance for the County Employees. Mr. Darnell reviewed the changes in the new proposal which included: a \$500.00 deductible, 80% Co-insurance Percentage payable by BC&BS, Office Services \$15.00 per visit with no deductible, a 5 million lifetime maximum per insured, a \$10,000.00 hospice benefit, an annual Wellness Benefit examination each year, \$7.00 co-pay for generic drugs and a \$20.00 co-pay for brand drugs including oral contraceptives and devices. He explained this plan was the best alternative for the County and would met the budget constraints. Mr. Darnell said the employee premium would be \$268.60 and family coverage would cost \$703.30. Commissioner Putnal said this was a big increase in the cost for family coverage. Mr. Darnell replied he knew it was, but it was the best the committee could come up with. Mr. Wade said in some ways this plan is better than the current one and will be closer to the budget constraints of the budgeted 15%. He said this plan would be a 21% increase, which would be closer to the budget. He asked Mr. Darnell about a carry forward on the current insurance. Mr. Darnell replied there would be a deductible credit, so any deductible in the last quarter of this year, October, November, and December, will not be lost in January. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion approving the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Health Insurance Plan for the County Employees as proposed.** Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-3415) Mr. Wade said he wanted to inform the Board, if they didn't know, that Mr. Drew Branch died in Sumatra. He stated Mr. Branch was the overseer of the cemetery there and would call the County when mowing or some other type of work needed to be done at the cemetery. He said Mr. Bill Bouington called him wanting to form a cemetery committee to take care of the cemetery. Commissioner Sanders said the Franklin County Road Department had always taken care of that cemetery. Mr. Wade stated he agreed and that when Mr. Branch or someone called him about any work to be done he would send the Road Department crew up there. Commissioner Creamer said Mr. Bouington was probably considering the fact that cemetery maintenance is not done on a regular basis. He said every time he wanted the Eastpoint Cemetery cleaned he had

to make a phone call. He stated he felt there needed to be a regular schedule. Mr. Wade stated he was just relaying Mr. Bouington's request to the Board.

(Tape 1-3536 Continued on Tape 2) He informed the Board, after speaking with someone from Calhoun County, that it seems the Liberty-Calhoun County Hospital has applied for a Critical Access Hospital designation. He explained this is an Aspen Federal Regulation, which allows a hospital to make available 24-hour emergency care, but be closed when there are no actual inpatients in the hospital. He said there was a move on to have these rural hospitals declared Critical Access Hospitals. He explained the hospital would have to maintain their hospital as it is, but actually close the hospital when there are no inpatients and simply run the emergency room. Commissioner Creamer said this was very upsetting to him since he had mixed feelings about the way the hospital is being currently operated. Mr. Wade said he talked to Mr. Jim Norton, Assistant to Congressman Alan Boyd, about this matter and was asked by him to let him check into the matter further. Commissioner Sanders asked Mr. Wade if he thought the local hospital was going to try this. Mr. Wade replied since they were both operated by the same holding company, Centennial Healthcare, it might happen. He explained that most rural hospitals have been unable to remain open due to sky rocketing medical costs. He said this probably will happen at some point in time.

#### **BIDS-CONSTRUCTION OF THE CARRABELLE BRANCH LIBRARY**

(Tape 2-21) Chairman Williams announced the opening of bids for construction of the Carrabelle Branch Library and the following bids were opened: Pro-Steel Buildings, Inc. \$443,443.00; Carr Eng & Construction \$407,000.00; Ben Withers, Inc. \$397,960.91; ARC/Master Builders, Inc. \$468,080.91; Bass Construction Co. \$423,000.00; Tupelo Construction Co. \$402,539.00. After the bids were opened Commissioner Sanders made a **motion directing the members of the Library Board of Directors and Greg Kelly, Clemons, Rutherford, and Associates review the bids and come back to the Board at the end of the meeting with a recommendation.** Commissioner Creamer seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

#### **ALFRED SHULER-COUNTY ATTORNEY**

(Tape 2-307) Mr. Shuler said he wanted to inform the Board the County's insurance carrier has agreed to defend the County in the Brownell Lawsuit. He stated this was the lawsuit Ms. Brownell filed against the Sheriff.

(Tape 2-344) He stated the Jackie Gay Worker's Compensation Claim stipulation or agreement has been approved by payment for Ms. Kathryn Ronco-Miller. He said he called Ms. Gay's attorney and asked him to prepare a stipulation for submission to the Board of County Commissioners for final approval. Commissioner Putnal asked Mr. Shuler if there was a possibility the County would be reimbursed after the bankruptcy suite is settled with GRIT. Mr. Shuler replied there is always that possibility, but he would make sure to notify Mr. Floyd to amend the County's bankruptcy claim to include this as well as Mr. Lolley's claim.

(Tape 2-464) He informed the Board he prepared a Resolution of Appreciation for Mr. Willie B. Speed as directed by the Board.

(Tape 2-475) He reported he received a response letter from the Public Service Commission regarding the request the Board made for the SGI Water Management Services, Inc., to provide fire protection to the Island. He said he furnished a copy of a letter to the Board.

(Tape 2-490) He stated Mr. Floyd asked him to sign an agreement for the County. He said the agreement is to allow Mr. Floyd to represent Franklin County in the GRIT Bankruptcy hearings, meetings, etc.

(Tape 2-505) He said he is advertising a public hearing to consider the request of Mr. Bruce McCormick to rent a building at the Apalachicola Airport.

(Tape 2-515) Mr. Shuler said he prepared the Living Waters Assembly of God ditch easement. He stated the easement will have to be approved by the General Assembly of the church. He explained they are presenting it to the Assembly for approval.

(Tape 2-548) He reported he approved the contract between Franklin and Gulf Counties for the provision of Building Official coverage by Gulf County for several months.

(Tape 2-556) He said he reviewed the Florida Statutes and found what the Commissioners were looking for in Chapter 705.103. He said it lays out a procedure for the Sheriff's Department to follow. He stated the Board can send the Sheriff a letter asking him to take action according to FS 705.103. He explained the procedure allows notice to be posted on the trailer, an attempt to locate the owner, and if nothing is done in 5 days after being tagged the trailer can be hauled away. He suggested the Board needed to identify the trailers that needed to be moved and request the Sheriff's Department to take action under FS 705.103. Commissioner Creamer asked what should be done if the items don't have any numbers on the trailers. Mr. Shuler replied the Sheriff's Department could post a notice on the item itself for 5 days. Commissioner Creamer said this was going to be an ongoing problem and he would like, at the next meeting, to consider a possible ordinance specific to the County. Mr. Shuler said it would be safer legally to ask the Sheriff to do it under this Statute. He explained after the deadline the Sheriff could notify the County to assist in moving the item. He said the County could move them and then wait and see if someone complains. He stated the best legal position would be to follow this Statute.

(Tape 2-686) Commissioner Sanders asked Mr. Shuler if he had contacted the Dog Island Conservation District and the Dog Island Volunteer Fire Department to come before the County Commissioners regarding the MSBU Funds. Mr. Shuler replied he had sent a letter to both of them inviting them to the meeting on November 7, 2000 at 10:15 a.m. Commissioner Sanders said she wanted this matter resolved once and for all.

(Tape 2-714) Ted Mosteller asked Mr. Shuler about the lease agreement he mentioned earlier with Mr. Bruce McCormick, Technotics. Mr. Shuler replied he had advertised the public hearing to consider input in leasing, long term, a building at the Airport to Mr.

McCormick for his business. Mr. Shuler and Mr. Mosteller discussed the difference in a Memorandum of Agreement and a long-term lease. Commissioner Putnal asked Mr. Shuler to call Mr. McCormick and speak to him about this matter to make sure everything is all right. Mr. Shuler said if the Airport Committee doesn't think the Airport is ready for a lease then the Commissioners would have to follow the Committee's recommendation or postpone the decision until they are ready to recommend approval.

(Tape 2-1093) Commissioner Sanders asked Mr. Wade to update the Board on the meeting he and Mr. Pierce had with Tim Edmonds, Arvida, last week. Mr. Wade replied Mr. Edmonds informed him that Arvida has no particular aggressive plans for Franklin County. He said to assure the Board they are not going to take over the Turkey Point Marina. Commissioner Sanders said she would still like him to come to a public forum to answer some questions. She stated whatever they do is going to greatly impact her district. Mr. Wade said he would contact Mr. Edmonds to invite him to a meeting in the near future.

**BID AWARD-CONSTRUCTION OF THE CARRABELLE BRANCH LIBRARY**

(Tape 2-1148) Mr. Greg Kelley, Architect, Clemons, Rutherford and Associates, Inc. announced they had decided on a bidder to award the construction contract to. Ms. Eileen Annie-Ball, Library Director, said they decided and wanted to recommend the Board award Ben Withers, Inc. the lowest bidder, the contract. She stated she needed to remind the Board they needed the contract signed by October 27, 2000. Ms. Ball said he had the best base bid and alternate bid. Mr. Pierce asked if Mr. Withers had the performance bond and the other necessary paperwork included in the bid package. Mr. Kelley replied he had all of the necessary paperwork. Commissioner Sanders asked Mr. Kelley if he was acquainted with any of the bidders. He replied he was acquainted with 5 of the 6 bidders and he was very happy with the participation. Commissioner Sanders made a **motion awarding the contract for construction of the Carrabelle Branch Library to Ben Withers, Inc. as recommended by the Library Board and Mr. Kelley, the Architect.** Commissioner Creamer seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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

Clarence Williams CLARENCE WILLIAMS, CHAIRMAN

K. Dale Wade KENDALL WADE, CLERK