

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
COURTHOUSE ANNEX – COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
OCTOBER 16, 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.

Danny Collins – Duke Energy’s Government & Community Relations Manager – Hurricane Michael Recovery Update

Mr. Collins provided an update and said the lights are coming on in Franklin County. He explained at this point Duke Energy is in the clean up stage and some people are still without power. He reported the east side of the county is complete except for the people who have damage to their homes and still need work done before they can reconnect the power. He said there is still a little work left in Apalachicola and Eastpoint. Mr. Collins stated they are still waiting for repair to their substation on St. George Island but the work on the Island is nearing completion. He reported as soon as the substation is repaired the customers will have electricity. He explained most of the work that is left is in Gulf County and Bay County. He offered to address any issues. Chairman Parrish asked for a timeline on when the St. George Island substation will be repaired. Mr. Collins responded they expect St. George Island to be done by Wednesday but it could be sooner. Chairman Parrish said he appreciates everything Duke Energy has done and how they coordinated all the different companies coming in and working with them. He commented Duke Energy responded well to the county. Commissioner Lockley stated this was the worst storm to hit the county but the fastest the lights have ever come on. He said they have done a tremendous job. Commissioner Jones commented he is

amazed at how fast they have done this work. Commissioner Massey said he appreciates everything they have done. Commissioner Sanders reported she is one of their biggest advocates and offered her condolences to Mr. Jacob Reed's family. She thanked Duke Energy for their fast response and said she met lineman from many states. She reported other areas are worse off than our county and this county is blessed because there was no loss of life. Mr. Collins pointed out they could not have restored power as fast as they did without the cooperation of the county and cities. He reported the staging site in Apalachicola is owned by the county and the City of Carrabelle and the City of Apalachicola also gave them access. He explained without the ability to have trucks and sleeping trailers here, they would be commuting each day and that would cut down on the work being done. He thanked the Board for allowing the staging area that helped speed up the restoration. Mr. Pierce thanked Mr. Collins for their work and asked if they have a timeline for leaving the airport. Mr. Collins said they can discuss it but he does not have an update because they are still in restoration mode. Mr. Pierce said the county wants them to stay as long as they need to.

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, stated his Carrabelle Office is open and the Florida Licensing on Wheels (FLOW) van is coming to the high school at 10:00 a.m. and they will be in Apalachicola today. He reported the van will be in Eastpoint tomorrow. He said his office at the Courthouse should be up and running tomorrow.

Mrs. Brenda LaPaz, Mayor of the City of Carrabelle, provided a report on the City of Carrabelle. She said City Hall will open for normal business tomorrow. She reported the Carrabelle Airport is closed for normal operation but emergency supplies are being received there and Duke Energy and the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) are staging there. She stated the restaurants are still regrouping and a couple of them have reopened. She provided a list of the businesses that are open for normal operating hours. Mayor LaPaz said all of their motel rooms are booked for the next few weeks. She reported Weems East is open and they appreciate it. She said a representative from the Small Business Administration (SBA) will be set up at the Carrabelle Library on October 17th. She reported the Carrabelle and Eastpoint Water Districts and the Northwest Florida Water Management District got together and sent their water samples to one lab as the lab they normally use is damaged. She stated they should have reports midday about the boil water notice. She thanked the EOC staff and said they had good communications throughout the storm. She thanked Duke Energy and the Franklin County Commissioners for their support. She explained when dumpsters were needed for perishable goods Commissioner Massey provided them. She thanked her city staff who remained on duty full time and on standby. She reported they need the roads opened back and forth because eastern Franklin County is cut off. She said the point of distribution she coordinated with the

State EOC is going to wind down in Carrabelle and possibly in Lanark Village and they will not be making any more deliveries. She stated today is the last day hot meals will be served by the Red Cross in Carrabelle. Mayor LaPaz said they will be ready to assist and serve the public in Carrabelle.

US Senator Marco Rubio – Hurricane Michael Recovery Discussion

Senator Rubio said he knows how difficult things are now but he wants to thank the staff and people that are serving everyone because they are also victims of the storm. He also thanked people who have responded from across the country. He stated public utilities especially Duke Energy has responded well. He explained the lead agency is the state EOC in coordination with the counties and cities. Senator Rubio explained the job of FEMA and the federal government is to provide whatever assistance the state needs. He reported up to this point the President, the White House and FEMA have not turned down a single request made from the state. He stated their job is to act as a liaison to make sure requests are handled quickly. He said on the individual side FEMA, SBA and others handle things and his office has worked with them on other events by sometimes offering personnel to assist them with helping people apply for aid. Senator Rubio stated they often want people to apply online but that can be difficult when people have no power or communication. He said they will be there to help individual Floridians apply for assistance that they are eligible for under the federal declarations. He pointed out long term governments are often victims also of storms and there is a lengthy reimbursement process. He said there are items that will have to be rebuilt that are not normally covered and that is why Congress passed disaster relief bills. He pointed out in the Florida Keys there are still multiple municipalities operating on lines of credit because even when the disaster relief is approved they must still pay the money first and then seek reimbursement and the process is taking too long. He stated they are hoping to shorten the process for the county. He reported the reimbursement for overtime costs should not take long but they do because audits are performed to make sure the money was actually spent. He said these funds should be reimbursed quickly because counties can burn through reserves very fast. Senator Rubio reported once the damage assessment is done then their job is to make sure they can get money in a disaster relief package. He assured the citizens they will be there every step of the way and they will not be forgotten and he is confident everyone will emerge stronger. Senator Rubio said he will work for the citizens and be there to help move obstacles to get the help they need. He reported the people will continue to be in their prayers and in their work. He thanked the people who are working here serving the people they work for. Chairman Parrish thanked Senator Rubio on behalf of the people and staff of Franklin County and said they appreciate him appearing today. He stated Senator Rubio has been in contact multiple times and his field staff will be here at the disaster recovery centers. He commended Senator Rubio for crossing party lines to do what is right for the people. He stated he appreciates Senator Rubio coming here to speak to the community and lending a hand to the people. Commissioner Lockley reported there is a problem with the road in the east end of the county on Alligator Point. He explained the road has not been fixed because FEMA has not given the money from the last storm. He said people cannot get to their houses and he asked if

Senator Rubio could get them some help. Senator Rubio stated he will try to find out where the money is for this repair. He explained there is a two step process and first FEMA looks at the contract to make sure it is right and then they send it to the state and they complete the same process. He stated the first thing he will do is see where the money is and why it has not been disbursed. Senator Rubio reported they are trying to shorten the process because there are jurisdictions that have been waiting 2 years to have money reimbursed. He went on to say the smaller the jurisdiction the more difficult it is to front the money and there is no way to budget for this type of event. He assured the Board he will get an answer as soon as possible.

Commissioner Sanders said on Alligator Point the studies that are required are holding up the money. Mr. Pierce reported the solution the county wants is the state to take back the road because it is beyond their means to maintain the road. He said it was a state road 40 years ago and he asked for assistance in turning the road back over to the state. Commissioner Sanders clarified the funding process is 2 years behind because the damage to the road occurred in 2016. Senator Rubio stated this happened after Hurricane Katrina because there were some contract problems and there was also a 7 year claw back. He reported they just passed a law reducing the claw back to 3 years but the process needs to be fixed. Commissioner Sanders said when she was transitioning into office in 1998 Hurricane George struck Alligator Point and now another hurricane has struck when she is going out of office. She reported Senator Rubio is a fine example of public service and she thanked him for coming and providing information to Franklin County. Senator Rubio stated he will get some answers on the questions today.

At this time the Board continued public comment.

Mr. Grayson Shepard, a resident of Apalachicola, said the people here are blessed and most of the people rode out the storm here but they have learned a lesson about getting out when they are warned to leave. He reported the storm brought out the best in people but also showed deficiencies in the community. Mr. Shepard said a lot of things should have been planned out before hand and were not in place. He reported for two days there was only 1 lane traffic on Highway 98 and there were convoys of response people trying to get in to go further west and that is inexcusable. He stated there was a food kitchen run by citizens not the government. He commented there are assets that should have been better organized. He reported they are hearing about generators that were hidden away and medical mobile units that were turned back from the hospital. He reported some people were hurt and were helped by members of the community because they did not know where to go. Mr. Shepard stated fortunately Verizon kept working but AT & T is down so only half of the people have cell service. He reported they need to get information out and keep people informed because during the storm they did not know what was going on. He stated after the storm there was no information about medical help and food and that needs to change. He stated they need to do an after action report and some changes will need to be made. He said he appreciates everything the Board has done.

Ms. Kristen Bell, a resident of Eastpoint, said she is an emergency room trauma nurse and they have friends that were injured and there was no way to get them medical care so she and a

friend provided care. She questioned why an EMS truck was not set up to triage people. She reported there should be a plan to have mobile units stocked with basic first aid. She asked for a mobile medical unit to be in place for people the next time there is a storm.

Mr. Jim McCloy, President of the Alligator Point/St. Teresa Association, reported people are frustrated on the other end of the county. He stated the county knew about the road before the storm but the citizens there feel left out and forgotten. He said he attended meetings where the citizens say the Franklin County Commission does not care about Alligator Point. He reported there is no road and the residents cannot get to their properties. He stated yesterday a neighbor told them they could not cross through their property so they are cut off from their homes. He reported one of the problems is the county does not have a presence at Alligator Point. Commissioner Sanders stated she was present at Alligator Point. Mr. McCloy said someone from the county should be setting up a tent and offering assistance. He reported a message was sent out from Franklin County on Sunday saying you could get assistance and water and ice from Carrabelle but they could not get to Carrabelle so a recovery center there did not do them any good. He stated a mini site could have been set up at Alligator Point. Mr. McCloy said they need information and are not getting anything. Mr. McCloy reported FEMA is wandering around but does not have a tent and you can only get information if you happen to be there when they come around. He reported in disasters there is usually a central location where agencies are with information and they have nothing. He offered to work with the county and said they need a representative at Alligator Point to answer questions. Mr. McCloy reported they may have a public meeting at the church next Saturday at 10:00 a.m. but they will not have a meeting unless there is someone there from Franklin County and the other agencies to answer questions.

Mr. Alan Feifer, Concerned Citizens of Franklin County, said he knows Commissioner Sanders cares deeply about Alligator Point. He reported people are frustrated but he thinks they have an opportunity and need to put all their political efforts into having Alligator Drive changed to a state road. He reported the county cannot get a complete repair at Alligator Point due to the FEMA process that only fixes the immediate problem and does not do mitigation. He stated Franklin County cannot manage Alligator Point Road. He reported Senator Rubio said there may be money available from the Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services for permanent mitigation. Mr. Feifer explained the residents need immediate access but after that everyone needs to work together for a permanent solution that supports the citizens of Alligator Point and protects the pocketbook of Franklin County. He offered to help and thanked the Board, the Emergency Management Department and the Road Department for their work. He reported their water department was superb. He stated Duke Energy came with track vehicles and restored the power and he has never seen a response like that.

Mr. Bert Boldt, a resident of Alligator Point, said they have momentum and Senator Rubio was present to hear about converting the road back to a state road. He talked about justification in the millions of dollars the county has spent on this road repeatedly. He stated the county has the financial information available to prove what a hardship it has been for the county. He said

the road provides critical access justification and it is also a host road for the state's own park and these are good points to make since they have this opportunity.

Mr. Ottice Amison, a resident of Franklin County, stated his wife is employed at Weems Memorial Hospital and he would like to know if it is under control. He said he was there today and there is no sense of organization and there seems to be different information on when they will open. He reported the county hired a great CEO and the employees like him but there seem to be some undermining going on within the administration and the Board may need to straighten it out. Mr. Amison pointed out there were thousands of people working with chainsaws after the storm and there were no medical services. He stated mobile units could have been set up and he questioned why these units were held up. Mr. Amison agreed things need to change. He said he is an advocate of Weems because the county needs medical services but they need to get it straightened out soon because the county is not out of danger yet. He reported the hospital CEO needs to be in control and everyone needs to fall in line. Commissioner Lockley said he likes that. Commissioner Sanders stated she agrees.

Ms. Cindy Slater, a resident of Alligator Point, said the Alligator Point Water Resources District did an amazing job and they had water 24 hours after the storm. She reported the electric was on shortly after the water but they do not have a road. Ms. Slater said she heard a private citizen offered to create a road but the county did not respond. She stated a woman on her street fell down the stairs and had no way to get medical care so people had to carry her out. She informed the Board she walked a mile and a half this morning to be able to get out and attend the meeting. She said the Board knows the road is important and she encouraged them to work with everyone to get the road settled because it has been down too long. She reported the residents have to park a mile and a half away and carry their supplies to their homes multiple times a day.

Mr. Shepard informed the Board he is on the Board of the North Florida Medical Centers. He reported he talked with the CEO and permanent generators will be at all their facilities from now on. He listed the areas where they have centers. He said as soon as they can they will have the Eastpoint Center up and running. He reported medical services have been an issue and North Florida Medical Centers is addressing the issues and will improve. Commissioner Lockley questioned what their requirements are for shutting down in a storm. Mr. Shepard stated they could not open because their concern was for the safety of the people who work there and also because of sanitary reasons with the power out. He said it is the same situation at Weems Memorial Hospital. Mr. Shepard reported there are protocols that must be in place but the CEO is having a meeting immediately to do whatever they need to do to get their centers up and running. He stated they have 13 centers across North Florida and all of them could be impacted but his concern is Eastpoint. He stated the generator should have already been there. Commissioner Lockley reported he just wanted it known that there are protocols for opening and closing when a storm comes. Mr. Shepard stated the problem is getting a provider here. Mr. Shepard agreed the protocols are in place but they are also contingent upon electricity. He said they also have to wait for someone to do an assessment of the

building before they can reopen. He reported putting a generator there will speed up the process and that is what they are going to do.

Mr. Greg Kristofferson, a resident of Carrabelle, said the ideas are good but reminded everyone the county does offer training in emergency response and it is the Certified Emergency Response Team (CERT). He reported Mr. Feifer is on the team. He stated anyone that has good ideas can get training and be out there as a first responder. He encouraged people to contact Mrs. Brownell and get certified because citizens cannot depend on government immediately after a storm and if they are certified then they will know what to do.

Mr. Ron Nally, City Manager for the City of Apalachicola, provided an update for the Board. He said he watched for several days as local restaurants fed thousands of people and he appreciates it. He thanked residents who cleaned their own streets and cut their way out. He thanked the City of Apalachicola staff, the county and especially the Sheriff's Department and Emergency Management for their long hours and hard work. Mr. Nally reported in 4-5 days all their essential services are up and running. He reported the water system is under a boil water advisory and they are waiting on the test results. Mr. Nally said the sewer services are 99% but they are still working on a couple of areas downtown. He stated the roads, streets and alleyways are open to at least one lane and in some case both lanes. He reported debris collection will begin soon. He said City Hall was flooded and they have moved all their services to the Johnson City Complex where they will take manual water bills and payments. He stated they appreciate the public's patience with them as they move these services and start new operations. Mr. Nally reported their sanitation is under a normal schedule. He commented they have learned lessons and will do better and appreciate the volunteers and everyone's response to the disaster.

Mr. Brady Harrison, a resident of Alligator Point, stated as everyone has mentioned they have a severe issue with road access. He asked the county to contact the person if a private citizen reached out to the county to help clear the road at their own expense so they can get four wheel drive vehicles down the beach. He stated this person is just moving the debris so they can have a temporary sand road. Mr. Harrison said he wants the county to be responsive to this offer. Commissioner Sanders asked for Mr. Pierce to respond as he has been in contact with Mr. Emery Mayfield. Mr. Pierce reported if the county can get the Governor to take back the road then that is the solution they have been trying to get for 15 years. He stated he appreciates all the efforts and encouraged everyone to direct them to the Governor. Mr. Pierce reported Mr. Mayfield contacted him yesterday and offered to use his equipment to push the rocks out of the way in the debris field to get to Tom Roberts Road. He stated once you get to Tom Roberts Road then you can get the rest of the way. Mr. Pierce reported this is a great idea and he will contact Mr. Mayfield as soon as the Board approves this offer. He said Mr. Mayfield will charge less than \$10,000 to use his equipment to open the road. He reminded everyone that all they can do at this time is make it a four wheel drive surface as they are not bringing in materials. He said they will be driving on the beach surface and it will be a four wheel drive track at best and there will not be stop lights. Mr. Pierce stated Mr. Mayfield thinks this work

can be done in 3-6 hours. Commissioner Sanders said there have been two property owners that do not want the county anywhere near their property because last time the road was built partially on their property and that is why she wanted to wait until today because it is also a legal issue. Commissioner Sanders reported this Board is not waiting but are trying to get things done. She explained Mr. Mayfield will donate his time and the county will pay for the equipment. She reported the county Road Department has not been waiting either and was out there on Wednesday evening and Thursday morning opening Highway 98 because no one could get here. Commissioner Sanders said the people of Alligator Point need to understand that for 20 years the county has not had a major storm hit all of Franklin County at one time but it happened this year. She explained they are trying to prioritize and not just waiting around for things to happen. She thanked Mr. Pierce for communicating with Mr. Mayfield. Mr. McCloy apologized to Commissioner Sanders because she cares but 80% of the people on Alligator Point did not get to see her and did not know she was there. He reported some of the residents of Alligator Point communicate with each other on an application called Next Door.com. He suggested someone from the county join this app so they could see the comments and answer questions.

Mr. Robert Glazier, a property owner at Alligator Point, said Mr. Mayfield is DOT certified and also owns half of the marina. He stated the perception is Alligator Point is not really recognized but they are part of Franklin County just a little farther away. He reported if Mr. Mayfield does the road he will do the road right. Mr. Pierce talked about the need for more limerock. Mr. Glazier pointed out there are certified responders at Alligator Point.

Mr. George Mahr, owner of Apalachicola Marina, thanked everyone for their help. He said his business lost their dock and they supply about 95% of the diesel fuel for the fishing fleet. He reported Mr. Jimmy Gander, J.V. Gander Distributors, Inc., also lost his dock. He reported they only have a 1,000 gallon tank at Scipio Creek so they are not equipped for commercial boats. Mr. Mahr stated his business is down and they also provide about 60% of pleasure boat fuel and 100% of the Water Street Seafood truck fleet fuel. He said any help in rebuilding their place would be appreciated. He reported there are only two docks builders in the whole county.

Mr. Harrison stated there is road bed and a pile of sand on C.R. 370 so there is already material there to help with temporary restoration of the road.

Mr. David Folks, a resident of Franklin County, said everyone is frustrated but the greatest thing that came from the storm was people were reminded of their humanity. He stated it takes a lot of humility and great leadership to recognize some faults and mistakes and be willing to give everyone a chance to help solve them. Mr. Folks reported people want things to be different next time.

Mr. Jimmy Elliott, City of Apalachicola Commissioner, addressed the rights of Americans to come forward and complain and said a lot of people in this country died so they could have this

right. He thanked everyone for opening the food lines and for other work that was done. He said he has been in catastrophes and it brings out great character in people. Commissioner Elliott thanked Duke Energy for their work and for the convoy of trucks they had coming in from other states. He expressed appreciation to the people in our county for being civil and not looting and tearing up things. He stated he was with the National Guard during Hurricane Ivan and they dealt with a lot of lawlessness. Commissioner Elliott said he admires the way the people of the county have handled this situation.

Commissioner Sanders made a motion to amend the agenda to bring up the subject of the Alligator Point Road. Commissioner Lockley seconded the motion. Motion carried; 5-0.

Chairman Parrish said he tried to stay at the EOC and some information was not given out. He stated one man on the county road crew on a tractor cleaned Highway 98 from the Gulf County line to the foot of the Apalachicola Bridge across the bridges and causeways to Eastpoint and then to Highway 65. He reported there are things going on and Franklin County responded to them not the state and federal officials. Chairman Parrish said Duke Energy could have been here 2 days earlier but they had to clear the roads. He explained the perception is Franklin County was not doing anything but they were doing as much as they could with the resources they have. He commended Mr. Danny Itzkovitz, Tamara's Café, for cooking food for the citizens and said they appreciate it. He reported Franklin County does not have the ability to set up kitchens. Chairman Parrish stated they have never been through a storm like this before and it is easy to say what should have been done but they have made notes on the areas they need to improve in and they will strive to do that. Chairman Parrish reported contractors are coming in to clear the debris. He stated once they give them notification the contractors have 72 hours to get there equipment here but things do not happen overnight. He reported there are a lot of things going on in this disaster but the county is not as bad as Mexico Beach or Port St. Joe. He stated Alligator Point Road washed out but Cape San Blas washed out in three places. Chairman Parrish said he is glad to see the community came together. He stated as a government and a community they will try to be better prepared next time. Chairman Parrish said he will always stay during storms and try to do his best for the county. He stated trees were down and until they were cleared no one could respond. He reported Gulf County did not get any help until Sunday and they had fatalities and 48 people are still missing. Chairman Parrish stated the Governor called every day asking what the county needed. He went on to say requests have to be submitted as mission statements and then the state and federal governments respond but nothing happens quickly. He commented the public does not see all the things that are going on but this Board is working. Chairman Parrish said he met with FEMA yesterday about Alligator Point Road. He explained the road has washed out again and FEMA has not given the county money from the washout 2-3 years ago. He said the Governor and his staff told him they are hearing the people who are calling about Alligator Point Road. Chairman Parrish agreed with Mr. Pierce that the county would love to give the road back to the state because the county does not have the resources for the road. He stated the county has written multiple letters asking the state to take the road back. Mr. Pierce encouraged the residents to keep calling the Governor's office. Mr. Pierce pointed out the county only has 4 dump trucks so that is the extent of their capabilities. He reported it is very difficult to do

everything people want done at the same time. He said the solution is for the state to treat Franklin County like they treated Gulf County and take back the road. He reported Stump Hole in Gulf County washed out and is now a state road. Mr. Pierce said they are very frustrated and people need to keep calling until the state says yes to taking back the road. Commissioner Sanders stated Friday before the storm came in the Governor flew down and met with local officials because he was worried about the storm. She said she reminded the Governor that when this storm hits there will not be a road again at Alligator Point. She said the Governor stated after Hurricane Irma they brought in road crews and put in a road in 18 days.

Commissioner Sanders stated the Governor asked who owns the road and Commissioner Jones answered the county and the Governor did not say anything after that. She reported in 2016 the Governor promised to help and then didn't and the county did a campaign to try and get the state to take the road. She stated the Department of Transportation (DOT) does not want to take the road and Franklin County does not have the materials or the resources to deal with a road that has the problems Alligator Point Road has. Chairman Parrish reiterated the county will strive to do better. Commissioner Lockley said the hospital will be opening back up and the CEO is the boss and he is going to tell him after the meeting whoever is undermining him needs to be sent home for good. He stated the county is doing everything they can to get things back in order but it will take some time and they will do it together. Commissioner Lockley said he appreciates everything people have been doing and it was tremendous to see them out helping the people. Commissioner Jones reported when they had a meeting at the Sheriff's Office they also mentioned to the Governor that they would lose the road between Eastpoint and Carrabelle if the storm hit the area and he did not want to talk about it but the public needs to know it was mentioned. Commissioner Massey stated when Mr. Nabors and his crew pushed through to from Carrabelle to Lanark Village the Duke trucks were sitting at the back of the line waiting on them to get through. Mr. Pierce asked if the Board wants Mr. Mayfield to do the work at Alligator Point. **Commissioner Sanders made a motion to direct Mr. Pierce to contact Mr. Emery Mayfield and work out the details and have the road pushed through.**

Commissioner Massey seconded the motion. Chairman Parrish inquired if it will take 4-6 hours and cost \$10,000. Mr. Pierce stated there is a bid policy of \$10,000 but it should be several thousand dollars below. Chairman Parrish clarified there would be an hourly rate for 4-6 hours. Mr. Pierce responded yes, and said there had to be a cap on the amount. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

Commissioner Massey made a motion to authorize Mr. Nabors help the state grade Buck Siding Road which is part of the detour. Commissioner Lockley seconded the motion.

Commissioner Lockley said he traveled on this road and it needs grading. Chairman Parrish reported DOT notified the county the road between Eastpoint and Carrabelle will be open today. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

The meeting recessed at 10:32 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at Reconvened at 10:45 a.m.

Department Directors Report

Howard Nabors – Superintendent of Public Works

Mr. Nabors said he stayed during the storm and Wednesday evening he and Mr. Timmy Lee started clearing the damage. He reported they went west and cleared to the county line on Highway 98 and on C.R. 30. He said there was some damage on C.R. 30 but Highway 98 was good. He stated there is 257 ft. of pavement washed out on C.R. 30 in Carrabelle and 220 ft. of pavement washed out on C.R. 30 before Nine Mile in Apalachicola. He reported the crews in Carrabelle and Eastpoint did an excellent job. He explained they opened up Highway 98 from that direction to the county line and Alligator Drive to Bald Point Drive. Mr. Nabors said all the side roads are open but there is debris on the shoulders. He stated all the county roads in Apalachicola are cleared and opened. He reported Alligator Point up the KOA there is 1197 ft. of temporary road completely gone and 745 ft. of Chip Morrison Drive is gone. He said Harris Morrison Drive has 225 ft. of pavement gone. Mr. Nabors explained from Chip Morrison Drive to the marina there is debris and sand but the pavement may be fine. Commissioner Massey asked Mr. Nabors to get with Mr. Moron because the county had a tractor go out and the state has loaned the county a tractor from the Division of Forestry. Mr. Nabors said they appreciated this. He reported the state is working between Eastpoint and Carrabelle and in a few days the road may be open. Chairman Parrish reported the road will open today. Mr. Nabors stated all the county roads and side roads in Carrabelle and Lanark Village are open and the work will start on the debris today. He reported on Wednesday people were out cutting and helping and he thanked the people who cooked and served food in Apalachicola, Carrabelle and Lanark Village. Chairman Parrish stated the Road Department did an excellent job and a lot of what they cleared was a state highway. Mr. Nabors said they cleared Highway 98 first so emergency people could get in to help. Chairman Parrish stated people need to understand when a mandatory evacuation is issued the employees leave too so until the roads are cleared those people cannot get in either. He said the causeways were also cleared because the county Road Department stepped up and did it even though they are state roads. Commissioner Massey agreed and said the state told them it would be at least 2-3 days before they came in to push the road open and Mr. Nabors had it open in hours. Chairman Parrish said it was mentioned earlier that emergency vehicles were turned away but they were not. He explained the emergency vehicles stopped at EOC looking for fuel and food and then went on to Gulf County because this county did not have the medical needs the counties to the west had. Chairman Parrish stated they are still looking for 48 people. He said this county should be thankful because we were lucky and the people to the west are really hurting. Chairman Parrish reported Fire and Rescue units were also sent to Port St. Joe. He stated the only death he heard of in this county was a lineman. Commissioner Sanders reported Marion County, Alachua County and Orange County in addition to other counties sent search teams. She said she stopped and thanked them and they were on the way to Mexico Beach. Chairman Parrish stated some of the search teams came through at dark and were looking for fuel and places to set up tents to house their people. He reported they set up tents at the airport and then moved west the next morning. Mr. Nabors stated the county roads on St. George Island are good except on the west end where some of the roads still have water on them. He reported the roads will be graded but they are passable. Commissioner Sanders asked Mr. Nabors to

work with Mr. Pierce in case he needs some equipment to help on the road at Alligator Point. She stated they need to emphasize this road will only be for 4 wheel drive vehicles. Commissioner Lockley said Mr. Nabors did a good job but there is more work to do.

Mr. Moron read the following item from his report:

1. After the County suffered the effects of Hurricane Michael we all kicked into recovery mode. There were two request that I approved that needs Board action to ratify. The first request was from Mrs. Brownell, your Emergency Services director, to allow members of the Property Appraiser's office to fill up their personal vehicles with gas at the County pumps, as they were willing to use their personal vehicles to do storm assessments and which would allow them to cover more property quicker. Currently, the Property Appraiser only has one County vehicle. The second request I received was to allow County employees from the Solid Waste and Road departments that evacuated, to get gas for their vehicle once they returned to the County. This would allow these employees to get to and from their assigned areas during cleanup and recovery efforts. These employees will refund the County for the cost of the gas. The Road Department has a daily log of everyone who got gas, the amount, and vehicle information since the storm. As we all are aware, the first 48 hours after the hurricane, finding gas in this County was almost impossible. **Board action** to ratify the approval of these two requests.

Commissioner Lockley made a motion to approve these two requests. Commissioner Massey seconded the motion. Chairman Parrish said this was done because there was no gas in this area but now the stores are open and it is not an issue. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

Fonda Davis – Solid Waste Director

Mr. Davis reported the Solid Waste Department has set out containers for businesses and the public throughout the county to get rid of spoiled food. He said in Apalachicola it is at the recycling site. He stated in Eastpoint they are at the old recycling site. Mr. Davis said on St. George Island the container is also located at the recycling site. He reported the site in Carrabelle is at the Carrabelle IGA.

Mr. Davis stated the county has debris contractors so there is nothing they can do at this time. He said in talking with one of the contractors, they will get moving today. Mr. Davis reported the men have put in a lot of hours getting the landfill ready for the debris. He said they are on standby right now at the landfill waiting for them to bring in debris. He commented the knuckle boom truck is not allowed to touch the debris. He asked the Board to let them know if there is something they need to do but other than that they will work their normal hours. Chairman Parrish reported there are staging sites for debris and once the disaster is over then the debris has to go somewhere else. He questioned if the landfill will hold all the debris or if the county will need a new landfill which will cost a couple of million dollars. Mr. Pierce said they cannot answer these questions and referenced an email received from DOT. He stated most of the debris DOT will be managing and they have not said they are using the county's staging areas or our landfill. Chairman Parrish said he read the letter different than Mr. Pierce.

Commissioner Sanders stated she did too. Chairman Parrish read a portion of the email. He explained this email says they are coming to counties that do not have debris contracts. Mr. Pierce referenced another paragraph and said the state is willing to take on the debris contract at the existing rate. Chairman Parrish said they are not coming in if the county has a contract. Mr. Pierce stated his understanding is they are not getting a new contract but using the one the county already has. Chairman Parrish asked where they are staging the debris. Mr. Pierce was not sure as DOT has not contacted them yet. Chairman Parrish reported the county agreed to let the City of Apalachicola co-locate their staging sites in addition to the county's staging site but the debris has to be kept separate and documented separately. He questioned if DOT is going to be a third entity in the staging area. Mr. Pierce said DOT is taking over the responsibility for handling the debris but he was not sure if they were planning to give the debris to the county. Chairman Parrish stated he is not in favor of this agreement until these questions are answered. He expressed concern that the debris cannot be co-mingled. Mr. Pierce reported they are offering the county a big savings. He explained they need to review this because if they do not agree then the county will be responsible for the 12% match which could be a huge amount. Mr. Pierce stated he thinks they are offering to do this because Franklin County is a fiscally constrained county. Chairman Parrish said they need to know where the debris is being taken and who is monitoring the debris. He stated there are still a lot of questions. Commissioner Sanders said she agrees with Chairman Parrish. Chairman Parrish stated he understands the money savings but everything needs to be written out. He said the staging areas must have a DEP permit which the county has for their 5 staging areas. He asked if the debris will be kept separate so the county can receive their FEMA reimbursement and the cities can receive their reimbursements. He explained if all the debris gets piled together then no one receives the reimbursement. Mr. Pierce agreed the county needs the details because Monroe County did get caught in a situation like this. Mr. Pierce said Ms. Jeannie Devlin, CDR Maguire, is present and is the county's debris contractor and will assist in getting these answers. Ms. Devlin agreed there are a lot of questions about the Memorandum and said they need to talk with a state representative from Emergency Management. She reported the concern about the piles getting divided is the job of the debris monitor and hers to make sure this does not happen. She explained they can use the same staging areas but keep the piles separate. She stated they will make a list of questions and get answers from the state if they need it before they sign any agreement. Mr. Pierce questioned if there is another document and if the County is signing anything. Chairman Parrish said he is concerned that the county staging sites are not adequate to handle three entities bringing in debris. Commissioner Massey reported there is a staging area in Carrabelle but between the City of Carrabelle and Lanark Village this site will be full. Chairman Parrish said he is concerned the staging area is not big enough to hold DOT's debris also. Commissioner Sanders and Commissioner Massey agreed the sites are not big enough for all the debris. He reported the debris from the City of Carrabelle may fill up the site. Ms. Devlin recommended she and Mrs. Brownell meet and make a list of questions and then get answers from the state. Chairman Parrish asked if the Board wants to hold a special meeting to address this if they get the questions answered. Mr. Moron said the Board has a special meeting on October 29th. Chairman Parrish stated the Board cannot wait that long because they are picking up debris today. Mr. Pierce suggested the Board

delegate this authority to the EOC and the contractor and if the questions are answered then they issue the mission statement so the Board does not have to meet again. Chairman Parrish asked Mr. Davis if they can handle all the debris in the landfill. Mr. Davis agreed it may fill the area. Mr. Pierce pointed out the contractor may be chipping the debris. Mr. Don Mateo, Crowder Gulf, congratulated Franklin County for a good job in getting the roads cleared in a short amount of time. He explained they will pick up the debris and haul it to the debris management site. He stated Crowder Gulf will bring grinders in to all the staging sites. He said the vegetative materials will be taken to the staging site, offloaded and quantified by the monitor to track all the costs for FEMA and state reimbursement. He reported the materials will then be ground up and stockpiled and later hauled out to a facility. Mr. Mateo stated there is an open market for this material and private facilities that will accept these materials at a cost that is also reimbursable. He reported the contractors will work with them to get the reimbursements. He explained construction and demolition (C & D) materials are picked up and taken to a landfill. He reported if the county's landfill can take the materials then they will haul it there. He pointed out this kind of debris does not go to a staging site because they would like to keep the debris separate if they can. Mr. Pierce questioned if the Board could enter into the agreement with the state if the questions are answered satisfactory and not have a special meeting. Commissioner Jones asked how they will know the questions are answered satisfactory if they do not have a meeting. Mr. Pierce said the Chairman could act on their behalf. Chairman Parrish stated if the questions are not answered then the county should not enter into the agreement. He said they need documentation. Commissioner Sanders agreed. Attorney Shuler stated he does not know what the Board is being asked to authorize. He asked if CDR Maguire and the Emergency Management Director are going to ask the questions and the Chairman is going to sign the contract. Chairman Parrish reported it sounds like they want EOC to handle it. Attorney Shuler stated he does not recommend that. Mr. Pierce read the letter. Attorney Shuler reported this is the first time he has seen this request. He stated getting more information would be great and he does not recommend anyone other than the Chairman sign a contract on behalf of Franklin County. He requested the Board give him time to read the language and he will give advice to the Chairman or they can get more information and reconvene in a special meeting. Chairman Parrish asked if the state is going to collect the debris and not use the debris contractor. Mr. Mateo said the state is only the funding source and will absorb the county's cost share 100%. He explained the county has already entered into a debris contract with Crowder Gulf and they are starting to collect debris today. He reported his understanding is the county can make requests for reimbursement from the state. He stated there are a lot of state roads and DOT crews are going to come in and remove the debris from the state roads. Mr. Mateo said the state must negotiate with the county or the municipalities on where they take the debris. He explained if the county does not want DOT to pick up the debris then they can sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) release and have the contractor pick up the debris since DOT is handling the cost. Attorney Shuler said he is not making a recommendation without reading and reviewing this matter. He advised the Board they are not in a position to make a final decision. He suggested the Board either reconvene or delegate the authority to the Chairman to sign without an additional meeting if he is satisfied with the advice from counsel. Commissioner Jones stated the Board is asking

questions to protect the contract the debris contractor has with the county. Commissioner Lockley said he wants to know everything going because he did not get enough information during the storm. He did not want to vote on anything until the Board has all the information. Commissioner Massey asked if the debris contractor will start cleaning in the City of Carrabelle also. Chairman Parrish answered no, because the debris cannot be co-mingled. He reported the City is still looking into piggybacking on the county's contract. Attorney Shuler stated the current contract excludes the two municipalities. He explained some municipalities to the north are piggybacking on debris removal contracts their counties have. He was not sure if Mrs. Brownell had received any of these requests from the City of Carrabelle or the City of Apalachicola. Commissioner Massey said the mayor for the City of Carrabelle has requested it. Chairman Parrish stated they are working to address this issue but the debris cannot be co-mingled. He explained once an area is completed then they will work to assist the cities and the Board will allow them to use the same staging sites but the debris has to be separated so they can all receive reimbursement from the federal government. He reported the county will assist the cities but he wishes the cities would have done their own pre-disaster debris management contracts because it costs nothing until the contractor goes to work. Mrs. Brenda LaPaz, Mayor with the City of Carrabelle, reported the City has signed a contract with Crowder Gulf and are applying for their DEP permitting today. She stated they negotiated last year with the School Board to use the softball field and baseball field at the old Carrabelle High School for their staging site. She stated if they have extra room then they would offer to co-share the site with the county. Commissioner Massey said they will have room if the contractor chips the debris. Attorney Shuler stated the Board has not made a decision about the statement at this time. Commissioner Sanders asked about the statement. Mr. Pierce referenced the letter and said once the county submits the statement then that starts the process for DOT to do what they are going to do. He explained the Board makes this request but to his knowledge there is not going to be a contract. Mrs. Brownell reported when she got this notice she got very upset and told the state she would not submit a mission statement because it had to come before the Board. She said this also had to go to the debris contractors because it affects them. She reported everyone including the Governor has told her this is a good deal but she does not do anything without the Board's approval. Mrs. Brownell said they have to do what is in the best interest of the county to clean up the debris and the county cannot afford to lose money. Mrs. Brownell commented she does not know about this request when the state has never been in the debris removal department. Commissioner Sanders agreed they have not. She said she has serious concerns about this matter. She reported everything was done pre-storm and now post-storm they have their contractors. She stated they have been privatized with DOT since before they moved in this building in 2002 which means they do not come into this county. She agreed now they are going to come in for debris removal and it does not feel right. Mr. Davis questioned if they are not to accept anything from DOT if they come to the landfill. Chairman Parrish said the whole problem is they do not know what DOT is doing. Commissioner Sanders reported the county did what they were supposed to do with debris removal contractors and Crowder Gulf is here. She said the debris monitors are also here. Commissioner Sanders stated she is leery of this request from DOT. Commissioner Lockley asked if the state must have a staging site too. Chairman Parrish stated DOT has never done this so they do not know what

they have. Commissioner Lockley questioned how long it will be before the debris hits the landfill. Mr. Davis said the contractor may bring debris today but it will be at the staging site. Commissioner Jones stated the Board should not put all the pressure on the Chairman and it is unfair for him to decide this matter by himself. Commissioner Sanders agreed. **Commissioner Jones made a motion to direct Attorney Shuler, Mrs. Brownell and staff to get their questions answered and then come back and the Board will have a special meeting. Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion. Motion carried; 5-0.** Commissioner Lockley stated everything storm related should be handled this way so he knows what is going on. He reported people in his district are asking questions and he needs answers. Chairman Parrish asked Mr. Davis to attend this special meeting so he will know what the Board has decided. Commissioner Jones reported there has been a lot of discussion about the cities but this Board is for unincorporated Franklin County and he does not want to see both cities clean and they are still working on unincorporated areas. He pointed out half of unincorporated Franklin County is his district. Commissioner Jones stated even with the current contractors he would like an estimate of when the county will be cleaned up. He reported if it is going to take a very long time then the Board may need to take some other emergency actions. Commissioner Jones said he does not want it to take 2-3 months to clean up the county. He reported his mission as he understands it is to provide assistance where they can in the whole county but unincorporated Franklin County only has the county. Commissioner Massey said Mr. Mateo stated they have 18 trucks to start collecting the debris so they can split the trucks up in different areas. Chairman Parrish reported that message has been given to the contractor. Commissioner Jones said he is raising the concern because everything they speak needs to be public. Mr. Davis asked if the Board wants their 4 knuckle boom trucks helping. Mr. Pierce reported there is a contractor doing that. Commissioner Lockley stated he absolutely wants some of them working in his district. Mr. Pierce reported the City of Apalachicola will need to resolve that. Commissioner Lockley stated whether the City addresses it or not he wants his district cleaned up. Commissioner Massey said in his district too. Mr. Davis reported there are no recycling sites at this time as they are using the cardboard containers to help out where they can. Commissioner Sanders stated the county is not going to pick up the debris but it needs to be separated and she explained how to separate the debris. She went on to say this debris needs to be put beside their property so it can be picked up. Mr. Davis agreed this is correct. Commissioner Sanders questioned the garbage service time line and if they are having problems getting to parts of the county. Mr. Davis stated he spoke with them and they are on schedule. Commissioner Massey reported they picked up garbage yesterday. Commissioner Sanders said some areas like Alligator Point are not going to be picked up like they usually are. Commissioner Lockley reported if the cities get the same contractors then they will not be last for collection. Ms. Devlin said in her opinion they will bring in additional trucks for the city collection and not take away from the trucks working for the county. Commissioner Massey stated Mr. Mateo said he has more trucks and will bring them in. Ms. Devlin said she can clarify this with Crowder Gulf. Commissioner Lockley explained he is a County Commissioner but most of his district is in the City of Apalachicola and he does not want it to be the last area to be cleaned up. He pointed out if they have the Seafood Festival he wants his district cleaned up. Mr. Pierce stated right now the City of Apalachicola has not signed a contract so the City of Apalachicola has

jurisdiction for their debris. Commissioner Massey reported the Mayor for the City of Carrabelle has already signed a contract. Ms. Devlin said the City of Carrabelle asked them to mention that they have not signed a monitoring contract yet and they need both parts to effectively complete the operation.

Mr. Davis reported Amnesty Day will be held on Saturday. He said there are contractors helping citizens and he does not know if they are being paid or just volunteering. He stated all they can do is ask them when they come over the scales. Commissioner Lockley reported if they are being paid then they will make more than one trip so they should only allow them so many trips. Mr. Moron asked if Amnesty Day is being abused. Commissioner Jones stated it has been abused since they started doing roadside debris.

Mr. Davis reported in relation to Parks & Recreation, every park has tremendous damage. Chairman Parrish stated there are some power poles leaning at D.W. Wilson Park. Mr. Davis said there are also some power poles down. Chairman Parrish stated the power poles cause a liability issue since the children play on these fields. He said they cannot allow the children there until the poles are fixed. Chairman Parrish reported Mr. Davis can handle this since it is his department.

Commissioner Sanders thanked Mr. Davis for doing a good job.

Mr. Moron asked the Board to ratify the first State of Emergency Proclamation that was issued on October 8th at 11:00 a.m. for Tropical Storm Michael. **On motion by Commissioner Sanders, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to ratify the first emergency proclamation.** Mr. Moron said the Board will need to extend the state of emergency for 7 days. Chairman Parrish asked if the Board wants to authorize him to issue another state of emergency in 7 days if requested by EOC as the Board will not be meeting again. **On motion by Commissioner Sanders, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to extend the state of emergency for 7 days and authorize the Chairman to continue the state of emergency if necessary every 7 days.**

Pam Brownell – Emergency Management Director

Mr. Pierce stated since Mrs. Brownell is losing her voice, he will read her report. Mr. Pierce said there are 4 distribution sites set up in Franklin County and they are Chillis Hall in Lanark Village, the Carrabelle Fire House, the Eastpoint Church of God, and the Van Johnson City Complex in Apalachicola. He reported showers and portable toilets were staged throughout the county as needed. He said the FEMA Disaster Survivor Assistance Team is at each of these 4 sites. He stated the Franklin County Property Appraiser is in the process of doing damage assessments for the entire county. He stated they hope to be finished this week and the information will be provided to everyone. Mr. Pierce said EOC is checking on the emergency food stamp program which is a federal program so they will get guidance on how the program works. Mr. Pierce

said temporary communications were established with EOC in response to Hurricane Michael and are ongoing. He stated Salvation Army is cooking hot meals out at the Van Johnson Complex. He reported the Health Department is working with anyone needing medications. Mr. Pierce stated the special needs clients were sheltered out of the county and are back. He reported search and rescue has been completed for Franklin County. Mr. Pierce stated EMS strike teams from 11 different Sheriff's Offices were here shortly after the disaster as a medical team at the Health Department in Carrabelle. He listed the businesses that are open and their hours. Mr. Pierce said the Health Department is open 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. He stated Sacred Heart Clinic in Apalachicola is open 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. He reported Weems Medical Clinics East and West are open from 12:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. Mr. Pierce said the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) volunteers fed approximately 50 responders. Mr. Pierce said Franklin County has received responses from other counties so as other counties to the west get access some of the activity will be shifted west as Franklin County has been stabilized. Commissioner Lockley asked if people on the special needs list are called. Mrs. Brownell answered yes, repeatedly and then they moved them. Commissioner Lockley stated he received a complaint about someone who did not get a call. Mr. Pierce reported the person must be registered before the storm. Commissioner Lockley explained some of them do not have email. Mrs. Brownell stated a lot of the special needs patients refused to go. She reported as they got calls in after the storm telling them of their needs then Mrs. Jennifer Daniels, Emergency Management Department, has added them to the list. Mrs. Brownell commented the providers of special needs patients or medically dependant patients are responsible for notifying the Emergency Management Department of their needs. She said in 2005 she set up these programs and they have pushed the information out since then. Mrs. Brownell reported the state took this over but they still keep their own tracking data base so they know who the patients are. Commissioner Lockley asked about the 100 generators that people said were at EOC. Mrs. Brownell explained the generators were shipped even though their department did not ask for them and they were to be used for traffic lights. She reported the generators are state assets and she cannot give them out to the general public because it is an ethics violation. Mrs. Brownell said the state shipped 120 generators and the county has 2 traffic lights. She explained the state air dropped supplies all over the county and they found out after the fact. She reported by the time she got there with the National Guard the items were gone. Mrs. Brownell stated the generators are just like anything else that was bought with state funds and cannot be loaned out unless it is to a government entity. Mrs. Brownell said the generators are going back because every day they stay here the county pays for them. Commissioner Lockley questioned if the county has to pay for them. She explained if the seal is broken then the county is charged for what is used. Mrs. Brownell said the federal government will pay part of the cost but there is a cost share for the county. She stated this is the reason she is cautious with what they order. Mrs. Brownell pointed out if the county does not receive a declaration the cost comes back on the county. She reported if the county receives the declaration then the county is still responsible for 12 1/2%. Mrs. Brownell stated if the generators are loaned out and do not come back then the county must pay for them. Commissioner Lockley stated he asked about the generators because of someone that had oxygen. Mrs. Brownell reported oxygen was coming in from many places. Mrs. Brownell said

people need to let them know by registering and then they cannot stay here and should go to the shelter where they have electricity and oxygen. She reported some people came in and could not get oxygen so they were shipped to St. James where they had a generator. Commissioner Lockley explained the person stayed during the storm. Mrs. Brownell said people need to be responsible and the county cannot be responsible for them. Commissioner Sanders said her sister is oxygen dependant and left Tuesday morning and did not come home until yesterday. Commissioner Lockley stated he asked why they did not leave and they said they never received a telephone call. Mrs. Brownell reported if they are on the list then they were called repeatedly by the Health Department. Mrs. Maria Getter, Tamara's Café, reported they are registered and did not get a call. Mrs. Brownell stated she will look into why they did not receive a call. Commissioner Massey and Commissioner Sanders thanked Mrs. Brownell for doing a good job.

Erik Lovstrand – Extension Office Director

Mr. Lovstrand said the County Extension staff were fortunate and only had minimum damage to homes and personal things. He stated some water got in the Courthouse but it did not get into any of their materials. He informed the Board he checked the new building they are moving into and water did not get into that building. He reported a big tree was down on the back wall but he cut it down and there was no piercing of the building. Mr. Lovstrand said the greenhouse structure had minimum damage. Mr. Lovstrand explained the Extension Services have been working across the district as some of the offices were impacted. He stated staff and faculty have been working with those offices to make them whole and make sure their basic needs are taken care of. He reported they are getting resources to these offices so they can help in their communities. Mr. Lovstrand said he is working in a communication group that is assisting beekeepers in the district that have been impacted. He explained the main issue is getting to their bee yards to check on the bees. He reported they are communicating through the University of Florida (UF) with the state beekeepers association so private individuals that have facilities can stockpile resources to provide to beekeepers in the area. He stated he is also working with the shellfish leases at Alligator Harbor and they had significant damage to the floating oyster cages. He said the damage was primarily because of the large debris field that floated across from Alligator Point. He reported the participants were out there right after the storm picking up their gear. He said he visited leases in Wakulla County where some Franklin County residents have leases and they did fairly well because the storm surge was high enough to go over the cages. He explained some of them have floating cages so they sunk the cages before the storm and now are bringing the cages back up. He informed the Board he will be working with others on the damage assessment for the seafood industry. He said he will talk with the Property Appraiser about gathering some information on calculating losses so this information can be provided to the state.

Mr. Pierce reported Mr. Miles Anderson, State Chief Mitigation Officer, called and the State of Florida will be ready to proceed with more than one land acquisition at Alligator Point. He explained they would like to know how many people are interesting in selling their property.

Mr. Pierce reminded everyone this is voluntary. He explained people should contact him because there is a process they have to go through.

Lisa Lance – Library Director

Mrs. Lance thanked all the county and city administrations for getting the offices back to normal. She reported the Carrabelle Branch did not have any damage but the services are limited. She said there is no password on the Wi-Fi so anyone can use it and there are two public access computers working. She stated within 48 hours they should have all their public access available for use. Mrs. Lance reported all their other regular services are available. She stated the Small Business Administration (SBA) will be at the Carrabelle Library starting tomorrow and Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. She stated Eastpoint Library is fully operational and has minimal damage to the roof. She said the Friends of the Library are working with the insurance carrier on this damage. Mrs. Lance reported all of her staff came through the storm okay but two are not on duty yet. She stated September 20th the libraries became fully staffed. Mrs. Lance said one of the employees lost her husband and they hope to have her back to work soon. She stated the library will do anything they can for the community.

Jason Puckett

Mr. Pierce stated Mr. Puckett is not here. He reported Mr. Bone has not been able to use his hangar because Duke Energy is using it. He explained Mr. Bone has asked for relief from the payment of rent until he gets back in his hangar. Commissioner Sanders asked if the Board gave him consideration recently. Mr. Pierce answered yes. He went on to say Mr. Bone took his planes out so Duke Energy thought the hangar was empty and moved their trucks in the hangar. He stated Mr. Bone is asking for relief until he can get back in his hangar. Commissioner Massey said he is not in favor of this if Mr. Bone cannot donate it for this cause. Chairman Parrish asked if this relief would be for a week. Mr. Pierce answered a month. Commissioner Sanders responded no.

Marcia M. Johnson – Clerk of Courts – Report

Clerk Johnson reported although there is some minimal damage at the Courthouse, the main Courthouse will reopen tomorrow to the public. She stated Mr. Rick Watson, Tax Collector, had staff in the Carrabelle office yesterday and they are up and running. Clerk Johnson reported her staff is at work today preparing for the opening so they can be more responsive to the public tomorrow. She stated she was in the Courthouse after the storm and Mrs. Erin Griffith, Assistant Finance Director, had damage at her home on St. George Island but was here contacting the insurance adjusters. She said there were people in the Courthouse yesterday already setting up equipment. Clerk Johnson stated her staff and Mr. Moron have been here. She reported Mr. Shane Phillips has made multiple trips between his home and the Courthouse trying to get the Courthouse up and running. Clerk Johnson thanked the owner of Scipio Creek

Marina for volunteering his equipment and time to push the mud out of the parking lot so the Courthouse employees could get back in. She said he should be commended if any of the Commissioners see him. Clerk Johnson reported she has been in contact with a lot of other Clerks in the area. She stated this area was blessed and she is proud of all the County Commissioners and their employees because everyone has shown immense dedication to this county. She stated there is a lot of work to be done and a lot of it will be done behind the scene and she is grateful to the workers that do not seek recognition but just love the county. Clerk Johnson said if there is anything she or her staff can do to help, just let her know.

Mr. Moron reported the Florida League of Cities, the county's insurance carrier, did a fantastic job. He explained they had a crew here before the storm and they waited at the EOC until the storm was over and then they started going to all the county's properties assessing the damage.

Michael Morón – County Coordinator – Report

Mr. Moron presented his report, as follows:

1. This item was addressed earlier in the meeting.
2. As part of the recovery effort I have setup satellite permitting offices in Carrabelle and Eastpoint. Between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. you can visit permitting clerks at the Annex Building in Carrabelle or the Eastpoint Library to request a permit for electrical repairs or storm related repairs. All storm related permits fees are waived. New construction permits will only be issued at the Apalachicola location.

Mr. Moron stated the City of Apalachicola building inspector was unable to get to Apalachicola to perform any inspections. He reported the building inspector has asked if the county would do inspections within the City of Apalachicola to help the residents get their power back on or do repairs. He clarified this is only the inspections not the paperwork as the paperwork will be handled by the City of Apalachicola. He requested Board action allowing the County Building Official to do inspections for storm related recovery issues within the City of Apalachicola. Commissioner Lockley asked Mr. Moron to explain how this will work. Mr. Moron explained if someone has damage to their electric system then Duke Energy could not connect their power because an electrician needed to make repairs and then an inspection would need to take place so Duke county reconnect the home to electrical service. **Commissioner Massey made a motion to approve this item. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.** Chairman Parrish repeated this is for storm related issues. Commissioner Sanders reported the county is allowing this so the power can be restored quickly. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

3. As the Board is aware the County has been closed since Tuesday October 9th, due to Hurricane Michael. Anyone wanting to respond to the RFQ for TDC Administrative Services was unable to submit their package. Since the Board was planning to meet in

Special Session on October 29th for interviews, I recommend advertising (County Website, WOYS, The Times, and the Courthouse Doors) October 26th as the new deadline. During Mr. Blair's Administrative report at that October 29th special meeting, the Board could open the sealed RFQs and schedule a new date for interviews and selection. **Board discussion/action.**

Commissioner Sanders pointed out the TDC would not check the RFQ's to make sure they meet the criteria. Commissioner Sanders questioned if any RFQ's were received before the storm. Mrs. Lori Hines, Deputy Clerk, said there is one. Commissioner Sanders asked if the Board will need to reject the RFQ. Mr. Moron reported they can just hold the RFQ. Attorney Shuler said Mr. Moron is asking to amend the existing RFQ which means he will prepare an amendment extending the time period for turning in the applications from October 15th until October 26th with the additional information that the Board will open the RFQ's at their special meeting on October 29th. Mr. Moron stated the Board can open the RFQ's and then schedule interviews at a later date. Commissioner Sanders explained if the Board would like to have her involved in this process she will only have one more meeting after October 29th. Mr. Moron agreed and said the Board would need to conduct a special meeting. Commissioner Lockley reported this is always getting delayed and Mr. Blair's contract will end. He asked what the time frame is for the person to work with Mr. Blair. Chairman Parrish stated the Board extended Mr. Blair's contract until the end of December. Mr. Moron suggested the Board speed up the process after they open the RFQ's and have another special meeting so Commissioner Sanders can participate. Commissioner Sanders reported this process has been going on since May. Commissioner Lockley stated this matter should have come to the County Commission. Chairman Parrish said it was delayed by the storm and there is nothing the Board can do about that and they need to extend the date so everyone has an opportunity if they want to apply. Mr. Blair and Mr. Moron discussed the TDC reviewing the RFQ's. Mr. Moron said after the meeting on the 29th he will work with Mr. Blair to put together a schedule to get everything done. **On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve extending the deadline for RFQ's until October 26th and extending the date to open the RFQ's until October 29th.**

Mr. Moron stopped his report at this time so Mr. Blair could address the Visitors' Center Contracts. He stated some of the Centers are operating without their money so if the contracts are approved then the checks can be cut on the 29th. Mr. Blair said the request for the checks may already be at the Clerk's Office as they were sending in the requests contingent upon the contracts being approved. Mr. Moron stated a bill list was not approved today but will be addressed on the 29th. Mr. Blair said he has three of the four contracts here and they are the same as last year but the TDC Board increased the amounts for the City of Carrabelle Chamber and the City of Apalachicola Chamber because they rent their property as opposed to having free property. He explained this increase is included in their budget and in the contracts. He said they got delayed because of the hurricane and they did not have a quorum at their meeting this month. **On motion by Commissioner Sanders, seconded by Commissioner**

Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the Visitor Center Contracts.

Mr. Blair stated as of Friday they stopped all advertising out of the area as it was not appropriate and they are working on a modified message. He reported he has been in contact with Mr. Ken Lawson, CEO at Visit Florida, and they are working on a strategy for when the county is open. He stated they are inventorying the properties and when they will open. He said Visit Florida will help with some promotional dollars and other financial assistance to help get the tourist facilities operating.

Mr. Moron continued his report at this time. He read the following item:

4. There were many items scheduled for today's meeting that will be added to future meeting agendas. Some of these items, such as the Bill List, Minutes, CDBG waiver, and other items, may be added to the October 29th special meeting.

Clerk Johnson stated she received a telephone call from the Tax Collector and there was a mix-up but the FLOW Van is in Eastpoint today and will be in Apalachicola tomorrow.

Clerk Johnson reported she is having daily calls with Court Administration about the Courthouse and Courthouse operations. She explained yesterday they sent a team in to view the Courthouse which helped to get it back open. She informed the Board she directed them back on the detour road that the county is maintaining because they need to know that the county has access if people need to get to court. She explained the Office of the State Court Administrator (OSCA) and the Chief Judge have been very involved in getting the Courthouse up and running.

Mr. Moron provided a report on Weems Memorial Hospital as he is the Chairman of the Hospital Board. He stated the clinics are open 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. He said the delay with the Emergency Room opening is because of the Agency for Health Care Administration (ACHA). He explained there was damage to the lab and until it is fixed and ACHA certifies it then they cannot open the Emergency Room. He stated air quality testing is also being recommended before they allow the Emergency Room to open. Mr. Moron reported the Weems staff is working hard but ACHA will make the decisions. He stated Mr. H.D. Cannington, CEO at Weems Memorial Hospital, will let him know when the Hospital is opening and he will inform the Board.

Chairman Parrish asked when their IPADS will start working. Commissioner Jones stated his is not working either. Mr. Moron agreed to look into this matter. Clerk Johnson offered to give her IPAD to the Board if they need it.

Commissioner Lockley made a motion to tell Mr. Cannington at the Hospital that the Board hired him and he is the CEO and he runs the Hospital and if he has problems with the staff

and they do not want to listen to him then he knows what to do. Commissioner Massey seconded the motion. Motion carried; 5-0.

T. Michael Shuler – County Attorney – Report

Attorney Shuler did not have a report at this time.

Commissioners' Comments

Commissioner Lockley said he is glad everyone made it back safe. He stated it will take some time to get everything back together. He reported the Commissioners, the county and the people must work together and will get over this. Commissioner Jones stated the county is no stranger to disaster and has seen a lot before. He said there were some negative comments this morning but the only way to get it right is to have the opportunity to get it wrong. He went on to say you must fail to be able to succeed. He reported there are things the Board needs to address but they still live in the best county in the state. Chairman Parrish said he agrees.

Adjourn for Lunch

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Joseph A. Parrish - Chairman

Attest:

Marcia M. Johnson - Clerk of Courts