

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
COURTHOUSE ANNEX – COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
OCTOBER 2, 2018
9:00 AM
MINUTES**

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

Others Present: Michael Moron-County Coordinator, Michael Shuler – County Attorney, Lori P. Hines-Deputy Clerk to the Board.

Call to Order

Chairman Parrish called the meeting to Order.

Prayer and Pledge

There was a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

There were no minutes available for approval.

Payment of County Bills

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

Public Comments – *(This is an opportunity for the public to comment on agenda or non-agenda items. When you are recognized to be heard by the Chairman, please sign the speaker's log and adhere to the time limit. An individual will be allowed to speak for three minutes whereas a designated representative of a group or faction will be allowed to speak for five minutes.)*

Mr. Rick Watson, Franklin County Tax Collector, presented the Board with a check for interest earned on the tax account this year. He reported last year he talked with the bank and now instead of getting .1% interest they are getting 1% so the amount of the check is \$3,490.10. He stated there should be some funds to return from his budget account but he will not know until they know the security costs for the Courthouse.

Mr. Paul Sanders inquired about the home replacement program. Chairman Parrish reported this will come up later on the agenda.

Department Directors Report

Howard Nabors – Superintendent of Public Works

Mr. Nabors said they are continuing to cut grass and clean ditches. He reported there has been a lot of rain on the east end of the county and the drainage is working well. Commissioner Massey thanked Mr. Nabors for all they have done. Commissioner Jones asked what steps they take or how they know what kind of materials to put down when repairing roads. Mr. Nabors stated they get certified limerock from Perry. Commissioner Jones said people ask him and he did not know. Mr. Nabors reported there is flooding on St. George Island but some people do not want their roads built up because they do not want the water to stand in their yards. Commissioner Lockley questioned if they can get 57 shell. Mr. Nabors said they have not been able to get any for the last two years but that was the best material they received.

Fonda Davis – Solid Waste Director

Mr. Davis reported the Parks & Recreation Department built the press box for Kendrick Football Field. He stated as the year goes on they will put a top on it and enclose it. He explained they now have a place to announce the games. Commissioner Sanders said they did a good job and they appreciate it.

Commissioner Jones asked the estimated time of arrival on the used oil containers. Mr. Davis stated the containers are on site at the landfill and they will get someone from the prison to build a containment wall. Commissioner Jones asked if Mr. Davis is still having conversations with Mr. Joe Crozier, Apalachee Regional Planning Council (ARPC), to make sure the county does whatever they need to do for the containers to be safe and efficient. Mr. Davis responded yes.

Mr. Davis reported this morning they have a problem with animal control in Apalachicola. He explained there were dogs running early this morning killing cats. Commissioner Lockley stated people know the Animal Control Department works from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. so they release the dogs after hours. He said his neighborhood is infested with dogs. Commissioner Lockley asked Mr. Davis to bring any suggestions for solving this problem back to the Board.

Mr. Moron provided the following item from his report:

6. *****Board action** to approve a FRDAP grant application for Kendrick Park. The project will be to add a \$100,000 splash pad and up to \$10,000 in exercise stations along the walking trail. The request will be for \$82,500 in grant funds from the State matched with \$27,500 in local funds from the Parks and Recreation budget. The deadline for submitting the application is October 15th.

Commissioner Sanders stated there were exercise stations in the past but they are old so the \$10,000 in exercise stations is good and so is the splash pad. She said the county may get a waiver on the match as the county is under a Critical Area of Economic Concern designation and has received a waiver in the past. Mr. Moron reported they will ask the Department of Health for assistance with the exercise stations. Commissioner Sanders said the Health Department helped with the exercise stations last time. **Commissioner Sanders made a motion to approve the FRDAP grant application for Kendrick Park. Commissioner Massey seconded the motion.** Chairman Parrish asked for public comment. There was no public comment. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

Chairman Parrish stated he is receiving complaints about removing the recycling container in Apalachicola and also about the containers needing to be emptied more often. Mr. Davis agreed to address this item. Mr. Davis commented the ABC School is getting the overflow now that the dumpster has been removed. He stated the dumpster is being emptied at least twice a week. Mr. Davis said he had discussions with people who want them to bring the recycling and cardboard containers back. He explained at one time the container was at the Piggly Wiggly so it was more visible. Mr. Davis said he would like to talk with Mr. Steve Rash, Water Street Seafood, about placing one on his property.

Pam Brownell – Emergency Management Director

Mrs. Brownell presented her report, as follows:

Action Items:

1. Request the Boards approval of Debris Removal and Disposal Services Contractor Selections by Committee and signing of their contracts.
 1. Crowder Gulf
 2. Bergeron
 3. Ceres

On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve Crowder Gulf as number 1, Bergeron as number 2 and Ceres as number 3 as the Debris Removal and Disposal Services contractors and authorize the Chairman to sign the contracts.

2. Request the Boards approval of Debris Monitoring Services Contractor Selections by Committee and signing of their contracts.
 1. Tetra Tech
 2. Debris Tech

On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve Tetra Tech as number 1 and Debris Tech as number 2 as Debris Monitoring Services contractors and authorize the Chairman to sign the contracts.

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 has scheduled appointments for several survivors to pick up donated items from the Carrabelle Donation Center. Survivors who have not received assistance from the donation center and have storage capabilities for their items are being scheduled first.
3. EOC staff continues to closely monitor the weather in the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico.

Erik Lovstrand – Extension Office Director

Mr. Lovstrand said he does not have any action items. He mentioned a workshop will be conducted for people who have citrus trees. He reported the workshop will be held one week from today at the Armory and experts and scientists from the University of Florida (UF) Research Center and Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services will have representatives at the meeting. Mr. Lovstrand explained there is citrus greening in the county now and this workshop will provide more information about the disease. Commissioner Lockley said the fruit on his trees got smaller but he would like to know if it is still edible. Mr. Lovstrand replied citrus greening will cause the fruit to get smaller and it does not taste good but it is not harmful to eat. Mr. Lovstrand stated Commissioner Lockley's tree did test positive for the disease. Commissioner Lockley asked if they recommend cutting the tree down. Mr. Lovstrand answered yes, because the tree will not survive and it will provide an opportunity to spread the disease. Mr. Pierce questioned if the soil is contaminated if you have citrus greening and if they have to wait to plant other trees. Mr. Lovstrand said this question needs to be asked at the meeting. He reported the disease is progressive from the root to the leaves but he is not sure about the soil. Commissioner Sanders stated they need to make sure and remove the root also. She said her tree does not have citrus greening but she has seen it in town on other trees. Commissioner Lockley questioned if they should wait before planting other trees. Mr. Lovstrand said if a bug comes from another tree then it could infect a new tree. He stated it would be better to take out the trees and replace them as part of management to try and keep the disease from spreading rapidly. He said they are using this on large acreage down south where they are still trying to grow citrus. Commissioner Lockley asked if there is anything to kill the disease. Mr. Lovstrand said there is nothing to kill the disease now that is practical to apply on a large scale or for homeowners but they are working on finding a solution. Mr. Pierce stated he has heard a series of cold winters would help. Mr. Lovstrand said it got cold last year but it was not enough. Mr. Pierce pointed out the State of Florida is no longer the

leading citrus producer. He stated most of the citrus is coming out of Argentina and South America and Florida is producing 60% less oranges now than they did in the 1960's.

County Extension Activities September 18 – October 2, 2018

General Extension Activities:

- Assisted clientele with oak tree issues, fungi questions, snake identification, suitable landscaping plants and more.
- Attended two ACF Stakeholders Executive Committee and Apalachicola Caucus calls.
- Participated in ACF Stakeholders Apalachicola Caucus and Riparian County Stakeholders meeting in Blountstown.

Sea Grant Extension:

- Participated in weekly conference calls to coordinate Sea turtle lighting project work on Dark Skies grant.
- Attended annual statewide Sea Grant Extension meeting in Destin and presented information about our Franklin County sea turtle lighting retrofit work.
- Conducted 3rd session of Master Naturalist Coastal Restoration class in Franklin County.

4-H Youth Development:

- Six 4-H Youth attended Southern Teen Leadership conference in Tennessee.
- Staff participated in final Ag Adventures planning meeting for this year before event.
- Attended District III 4-H Council meeting.
- Planning beginning for this year's Teen Retreat.

Family Consumer Sciences:

- Family Nutrition Program (FNP) Assistant teaching scheduled programs in local schools.

Agriculture/Horticulture:

- Planning continues for a workshop in Apalachicola with the cold-hardy citrus group in N. Florida to provide information about growing citrus in N. Florida and issues with citrus greening. The workshop will take place at the Armory on October 9 at 5:30 pm.
- Master Gardener program continuing at local library.

Deborah Belcher – CDBG Administrator – Policy & Contract approval

Mrs. Belcher is seeking Board approval for the rental housing rehabilitation/replacement program policy and the re-activation of her previous CDBG Housing grant administration contract to include the Eastpoint Fire supplemental allocation.

Mrs. Belcher reported at the next meeting she expects to have the agreement with the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) for the additional Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for the Eastpoint fire.

Mrs. Belcher stated she has a draft of a supplemental policy for the CDBG program to allow the Board to do rental housing assistance with CDBG funds. She explained this is only being presented because of the shortage of affordable rental houses in the county. She stated this does not guarantee anyone would receive the assistance but it will allow the Board the option of doing it. Mrs. Belcher said she wrote this policy so it could be used in other situations similar to this one but it is not intended to be used with regular CDBG funds because she knows the Board just wants that to be for homeowners. She reported this policy will allow the Board to repair or replace mobile homes when they have a disaster declaration and get supplemental funds for this type of project. Commissioner Lockley said the Board does not have this policy now and asked when the policy will start. Mrs. Belcher responded they would be able to use the policy for the upcoming money in Eastpoint. Commissioner Lockley inquired about the rest of the county. Mrs. Belcher explained this policy could be used in other places if they got disaster funding. She said it does not mandate that it has to be used but they do need to have a policy in place to do this kind of work. She explained this does require a mortgage similar to what they do with homeowners but homeowners have to continue ownership and occupancy for a period of time. She reported the time periods in this policy match up with what has already been adopted for homeowners but instead of home ownership and occupancy they are required to rent to income eligible tenants at a rate that does not exceed the published rate for rental housing. Commissioner Lockley said it sounds good and they voted to help the people in Eastpoint but there are also other people that need help. He questioned if there is something they can do to address both at the same time. Mrs. Belcher explained because these funds are always appropriated for a certain event then the funds can only be used in the Eastpoint fire zone. She said this policy was written so it could be used in other situations because the county needs a policy in effect when they are doing housing. Commissioner Lockley reported the county already had a waiting list of people that needed assistance and he understands the disaster took over and it should but is there anything they can do to work both projects at the same time. Mrs. Belcher replied for the CDBG program there is nothing the county can do right now. She stated she has plans to take care of the \$50,000 county leverage for this project as she does not want to use the county's SHIP funds for the leverage. She reported the county could have applied for a \$700,000 Small Cities Grant that could have been used somewhere else but they do not know if the county would have received the grant and then this money came through. She went on to say the county would have to give up the money to apply for other funding. Commissioner Lockley said they do not want to give up the money but they are being asked questions about the funds. Mr. Pierce reported the restrictions on the money for rental use are coming from the federal government and on the standard CDBG program this cannot be done. He stated the county is only getting this allowance for this certain emergency. He explained about 30 years ago the county received a onetime allocation and they used the money for reshelling. Chairman Parrish asked why they are addressing a rental housing rehabilitation and replacement policy at the same time they are trying to help the people in

Eastpoint. He said he read through the policy and there are too many variables and he does not agree with some of the things in this policy. He stated he wants to get the funds from DEO to help the people in Eastpoint. Mrs. Belcher reported some of the units in Eastpoint are rental units so some of the justification is the money will be used for rental housing. She explained to do rental units in Eastpoint the county need a policy. She offered to change the wording but said she was trying to word the policy so they were not locked into doing rentals. Chairman Parrish questioned if all the rental property is in the fire location. Mrs. Belcher stated the policy is for wherever the declaration covers so in this case the money is only for Eastpoint so the policy only applies to the Eastpoint fire zone. She clarified the award the county is going to get is limited to the Eastpoint fire zone. Mrs. Belcher said she can rewrite the policy to say it is only for the Eastpoint fire zone. Chairman Parrish was concerned the current draft of the policy could be interpreted as anyone in Franklin County that has property can apply for a home and then rent it out. Mrs. Belcher read the section of the policy addressing this issue and said this is only for disaster grants. Commissioner Sanders said it needs to say it is for the Eastpoint fire. Mrs. Belcher explained she wrote the policy so they could use if another event happens but it does not have to be done that way. Commissioner Lockley said they are talking about rentals and he would like to know who will get the trailers. Mrs. Belcher stated the owner of the land usually will get the trailer but it may allow someone that owned a mobile home and had it on someone else's land to get a mobile home. She reported she will bring these situations on a case by case basis to the Board to see if they want to consider these people as homeowners. She offered to write the policy so it is only for the Eastpoint fire if that is what the Board wants. Chairman Parrish stated the policy references building houses but he only knows of one house that was destroyed. Mrs. Belcher reported they are going to do mobile homes in Eastpoint. Chairman Parrish said people are going to assume they can build a home if they read this policy. He reported building houses will set the people up for failure because they must pay taxes and maintain insurance. Chairman Parrish stated the county needs a smaller policy to address the Eastpoint area. Mrs. Belcher said the policy can be whatever the Board wants it to be and can state they are only providing mobile homes. She reported there are only a few rentals and she has not talked with the owners because there was no policy. Chairman Parrish stated the policy needs to be condensed and address the specific area. Commissioner Sanders reported homeowners in Eastpoint should take priority over rental assistance. Mrs. Belcher agreed it says that in the policy. Chairman Parrish said the decisions about the units do not need to come back to the Board but be decided by Mrs. Belcher as the administrator of the grant. Commissioner Lockley agreed because he wants to help the people affected by the fire. Commissioner Massey said it needs to be done this way because a lot of people do not understand what is going on now. He stated he read the policy and it is confusing about who will receive a trailer. Commissioner Jones reported he is very thankful they are having this discussion because it means they are getting closer to getting money to help the residents. He agreed with the Commissioners and said he came in office at the end of the last CDBG and he remembers the Board did not like the way it was done. He said he is grateful they are discussing this item because he thinks there needs to be a way so rentals are not at the end of the process just because they are rentals. Mr. Moron clarified the actual ownership of the mobile home goes to the landlord and the renter has to be income qualified. Mrs. Belcher

answered yes, because no CDBG funds can go to properties that are not occupied by people who are low to moderate income people. Mrs. Belcher explained if the tenant is still there and is income eligible then they get something like a first right of refusal. Mrs. Belcher reported there are other funds like the Go Fund Me accounts that do not have these restrictions. She stated if CDBG funds are used then the individuals must be income eligible and that is a federal requirement. Commissioner Jones asked if the property owner that rents the trailer has to be economically qualified to get the trailer. Mrs. Belcher answered no, because it is tied to the occupancy of the mobile home and rent control. Commissioner Jones asked why the renter has to be economically qualified if the owner of the property that rents does not. Mrs. Belcher explained the owner is going to be limited to charging a certain rent level and keeping it rented to an income eligible person. She said the owner gets the benefit in terms of an asset but there is also a mortgage attached and they must rent to income eligible individuals and set an approved rental rate and document it each year. She reported failure to document this item is considered a default. Chairman Parrish stated someone has to document that property has been rented to income eligible individuals. Mrs. Belcher said she will do it for the next three years until she retires. Commissioner Massey asked if a person who is purchasing the property and had a trailer on the property at the time will qualify. Mrs. Belcher answered yes, unless the Board says no in the policy. She explained this would be considered an owner occupied home. Commissioner Lockley asked what will happen if someone gets a trailer and then gets paid a settlement. Mrs. Belcher did not know. She discussed duplication of benefits and provided some examples. Commissioner Jones asked to meet with Mrs. Belcher in the next two weeks because he has some questions. He explained he still does not understand how the renter has to qualify but the person who owns the property and rents the mobile home does not have to qualify. Mr. Moron asked if there is a list of people who were displaced that may not qualify. Mrs. Belcher stated there may be 2-3. Mr. Moron questioned if there are people that were renting that do not qualify. Mrs. Belcher stated she knows of one but does not know everyone's situation. Mr. Moron explained they need to find out how many people will not qualify under the CDBG program. He reported in speaking with the attorney that is why they have the donation money for people who do not qualify. Chairman Parrish suggested they have a workshop in the evening and go through these items so everyone understands. Attorney Shuler questioned the timing of the workshop and said Mrs. Belcher had mentioned having the CDBG Agreement at the next Board meeting. He questioned if the policy needs to be in place before the Board acts on the CDBG Agreement. Mrs. Belcher answered no, but DEO wanted all the things they need to be in place. Chairman Parrish reported they need a rental policy for that specific area. Commissioner Lockley asked if this is basically a HUD rental agreement. Mrs. Belcher answered yes, in some ways. Chairman Parrish asked if there is anything they need to do today. Mrs. Belcher said there is nothing mandatory today. Mrs. Belcher explained they are trying to put the items in place so when the money comes in they can get moving. Chairman Parrish questioned if they should hold a workshop. Commissioner Lockley agreed they need to have a workshop so they can answer questions when people ask them. Chairman Parrish suggested Mrs. Belcher work on the policy and present it at the workshop. Mr. Moron stated they can conduct a workshop on October 16th at 1:30 p.m. and then a special meeting if action is needed. Attorney Shuler reported that would work but it is

not necessary to have this policy in place before the Board acts on the grant agreement. Mrs. Belcher stated DEO will have to approve the policy. The Board discussed the dates for a workshop or whether to address this item at the meeting on November 5th. Commissioner Jones asked if the Board can move the meeting on November 6th to November 5th since November 6th is Election Day. Mr. Moron said he would need to check and see if court is being held that day. Mrs. Belcher stated they will use the existing policy for homeowners in the Eastpoint fire knowing that the money is only available for Eastpoint. Chairman Parrish asked Mrs. Belcher to find out how many rentals they have in Eastpoint. Commissioner Sanders agreed this is important because some people will not qualify for the CDBG funds and they will have to use the Limerock fire funds to help them. Mrs. Belcher said she does not think there are a lot of renters who were not income eligible. **On motion by Commissioner Sanders, seconded by Commissioner Massey and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to conduct a workshop on October 16, 2018 at 1:30 p.m.**

Marcia M. Johnson – Clerk of Courts – Report

Clerk Johnson did not have a report.

Alan Pierce – RESTORE Coordinator – Report

Mr. Pierce said the Courtroom is available on November 5th but the Board meeting on Election Day is usually very short. He stated Commissioner Jones was probably concerned because he is on the Canvassing Board and they meet at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, November 5th and Tuesday, November 6th but he assured the Board the meeting on November 6th will be very short.

Mr. Pierce presented his report, as follows:

1- Consortium update. Inform the Board that I had a lengthy phone call with Mr. Craig Diamond, Balmoral Group, consultants to the Consortium. By the time of this meeting, the State Expenditure Plan (SEP), might have been approved by the RESTORE Council. (The SEP was approved on Sept. 27, 2018. See attached letter.) The RESTORE Council is the aggregation of the five states affected by the BP oil spill, and 6 federal agencies responsible for the federal recovery of the Gulf of Mexico. The RESTORE Council has the final approval of the SEP. The RESTORE Council will also be the authorizing entity for any funds that come to projects in the SEP. As projects are developed, the Consortium will be making requests for reimbursement to the RESTORE Council as it is ultimately the RESTORE Council that will release funds. And just to remind the Board, while the RESTORE Council has control over some \$300M in funds, the individual counties will only get their share of the principal, which in the case of all counties in Florida is some \$11M. All interest generated by unspent funds stays with the US Treasury. No additional funds are going to the Consortium or the counties.

Mr. Diamond called to discuss how much support Franklin County will need in implementing its SEP projects, as the Consortium is the connection between the RESTORE Council and every county getting its money. The Consortium is not going away until all of the SEP funds are spent. I told Mr. Diamond that the county does not need a lot of help with the

administration of our projects, but I told him that some of our timelines might change, and so part of our discussion was the process for amending projects in the SEP.

If Franklin County needs assistance in developing or managing its projects then the Consortium will be the entity to assist, but in our case it appears we will not need assistance. Our projects include a new EOC, but the county will be able to design, bid out, and build a new EOC using contractors of our choosing, so long as we go through a bid process. The Consortium would review and ultimately recommend approval of our requests for reimbursement, and then forward them on to the Council for payment. When it comes to the dredging the Eastpoint Channel and the Two Mile Channel, I told Mr. Diamond that at this time the USACOE would be the managing consultant. He said that was fine, but that if any SEP funds were used in the project then the Consortium would still have to review the reimbursement requests, recommend approval, and then forward them on to the RESTORE Council for ultimate payment. Regarding the oyster recovery project, I said that we are waiting for plans and ideas to be clarified by both the state and local interests so it is impossible to say what role, if any, the Consortium would have.

We concluded the phone call about the process for modifying our projects in the SEP. He said that they are working on the process so it is a little uncertain right now, but he said all counties have already said an amendment process will be needed. I explained that if, for example, the USACOE informed the county that they were ready to start dredging the Eastpoint Channel in 2019, but their budget was \$1M short for construction, the county might delay the construction of the EOC because we wanted to use that \$1M to keep the Eastpoint Channel moving forward. He said that kind of moving projects around should be no problem.

Mr. Pierce stated the SEP was approved by the State. He reminded the Board they will have a member on the Consortium for the next 15 years. Chairman Parrish asked if the county has to spend this money and then request reimbursement. Mr. Pierce answered yes. Chairman Parrish questioned how small counties handle this when they do not have the money to spend first and then ask for reimbursement. Commissioner Sanders reported the larger counties that have projects ready are hoping for this. Chairman Parrish inquired how long it will take for the county to receive the reimbursement. Mr. Pierce stated all of the money would not be needed at one time and they have said the Consortium has received money from the council as fast as 48 hours. Chairman Parrish said the county cannot wait for three years for reimbursement like they have to do with FEMA. Commissioner Sanders reported they have been saying it will be April or May until they see anything from the Consortium pot of money. She expressed concern that the larger counties have more staff and are ready to get started and some counties are not ready and are worried they will be passed over. Commissioner Sanders stated the November 29th Consortium meeting is very important and when the county does their reorganization at the second meeting in November, the representative must be ready and be there because this is a critical time. She offered to help get this person ready for the meeting. Commissioner Sanders reported the representative cannot miss any meetings. Mr. Pierce pointed out there are 23 counties in the Consortium and 8 are in this area and 16 are further down the state. Commissioner Sanders explained out of the 8 original counties 5 have representatives that are changing so they need to be informed so they know what they are voting on.

2- Eastpoint Dredging update. Inform the Board that last week I spoke with Mr. Waylon Register, USACOE Panama City, and he says the Corps has received \$2M in the upcoming year to dredge the Eastpoint Channel. For reasons I will explain below he believes the costs will be somewhat higher which is why I think it is going to be necessary for the Board to consider moving the Eastpoint Channel ahead of the new EOC in the SEP. This is the current status of the Eastpoint Channel project. The USACOE has a permit to dredge the channel and dispose of materials on the water side of the breakwater. The Corps has designed the disposal area to be surrounded by geo tubes to hold in the spoil, and then plant the area as if it is a marsh environment. The problem has come out that the geo tubes the Corps have used in other projects have “underperformed” to use Mr. Register’s term, and have created maintenance liability problems for the Corps and the local sponsor, being the county. The Corps is re-evaluating the construction of the berms.

Mr. Register said the Corps has issued a task order to a consulting firm –Anchor QEA to help design a better solution. Mr. Register said that if the proposed construction costs of the re-designed disposal area are higher, the Corps would then have to reduce the extent of the dredging because they have no additional funds. I said the county would not want that to happen- we want the full extent of the channel dredged, and so I told him that it might be possible for the county to provide some additional funds to keep the project on track and at the size it was originally designed. He appreciated that and said he would keep that in mind. He said they were hoping to have the results of the analysis of the new disposal design done by the end of this year, and if everything is favorable he hopes the project will start in summer of 2019.

So, as we hear more from Mr. Register, the Board may want to consider which project it wants to do first- dredging the Eastpoint Channel, or building a new EOC, and make the appropriate project the first to be funded in the SEP, because it is likely that the first round of SEP funds will also be available in spring/summer of 2019.

Mr. Pierce said the Board may need to consider whether the Eastpoint Channel Project should be the first project or the new EOC. He reported as Commissioner Sanders stated the first round of funds will be available in the spring. He explained hopefully in December they will receive an undated report from the COE and the Board may need to modify the SEP. He stated each county will get \$11.2 million but the Consortium will also receive their money over 15 years. He went on to say between the first and second year every county should receive a little over \$1 million. He said the estimate to build the new EOC was \$1 million but he thinks that is a low estimate so they may want to do the channel with this money. He suggested the Board consider doing the Eastpoint Channel and then the Two Mile Channel and make the money available because there is more public interest in these projects. He pointed out the Board will know more in December.

3- Board action to authorize AVCON to go out to bid on the construction of the first two phases of the airport access road. The access road will provide access to the T-hangers and fuel farm for vehicles which will keep vehicles off the ramp and away from airplanes. The road is proposed to be built in phases, which is okay with FDOT because of the possibility of cost over-runs, as many construction projects are coming in well over budget according to AVCON, and because there is an issue with a wetland encroachment on one section of the road. In the Board packet is a series of drawings showing the access road and which two segments are recommended for

being bid out now, and which will be bid out later. The bid packet will also include the prepping of the first phase of the industrial park so that it will be more appealing to possible tenants. With Board approval, the project would be bid out before the end of 2018, with construction starting in early 2019. All costs are paid by the FDOT grant. Board action.

Mr. Pierce said he was not able to provide this information electronically. He presented a map and explained the road runs on the backside of the T-hangars and connects to the road that leads to the old work camp. He reported this will provide access so the cars will not be driving on the taxiway. He recommended the Board move forward but said there is a little bit of an encroachment issue. **Commissioner Lockley made a motion to move forward. Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion.** Commissioner Lockley asked how long it will take to resolve the wetland issues. Mr. Moron said those issues are in phase 2 (the middle section) and that is why they are not rushing to complete that section and doing the two ends first. Chairman Parrish asked if the issues will be worked out by the time they do phase 1 and 3. Mr. Pierce answered yes. Commissioner Lockley said they need to make sure they can work this out before completing phase 1 and 3. Mr. Pierce stated they believe this will work out but even in the event it did not they would still have access to everything to keep the people off the tarmac and develop the industrial park. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

4- Acquisition of additional lots on Alligator Point- Mr. Miles Anderson, the senior mitigation official with DEM, called last week to say the state is interested in purchasing more lots on Alligator Point in a mitigation effort to reduce the risk of damage to houses in future storms. The lots would become county property. I have spoken to Commissioner Sanders and we both agree that the first priority should be the acquisition of the fire station so that Tom Roberts Road can be extended, and then acquisitions around the section of the road that is currently under repair. Mr. Anderson said acquisitions are on a voluntary basis, the state does not engage in condemnation, so two things have to happen- the seller has to want to sell their property, and then the price has to be one the state will accept. Mr. Anderson understands the county's priorities but he has one very willing seller that he wants to close on first, and then he and I will look at a map of the Point and agree on a strategy for acquisition. On the first acquisition no county tax dollars will go to the seller as the first acquisition would be the last lot that Capital City owns on the Point, and the lot is part of the parcel of land the county has already purchased from Capital City. Board action.

Mr. Pierce asked for Board action to begin this process. **Commissioner Sanders made a motion to approve this request. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.** Commissioner Sanders said this is going to be the final lot for Capital City and she is glad it was done with grants because they have been a problem for the county for a number of years. She stated the fire house is part of the Summer Camp plan they did years ago. She explained when the first land was purchased at Summer Camp then the St. Joe Company donated land for the fire department to have a fire station on Highway 98 for the St. Teresa/Alligator Point area. Commissioner Sanders reported if they are willing to sell the current property then they may be able to build what they want. She asked Mr. Pierce to assist Mr. Anderson because this would be a good thing and would help the people in this area. Commissioner Sanders stated My Blue

Heaven was the first acquisition by the state. Mr. Pierce pointed out that home was on the south side of the road. Commissioner Sanders reported there is no south side of the road anymore. She said she is glad the state is looking at acquisitions because this area is becoming a barrier island. Attorney Shuler inquired how this is being structured and if the state is buying the land and deeding it to the county or giving the county the money to buy the property. Mr. Pierce was not sure but thought the county would be the grant applicant like last time. He reported the State of Florida cannot own the property. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

5- Board action to confirm the county will provide \$14,000 worth of in-kind services to Bald Point State Park, which would be consistent with the terms of the easement granted in 2013. Attached is an email that I drafted as a result of a comprehensive teleconference I had on Friday morning, Sept. 21. The other steps in the email that I said the county would take are items that have either already been done, requirements of work on state lands, or recommendations by the Park Service that I thought were reasonable.

Mr. Pierce stated he has confirmation that his email meets all the requirements. He asked if the Board needs to take action as it was in the easement granted in 2013. Attorney Shuler did not feel like it was necessary since it is in the agreement.

The meeting recessed at 10:25 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 10:10:35 a.m.

Michael Morón – County Coordinator – Report

Mr. Moron presented his report, as follows:

1. At your last meeting the Board directed me to find out if a referendum ****proposing a ballot question* asking the voters if they would like a new County Courthouse built in the Eastpoint area could be placed on the November 2018 ballot. I inquired with the Supervisor of Elections and was informed that it was too late as the ballots were already ordered and would be delivered before September 22nd. Mrs. Riley stated that this ****ballot question* could be placed on the next County wide election in 2020 or the Board could request and pay for a special election.
2. The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) and the Federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act require local workforce development areas to partner/work with specific entities within the community and to outline their commitments through the execution of a memorandum of understanding and Infrastructure Funding Agreement (MOU/IFA) between partners. It is also required that each MOU/IFA is approved by the chief elected official in each county where CareerSource Gulf Coast (CSGS) serves. Mrs. Kim Bodine attended your July 17th regular meeting and presented MOU/IFA for the Division of Blind Services, which was approved by the Board, but stated that the same agreement for Vocational Rehabilitation would be presented at a later date. That MOU/IFA is completed and ready for your

approval. **Board action** to approve the Florida Department of Education Division of Vocational Rehabilitation MOU/IFA.

On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the Florida Department of Education Division of Vocational Rehabilitation MOU/IFA.

3. Inform the Board that you have been invited to the Annual Meeting and Luncheon of CareerSource Gulf Coast (CSGC) on Wednesday October 17, 2018 at 11:30 a.m. (Central Time). This event will be held on the Gulf Coast State College campus in Panama City. I have been told by CSGC staff that there will be three Franklin County success stories presented at this event. If you are planning to attend let me know before Friday, October 5th.
4. Attached to my report is a draft copy of a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for new County Engineering services. What is different with this RFQ is that a contract is included as part of the advertisement, which is a practice of other counties and FDOT on certain projects. I would like the Board to review this draft and forward any proposed changes or comments to me. Then, I will ask Attorney Shuler to incorporate your changes into the final draft. That final draft of the RFQ will be advertised.

Commissioner Lockley made a motion to stick with what the county has. The motion failed for lack of a second.

5. At your September 18th meeting the Board agreed to re-advertise the Professional Executive Administration Services TDC contract. In order to expedite the process, is the Board willing to schedule a special meeting on Tuesday, October 30th at 9 am for the purpose of interviewing the applicants for this contract? **Board action.**

Chairman Parrish asked how long this will take. Mr. Moron said they will interview up to 5 applicants so about 15-30 minutes per candidate. Chairman Parrish said he cannot attend that day and would like to have a full Board when they conduct the interviews. Commissioner Sanders stated the TDC Board will be looking at the applications on October 24th. Mr. Moron asked if the Board wanted to address this item on the 29th. **Commissioner Sanders made a motion to change the meeting date to October 29th at 9:00 a.m. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.** Attorney Shuler reported the advertisement has already gone to the newspaper but does not have the dates the TDC will review the proposals or the Board will conduct the interviews but these items are included in the RFQ so he will be issuing a first addendum to the RFQ to reflect the interviews will occur on October 29th instead of October 30th. Commissioner Lockley asked when the deadline is for applications. Attorney Shuler was not sure. Commissioner Sanders said she believes it is October 15th and then they will be opened on the 16th and then it will go to the TDC and then to this Board. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

6. This item was addressed earlier in the meeting.

7. *****Board action** to authorize the Chairman's signature on the contract with Morgan Marine, the low bidder, for the removal of the derelict vessel in the Eastpoint Channel. This contract is the same as the previous one with the exception of new dates, contract numbers, and dollar amounts.

Mr. Moron explained this item was added after Friday so the Board will need to take public comment. **Commissioner Massey made a motion to approve. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.** Chairman Parrish asked for public comment. There was no public comment. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

8. Inform the Board that I met with Mrs. Lisa Bretz of Area Agency on Aging on Wednesday, September 26th to discuss the County's Senior Services. At a previous meeting, Mrs. Bretz expressed some concerns with Liberty County continuing as our Lead Agency which provides home services to seniors, but recent changes to Liberty County Senior Center administration will allow the continuation of services. Mrs. Bretz and I discussed some ideas, some of which were suggested by Commissioner Jones, regarding Elder Care Community Council's (ECCC) increased role in senior services and activities in the County. Mrs. Bretz thinks that there is an opportunity for ECCC to provide additional services and activities in the County. The more local agencies that provide senior services in the County, the more the entire community benefits.

Chairman Parrish asked if ECCC is a local organization. Mr. Moron answered yes, and said the ECCC have met with him and Commissioner Jones on numerous occasions. He said ECCC is eager to move forward with some of their programs too.

9. On Thursday September 27th the Weems Board of Directors approved the final draft of the budget. Since this is the first functional budget that has been presented to the Weems Board of Directors in a very long time, if at all, Mr. HD Cannington and Mr. Jordan Fulkerson would like to meet with each of you individually to review and discuss the budget. Pending any schedule conflicts, I would like to arrange these meetings this Wednesday and/or Thursday. **Board discussion.**

Mr. Moron stated Mr. Cannington would like to go to Carrabelle to meet with Commissioner Sanders and Commissioner Massey and explain the budget and then meet with the other Commissioners. He reported Weems East will be having an open house on November 9th and he encouraged everyone to attend.

10. Inform the Board that the County will be installing bear resistant kits in Carrabelle on Saturday October 13th from 8:30 am to 12:00 noon. Commissioner Massey was able to reserve the Carrabelle Fire Station pavilion for this event. He will join Mrs. Whitney Barfield and the Solid Waste/Parks and Recreation staff to assist residents with the installation of the bear resistant kits.

He informed the Board they have done this in Eastpoint and now they are doing it in Carrabelle.

11. Florida Association of Counties has sent the notification of qualifying period for special election of 2nd Vice President. There will be a special election held in November during the Legislative Conference to fill an unexpired term of that office. I attached FAC's email to my report.

Commissioner Sanders reported as of last Friday the only name submitted was Mr. Ralph Thomas of Wakulla County so unless another name is submitted he may be the one chosen and she is glad.

12. ***Inform the Board that staff has received the 2017-2018 Florida Forest Service Annual County Commission report. A copy of this report is attached to my report.

Mr. Moron reported he read about Commissioner Sanders' Lifetime Member Award in the Small County Commission updates and congratulated her on this award. Commissioner Sanders reported at the last meeting the Florida Association of Counties and the Florida Counties Foundation also recognized her for her years of service from 2001-2018.

Commissioner Lockley reported this is the first time he remembers getting a budget from the hospital. Commissioner Sanders said it is the first time she remembers getting one too. She stated she asked a former CEO if they had a 3 year plan or a 5 year plan and he answered yes but they were not meeting it. She said it is good to see a budget and have a budget.

Michael Shuler – County Attorney – Report

Attorney Shuler

Attorney Shuler offered his report for the Board, as follows:

1. Public Comment Policy

Presently, the public comment policy requires the board to first amend the agenda by motion if it desires take up for discussion and possibly take action on a matter brought up during public comment.

There was some discussion last meeting by county commissioners concerning the need for the agenda to be amended by motion before discussion, and possibly taking action, on a matter brought up by a county commissioner which was not on the published agenda. At present, the interpretation of the public comment policy has been to require that the agenda first be amended by motion before taking up discussion, and possibly taking action on, the non-agenda item.

A benefit of the current policy is that the board has an opportunity to first decide whether it does or does not want to take up a matter which is not on the published agenda so that you have time for consideration of the matter prior to the next board meeting. However, all that the law requires is that the board take public comment prior to board action.

Therefore, if the board wanted to retain the requirement of amending the agenda before taking up a matter under public comment, but not requiring this for matters brought up by commissioners, I think that you can do so. However, in either event, you must call for public comment before taking action on the new matter added to the agenda.

BOARD ACTION: Board discussion and possible action to amend the public comment policy.

Chairman Parrish said he does not have a problem with this change. **Commissioner Jones made a motion to amend the policy. Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. Motion carried; 5-0.** Attorney Shuler said his understanding is other than this change the policy remains unchanged.

Mr. Pierce reminded the Board at the next Board meeting they will receive a change order for the contractor that is working on Gulf Shore Blvd. to fix two other items which are Alligator Drive and Chip Morrison. Mr. Pierce said the money has already been received from FEMA and these are considered small projects so they will get the contractor to complete the work while he is on site. He explained the change order will be labeled Gulf Shore Blvd. but will actually be for these two items.

Commissioners' Comments

Chairman Parrish reported a constituent of his said when the fills were constructed they had swales to protect water from running off the road and into the bay and this is the area where the cables were placed. He stated this person wanted the Board to write a letter to DOT and ask them to make sure the swales are maintained. He explained this is a stormwater quality issue for the bay. He stated some of the swales may have been leveled when they put in the cables. **Commissioner Sanders made a motion to direct staff to write a letter to DOT to make sure the stormwater swales are maintained. Commissioner Massey seconded the motion.** Mr. Pierce reported there is another problem because after the cables were put in they had a contractor sod the area and now the sides of the road are higher and water will be trapped on the road. Chairman Parrish asked for public comment. There was no public comment. Commissioner Lockley stated both issues need to be addressed in the letter before someone is hurt on the road. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

Commissioner Jones said he and Commissioner Sanders just spent the last week at the Florida Association of Counties (FAC) conference. He explained they attended a Consortium meeting and the only project the Chairman mentioned was in Franklin County. He said it was very positive for the county. Mr. Pierce asked which project was mentioned. Commissioner Jones responded the EOC.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Joseph A. Parrish - Chairman

Attest:

Marcia M. Johnson - Clerk of Courts