

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
COURTHOUSE ANNEX – COMMISSION MEETING ROOM  
AUGUST 7, 2018  
9:00 AM  
MINUTES**

**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, 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 from the meetings held on July 3, 2018, July 9, 2018 and July 17, 2018.

**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.

**Department Directors Report**

**Howard Nabors – Superintendent of Public Works**

Mr. Nabors said the county has been getting a lot of rain and they are working on getting the grass cut. He stated the rain has caused the roads to be messy so the Road Department started grading roads yesterday and will work their way through the county. He reported they are

receiving a lot of calls on the 1,100 ft. of road on Alligator Point. He stated they grade this road once a week and add materials every two weeks.

Commissioner Jones reported a year or so ago the Board was asked and approved lowering the speed limit on Carroll Street and Twin Lakes Road. He said this has not made a difference and people have not slowed down. **Commissioner Jones made a motion to change Carroll Street and Twin Lakes Road back to 35 mph.** He stated the speed limit was reduced to 25 mph and he contacted the Sheriff's Department and there have not been any citations issued on these roads. **Commissioner Lockley seconded the motion. Motion carried; 5-0.**

Commissioner Jones said he will talk with Mr. Nabors later about some road signs on St. George Island.

Commissioner Lockley asked Mr. Nabors how many employees he has supervising inmates. Mr. Nabors stated there are 5 squads. He explained there are 2 state squads but 1 crew has been put with Division of Forestry and the other one is out on medical leave so both crews have been out for about a month. He stated they are operating with 5 crews. Commissioner Lockley said not every employee has to supervise inmates. Mr. Nabors agreed he has 5 crews that watch them and 1 crew as a backup. Commissioner Lockley stated people get in trouble and have to serve time in prison and he asked why the county cannot give them a job when they come back as they have served their time. **Commissioner Lockley made a motion to start hiring good ex-prisoners.** Mr. Nabors reported when they hire inmate supervisors a background check is done. Commissioner Massey explained the state will not let them work inmates after they have been in prison. Commissioner Lockley pointed out all of the employees do not supervise inmates. Attorney Shuler suggested the Board allow staff to look at the personnel rules and come back with a recommendation before the Board takes action. **Commissioner Lockley rescinded his motion.**

Commissioner Lockley asked Mr. Nabors to tell Mr. DeWitt Polous, Mosquito Control Director, that he is still getting calls about the mosquitoes. Mr. Nabors stated Mr. Polous is doing a good job but he will check with him. Chairman Parrish said the Board put extra money in the Mosquito Control budget but it is for next year. He reported the mosquito season is just starting and the Board may need to look into doing something for the remainder of this year because the mosquitoes are bad and he is getting calls too. Chairman Parrish asked for Mr. Polous to attend the next meeting. Commissioner Massey stated there are a lot of county crews so maybe someone can help spray. Chairman Parrish asked for Mr. Polous to call him so they can come up with some suggestions before the meeting. Mr. Nabors agreed to contact Mr. Polous.

**Fonda Davis – Solid Waste Director**

Mr. Davis informed the Board soccer registration begins on Thursday, August 9<sup>th</sup> and ends on August 25<sup>th</sup>. He reported the Franklin County High School, the ABC School and the First Baptist School will hold registration.

Mr. Davis reported the porta potty from Leonard's Landing has been removed. Commissioner Sanders thanked Mr. Davis and said they removed a potential problem.

Mr. Davis brought into discussion waste oil collection. Commissioner Jones addressed a flyer that everyone has with information about the waste oil containers. He stated the county received good news that their grant was doubled from \$10,000 to \$20,000 to allow for waste oil collection in the county for the general public. Commissioner Jones explained the plan has been to place containers in Apalachicola, Eastpoint and Carrabelle so the general public will have somewhere to get rid of used oil instead of it possibly going into the aquifer or the bay. He went on to say Apalachicola had some containers but there are no containers in Eastpoint or Carrabelle. He said the quote for each container is \$2,161.00 and he wants to buy all three and not exclude Apalachicola because they already had a container. Commissioner Jones stated he discussed this matter with Mrs. Erin Griffith, Assistant Finance Director, and this money could be taken out of capital outlay. He explained the only expense the county has for the waste oil collection is buying the three containers at just under \$6,500. **Commissioner Jones made a motion to buy all three waste oil containers. Commissioner Massey seconded the motion.** Chairman Parrish asked where the container is in Apalachicola. Commissioner Jones stated it is close to Scipio Creek but he is not sure if that is where they will finally put it. Commissioner Lockley asked who empties the containers. Commissioner Jones explained the grant pays for a contractor to come through 1-2 times a month and empty all three containers. Mr. Davis pointed out this is a drop site not a collection. Commissioner Lockley asked if all kinds of oil can be disposed of. Commissioner Jones answered yes, according to the flyer and there is even a place for disposal of used oil and fuel filters. Chairman Parrish asked where the containers will be stationed because the flyer says they must be on a concrete surface. Commissioner Jones reported the City of Carrabelle has given a site. Commissioner Massey stated it is at the city yard. Commissioner Jones reported the City of Apalachicola should be able to use their present site and Mr. George Pruett is asking the Eastpoint Volunteer Fire Department Board the last Monday of the month about a site for Eastpoint. Commissioner Jones stated he suggested a site near where they do recycling at Vrooman Park. Commissioner Jones reported Mr. Joe Crozier, Apalachee Regional Planning Council, said they can do a concrete pad or lose rock so there are several ways to do the base. He referenced the flyer which provided an estimate to expand used oil collection. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

Mr. Pierce stated in the past the Board approved the low bid of R.J. Gorman Marine Construction to rebuild a dock in Eastpoint. He explained the bids have been reviewed and the Board needs to award the bid. He said this is a FEMA funded project at Indian Creek in the amount of \$90,830.00. Mr. Davis pointed out the other dock is in Carrabelle at Timber Island. **On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous**

**vote of the Board present, it was agreed to award the bid to R.J. Gorman Marine Construction in the amount of \$90,830.00.**

Mr. Moron said the reason the porta potty was placed at Leonard's Landing was because they were getting complaints from the Department of Health. He reported he understands the potential problems but the Board needs to be thinking about an alternate plan. Commissioner Sanders pointed out if the porta potty has fallen into Alligator Harbor then it would have shut everything down. She said it was tipping when Mr. Davis found it. She reported the clambers and oystermen contacted her about the porta potty and they are livid about it. Commissioner Sanders explained someone from out of the area who has a lease filed complaints but did not ask the clambers and oystermen in the area how they felt. Mr. Moron asked if there is an alternate solution or is there enough property to move the porta potty further from the water. Commissioner Sanders said there is no room. She asked if there are porta potties along the bay where people oyster. She said they must weigh out the danger of the porta potty going into the water. Commissioner Lockley asked if the county can get a grant for bathrooms in this area. Mr. Pierce said there is not enough property. Mr. Pierce suggested adding signs about the porta potties at the Ochlocknee Boat Ramp. He reported at some point the Board talking about getting land on the north side across the road for parking and possibly putting a porta potty there. **On motion by Commissioner Sanders, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to direct staff (Mr. Pierce) to contact the Ochlocknee Timber Company and talk to them about donating some land.**

Mr. Moron presented the following item from his report:

9. **Board action** to ratify the Chairman's signature on the 2018/2019 Solid Waste Consolidated Grant Application. The grant is for \$90,909.00 and the application was due on August 1<sup>st</sup>.

**On motion by Commissioner Sanders, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to ratify the Chairman's signature on the 2018/2019 Solid Waste Consolidated Grant application.**

Mr. Moron read the following item from his report:

5. In order to close out the FRDAP grant that partially paid for the soccer field and basketball court at D W Wilson Park, the County needs to record a Notice of Site Dedication and Limitation of Use which dedicates the Park as a public outdoor recreation area in perpetuity. **Board action** to authorize the Chairman's signature on this notice.

**On motion by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Sanders, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize the Chairman's signature on the Notice of Site Dedication and Limitation of Use.**

Commissioner Sanders asked if the fence will be placed on the back of the soccer field. Mr. Davis answered yes. He explained the fence was added to the perimeter when the project was started to keep people from driving on the field. Commissioner Sanders stated the field looks good. Commissioner Lockley asked about the basketball court. Mr. Davis said it looks good. Mr. Davis asked for a clarification on what was said about inmate supervisors. Commissioner Lockley stated other counties hire ex-prisoners for positions other than watching inmates. He said this will help people who come back after they get out. He went on to say if they have nothing to do then they will go back to jail. Chairman Parrish stated the attorney is going to research this and bring some information back to the Board. Commissioner Lockley asked if all the people in Mr. Davis' departments watch inmates. Mr. Davis stated they send all of them to class but they only have 1 squad. Commissioner Lockley reported Mr. Davis has positions that do not watch inmates. Mr. Davis said that is correct. Commissioner Massey stated Mr. Davis has 3 inmate squads. Mr. Davis agreed there are 3 counting the Parks & Recreation Department and the Landfill.

Commissioner Jones discussed the information packet containing pictures of Indian Creek Boat Ramp and reported the state is finally through with this project. He said the boat ramp is a lot better than it was.

Chairman Parrish asked about the status of the Lombardi's project. Mr. Moron said the roof is on and he will check with the contractor but he thinks they are ready to open for access. Chairman Parrish stated the picnic area has grown up and needs some work but the gate is locked so he cannot ask Mr. Davis to have someone clean the area. He went on to say people want to use the boat ramp. He asked Mr. Moron to get an update on this project. Commissioner Lockley said the fishermen are asking when they can have access to launch their boats. Mr. Moron reported they should be giving access to the boat ramp and connecting the new handicapped parking pad to the observation piers. He stated both of these items should be ready this week. Commissioner Lockley said the fishermen are complaining that it is crowded at the other boat ramp.

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

Mrs. Tress Dameron, Emergency Management Department, presented the action item, as follows:

##### **Action Items:**

1. Request approval from the Board to donate the old EOC stove to Franklins Promise for the Eastpoint Fire Victims.

Chairman Parrish asked if this stove is going to a particular home. Mrs. Jennifer Daniels, Emergency Management Department, answered no. Mrs. Dameron stated several have asked because their stoves are not safe. Chairman Parrish said there will not be room for a stove in the campers so he wanted to know where it was going. Mrs. Dameron reported the stove will

go to a permanent structure. Commissioner Lockley asked if the stove has been checked out. Mrs. Dameron answered yes. **Commissioner Jones made a motion to allow the donation of the stove. Commissioner Lockley seconded the motion.** He reported a qualified person needs to make sure the stove is okay. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

Mrs. Dameron reported it came to their attention in the detail for the funds that the Duke Energy check was not line itemed out. She said a list has been provided of every check that was line itemed out. Chairman Parrish said it shows they donated \$10,000. Mrs. Dameron said that was their electronic donation but they gave a total of \$25,000. She explained one was an actual check because they used grant funds and the other was operational so it was electronic. Mrs. Daniels stated there are actually three donations, two different ones from the Duke Foundation and one from the employees because they did a self collection. Commissioner Lockley reported donations are coming in from everywhere and he questioned who is giving out receipts and are they keeping a copy for the county and their records. Mrs. Dameron reported if they donate with cash then they get a receipt. She explained if a check is received they make a copy and they get a copy. Commissioner Lockley asked if they are making three copies. Mrs. Dameron answered yes, a copy for their records, a copy for the county and the individual or business gets a copy plus the tax donation form. Commissioner Lockley stated they need to make sure the county gets a copy because they will need to have an audit. Mr. Moron reported he saw the quick books report that was sent to the Board but he prefers a more detailed report explaining who gave the donation. Commissioner Sanders stated Mr. Moron needs to tell them how this reports needs to be done. Mr. Moron said they have not signed the agreement yet but he would prefer this change. Chairman Parrish stated people made contributions to EOC under the ESF15 but the EOC is under the umbrella of the Board of County Commissioners. He explained when this first started he was out of town and people came to him and told him about donations they had made and they did this under the presumption that the county would have the responsibility of making sure everything was done correctly. He went on to say there is an accountability aspect of ESF15 and Franklin's Promise but Franklin's Promise is under the umbrella of the County Commission. He explained people who make donations are expecting the County Commission to spend the money wisely. Chairman Parrish stated the Board has a duty to make sure everything flows properly and audits will be done on anything the county is involved in. Chairman Parrish said this the same way and he does not understand why they will not sign the agreement but if they do not want to sign then they do not need to be in this position. He explained no Board member has tried to tell Franklin's Promise how to run things but it is the Board's job to make sure the money is spent wisely and properly. He pointed out there will be an audit at the end so they might as well sign the agreement. He said there are more people that want to make contributions but they are waiting until this agreement is in place. Chairman Parrish stated the Board is not being respected when they ask for this agreement to be signed. He said they need to do the right thing because the Board is responsible for the EOC and everything under the EOC and all the other county departments. He explained this needs to be done prudently unless there are Board members that do not agree. Chairman Parrish asked if there are Board members who do not think this how it should work or do not want the agreement signed. Commissioner Sanders said they should sign the

agreement. Commissioner Lockley agreed they should sign the agreement. Commissioner Jones said Chairman Parrish has summarized how they feel perfectly. Commissioner Sanders reported she does not see why there is a problem. She explained the Commissioners have been told by numerous people that they wanted to give donations where 100% of the money goes to the people. Commissioner Sanders reported this was set up because the Go Fund Me account had a charge. She explained the Board is responsible to the people and they are going to look to the Board to see how the money was spent. Commissioner Sanders stated they need to sign the agreement or Memorandum of Understanding and move on. She said she does not want any money spent until they know where it is being spent. Chairman Parrish reported they have presented a report today and there has not been much money spent and it has been spent wisely. He explained the Board is not saying anyone is misappropriating funds or mispending funds but the Board has a responsibility to see the funds are spent correctly and this needs to be transparent. Commissioner Lockley asked why they are waiting on one entity when they did not sign the agreement. He stated there are more people that can handle this fund. Mrs. Dameron said some of their Board members have been out of town and they are expecting to discuss this at their next Board meeting. Commissioner Lockley said they should have taken care of business and they can leave because he does not like how they are handling this. He reported volunteers cannot take over. Chairman Parrish asked Commissioner Massey how he feels. Commissioner Massey agreed. Chairman Parrish said this is a directive issued by the Board unanimously that this agreement needs to be signed. Chairman Parrish apologized to the Emergency Management staff and said there is not a problem with how the money has been spent but they must understand the position this puts the Board members in. Commissioner Sanders stated the county has to have the ESF15 but if they are not willing to do what the Board thinks needs to be done as far as representing the people and providing the information they need to make good decisions then they may need to find something else. She explained if they cannot agree to sign she will not criticize them because they have done good work but they have to understand the Board is accountable to the people. She stated they either need to sign or go on about their business. Mrs. Dameron reported they conducted a long term recovery meeting and Mrs. Daniels and the Capital Area Community Action Agency are contacting people in the Eastpoint fire area to see if they qualify for the CDBG Grant. She said this will provide a good idea for who qualifies and what unmet needs are still there. Chairman Parrish said he read the report on the long term recovery plan. He suggested the ESF15 look at the additional money that is left over to help people that do not qualify for CDBG funds. Mrs. Dameron agreed they are looking into this matter. Mr. Pierce read the following item from his report:

5- Eastpoint Fire Update on Long Term Housing- The Board is aware that the short term housing problems for the Eastpoint Fire victims are currently being worked on. On Thursday, August 2, 20 representatives of state and local agencies met in the Franklin County Courthouse to discuss permanent solutions for the housing lost during the Eastpoint Fire.

This report is a brief summary of that meeting. The meeting lasted 2 hours and ranged over many topics. The main funding available for long term housing are CDBG funds. The state is working on an application on behalf of Franklin County to secure additional CDBG funds from

the federal government. Debbie Belcher, Franklin County CDBG grant administrator, and Tress Dameron, Franklin County EOC, were assigned the responsibility of reconciling the various lists of displaced persons. The goal of this effort will be to determine how many of the displaced households are eligible for housing through CDBG. Once the number of eligible households is known Ms. Belcher will work with the DEO representatives to complete an application for CDBG funds for replacement housing. At this time, the main focus of the replacement housing will be mobile homes, but the group is aware that several on-site houses were also lost.

Mr. Pierce stated they do not know how much money the county will request but the state seems to be open to the county asking for enough to cover everyone in the fire area that is eligible for CDBG funding which is based on income. He said some people that have the income may not have any land and that is going to be the biggest challenge because you cannot give them a house if they do not own land to put it on. He went on to say if people can provide a long term lease for property then they will be eligible for housing. Mr. Pierce said the Emergency Management staff is providing the information for the individuals to Mrs. Belcher who then determines if they are eligible. He explained there may be a group that does not qualify and hopefully the charities will step up to help these individuals.

The Board will be the recipient of the CDBG funds, and would use Ms. Belcher to administer the funds. There are caps on how much of CDBG funds can be spent per unit, but until a conclusive list of eligible households is created it is unknown how much money the state will be able to secure from the federal CDBG program. Once that number is known Ms. Belcher will make it known to the Board. Ms. Belcher and Ms. Dameron will try to get the reconciled list of households to DEO in the next two weeks. So, the Board could have an update on long term housing from Ms. Belcher or Ms. Dameron in September.

While the state is assisting in securing additional CDBG funds for the county, many of the existing federal regulations regarding eligibility will still be in place so there will be some households that will not be eligible for CDBG funds. It appears that many of the fire victims will be eligible, but the Board needs to understand that other housing solutions are going to be needed. These other housing needs include those people who can't prove they owned or rented a structure destroyed by the fire, but can prove they were living in a structure destroyed by the fire, and those people who can prove they owned or rented a structure but whose income exceeds the guidelines set for CDBG housing assistance. There will be more discussions on how to get those non-CDBG households back on their feet, but it appears there is going to be need for charitable organizations to help these non-CDBG eligible households

Mr. Pierce reported there is also three individuals that had stick built homes that were paid off but they did not have insurance and he is not sure how the county is going to assist them. Mr. Moron expressed concern that the county CDBG grant will tie the county up for 2 years so they can only help people who were impacted by the Eastpoint fire. He stated before the fire happened there was a list of people who were waiting for CDBG funds to have their unit repaired or replaced. Mr. Pierce explained the county kept the current CDBG open so they could jump start the money but he is not sure how they will help the other people. Commissioner Sanders asked if they can combine the people from the fire with the other



requests and ask for enough money to cover all of the people. Mr. Moron said he would like to apply for extra funds to cover people not affected by the fire. Chairman Parrish agreed it would be good because there are people who have been on the list for a long time. He stated the Board is committed to helping the people from the fire so he is not sure how they address the other requests. Mr. Moron said he has a meeting with USDA in a week and will see what role they can play. Commissioner Massey thanked Mrs. Dameron and Mrs. Daniels for their work. Chairman Parrish agreed and said they appreciate all their hard work to help the people recover from the fire. Commissioner Lockley stated he was not talking about the Emergency Management staff but was addressing Franklin's Promise.

**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. EOC Staff continue to promote the Alert Franklin System and encourage residents to sign up to receive updates and information from Emergency Management.
4. EOC Staff has been activated for the Eastpoint Fire starting 06/24/18. See Attached Press Release Dated 08/03/18.
5. As of 08/02/18 the Balance in the Franklins Promise Eastpoint Fire Victims Account is \$258,567.21. See Attached Financial Report.

**Erik Lovestrand – Extension Office Director**

Mr. Lovestrand apologized for not providing his written report to the Board but said he will email it today. He stated he does not have any action items. Chairman Parrish reminded Mr. Lovestrand if he has an action item and his report is not submitted then the Board will not be able to take action. He explained there is a policy that the items will be submitted to the Board by Thursday so it can be sent to the Commissioners on Friday and they have time to review the items before the meeting. He asked Mr. Lovestrand if they are still moving forward on the new facility. Mr. Lovestrand reported the architects and engineers are working on the plans. He said they have a fully executed sublease from DEP for the facility. Mr. Lovestrand stated he is putting together the land use plan for the Board of Trustees to review and the project is moving forward.

**Public Comments (3-minute time limit)**

Mr. Alan Feifer, Concerned Citizens of Franklin County, said he is aware that the public comment policy will be brought up later in the meeting by the attorney but he will comment now as he will not be allowed to speak at that time. He read a prepared statement addressing the rights granted by the constitution and state law for individuals to address their elected leaders at the time decisions are being made. He asked the Chairman why Franklin County is being less open than other counties.

Ms. Cindy Slater, a resident of Alligator Point, discussed the time they have been waiting for Alligator Drive to be sufficiently repaired or restored. She stated this section of land is an environmental hazard when it is dry and a physical safety hazard when it is wet. She reported the road is repaired timely and they appreciate that work. Ms. Slater said they need a dust free reliable road now. She reported she was told the commissioner in their district has pledged \$20,000 for road repair but they have not seen any repairs. She stated the stop light in this area has probably cost the county \$40,000 in the last year. Ms. Slater explained these monies would have at least fixed the road temporarily. She stated she hopes the road is repaired quickly and that their future commissioner will respond to their requests.

Mrs. Janice Hicks, a resident of Apalachicola, asked for the proposed completion date for Lombardi Park so they can use the boat ramp. Chairman Parrish reported this was addressed this morning. Mrs. Hicks asked who can provide a report on the hospital tax that shows the year by year revenue and expenditures. She said she would like to see how the hospital tax dollars have been collected and spent each year since its inception 10 years ago because they still do not have a new hospital built. Commissioner Lockley stated the information on the hospital tax is public record so she can get a copy. Mrs. Hicks asked if this information will come from the Clerk's Office, Mr. Moron or the hospital. Mr. Moron agreed to meet with Mrs. Hicks after the meeting.

#### **H. D. Cannington – Weems CEO – Update**

Mr. Cannington provided an update for the Hospital for the 11 weeks he has been here. He thanked the Board for the opportunity to work with such a good medical staff, caretakers and support people. He stated the Hospital Board members are actively involved in the meetings and take seriously their oversight of the hospital. Mr. Cannington presented his report, as follows:

**Hospital Governance** – The Hospital Board has made progress over the past few months as a governing body. Each member is engaged in the meetings and providing oversight of operations. During this time, the Board

- Appointed a Finance Committee to meet prior to the Board meeting each month to review financials and recommend approval to the Board. All Board members are invited. Hospital finance education is provided at each meeting.
- Approved an operating budget for the remainder of 2018. The Fiscal Year 2019 Budget is being prepared for Board approval in September, which will include operations and a capital equipment budget.
- Reviewed quarterly reports on Risk Management, Quality Assurance/Performance Improvement, and Patient Incidents.
- Approved appointments and reappointments to the Medical Staff with approved clinical privileges.

Mr. Cannington informed the Board he attended the Medical Staff meeting and has attended many small hospital medical staff meetings but was very impressed with the amount of time the Chief of the medical staff and the other medical staff took in going through the

credentialing package. He explained when a physician or another provider applies for privileges to practice at our hospital they have to go back and check many items and provide this in a package for the medical staff to review. He reported they are doing their job and not automatically approving these. He stated it later went to the Hospital Board and was approved.

### **Financial Highlights for the 9 months ended June 30, 2018**

- Cash and Cash Equivalents \$886,760. 28.5 Days Cash on Hand.
- Gross Revenue \$8,702,984. Under budget \$678,440, or 7.2%.
- Net Revenue \$4,762,373. Under budget \$53,036, or 11.1%.
- Salaries \$2,848,258; Benefits \$665,039; Total \$3,513,258. Under budget \$72,388, or 2.0%.
- Total Expenses \$5,829,498. Under budget \$165,036, or 2.8%.
- Net Operating Profit/(Loss) (\$1,067,125). Over budget \$111,701, or 5.2%. (Better than budgeted.)
- Net Profit/(Loss) \$431,292. Under budget \$13,824, or 3.1%.

Mr. Cannington said they are trying to increase services in certain areas because the figures being under budget show they are not doing as much volume as they anticipated when the budget was approved or when it was developed but their expenses are running slightly under budget. He explained one of the reasons for this is right now they are under a minimum staffing level and described which positions this includes.

### **EMS**

- Steve White to assume the position of EMS Director on August 27.

Mr. Cannington stated he, Dr. Patrick Conrad and one of the lead paramedics interviewed Mr. White and they think he will fit in well with the staff. He explained they are trying to hire the additional staff they need to run all 3 Advanced Life Support (ALS) trucks in the county.

- Hired 2 FT (full-time) and 1 PRN (as needed) Paramedics as well as 2 FT and 2 PRN EMT's in the past month.
- Offering one EMT and one Paramedic Scholarship this year in exchange for a 3-year work commitment.
- Met with LifeGuard in June and they sent me a soft proposal to provide EMS services at current cost.

Mr. Cannington stated when he started the Board provided some priorities for him and he started working on those items.

### **Medical Clinics**

- Weems West (Apalachicola) received certification as a Medicare-certified Rural Health Clinic effective January 4, 2018. This will result in increased reimbursement from Medicare and Medicaid.
- Applied for RHC certification for Weems East and are waiting to have the site survey scheduled by the State.

- Started Saturday Clinic at Weems East July 21. Will start weekday extended hours as adequate staff is hired.
- We currently take walk-ins at both clinics but are looking to provide urgent care in Carrabelle.
- New Providers
  - Kristal Martin, ARNP – Currently covering every other Saturday at Weems East. Considering full-time.
  - Mary Sue Moore, ARNP - PRN to cover Saturdays or weekdays as needed.
  - Dana Whaley, ARNP – Currently working part-time at Weems East. Will be full-time by mid-September.

### **Hospital Affiliation**

- Met with Roger Hall, Sacred Heart CEO, and Michael Morón to share visions for healthcare in Franklin County. Waiting on updated proposal based on discussion.
- Talked to TMH CEO Mark O'Bryant in July and discussed WMH and how to improve healthcare in Franklin County. Their Regional Coordinator came down and discussed several items, including
  - Improving patient care through the use of telemedicine.
  - Assistance with identifying the need and availability of physician specialists in Franklin County.
  - Being a resource for Clinical/Support Services, initially in setting up Urgent Care and Satellite OP Services.

### **Community Outreach** – Below are some of the activities related to community outreach.

- Inform the community of the health care services that are provided by WMH and its clinics. We are also looking at ways to make sure our many visitors to the area know how to access services, if needed.
- Communicate with other potential partners within the county.
- Identify the health care needs of the citizens of Franklin County that can and should be provided locally. Make sure that people throughout the county have reasonable access to the services provided.
- Host the Franklin County Day of Health on Saturday, November 17 at the hospital. Local partners and area healthcare providers are being asked to participate.
- Have Open House at Weems East

Mr. Cannington reported they have added some new providers and when their PA returns they will hopefully schedule this open house for the end of the month.

### **Improvement Workplan** – These are items the Admin Team and other employees are currently working on:

- Grow services currently offered – Clinics, Swing Beds, OP IV Therapy

Mr. Cannington explained the services offered through the swing bed program.

- Make Operational and Revenue Cycle Improvements – EMS, Clinics, and Hospital. Revenue Cycle efforts will include review of Coding, Billing, Follow-up, and Collections.

Mr. Cannington reported as a Critical Access Hospital they are cost reimbursed from Medicare and that is about 45% of their business. He said they will only get paid what it cost them to

provide services. He stated they also have to take care of a lot of patients that do not have insurance or are poverty stricken and they get very little money from that. He said they want to make sure they collect all that is owed to them from patients that have insurance. He reported when they had the fire in Eastpoint they made a decision to let people in this area attest to the fact that they had no income and that is called presumptive eligibility.

- Developing action plan from Operational Review completed last year.

Mr. Cannington stated he has started having employee meetings. He explained at Weems Memorial Hospital all the supervisors are working supervisors and the directors actually work shifts. He reported they decided to have employee meetings after every Hospital Board meeting so the employees know what is going on. He reported at first the employees did not have a lot to say but now they are engaging and having good comments. Mr. Cannington stated the employees said people do not know where the clinics are and sometimes they do not know how to get into the emergency room so they are looking at signage. He reported it is great the employees are involved and excited about what is going on.

**Charge Master Review** - Engaged a consultant to perform a comprehensive charge master review using proceeds of the Small Hospital Improvement Program (SHIP) Grant totaling over \$10,000. This will ensure we are compliant with current billing guidelines and be paid appropriately by 3<sup>rd</sup> party payers.

**Medical Staff Meeting** – The Medical Staff was very diligent in conducting its review of credentials and quality/risk management reports at its meeting of July 24.

Commissioner Sanders said that was a report. Commissioner Jones stated it was a welcome change in the report. Commissioner Sanders reported it is good to hear because it sounds like they are getting where they want to be.

The meeting recessed at 10:28 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 10:41 a.m.

#### **Curt Blair – TDC Administrator – Report**

Mr. Blair said he sent a report and a supplement for the Board. He offered his report to the Board, as follows:

#### **Collections:**

Collections numbers for the month of May were \$140,130.14. This is an increase of \$29,645 over the previous year and results in an increase over last year's collections of 5.4% to date.

#### **Visitor Center Visits:**

We saw 3,304 visitors in our Centers in July. So far this year the Centers have seen a total of 23,622 visitors.

**Web Traffic:**

We have launched several internet advertising campaigns directed at empty nesters and snow birds. Our web activity was up over 74% in July as compared to July a year ago. We attribute this increase in part to the new web site that went on line a couple of months ago as well as the digital campaigns I just mentioned.

Our Social Media channels received 133,000 impressions and 1,735 engagements in July. We now have 91,197 social media followers.

**Newsletter:**

As I mentioned before a key function of our monthly promotional activities is our newsletter distribution. These publications are distributed to the email addresses we harvest through our Visitor Centers and non-profit organizations. In July we exceeded 50,000 qualified email contacts that now receive our monthly newsletter that focuses on events and happenings throughout the county as well as future events and specials for the returning visitor.

**VRBO and Tax Collection:**

Finally, we are conducting a study of VRBO listings in Franklin County. By September we expect to know the actual number of VRBO listings that are likely not paying the required Tourist and Sales Tax.

Mr. Blair explained this is a lengthy process as they have to go listing by listing since VRBO will not provide the information. He explained they will most likely send letters once they are identified to remind them of their legal responsibility to pay the tourist tax and state sales tax. He explained this will increase their collections and improve the regulation of the individual property owners.

**Collections:**

As of the preparation of this report, we had not received the July collection numbers. If they come in before your meeting, I will add them to my report.

**Vendor RFQs:**

The TDC Board has reviewed the responses to the Vendor RFQs for the four vendor categories including: Print Media, Internet, TV Airtime and Production and Local radio. I have attached a report on the ranking for each of these categories and we submit them to you for consideration.

Mr. Blair stated this does not include the Administrative Contract because it is being done separately. He explained the Vendor RFQ's had a scoring mechanism so the Committee reviewed the applications and scored and ranked the RFQ's. He presented the scoring and ranking, as follows:

a. Internet and Web Services:

2K Webgroup - 695                      Designer At Large – 300

Mr. Blair reported the TDC Board recommends the Board starts negotiations with 2K Webgroup.

b. Print Media:

Bay Media - 695                      Designer at Large – 400

Mr. Blair stated the TDC Board recommends the Board enter into negotiations with Bay Media.

c. Local Radio:

Designer at Large - 285              Live Communications - 500    Oyster Radio – 690

Mr. Blair reported the TDC Board recommends the Board start negotiations with Oyster Radio.

d. Local TV Air Time and Production:

Designer at Large - 300              Forgotten Coast TV - 690      Full Moon Creative - 375

Mr. Blair said the TDC Board recommends the Board enter into negotiations with Forgotten Coast TV.

Commissioner Lockley left the meeting at this time. Chairman Parrish asked Attorney Shuler to comment on this procedure. Attorney Shuler explained the process the Board outlined required the TDC Board to bring back their number one ranked applicant and the Board will either accept or reject the recommendation from TDC. **On motion by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the TDC's Board recommendations.** Mr. Blair said the next step is to begin the negotiations. **Commissioner Sanders made a motion to turn negotiations for the contracts back over to TDC.** She reported the TDC has done this in the past. **Commissioner Lockley returned to the meeting. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried; 5-0.** Mr. Blair reported the TDC Board will meet tomorrow so they will start this process.

**Board Appointment:**

We have received the resignation of Board member Chester Reese who was serving as the designee from the Carrabelle Chamber. The Chamber has recommended Rob Powis as a replacement for Mr. Reese. The Commission would need to approve the appointment.

**On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Sanders, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to appoint Mr. Rob Powis to the TDC Board.**

**Non-profit Grant Program:**

The TDC is in the process of reviewing the 2018-19 grant applications described in the information I provided you at your June meeting. As we expected there were a number of issues raised by applicants that the TDC will be trying to resolve as review of the programs continue. Tomorrow (Wednesday August 8) the TDC Board will be discussing the Museum Grant program in an attempt to address a number of their concerns.

Members of the TDC Grant Committee met last week to determine completeness of the other grant programs. During that discussion they forwarded several recommendations for consideration at tomorrow's TDC Board meeting. I have attached a copy of the minutes of that meeting and those recommendations for your information. There are four (4) issues about which the Committee has recommended clarifications:

- The applications require that organizations must either be a government organization or a 501C3 corporation. The Committee recommends that the wording be revised to read 501C organizations. This change corrects a typo to allow Chambers to apply for grants which was always the intention.
- Provide an opportunity to allow applicants two additional weeks to provide additional information.
- Amends the Match requirement to allow organizations to match their grants with funds budgeted for the event as opposed to just funds to be used for promotion. This change would be only for one year while organizations became familiar with the new grant requirements.
- Limited applications for an organization to one per event.

Mr. Blair said the TDC Board will hear a recommendation tomorrow that the match will be based on their total budget rather than just the money that they spend on promotions.

**Meetings:**

- **Board meeting** will be tomorrow **August 8, 2018 at 2:00 P.M. at the EPVC.**
- **Grants Committee meeting scheduled for August 22, 2018 at 2:00 P.M. at a location to be announced.**
- **Special Board Meeting on August 29, 2018 at 2:00 P.M. at the EPVC. To review applications for the TDC administrative position.**

Commissioner Lockley said he thought the Board was addressing the TDC Administrative position. Mr. Blair explained the Board would normally open the RFQ's and then send them to TDC. He reported the TDC will then send the Board the top three RFQ's. The Board agreed this is the process.

Commissioner Sanders reported Mr. Fetchick came before the TDC Board on economic development but she did not feel comfortable with TDC discussing it before this Board heard about it so that is why he is here.

**Richard Fetchick – ARPC – Application for EDA Disaster Supplemental Funding**



Mr. Fetchick reported the Apalachee Regional Planning Council, is committed to searching for planning and economic development avenues to support their counties including Franklin County. He reported the Economic Development Administration (EDA) has made funding available for all kinds of pursuits under the Disaster Supplemental Category. He explained he has been working with county staff over the past months on a proposal to develop economic development strategies for the county which include data and outreach. He said the county has engaged in economic planning in the past. Mr. Fetchick stated strategic planning needs to be continually reviewed and they need to ask how the economy is changing and how they are responding through workforce development, entrepreneurship support, support of local businesses and meeting the present needs. He explained there is a proposal that he has developed with Franklin County staff and they are ready to submit the application to EDA. He reported there is a match required and the ARPC will commit \$4,000 and are asking the county for the other \$4,000. Chairman Parrish stated his understanding is there is also a \$40,000 grant they are receiving that they must have a match for. Mr. Fetchick reported there is a \$50,000 grant and the ARPC is responsible for raising 20% or \$10,000. He went on to say they have a \$1,000 commitment from each city. Mr. Pierce asked the Board to support this application as the county is changing and the economic development horizon is shifting. He explained the county has rejoined Opportunity Florida and ARPC are trying to assist them with economic development diversification. Mr. Pierce stated the county needs to pursue this proposal and pay the \$4,000. Chairman Parrish said he understands the Board will direct TDC to spend \$4,000 for the match. He reported they are also doing this for different counties. Mr. Fetchick explained they are providing economic development planning services to other counties but Franklin County is in the spotlight for EDA funding. Commissioner Jones clarified for the \$10,000 the ARPC is providing \$4,000, the county would providing \$4,000 and each of the cities is contributing \$1,000. **On motion by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to direct TDC to provide the \$4,000 match for this proposal.**

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

Clerk Johnson stated she does not have any action items. Chairman Parrish reported Clerk Johnson submitted a report with the holidays for her office for 2019.

1. For information, the following days have been set for holidays for my office for 2019:

New Year's Day	Tuesday, January 1, 2019
Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday	Monday, January 21, 2019
Good Friday	Friday, April 19, 2019
Memorial Day	Monday, May 27, 2019
Independence Day	Thursday, July 4, 2019
Labor Day	Monday, September 2, 2019
Afternoon Seafood Festival Friday	Friday, November 1, 2019
Veteran's Day	Monday, November 11, 2019

Thanksgiving Day  
Friday After Thanksgiving Day  
Christmas Eve  
Christmas Day  
Day After Christmas

Thursday, November 28, 2019  
Friday, November 29, 2019  
Tuesday, December 24, 2019  
Wednesday, December 25, 2019  
Thursday, December 26, 2019

### **Presentation of Plaques – Eastpoint Fire Debris Removal**

Chairman Parrish stated plaques are being presented on behalf of the people in Eastpoint and the Board of County Commissioners. He reported the Board is appreciative of their efforts on behalf of the people impacted by the fire. He explained the people affected by the fire have a long recovery process ahead of them and the Board is here to assist any way they can. Chairman Parrish stated they want to recognize people today who gave time off their job to help the people who needed help start to recover. He reported there were numerous ways the county came together to assist these people from state agencies to local people. He said they have started the process of recovery and they are grateful to everyone that helped. Mr. Moron reported the Board has plaques to present to each contractor. He stated the first plaque is for Mr. Mike Cates, Cates Electric, and he apologized for not being here but said they are behind in their work. Mr. Moron said he will accept the plaque on his behalf and give it to him. Mr. Moron read the plaques. Commissioner Sanders asked to have a picture taken after all the plaques are presented. Chairman Parrish described what services each contractor provided and presented the plaques to the following contractors:

Coastline Clearing & Development  
Jason White Construction  
Roberts & Roberts Construction  
City of Tallahassee  
Sapp Brothers Contracting  
B & B Pavers  
Florida Forestry Service

Mr. Moron asked everyone to stay after the meeting because a luncheon has been prepared for them. Mrs. Dameron pointed out that not only did the Florida Forestry Division help combat the fire but they actually moved the travel trailers on the lots. She thanked them for everything they did to help the county. Chairman Parrish stated it was a collaborative effort of a lot of different agencies in responding to the disaster. He said the Board is very appreciative of all the work everyone did to assist the people affected by the fire. Commissioner Sanders stated the representatives of the Florida Forestry Service are the people on the front lines of the wildfires. She stated Mr. Chris Colburn, Forestry Supervisor, could not be here today because the Forestry family lost Mr. John Browne this week. She reported he was a Land Acquisition Programs Manager and had worked there for over 25 years. Commissioner Sanders reported Mr. Browne was a son of Apalachicola and Franklin County and today is his funeral. She said Mr. Browne was instrumental working with her and others in the late 1990's and early 2000's to get Tate's Hell Forest in here. She reported these men manage the 205,000 acres of Tate's Hell Forest.

Commissioner Sanders stated so many times these men with the Florida Forestry Division have watched her back and even though she will not be a County Commissioner she will still be looking out for them. The Board had a photograph taken with the all the agencies and contractors that help with recovery efforts.

#### **Alan Pierce – RESTORE Coordinator – Report**

Mr. Pierce offered his report to the Board, as follows:

1- Alligator Point Road update- Dewberry Engineers have continued to meet with state and federal agencies regarding the Alligator Point Road. At this time, 4 separate permits are being requested by the various agencies- an FDEP stormwater permit, an FDEP road construction permit for building seaward of the Coastal Construction Control Line; an FDEP permit for coastal armoring seaward of the Coastal Construction Control Line and below Mean High Water, and a USACOE permit for coastal armoring below Mean High Water. The last two permits are a function of the county installing vertical sheet pile to protect the road. Each permit has its own review process.

Mr. Pierce explained this is a complicated project because of federal and state rules not county rules. He reported they have to go through every review process as if they are separate applications even though they are for the same linear feet of the same road. He stated it is disappointing because there have been no allowances for emergency repairs and the county is forced to go through a standard permitting situation. Mr. Pierce said he hopes to be through with permitting, agency review and comments this year and have construction start in 2019. He reported they must have a permit from the state and federal government because they are trying to locate the road south. Commissioner Sanders said they are not going to win with Mother Nature. Chairman Parrish reported this addresses the public comment that was made and explains why it is taking so long. Mr. Pierce pointed out the county has to go through a 90 day review for the sea turtle habitat even though everyone knows there are no sea turtles or beach in this 1,100 ft. of road.

2- Consortium update- The consultants for the Consortium sent out an email saying the Governor submitted the State Expenditure Plan (SEP) to the Gulf Council for review on July 27. The Council can take up to 60 days for a review. The consultants are hoping to have an update on the SEP at the next Consortium meeting, but they are not sure if that will happen. The SEP does include all of the county's projects- building a new EOC, dredging Eastpoint and Two Mile Channels, and funds for an oyster recovery project.

3- TRIUMPH update- The TRIUMPH staff continues to go through the backlog of submitted projects, but there is no timeline for when staff recommendations will come out. I have talked to staff and I hope that the county will hear about its Armory application at either the August or September meeting. I did not ask about the status of the city or school board projects, but they are also in the review process.

TRIUMPH staff is also still developing an oyster recovery project that would be funded with TRIUMPH funds. One of the components that still need to be worked out is the connection between TRIUMPH funds and the creation/retention of jobs. As the Board is aware, TRIUMPH is all about economic development. In order for TRIUMPH funds to be spent, and to avoid a clawback situation, TRIUMPH has to be satisfied of the number of jobs that are going to be created if TRIUMPH funds are provided. FSU, the Univ. of Florida, and representatives of the oyster industry have been meeting to put together an oyster recovery plan. The TRIUMPH staff is aware that Franklin County has requested SEP funds for an oyster recovery project, so it is possible that those two funding sources would be used for one project. The Board would have to agree to that before it would happen.

Mr. Pierce stated the Triumph staff is meeting with representatives and the county is being informed of the meetings but the county has not been asked to participate. He explained the Triumph Board is interested in economic development through industry not through local government direction so they will see what the industry comes up with.

4- RESTORE update- As the Board is aware, we have held up developing our plan to use the RESTORE funds until we saw what was going to be funded by TRIUMPH. The cities are in agreement with this strategy, because if projects were not funded by TRIUMPH, but still had public value, then it is possible the projects could be funded through RESTORE. The county had a Planning Grant from US Treasury to pay for the development of the MYIP (the MYIP is essentially a list of projects to be funded by RESTORE and Treasury has to approve the MYIP). The county had selected Dewberry Engineers to assist in the MYIP development.

I have had several conversations with Treasury staff over the months that we have been working on TRIUMPH projects on when the county would get back to RESTORE. Because there was no timeline for TRIUMPH I could not give Treasury a timeline. Consequently, Treasury has decided that it will not issue an extension to our Planning Grant, which expired July 31, 2018. The expiration of our Planning Gant means that the county does not have the funds to continue to pay Dewberry for any more work on the MYIP. I had put Dewberry on hold when we started working on TRIUMPH. We had a \$350K contract with them and paid them about \$150K for the work they did. Planning Grant funds that are not used will still be available to the county, either in the form of another Planning Grant, or in the form of construction funds if in fact we don't need \$200K to finish the MYIP. Since Treasury has become more efficient in its guidance I am estimating that it will take no more than \$50K in planning effort to finish the MYIP, so the county is ahead by letting the Planning Grant expire.

My continued recommendation to the Board is that we finish the TRIUMPH process and see where we stand with projects before we re-start the MYIP process. In order for all our governmental entities to have time to get responses from TRIUMPH I recommend the Board re-visit the MYIP in January.

I have discussed the Dewberry contract with Mr. Shuler. The contract allows the county to cancel with 30 days notice, but Dewberry has not been doing any work on the contract in at least 6 months. I have sent Dewberry a notice of cancellation and have copied Mr. Shuler.

Mr. Pierce reported Dewberry had a meeting and has confirmed by email that they accept the cancellation and are not expecting any more payment. He stated a copy of this email is

included in the Board's packet. He said they will see what happens with Triumph and then they can revisit this item in January. Mr. Pierce explained all the cities and counties have spent time on Triumph and if they are not funded then maybe the projects can be reworked for RESTORE. He reported everyone will have to wait and see what gets funded. Commissioner Sanders reminded the Board the Gulf Consortium does not see any of the money in their pot coming down until April, 2019. Mr. Pierce reported yesterday Congressman Neal Dunn was in Franklin County and he and some of the Commissioners met with him about the Eastpoint Channel. He stated the Corps of Engineers (COE) have the permit and they control the timing of when the project is done and when the contractor is hired. He stated the COE have contacted him saying they hope to have funds available. Mr. Pierce said he informed them in the State Expenditure Plan (SEP) the county also has funds for dredging. He explained he also told them to get their plans together and see how much funding they have and the county could contribute money if necessary to get the project moving. Commissioner Sanders reported this project has been permitted for years. Chairman Parrish said the public needs to be aware that the county does not know a timeline for when this project will happen. He said the county has not seen any funding but they are trying to work on getting the dredging done. Commissioner Lockley asked if they said anything about the 2 Mile Channel. Mr. Pierce answered yes, the COE are going to start the permitting process for the 2 Mile Channel. He explained this is a simpler project because they already have an uplands disposal area but it needs to be cleaned out. Commissioner Sanders asked if they can use the spoil site they already have for the 2 Mile Channel. Mr. Pierce answered yes, it will have to be refurbished but it is still permitted. Chairman Parrish stated the county put the Eastpoint Channel dredging in the Consortium project SEP but if the COE has money then they can move the money over to the 2 Mile Channel and maybe get both projects done. Commissioner Sanders reported there is around \$6.6 million in the Consortium allocated for dredging. Mr. Pierce agreed this money is for both projects. Mr. Pierce said the public needs to know that one of the things that will change on the Eastpoint Channel is the COE have revisited how the spoil will be deposited and it will be better. He explained the spoil will be put behind the breakwater and the vegetative area will be expanded and there will be a larger marsh area on the backside. He said hopefully it will look like a natural harbor with a defined channel. Commissioner Lockley stated it has been about 30 years since it was dredged. Mr. Pierce stated since 1985 so it has been 32 years.

5- This item was addressed earlier in the meeting.

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

Mr. Moron read the following report:

1. **Board action** to authorize the Chairman's signature on the Resolution and application for the removal of the derelict vessel in the Eastpoint channel. The grant amount is \$2,925 and the County's 25% match, which will be paid from the Boating Improvement Fund, is \$975 and brings the total project cost to \$3,900.

**On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize the Chairman's signature on the Resolution and application for the removal of the derelict vessel in Eastpoint Channel.**

2. Mr. Clay Kennedy of Dewberry has finalized the change order to create a direct access to the Chapman Building from Highway 98 here in Apalachicola. As the Board is aware the Chapman Building is owned by the County however, we are basically land-locked because access to the building is either across property owned by the City of Apalachicola or the School District. The Change Order calls for the opening of 13<sup>th</sup> Street in front of the Chapman Building by Roberts and Roberts. In anticipation of starting this project, I was able to get the Sheriff's work crew to remove the fence in front of the building along Highway 98 and get Mr. Nabors to remove a tree base in that same area. This project will be paid from the Paving Fund Repair and Maintenance line item. **Board action** to authorize the Chairman's signature on the Change Order.

**On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Sanders, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize the Chairman's signature on the Change Order.** Commissioner Lockley asked how long this project will take. Mr. Kennedy estimated 2 months to complete the project.

3. Inform the Board that Mr. Clay Kennedy of Dewberry has submitted the Northwest Florida Water Management District exemption and the Florida Department of Transportation Driveway Connection permit that will allow direct access to the Jail's lift station from Highway 65. As the Board may recall, it became necessary for the Sheriff to install additional security fencing at the Jail to reduce the introduction of contraband. The installation of this additional security fence interfered with access to the lift station. It was agreed at a previous meeting that the County would pay for the permit fees, Eastpoint Water and Sewer District will build the access road from Highway 65 to the lift station, and the Sheriff would install security fencing around the lift station when informed by Eastpoint Water and Sewer District to do so. All necessary agencies are aware that staff has received the exemption and permit.

Commissioner Jones said as soon as the access road is done, they will be updating the lift station. Mr. Moron reported at that point the Sheriff will reinstall his fence

4. At the last meeting the Board made a motion to advertise for RFPs for County property and auto insurance along with engineering services. Mrs. Griffith, Assistant Finance Officer, thinks it is too close to the renewal date of October 1<sup>st</sup> for 2018-19 property and insurance coverage and recommends that the Board consider this advertisement during the Spring of 2019. Is the Board willing to amend the motion or defer this motion until next year? **Board discussion/action.**

**On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Sanders, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to rescind the motion from July 17, 2018 to advertise for RFP's for insurance and engineers.**

5. The Board addressed this item earlier in the meeting.
6. Mrs. Lisa Lance, your Library Director, recently advertised for two vacant full-time positions, one for the Eastpoint branch and the other for the Carrabelle branch. After reviewing the Carrabelle branch schedule, she decided to revert to two part-time positions so that she could adequately staff that branch for the six days they are open. She will keep the full-time position in Eastpoint. Mrs. Lance will contact all of the applicants and inform them of the change.

Mr. Moron said at Carrabelle they will have 2 part time positions and 1 current full time position and at Eastpoint they will have 2 full time employees. Mr. Moron reported this is how it was before Mrs. Lance asked to convert the 2 part time positions to a full time position. Commissioner Massey stated he does not understand her pushing for a full time position and then asking to go back to 2 part time positions. He explained Eastpoint does not open on Saturday but Carrabelle opens from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. and they do not have that many people on Saturday. He said if they go to part time positions then they are never going to get a full time position back in Carrabelle. Mr. Moron reported he asked if she has to open on Saturday and she said yes it is busy. Commissioner Sanders stated she does not understand why she wants to get rid of the full time position and get 2 part time positions. Mr. Moron responded for more flexibility. He explained he and Commissioner Lockley were concerned when she wanted to make the change from 2 part time to 1 full time position. Commissioner Sanders said her concern is if this does not work then she will want to go back. Commissioner Lockley questioned the change and what she wants now. Chairman Parrish stated Mrs. Lance is just informing the Board of the change she is making. Mr. Moron said she is going back to what was originally there.

7. Ms. Lori Switzer, your SHIP Administrator, has informed me that as of September 30<sup>th</sup> there will be three vacancies on the County's Housing Board. All of the members on this Board have served for at least 11 years. Districts 1, 4, & 5 seats are or will be vacant by September 30<sup>th</sup> and Skip Frink (District 2) and Robert Davis (District 3) will remain on the Board. The Housing Board meets once a quarter and since Reverend John Sink's last day will be September 30<sup>th</sup>, you should have replacements in place no later than the second meeting in September.

Mr. Moron reported Reverend Sink is present and has served since from the first day. Chairman Parrish stated the Board appreciates his service. Mr. Moron reported at the next meeting the Board may direct him to send letters of appreciation.

8. Last week the Sheriff's Office notified staff that the deadline for submitting the application for the Edward Byrne Assistance Grant Program was August 3<sup>rd</sup>. It appears that this revised deadline was due to changes at the State level. I asked Attorney Shuler to review the application and accompanying documents before presenting them for the Chairman's signature. **Board action** to ratify the Chairman's signature on the application.

**On motion by Commissioner Sanders, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to ratify the Chairman's signature on the application.**

9. This item was handled earlier in the meeting.
10. Staff was notified by the National Forest Service in Florida of the availability of the Big Gully Analysis Area Environmental Assessment for 30 day notice and comment. The comment period began on July 25<sup>th</sup> and ends on August 24<sup>th</sup>. The project webpage could be found at: <http://goo.gl/z9xQe0>. Let me know if you would like any comments forwarded to the Forest Service.

Commissioner Sanders stated in 2016 the Secretary of USDA appointed her to the Southern Region Recreation and Assessment Committee for National Forest to do assessments and changes to fees. She explained her appointment is up on September 15, 2018 and she would like the Board to reappoint her to this position. **On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to reappoint Commissioner Sanders to the Southern Regional Recreation and Assessment Committee.**

#### **John Solomon – Chamber of Commerce – Invitation**

Mr. Moron said when the Board talked about an appreciation day for volunteers the first person he thought about was Mr. Solomon. He stated he explained what the county wanted to do and the only thing Mr. Solomon asked for was a head count. Mr. Moron expressed his appreciation to Mr. Solomon for his work. Mr. Solomon said he appreciated being asked to do this for everyone that was responsible for disaster recovery efforts from the Limerock Fire. He stated lunch will be provided at the Armory. He thanked his staff working at the Armory and thanked Mr. Jerry Hall, Up the Creek, Mr. Ed Hook, The Seafood Grille and especially Mr. Lee McLemore. Mr. Solomon stated he is grateful to live in this community and the praised the Board for going above and beyond for their citizens during this time. He invited everyone over to the Armory for lunch.

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

Attorney Shuler said the first item is the Public Comment Policy. He explained he presented the first draft a few weeks ago and the final draft was sent to the Commissioners last Friday. He



asked if the Board had any questions or directions on how they want to proceed with this presentation. Commissioner Jones questioned Item C-Matters Not on the Agenda and asked if the matter he brought up today with the waste oil collection units would have had to wait until another agenda if they approve this as written. Attorney Shuler answered yes, if they approve it as written. He explained the original draft had this language and a provision that the Board could amend the agenda and bring up the new subject matter and then take public comment. He said he can amend the draft to allow the Board the flexibility to do one or the other. Chairman Parrish clarified if the Board agrees to take up an item that is not on the agenda then they would be required to take additional public comment at that time. He explained the Board should try not to bring up additional items that are not on the agenda. Commissioner Massey said Mr. Feifer likes to speak and he is a taxpayer. Attorney Shuler stated the Board would like to have one or the other alternative so if the Board wants to take action during the same meeting they can but will just take additional public comment or the Board will have the option of placing the matter on a future agenda. Chairman Parrish said if an issue is complicated then it should go on the next meeting agenda which allows them time to do research. He explained he likes it like it is so the Board can bring something up if they need to. **Commissioner Lockley made a motion to adopt the Public Comment Policy with the change that Commissioner Jones brought up.** Attorney Shuler said his understanding is the Board wants the ability to bring up a subject by having a motion to amend the agenda, having discussion, taking additional public comment and then taking Board action or if the issue is complicated and the Board does not want to take action at the same meeting they can put the matter on a future agenda. Commissioner Sanders said she agrees with the 3 minutes for a person to speak and 5 minutes if they represent an organization. She explained this is how all the state agencies handle public comment. Chairman Parrish reported after having read the policies from Wakulla County and Gulf County one of the things this Board does not currently do is only allow one person to speak from each organization. He stated the policies from other counties are not much different from Franklin County's policies. He pointed out if someone researched all the other counties they would see some differences. Chairman Parrish said he took all the information presented by Mr. Feifer into consideration. He stated he thinks the Board is complying with the spirit of the law and the statute. He reported staff makes recommendations and the Board sets policy. He said they have obviously been doing a good job because some of them have been here quite a few years and the general public is satisfied with the way they conduct themselves and the way they try to help the people of Franklin County. Commissioner Lockley said he cannot understand organizations coming here every meeting and saying the Commission is doing something wrong. He stated in 14 or 16 years he has never heard them say the Commission has done something right. Commissioner Sanders stated she has been here for 20 years and she reminded them there was an individual Commission seat in District 2 that was open to the public and if people thought they had good ideas they would have filed to run. She reported Mr. Feifer had the opportunity to file and did not. She discussed an article that was written about the aristocrats in the county and said her family has been here for 180 years and founded the eastern part of the county. She said this is a good Board and if they were not then the room would be filled with people. Commissioner Sanders stated the only time the room is filled

is when the truth has been distorted in the public. She reported she is tired of the Board being attacked. **Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. Motion carried; 5-0.**

Attorney Shuler stated mediation has been scheduled for Monday, August 13<sup>th</sup> in the lawsuit with Mr. Walter Armistead. He explained pursuant to the rules of civil procedure Mr. Moron will be present on the Board's behalf with the full authority to negotiate on their behalf and return with a recommendation if they can settle the case.

Mr. Moron reported instead of printing the whole Board packet for the meeting they will only print the Agenda. He said the entire packet will be in the back and if people need a copy they can walk next door. He explained the whole packet is on the website. Chairman Parrish stated according to the new policy all the information must be submitted by Thursday and out on the website by Friday. He stated this is good so everyone has time to review the items before the meeting. Mr. Moron clarified the Agenda, his report and the RESTORE Coordinator's report will still be printed and placed at the back but all the other reports will be in a binder and people can walk next door and get a copy.

#### **Commissioners' Comments**

There were no comments from the Commissioners.

#### **Adjourn**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

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Joseph A. Parrish - Chairman

Attest:

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Marcia M. Johnson - Clerk of Courts