

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
CITY OF CARRABELLE ANNEX – CITY COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
DECEMBER 19, 2017
9:00 AM
MINUTES**

Commissioners Present: Joseph Parrish – Chairman, Cheryl Sanders, William Massey, Ricky Jones

Others Present: Michael Moron-County Coordinator, Alan Pierce-Restore 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 meeting held on December 5, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.

Payment of County Bills

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

Department Directors Report

Howard Nabors – Superintendent of Public Works

Mr. Nabors stated the Road Department is continuing to fix the shoulders of the roads and working on intersections throughout the county. He reported for the holidays the Road Department will be closed Thursday, Monday and Tuesday. Commissioner Sanders asked when they are closed for New Years. Mr. Nabors responded Monday.

Fonda Davis – Solid Waste Director

Mr. Davis presented his report, as follows:

Girl Scouts of the Florida Panhandle – Currently there are no Girl Scout Troops in Franklin County. Franklin County Parks & Recreation would like to partnership with Girls Scouts of the Florida Panhandle to help form one within our community. The program is designed to help young girls in decision making, people skills, & goal settings, while having fun and making life long memories. Membership for volunteers and girls is \$25 each. Attached is a flyer and additional contact information for Keyana N. Floyd, Recruitment and Outreach Specialist.

FOR BOARD INFORMATION:

Mr. Davis stated the Girl Scouts may need help with uniforms.

GO! MOBILE GYMNASTICS – Amy Seligson in conjunction with the Parks & Recreation Department, will be providing an enrichment gymnastics program for children of Franklin County. Classes are thirty-five-minute-long, for both boys and girls ages 3 to 10 years old. Registration will begin in January and the registration fee is \$60 per child. Attached is a registration form and additional information about the Go Mobile Gymnastic Program.

FOR BOARD INFORMATION:

Mr. Davis reported Mrs. Amy Seligson, Go! Mobile Gymnastics, is present. Mr. Davis explained people in the community were interested in gymnastics and Mrs. Seligson contacted him and would like to use the county facilities such as the Armory, ball fields and tennis courts for her classes. He asked the Board to authorize Attorney Shuler to look into the liability issues.

Commissioner Massey made a motion to authorize Attorney Shuler to look into the liability issues. Mrs. Seligson said she is the owner of Go! Mobile Gymnastics, LLC and has been involved in gymnastics since she was 10. She reported she started coaching gymnastics when she was 20 years old and has coached in Michigan and Chicago. She said her family has just moved to the area and her husband is a school teacher at Franklin County Schools. Mrs. Seligson said she realized there is a need for gymnastics here and there are no classes locally so she started this company. She explained the equipment can be put up and taken down in 30 minutes. She said each class is 35 minutes long and there will be up to 7 students in each class. Commissioner Sanders asked if her company is for-profit. Ms. Amy answered yes, and said the registration fee is \$60 for a 7 week session and the classes meet once a week. Mr. Moron discussed the Armory rental fee of \$250 a day or \$600 for a weekend plus taxes. He suggested if the Board allows Mrs. Seligson to use the Armory, they amend the motion to include an hourly rental fee with the restriction as long as the program is related to the Parks & Recreation Department. He said this is needed as he has no other rental options available if she chooses the Armory. Commissioner Sanders stated as a general rule the county works with non-profit entities. She said she does not have a problem with Attorney Shuler looking into this matter. She stated she is for a gymnastics program but she is concerned the Board's action would set a

precedent. Chairman Parrish agreed and said everyone must be treated the same and if they make an exception for gymnastics then the exception needs to be for everyone. He stated he is also in favor of the gymnastics program. He explained when they designated the Armory as the Convention Center, the Board said there would be no exceptions and they have turned down other requests. He commented if they allow someone to use the facility for free then it will put staff in a bad position as there are procedures and policies in place for rental. Chairman Parrish stated he will not vote for the gymnastics program to use the Armory and would like for them to find another place to conduct the program. He reported the Board cannot make an exception for one activity and not everything else. Commissioner Sanders agreed it took a long time to get a plan for the Armory and they agreed there would be no exceptions. Commissioner Massey asked if the County has another building. Mr. Davis stated the county does not have another building but they could use the baseball/football complex. Chairman Parrish said he does not have a problem with that area because it is different but there may be a liability issue. **Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.** Commissioner Jones suggested Mrs. Seligson check with The Matchbox as it is a public/ private partnership. He said the facilities have been completely redone except for the roof. He said they received \$50,000 in funds last year from the State Legislature. **Motion carried; 4-0.**

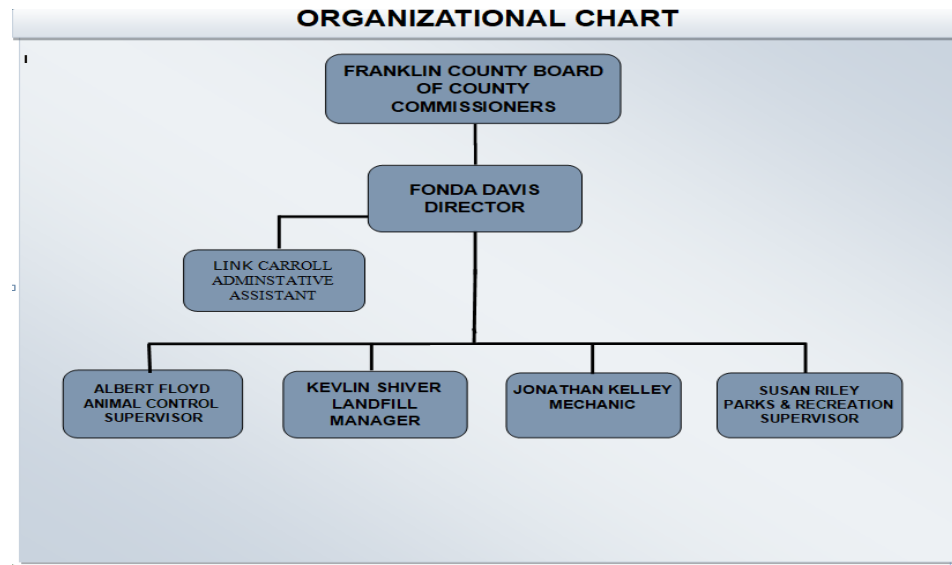
Waste Management Disposal Service Agreement - Ronnie Bell, Manager with Waste Management is here today with the Disposal Service Agreement to be signed by the Chairman. **BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: Board Approval to authorize Chairman's Signature.**

Mr. Davis said Attorney Shuler has looked over the contract. Chairman Parrish stated this contract is for transporting the trash to the Springhill Landfill. Commissioner Sanders asked how much the contract is for. Mr. Davis answered \$17 per ton. **Commissioner Sanders made a motion to approve the Disposal Service Agreement. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.** Commissioner Sanders thanked Mr. Bell for years of working with the county. Mr. Bell stated Attorney Shuler and Mr. Davis do a good job for the county. He said it has never taken them this long to get a contract completed but Attorney Shuler did a good job for the county. Commissioner Sanders stated the attorney's job is to protect the Board at all costs because when you protect the Board you protect the people. **Motion carried; 4-0.**

Restructuring of Current Employee & Request for New Hire Position:
At the October 17th Board meeting, Commissioners gave instruction to provide more Department restructuring information of current employees. Provided is a recommended Organizational Chart for all current Departments under my direct supervision. Each Department has grown tremendously with additional duties and responsibilities. Parks & Recreation has added additional restrooms, Armory Fire Watch and the Beach Warning Flags. Animal Control has added the Roadside Enforcement of the new litter ordinance with no additional staff and Solid Waste & Recycling Department has added the Household Waste Transfer Station. These restructuring

changes will better serve the Departments and residents of Franklin County. I am requesting Board approval to fill the vacant position that is currently allocated in my budget and I would like to hire one new entry level employee to run the scales, at the starting pay of \$25,000. I would also like to restructure the current Scale House Operator position to an Administrative Assistant, to do more administrative duties.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: Board Approval to fill one new entry level Position.



Commissioner Sanders stated the Board had a study done a few years ago about organizational charts and who completes each job. She reported the Board needs to look at that study and approve something because if it had been approved then this would not have come up and would have just been automatic. Commissioner Sanders said in the new year the Board needs to look at the wage and earnings study and the promotions study that was done and see if they need to be approved. She stated she does not have a problem with this request as Mr. Davis knows how to run his department. Chairman Parrish said he agrees with the restructuring because as more duties come up Mr. Davis will need help with the paperwork. **On motion by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to restructure the Scale House Operator position to an Administrative Assistant and hire one new entry level employee to run the scales.**

Construction and Demolition Tipping Fee Increase. With the added expense of the new Transfer Station on October 1st the Construction and Demolition Tipping Fees need to be increased.

FOR BOARD ACTION: Motion to increase Construction Demolition Tipping Fees from \$45.00 Per Ton to \$65.00 Per Ton to offset expenses to operate new Transfer Station.

Commissioner Sanders made a motion to increase the Construction & Demolition tipping fees from \$45.00 per ton to \$65.00 per ton. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.

Commissioner Sanders reported this is needed to take care of the expense of the transfer station since Waste Management will no longer operate it. Commissioner Jones stated there has also been a problem with people bringing in debris from other counties because the disposal fee is cheap. Mr. Davis stated this increase must be advertised for 2 weeks. Mr. Pierce pointed out the new fee may need to start after January 1st because of the advertising. He suggested the Board consider setting the start date on February 1st. **Commissioner Sanders amended her motion to set the effective date at February 1st. Commissioner Jones amended his second. Motion carried; 4-0.**

Mr. Davis stated they will work half a crew on Friday and a half a crew on Wednesday for the holidays and take Monday off for New Years so they do not shut down from Friday to Wednesday.

Commissioner Jones stated the County needs to update some of the verbiage on the sign at the Pavilion in Eastpoint. He explained the whole ordinance cannot be placed on the sign but there are some things that were left out. He reported the general public does not understand how the land was purchased and that the County cannot allow a commercial venture at this location. He said it is not the county's job and they should not be liable for a place for commercial seafood. He stated individuals can unload and load but cannot leave their boats there. Commissioner Jones explained there is something in the ordinance about enforcement but the Sheriff has not addressed it yet. He reported if the verbiage is changed then the Sheriff will have what he needs to enforce the ordinance. He explained several times elderly people have needed to use the area to get off of boats and they could not use the dock because boats were all around.

Commissioner Sanders stated since Ms. Link Carroll is going to be the Administrative Assistant; she would like her to look into tournaments in Franklin County again. Mr. Davis reported Mr. Jeff Faircloth called to see if they were interested in tournaments. Commissioner Sanders stated she would also like to look into how they can expand Kendrick Park to make it a more user friendly park with more things to do. She reported some of the items at the park also need to be upgraded. She discussed a problem that occurred with the Buck O'Neal monument and how the area was concreted over and the flowers were removed. She stated now that it has concrete, flowers cannot be planted and it was designed for flowers. She expressed concern that no one discussed this matter with her. Mr. Davis apologized for not contacting Commissioner Sanders about the memorial but said they were receiving complaints about children throwing rocks. Commissioner Sanders stated it would look better if some brick pavers were placed in this area. She requested Mr. Davis look at expanding Kendrick Park as it consists of 90 acres and they are only partially using the complex. She said one of her visions was to have grand stands and have a World Series there one day. She reported the County has the land and they need to do anything they can to bring people in and showcase what the County has to offer. Commissioner Jones volunteered to help when they have tournaments.

Mr. Davis stated Mr. William Key, Animal Control Department, mentioned he may be retiring in March and he will let the Board know when he has more information.

Mr. Moron read the following item from his report:

6. I was notified by Weems staff that it has become necessary to look for a new location to house the ambulance service on the eastern end of the County. Weems staff asked about the old Carrabelle Annex location also known as the old FDOT yard. Currently that location is used by Parks and Recreation for storage and restroom facilities. Mr. Craig Gibson and I met at that location on Wednesday December 13th so that he can determine if the location would meet their needs. Based on his first assessment, Mr. Gibson stated that with some small renovation projects that location would be good for housing the ambulance service. There will be enough space to co-locate with Parks and Recreation and Weems will be responsible for all utilities. Board action to allow Weems to use this location to house the ambulance service.

Mr. Moron said Weems will be responsible for all the utilities except the line for the time clock. Commissioner Sanders stated this area is before Island View Park and is a bad area because of the curves in the road. She reported there is one blinking light there but if the ambulance is located there, the County needs to request the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to install two blinking lights on the pole so people know an ambulance could come out onto the highway. **Commissioner Sanders made a motion to approve the Ambulance Service moving to the old Carrabelle Annex location contingent upon Mr. Moron and Attorney Shuler working out the details.** Commissioner Massey asked if this will cause a problem for the Parks & Recreation Department and if they can still use the building. Mr. Davis said it will not affect the Parks & Recreation Department. Mr. Moron commented the equipment has been switched to another room and the time clock will stay where it is. He stated there are also two bathrooms in the building. Commissioner Sanders said to make it clear to the ambulance service that the Parks & Recreation Department is still using the building too. Mr. Moron stated they are aware of this. **Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.** Chairman Parrish agreed the proper signage and lights are needed in this area so people will know the ambulance may be coming out. Mr. Moron said typically the lights will blink faster when the ambulance is pulling onto the highway. **Motion carried; 4-0.**

Mr. Moron presented Item #9 from his report:

9. Commissioner Jones asked that I research the hiring and pay history for the mechanics at the County's maintenance garage. Based on information from the Finance Office, both Mr. 'Rusty' Putnal and Mr. Leonard Brannan both received \$26,160.00 as their starting pay as mechanics in 2002. Mr. Putnal was promoted from a County base salary position, \$16,952, and Mr. Brannan was hired as a mechanic. In 2013 Mr. Brannan suffered a work-related injury and Mr. Jonathan

Kelley was asked to temporarily fill that position and was given a \$4,150 increase. Mr. Brannan retired without returning to work and Mr. Kelley's position became permanent with no further discussion about changes to his salary. If you take into consideration the cost of living increases between Mr. Putnal's hire date and Mr. Kelley's hire date, Mr. Brannan's salary when he retired in 2013, which was \$36,860, Mr. Kelley's years of service and the added responsibility of maintaining the transfer station, an increase of \$2,927 would be a fair amount to get his wages in line with the other mechanic, whose salary is now \$6,827 more than Mr. Kelley's salary. Board discussion and action.

Chairman Parrish stated giving the \$2,927 will still not be as much as Mr. Putnal's salary because Mr. Putnal has been with the county longer. Commissioner Sanders said Mr. Putnal is also certified. Chairman Parrish asked Mr. Davis how Mr. Kelley is performing. Mr. Davis stated he is doing an outstanding job and he wishes the increase could be more. He explained it would have cost a lot of money to send the knuckle boom truck to Tallahassee when it was broken but Mr. Kelley repaired the truck and saved the county from spending the money. Commissioner Sanders asked if he is a Certified Diesel Mechanic. Mr. Davis answered no. Commissioner Sanders said he needs to get his certification. She said Mr. Putnal has been there a long time and is a Certified Diesel Mechanic. She reported Mr. Kelley needs to get his certification if he wants to move up. She explained on some of the equipment if anyone other than a Certified Diesel Mechanic works on it, the warranty goes away. Commissioner Sanders stated it would be in the county's best interest and Mr. Kelley's if he got certified. She reported Mr. Putnal was certified when he came to work for the county. She asked Mr. Moron to encourage him to get this certification and then his salary could be increased. Chairman Parrish asked if she is suggesting the County pay for his school to get certified. Commissioner Sanders stated the County paid for Mr. Brannan's classes. Chairman Parrish reported if they pay for his schooling then they need some commitment that he will stay employed with the county. He suggested some kind of mandatory amount of years of county employment in exchange for providing the education. Commissioner Sanders said it is an incentive to do better.

Commissioner Sanders made a motion to go ahead and give the increase of \$2,927 to Mr. Jonathan Kelley. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Commissioner Sanders stated the option for certification can be presented to Mr. Kelley and the Board can discuss it at another meeting. Chairman Parrish asked Attorney Shuler to look into the number of years the county could require if they pay for his education. **Motion carried; 4-0.** Commissioner Massey said there is a Caterpillar school in Jacksonville. Commissioner Jones questioned if they are talking about Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) certification. He explained ASE is the national standard and they have certifications for parts, automotive and diesel. Commissioner Sanders stated Mr. Putnal was already a Certified Diesel Mechanic with the Division of Forestry when he came to work for the county. Commissioner Jones said he may have some information that could help Mr. Kelley.

Pam Brownell – Emergency Management Director

Mrs. Brownell appeared before the Board but did not have any action items.

Action Items:

NONE

Information Items:

1. Franklin County EOC Staff continue to promote our Re-Entry Tag program and encourage all residents to apply for their Re-Entry Tag.
2. EOC Staff is updating our Special Needs Database to verify current information of our Special Needs Residents.
3. 12/14/17 EOC Staff attended the Region 2 Meeting in Dixie County.

Mrs. Brownell reported her staff will be off work on Friday, Monday and Tuesday.

Erik Lovstrand – Extension Office Director

Mr. Lovstrand appeared before the Board but did not have any additional items.

County Extension Activities December 6 – December 19, 2017

General Extension Activities:

- Extension Staff assisted local citizens regarding invasive weeds, thinning oak trees, sea turtle lighting, publications, soil tests, bears damaging palm trees, and other topics.

Sea Grant Extension:

- Executed year-4 amendment for Franklin County sea turtle lighting project budget.
- Extension Director participated in the weekly planning calls for the Dark Skies turtle lighting project.
- Extension Director participated in planning meeting regarding a project across the Northern Gulf of Mexico to document occurrence of Mangroves moving northward.

4-H Youth Development:

- One new adult leader completed Volunteer requirements to be able to assist with a 4-H Club.
- A new 4-H Club has been chartered in Apalachicola with 7 teens attending their first meeting. They are developing local 4-H project ideas and plans.
- Planning is underway for next year's 4-H Teen Retreat weekend workshop.

Family Consumer Sciences:

- Kayle Mears was hired by FNP Grant Administrators as the new Family Nutrition Program Assistant and is continuing her introductory training to begin nutrition programming in local schools where Heather Henderson left off. Heather provided an outstanding 3-years of work in getting the Family Nutrition Program established in Franklin County and has left the job to complete her full-time clinical requirements for her MS Degree in Speech Language Pathology. We wish her the best of luck in her career development.

Lisa Lance – Library Director

Mrs. Lance offered her report, as follows:

- The Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol, was performed by Hampstead Stage for the Library and was held at the Rio Carrabelle on Dec 2. A great performance, some children was introduced to live theater and was able to participate. We want to thank Bo May and Rob Powis for working with us allowing us the use of the Rio Carrabelle. It was a great venue for this event.
- Library Director attended Wilderness Coast (WILD) Directors Meeting, Dec. 6 and WILD Board Meeting, Dec 11, both in Crawfordville.
- Eastpoint Flag Ceremony was held on Pearl Harbor Day, Dec 7 to raise our new flag. Despite terrible weather, and the inability to raise the flag in the rain, and having to move the event indoors – it was still a success. The flag and pole was donated by Woodmen Life. Thanks to all who attended and all those who spoke and participated including the Tyndall AFB Honor Guard, Panama City who, Presented the Colors, Tony Partington who sang the National Anthem, and to Tom Loughridge who led the Pledge of Allegiance. Additional thanks to Mayor Brenda LaPaz' and her husband, Greg for attending and to Greg who videoed the event and it is posted on Youtube at Carrabelle, Florida Sea for Yourself at:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=61KgO0xiqLo&t=7s>
- Additional thanks to Carrabelle Mayor Brenda LaPaz who was instrumental in getting the trees on the eastside of the Carrabelle Branch parking lot trimmed back for the street light to be visible to help make the parking lot more secure. Thank you to the City staff and workers who completed this project.
- Music as a Second Language 2018 interviews are being conducted, 15 complete at this time. The MSL 2018 Session will begin mid January.
- A Children's Christmas Party was held last week on Wednesday at the Carrabelle Branch with Santa stopping by to pick up some reindeer food that the children had made and he had a few goodies to share.
- The Polar Express Party was held on Friday at the Carrabelle Branch with the reading of the story by volunteer Judi Ring and the movie was shown afterward to bring the story to life.
- The Eastpoint Branch will host The Polar Express Party this Thursday, Dec 21 at 3:00 pm. After the reading of the Polar Express by Mary Lou Short, we will watch the story come alive as we show the movie.
- **Final event of the year.** Animal Tales, The Holiday Safari will be coming to town on Friday Dec. 22. Eastpoint at 3:00 and Carrabelle are scheduled for 5:00 pm. All ages are welcome.
- No Children's programs the week of Christmas. The Library will be closed Dec. 25 and Dec. 26
- The Basics of Better Living, monthly classes provided by the Wakulla (UF/IFAS) Extension office, next events are at Carrabelle, January 5 at 1:30, Eastpoint, Jan 26 at 1:30 - Topic is: Creating a Spending Plan That Works!
- Monthly Gardening Program: Next scheduled, Jan 9 at 1:30 at the Eastpoint Branch, Topic = Container Gardening
- FCPL is partnering with the Extension Office to be a host site for the **Franklin County Master Gardeners** program. The program will be offered beginning January 19, 2018 for the 15 weekly classes. There are additional requirements for the program and a \$75 cost for materials. Deadline to register is Jan 16. Contact either library for more information. We need a few more to want to join the program, as 10

participants are needed to qualify FC for the program. The program has been completed in Gulf and Wakulla County.

- The Diabetes Workshops are held the 2nd Monday each month in Eastpoint, next event, Jan. 8 from 4:30-5:30 pm. This will be the fourth class. Consulting Nutritionist & Diabetes Educator Suzanne Laws facilitating the program.

Mr. Moron presented Item #8 from his report, as follows:

8. Mrs. Lisa Lance, Director of Library Services, informed me that the constant trips between Carrabelle and Eastpoint, sometimes multiple daily trips, are adding a lot of mileage to her personal vehicle. There aren't adequate funds in the Library budget to purchase a new or used vehicle; however there is a 2004 Chevrolet Cavalier, transferred to the County office from the Property Appraiser, that I was planning to send to auction. Mrs. Lance could use this vehicle for travel within the County. I have sent this vehicle to the County's maintenance garage for servicing. If the Board approves this transfer, insurance and maintenance will be paid from the Library's budget. Board action to authorize transferring this vehicle to the Library.

Commissioner Sanders questioned if the cost of insurance will come out of the library budget. Mrs. Lance answered yes; she has the money because some items were reclassified. **On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize transferring the 2004 Chevrolet Cavalier to the Library.**

The meeting recessed at 9:50 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 10:00 a.m.

Curt Blair – TDC – Report

Mr. Blair appeared before the Board and presented his report:

Numbers : (Attached)

- Collections – The final collections numbers have come in for the 2016-17 fiscal year. We collected \$90,214.19 during the month of September which is the highest September yet and \$8,344 more than September last year. This brings our total collections for the fiscal year at \$1,250,695.82. This is a total increase for the year of \$48,401 or 4% over the previous fiscal year.

We are pleased to have reached the 4% figure which is greater than the statewide collections for the year which came in a little over 3%. This despite the issues about weather that we experienced this summer.

Visit Florida:

I am happy to report that we distributed our end of year financials to the Speakers office two weeks ago. In addition, our discussions with Visit Florida over the last several months have been very productive. In addition to the normal benefits associated with partnership we have

received commitments from Visit Florida to fund our promotional efforts to the US 98 Old Florida Coastal Trail project. In addition, we are working on a cooperative arrangement with VF to work with our lodging companies to participate in joint marketing for our lodging companies that advertise out of the area. We will be doing a joint travel writer visit in September as one of the items requested from our lodging companies. I am recommending that we rejoin Visit Florida at this time.

Mr. Blair stated they plan to renew their partnership with Visit Florida very quickly.

Bi-annual Plan: (Attached)

Each year we are required under statute to prepare a bi-annual plan detailing our marketing proposals and expenditures. This plan must be adopted by ordinance. I have attached a draft to your packet. We will be requesting that you authorize a public hearing on the ordinance.

Bi annual tourist development plan. Board will consider in January. When comes to the board must be adopted in the form of an ordinance. Need to ask him to prepare the ordinance for the next meeting.

On motion by Commissioner Sanders, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to ask Attorney Shuler to meet with Mr. Blair about this matter and come back with something for the Board and to authorize Attorney Shuler to schedule the public hearing on the ordinance.

On behalf of the TDC Board I want to wish you Merry Christmas, Great Hunting and Happy New Year.

The next meeting of the Franklin County TDC will be held on Wednesday January 10, 2018 at 2:00 P.M. at the Eastpoint Visitor Center.

Amy Ham-Kelly – Planning & Zoning – Report

Mrs. Kelly presented the following items:

1. **RECOMMENDED APPROVAL: (Unanimous)** Consideration of a request to construct a Single Family Residential Dock located at Lot 10, Block 81, Unit 5, also known as 319 Sawyer Street, St. George Island, Franklin County Florida. The proposed dock will be 19' x 8', with a 10' x 12' terminus, and (2) covered 26' x 4' Boatlifts. Customer has their DEP and COE permits. Requested submitted by Garlick Environmental Associates, Inc. agent for Harold Bennett, applicant. (Proposed House)

Mrs. Kelly presented a map of the area. Commissioner Sanders asked if the proposed plans for the house have been submitted. Mrs. Kelly answered no, but said they do have room on the property for the house. Commissioner Sanders questioned if there is a system to monitor the house. Mrs. Kelly responded they do not have a system in place but once they issue the permit for the dock they will have it in the computer. She reported there is no time frame in the

ordinance for the house construction. Commissioner Jones said the picture shows a dock already there. Mrs. Kelly stated they are replacing the existing dock but there will be a new configuration. She reported they are removing the old dock and replacing it with a new dock. Commissioner Sanders asked if the dock will go out further than the existing dock. Mrs. Kelly answered yes, a little more but it does not exceed 25% of the canal width. **Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve this request. Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion.** Mrs. Kelly stated there will be two covered boat lifts that are 26' X 14'. **Motion carried; 4-0.**

2. **RECOMMENDED APPROVAL: (Unanimous)** Consideration of a request to construct a Single Family Residential Dock located at Lot 11, Block 81, Unit 5, also known as 315 East Sawyer Street, St. George Island, Franklin County Florida. The proposed dock will be 11' x 8', with a 12' x 31' terminus, and (1) covered 31' x 14' boatlift. Customer has their DEP and COE permits. Requested submitted by Garlick Environmental Associates, Inc. agent for Harold Bennett, applicant. (Proposed House)

Mrs. Kelly provided a map of the area. Mrs. Kelly said this request is on the neighboring lot to the property addressed in Item #1. She stated she will contact them about the 25' road setback on Porter Street because they are showing a proposed 10 ft. setback. **Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve this request contingent upon Mrs. Kelly's comments and straightening out the road setback. Commissioner Massey seconded the motion. Motion carried; 4-0.**

Mr. Moron presented Item #14 from his report:

1. Inform the Board that Building Permit Public Portal is now active on the County's website. This Portal will allow contractors, homeowners, and the general public to view information on all Franklin County building permits and associated inspections. Staff will hold a public workshop sometime in January and March for contractors and the general public to explain the best use of the portal.

Mr. Moron and Mrs. Kelly provided a demonstration of this program on the computer. Mr. Moron explained a public workshop will be held with the contractors and the public to allow for comments on the program. He said with this program anyone can access the permits and inspection reports. Commissioner Massey asked if it will show when the Building Inspector is present on the job. Mr. Moron reported that will be the next step when the County Building Inspector will have a portal and he can take an IPAD and run a report of all the inspections he needs to complete. He stated the Building Inspector will then enter the information on the IPAD when he completes the inspections and it will automatically enter into the system. He went on to say the County Building Inspector will be able to email Duke Energy from his IPAD and let them know when an electrical inspection has been done and a green sticker has been placed on the site. Commissioner Massey said they are still having a problem with the Building Inspector for the City of Carrabelle. Mr. Moron explained the inspections will also be time

stamped. Commissioner Sanders stated the benefit of this program is people will be able to go on the website and do not have to call the Planning & Zoning Office. Mr. Moron said the system is cloud based and will update immediately but this system will also have a local backup. He reported he will encourage Mrs. Virginia Messer at the Road Department to switch to this system. He said the Armory calendar will also be posted on the website. Commissioner Sanders thanked Mr. Moron and said this is a good tool to have.

Commissioner Sanders discussed lots being for sale east of Gray Eagle on the water side. She explained sometimes land is added from the south side and north side to have enough land to build a house on. Mrs. Kelly said she also noticed this and pulled over and looked at the information. She explained sometimes they put the signs on the water side to get attention and sometimes the signs are on both sides of the road. Commissioner Sanders said it was determined that these lots are unbuildable. Commissioner Jones said he also noticed the signs. Mrs. Kelly explained sometimes people come into the office and they do measurements of the lots because some lots are unbuildable. Mr. Pierce reported the City of St. George in the Yellow Hill area has platted lots that are lots of record that they honor but they superimpose the 1 acre requirement so lots have to be combined to meet the requirement. Commissioner Sanders stated around Royal Bluff and Yellow Hill it is okay because they have enough land.

Marcia M. Johnson – Clerk of Courts – Report

Clerk Johnson did not have a report at this time.

Alan Pierce – RESTORE Coordinator – Report

Mr. Pierce read his report for the Board, as follows:

- 1- Board direction on letters regarding future Bay management. After extensive discussions with Mr. Moron, I have created two letters based upon the Board discussion at the Dec. 5 meeting- one letter to Senator Montford and Rep. Bashears, and another letter to Adam Putnam and Gov. Scott. The letters contain the same text but I thought it was appropriate to send one letter to our legislative delegation, and address another letter to the administrative side of state government because both legislative and administrative branches of state government have influence over the Bay's management. Read letters.

Mr. Pierce said the state is telling people there are going to be shelling programs but the state is not running any shelling programs. He reported they are implying the county is going to do the shelling program but the state has not entered into any agreement with the County. He said the County is being forced into this position because the State is walking away from their responsibilities. Mr. Pierce asked for direction from the Board on the letters. Chairman Parrish stated he talked with Mr. Kal Knickerbocker, Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services (DACS), and suggested if their department is continuing the show the videos that they also

continue to issue the licenses. He said he also suggested retaining the funds for future use in Apalachicola Bay. Commissioner Sanders asked what Mr. Knickerbocker's response was. Chairman Parrish stated basically there was not a response. **Commissioner Sanders made a motion to have Mr. Pierce send the letters he presented. Commissioner Massey seconded the motion. Motion carried; 4-0.**

2- Inform the Board that the TRIUMPH meeting here in Apalachicola has been postponed until either Jan. 29 or 30. As soon as I get the date I will inform the Board. It has become customary for the Chairman of the county commission in the county holding the meeting to welcome the TRIUMPH Board to the county.

3- Inform the Board I attended the Dec. 8 TRIUMPH Board meeting in Panama City. The TRIUMPH Board has hired Dr. Rick Harper as its economic advisor. They are still seeking administrative staff so there has been no review of any pre-applications. It is doubtful if significant headway in reviewing the pre-applications will be made by the January meeting as there are some 122 pre-applications in the TRIUMPH system already.

At the end of the Dec. 8 meeting, all of the TRIUMPH Board members gave short statements regarding the criteria they each think will be important in reviewing the pre-applications. There was a great deal of agreement that a successful project would:

- A. NOT involve repairing infrastructure that should have already been maintained; and NOT fund projects that are normally funded from other sources.
- B. Provide matching funds so that TRIUMPH is a Partner and not a "cash cow."
- C. Show the project has long term sustainability
- D. Promote a better class of jobs than is currently in the community. A successful project will have benchmarks for job creation and if those benchmarks are not met, then TRIUMPH will exercise its "clawback" ability through the redemption of performance bonds or personal guarantees.
- E. Show that the project will benefit the future.
- F. Broaden the community's economic base. (Expanding tourist base is not diversification.)

As Mr. Bense said in his statement, "TRIUMPH is not here to build more boat ramps."

Mr. Pierce reported if Triumph does not have any successes then the Legislature may not authorize any more money for Triumph. He said they do not know what will happen during the Legislative session. He explained the Triumph Board is trying to prove they are doing good things. Commissioner Sanders said if you refer back to the Gulf Consortium projects, there are a lot of boat ramps. She stated the RESTORE money was to restore the bays and promote diversification and that is what needs to be done. Chairman Parrish reported it was set up that way so that coastal communities that are based on seafood and tourism would have diversification and would not lose economically if another disaster happens. Mr. Pierce said they will know more in January when the Triumph staff is up and running. He reported some of the projects may need to be revisited as they are for rebuilding infrastructure.

4- Inform the Board that Ms. Kim Wilmes, Florida Great Northwest Florida (FGNW) Executive Director, is putting together a pre-application to TRIUMPH for some \$15M of TRIUMPH funds to be available for property tax abatement for successful businesses wanting to relocate to the 8 counties. I have spoken to Ms. Wilmes about the concept, and I have spoken to representatives from Wakulla and Gulf counties regarding the concept. If TRIUMPH awards FGNW with funds then each of the 8 counties in TRIUMPH will have an opportunity to decide if they want to participate. I consider the FGNW proposal in the same light as Tallahassee airport's Foreign Trade Zone designation which includes Franklin County, and Gulf County's Intermodal Rail Corridor which includes Franklin County. If and when economic opportunity comes to the Panhandle, Franklin County will have a range of incentives it might be able to offer.

Mr. Pierce reported initially FGNW was listing every county as a partner but now no county will be a partner. He explained if Franklin County likes their plan and there is an opportunity for Franklin County to have a great industry then the tax abatement program would be available if the county wants to participate.

5- Board action to authorize up to \$3K of county road maintenance funds to be spent raising 7 manholes on Ellis Van Vleet St. FDOT does not allow utility improvements to be paid for out of state funds. Since the county did not notify the City of Apalachicola of this cost before it was incurred, I recommend that the county absorb these costs out of its road maintenance funds. I have informed Mr. William Cox, City of Apalachicola, that in the future the county will contact the City about utility costs, and if the City does not have the funds to improve/move/repair its infrastructure in a paving project then the County may be forced to drop the project as it is not the county's responsibility to pay for improvements to City owned infrastructure. The need to notify utilities of infrastructure will apply to any state funded road paving project, so both cities and Eastpoint Water and Sewer will need to be notified in advance of any future state funded paving programs. The county Finance Department can fund this expenditure with Board approval.

Mr. Pierce reported the cost is \$7,000 and they are splitting it with C.W. Roberts Contracting. He explained this occurred because no one notified the City of Apalachicola. Commissioner Sanders asked who was supposed to contact the City. Mr. Pierce explained the City was sent a copy of the plans but no one contacted them. Mr. Pierce said the County will pay about \$3,000. **On motion by Commissioner Sanders, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize spending up to \$3,000 of County Road Maintenance funds on raising 7 manholes for Ellis Van Vleet Street.**

6- Update on Island View Park- Mark Curenton, Whitney Barfield, and I attended a site inspection with the Trust for Public Land, (TPL), and the various contractors at the Island View Park on Thursday, December 14. The planting on north side of US 98 is complete. While it does not look like much there are some 6000 native plants and grasses planted in the 4 acres on the north side. There is a temporary irrigation system in place to help the plants get established. While this property is county property there will not be any substantial maintenance burden on

the county as the property is not to be mowed, or sprayed with herbicides, or managed in any way. The north side is supposed to grow up into a habitat of native plants.

The south side of Island View is still under construction, with construction estimated to be completed by June, 2018.

In a related item, the Island View Park improvements are being paid for out of the state of Florida early restoration NRDA funds. To show how far the behind the state is in completing projects that were intended to be "early restoration", the state has completed only 2 out of 32 projects.

Mr. Pierce stated there are also other projects in this bundle that are way behind schedule. He explained it is possible the Island View project might get more funds now that it is in the construction phase. He reported some of the projects are so far behind they may never get completed and the State of Florida has the ability to move money so the Island View project may get more funds. Commissioner Sanders stated she does not know what else could be done on this site. Mr. Pierce reported if more money is received then they hope to do some pre-engineering to move Highway 98 to straighten out the curve.

7- Update on Alligator Drive improvements- The FEMA Environmental Assessment (EA) is still on schedule for completion in early 2018. I participated in a pre-construction call with FDEP and Dewberry on Dec. 14 to go over the proposed project. There could be substantial permitting issues involved with state and federal government because of the need to push the road back south and reclaim part of the right of way that is now in the Gulf of Mexico. The county cannot submit any documents to DEP for official review until the EA is completed, as we have to have assurance that FEMA is going to approve the design the county is proposing, but if in fact the project gets into the realm of federal permits it is certainly possible that the county is forced to maintain this one lane road through the entire 2018 hurricane season.

Mr. Pierce reported they may have another year of the one lane road.

Mr. Pierce stated Mr. Joe Crozier, Environmental Program Manager with Apalachee Regional Planning Council (ARPC), is present seeking Board support of evaluation of Apalachicola Bay for other living shoreline proposals. He explained ARPC has looked at a site between Eastpoint and Carrabelle and they are seeking funds from a coastal zone management federal entity to do the overview. He reported Mr. Crozier will provide an overview of the potential sites and needs a letter of support from the Board for a study. Mr. Crozier informed the Board he wrote the Surface Water Improvement Management Plan (SWIM) for the Apalachicola River for the Northwest Florida Water Management District. He stated he is the coordinator for the Riparian County Stakeholders Coalition and is on the Executive Board for the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint (ACF) stakeholders. He explained they look at the entire Franklin County shoreline, Apalachicola Bay and up the river a little and see where it would make sense to do future projects. He reported it could be a project to cover up rip rap along the shoreline and add sand and sea grass to make it more permanent. He said this will provide a fisheries area and will protect the infrastructure. Mr. Crozier reported it will help filter the water and provide

more habitats. He explained they are looking at where it should be located based on accessibility and where it will be the most effective. He stated this will give them a good idea if they are interested in leveraging funds later or someone else wants to complete this project. Commissioner Sanders asked if Mr. Crozier is aware of the living shoreline project being completed by the Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve (ANERR). Mr. Crozier answered yes. He discussed the area between Eastpoint and Carrabelle that is having a lot of wave action. Commissioner Sanders stated there is a lot of wave action at Alligator Point. Mr. Pierce said they talked about Alligator Point but they are not doing any projects on the gulf. Commissioner Sanders questioned if there is any cost to the county. Mr. Crozier answered no. Chairman Parrish said there are several different ways of doing living shorelines. He inquired if they are just planting sea grass for erosion and not planting oysters. Mr. Crozier stated they will determine what is most feasible for the location. Mr. Pierce explained they are just looking at the sites now and then they will discuss the design. Chairman Parrish reported the oysters on the living shorelines are not fit for human consumption. He said if they are harvested commercially and sold; they can be harmful to consumers. He stated if there are oysters on the living shoreline then they must have a monitoring program. He said if the oysters are sold and someone gets sick then the commercial industry will get more Food & Drug Administration (FDA) regulations. He said he is not opposed to ARPC looking at sites but wants Mr. Crozier to be aware of this issue with the oysters. Commissioner Sanders asked where the money is coming from to fund this project. Mr. Crozier answered it is NOAA money from DEP and the Florida Coastal Management Program. Chairman Parrish reported it is the same money that is being provided to ANERR for their project. Mr. Crozier reported he talked with representatives of ANERR, Commissioner Jones and the SMAART group to make sure this project will work out for everyone. **Commissioner Jones made a motion to authorize a letter of support. Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. Motion carried; 4-0.**

Public Hearing – Land Use Change & Rezoning – Cliff Butler

Mrs. Kelly presented this request and the maps of the area. Chairman Parrish asked if the property next door is residential. Mrs. Kelly answered yes, it falls under the S-4 District on one side but it is C-2 on the building on the other side. Chairman Parrish asked for public comment. Mr. John Haynie, a resident of Lanark Village, said he purchased two apartments from Mr. Joe Butler six months ago. He stated his units border this property and this was not mentioned to him. He said if this property is rezoned then the commercial property line will be just a few feet from his apartment. He voiced his opposition to this property being rezoned. Mr. Allen Ion, a resident of Lanark Village, stated when he needed storage Mr. David Butler found him space in the storage units and it helped solve a problem for him. He said all of the storage units are rented because the units are small and there is a need for storage. Commissioner Sanders asked where his apartment is. Mr. Ion answered at the end of Pine Street, not adjoining this property. Mr. Jim Chidester, a resident of Lanark Village, expressed concern about drainage and the ditch on this property. He explained if the property is rezoned then they will have no control over the drainage and they will have to fill in the ditch. He said this is so close to the units and he would object if he had a unit there. He reported it is also close to Chillas Hall and

the Post Office. He said this could cause big problems and they need to investigate this matter. Commissioner Jones inquired about the ditch. Mr. Chidester explained the location of the ditch. He explained the ditch runs from Oak Street and comes out at Heffernan Drive. Commissioner Jones said the maps do not show this ditch. Commissioner Sanders reported the ditch drains into a main drain. She explained a few years ago they had a drainage project for the whole Lanark Village area and this is a drainage ditch the county maintained before the fence was put up. She reported it has been there as long as she can remember. Mr. Chidester was concerned there would be flooding if the ditch was gone. Commissioner Jones asked if there is a flooding problem now. Commissioner Sanders said it was a problem in the past. Commissioner Jones asked if this is a flooding issue. Commissioner Sanders explained the drainage project helped some but if they have high rain fall then it will affect this area and does flood. Mr. Chidester stated he is opposed to this request. Mr. Cliff Butler, applicant, said he submitted the application and is one of three co-trustees of the trust along with his brothers Mr. Joe Wheeler and Mr. David Butler. He said both of his brothers have homes in this area. He stated he is not involved in the transaction Mr. Haynie mentioned. He reported his brothers are involved with another trust and assured him there would be no problem with Mr. Haynie. He stated if they build on this property then they will have to honor the setback requirements. Mr. Cliff Butler used the map to show the location of the ditch and said the water has to flood their property before it gets high enough to go in the drain. Mr. David Butler stated he does not know how long ago the stormwater collection system was put in but a grill was put in to take care of the water. He discussed the flow of stormwater and said he has not heard of any complaints about standing water in the ditch. He said drainage of the water is not an issue. Commissioner Sanders said since the stormwater drainage was added it is not as big a problem but she has seen water on Heffernan Drive in past years and if the ditch had not been there it would have been bad. She reported that was when the County maintained the ditch. Mr. David Butler said if they have a storm, water will not impact the houses because their property is lower. He stated he has owned here since 1995 and it has not been a problem since they had the stormwater collection system and the ditch. He explained the sidewalk is where the S-4 designation stops and the property line is in the center of the walkway. He stated the County does not own the sidewalk as there is an easement. He reported there are houses from the S-4 district within 30" of the middle line. He explained their property could go to the middle of the sidewalk. Mr. David Butler reported they cannot build anything within 10 feet of the sidewalk. He explained if they put in storage units then there would be a commercial barrier and they could put up a fence. He said they tried other businesses in this area but they were not viable. Commissioner Sanders asked what the plans are for the property. Mr. David Butler said they will have storage unless the economy changes. He stated they have an area for boat storage and there are 8 boats on the waiting list. Commissioner Sanders reported Lanark Village also has boat storage property that they rent out so they can make money for events. She expressed concern that they would be in competition with them which she is concerned about. Commissioner Sanders reported they could be required to put up a 10 ft. fence but her concern is the distance between residential and commercial. She questioned if there is a 10 ft. setback. Mrs. Kelley answered yes, and pointed out the setbacks on the map. Commissioner Sanders inquired if notices were sent out to all adjacent property owners in this area. Mrs. Kelley

answered yes. Commissioner Sanders stated only one property owner is here objecting but the Board has to consider his objection. Chairman Parrish asked how many letters of objection were received. Mrs. Kelley answered none. Mr. Haynie said he is the only owner besides the Butler family. Commissioner Sanders stated there needs to be a buffer between commercial and residential property. She discussed the S-4 designation. Mr. Butler stated this property was specifically excluded from the S-4 designation. Mr. Pierce pointed out if the property is commercially developed then it will require a stormwater plan. Commissioner Sanders reported they have remedied the stormwater problem by placing stormwater retention. Mrs. Kelly explained R-1 reduced the permeable space by 50% and C-2 is 80%. Mr. Cliff Butler asked what kind of zoning the County has that has a buffer between commercial and residential property. Commissioner Sanders said she does not know but in most places there is more than 10 ft. Commissioner Sanders reported this is a rare situation and she is trying to please everyone. Mr. David Butler stated there are actually four property owners not just Mr. Haynie. He explained the trust owns the first three apartments, his brother Mr. Joe Wheeler owns a unit, Mr. Haynie has two units and Ms. Natalie Little and Mr. Dallas Rains own the end unit. He stated Mr. Haynie is concerned they will build up to the sidewalk but they cannot do that. Mr. David Butler said they will not impact Lanark Village renting space because there are boats and trailers that do not meet code and need a place to go. He reported he is working to get another 200' x 200' of additional property north of the existing site. He stated there are working with the City of Carrabelle to lease the property just like they used to do from the Lanark Village Water & Sewer District. He said he is not trying to compete with them but there are certain things that will not fit. He explained whether it is residential or commercial he does not see how it impacts the access because it will be 10 ft. away. He said if it is the aesthetics then they can address that. Commissioner Sanders agreed they have always been willing to work to get something done. Mr. Haynie stated both of these pieces of property are up for sale so they do not know what will go there if it sells. Mr. David Butler discussed how they have changed the listing on their property. He stated there is a need for storage as some people have 3 cars. Commissioner Sanders reported the Board is working on that issue. She explained when this property is commercial then they will have to address stormwater management. She went on to say the county can require a privacy fence when this is addressed through the Planning & Zoning Commission. She said she appreciates Mr. Haynie's concerns. Chairman Parrish asked about a wooded buffer or plants. Mr. Haynie stated there is a wooded buffer there now. Commissioner Sanders said they need the Lanark Village Review Committee again. Mr. Cliff Butler stated there is no reason to turn down this request. Commissioner Sanders agreed she doesn't see a reason either. Ms. Cecile Hance, a resident of Mill Road, explained she has been in a similar situation and they need to address the lighting so it is not intrusive to the neighborhood and they also need to address the noise. Commissioner Jones left the meeting at this time. Ms. Hance said they worked with the Planning & Zoning Commission and the owner of the property to resolve the issues when she had this problem. She stated if the County or Lanark can have plans in place to have buffers and everyone is agreeable then it would be a good situation. Commissioner Jones returned to the meeting. **Commissioner Sanders made a motion to approve the C-2 Commercial Land use and include that whoever buys the property understands there will be certain buffers, aesthetics and lighting issues that they will have to**

face due to the residential property. Mrs. Kelley said a lot of these issues will be addressed during site plan review. Attorney Shuler said the first motion is to change the land use from residential to commercial and then a motion to rezone from R-1 to C-2. **Commissioner Sanders amended her motion to approve the land use change from residential to commercial. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried; 4-0. Commissioner Sanders made a motion to rezone from R-1 Residential to C-2 Commercial with the caveats they discussed. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.** Mr. Cliff Butler questioned if they can leave a larger buffer and not include a fence. Chairman Parrish reported this will be addressed during the site plan review. Commissioner Sanders stated they do not want any noise and lights to interfere with Mr. Haynie. She said there is no reason to deny this request but they are going to take extra precautions. She stated this property has been commercial since the 1940's. **Motion carried; 4-0.**

The meeting recessed at 11:18 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 11:24 a.m.

Michael Morón – County Coordinator – Report

Mr. Moron presented his report, as follows:

1. Inform the Board that based on an email from Mr. Mike Cooper, Weems CEO, Weems was able to make payroll this week without any additional funds from the County. This was due to the distribution of the first quarter DSH funds and the clean-up of some old Accounts Receivable accounts. On Friday, Weems transferred \$150,000 from the operating account, which leaves a balance of about \$100,000 in that account; to the money market (savings) account which now has a \$300,000 balance.

Mr. Moron reported they do this because they will not need the money immediately and they can gain the interest. He explained hopefully they will get more money in and will not need money for payroll.

2. Inform the Board that the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has notified the County of the 2018 application cycle for the Small County Road Assistance Program (SCRAP), Small County Outreach Program (SCOP), and County Incentive Grant Program (CIGP). FDOT strongly recommends that we apply for SCOP funds to complete Mill Road. Mr. Mark Curenton and Mrs. Whitney Barfield will be working on these applications which are due no later than March 15, 2018 so you should contact them if you have any suggestions or questions about applications for the other two programs.

Mr. Moron presented a map of Mill Road and said some people are concerned that the road project was shortened. He reported there is one person present that did not want this road paved. He explained the budget from the State fell short so the road paving was shortened. He stated DOT asked the County to send an application to complete this project which would complete the road. **On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to submit an application to apply for SCOP funds to finish this project.** Mr. Moron informed the Board if they contact Mr. Curenton and Mrs. Barfield they can let them know what projects will qualify under each program so these applications can be submitted as soon as possible. Commissioner Sanders explained these will not be funded next year so it may take a year or so. Mr. Pierce questioned when construction will start for the first phase. Mr. Clay Kennedy, Dewberry/Preble-Rish, stated construction is set to begin now. Mr. Pierce stated there may be a gap of a year before the additional funds are received. Commissioner Sanders reported it has been taking longer to receive the funds. She reminded the Board the C.R. 67 Project will be in 2020-2022. Mr. Moron pointed out the state now separates engineering funds from construction funds. Mr. Kennedy reported the last 1¼ mile of road has already been designed so they are just funding construction. He said the state has already paid for the design so they should fund construction.

3. Board action to authorize the Chairman's signature on a Resolution and amendment for the FDOT SCOP funded Mill Road project. As the Board may recall, it was necessary to submit an amended scope of work to FDOT as all of the bids received for this project was over the budgeted amount. FDOT notified the County that the revised scope was accepted and re-bidding the project was not necessary. The approved resolution and amendment is necessary to proceed with the project.

On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to adopt the Resolution and amendment and authorize Chairman Parrish to sign the Resolution.

4. Board action to sign the Engagement Letter with Roberson and Associates for the County's year ended September 30, 2017 regular audit. A copy of the Engagement Letter, which states the expected services and fees, is included in your agenda packet.

On motion by Commissioner Sanders, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to sign the Engagement Letter with Roberson and Associates for the County's year ended September 30, 2017 regular audit.

5. Mr. Ralph Roberson, while providing an update on some outstanding issues, informed me that after his review of the necessary information, the previous Supervisor of Election, Mrs. Pinki Jackel, was overpaid by \$3,009.58. I informed the current Supervisor of Election, Mrs. Heather Riley, of Mr. Roberson's findings and

Mrs. Riley shared with me a series of emails between her and Mrs. Jackel. Based on those emails and information from Mr. Roberson, all of which I have included in your packet, I recommend that the Board authorize Attorney Shuler, after he confers with Mrs. Riley and Mr. Roberson, to send a letter to Mrs. Jackel requesting payment. Board discussion and action.

Mr. Moron said if the Commissioners look at the emails they will sense the frustration of the Supervisor of Elections in being put off. **On motion by Commissioner Sanders, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to direct Attorney Shuler to send a letter to Mrs. Jackel requesting payment.**

6. This item was handled earlier in the meeting.
7. The 2007 Ford truck assigned to the maintenance department is having electronic issues again. We changed the computer on that truck earlier this year. I am recommending that the Board authorize transferring the truck currently assigned to the Building Official, which was a used vehicle when it was purchased, to Courthouse Maintenance, then transfer the GMC Terrain which is assigned to Administration to the Building Official. The County will purchase a new SUV from the Sheriff's Association purchase list for Administration. This purchase which will be financed, as this is an unanticipated purchase, and the Finance office will look for the best rate available. The 2007 Ford truck will be sent to auction. Board action.

On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize transferring the truck assigned to the Building Official to Courthouse Maintenance, transferring the GMC Terrain assigned to Administration to the Building Official and purchasing a new SUV for Administration from the Sheriff's Association purchase list.

8. This item was addressed earlier in the meeting.
9. The Board handled this item earlier in the meeting.
10. Inform the Board that staff has received the letter from the Lanark Village Association (LVA) Commissioner Sanders discussed at the December 5th meeting. In this letter, there are a number of requests the LVA would like the Board to consider. The first is to reactivate the Lanark Village Review Committee. Based on discussions with Commissioner Sanders and Mr. Pierce, the role of this committee was to review and offer an opinion on any permits relating to Lanark Village turned into the County's permitting office, but as time has passed the original members of this committee are no residents of Lanark Village or interested in serving. If the Board agrees to reactivate this committee then the LVA would like Mr. Tony Johnson and Mr. Barry Greer, both residents of Lanark Village, appointed to the committee.

There are other requests made by the LVA that I will discuss at future meetings. Board action to reactivate the Lanark Village Review Committee and appoint Mr. Johnson and Mr. Barry to that committee.

Mr. Moron reported both appointees are present. Chairman Parrish asked if these issues should be addressed during the Planning & Zoning Commission meetings. Commissioner Sanders stated it gets sent to the Planning & Zoning Commission. Mr. Pierce explained it does not necessarily go to the Planning & Zoning Commission as the S-4 Special District is rules specifically for Lanark Village. He stated if there were issues; they usually went to the Board of Adjustment for variances and a letter was submitted from the committee. He reported the Planning & Zoning Commission addresses R-1 homes and Lanark Village does not have R-1 homes, it has S-4. Commissioner Sanders stated the committee is only an advisory committee. Mr. Pierce said the committee makes a recommendation before the matter goes to the Board of Adjustment. He stated they use the committee as the eyes and ears of what the community wants. Chairman Parrish said he does not want to circumvent the Planning & Zoning Commission. Commissioner Sanders explained everyone on the committee has died and there was no one to serve but the committee was very useful during the real estate boom. She stated the Lanark Village residents are concerned and feel like they need this committee to oversee items. Mr. Moron explained their comments will be in the system before these items are taken to the Board of Adjustment as they are part of the consideration. Commissioner Sanders reported the Ordinance that governs the S-4 District explains this committee. She requested Mr. Moron obtain a copy of this ordinance and provide it to the Commissioners. She said Lanark Village needs a voice again and she does not have a problem with it. **On motion by Commissioner Sanders, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to reactivate the Lanark Village Review Committee and appoint Mr. Tony Johnson and Mr. Barry Greer to the committee.**

11. Inform the Board that I will be transferring two of the older iPads to Mosquito Control. These iPads will allow Mr. Dewitt Polus and Mr. Scott Tucker complete their reporting while they are in the field. Any data expenses from these iPads will come from the Mosquito Control budget.

On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to transfer two of the older IPADS to Mosquito Control.

12. Inform the Board that there has been a slight delay on the St. George Island Pier Restroom project. There are some issues with the property ownership that the Division of State Lands is trying to reconcile with the Florida Department of Transportation. If and when there is a resolution I will update the Board.

There will be a pre-construction meeting with the contractor at Lombardi's Park on Thursday at 1:30pm. Mrs. Whitney Barfield and I will attend this meeting and I will update the Board as to the expected project timeline.

Mr. Moron stated the contractor is Anderson Construction from Panama City. Mr. Pierce reported this NRDA project is two years behind and these funds may be reclassified and go to another project. Mr. Moron reported two state agencies are arguing about who owns the property. Chairman Parrish suggested writing a letter to the Division of State Lands and DOT to ask them to please solve this problem. **On motion by Commissioner Sanders, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to write a letter to the Division of State Lands and the DOT and ask them to resolve this matter.**

Bids for the Eastpoint Fishing Pier Restroom were opened on Thursday, December 14th. Four bids were received and all exceeded the available budget however, the bids will be evaluated and State will seek supplemental funding.

Chairman Parrish stated every project in Franklin County is being delayed. Mr. Pierce reported these delays are going on statewide. He explained another problem is the estimated costs were prepared 4 years ago and are no longer valid in today's economy. Chairman Parrish expressed concern that money may be moved from these projects to other projects. He stated he would like the projects completed as people are expecting these projects to occur. He said they may need to cut back on the scope of work but they need to complete the projects. Mr. Moron stated the St. George Island Pier Restroom Project is the one in danger the most as they are fighting about the property. Chairman Parrish asked Mr. Moron to emphasize that they do not want to lose the funding and want the projects completed as soon as possible.

13. Inform the Board that the Franklin County SHIP 2014-2015 annual report submitted to Florida Housing has been approved.
14. Mr. Moron presented this item earlier in the meeting.
15. Remind the Board that Wednesday February 10th is the Florida Association of Counties Legislative Day. As we know this is one of the best opportunities for Commissioners to assist their County and FAC in the lobbying efforts to protect home rule and unfunded mandates. This year many events will be held downtown at the Challenger Learning Center on Kleman Plaza, which are steps away from the Capital building. "The Association hopes to make this a more "walkable" conference for all attendees." Please contact Ms. Cheyenne Cruzon regarding registration and arrangements.
16. At the December 5th Workshop the Board moved public comments to the beginning of the meeting. That action seemed to work well and allowed for a better flow to the meeting. Is the Board interested in doing that for the Regular Meetings starting on January 2nd? Board discussion.

Commissioner Sanders said she likes this format. She explained she is on other committees and this is the way it is handled. She reported then the Board knows the issues people are concerned about. **On motion by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Sanders, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to take public comment at the beginning of the Board meetings starting January 2, 2018.** Chairman Parrish reported they need to improve on the time the agenda is placed on the website so the public can look at the agenda and decide if they need to attend the next Board meeting. Mr. Moron stated the agenda is placed on the website on Thursday. Chairman Parrish agreed Thursday is enough time. Mr. Moron reported public comments will be placed after the department reports and the comments will be limited to 3 minutes.

17. Inform the Board that your Administrative and Planning and Zoning Offices will be closed from December 22nd – 26th returning on the 27th for the Christmas holidays. Merry Christmas from your staff!

Commissioner Sanders reported there is a grant for C.R. 67 in the 2020 or 2022 budget. She stated the last time the County paved, they put slip liners in all the culverts and they are failing so the engineers need to address these items and replace these culverts. She explained they are supposed to mill and grind the base and put it back down and that will be a good time to replace all the culverts. She reported they may need to do a project to add the culverts to the C.R. 67 project.

T. Michael Shuler – County Attorney – Report

Attorney Shuler did not have a report at this time.

Commissioner Jones stated the Board voted to do the Weems Memorial Hospital contract with TMH on a 90 day basis which would be the beginning of February and he would like to know if they will pass this date or need to consider an extension. Attorney Shuler stated hopefully they will be finished but he has a list of outstanding questions that have been submitted to Community Hospital Consulting (CHC). He explained some questions CHC has answered and some they have not addressed. He stated he hopes to have this completed by January but he will see what the status is at the next meeting and if they need to consider an extension.

Commissioners & Public Comments

Commissioner Sanders stated there is some misinformation about the County Commission supporting Florida State University's (FSU) efforts for an \$8.3 million project but the Board has not voted and approved the project. She asked for clarification and said FSU has submitted this project. Mr. Pierce reported FSU submitted the project in their name and the Board agreed they could submit it but the Board did not review the project. Chairman Parrish said the Board has not done a letter of support for this project.

Commissioner Sanders said in relation to Weems Memorial Hospital, the Board is trying to get a contract with CHC so the county will have a solution and the Board will get out of the hospital business. She stated there are certain things they have to do to accomplish this.

Commissioner Jones stated all the Board did was say they are not opposed to FSU submitting the project. Mr. Pierce reported the county needed something more than shelling and this project is to see if they can develop oysters in other habitats or other ways that will make the bay productive.

Ms. Hance reported she has not been an advocate for paving Mill Road as it is an impact to the rural way of life. She stated they want to make sure stormwater runoff is not redirected on their property and creates flooding issues. She explained they would like to see the plans to make sure water will not pour onto their property. She said once the road is paved then it will forever change the landscape. Ms. Hance reported the water sits on the road now and then evaporates or soaks into the limerock. Commissioner Sanders stated Ms. Hance lives on the first corner. Mr. Kennedy reported they will try to address this issue. Ms. Hance stated there was a ditch adjacent to their property but it was filled in so the flow of the water has already been altered. She said her other concern is there is speeding on this road and the road is in bad condition and it may accelerate after the road is paved. She stated she hopes the County and the Sheriff's Office take action to reduce the problem. Commissioner Sanders reported they will need to make the speed limit 15 mph by the houses. Ms. Hance thanked the Board for listening to her comments.

Mrs. Brenda LaPaz, Mayor of the City of Carrabelle, welcomed the Board and thanked them for bringing the meeting to Carrabelle. She invited the Board to attend a free ethics training class in this room on January 25th. She explained the Northwest Florida League of Cities is holding the mandated 4 hours of training from 7:30 a.m. until noon. She reported Mr. Jerome Miller, attorney at law, from Destin will conduct the class. She stated the registration information will be sent to Mr. Moron.

Mayor LaPaz reported tomorrow she will meet with the Franklin County Traffic Safety Team and with the Board's approval she will recommend the appropriate warning signage for the ambulance at the old FDOT yard. The Board agreed with this request.

Mr. Bert Boldt, a resident of Alligator Point, discussed ecosystems and the studies along Highway 98. He reported at a previous meeting there were a couple of men that said an association would be formed to keep watch over Apalachicola Bay and they need to support anything that keeps Apalachicola Bay open, alive and vibrant.

Mr. Boldt also addressed the public comments being received at the beginning of the meetings. He said sometimes after a public meeting or during the meeting they gather information that they did not know at the beginning of the meeting such as at the hospital meeting. He suggested the possibility of adding a reference to the guidelines and the standards of practice

of Medicare in the proposed hospital management contract for issues that are unsolvable or difficult. He said sometimes if there is not a solution then the standards of practice may be appropriate to consider.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:59 a.m.

Joseph A. Parrish - Chairman

Attest:

Marcia M. Johnson - Clerk of Courts