

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
SPECIAL MEETING  
COURTHOUSE ANNEX – COMMISSION MEETING ROOM  
OCTOBER 29, 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.

Mr. Moron read the notice of the special meeting.

**Approval of Minutes**

On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Sanders, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the minutes from the meetings held on September 4, 2018 at 5:15 p.m., September 18, 2018 at 9:00 a.m., September 18, 2018 at 5:15 p.m., September 24, 2018 and October 2, 2018.

**Payment of County Bills**

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

**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. Tamim Choudhury, Small Business Administration (SBA), provided an overview of what SBA is doing in the county. He explained SBA offers low interest long term loans to homeowners, renters, businesses and non-profits that have been affected by Hurricane Michael. He stated the Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) is set up in the Franklin County Public Library in Carrabelle and the hours are 8:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. Mr. Choudhury said if anyone has been affected by the storm they need to contact FEMA because this is how homeowners and renters get referred to SBA. Mr. Choudhury read a list of loan amounts that can be received. He said businesses can receive loans for physical and economic injuries. He reported SBA also provides loans to non-profits. He suggested people consider loans and said there are no costs to apply and no closing costs. Mr. Choudhury stated the deadline for applying is December 10<sup>th</sup> for physical damage loans and July 11<sup>th</sup> for economic injury loans. Mr. Choudhury stated there are representatives at the Library that will help fill out the paperwork for the loans and it takes about ½ an hour for homeowners to process the paperwork and 1 hour for businesses. He offered to answer any questions. There were no questions.

Mr. George Pruett, Franklin County United Firefighters Association (FCUFA), said he is not sure how many Commissioners were aware of this emergency situation with the radios until they got the email yesterday. He reported the Franklin County firefighters have not had communication or paging for 30 days or more since the dispatch center was hit by a lightning strike. He stated Williams Communications and the Sheriff's Office have been contacted on numerous occasions and Williams assured them they would have the equipment in by Friday but he has not heard from them and they are not returning his calls. Mr. Pruett said there is also the issue of maintaining the fire net. He explained FCUFA purchased a new radio last year and had it installed. He explained they operated on a truck radio for 20 years and it worked perfectly. Mr. Pruett stated there are some maintenance issues and he does not think it is the volunteer fire department's responsibility to maintain the radio system. He reported they have nothing but a cell phone at this time. He stated he ran 6 calls this weekend and they call one person because there is no way to communicate with everyone. Mr. Pruett informed the Board this is an emergency situation that must be remedied and if this was a law enforcement radio everyone would have acted immediately. He stated the firefighters are just as important as other services and they are in just as much danger at times as law enforcement officers. Mr. Pruett said he wanted the Board to be aware of this situation. Mr. Moron stated he is aware of this issue. Attorney Shuler informed the Board they can talk about this issue but are limited unless they conduct an emergency meeting. Mr. Pruett reported he just wants the system fixed. Commissioner Sanders stated she was not aware of this issue and was not contacted. Mr. Moron explained on the 24<sup>th</sup> or 25<sup>th</sup> he was contacted by the Sheriff's Office about a lightning strike which knocked out the 911 system and the fire department system. Mr. Moron stated Commissioner Jones called him about the problem and he called Mr. Pruett who explained the problem. He said the county needs the information as to what needs to be done to get the radios fixed. Mr. Moron stated he still needs that information so he will know what it

will cost to get the unit fixed. He stated the meeting with the State Division of Emergency Management on Thursday would have been a perfect time to present this information. He reported this information could also be presented to FEMA and they may be able to help fix the problem. He stated they need a proposal of what equipment is damaged and information on how to get the license back for the channel they use and how to get the fire net back. Mr. Pruett explained this question should be proposed to the communications center at the Sheriff's Office and/or Williams Communications. Ms. Renee Brannan, Director of Communications and 911 Coordinator, stated they were hit by lightning and lost both 911 positions and both radio consoles which means no communication for the whole county. She reported they contacted Williams Communications. She pointed out the Sheriff's Office is still working off of hand held radios and one main base radio. She stated they are on the Statewide Law Enforcement Radio System (SLERS) system which is different from the fire departments system which is uhf/vhf. Mrs. Brannan explained they have one hand held radio for their channel but it does not work properly. She explained Williams Communications came in and gave them emergency radios and one for each fire department to get through the storm and that is what they are still working on. Ms. Brannan stated Williams Communications were supposed to be here Friday to put in a new console. She explained the main problem for the fire departments is without the console they have no paging capabilities and everyone does not have a radio. She reported everyone does not have a radio. Mr. Pruett said all the firefighters carry pagers. Mrs. Brannan stated the Sheriff's Department is at the mercy of their vendor. Commissioner Sanders commented they might need another vendor. Mrs. Brannan stated they are waiting for their full services to be restored also. She explained they have two loaner units from Gulf County for the 911 system. She said Consolidated Communications has worked with them and she cannot praise them enough but there is a problem with the radio. She said she has worked diligently to get Williams Communications here but said they are waiting on the vendor. She stated they cannot page the volunteer fire departments without the console. Mr. Moron inquired how this affects dispatch at Weems Memorial Hospital. Ms. Brannan stated they cannot page for them so they have to monitor the radio. She said the hospital has a base station but they do not have base stations for the fire departments because they are on uhf/vhf and the Sheriff's Department is on the SLERS system (800 radios). Mr. Moron said he has heard there is also an issue with the actual channel license with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for the fire department. Mrs. Brannan reported the FCC license went out in 2013 and was not renewed and the license lapsed in 2014. She explained no one from their departments can request the license because a licensing firm would need to be hired. Mrs. Brannan said she is working with Williams Communications on that issue. Chairman Parrish asked Attorney Shuler for guidance as the Board is not supposed to act on items that are not on the agenda. Attorney Shuler explained no far he has not heard an action item the Board would need to address even under an emergency situation. He said it sounds like everyone is communicating and the Sheriff's Department is pushing the contractor to get a solution in place. He asked if there is an estimated time for the contractor to address this issue. Mrs. Brannan reported Williams Communications will be here tomorrow morning but they are waiting on some parts for the console. Commissioner Lockley asked if this is affecting all the fire departments. Mr. Moron answered yes. Mrs. Brannan clarified it affects everyone not just

the fire departments. She stated their equipment is not at full capacity. She explained they can communicate car to car and Sheriff's Office to deputies and EMS but all they have for the fire departments is a cell phone and the emergency radio. Mr. Moron suggested after Williams Communications does the installation tomorrow, he will meet with the fire departments, the Sheriff and Mrs. Brannan and come up with a recommendation to present to the Board on November 6<sup>th</sup>. Attorney Shuler reported the Board could declare an emergency and have an emergency meeting today if they had the information and a path forward but he still has not heard anything to take action on. He questioned if the system will be functioning tomorrow after Williams Communications comes in. Mrs. Brannan reported they will start the installation tomorrow but there is no estimate on when it will be completed. Commissioner Jones asked if the equipment will be working again when the console is in. Mrs. Brannan answered once the consoles are put in and they are fully functional then the paging system will be back in effect. Commissioner Jones said as far as they know the console is the problem. Mrs. Brannan answered yes. Mr. Pruett said the equipment to interface with their radios is in the new consoles and it is just a matter of getting it installed. Commissioner Jones asked if the Sheriff's Office can send out a text to everyone in the fire departments or some other form of communications other than just calling the cell phone. Mrs. Tress Dameron, Emergency Management Department, suggested using the Alert Franklin system. Mrs. Brannan said they can use that system but will need a list of all the firefighters. Commissioner Jones stated as a resident who has lost his home to a fire he would like to get an answer today so they can communicate if possible. Mrs. Brannan explained they have called one person at the fire department and then they send it out over the emergency radio. Mr. Pruett said sometimes there are situations where they need law enforcement and there is no time to call. Chairman Parrish asked Mr. Moron to monitor the situation. He stated hopefully tomorrow the console will be up and running but until then they will use the Alert Franklin system. He asked Mr. Pruett to provide the numbers of the individuals that need to be contacted. Mr. Moron requested Mrs. Brannan contact him when the system is up and working and he will contact Mr. Pruett later about working on the FCC license issue. Commissioner Lockley questioned what they will do if the console is not fixed tomorrow. Mr. Moron said they will schedule a special meeting. He asked Mrs. Brannan to let him know if Williams Communications does not show up tomorrow so he knows if a meeting needs to be scheduled.

Reverend Themo Patriotis, United Methodist Church, addressed the Board about the hurricane response and recovery.

Mr. Moron reported Mr. Pierce is on the telephone to hear Mrs. Skipper's report.

### **Mrs. Rhonda Skipper – Property Appraiser – Report**

Mrs. Skipper thanked Franklin County Emergency Management for helping her staff and for the long hours they worked. She said they were a lot of help and thankfully there were no fatalities in the county. She thanked Mr. Fonda Davis and Ms. Virginia Messer for getting vehicles for her staff to use for damage assessment and Mr. Chip Sanders for volunteering to help. Mrs.

Skipper thanked her employees for working 12 hour days and never complaining. She referenced the email sent to Commissioners and said the damage to structures only is \$35,388,983. She explained because of the 10% limitation on non-homestead and the 3% limitation on homestead the taxable property will not decrease that much at this point. She reported when she adds the land loss they could be looking at significant numbers. Mrs. Skipper stated there are numerous buildings especially at Alligator Point that are there but may be questionable for replacing septic systems so the structure value could climb. Mrs. Skipper reported the state provided some after storm aerial photography and her office is currently working on the land loss and she will provide these numbers to the Board as soon as possible. She stated her out of pocket unbudgeted costs so far are a little over \$8,000. She said thanks to the Board for allowing her to keep her leftover money aside for emergency situations so the money is already there if she needs it. She said at the end of the quarter she may need to come back and ask for a transfer of those funds into her current budget. Mr. Pierce stated the expenses for assessments should be reimbursable by FEMA. He suggested Mrs. Skipper contact Mrs. Brownell. Mrs. Skipper agreed to contact her and do whatever they need to do.

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

Mr. Pierce presented his report, as follows:

1. Inform Board that Mr. Nathan Lovelace, Mobile- USACOE, contacted me regarding Eastpoint channel. The Corps is moving forward with the continued design of the Channel, and they are developing a Corps-Franklin County Interlocal Agreement for funding if the County still has funds available to keep the dredging project at its original design. As the Board is aware from a previous meeting, the Corps is having problems with the durability of the barriers/containment of the spoil disposal area, and if the cost of the disposal area goes up then the amount of dredging would go down because of lack of funds. I had reported to the Board previously on this, and I told the Corps if that problem continues then the Board might want to allocate Consortium funds to the dredging channel. It appears the Corps will need some additional funds so that is why they are working on an Interlocal Agreement. I am supposed to meet with Mr. Lovelace in the beginning of November to talk about the project. There is no action for the Board at this time.

2- Inform the Board that the TRIUMPH Board has sent out a letter to the counties impacted by Hurricane Michael allowing the counties to re-visit their priorities because of the storm. TRIUMPH staff again spoke of the desire for the airport to submit a proposal. To that end I contacted the two employers at the airport, TPL Transport, owned by Mr. Randall Terry, and the FBO, Centric Aviation, and told them of this opportunity to get something built at the airport that would expand employment at the airport. I asked the two entities to try and give me some preliminary ideas by Nov. 1, so that I could present them to the Board at the Nov. 6 meeting. I did talk to the TRIUMPH staff about the county re-submitting the Armory project and they said that was possible but the Armory project was not really what they were looking at now.

Mr. Pierce said he will get with the Commissioners before the next meeting about the Armory.

He reported the Board has a copy of the letter from Triumph and there is no deadline but they would like the information as soon as possible so it would be available at the November Triumph Board.

3- Board direction on draft letter for land acquisition on Alligator Point. Mr. Miles Anderson, Florida DEM Mitigation provided me with a draft letter that Mark Curenton has revised. After the situation, and realizing this is a special Board meeting, the Board asked that I bring this letter back up at the regular Nov. 6 meeting.

Mr. Pierce explained this letter would go to all the property owners in the area where the road is washed out. He explained the State of Florida has contacted the county and is encouraging them to do an acquisition to remove as many people or properties as possible on Alligator Point but he does not know how much money is available. He said he discussed the area where letters would be sent with Mr. Anderson and he encouraged the county to send the letters. He deferred to the Board as to whether or not they need to take action. Mr. Pierce reported there are already two willing applicants which are the fire station and Capital City Bank. He said he hopes people in the area near the road want to sell because the county is having problems with DEP regarding moving the road south. He explained this is going to be a battle but to have adequate protection the road needs to be moved. Mr. Pierce said the state guidelines for recovery are going to be a problem. He reported if some people sell then the county may have some latitude as to where the road will end up. Attorney Shuler stated this item was not on the agenda for today's special meeting and he recommended deferring action until November 6<sup>th</sup>. He explained in the meantime they will check the record and if the Board has already authorized the letter then they can process the letter. Chairman Parrish agreed they should wait until Mr. Pierce returns at the next meeting. He also suggested they get a list of interested people before the Board takes action. Commissioner Sanders agreed.

4- Provide Board with the Oct. 17, 2018 Alligator Point memo for the Board files. Because of additional damage done to the road by Hurricane Michael I have stopped the design work on the road. Mr. Wes Mall, FDEM, had a meeting with the commissioners earlier and it is possible that state of Florida will step in and provide some relief on the road

I informed the Board that unless the county gets another waiver from the local match from the Governor that the damage done to Alligator Drive will take more funds than what is available in the Bald Point Trust Fund. At this point, the Board should consider the Trust Fund to be depleted and that it needs to consider a funding source to provide for the continued maintenance of the road. I said the Board might need to consider an MSTU just for road maintenance as the road has such extra-ordinary costs the normal Road Dept. budget cannot handle these extra-ordinary costs. I also informed the Board that Commissioner Sanders and I are working on another approach to access on Alligator Point that would be completely different than what is currently available, and that as the initiative is developed we will talk more about it.

Mr. Pierce explained Mr. Mayfield did as much work as he could. He said Mr. Mayfield estimated he could do the work for \$10,000 or less but when he got there it was significantly more work than he estimated. He reported what is there is an expensive temporary road that they hope has a solution generated by the State of Florida. He stated they have a conference call today. Mr. Pierce said the design work being done after Hurricane Hermine is not accurate now so he has told Dewberry to stop work until they get some direction. He reported another 500 ft. of roadway to the east has washed away and the area damaged by Hurricane Hermine has changed. He explained he does not expect there to be adequate resources in the Bald Point Trust Fund to provide any match. He said the Governor was trying to reduce the match for Hurricane Hermine but even that reduction would cost the county an estimated \$200,000. He reported depending on the cost estimates all of the Bald Point Trust Fund could be spent and it would still not fix the road. He stated the county is at the end of the road and needs to find another funding source to make the repairs to Alligator Drive that are extraordinary and above the cost of any other road in the county. He reported the normal funding would be a Municipal Service Benefit Unit (MSBU) that they would need to impose on the property owners. He stated they can also look at alternatives to putting the road back in this area and look at other ways to provide access to the property. Mr. Pierce reported Hurricane Michael has affected the way the county can deal with this road. He said he does not see any way to put the road back without additional resources. He explained until they get clarification the temporary road is as good as it is going to be for who knows how long. Commissioner Sanders agreed Mr. Pierce is right. Mr. Moron suggested Commissioner Sanders contact Ms. Ginger Delegal, Florida Association of Counties, about getting any help they can provide to get the state to take the road back. Commissioner Sanders said she has already done this. Mr. Pierce stated he will be back at the end of the week and will meet individually with each Commissioner.

## **Department Directors Report**

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

Mr. Nabors reported Chip Morrison Drive was damaged also but they built a temporary road so the residents can get in and out. He said there were 40-50 loads of sand on Alligator Drive near the marina and it has been cleaned up. He reported the portion of Alligator Drive that was rebuilt will be under water with a storm tide. Commissioner Sanders stated FEMA must evaluate the area and then they can do something after it. She said like Mr. Pierce mentioned 500 ft. more road was damaged and Chip Morrison Drive too. Mr. Nabors reported CR30 is passable but will need to be repaved. He stated the engineers are reviewing these areas to determine the cost. Commissioner Sanders said she knows Chairman Parrish is concerned about the big drop off on CR30. Chairman Parrish stated he talked with the consultants for EOC and they are processing some damage assessments. Mr. Nabors explained it is passable but it took a lot as it was deep and washed out up to the yellow line and it was in two different places. Chairman Parrish read a list of roads that are open. He said this is a good report that was given to the Commission so they can tell their constituents. Mr. Nabors reported Mr. DeWitt Polous, Mosquito Control Director, is present if there are any mosquito control

complaints. Chairman Parrish said he has not received any complaints. Commissioner Sanders stated they should keep on spraying. Mr. Nabors reported this is the most debris he has ever seen. He questioned if the debris contractors are making 2-3 more passes. Chairman Parrish said they will make another pass in a week but he does not know about a third pass. He explained people need to get their debris to the side of the road because the contractor will not go on private property. Commissioner Sanders asked what the timeline is for north of Carrabelle. Ms. Devlin answered by Friday or maybe sooner. She went on to say during The Seafood Festival they will be working on the east side more. Commissioner Sanders said she has not seen them. She reported there have been some instances with traffic and the people picking up debris and she reminded everyone to drive carefully. She discussed the area at Highway 65 and Highway 98 and said everyone needs to slow down while they are collecting the debris. Mr. Nabors reported there was a bad accident Friday on Highway 98. Commissioner Lockley stated he saw the trucks picking up the debris speeding on 12<sup>th</sup> Street. Ms. Devlin agreed to talk with the debris contractors about this matter. Commissioner Lockley asked what is being collected on the second pass. Ms. Devlin reported the four types of debris are raw vegetation, white goods, construction and demolition and non-FEMA related. She explained because of The Seafood Festival they are picking up the raw vegetation piles first and then they will come back to pick up the other types. Commissioner Jones said he is still apprehensive that people are not putting everything out by the road. He explained if they pick up vegetation on the first pass and everything else on the second pass then what is the county going to do when they put out other debris. Ms. Devlin explained the passes have nothing to do with the types of debris. She stated they should be picking up all types of debris but on different days. She reported after they pick up all the debris then they start the whole process over again. She stated they are collecting all kinds of debris on each pass. Commissioner Jones said he is confused about them concentrating on vegetation. Ms. Devlin stated they are only concentrating on vegetation in the area where The Seafood Festival will be held but each pass will include all kinds of debris. Commissioner Jones expressed concern that people will not know and will put out additional debris after the second pass. Ms. Devlin reported guidance went out about separating the debris into piles and she received some calls last week about it. Mrs. Brownell informed the Board a safety meeting was conducted this morning by Crowder Gulf because of the accident on Highway 65. She stated it is not just the county contractors that are speeding but all of the trucks have to slow down. Mrs. Brownell said the Sheriff has asked them to put in a request for extra law enforcement and she will discuss with the Sheriff's Department whether they need more state troopers. Commissioner Sanders pointed out the public is also speeding and must slow down. Mrs. Brownell explained Highway 98 cannot hold up to the speeding and the milled asphalt has to be replaced. She stated this is going to be a long process. She reported they are going to start picking up debris at Alligator Point and there are trucks in Eastpoint today. She stated the EOC will push out the message to get the debris out. Commissioner Sanders said everyone needs to be careful because the debris is sitting on the edge of the road. Mrs. Brownell commented Highway 98 belongs to the state and they are doing the debris collection. Commissioner Sanders stated she is not complaining after traveling to Dothan and seeing the other areas. Commissioner Lockley said it was the worst storm to ever hit the panhandle and it will take time to recover. Mr. Nabors stated sometimes the large



trucks park in the road and do not have flag men and people try to go around them which is another issue. Chairman Parrish said everyone needs to be careful.

**Fonda Davis – Solid Waste Director**

Mr. Davis offered his report, as follows:

**CONSOLIDATED SOLID WASTE GRANT APPLICATION:**

FOR BOARD ACTION: I have for Board approval and the Chairman's signature the completed Consolidated Solid Waste Management Grant application for Fiscal Year 2018-2019. Although the Governor has not yet signed the budget, we anticipate an award of \$90,909 for the 34 counties with populations of less than 100,000, including Franklin.

The grant is used within the solid waste department to offset the cost of providing solid waste management services. The application needs the chairman's signature. **REQUESTED ACTION: Board Approval and the Chairman's Signature on the Consolidated Solid Waste Management Grant Program Application for Fiscal Year 2018-2019.**

**On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Sanders, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the Chairman's signature on the Consolidated Solid Waste Management Grant Program application for Fiscal Year 2018-19.**

Mr. Davis reported the state contractors are up to \$170,000 in tipping fees for the debris cleanup. He said they will sign a statement as usual once a month. He stated Crowder Gulf is up to approximately 2,000 tons of debris which is about \$100,000.

Mr. Davis stated he received a complaint from someone that was at the landfill dumping items and had a bullet from the shooting range come close to them. He said he immediately shut down the shooting range and would like to know later on what the Board would like to do about it. He explained previously the Board had shut down the range thinking the range to the west end of the county would be open to the public but it is not. Mr. Davis stated the Board may receive some calls but he had no other choice. Commissioner Lockley said to keep the range shut. Commissioner Jones stated there are no alternatives. Mr. Davis explained there was some concern about building it next to the Sheriff's Department as that is the school's property. Mr. Davis reported the Sheriff is also concerned with shooting going on and the inmates being on the outside of the building.

Mr. Davis said they had to go back to the old soccer field at D.W. Wilson so the children could finish out the season and they received a noise complaint.

Mr. Davis stated in relation to the Animal Control Department, there are no animal complaints at this time.

Mr. Davis reported they are working 7 days a week, 12 hours a day at the Landfill to try and get the county cleaned up.

Commissioner Sanders asked Mr. Davis to contact the Florida Wildlife Commission (FWC) about a large bearing roaming around Avenue F in Carrabelle. Commissioner Massey stated this has been reported but they will not trap anymore.

Commissioner Lockley asked how much damage the Parks & Recreation Department has from the storm. Mr. Davis said the insurance company is checking on each area. Commissioner Lockley asked him to let the Board know when he has a report.

**Pam Brownell – Emergency Management Director**

Mrs. Brownell presented her report, as follows:

**Action Items:**

1. Request the Boards approval and signing of the C.E.R.T. Grant in the amount of \$5,000.00.

Mrs. Brownell reported the grant is used to train C.E.R.T. members and volunteers that help in the community. She stated the C.E.R.T. members were extremely useful in the EOC when they were activated. **On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve and sign the C.E.R.T. grant in the amount of \$5,000.**

2. Request the Boards vote on continuing the Burn Ban that was put in place on 10/11/18 due to the amount of debris on the ground which can fuel a fire.

Mrs. Brownell explained the county normally follows the state and the state does not have the county under a burn ban. She reported the county has the authority to implement their own burn ban. She recommended the Board continue the burn ban due to the amount of debris. **Commissioner Jones made a motion to continue the burn ban. The motion failed for lack of a second.**

**Information Items:**

1. Franklin County Emergency Management is currently at a LEVEL 2 – PARTIAL ACTIVATION.
2. Debris Update as of 10/24/18 – Total Debris

- Franklin County – 29,286.90 CY  
City of Apalachicola – 20,740.00 CY  
City of Carrabelle – Not Yet Started (working West to East & will start soon)
3. Roads & Bridges – All roads and bridges in Franklin County are OPEN.
  4. DRC, RIC, DSA Update:  
FCEM Director and Staff worked diligently with FEMA to arrange the following locations and staff to aid Hurricane Michael Survivors in the recovery efforts:  
Disaster Recovery Center (DRC):
    - **Carrabelle Public Library**  
311 St. James Ave., Carrabelle, FL 32322  
Hours of operations: Sunday-Saturday, 0800-1900Registration Intake Centers (RICs) – Disaster Survivor Assistance (DSA) Crew 14:
    - **Eastpoint Public Library**  
160 Hickory Dip Rd., Eastpoint, FL 32328  
Hours of operations: Monday-Saturday, 0900-1700
    - **Apalachicola Public Library**  
80 12th St., Apalachicola, 32320  
Hours of operations: Monday-Saturday, 1200-1800  
**Sundays:** DSA Crew 14 conducting outreach at Franklin County churches. Franklin County EM provided list of congregations
  5. FCEM has handed out approximately 2 pallets of Tarps.
  6. Alert Franklin Update as of 10/25/18 (see attached):
    - 6329 Contacts are registered with Alert Franklin
    - 122 Notifications were sent out by FCEM for Hurricane Michael
    - FCEM has sent out messages through Social Media asking residents who are not receiving notifications to please contact our office to address any issues and make corrections to accounts as needed. Numerous requests have been emailed, Facebook Message, or called into FCEM to check account status, add subscriptions, remove subscriptions, correct contact information, etc. and each are being addressed. Issues with Alert Franklin at this time have been incorrect phone numbers (changed numbers, disconnected numbers, etc.), not following the process of selecting subscriptions for notification, and not signing up for Alert Franklin at all.
    - Alert Franklin is the primary mass messaging system used to push out important information for Franklin County not only during a disaster but through blue skies also.
    - FCEM continues to encourage residents to sign up for Alert Franklin and offers assistance with the process. (see attached flyer for instructions)
  7. Facebook/Twitter Update – FCEM Facebook cross posts to our Twitter account and has been updated regularly throughout Hurricane Michael. FCEM Staff and volunteers continued to answer questions, respond to messages, and post updates 24/7 in an attempt to keep Franklin County informed. FCEM Staff will continue to work diligently to keep

Facebook/Twitter posted with up to date information that will assist our community in recovering from Hurricane Michael.

8. Salvation Army Update – Since we started operations in Apalachicola The Salvation Army has served over 73,000 meals to the community and those affected by the storm all the way to Mexico Beach. We have given out over 23,525 drinks, 31,549 snacks, 464 hygiene kits, 1,661 clean up kits, 100 tarps, 1,800 cases of water, 2,100 bags of ice and have provided emotional and spiritual care to over 7,438 individuals. Also, 1,894 food boxes have been provided through our Apalachicola drive thru POD.
9. American Red Cross Update:  
Cleanup Kits Distributed 1,100  
DES Items Distributed 7,600 +  
Households Served 477

Mr. Moron read the following item from his report:

1. **Board action** for ratification of the extension of the Local State of Emergency declaration by the Chairman pursuant to authority delegated to him by the Board.

Mr. Moron asked the Board to approve the extension of the Local State of Emergency signed previously and the one signed today. **Commissioner Lockley made a motion to ratify the previous extension of the Local State of Emergency Declaration and approve the extension of the Local State of Emergency Declaration for today. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.** Commissioner Jones asked if this also includes the burn ban that was enacted on 10/11/18. Mr. Moron said it is two separate items and the original Local State of Emergency did not include the burn ban. **Motion carried; 5-0**

Mr. Moron presented item #2 from his report:

2. Commissioner Jones sent me an email last week (attached) expressing his concerns regarding the public's perception of County Government, specifically Emergency Management. Commissioner Jones suggest that the Board authorize the creation of a 5 to 7-member committee that will take public input from across the County regarding their concerns as it relates to Emergency Management. Afterwards, the committee would discuss these concerns with Emergency Management staff and then present a report to the Board of County Commissioner with recommendations that would address the public's concerns. **Board discussion/action.**

Mr. Moron explained the committee will meet with people from across the county and then meet with Mrs. Brownell about the concerns voiced by the public and then see how they can work it out. He reported a comprehensive report will then be presented to the Board. Commissioner Jones said it would be a good thing and the county would be more proactive in addressing the issues going forward. He suggested a committee of 5-7 people and said it should include members from the cities, fire department and anyone they deem would have

the interest of the county. He went on to say public meetings could be held in Apalachicola, Eastpoint and Carrabelle for public input. He explained the motive is not to gripe but to get past what everyone thinks they are doing wrong and tell them what to do that is helpful. Chairman Parrish asked who will create the board. Mr. Moron said he will create the committee. He expressed his opinion that social media is big on how the public receives their information. He stated the county needs to move forward and find a way to get information out on a regular basis. He reported 85% of what the Sheriff posts is information that the citizens want and need and is not related to law enforcement. Mr. Moron stated this should be the county's role not the Sheriff's role. He explained this is part of the report the committee will submit to the Board. Commissioner Lockley stated communication is the best thing but during the storm they were out of communication. He reported they as Commissioners should be up on what is going on so they can answer questions when the public asks them.

**Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the creation of the 5-7 member committee.**

**Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion.** Commissioner Jones explained this is about more than the storm. He reported it is about everyday life and moving the county forward with communication with the general public. He stated he believes there is an issue the Board needs to address. **The motion passed by the following vote:**

**AYE: JONES, SANDERS, PARRISH, MASSEY**

**NAY: LOCKLEY**

Commissioner Lockley asked if there is a place in Apalachicola where people can communicate with people giving help for the storm. Mrs. Brownell replied FEMA is at the Apalachicola Library and that is the first step. She said they are also at the Eastpoint Library and the Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) is set up at the Carrabelle Library which is where most of the federal agencies are. She explained in the past they have used the old Apalachicola High School but FEMA inspected the building and turned it down because it did not have enough space or parking. Commissioner Lockley asked why they did not use the Armory. Mr. Moron responded they use the Armory for training and there were some events scheduled but parking is also a problem. Mr. Moron stated Commissioner Jones is working on getting SBA either in Eastpoint or Apalachicola. Mrs. Brownell said they have their own specifications so it is finding a building that works for them.

**Erik Lovestrand – Extension Office Director**

Mr. Lovestrand appeared before the Board and said he does not have any additional items.

## **County Extension Activities October 17 – October 29, 2018**

### **General Extension Activities:**

- Storm-related activities dominated this period.
- Assisted clientele with disaster assistance information.

#### Sea Grant Extension:

- Participated in weekly conference call to coordinate Sea turtle lighting project work and plan assessment of storm damage.
- Conducting field visits with seafood industry clientele to gather information on storm impacts.

#### 4-H Youth Development:

- Youth are preparing exhibits for North Florida Fair

#### Family Consumer Sciences:

- Family Nutrition Program (FNP) Assistant did not conduct programs while local schools were out.

#### Agriculture/Horticulture:

- No activity here

Commissioner Jones discussed the issues with wastewater and sewer after the storm. He stated he has told by several people that the dead fish in the Apalachicola River have to do with the introduction of green leaves and debris into the water and the rise in the oxygen level. Commissioner Jones asked Mr. Lovestrand to think about this issue and see if this is possibly true so they can answer these questions for the public. Mr. Lovestrand reported there were questions about this and he saw instances where the fish were at the surface of the water trying to get oxygen. He said he is not sure if anyone has determined what caused it yet. Commissioner Lockley replied they said there was raw sewage in the water. Mr. Lovestrand agreed that could cause an event like this or other factors could. Mr. Lovestrand was not sure if the state agencies had people in place to collect water samples and make an assessment.

#### **Lisa Lance – Library Director**

Mrs. Lance stated she does not have any action items. She invited everyone to come to the Disaster Relief Center (DRC) in Carrabelle to see what they have to offer. She reported the people have been exceptional and are representing their agencies and serving the county. She stated there have been 23 representatives and that is federal agencies, state agencies and private entities. Mrs. Lance explained the DRC was set up on Wednesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, with the first addition of SBA and they are already closing some of the loans they approved. She reported on Sunday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, they became operational with FEMA and in the next two days other stations were set up for Career Source which is a disaster unemployment assistance group, DEO employment assistance and DCF with food stamps and the D-Snap program. She stated the Apalachee Center for Mental Health and the Department of Elder Affairs are also there. She said in the first week they averaged more than 450 customers a day. She reported the first day FEMA was there 533 people came through the doors. Mrs. Lance stated the

Library has serviced over 3,700 customers and 370 registrations with FEMA. She commented they were the initial set up with the Disaster Survivor Assistance (DSA) Group but that group is now in Eastpoint and at the Apalachicola Library. She reported anyone in the county can come to the Carrabelle Library and receive assistance from any of these agencies. She said on October 22<sup>nd</sup> the DSA group relocated to the Eastpoint Library and has already served over 500 people.

### **Special Report: October 29**

Franklin County Public Library – Carrabelle Branch activated as a Disaster Recovery Center (DRC)

Hours of Operation: Sunday – Saturday, 8:00 – 7:00 pm

- FEMA (DRC) representatives to help with private individual assistance
- SBA representatives to help small businesses and homeowner, low interest disaster loans
- FL Small Business Development Center (SBDC) representative, Dr. Gerald Hinson.
- State of FL Dept of Elder Affairs, Ombudsman Program, Angelique Witmer, PR Director, and Jenny Rojas
- DEO representative, Kensia Enzor, Re-employment assistance (RA)
- FL Department of Children & Families representatives from Quincy – Woodrow Hinson, Delicia Greene
- Apalachee Center for Mental Health, Representative, Marquita Beylink
- Career Source Mobile Unit: Disaster Unemployment Assistance, representatives, Cathy Gallica, Earl Bertle
- Senator Bill Nelson's Aide – Carrabelle Branch, Wednesday, Oct 24, 2-4 pm

Eastpoint Branch: Registration Intake Centers (RIC) – Disaster Survivor Assistance (DSA) Crew  
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Hours of operations: Monday-Saturday, 9:00 – 5:00 pm

- All regular calendar programs are cancelled for October for both locations
- Carrabelle Yoga: temporarily meeting at the Mon – Wed, and Friday at the Senior Center at 3:00
- Eastpoint Branch programs are being reviewed for November

### **Updates (General): October 2018 Report, Pre Hurricane**

- Carrabelle STEAM (ages 8-14), Ms Teresa is doing a great job entertaining the kids, making erupting lemon volcanoes, DIY solar ovens, and balloon powered sponge boats. Average weekly attendance = 11
- Carrabelle STEAM 2 (ages 5-7) in Carrabelle is now offered the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month
- Carrabelle: New monthly LEGO Club (ages 5-12), started Oct 2, first attendance = 10
- Eastpoint STEAM (ages 8-14), Ms Whitney and the kids are learning about Atomic Models, they played a periodic table battleship game, the past few weeks have been balloon chemistry and they were mad scientists last week exploring the science behind making 'slime'. Average attendance = 11

- Eastpoint: Anime Club, meets monthly the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, first attendance = 10 (almost all new faces)
- Talk Like a Pirate Day: Attendance = 30 (16 – CA / 14-EP), games, crafts & snacks
- Master Gardener Program – Started Sept 4, Both library locations will have 2-4 garden beds planted and maintained by the group
- Monthly movie for adults in Carrabelle, Oct 24 at 2:00, movie will be *Book Club*, PG-13
- Staff updates: Fully staffed, Eastpoint FT position filled Sept 20.
- Florida Author Visit: Dawn Lee McKenna, Carrabelle Branch, October 18 at 2:00 pm - CANCELLED
- Our condolences to new staff member, Stephanie Gaylor, her husband passed away Oct 4

Annual fiscal year stats: Franklin County

Physical Item Circulation (KOHA)

Service Outlet	17-18	16-17	% Change
FCCA	12896	10881	+18.5
FCEP	13654	12872	+6.0

Digital Circulation (Overdrive)

Service Outlet	17-18	16-17	% Change
FCCA	675	555	+28.6
FCEP	1614	934	+72.8

Attendance

Service Outlet	17-18	16-17	% Change
FCCA	31161	23436	+32.6
FCEP	21632	20399	+.06
FCPL Total	52793	43838	+ 20.6

**Jason Puckett – Airport Manager**

Mr. Moron stated Mr. Puckett is not here. He said they are still staging at the airport but it is starting to taper off.

The meeting recessed at 10:18 a.m.

The meeting reconvened 10:26 a.m.

**Curt Blair – TDC Administrator – Report**

Mr. Blair said he does not have a lot to report as they saw the collections report the last time he appeared. He stated a detailed report was submitted at the last meeting about items after the hurricane.

**Collections:**



No new collection numbers.

**Post Michael Report:**

We have prepared a report on the status of our tourism industry as a result of the storm which I have attached.

**Marketing and Promotions:**

Immediately following the storm's strike, we cancelled all possible marketing initiatives for a period of two weeks while an assessment of damage could be performed. Our staff has contacted all lodging providers, local businesses, our museums, and non-profit organizations to determine the storm's impact on our infrastructure and to offer assistance to local businesses. We met with a variety of industry personnel and groups throughout north Florida including Visit Florida, the NW Florida TDC Directors, TDC Vendors and local tourism leaders to discuss how best to proceed to restore the confidence and attractiveness of our destination to visitors. The result of these discussions has produced a plan to begin marketing our area gradually until our businesses have had the opportunity to recover fully in preparation for the return of tourists.

**Industry Prognosis:**

By all projections the Franklin County Tourism industry should see a rebound in tourism that will be stronger than before the hurricane in the short run. We have every confidence that in the long run, thanks to the resilience of the community and the insight of our local leaders, the tourism industry in Franklin County will continue to be strong and prosperous.

**Tourism Infrastructure:**

Within very few days local businesses in Apalachicola and Carrabelle began to clean up and re-open. Most lodging companies in both cities and elsewhere in the county with limited damage were full during the last half of October with utility and repair crews.

**Lodging Facilities:** With the exception of a few facilities in both cities our local lodging facilities were able to function. Key exceptions being the Apalachicola River Inn and Sportsman Lodge, both of which received substantial damage. St. George Island rental homes received little structural damage and rental companies expect to be up and running with available houses by the first of November. The Carrabelle Beach waterfront houses were heavily damaged but other facilities in and around the city were largely spared. Alligator Point Rental Housing had minimal damage while the Alligator Point road needs additional repair. The St. James Golf Course facility is back and is fully operational.

**Museums and attractions:** Most of the county's museums had minimal damage with the exception of the Apalachicola Maritime Museum which received heavy damage from flooding and will not reopen for a while.

**Restaurants and Shops:** As mentioned a number of shops began to open within several days of the storm. Local restaurants were down during power outages and most have reopened. In the

interim local restaurants and volunteers provided free meals to those that remained during the storm. The restaurants along Highway 98 in Eastpoint and on Timber Island in Carrabelle received significant damage and will not be fully operational well into November and in some cases December.

#### **Future Marketing Campaigns:**

The TDC has crafted the elements of three campaigns in response to Hurricane Michael.

**Bruised But Not Broken** – The theme of our first campaign which began this last weekend. The campaign is targeting day visitors to come and help out our local businesses. The target areas are the Tallahassee south Georgia markets and are being addressed through TV, Radio, Print (Tallahassee Democrat), a feature about the resiliency of the Franklin County community which is being prepared by the Democrat, social media and our 50,000 person direct mail audience.

**We are Open for Business** – Beginning around November 1, (depending upon lodging availability) we will begin to air advertisements that focus on our being open for business in all tourism venues. The market for these ads will be the six hour drive time and will utilize internet, social media, print, and TV and direct marketing.

**National Marketing** – Fortunately our November, December and January tourism business slows considerably. So, while we will continue to tell the region that we are open for business, we will be able to save some resources for the spring campaign which will begin around January 1 and be pushed out through all of our national outlets.

#### **Meetings:**

Special Board Meeting – **Tuesday October 30, 2018 2:00 P.M. at the EPVC.**

The purpose of the meeting will be to deal with some expenditure approvals and necessary administrative items

Mr. Blair stated in the next couple of months they will expand their marketing to the 6 hour drive market. He explained they will be doing it slowly as November and December are slow months anyway and he does not expect it to be busy. He stated the national marketing will be going on in January in anticipation of the spring visitors that begin coming in February. Mr. Blair explained they freed up some money to add to this marketing plan so they can compete with the national publicity about how bad it is here.

Next Regular TDC Board Meeting: **November 14, 2018 at 2:00 P.M. at the EPVC.**

Mr. Blair stated the visitor's centers are open. He reported the Apalachicola Chamber of Commerce was damaged significantly but they have moved and are now open.

#### **Open Requests for Competitive Solicitations**

- *Professional Executive Administrator Services for the Franklin County Tourists Development Council and Operation of the Eastpoint Visitor Center*

Mr. Moron reported he and Attorney Shuler received complaints about information being released from the last set of packets that they received. He asked Mr. Blair to explain what he did based on their inquiry. Mr. Blair explained Mr. Moron and Attorney Shuler contacted him and were under the impression that some of the information from the second round of applications had been released. He said he did not know about this and was asked to survey the TDC Board members and found a couple of them had released the information that was in the application cycle. He pointed out this was probably his fault because he was not aware of the strict regulations. Mr. Blair stated they have been sensitive to all the open government requirements but did not tell the TDC Board members to keep the information confidential so some of the information was released to the public. Commissioner Lockley asked what kind of information was released and said he heard it was bids. Mr. Blair responded yes, some were applications. Commissioner Lockley asked if this should automatically be confidential. Mr. Blair said he understands that now but the TDC has never had a bidding process like this before and he did not know what the rule was and he did not find the opportunity to bring it to the attention of the TDC Board. He stated a couple of TDC Board members let this information out and they know now it should not have been done but it did happen. Commissioner Lockley asked how this will be fair if someone knows their bid. Mr. Blair stated he has gone through all the applications and said there is relatively little that will benefit another applicant. He explained they have asked the companies to provide information about how they will do the job if they got it and they provided some background information. He reported Attorney Shuler may have some suggestions on how to handle this matter. Commissioner Massey asked who sent the information out. Mr. Blair responded the mayors from the two cities. Commissioner Sanders stated it was not her because she knows better. Chairman Parrish said he thinks county staff should review the applications to make sure they qualify them with the credentials and then bring them back to the Board to interview the applicants. He reported this is the only fair thing to do. He stated they cannot send the applications back when they do not have trust in the TDC that the information will be held when it has already been sent out. Chairman Parrish said he has not seen any of the information and asked if any of the Commissioners have seen the information. Commissioner Sanders stated she did not see the information because the Board had agreed to rebid. She said the applications are not looked at when the Board agrees to rebid and this needs to be emphasized to the TDC Board. Commissioner Sanders suggested Mrs. Whitney Barfield, Mr. Mark Curenton and Mr. Blair review the applications to make sure they meet the criteria. **Commissioner Sanders made a motion to direct Mrs. Barfield, Mr. Curenton and Mr. Blair to review the applications to make sure they meet the criteria. Commissioner Massey seconded the motion.** Commissioner Lockley stated he is not going along with this. He explained this is a bad situation when you are bidding for a job and other people have your information and he does not see how it is fair. Commissioner Lockley suggested the Board handle this matter since Mr. Blair let this happen. He asked what the legal advice is on this. Commissioner Sanders reported the Board has been out on bids for the TDC Administration since May which is 6 months and they need to put a cap on it. She stated she wants to get this done before she leaves office and she only has one meeting left. Commissioner Jones suggested co-chair Mr. Rex Pennycuff serve in Mr. Blair's place. Attorney Shuler stated in addition to reviewing the applications an additional criteria that needs to be

asked of all the applicants is did you receive copies of the second round of applications before you submitted your response to the current RFQ. He advised the Board if they received this information improperly then the applicant should be disqualified. Mr. Moron agreed this could be part of the review and the Board should also ask them so it is part of the minutes when the Board conducts the interviews. Attorney Shuler reported based on a conversation he had with Mr. Moron, he knows who the individuals were that received the information improperly during the second round and none of those entities have applied in this round. He stated the Board will also have to look at whether the individual members of the entities that received the information improperly gave the information to someone else. He said the Board will need to make this inquiry during the review process and during the interview process. Chairman Parrish expressed his opinion that no one on the TDC should even be involved with reviewing the criteria. He said someone else can be appointed to review the applications along with the two county staff, Mr. Curenton and Mrs. Barfield. Attorney Shuler stated excising out the TDC may be warranted under these circumstances. Commissioner Sanders clarified it was the two mayors who released the information but not all the TDC members. She explained she is not sure why the mayors did this but she did not do it as TDC Chairman. Commissioner Sanders stated all the TDC members should not be penalized because two of the members did this. Chairman Parrish said it was disappointing that both of these people were government officials that should have known better. Commissioner Sanders reported she did not have any knowledge of this and neither did Mr. Blair. Commissioner Sanders offered to rescind her motion but said she would like to hear from Commissioner Lockley. Commissioner Lockley said he was concerned this could come up again in a legal battle. Chairman Parrish explained this is why he suggested TDC not be involved. **Commissioner Sanders rescinded her motion.** Mr. Moron suggested a committee of Mr. Pierce, Mr. Curenton and Mrs. Barfield. Commissioner Lockley stated he is not sure what to do. Commissioner Sanders said the problem is the opinion is still there that the process is tainted. Chairman Parrish and Commissioner Lockley agreed. Commissioner Sanders said this process may not be completed while she is on the Board. Chairman Parrish stated the Board tried to set this up where it would be done while Commissioner Sanders was on the Board. He reported the delays are not the fault of the Board. Mr. Moron stated he has reserved November 13<sup>th</sup> for a special meeting to do the interviews. Commissioner Sanders said the only other remedy is to extend Mr. Blair's contract until the Board decides how they want to proceed so they do not feel like the process is tainted. Commissioner Lockley stated the process is already tainted. Chairman Parrish asked how to correct this matter. Attorney Shuler explained this is why he suggested a disqualification of any applicant who received in advance any information from other bidders from an earlier round of advertising because this would remove the taint. He reported during the review process and the interview process the Board will make this inquiry and if in fact they find someone has done this then they would be disqualified. **Commissioner Massey rescinded his second.** Chairman Parrish suggested the Board open the bids and then think about what they want to do moving forward. Commissioner Sanders agreed with Attorney Shuler's recommendation but said when the committee asks the question then the applicant should be required to sign an affidavit. Commissioner Lockley said he is not trying to delay this process but wants to make sure this Board is in the clear. Attorney Shuler explained as part of the advertised RFQ there is an anti-

collusion affidavit that all applicants were required to sign under oath. He reported there are multiple layers of opportunity to inquire whether or not people had the information and from a legal standpoint this will remove the taint. Attorney Shuler stated there is a technical issue and he asked who the bidder is. Mr. Moron responded Ms. Ann Howard. Attorney Shuler explained as the deadline for submission of the package was 9:00 a.m. this morning and Ms. Ann Howard turned her package in Friday ahead of the deadline and turned in the required thumb drive this morning to the Clerk's Office before 9:00 a.m. He said he is satisfied with this matter and suggested the Board allow him to add this thumb drive to her submission. **On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to allow Mrs. Howard to add the thumb drive to her submission.** Mr. Moron opened the proposals, as follows:

<u>Individual/Company</u>	<u>Location</u>
Ann Howard	Tallahassee/Carrabelle
Forgotten Coast Creative, LLC	Apalachicola
D. Davis & Associates, LLC	Apalachicola
Forgotten Coast Management Services, Inc.	Apalachicola
Apalachicola Bay Chamber of Commerce	Apalachicola

The Board asked where Ms. Howard lives. Ms. Howard stated she has homes in Tallahassee and Carrabelle but her homestead is in Tallahassee. **On motion by Commissioner Sanders, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to turn the applications over to the committee consisting of Mr. Pierce, Mr. Curenton and Mrs. Barfield to determine if the applications meet the criteria and then bring the applications back to the Board.** Mr. Moron asked the Board to schedule a special meeting on November 13<sup>th</sup> to interview the applicants. **On motion by Commissioner Sanders, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to schedule a special meeting on November 13<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m.**

Deborah Belcher – CDBG Administrator – CDBG Modification Documents

*Mrs. Belcher will seek Board action to authorize the Chairman's signature the CDBG grant modification #3 and modification #1 to the CDBG administrative services agreement with Roumelis Planning and Development Services, Inc.*

Mrs. Belcher stated the additional money is for rehabilitation and replacement for homes damaged by the fire and only in the fire zone area. She reported at this time they are using the current housing policy unless the Board makes a change. Commissioner Lockley asked how much the modification is. Mrs. Belcher answered \$2.6 million. Commissioner Jones stated the Board had a discussion the last time Mrs. Belcher was here about holding a special meeting that the hurricane cancelled but he talked with Mrs. Belcher and got his specific question answered. Chairman Parrish reported the Board will need to hold a special meeting later to get guidelines. Commissioner Lockley asked about the extra funds. Mrs. Belcher explained the county received a \$700,000 CDBG grant which had been closed out but in order to expedite the funds the

Department of Economic Opportunity wanted to reopen the existing grant because some of the environmental work has been done and the consultant procurement had been done.

**Commissioner Lockley made a motion to approve authorizing the Chairman's signature on the CDBG modification #3 and modification #1 to the CDBG administrative services agreement with Roumelis Planning & Development Services, Inc. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.** Commissioner Lockley said this money should be able to take care of all the victims of the fire. Mrs. Belcher replied they will probably buy single wide mobile homes for the majority of the individuals. She stated they still have to hit a cost average and will need to do some rehabilitations. Commissioner Lockley said this is good and Mrs. Belcher is doing a good job.

**Motion carried; 5-0.** Attorney Shuler clarified that the motion also included a modification to Mrs. Belcher's contract to provide the services under the grant modification. The Board agreed both items were included. Mrs. Belcher reported she has some tribal letters for the Chairman to sign and they have a comment period.

### **Amy Ham-Kelly – Board of Adjustment – Report**

Mrs. Ham-Kelly provided the following report:

- 1. RECOMMENDED APPROVAL: (2-1 Vote)** Consideration of a request to construct a house 15 feet into the front setback of Lot 7, Block 63, St. George Island Gulf Beaches, Unit 5, 701 Buck Street, St. George Island, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by Garlick Environmental Services, Inc., agent for Ken Bowman, applicant.

**THIS REQUEST HAS BEEN REDUCED TO A 10 FOOT VARIANCE.**

Mrs. Ham-Kelly explained after Hurricane Michael came through they requested a new topographical survey to see if any of the property had been taken away or accrued. She said they did not accrue very much property. Commissioner Jones asked how much property they accrued. Mr. Dan Garlick, Garlick Environmental Services, Inc., referenced an area on the map where there was a mitigation site in 2007 and said since that time the storm washed sand over and created a berm they will have to dig it out so there is no increase in property. He stated they lost a fence and weeds on the property. Commissioner Jones questioned if the property increased 5 ft. or why the variance changed. Mr. Garlick explained it was a change in the design of the house. Commissioner Jones said he is better with a 10 ft. variance than a 15 ft. variance. Mrs. Ham-Kelly stated they did not receive any objections. She reported the western property owner submitted a letter that they were fine with the request as it was proposed the first time. **Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve this request. Commissioner Lockley seconded the motion.** Commissioner Lockley asked if there are only 3 people on the Board of Adjustment. Mrs. Ham-Kelly answered there were only 3 present but there are 4 members. Chairman Parrish said he needs to appoint someone but he is having trouble finding someone to serve. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

Mrs. Ham-Kelly reported they are supposed to have a Substantial Damage/Substantial Improvement meeting on Wednesday and she will report back after the meeting. She stated the State Flood Plain Managers' Office is conducting this meeting.

Commissioner Sanders stated there are some issues on Planning & Zoning and she has already discussed them with Mrs. Ham-Kelly. She said she is concerned about the building of docks. Commissioner Sanders reported after Hurricane Michael docks were all that was on Highway 98. She explained they did higher elevation for docks but something is going to have to be done because the water came over the low docks and they stayed but the ones built to a higher standard blew across Highway 98. She reported the Board will have to deal with this matter in the future but the State will probably change the building codes. Commissioner Sanders stated this concerns her for public safety issues.

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

Clerk Johnson stated the damages to the Courthouse are being taken care of. She reported the Board received an email from Mrs. Erin Griffith, Assistant Finance Director, which included a report from the contractor indicating the air quality is normal and there was no mold discovered. She said the contractors have been doing the work and Mr. Moron has been coordinating it. Clerk Johnson reported the public has been inconvenienced but the Courthouse is open and responsive to the public. She stated the Courthouse opened exactly a week after the hurricane. Mr. Moron said he is glad the report came back with good air quality. Clerk Johnson explained a written report will be received any day and they will forward that report to the Board. Mr. Moron stated the contractors are going to raise the temperature of the Courthouse to over 100 degrees to try and dry it out. He reported they had equipment problems so they did not start until Saturday evening. Mr. Moron said they will probably do it again next weekend. He explained they will get to the carpets after the drying out is done. Commissioner Jones asked if they are making sure the computers are off when they are raising the temperature. Clerk Johnson said her office shut down the computers and the phone system before the contractors increased the heat. Commissioner Sanders asked if this will cause a problem since The Seafood Festival is this weekend. Mr. Moron stated there is a problem with the parking and he will talk about it during this report. He reported the senior class has not contacted him about using the parking lot but they may not be able to this year.

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

Mr. Moron presented his report, as follows:

1. This item was handled earlier in the meeting.
2. The Board addressed this request earlier in the meeting.

3. Inform the Board that it is time to update the capital improvements schedule in the comprehensive plan. This is a list of all the capital improvement projects the County hopes to accomplish in the next five years. The Board members need to let the Planning Department know of any potential projects they might want to include on this schedule because having them listed could help get future grant applications approved. **Board action** to approve the Planning Department advertising a public hearing to consider amending the capital improvement schedule.

**On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the Planning Department advertising a public hearing to consider amending the Capital Improvement schedule.**

4. Board action to ratify the Chairman's signature on a letter of support and grant application for the \$45,574 Florida Department of Law Enforcement Federal Fiscal Year 2017 Edward Byrne Memorial JAG Program grant for the Franklin County Sheriff's Office. This grant will be used for a drug investigation officer. **Board action.**

**On motion by Commissioner Sanders, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to ratify the Chairman's signature on the letter of support and grant application for the \$45,574 Florida Department of Law Enforcement Fiscal Year 2017 Edward Byrne Memorial JAG Program grant.** Mr. Moron stated there was a deadline issue with the Sheriff's Department and that is the reason the Chairman signed.

5. Weems Hospital is applying for what is known as the "Baby" EMS grant. The total grant amount is \$1,191.00 and will be used to purchase equipment for the ambulances. A copy of a draft resolution is attached to my report for your review. **Board action** to authorize the Chairman's signature on the final version of the resolution.

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

6. Mr. Pierce addressed this item during his report.
7. Board action to ratify the Chairman's signature on an Intent To Fund agreement between the Department of Financial Services and the Board of County Commissioners. This agreement is for a \$100,000 appropriation from the State to install the sprinkler system at the Fort Coombs Armory. Since the total cost to install the sprinkler system is approximately \$330,000, staff is following two options. The first is to use this \$100,000 as a match for a Historic grant for the full amount of the installation, and the other option, as recommended by the State's Fire Marshall office, is to seek additional funding from the Legislature during this upcoming session. Staff will continue to pursue both options and I will continue to update the Board. **Board action.**



**Commissioner Lockley made a motion to ratify the Chairman's signature on an Intent to Fund Agreement between the Department of Financial Services and the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Sanders seconded the motion.** Commissioner Sanders asked the Board to make sure during the Legislative Delegation they ask them to do a project in their budget to support this and it needs to be through the Department of State. She said to make sure it goes in the agency's budget because it will not go through unless they do it. **Motion carried; 5-0.** Commissioner Lockley asked if all the money is needed before the project starts. Mr. Moron stated they discussed this with Mr. Warren Emo and it cannot be done in phases.

8. Board action to ratify the Chairman's signature on Hold Harmless Agreement with Duke Energy for the use of Will Kendrick Park. During staging after Hurricane Michael, Duke Energy realized that the previous agreement had expired, and they needed it renewed. **Board action.**

**On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Sanders, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to ratify the Chairman's signature on the Hold Harmless Agreement with Duke Energy for the use of Will Kendrick Park.**

9. Board action to approve the route for the Eastpoint Christmas parade. The parade will be on Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. (ET) and should be over in an hour and a half. The route will begin at Gillespie Street, turn east onto Highway 98, then north onto 6<sup>th</sup> Street, and conclude at the Eastpoint Fire Station. **Board action.**

**On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the route for the Eastpoint Christmas Parade.**

Mr. Moron stated Verizon will put temporary antennas at the EOC and Sheriff's Department to allow for extra capacity for all the emergency people working here. He said antennas will also be placed at both city police stations. Mr. Moron reported if there is no objection then he will let them proceed. Commissioner Jones asked if this is a small cell tower. Mr. Moron answered yes, and said he sent an email specifying what kind of tower it is.

Mr. Moron reported the Health Department is providing free flu and tetanus shots.

Mr. Moron explained the Senior Class usually gets the Courthouse parking lot from Friday at lunch until Saturday the weekend of the Seafood Festival. He reported they can still have the parking lot on Saturday but will need to provide access to the company working on restoration of the Courthouse. He reported Friday the parking lot will be a problem. He explained because there are still people in the county without power and last weekend Mrs. Barfield and Mrs. Ham-Kelly spent the weekend entering house by house the assessment information provided by the Property Appraiser. He stated this week people will start pulling permits for repairs to their homes. Mr. Moron reported they could not issue the permits before because they did not

have the assessment information. He said the tracking system inspired by Commissioner Jones is so important because now they have built the data base. He stated a section of the parking around the Annex needs to be sectioned off on Friday for customers coming in and pulling permits. He said this is why he cannot give the entire parking lot to the Senior Class on Friday. Commissioner Jones stated he worked the parking lot last year and this year they need to block one of the driveways so people are not coming into the parking lot from two directions. Mr. Moron announced anyone with damaged homes can now pull permits for repairs because the county has their information.

Commissioner Lockley asked if the Board can talk about the hospital. Mr. Moron said he can provide some information but the Board cannot take action. Commissioner Lockley stated he would be interested in the status of the Hospital. Mr. Moron reported the Emergency Room is still operating in the clinic and the rain set the contractors back last week. He explained the area they are treating was still wet and the rain made it worse so they are still working on it. He stated by the end of the week they should have inpatient rooms but the Emergency Room and the clinic will still be in the same place. Mr. Moron said hopefully the second meeting in November or the first meeting in December, Mr. H.D. Cannington, CEO, will be here to provide a full update. Commissioner Jones asked if EMS is staging on St. George Island. Mr. Moron said he will find out. Commissioner Jones stated he saw 2-3 ambulances coming from the Island at the same time.

Commissioner Sanders stated if the situation with the fire departments does not clear up in a couple of days then the Board needs to have a special meeting. Mr. Moron agreed to monitor the situation. Commissioner Sanders thanked Mr. Moron for all he does for the Board and said he has taken on a lot of items.

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

Attorney Shuler did not have a report.

#### **Commissioners' Comments**

There were no Commissioners' comments.

#### **Adjourn**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

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Joseph A. Parrish - Chairman

Attest:

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Marcia M. Johnson - Clerk of Courts