

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
COURTHOUSE ANNEX – COMMISSION MEETING ROOM  
JUNE 6, 2017  
9:00 AM  
AGENDA**

**Commissioners Present:** Joseph Parrish – Chairman, Noah Lockley-Vice-Chairman, Cheryl Sanders, William Massey, Ricky Jones

**Others Present:** Marcia M. Johnson-Clerk of Court, Michael Moron-County Coordinator, Michael Shuler – County Attorney, Lori P. Hines-Deputy Clerk to the Board.

**Call to Order**

Chairman Parrish called the meeting to Order.

**Prayer and Pledge**

There was a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes**

**On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Sanders, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the minutes of the meetings held on May 16, 2017 and May 23, 2017.**

**Payment of County Bills**

**On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve payment of the County's bills.**

**Heather Riley-Supervisor of Elections**

Mrs. Riley informed the Board she sent an email because there are some equipment related bills she does not have the money to cover. She asked for an increase on her draw for June to cover these bills. She explained a lease agreement with Election Systems & Software is due at a cost of \$4,900 and it is time to renew licenses on software at a cost of \$5,000. Mrs. Riley requested the Board increase her draw by \$10,000 to pay these bills. She reported an audit is being performed and should be

completed by the end of June so she will know where they stand in the budget. **On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve a draw of \$10,000 to cover these expenses.**

Mr. Moron stated the Sheriff's Finance Director will also be here to address the Board.

### **Department Directors Report**

#### **Howard Nabors – Superintendent of Public Works**

Mr. Nabors reported Bluff Road has been patched where it was cut and it looks good.

Mr. Nabors stated Mr. Joe Hamm had surgery and is doing well. He should return to work in about 4 weeks.

#### **Fonda Davis – Solid Waste Director**

Mr. Davis stated they are still gathering information about mandatory garbage collection. He offered the following item for consideration:

### **SUBJECT(S):**

#### **SOLID WASTE TRANSFER STATION:**

FOR BOARD ACTION: As you are aware, the Transfer Station Waste Disposal Agreement between Franklin County and Waste Management expires in 2018. In order to continue to provide household waste disposal at the Central Landfill, it is urgent that we seek out other Disposal Contractors that would be interested in operating the Transfer Station. **REQUESTED ACTION: Board approval to start the negotiations and bid process for the daily operations of the Transfer Station.**

Mr. Davis requested Board direction on this matter. Mr. Moron said they have been involved in meetings with Waste Management and they are definitely getting out of the transfer station business. He explained Waste Management is willing to negotiate and help with the transition to the County operating the transfer station. He stated Mr. Davis has met with Aggregate, the company that moves the garbage from here to Waste Management's site, and they are also willing to negotiate. Mr. Moron reported the County does not want to wait until the end of the contract because then the companies may not be interested in negotiating. He suggested the Board authorize staff to start negotiations and then a recommendation will be presented in the next month. Commissioner Sanders questioned if the County should advertise for a Request for Qualifications (RFQ). Mr. Davis said if the County begins with another company then that firm will have to set up a compactor and other items which may increase the price. He pointed out Waste Management will release the equipment to the County. Mr. Davis reported the

equipment is old but the County will have something to start with if they take over the transfer station. He estimated a new compactor and set up will cost approximately \$70,000. He stated Waste Management will also give the County another compactor along with the one that is already there. He reported this equipment is old so the County needs to consider purchasing new equipment. Commissioner Sanders asked if the County will take over the sorting of the garbage at the transfer station. Mr. Davis answered no, and said once the garbage comes in on the truck; it will be compacted and sent out. Commissioner Sanders asked if the County would manage this operation. Mr. Davis answered yes, and said now the customers will not have to wait. Mr. Moron stated the costs increased last time when the County advertised. He explained right now the company is interested in negotiating and are willing to give the equipment to the County. Commissioner Lockley asked if the County will be renting this equipment. Mr. Davis reported they will give the County the compactor and an old truck and will let them use 5 boxes. He explained the boxes are what the trucks hauls the garbage in to Springhill Landfill. Mr. Davis estimated Aggregate comes to get approximately 2 boxes a day and sometimes 3-4 boxes a day in the summer at a cost of \$397.08 per box. Commissioner Massey questioned if extra employees will be needed. Mr. Davis said 1 extra employee will be needed. Mr. Davis read the email sent to the Commissioners listing the options Waste Management suggested. Commissioner Lockley asked if the compactor will last for a year. Mr. Davis answered yes, and said there is another compactor they are willing to have rebuilt for backup. **Commissioner Sanders made a motion to go ahead and allow staff to come back with a recommendation and outline on how to proceed and follow through. Commissioner Lockley seconded the motion.** Chairman Parrish reported before the County goes into the budget year, they need to know what the total costs for this matter will be. He asked what month the contract ends in 2018. Mr. Davis answered March. Chairman Parrish said that is before the next budget year so the County needs to know the total costs. He stated the truck may be worn out and the County may need to purchase a compactor. He explained as they go into negotiations, the Board needs to know where they are at and how they are going to pay for this item. He questioned if this is paid by tipping fees and if they will need to be adjusted or if it is paid by ad valorem taxes. He went on to say if another employee is needed in March then funding must be provided for that position in the upcoming budget. He stated the Board needs a detailed summary of the exact costs as they go into this budget process. **Commissioner Sanders amended her motion to reflect the comments made by Chairman Parrish.** Commissioner Sanders reminded Mr. Davis they are also going to address recycling during the budget process. She commented if they decide to do away with recycling then the employees may be used somewhere else. **Commissioner Lockley amended his second. Motion carried; 5-0.**

Mr. Moron read the following item from his report:

1. Board action to authorize the \$500 inmate supervisor incentive, to Michael Messer, Kenny Griswold, Astin Messer, and Charles Tucker. These employees supervise inmates 90% of the time. Mr. Charles Tucker only supervises inmates during the winter and spring months so his incentive could be pro-rated for the months that he met the 90%

requirement. Authorizing this incentive for those employees would cost less than \$2,000 per year. I recommend make this change effective June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Moron stated the only people this incentive is authorized for are in the Road Department. He said Mr. Davis has brought this issue up a couple of times in the past. Mr. Moron pointed out these individuals work for the Parks & Recreation Department and the Mosquito Control Department. Commissioner Sanders asked if Mr. Moron has talked with Mrs. Erin Griffith, Finance Department. Mr. Moron answered yes.

**Commissioner Massey made a motion to authorize the \$500 inmate supervisor incentive for Michael Messer, Kenny Griswold Astin Messer and Charles Tucker.**

**Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion.** Commissioner Lockley said there is a problem because this certification is mandatory but all the employees are not being paid. Mr. Moron explained according to the County rules, it is not just being certified but also supervising inmates 90% of the time. Commissioner Lockley asked about other people who are certified and keep inmates some of the time. Mr. Moron said this is just for employees that supervise inmates 90% of the time. Commissioner Lockley stated this should be done for all the employees. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

#### **Pam Brownell – Emergency Management Director**

Ms. Tress Dameron, Emergency Management Coordinator, presented the following report:

#### Action Items:

1. Board approval and signing of the Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program Grant (HLMP), formally the Residential Construction Mitigation Program (RCMP), in the amount of \$194,000.

Ms. Dameron said this is the third year they have applied for this grant and the County has been awarded \$194,000 to wind retrofit residential homes. **On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Sanders, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program Grant (HLMP) and authorize Chairman Parrish to sign the grant.** Commissioner Lockley asked if the City received a grant. Mrs. Dameron answered the City did not receive a grant but if one of the applicants drops out they are the next in line for the grant.

2. Board approval and signing of a one year renewal of the Debris Removal Contracts with Crowder Gulf, Bergeron, and Tetra Tech. This one year renewal will allow the EOC to have their Debris Removal and Debris Monitoring contracts valid and up for renewal during the same period.

Mrs. Dameron explained the Debris Removal Contracts and Debris Monitoring Contracts are on separate contract years and they are trying to consolidate these items so they are asking for an extension of the Debris Removal Contracts. **On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by**

**Commissioner Lockley, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve a one year renewal of the Debris Removal Contracts with Crowder Gulf, Bergeron and Tetra Tech and authorize the Chairman to sign the extensions.**

3. Board approval for EOC to put out an RFQ for Emergency Contractual Services to help with writing project worksheets.

Mrs. Dameron reported as of May, the State and FEMA have terminated the contract with DSI who wrote the project worksheets. **On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to advertise a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Emergency Contractual Services to help write project worksheets.**

Commissioner Lockley asked if they are storm ready. Mrs. Dameron answered yes.

Information Items:

**The 2017 Atlantic Hurricane Season Outlook**

- **Named Storms 11-17**
- **Hurricane 5-9**
- **Major Hurricanes 2-4**

1. EOC Staff continue to promote our Re-Entry Tag program and encourage all residents to apply for their Re-Entry Tag. Staff are also encouraging all residents to sign up for Alert Franklin our new County Alert system.
2. June 1 was the start of the 2017 Hurricane Season. EOC Staff continue to remind residents to be prepared and "Get a Plan".
3. 05/10/17 EOC Staff met with the Coast Guard Liaison Team in preparation of Hurricane Season.
4. 05/13/17-05/19/17 Jennifer Daniels attends the Governor's Hurricane Conference in West Palm Beach for Training and Workshops.
5. 05/15/17 EOC Staff hosted and attended CPR Training.
6. 05/16/17-05/17/17 EOC Staff hosted and attended CPR Instructor Training.
7. 05/18/17 EOC held its ESF 17 required yearly meeting in preparation of Hurricane Season.
8. 05/22/17 EOC Hosted a demonstration by Fire Ice.
9. 05/23/17 EOC held its Debris Meeting at the EOC in preparation of Hurricane Season

**Erik Lovestrand – Extension Office Director**

Mr. Lovestrand appeared before the Board and presented his report, as follows:

**County Extension Activities May 17 – June 6, 2017**

#### General Extension Activities:

- Extension Director participated in Natural Resources Extension Planning meeting for 2017/18 activities with other Panhandle Agents.
- Extension Director provided information to County Attorney regarding possible terms for agreement for Board to consider. This, in reference to inhabiting the City's Harbor Master house at Scipio Creek as an Extension facility.
- Extension Staff assisted local citizens regarding tree preservation, injured wildlife, palm tree disease, citrus disease, and other topics.
- Completed pre-training required for new UF Website management software.

#### Sea Grant Extension:

- Extension Director participated in the weekly planning calls for the Dark Skies turtle lighting project. Purchase of lighting supplies for first round of retrofits has been accomplished.
- Extension Director coordinated with Franklin County turtle lighting specialist regarding additional lighting retrofit work in the County.
- Attended regular SMARRT meeting regarding oyster restoration updates, planned summer season rules, etc.
- Extension Director participated in NOAA webinar series on topic of sustainable aquaculture's potential to increase the US supply of seafood. We currently import about 90% of the seafood consumed in the US.
- Boating Safety article submitted to Panhandle Outdoors newsletter for summer issue.

#### 4-H Youth Development:

- Extension staff have partnered with Gulf County Extension to provide the required Counselor training for 6 youth planning to attend 4-H summer camp as counselors this year. Youth were able to attend the training in Wewahitchka along with Gulf County camp Counselors.

#### Family Consumer Sciences:

- Extension Director participated in quarterly Family Nutrition Program (FNP) webinar update regarding program implementation requirements for our Franklin County FNP Program Assistant.

#### Agriculture/Horticulture:

- Extension Director contacted Research Faculty regarding herbicide usage on utility right of ways in County. Provided suggested options/alternatives for County to consider in communications with utility company.
- Extension Director provided native wildflower program for ANERR's Wednesday lecture series.

Mr. Lovestrand said his office has received \$8,000 in youth scholarships to be used for children attending 4-H Summer Camp. He stated this is due to the efforts of Ms. Michele Huber, Office Manager, and the generosity of the community. He reported this is close to three times the amount of money received last year.

Mr. Lovestrand stated the SWIM (Surface Water Improvement and Management) Plan meeting will be held tomorrow at the Community Center. He reported this meeting relates to update of the SWIM Plan for the Apalachicola River Basin. He said this plan provides management guidance for local governments in relation to surface water bodies in the county. He explained Northwest Florida Water Management District (NFWFMD) hosts this meeting and puts together the plan. He commented that he provided some guidance to the NFWFMD related to IFAS activities in the basin for the update they are working on.

Mr. Lovestrand reported some information was compiled for Attorney Shuler in relation to a facility. He said the City of Apalachicola has been contacted but there are no further details at this time.

Chairman Parrish asked if Commissioner Jones will attend the SWIM meeting. Commissioner Jones agreed he will attend and said he and Mr. Pierce attended the last meeting. He reported he will reiterate what Mr. Pierce said last time about trying to get them to improve water quality around Eastpoint. He explained there are problems with the water flows with the river and most of the fresh water that is left is close to Eastpoint. He reported they need to do something to try to improve water quality in the bay. Mr. Moron said the SWIM meeting will be at 2:00 p.m. at the Community Center.

Commissioner Sanders inquired if Attorney Shuler has looked into the information Mr. Lovestrand presented about the facility at Scipio Creek. Attorney Shuler reported he has contacted Mr. Pat Floyd, City of Apalachicola attorney, and requested the terms and conditions the City is interested in for the lease. He stated this item is being monitored on a weekly basis.

#### **Mike Cooper – Weems CEO – Report**

Mr. Cooper said there was a deep cut to the Medicaid program state wide. He explained this cut was not across the board but directed at certain hospitals, certain types of hospitals and providers. Mr. Cooper said TMH received about a \$7 million cut. He went on to say the hospital in Perry was cut about \$400,000 and Weems was cut approximately \$140,000-\$150,000. He explained Florida ranked at the bottom for Medicaid spending per capita in 3 different categories for women and children and overall. Mr. Cooper stated the federal government's allocation to the state for LIP funding more than overcame the cut for Weems and they do not expect any more cuts.

Mr. Cooper reviewed the financial reports for April with the Board. Mr. Cooper stated for April they had a \$90,000 positive bottom line and year to date they have a \$190,000 positive bottom line. He discussed the LIP/DISH funding for Weems. He referenced current liabilities and long term liabilities on the balance sheet and said substantial payments have been made to Tallahassee Memorial Hospital (TMH) and the Health Care Trust Fund. He reported there are 35 days cash on hand and the current ratio is 2.4.

Mr. Cooper stated at the exit meeting with Mr. Jim Coleman, Community Hospital Corporation (CHC), they indicated they were happy with the meetings with the Commissioners. Mr. Cooper was impressed by the amount and type of data CHC reviewed prior to coming on site. He reported CHC will be a good partner if they can make this work. He stated CHC was on site Tuesday-Friday and nine people were present covering every area. Mr. Cooper reported there were also discussions by telephone with other professionals in their organization. He stated it was an intensive week and CHC talked with numerous people. He explained Mr. Coleman was complimentary of where the Hospital is now and what is trending on collections. He stated CHC with their level of resources still sees opportunities for improving the bottom line. Mr. Cooper reported CHC is well positioned in the IT field and their hospitals receive large amounts of money from IT grants. He stated CHC expects the Hospital could receive some additional money in this area. Mr. Cooper reported CHC even thinks more money can be received through the revenue cycle portion. He stated CHC also feels they can do better with the time between when a patient is discharged and the time the bill is mailed. He explained they are averaging about 5-5 ½ days on billing but they think it can be reduced to 2½ -3 days which will generate quicker cash. Mr. Cooper pointed out the biggest thing is the supply chain. He said CHC has an entire department dedicated to how well the group purchasing contract is being utilized. Mr. Cooper stated CHC thinks there is a large amount of money in this area for Weems. Mr. Cooper reported they are able to generate a large amount of metrics on a monthly basis. He explained in the past he had to know there was a problem and then had to research the data to correct the problem but CHC can provide this data on a trending report every month so he can look at one report and know what is going right and where things are going wrong. He said this company brings a lot of resources. Mr. Cooper commented Mr. Coleman provided a timeline to the Commissioners and CHC will have a draft report within 2 weeks. He stated they will then compile a final report and say what they will do. Mr. Cooper reported CHC will contact Mr. Mark O'Bryant, TMH, and the Commissioners in early July. Commissioner Jones clarified CHC is doing the assessment but the Board has not made up their mind what company they are going with and are waiting on the assessment. Commissioner Sanders agreed with Commissioner Jones. She questioned where the financials are for the ambulance and the two clinics. Mr. Cooper did not have the information with him but agreed to provide this information to the Commissioners. Commissioner Sanders reported this information needs to be broken out and sent to the Commissioners. Mr. Cooper reported one of the other comments from CHC was that the clinics need to be Rural Health Care Clinics. He said they have worked on this process and it is at the state level at this time.

Mr. Cooper said EMS is equipping the ambulances with cameras that are also connected to a memory card that shows the speed of the ambulance. He explained the ambulance accident last year was witnessed but if it had not been, there would be a video from these cameras. He stated he is receiving an inordinate number of complaints from



citizens about certain driving habits of the ambulance drivers. He explained he has no way to affirm or argue that staff is doing what they should. Commissioner Sanders reported people are making comments about the speed of the ambulance but she has never witnessed this problem. She explained they are Emergency Medical Services and need to get places fast. Mr. Cooper reported there can be a point where speeding becomes dangerous and he needs to know what is being done.

Commissioner Lockley stated they have been trying to get the hospital funded right for the last 10 years. He explained the Board promised the people a hospital 10 years ago and he wants to know when the new hospital is coming. He said everyone voted for the hospital and it is time to do what they told the people they were going to do. Commissioner Lockley commented it is not right to do part and not do everything.

#### **John Collins – AVCON – Recommendation**

Mr. Collins said the bids were received for the Airfield Drainage Improvements Project at the airport and BKW, Inc. is the low bidder. He explained they are a qualified contractor to complete this kind of work and their references have been contacted. He stated Avcon also contacted some references they knew in this business. He reported all the references were positive. He recommended awarding this contract to BKW, Inc. in the amount of \$1,588,838.00. He pointed out this project is 100% funded by DOT. He informed the Board this company is located in Blountstown. **Commissioner Lockley made a motion to award the contract to BKW, Inc. in the amount of \$1,588,838.99 for the Airfield Drainage Improvements Project.** Mr. Moron reminded the Board this bid was much lower than the other bids. He stated Mr. Collins has assured the Board they have completed a diligent check of the references. Mr. Collins stated they reviewed the bid with BKW, Inc. and they were able to explain the reasons their bid was so much lower than the others. Chairman Parrish reported Avcon cited the three major factors affecting this bid. He said the #1 reason is they are self performing which he likes. He reported there is sometimes a problem when these items are sub-contracted out. **Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. Motion carried; 5-0.**

#### **Jason Puckett – Airport Manager – Report**

Mr. Puckett reported the DOT annual inspection of the Apalachicola Airport was conducted on April 28<sup>th</sup> and there was positive feedback from the inspection. He explained some of the issues that were considered deficiencies in prior years were mitigated and were reflected on the report. He said the main issue was runway paint markings on Runway 18/36 were deficient but everyone knew that before the inspection because DOT has withheld funding for this runway. He stated this is considered a deficiency but the County has the airport license and are in good shape. He thanked Crystal Air and the Road Department for getting everything ready for the inspection.

Mr. Puckett said he met with the Airport Advisory Committee (AAC) last night. He brought into discussion F.S. 333 which requires the County to revise current airport zoning regulations by July 1<sup>st</sup> or implement some if none are there. He said Attorney Shuler was contacted and he is aware of this requirement.

Mr. Puckett reported the AAC has been notified that Mr. Randy Randolph and Mr. Al Mirabella have asked to be removed from the AAC. He stated there have been issues in the past with getting a quorum. He said if the Board is interested in making appointments, the AAC has suggested Mr. Gordon Hunter and Mr. John Bone for these positions. Commissioner Jones said he knows Mr. Hunter and he would do a fine job but he does not know the other individual. Commissioner Lockley asked about the status of hiring a fixed base operator (FBO). Mr. Puckett said the RFQ was presented to the AAC last night and he hopes to finalize it on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and then it will be advertised. He stated the lease with Crystal Air expires November 1<sup>st</sup> so they are trying to get a qualified person in place prior to that date.

Commissioner Sanders stated they need to be careful in the cars at the airport because they almost hit her car. Mr. Puckett agreed the incident involved the courtesy car and he let them know it is a County car. Commissioner Sanders said this would be the County's liability so they need to be more careful.

Chairman Parrish reported the Board will take action on AAC appointments at a future meeting.

#### **Marcia M. Johnson – Clerk of Courts – Report**

Clerk Johnson did not have a report. Commissioner Lockley congratulated Clerk Johnson on being elected as President of the Clerk of Courts Association statewide.

#### **Michael Morón (Alan Pierce) – RESTORE Coordinator – Report**

Mr. Moron reported the Governor has signed the Triumph bill and the money will be transferred. He presented the following report:

1- TRIUMPH update. The TRIUMPH Board had an organizational meeting on May 22 and these are the highlights:

- As of May 25, the Governor had not signed the TRIUMPH bill. Until he signs the bill, no funds will be transferred to TRIUMPH. Hopefully he will sign the bill in the next few weeks. \$300M is ready to be transferred to the TRIUMPH Board upon the Governor signing the bill.
- The TRIUMPH bill increases the TRIUMPH Board by 2 members. Current TRIUMPH Chairman Bense said that until the 2 new members are appointed the

TRIUMPH Board would not be taking any decisions other than administrative. There is no specific timeline for when the 2 new members would be appointed, but it certainly can't happen until the Governor signs the bill authorizing the 2 additional members. Alan had previously told the Board that the 2 new members would come from Bay, Gulf, Franklin, or Wakulla, but the bill states the 2 new members will come from Walton, Gulf, Franklin, or Wakulla.

- TRIUMPH Board must still hire staff which will take some time.
- The application process and the role of BCCs will be a major agenda item at future meetings. Chairman Bense said that once a project proposal is accepted by TRIUMPH the project does not have to go back to a BCC. Projects can be submitted directly to TRIUMPH or they can be submitted to TRIUMPH and the appropriate BCC. The role of the BCC recommendation is not clear at this time.
- The TRIUMPH bill requires that a minimum of 5% of the \$300M be spent in each county, so at a minimum Franklin County has \$15M reserved for economic development projects in this county.

Chairman Parrish asked where the five present members of the Triumph Board are from. He said there should be equal representation on this Board but one County must have more than one representative. Commissioner Sanders said she is concerned about this representation. Commissioner Lockley asked how people get on the Triumph Board. Mr. Moron stated they are appointed. Chairman Parrish reported the individuals must be from the private sector. Mr. Moron pointed out they are looking for business owners. Chairman Parrish agreed they are looking for business owners that are active in the community.

2- Hurricane Hermine update. The state DEM says FEMA is still reviewing the \$3.5M PW for repairs to Alligator Drive. The Governor's Office is still reviewing the waiver request. No repairs on Alligator Drive can be made until the FEMA review is complete and the funds are obligated, and the county obtains a permit from FDEP as the work is seaward of the CCCL. County staff, including the Road Dept., is aware the road is at great risk of further damage if a storm comes through but the cost of repairs requires that FEMA funds must be available. 3-Remind the Board that until the FEMA PW for repairs to Alligator Drive is approved, the \$4560/month cost of the traffic signals on Alligator Drive is coming out of the Bald Point Trust Fund. The traffic signals have been in place since March 15, and have so far cost the Trust Fund \$10K.

Commissioner Lockley stated this is a lot of money and there is no end in sight. Mr. Moron reported he is also concerned and discussed this matter with Mr. Pierce. Commissioner Sanders stated she is concerned that even if they pave the 1,100 feet, the road is still not wide enough. She explained the County cannot do anything without FEMA approval. Mr. Moron said they may get some money back from FEMA for the traffic lights. **Commissioner Lockley made a motion to send a letter to the Legislative Delegation asking them to contact FEMA about moving faster. Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. Motion carried; 5-0.**

4- Remind Board and public the deadline for submitting RESTORE applications is July 15. Alan will be at the July 18<sup>th</sup> Board meeting to provide the Board with an update of RESTORE applications. The first step after the deadline has closed will be to turn the applications over to DEWBERRY to make sure the applications are complete and eligible for RESTORE funding. The next step will be for the RAC committee to review and rank the applications, and then turn the rankings over to the Board.

The meeting recessed at 9:59 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 10:13 a.m.

### **Lisa Bretz – Area Agency on Aging – Report**

Ms. Bretz presented the Board with a plaque from the Area Agency on Aging Board of Directors in appreciation of the Board's service and commitment to senior services. Chairman Parrish read the inscription on the plaque. Ms. Bretz thanked the Board for their continued support of senior services. Ms. Bretz reported they have a contractor for the lead agency that provides home based services through Community Care for the Elderly, the Alzheimer's Disease Initiative and Home Care for the Elderly. She said it is the same contractor for the home delivery and congregate meals program. She stated Liberty County Senior Citizens is the contractor and lead agency and have the responsibility for coordinating services within the community. She said the number of clients served has not substantially increased. Ms. Bretz pointed out last year clients were not being served under the Alzheimer's Disease Initiative Program and this year there are 3 enrolled but only 1 is active. She said there are 3 additional clients on the waiting list which will be assessed for eligibility and determination of services. She reported they reviewed every file previous contractors had and found many individuals were being over served or inappropriately being served primarily through the meal plan program. Ms. Bretz reported these care plans were adjusted and there are currently 24 active clients in the home delivered meal program throughout the county. She reported the only area they do not have active clients is in Alligator Point. She explained there needs to be a substantial outreach plan and they are working with the contractor to identify target communities. She reported they need to go to these communities and let them know what is available. She said they need to see growth in the waiting list for services. She stated the Governor signed an increase in Community Care for the Elderly and the Alzheimer's Disease Initiative funding but without a waiting list they do not have clients to serve. Ms. Bretz reported they must find the people most frail and in need of services. She explained they have community partners that have helped with these outreach efforts, primarily the Elder Care Community Council (ECCC), a volunteer organization in Eastpoint and Apalachicola. She stated there needs to be coordination between this organization and the lead agency in order to get the plan started. She said the ECCC has been helpful in taking information around about the elder help line. She

reported this line is how individuals will access services, receive information on what the services entail and apply for Medicaid assistance. Ms. Bretz reported they are severely lacking a fund raising plan in the community. She said the contractor is solely relying on the money provided by the County. Ms. Bretz reported they will be working with them on their funding raising plans. Chairman Parrish reported they need the general public and family members to help identify the people and assist them with getting help from the Alzheimer's Disease Initiative. He said there are more than 6 people in the county that need help. He stated these individuals are not able to reach out for themselves so their family members need to contact Ms. Bretz. He asked her to provide her telephone number. Ms. Bretz said the telephone number is 800-963-5337. Chairman Parrish asked the media to publish this information. Ms. Bretz reported the program is designed to help relieve caregivers. She explained if caregivers do not receive respite care then they will decline. Chairman Parrish stated if these caregivers do not take care of themselves then they cannot care for other people. Ms. Bretz said the Alzheimer's project is providing a support group in Apalachicola once or twice a month. She reported they are working with this group to try and plan community day respite in targeted areas of the community. She stated hopefully next year this day respite plan will be implemented. She explained this will be an opportunity for people to come to a center and engage in activities. Ms. Bretz reported in addition to funding going to the Liberty Senior Citizens Association, they have assigned \$6,000 to the Carrabelle location for the Franklin County Senior Center as they provided evidence of a plan of services. She explained the plan did not come forward prior to March and April. Chairman Parrish said the Franklin County Senior Citizens Center was present at the last meeting and the Board is glad she was able to work with them to make sure the dollars are being used properly and efficiently. Ms. Bretz reported the meal site was moved from Holy Family Center to the Armory as they did not think \$1,400 a month rent was an efficient use of County money when they cannot identify the number of seniors being served there. She thanked the Board for their support with this issue. She said they are working with Liberty County Senior Citizens to plan outreach to recruit individuals that would be willing to come to a congregate meal site and hopefully that will be another program they can implement in Apalachicola next year. Commissioner Lockley thanked Ms. Bretz for this assistance. Ms. Bretz thanked the Board for working with them to coordinate services.

#### **Public Hearing – Michael Morón – Freight Logistic Zone Study**

Mr. Moron reported this study was previously addressed but it was done too early so they need to address it again. He reported Mr. Warren Yeager, Restore Coordinator and Economic Development Director for Gulf County, is present and will answer questions. Mr. Moron read the following item:

Board action to approve the Freight Logistics Zone (FLZ) in Franklin County and the associated report. The FLZ is a 5 mile wide corridor along

the Apalachicola Northern Railway (ANR) from its southern terminus in Port St. Joe to a point in Gadsden County near Interstate 10. At Board direction I attended the FLZ Summit in Liberty County last week. The Summit reviewed the FLZ Report, and has asked each county to approve the report and the FLZ in its county.

The approval of the FLZ will allow the FLZ partners to seek funds for improvements in the FLZ. In the case of Franklin County, we would be able to seek funds to extend a rail spur to the airport, or perhaps seek additional funds for improvements at the airport. In the case of Gulf County, which sought the FLZ initially, this will allow Gulf County to seek TRIUMPH funds to assist in the expansion of the Gulf County Port. As the Board might be aware, Gulf County is still short the funds it needs to make the port expansion it desires. The FLZ is a concept approved by FDOT that makes it eligible for funding under certain programs. Liberty County does not have much at this time it needs, but Gadsden County will be using the FLZ status to try to build a connection between the rail line and I-10.

Mr. Moron said after the public hearing he will be asking the Board to approve the FLZ study. He stated Mr. Pierce said nothing has changed since he made this presentation a month ago. Commissioner Sanders stated under Franklin County's allotment for Rail Development/Grants, Apalachicola Northern (AN) Railroad Improvements are \$6 million. She pointed out these areas were not as populated when the railroad was running and now they are populated so she is concerned. She said she would like to hear public comments. Chairman Parrish said the railroad has been there for many years and if it can bring jobs and economic development then it will be good. He explained people who moved into these areas know the railroad line is there although it has been inactive for a number of years. He said the proposal is to try and get the railroad working again and create jobs. Attorney Shuler reported the Board will need to take action as a public hearing is being conducted. Commissioner Lockley stated he will go along with this but he wants to make sure it will not stop Franklin County from pursuing their own project. He questioned if more projects could be done. Chairman Parrish agreed and said the railroad does not serve Apalachicola but there could be jobs obtained from having a port in Gulf County and needing products assembled. He stated the railroad is just another line of transportation. He reported the airport can also be used to fly items in and out but they were also looking at putting in a railroad spur to move items. He stated they are working together to bring economic development to both counties. Chairman Parrish reported Triumph funding is available now so they need to find someone who can come in and bring some jobs. He explained they have money available for the infrastructure and this would just be another way of bringing products in and out. Commissioner Lockley reported he wants it clarified that the County will still be able to do more than just this project. Commissioner Sanders stated the \$6 million is a Legislative appropriation so it is different money. Mr. Yeager

reported there is some confusion on the two different pots of money. He stated the \$6 million was appropriated by the Legislature for the AN rail rehabilitation. He explained they estimated the costs to be \$8 million but the owner of the railroad, Genesee & Wyoming, and the owner of the land, St. Joe Company, will provide the match. He said that funding is completely separate from this plan. He explained when Mr. Chris Holley was Executive Director in Gulf County, they received a DEO grant to initiate this study that establishes the corridor of the AN railroad from Gulf County through Franklin and Liberty all the way to Gadsden County. He stated it is more a tool and not necessarily funding for any one project. He explained if the County has a project within the corridor then it gives them the opportunity to access DOT grant funds to enhance the project. He reported most of the money from the \$6 million allocation will be spent in Franklin County on the trestle that needs repair. Mr. Moron asked how likely Gadsden County is to get the connection between the line and I-10. Mr. Yeager reported Gadsden County is further along in the planning because they have a specific site for a type of inland port. He stated they are trying to use the study to access funds for a specific site and project. Chairman Parrish asked if this site is to receive products that come in on the railroad and then use a distribution center to access I-10. Mr. Yeager agreed they will bring in products and then distribute them from that site in Gadsden County. Commissioner Sanders stated the Board has always supported the port for Gulf County and they have worked together to try and help each other. She explained for many years they were both members of Opportunity Florida trying to do this type of thing. She reported she likes the idea but wants to make sure it does not adversely affect people. Chairman Parrish asked for public comment. There was no public comment. **On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the Freight Logistic Zone study.**

#### **Michael Morón – County Coordinator – Report**

Mr. Moron presented his report:

1. Inform the Board that the County has been Local Agency Program (LAP) Project-specific certified. This means we are LAP certified for the Alligator Drive Multiuse Path Project, the Bayshore Drive Sidewalk Project, and the Tallahassee Street Sidewalk Project only. There are some additional Computer Based Training ( CBT) that Mr. Mark Curenton must complete within 90 days.

Mr. Moron reported Mr. Mark Curenton, County Planner, is the only one in the County including the cities that is LAP certified.

2. Inform the Board that the County received a Consent Order from the Northwest Florida Water Management District. This Consent Order addresses the clearing and disturbance of the wetland located at D. W. Wilson Park without acquiring a proper permit. Attorney Shuler and Mr. Dan Garlick have reviewed this Consent Order and recommend its

approval. Board action to approve and authorize the Chairman's signature on this Consent Order.

**On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the Consent Order from the NFWFMD and authorize the Chairman to sign this Consent Order.**

3. This item was addressed earlier in the meeting.
4. Board action to approve and authorize the Chairman's signature on a Professional Engineering Services Fee Proposal with Barnett Fronczak Barlowe & Shuler Architects. This \$2,875 proposal is for the replacement of the HAVC units on the Courthouse roof that affect the Circuit Judges offices on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor. This fee will be paid from Courthouse Maintenance fund.

Chairman Parrish inquired if once this is done then all the heating and air condition units in the courthouse will be replaced. Mr. Moron answered yes. **Commissioner Sanders made a motion to approve and authorize the Chairman's signature on a Professional Services Fee Proposal. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.** Commissioner Lockley asked if they replaced a unit 2-3 months ago. Mr. Moron stated there are three different projects. He explained they addressed the north side unit and then the south side unit. He reported that was two of the three units on the third floor. He explained the third unit is a separate unit for the judge's offices on the third floor. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

5. Board action to approve and authorize the Chairman's signature on Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Derelict Vessel Removal Settlement Agreement. This agreement is for two vessels removed by the contractor before his agreement was signed. The total amount paid will be \$75,162 of which the State's portion is \$56,371.50 (75%) and the County's portion, which will be paid from the Boating Improvement Fund, is \$18,790.50 (25%).

Mr. Moron stated the contractor started working before the contract was signed so they had to do a separate agreement for those two vessels. Commissioner Lockley asked if the County has their part of the money. Mr. Moron answered yes, from the Boating Improvement Fund. **On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Sanders, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Derelict Vessel Removal Settlement Agreement and authorize the Chairman to sign the agreement.**

Mr. Moron said he thinks they are finished or working on the last boat.

6. Board action authorizing Ms. Deborah Belcher to update the County's Equal Employment Opportunity Plan (EEOP) for the Department of Justice grants. This will be



the third time since 2009 Ms. Belcher is upgrading the County's EEOP. The cost to upgrade this plan will be \$1,200.

**On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize Ms. Deborah Belcher to update the County's Equal Employment Opportunity Plan (EEOP) for the Department of Justice grants.**

7. Board action to approve and authorize the Chairman's signature on a Professional Engineering Services Proposal with Dewberry | Prebble-Rish. This \$3,500 is for the preparation of construction documents for the repairs to the St. George Island Boat Ramp Access Road and will be paid by FEMA. This will be part of the packet submitted to FEMA for the Project Worksheet (PW) for the repair of that road. That total cost for that project is estimated at \$70,000.

Mr. Moron said in talking with Mrs. Brownell and Mr. Pierce this project is ready to go. He explained they were trying to do everything at one time but that is not working out so they can move forward with this project. **On motion by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Sanders, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve a professional services proposal with Dewberry/Preble Rish in the amount of \$3,500 for the preparation of construction documents for the repairs to the St. George Island Boat Ramp Access Road.**

8. Board action to approve and authorize the Chairman's signature on a lease with the Department of the Air Force. This lease is for property within the County's Airport property here in Apalachicola. The term of this lease is for twenty-five years, which includes five renewals, at one dollar per year and is retroactive to July 1, 2008. Provided all renewals are exercised, the lease will end on June 30, 2033. The Board approved a letter of intent to renew on March 7, 2017. Attorney Shuler has reviewed the lease.

Chairman Parrish asked if Attorney Shuler recommends approving this lease. Attorney Shuler informed the Board there is a termination provision of 30 days in this lease. He explained this is the term the Air Force asked for after about an 8 year lapse and it covers that gap. **On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve a lease for twenty five years with the Department of the Air Force and authorize the Chairman's signature on the lease.**

9. The Public Defender has discussed having some renovations made to their building behind the Courthouse. These renovations would include building a wall to enclose a new office and building a handicapped accessible restroom in the building. The wall would be a minor expense, but building an ADA restroom will cost approximately \$20,000, so it will have to be advertised for bids. Plans and specifications need to be prepared for the contractors to bid on. Does the Board want to authorize contacting Doug Shuler, of Barnett Fronczak Barlowe & Shuler Architects, to prepare the necessary bid documents?

Mr. Moron explained if the County wants to build another building later next to this office then they could share this bathroom. Mr. Moron reported the Public Defenders' Office would like this ADA bathroom built on to their building. Commissioner Sanders questioned if it will take \$20,000 to retrofit this bathroom. Mr. Moron said there is not a bathroom in this location. Clerk Johnson stated she met with Mr. Andy Thomas, Public Defender, and Mr. Curenton, and they reviewed the building. She explained they thought this could be done by the county but they did not think it would be this amount of money. She reported they will need to tear out walls and floors to install plumbing. Clerk Johnson stated it was more than they originally thought it would be. Commissioner Sanders asked where the money is coming from. Mr. Moron answered the Building Maintenance Fund. **Commissioner Sanders made a motion to authorize Mr. Shuler to prepare the necessary bid documents. Commissioner Lockley seconded the motion.** Commissioner Lockley asked if they are part of the court system and fine money can be used for this cost. Attorney Shuler advised the Board the building belongs to the County. Clerk Johnson pointed out the County is responsible in the statute for providing facilities for the Public Defender. She reported the Public Defender's Office is also making some improvements and the Court is assisting with security glass so they are also spending some state funds. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

10. The property to the west of Vrooman Park in Eastpoint is currently for sale. Is the Board interested in researching possible funding sources to purchase this property for an expansion of Vrooman Park? If so, I recommend you direct staff to contact Doug Hattaway, with the Trust for Public Lands, to see if he might be able to help the County with this acquisition.

**On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to direct staff to contact Mr. Doug Hattaway about this acquisition.**

11. This item was addressed earlier in the meeting.
12. Inform the Board that The Forgotten Coast Parrot Head Club is holding an event to raise awareness and funds for the Alzheimer's Association. This event called "The Longest Day" will be held on Saturday June 24<sup>th</sup> on St. George Island and is the first of what is planned as an annual event. The event activities which will start at 8 am includes a PHUN Run, a PHUN Walk, beach yoga, a FINS UP! Beach volleyball tournament, and wraps up with a "5 O'Clock Somewhere" party at Doc Myers' Island Pub and Sports Bar. Besides having the organizers of this event coordinate with the Sheriff, are there any additional concerns or requirements the Board would like me to discuss with the event organizers?

Mr. Moron stated this Club approached Commissioner Jones. Commissioner Jones stated he is part of the group. Ms. Mel Kelley, a resident of Carrabelle, said in the presentation from Ms. Bretz they discussed the small number of Alzheimer's patients served. She suggested

coordination between the Agency on the Aging and Liberty County to make sure they are included in a public way at this event and public awareness is made of the programs that are available.

13. Inform the Board that the survey for the public beach access points on the west end of St. George Island have been completed. Commissioner Jones and Mr. Howard Nabors are looking at each of these access points for usability. Display signs for each access point will be ordered and the Road Department is planning on starting the clearing of the usable access points during the upcoming winter season. Is the Board willing to approve a survey of the public beach access points on the east end now so that when the project is started it covers the entire Island?

Commissioner Jones stated of the beach access points they looked at, only one may be unusable because of a marshy area. He reported some of the property owners' fences were on the line but not in the line. **On motion by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to survey the beach access points on the east end of the Islands.**

14. I was informed by Mrs. Lance the Library Director that her Carrabelle part-time employee has resigned effective June 30<sup>th</sup>. As this is a very busy time of year for the Library, especially during the Summer Reading Program, Mrs. Lance would like to advertise for this position as soon as possible. Board action.

**On motion by Commissioner Sanders, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to advertise for a part time employee at the Carrabelle branch.**

15. At the last meeting, the Board asked for a location and contact information for anyone seeking CareerSource Gulf Coast direct services. Their Franklin County office is in Apalachicola at 192 14<sup>th</sup> Street or you can call (850) 653-4981.
16. Inform the Board and the public that USDA Rural Development in partnership with the Franklin County SHIP Program is hosting a Keys to Homeownership – Unlock Your Future workshop. This workshop will be held on June 22<sup>nd</sup> from 10am to 3pm at the Franklin County SHIP office located at 192 14<sup>th</sup> Street in Apalachicola. For more information contact Mrs. Lori Switzer, the Franklin County SHIP Administrator, at (850) 653-8199.
17. Remind the Board that your Ethics Training is this Saturday June 10<sup>th</sup> here in your meeting room. We will start at 8am and should be completed by 12 noon.

Mr. Moron stated Ms. Sharon Stone, Planning & Zoning Department, completed the TDC training and got her certification. He explained Ms. Cheyenne Cruson, Planning &

Zoning Department, completed it at her prior job so both of these employees are certified.

### **Michael Shuler – County Attorney – Report**

Attorney Shuler reported he does not have a report. He reminded the Board an Executive Session will be conducted at 1:15 p.m.

Mrs. Ginger Coulter, Sheriff's Department, presented a handout to the Board. She explained the Sheriff is requesting to keep the revenue from these items. She reported it has a detailed list of the vehicles that were auctioned off and the weapons that were sold. She stated all of these items are one time purchases so they will not be asking for this money again next year. She said this is not ad valorem but revenue they received from reimbursements. She stated two vehicles were wrecked and the insurance sent money so they purchased more cars. She referenced the handout which detailed the revenues they are interested in keeping. Mrs. Coulter reported they have made a lot of improvements and purchased new air conditioners and cars. She said radars have been installed in the cars and AED's were purchased for the vehicles. **Commissioner Lockley made a motion to approve these items.** Mrs. Coulter stated they are still waiting for them to come get the Mustang and they are coming today for some of the other cars. She explained most are forfeited or seized vehicles but there are a few county vehicles. **Commissioner Massey seconded the motion. Motion carried; 5-0.**

### **Commissioners' & Public Comments**

Commissioner Lockley asked for information about the USDA. Mr. Moron said a USDA workshop will be conducted and the County's part is providing an area to hold the meeting. He said he will contact the USDA and get information. Chairman Parrish asked if they are providing funds for home ownership. Commissioner Jones reported SHIP can help provide money for down payment for first time homeowners but they must take a course to be eligible. Mr. Moron stated the USDA has more money and they are able to work on mobile homes. He explained SHIP could not work on mobile homes. He stated sometimes they can partner with SHIP so the money goes further. He said he will get more information about what the workshop is about. Commissioner Lockley reported he would like to attend this workshop as he is getting a lot of calls. Mr. Moron stated Mrs. Lori Switzer, SHIP, said they are almost out of down payment assistance funds for this budget year. Chairman Parrish reported they do not want to get into the same situation as last year when the County had to help this program.

### **Public Hearing – Ordinance – Temporary Moratorium on Metal Residential Buildings**

Attorney Shuler said this public hearing is to consider a 6 month moratorium on the use of metal buildings as residential dwellings. He inquired if the Board has any questions

before they proceed. Commissioner Jones reported this ordinance applies to metal buildings as residential units but the whole building being metal. Attorney Shuler said yes, metal roofs with a lower pitch than residential roofs, metal siding and commercial and industrial looking structures. Commissioner Massey said this does not have anything to do with pole barn houses. Attorney Shuler answered no, this does not prevent the use of metal structures being used as storage buildings and not as residential buildings. He went on to say it also does not prohibit the use of mobile homes in properly zoned areas. Mr. Moron stated there was a lot of confusion and he is glad this was clarified as individuals thought they could not place storage buildings on their property. Attorney Shuler said it is embedded within the proposed ordinance that storage buildings are not prohibited, only metal buildings being used as residential dwellings. He discussed the 4,000 sq. ft. building that started this discussion which was very commercial, industrial structure in a residential area. He explained only 1,000 sq. ft. of this structure was going to be built as a residence and the rest was going to be used for storage. Attorney Shuler reported the County does not have any regulations presently that allow the Board to regulate these items. He explained the purpose of the moratorium is to allow the Planning & Zoning Commission an opportunity to have public meetings and hold public workshops to develop some proposed regulations with his assistance and the assistance of an architect. He stated these regulations will then be presented to the Board for their consideration. Attorney Shuler reported the regulations can be adopted to govern how metal buildings can be used as residential dwellings moving forward. Commissioner Lockley said the city has some of these buildings like the laundromat. Attorney Shuler stated the Ordinance was drafted to be countywide and will apply to the cities as well as the unincorporated areas of the county. He explained if the City does not want to be bound by this ordinance then they can adopt their own ordinance. He reported if the will of the Board is to only affect the unincorporated areas then he can change the ordinance. Commissioner Jones said this is not the same thing as Commissioner Lockley was talking about as it is a business with a residence that would not be zoned R-1. He said the Board is looking at metal buildings in residential districts. Attorney Shuler stated as far as the County's zoning is concerned, this will include the C-4 district. He explained the Board's direction was no residential use of metal buildings in the county during the moratorium period. He said the County has a C-4 zoning category and if he had not included it within the ordinance, it would have been a varying exception. He explained any of the zoning categories that authorize residential dwelling including C-4 will be covered in this ordinance. Chairman Parrish called for public comment. There was no public comment. Attorney Shuler stated the Planning & Zoning Commission will have their first public workshop at their June meeting. He said he attended the May meeting of the Planning & Zoning Commission and advised them to locate the services of an architect to give them advice on how to prepare the standards for the Board to consider adopting. He said the options are to ban it completely or regulate it. He reported the Planning & Zoning Commission needs the professional assistance of an architect. Attorney Shuler recommended the Board take action to adopt the moratorium and it will be in effect for

a six month period. **On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to adopt the Ordinance.**

### **Commissioners' & Public Comments**

Commissioner Massey asked if Bluff Road has an ordinance prohibiting driving golf carts. Attorney Shuler answered yes, and said it is a City of Apalachicola Ordinance. Commissioner Massey asked if you can drive golf carts outside of the city limits. Attorney Shuler said not at this time as the Board has instructed him to, with the assistance of an engineer, develop a golf cart ordinance countywide to bring back to the Board for consideration. He explained they are not ready to make a recommendation at this time because they have not completed a traffic safety study. Commissioner Lockley asked how long this will take. Attorney Shuler was not sure as the first thing that is needed, especially for Alligator Drive and Bluff Road, is a traffic safety study which the engineer is working on. He said he does not have a timeline but it is being worked on. Ms. Bonnie Stelzenmuller, a resident of Alligator Point, said she is one of the 70+ property owners on Alligator Point that has a golf cart. She recognized the other golf cart owners from Alligator Point who also came over to attend the meeting. She stated they are very interested in having a golf cart ordinance passed. She expressed appreciation to Attorney Shuler for all the work that is being done and said they recognize this will take some time. She stated they look forward to legally driving their golf carts again. Ms. Stelzenmuller said golf carts enhance their standard of living and they miss being able to drive their golf carts. She said traditionally their 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade has included golf carts and they would like to include golf carts this year if it is possible. Ms. Stelzenmuller explained they understand the liability issues but they would like to request a temporary ordinance while the County is working on this issue, to allow them to drive their golf carts on Alligator Point and if that is not possible then a waiver for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade. Attorney Shuler said he does not recommend either action. He said the County must proceed cautiously as they are required as a County on any of the county roads to make a determination that the use of golf carts on the roads is safe and right now there is no study from a traffic engineer indicating it is either safe or unsafe. He explained the Board does not have the information necessary to make a safety determination, which is something they are statutorily required to do. He said the two roads mentioned Bluff Road and Alligator Drive have features that are very much in common with the 12<sup>th</sup> Street Ordinance that is within the boundaries of the City of Apalachicola and also on Gulf Shore Blvd. on St. George Island. He explained the volume and speed of traffic on these roads is such that the County and the City have both made a determination that golf carts are to be banned in these areas. He stated at Alligator Point and that portion of 12<sup>th</sup> Street that is in the unincorporated area, the County has similar problems with speed and volume of traffic is such that it appears to be unsafe even though the speed limit is 35 mph on the majority of the roads. Attorney Shuler explained there is no quick fix available and no temporary permission can be

granted because of the safety factor and the Board does not have the necessary information available from a traffic safety study to make this determination. Chairman Parrish asked if they previously had 4<sup>th</sup> of July parades. Ms. Stelzenmuller answered every year. Chairman Parrish stated the Board has never allowed or stopped the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade at Alligator Point. He stated they have heard Attorney Shuler's recommendation. He reported the Board has never allowed or stopped anyone from riding a golf cart on Alligator Point or Bluff Road. He reported the Board is looking at what they need to do as far as liability and the Board's number one goal is protection of the public health, safety and welfare. He referenced a golf cart accident on St. George Island where one person was killed and one injured. He said the Board is waiting on a recommendation from Attorney Shuler and the traffic safety study. Mr. Ken Clizbe, a resident of Alligator Point, brought into discussion the safety of the citizens on the road at Alligator Point. He asked if the Commissioners were aware there was an accident on this road last Thursday and a power pole was knocked down and there were minor injuries. He said the Board needs to address all these safety issues because the road is in terrible condition.

### **Adjourn**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:13 a.m.

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Joseph A. Parrish - Chairman

Attest:

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Marcia M. Johnson - Clerk of Courts