

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
COURTHOUSE ANNEX – COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
FEBRUARY 19, 2019
9:00 AM
MINUTES**

Commissioners Present: Noah Lockley-Chairman, William Massey-Vice-Chairman, Joseph Parrish, Ricky Jones, Bert B. Boldt, II.

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 Lockley called the meeting to Order.

Prayer and Pledge

There was a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Lockley congratulated the Franklin County Seahawks Basketball team for winning their district tournament. He said Franklin County is proud of them and rooting for them. Commissioner Jones stated the next game is Thursday in Eastpoint at 7:00 p.m. and they are hosting the region since they won the district. He commented they are also undefeated in district play.

Approval of Minutes

On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the minutes of the meetings held on December 18, 2018 and January 2, 2019.

Payment of County Bills

On motion by Commissioner Massey, 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. Steve Kirshenbaum, a resident of St. George Island, said he is a former Airport Advisory Committee (AAC) member at Apalachicola Airport. He reported he is present in a friendly capacity and is very involved in community projects. He explained he has always been involved in the aviation community and Chairman Lockley appointed him to the AAC about a year ago. Mr. Kirshenbaum said when he was appointed on the AAC the first thing that came to his mind was is the land outside the airport zoned for compatible land uses and the answer from the airport manager was no. He explained he asked if the runways approaches for the airport were zoned for compatible uses and in control of the county and he said no. He reported he asked the airport manager is he on site running day to day activities and promoting economic development at the site and he was told the airport manager is a part time manager operating from Georgia. Mr. Kirshenbaum stated in doing the transportation hub study for the site they were reviewing it showed Runway 18-36 closed and the runway flies over Commissioner Parrish's district and Runway 6-24 flies over Chairman Lockley's district. He said having a runway closed or for sale in a transportation hub study is a response to noise. Mr. Kirshenbaum explained the importance of the airport in World War II and during hurricane relief. Mr. Kirshenbaum explained instead of finding ways to dismantle it and stop the noise it could provide good jobs. He reported they need to have a federally funded noise contour study and reinstate the AAC with proponents and opponents of the airport. He said right now it is a one sided development plan and when he voiced his concerns and opinions the AAC was abolished and he is the reason for it. He explained they thought there was a hidden agenda to condemn property and displace citizens but it was to make the airport friendly to the community so it could create jobs and economic impact to the community. He asked the Board to put together a workshop on the airport and invite proponents and opponents and reinstate the AAC so they have a voice to make sure the economic study is done. Mr. Pierce said he may have seen an early draft because Runway 18-36 was proposed to be closed because the state would not provide funds to Franklin County to maintain it. He explained in an earlier draft the county was forced to look at options for what Runway 18-36 could turn into because if it could not be maintained as a safe landing zone then it has to be something else if it is county property. Mr. Pierce said there was an analysis and a requirement for the State of Florida to assess whether the county needed Runway 18-36. He stated the airport community wants Runway 18-36 but if the funds were not provided to remark the runway and keep it as a legitimate runway then it would have to be closed. He reported the State of Florida ultimately reversed their decision and have provided the funds to remark the runway so there is no longer an issue about it being closed. Mr. Pierce reported this had nothing to do with noise but was about whether the county received the funding to maintain it as a runway. He said it will continue to be a runway as long as they get funds from FAA.

Mr. Ben Houston, a resident of Alligator Point, stated at the last Alligator Point/St. Teresa Association (APTA) meeting the Board voted against annexation of Alligator Point and Bald Point to Wakulla County. He reported the Board approved a motion that APTA would have one

governmental liaison to interface with the Board of County Commissioners and other government officials and he is the liaison. He reported Mr. Jim McCloy has resigned as President of APTA so they are in a transitional period. Mr. Houston stated their bylaws stated the First Vice President will move into the President's role and the First Vice President is Mr. Marvin Heymann. He reported there will be other vacant Board positions to fill in the future. He explained they hope to get the membership up to 51% of the homeowners in the community and additional social outreach will be done. Mr. Houston said Board action confirms Alligator Drive repairs and protection as the most important issue before the Board for the foreseeable future. He reported they appointed the Chairperson for the APTA Road Protection Committee and Dr. Andrea Novak is the official point of contact for the newly formed state sponsored IRCG McColm working group. Mr. Houston stated they are looking to establish a Neighborhood Watch program and continue to assist with human bear contact resolutions. He said they will encourage more interaction with law enforcement, provide fire station volunteer support, and trash pickup. Mr. Houston said they recognize these and other positive changes will take time and hard work to accomplish but are necessary steps to keep Alligator Point/St. Teresa relevant and a vital part of the community.

Mr. Michael O'Connell, St. George Island Civil Club, said Mr. Pierce will talk about dune restoration projects through the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the St. George Island Civil Club sent a letter endorsing the concept.

Mr. Alan Feifer, Concerned Citizens of Franklin County, said there has been a good effort at picking up the big trash along the roads and the roads are being fixed. He reported there are many things in the county right-of-way and questioned if there is a plan to use county work groups to pick up the area or get volunteers to walk the roads for a beautification purpose. He asked how this can be done and if they could sponsor something like this. Mr. Pierce reported a lot of the debris is on the DOT state right-of-way and the county has traditionally not done maintenance on state right-of-way because of liability issues and they do not want the state to think they are taking over their road and then the state will do less. He explained they are trying hard to push pressure on the state as they need to have the state finish this work. He explained even places that have more debris like Bay County and Mexico Beach has not been successful. He reported Mexico Beach is organizing volunteer groups to pick up the debris and that is what he is hearing from other communities. Mr. Pierce stated it is possible for the inmates to go out there but they would have to coordinate it. He expressed his opinion that the state will not pay a contractor to collect this debris. Mr. Feifer stated Wakulla County had a work group walking Highway 319 collecting trash and he would be happy to sponsor a volunteer group. He explained he would like to know the county direction and if they want to do this as a function of the county or with volunteers. Mr. Pierce said it was probably a county inmate crew Mr. Feifer saw and that would have to be coordinated by the Sheriff. Mr. Moron suggested they let him contact the local DOT contractor and explain this situation and see how they feel about the county doing this or if they have their own plan. He stated he will report back to the Board and then they can negotiate volunteers if the DOT contractor does not have a plan. Commissioner Boldt said he understands about not wanting the state to think they are

taking over the work but if they want to do something they can write a letter and let them know they are facilitating the process. He reported volunteers, state prisoners and county prisoners can facilitate this work. Attorney Shuler stated if the county is going to start coordinating volunteers with the cleanup then they need to consult with their insurance carrier to find out about what kind of insurance and workers compensation coverage the county would have to provide for the volunteers and the expense of the coverage. Commissioner Jones asked if anything to do with volunteers can be done with the ESF15 under emergency management. Mr. Pierce reported this would only happen during an emergency response. Commissioner Jones clarified the ESF15 is used under a state of emergency. Mr. Pierce answered yes. Attorney Shuler stated ESF15 is also used during recovery and response efforts not just during a stated declaration. Commissioner Jones explained this is part of the recovery effort. Attorney Shuler said he will talk with the Emergency Management Director and report back. Chairman Lockley stated the Board should give Attorney Shuler permission to check with the insurance company and if anyone goes out there and picks debris up before the Board makes a decision then they are on their own. He explained Attorney Shuler needs to report back on the county's responsibility if they put volunteers out there. **On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to give Attorney Shuler permission to check with the insurance company.**

Ms. Linda Clark, a resident of Eastpoint, stated she has a similar concern about yard debris blocking the right of way, driveways and on the county easements. She said the piles are 8 ft. high on North Bayshore and they are not picking up the trash which is causing problems with more mosquitoes. She stated she has not seen the Mosquito Control Department on her road. She reported they are bringing what they can to the landfill but people with second homes are just getting here and cleaning up. Ms. Clark questioned where they are on the schedule for yard waste collection. She said snakes will start nesting in the waste and she is concerned about the affects to the people living in the surrounding areas. Chairman Lockley stated the debris collection companies are gone and will not be back. He said they will get with Mr. Davis and find out when they will start picking up garbage. He explained the county does not have the equipment to pick up some of the large items. Ms. Clark said she is willing to volunteer with one of the groups to pick up debris. Chairman Lockley stated Attorney Shuler needs to get the information first. He reported individuals would be on their own at this point and the county will not be involved until Attorney Shuler reports back. Mr. Pierce explained the problem for Highway 98 is the ditch on the backside is deep and full of water, snakes, etc. He stated they will also be on private property which is another problem.

Mr. John Berry, a resident of 1389 Alligator Drive, said he is a member of APTA and attended the meeting last weekend. He stated APTA does not represent all the property owners of Alligator Point and there is an internal battle going on with regard to the Road Committee. Mr. Berry reported he was there and speaking for some of the voices that are not on the east side of the damage. He said they have no special interest other than the road. Mr. Berry said the Road Committee reported 102 tons of debris was removed from District 2 and Alligator Point and he asked if this was because of the concrete. He volunteered to complete procedures for

the emergency radio backup system. He explained he is a CPA registered in the State of Florida and retired but works part time as a consultant.

Department Directors Report

Howard Nabors – Superintendent of Public Works

Mr. Nabors reported some of the signs have come in and they have changed out some that were completely missing. He said the street signs have not come in yet. He stated they still have twisted poles and damaged signs that they are working on. He reported the signs will be replaced when they come in.

Mr. Nabors stated the Mosquito Control Department is receiving a lot of complaints so they started spraying last night.

Commissioner Boldt said he initiated and was successful and at the last meeting for the Alligator Point Volunteer Fire Department they officially approved the Road Department using the 2 acres of property off of Highway 98 to store materials. He asked Attorney Shuler if they should write a thank you note and get a Memorandum of Understanding to use the property for the stockpiling of road materials. He explained this is an open ended loan for the county to use the property. Commissioner Boldt stated it will have benefits for the property later as the materials will build up the property's topography. Commissioner Boldt said this is an opportunity to clear and beautify 1,000 ft. along Alligator Drive where they are currently stockpiling materials. He reported the safety situation is also much better. Attorney Shuler requested direction to draft a lease of the property and notify the insurance carrier of the need to add this area. **Commissioner Boldt made a motion to direct Attorney Shuler to draft a lease of the property and notify the insurance carrier to add this area. Commissioner Massey seconded the motion.** Mr. Pierce said this lease will be until they finish relocation of the road which he hopes will be 2-3 years. Commissioner Boldt stated this is a pivot point closer to the location. He said in thinking about St. Teresa and Bay North he wonders how long this property may be available for loan. Mr. Nabors said he will meet with Mr. Pierce to see exactly where the property is before they clear or stockpile any materials. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

Mr. Nabors stated he will contact Mr. Davis about debris removal and will help in any way.

Attorney Shuler asked Commissioner Boldt who he should contact to get the information to draft the lease. Commissioner Boldt stated Mr. Shawn Kearns is the President or Mr. John Murphy.

Mr. Moron read the following item from his report:

2. At your February 5th meeting the Commissioner Bolt asked that I contact Duke Energy about commercial businesses advertising signs that are attached to their power poles. A Duke Energy representative stated that they do not actively police their power poles for signs. However, any

contact information regarding these signs that we send to Duke Energy, will be turned over to their legal department who will then contact these commercial businesses about removing their signs. Mr. Howard Nabors, your Road and Bridge Superintendent, has agreed to send me pictures of these signs on the power poles that I can forward to Duke Energy.

Mr. Moron said he relation to complaints about mosquito control he contacted Mr. DeWitt Polous, Mosquito Control Director. He stated he will give Mr. Polous' number to Ms. Clark so she can tell him the area and he will spray it as soon as possible.

Fonda Davis – Solid Waste Director

Mr. Davis reported they have just about completed repairs to D.W. Wilson Park where the Day of Ball will be held. He stated they should start installing the new lights tomorrow.

Mr. Davis stated the Solid Waste Department is getting back on schedule for picking up yard trash and will start on the east end of the county and work their way to the west. He explained the first week they normally pick up Alligator Point and Lanark Village. He reported the second week they pick up Carrabelle. Mr. Davis said St. George Island and Eastpoint are picked up the third week and pick up in Apalachicola is on the fourth week. He commented they are trying their best but there is still a lot of debris out there so they may be a little behind. He reported Mr. Nabors offered to help so hopefully they can work together to get this caught up. Chairman Lockley stated there are a lot of big things in the debris and he questioned what they are going to do about them. Mr. Davis said they will use the loaders to pick up the items. He explained there is one place in Eastpoint that Mrs. Brownell pointed out where a tree was removed from a house by contractors and placed by the side of the road. He said they will try to work on this because there are some spots like this in the county. Chairman Lockley stated the county will have to get legal on this issue as they are not supposed to do that. Mr. Davis reported the tree was leaning from the storm and there was a timeframe involved but some people are waiting on insurance companies. Attorney Shuler responded the current ordinance prohibits commercial contractors from being engaged and paid to clear debris and then putting the debris on the side of the road. He went on to say they are required to haul the debris to the landfill and pay the tipping fees. He advised the Board this is an enforcement matter under the ordinance which imposes a civil infraction for first time offenders and becomes criminal for repeat offenders. Attorney Shuler stated he will talk with Mr. Davis and get the details. Chairman Lockley inquired if they know who the contractor is. Mr. Davis stated on one of them he does. Chairman Lockley reported they can take the debris across the scales and charge the contractor and that will stop some of this.

Mr. Davis reported the 102 tons that was mentioned as being removed from Alligator Point was not concrete but only vegetation. He explained this is what they are experiencing as they move across the county. Commissioner Boldt questioned if the large debris pile that is infringing on the wetlands is all vegetation or also has foreign items. Mr. Davis answered all vegetation. Commissioner Boldt said there are tipping fees to pay for the removal of that pile. He stated it is important to follow the law on legal issues but asked if the vegetation is a compliment to the

wetlands. He asked if it is appropriate to get a waiver from DEP to allow the vegetation to stay there. Mr. Pierce said they can ask and if it was small pile it might not be a problem but a large mound may overwhelm the system. Mr. Davis stated the majority of the vegetation has been ground up and they are in the process of relocating it within the landfill. Chairman Lockley said the vegetation was so heavy because it was wet.

Commissioner Jones asked if the Day of Ball is the 1st and 2nd of March. Mr. Davis stated he will have to check the dates. Commissioner Jones said he would like to know.

Pam Brownell – Emergency Management Director

Mrs. Brownell reported she was asked to go to Dog Island with the state Region II Coordinator because DOT had marked in WebEOC that their debris had been picked up and that is not the case. She stated Dog Island has done a good job of pulling the debris out of the weeds and piling it beside the road so the Region II Coordinator will let them know this has not been completed. She said she discussed with him the start date for the county's debris pickup and he sent an email this morning and gave her the name of another person at DOT to contact. Mrs. Brownell reported she is still trying to get the date changed back to the 15th instead of starting on the 18th. She stated she is still working on this and that is why she has not submitted the invoices for the debris haulers from the 11th-17th. Mrs. Brownell reported she is hoping they will pick this up so they will only owe from the 11th-14th. Chairman Lockley asked if he told people correctly that the contractors are gone. Mrs. Brownell answered yes and said DOT is done too. She explained illegal dumping is going on and people are clearing their property and placing the debris on the sides of the road. She reported Tetra Tech had a tracking system and she verified these trucks went down these roads for final pass. Mrs. Brownell explained if the debris was not picked up it was because it was ineligible debris or the debris was placed there after the final pass. Mrs. Brownell said some people are calling because they are just repairing their home but that disposal is on the homeowner or their contractor not the county. Commissioner Boldt asked if it would be appropriate for the county to assemble a list of private vendors who will pick up the debris so it can be a resource for the homeowners. He said he knows of someone right now that is asking for vendors. Attorney Shuler responded the county does not have an occupational license requirement in the county so he is not sure Mrs. Brownell would have a complete list of all the providers so it would be unfair to give a partial list as if they are approving some people but not everyone.

Action Items:

Information Items:

1. CDR Maguire has forwarded the documentation for the work completed for the invoice totaling \$40,860.00. The county will be reimbursed out of the 5% management cost for the total amount of the disaster at the end of the projects.

2. Michael Shuler is still working on trying to get FDOT to assume the county debris cost starting on 10/14/2018 instead of 10/18/2018. The county started our debris pickup process on 10/11/2019, because we already had contracts in place. The total cost for the debris management and debris monitoring contracts for the days of 10/11/2018 through 10/17/2018 is \$126,958.71. This falls within the small project threshold therefore, I will file this as a completed small project funded at 100% and the monies should move quickly.
3. The Emergency Management staff is working on the damage assessment spreadsheet and uploading files into the FEMA Grants portal for Hurricane Michael. As we upload these files, we are also trying to write the EEI (Essential Elements of Information) or what was previously called PW's (Project Worksheets). The FEMA Grants portal will notify us when they are ready to start on the EEI in the FEMA portal. We are working with our FEMA project manager on writing these. It is a slow process.
4. The Florida Emergency Preparedness Association presented the Franklin County EOC Team an award in recognition of response to the Eastpoint Limerock Wildfire.
5. There is a CERT class that started 2/18/2019 and we will be teaching a CPR class on 2/23/2019 at the EOC.

Erik Lovestrand – Extension Office Director

Mr. Moron reported HACCP training for the next 2 days. Mr. Pierce stated the training is about oysters. Commissioner Boldt said Mr. Lovestrand provided an email to the Board.

County Extension Activities February 6 – February 19, 2019

General Extension Activities:

- Assisted local citizens with information on topics related to turtle-friendly lights, soil tests, mangroves and more.
- Extension Director attended a webinar with the Dean of Extension to discuss UF Extensions plans during 2019.
- Extension Director attended FANREP (Extension Association) Board meeting call.

Sea Grant Extension:

- Weekly coordinating calls for the sea turtle lighting grant took place with the project team. Also spent time in field taking photos documenting lighting installations from grant. Also met with FWC to discuss loose ends before wrapping up two-year Dark Skies turtle lighting retrofit project.
- Attended planning meeting to discuss our continuation of mangrove monitoring project in the Northern Gulf of Mexico.
- Participated in multi-agency webinar discussion damage assessment to the seafood industry and for-hire fishing industry from Hurricane Michael. A preliminary report should be available soon based on information collected in the field and by telephone surveys with stakeholders.

- Working with Gulf and Bay County Extension faculty regarding scallop restoration program for St. Joseph and St. Andrews Bay.
- Extension Director attending Basic HACCP (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point) seafood safety course in Biloxi MS this week.

4-H Youth Development:

- 4 Franklin County youth are registering for Day-at-the-Capitol now.
- 4-H Making Strides club is planning a photography contest event.

Family Consumer Sciences:

- Family Nutrition Program (FNP) Assistant is away on maternity leave at this time and our regional FNP Coordinator is conducting programs in her stead in the local schools.

Agriculture/Horticulture:

- Master Gardener course in Franklin County is underway with classes taking place at the Eastpoint branch of the Franklin County library.

Lisa Lance – Library Director

Mrs. Lance provided her report and highlighted some events and invited the community to attend.

Action Items: None

Community Awareness / Resources:

- **SPECIAL EVENT:** Friends of the Library will sponsor the Carrabelle Annual Book, Soup, and Bread sale on Saturday, February 23 at 10:00. Book sale starts at 10:00 with soup and bread available at 10:30. All soup and bread donors can drop their donations off starting at 10:00.
- Master Garden Program – February topic: Container Gardening – Growing Inside and Out. Great attendance in Carrabelle. Don't miss your opportunity for the scheduled program at the Eastpoint branch, Tuesday, February 19 at 1:30. All garden programs are presented by Les Harrison, Wakulla county Extension Director
- Master Gardener Program Demo Gardens are being worked on weekly, are being filled with compost and various plantings will begin soon.
- Free AARP Tax Aide available through April 11, alternating Thursday's between libraries from 10-2. Registration is necessary, paperwork is available at registration to be completed and brought to scheduled appointment.
- Winter Computer Classes taught by Pam Tullous: Additional classes added to schedule, Windows 10 and the Book a Geek: One on One computer assistance, classes will be taught through March 21st,. Contact the library for more information and for a schedule of classes, which are available at both library locations and the schedule varies by location. No registration needed and all programs are free and open to the public.

- Basics of Better Living Programs with Samantha Kennedy from the UF/IFAS Extension Office. March topic, Cooking with an Instant Pot. Available in Carrabelle, Friday March 1 at 1:30 and the Eastpoint Branch, Friday March 15 at 1:30.
- Winter Quilting Group – meets February 20 and March 20 at the Eastpoint Branch at 10:00
- Dr. Seuss Birthday Bash: Stories, Crafts, & Games is scheduled for March 1 at both locations for ages 8 and younger. Younger children will need parental assistance. Eastpoint at 3:30, Carrabelle at 4:00

General Information & Appreciation:

- Hurricane Essays being displayed at both locations and weekly in the Apalachicola Times, all essays will be available at both locations for customers to read
- Music as a Second Language to began the 2019 session on January 31 with 24 students enrolled (20-Eastpoint, 4-Carrabelle), Thank you Rock By the Sea for your continued sponsorship of this awesome program.
- The Sea Oats Garden Club is revitalizing areas around the Carrabelle Branch they originally installed and the landscape along the roadway is looking great. Many thanks to all those involved.
- Walk With Ease, through the Arthritis Foundation ended Friday February 15. Many thanks to Belinda Wharton for facilitating a great program that was appreciated and well attended
- STEAM groups at both branches enjoyed learning about therapy dogs and meeting Tipper & Abby who are certified Therapy Dogs who are registered with Therapy Dogs International
- Effective February 1, Library Patron card expiration notices will be sent to patrons with email addresses (a 14-day courtesy) – Koha now has this capability. Digital and library card account users will find this useful. Customers can call to have cards renewed with same verification practice as in person, non-resident fee cards can't be renewed by phone, only in person.
- Library cards are free to the public with proof of residency and/or property ownership verification. Non-resident charge is only \$10 renewable annually for non-local living residents. Fees from non-resident cards are used to offset operating expenses of the Franklin County Public Library.
- SRP 2019, A Universe of Stories is currently being planned
- Digital circulation through Overdrive nationally was up in 2018 as was for Wilderness Coast. January saw over 1013 checkouts in Overdrive, first time ever over 1000. Up 34% over Dec/Jan over last year
- Network web filter/computer updates are almost complete
- Library Director attended monthly WILD Directors meeting January 30 at WCPL
- Library Director attended Wilderness Coast (WILD) BOD meeting February 11 at WCPL
- Library Director attended FC Friends of the Library meeting February at the Carrabelle branch

Attendance Statistics:

Attendance	Oct 2018	Oct 2017	Nov 2018	Nov 2017	Dec 2018	Dec 2017	Jan 2019	Jan 2018
Carrabelle	5764	2401	6445	2311	3621	2183	3076	2699
Eastpoint	1783	1800	1379	1447	1287	1797	1917	2383

Adult & Children's Monthly Calendar of Events:

- Carrabelle: STEAM (ages 8-14) weekly, Thursdays at 4:00
- Carrabelle: STEAM 2 (ages 5-7), twice monthly, 2nd & 4th Wednesdays at 4:00
- Carrabelle: LEGO Club (ages 5-12), monthly 1st Tuesdays at 4:00
- Carrabelle Yoga: Instructional, Monday's at 4:00, Video – Tuesday, Wednesday, & Friday at 4:00
- Eastpoint: Teen Book Club, monthly for grades 6 – 12 , monthly 1st Wednesdays at 4:00
- Eastpoint: STEAM (ages 8-14), weekly, Thursday's at 4:00
- Eastpoint: Anime Club (ages 5th – 12th grade) – Monthly, 2nd Wednesdays at 4:00
- Eastpoint Book Chat: Monthly, 1st Tuesday at 1:30 (next meeting March 5, 2019)
- Eastpoint Yin Yoga: Tuesdays at 3:30, Monthly 1st & 3rd Friday's at 11:00
- Eastpoint Writer's Forum: Monthly, 3rd Wednesday's at 1:00 (next meeting, February 19)

Clint Davis – Florida Forest Services – Tate's Hell Management Plan

Mr. Davis will give public notice that Florida Forest Service is in the process of updating Tate's Hell State Forest ten-year management plan

Mr. Davis thanked the Board for allowing him the opportunity to address them. He explained they are in the final phases of their ten year management plan for Tate's Hell Forest. He reported part of this process is having public hearings and receiving input from the public. Mr. Davis said he is here to announce the public meetings and the first one will be an organizational public meeting for the Tate's Hell State Forest Management Plan Advisory Group on March 7, 2019 at 10:30 a.m. at the DEP Florida Coastal Office on 108 Island Drive, Eastpoint, Florida. He read a prepared statement of the items to be addressed at this meeting. He reported at 11:00 a.m. the Tate's Hell State Forest Management Plan Advisory Group will have a meeting with the public to solicit comments on management of Tate's Hell State Forest. He explained how comments can be submitted. Mr. Davis stated following that meeting the Tate's Hell State Forest Management Plan Advisory Group of which Commissioner Massey is a part will meet at 1:00 p.m. to review the comments from the public hearing and prepare recommendations to the Florida Forest Service to help in preparation of the management plan for Tate's Hell State Forest. He said the same notice will be posted in the newspaper this week and it has a link to look at the draft management plan. Commissioner Jones asked where the link is. Mr. Davis stated it will be posted in the newspaper on Thursday.

Chairman Lockley said there will be a change in the meeting and they will address Mr. Pierce at this time.

Alan Pierce – RESTORE Coordinator – Report

Mr. Pierce said he will bring up Items 1 & 2 on his report since Mr. Billy Buzzett, Trustee at FSU, is here. He stated Mr. Buzzett also worked in the private section and was on the legal team the State of Florida used to receive the \$1.5 billion settlement from the BP oil spill. He reported Mr. Buzzett has knowledge of the Triumph Fund and how it is applied. Mr. Pierce explained Mr. Buzzett is here as a Trustee of FSU to talk about a project the county has supported. Mr. Pierce read the following items of his report:

1- Provide Board with copy of TRIUMPH pre-application for a new fuel delivery system at the airport. I have received notice from TRIUMPH that they have accepted the pre-application for review. The pre-application asks for \$920K of TRIUMPH funds.

2- Inform Board that I attended the Feb. 8 TRIUMPH meeting in Panama City. The TRIUMPH Board made two decisions relevant to Franklin County.

- A) TRIUMPH created a \$15M fund to aid the Hurricane Michael impacted counties- Bay, Gulf, Franklin, and Wakulla with tax relief due to the loss of tax base. The details are still being worked out, but most likely the scenario will be that county will report the difference in tax base between the certified 2019 tax roll, and the certified 2018 tax roll, and applying the same millage the TRIUMPH funds would be sought to make up the difference. To give the Board and idea for Franklin County, if our tax roll loss for 2019 is the \$40M that Ms. Skipper has indicated it could be, the loss to the Board would be some \$275K of tax revenue. The school board would have a higher loss because they have a higher millage. The cities would have smaller losses because they have a smaller tax base to begin with. In very rough numbers, next year the county might need to seek \$1M of TRIUMPH funding to make up the loss in tax revenue for the county commission, the school board, and the cities. TRIUMPH staff indicates tax relief will be approved only for one year at a time.

Mr. Pierce said the challenge is the county will not get the certified tax roll until July and the budget must be approved in September so if the Triumph Board is going to provide relief they must be accurate and fast in providing the money. He went on to say once the county adopts a budget with a presumption of revenue then they must have the revenue or when the budget is approved they will have a shortfall. He explained the Triumph Board is knowledgeable but if the county is not going to tax people based on receiving the money from Triumph then they need to receive the money by October 1st. Mr. Pierce stated they must understand this is an obligation they are making to the county. Chairman Lockley said that is for the first year but did they say how many years. Mr. Pierce answered no; they were non-committal about future years. He explained they hope the tax losses will be recouped by valuations going back up. He stated he is pretty sure it will be a year at a time. Commissioner Boldt reported the timing is critical to support everything in the county. He said the disaster recovery inventories that are going on must count everything and the timing is important. Commissioner Boldt reported it is appropriate so they get this in sequence and that it is guided well at the time Triumph funds are ready. Mr. Pierce explained the challenge for the counties is the Triumph Board is going to rely on the certified tax role which is not in the Board's hand to develop but in the hand of the Property Appraiser. He reported all the counties have the same timeframe set by statute so it

maybe July 1st or hopefully a little earlier. Mr. Pierce stated there is another meeting on February 25th and he thinks they will talk about further development of the policy. Commissioner Jones asked if they removed the term bridge loan. Mr. Pierce reported they did not define it but he has talked with other RESTORE Coordinators and they believe the tax relief issue would not be a bridge loan but a straight allocation of funds. He stated this detail must be worked out.

B) TRIUMPH made a motion to require written confirmation from the appropriate county commissions on all TRIUMPH applications that were not awarded before Hurricane Michael. To that end, I received a phone call from TRIUMPH staff asking the county commission send a new letter of support for the FSU project. The Board has already gone on record supporting the project. Since that time FSU has increased its commitment to the Apalachicola Bay System Initiative, as their project is called. One new claw-back metric includes providing substantive collaborative assistance in entrepreneurial outreach and support to at least 45 different businesses in the impacted counties that are dependent on oysters, other fisheries and the health of Apalachicola Bay of at least 30 contact hours per entity. FSU shall ensure that appropriate credentialing is available for participants in these collaborative assistance activities. To accomplish this they have the commitment of the FSU College of Business, the new School of Entrepreneurship and the Jim Moran Institute.

As the Board is aware, the Apalachicola Bay ecosystem is changing because of human impact, including the loss of freshwater, and the solution to bringing the Bay back to productivity is not to keep doing what has been done in the past- putting shells out there and letting oyster spat repopulate the bars. Research needs to be done to see if the lack of freshwater, and the abundance of oyster predators, can be combated in other ways. FSU will be looking at other naturally varieties of oysters, other locations, and other factors that might affect Bay productivity. The goal will be to return the Apalachicola Bay oyster industry back into the position it once held in Franklin County.

Mr. Pierce stated the oyster predators are so thick they have considered harvesting them.

As an aside, Franklin County currently has a minimum of \$15M that TRIUMPH must allocate to projects in the county. In March, Franklin County will be entitled to another \$3.2M as the TRIUMPH Board will be receiving a second BP payment. The BP payments will be coming over the next 20 years, and unless the Legislature changes the law, TRIUMPH will be reserving 4% of whatever funds it receives for Franklin County. If my math is correct, and the law does not change, this will amount to \$36M over the next 20 years.

Board action on letter of support for FSU.

Mr. Pierce reported today they are asking for a new letter of support for FSU. He stated he asked Mr. Buzzett to be present to answer any questions. Chairman Lockley asked if this is for a study. Mr. Pierce explained it is a research study that will develop a new type of oysters or methodology. He said FSU is looking at a research component. Chairman Lockley stated he does not believe in studies. He said they have been studying too long and the bay has been down. Chairman Lockley reported all the money is going to studies and people do not have work and he wants people to go to work. He said only 2-3 people do the studies and he

questioned what happened to the studies that were done before. He asked if they will include the previous studies or they are starting over. Mr. Pierce felt like FSU would be looking at the past research. He explained 4-5 years ago the State of Florida put \$10-\$14 million worth of shell in the bay and they have seen no productivity from the shell because the ecosystem has changed so much. Mr. Pierce said he understands research does not create jobs but doing the same thing with a \$14 million assessment did not do anything either because the predators are eating the bay up. He explained they need to find a new pathway to get productivity back in the bay and unfortunately the pathway is research. Mr. Pierce commented hopefully there are some fast solutions out there but until they evaluate the circumstances he does not have another answer. Chairman Lockley reported they need to put a gate in the cut and let the boats in and out and keep the freshwater in the bay. Chairman Lockley stated they are spending millions of dollars on studies and no one is benefitting or getting a job. Mr. Pierce explained one of the reasons the county is out looking for assistance is because the State of Florida has abandoned the oyster industry. He explained the State no longer puts shells there or manages the resource like they used to. Mr. Pierce pointed out the state does not handle the oyster licenses and handed it over to the City of Apalachicola. He reported the State has no interest in the bay recovery or who is out there harvesting oysters. Mr. Pierce said it is frustrating to the Board and people in the industry but the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) has not appeared in the last three years to discuss the bay. He explained the Board cannot get any response so they are forced to look in new directions. Chairman Lockley stated the county is getting \$15 million and half of the money will be used for studies and people are not working. He asked if FSU is going to guarantee some money back if they do not find out what is going on. Commissioner Boldt stated they host a multi-million dollar facility in the county at the Apalachicola National Estuarine Reserve and he believes the studies are already there in their archives so they would not have to reinvent them. He said they should tap that resource and ask for help. Mr. Pierce replied he thinks FSU will be doing that because they want to find an answer and be successful. Mr. Pierce reported Mr. Buzzett's family is from the area and he has a commitment to have this area recover and this is a proposal he feels strongly about. Chairman Lockley stated this is no reflection on Mr. Buzzett but people are still not working. He said the county needs jobs. Commissioner Jones asked if anything to do with Triumph will have claw back measures that they will enforce. Mr. Pierce answered yes. Commissioner Jones stated the Board has already supported this project and they are reaffirming that and it is not anything they have not discussed before. Mr. Pierce said Triumph has reviewed this project and FSU has upped their commitment and Triumph has applied claw backs to FSU. He stated he understands the dismay about the jobs. He went on to say they had two shelling projects that did create temporary jobs but did not help the oyster industry recover so they are having to look at another approach. Chairman Lockley said if you look back he does not go along with studies. **On motion by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by the following vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve a letter of support to show their continued support to FSU for this project:**

AYE: JONES, MASSEY, PARRISH BOLDT

NAY: LOCKLEY

The meeting was recessed at 10:00 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 10:10 a.m.

Amy Ham-Kelly – Planning & Zoning – Report

Mrs. Kelly presented her report, as follows:

Critical Shoreline Application:

1. RECOMMENDED APPROVAL- Contingent upon receiving DEP/COE Permits- (6-1 Vote)

Consideration of a request to construct an addition to an existing Single Family Private Dock located at 193 Harbor Circle, Alligator Point, Franklin County, Florida. The proposed walkway will be 200'ft x 4'ft (800 sq ft), a 21ft' x 12ft' (252 Sq Ft) terminus, a 12'ft x 12ft' (144 sq ft) boatlift, on an existing 78ft' x 4ft' (312 sq ft) existing dock. Applicant has provided their DEP or COE Permits. Request submitted by Larry Joe Colson, Larry Joe Colson Inc. agent for Bruce Stinson, applicant. (Has House)

Commissioner Massey made a motion to approve. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Commissioner Parrish asked if the extension of this dock is to get to the medium level so they are not dredging when they go to the existing dock. Mr. Colson stated yes and to keep it off the grass bottom. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

2. RECOMMENDED APPROVAL- Contingent upon receiving DEP/COE Permits- (6-1 Vote)

Consideration of a request to construct an addition to an existing Single Family Private Dock located at Lot 5, Bay Pine Village, also known as 1309 Curlew Way, St. George Island, Franklin County, Florida. The proposed walkway as proposed will be 168' x 4' (672 sq ft) with a 6' x 20' (120 sq ft) terminus added to the existing 152' x 4 (608 sq ft) dock. Applicant does not have their DEP or COE permits at this time. Request submitted by Dan Garlick, Garlick Environmental Associates, Inc. Agent for Dana Brillante, applicant. (Has House)

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve this request. Commissioner Massey seconded the motion. Commissioner Parrish asked if this extension is to protect the grass beds. Ms. Mary Ann Wasmund, Garlick Environmental Associates, Inc., answered yes. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

3. RECOMMENDATION TO REQUEST AN AMENDMENT TO THE CURRENT DOCK ORDINANCE:
(Unanimous) to include a maximum length to be set at 500 feet. (Unanimous)

Commissioner Jones asked if they need to have a public hearing to amend an ordinance. Attorney Shuler answered yes, and said he thought they were asking for the Board to consider moving forward with the ordinance amendment process. **On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to direct Attorney Shuler to schedule a public hearing to consider amending the dock ordinance.**

Mr. Davis informed the Board Mrs. Link Carroll, Solid Waste Department, has retired and he has a vacancy in this department. **Commissioner Massey made a motion to advertise for a**

position in the Solid Waste Department. Commissioner Parrish seconded the motion.

Commissioner Jones asked if this will be advertised in house first. Mr. Davis stated he likes to advertise in house and publicly at the same time. Attorney Shuler responded they have advertised this way in the past. Commissioner Jones asked if this will put the county in jeopardy if they take a person from inside over a person from outside. Mr. Davis answered if someone in house moves into the position then they will still have a vacancy. Mr. Pierce commented in house always has priority. Commissioner Jones explained this is what he was trying to clarify. **Motion carried; 5-0**

Deborah Belcher – CDBG Administrator – Report

Mrs. Belcher presented her report to the Board:

I am still taking and processing applications for CDBG home replacement/rehabilitation for victims of the Eastpoint Limerock Wildfire. The grant includes replacement homes or home rehabilitation for approximately 38 income-eligible households who were living in mobile homes or site-built homes at the time of the fire. The CDBG will not assist households who were living in campers, sheds or similar structures, and there can only be one dwelling present per lot.

The first priority is assisting households who have title to their land and were living in mobile homes or site-built homes that were destroyed by the fire. Because they are living in campers or other locations, their applications are the most urgent. I hope to get a mobile home purchase proposal package out for advertisement by early March, after finalizing applications and getting the site specific environmental releases of funds from DEO.

Other applicants, including those who are still living in their homes, or those whose situations do not fit the standard homeowner eligibility, will be addressed later. For homeowners still living in their homes, I will determine whether to rehabilitate or demolish and replace the homes. That may require a second round of bidding/proposals for new mobile homes, in addition to a possibility of rehabilitation work. There are some cases with unusual circumstances, which I might bring to the Board on a case-by-case basis, with recommendations on waivers of the County's current CDBG policy.

No property owner will be assisted if there are back-due taxes/assessments on the property (including 2018) or past-due mortgage payments. I will also strongly encourage owners to get homeowner insurance policies on their new homes, although it isn't mandatory.

Requested Action:

1. Approve CDBG home replacement funding for Carol Dasen, 615 Ridge Road, for approximately \$53,219.71 plus related costs of loan recording, and also any additional necessary construction costs not exceeding \$500. This includes a waiver of all typical procurement procedures, and is subject to DEO approval.

Mrs. Dasen and her husband, Thomas R. Dasen, Sr., built their home in 2004/05, with 1440 heated square feet plus a large front porch. Mrs. Dasen is now a **widow, nearly 74 years old.**

When her home was destroyed by the fire, Mrs. Dasen received an insurance settlement, which included paying off the mortgage. After the mortgage payoff, the amount she received was \$88,680.29. Mrs. Dasen used \$71,000 of the insurance money as a downpayment on a new modular home. The replacement home is a little smaller than her previous home, and doesn't have the front porch. Her purchase contract has a balance of approximately \$70,900, with a few minor site-specific items to be finalized based upon soil conditions, etc. The total balance of \$17,680.29 from her settlement will be applied to the final payment, leaving \$53,219.71 unfunded. Although this is not a typical bid/proposal situation, the requested amount is reasonable. The County paid \$76,275 for the least expensive CDBG-funded single-wide mobile home in 2017. DEO has issued the environmental clearance for this project.

Mrs. Belcher asked to issue the amount of \$53,219.71 plus recording costs and construction costs not exceeding \$500. She explained Mrs. Dasen has ordered a replacement modular home and this money would fill the gap to replace the home. She stated this amount is less than if they purchased a new home for her. Chairman Lockley asked if the modular homes fit in a category of what they are supposed to put back. Ms. Belcher reported the area is zoned to allow single family of any type-modular, site built or mobile homes. She stated as far as the grant is concerned that is not an issue. Commissioner Parrish and Mrs. Belcher discussed this replacement home and Mrs. Dasen not having a mortgage now when she had a mortgage prior to the fire. Mrs. Belcher reported Mrs. Dasen will be getting less benefit in terms of dollars than people who had less to begin with and did not pay for insurance. Commissioner Massey said they are going to have to buy a home regardless. Mrs. Belcher responded yes, and Mrs. Dasen is putting up the balance of her insurance settlement money. **Commissioner Massey made a motion to approve CDBG home replacement funding for Carol Dasen, 614 Ridge Road, for \$53,219.71 plus related costs of loan recording and also any additional necessary construction costs not exceeding \$500. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.** Commissioner Jones said he thought about this and talked to Mrs. Belcher and if they were going to buy her a home she still would not have a mortgage. Mrs. Belcher reported she will still have the usual CDBG mortgage which is a 10 year agreement and each year 10% is forgiven which is the county's policy. **Motion carried; 5-0.** Chairman Lockley verified people that did not have insurance are not going to have to pay for a replacement home. Mrs. Belcher said that is correct.

2. Approve the following applicants to be included in the first new mobile home replacement proposal package:
 - A. Shawn Boatwright, 601 Ridge Road
 - B. David Dallas Gilbert, Jr., 576 Ridge Road
 - C. John and Paula Polous, 605 Ridge Road
 - D. Weeden Glenn Woodall, 605 Wilderness Road

On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve these applicants and start the bid process for replacement homes.

Mrs. Belcher asked if Commissioner Massey would like to discuss a foreclosure issue. Commissioner Massey said he would like to bring it up so Attorney Shuler could hear about it. Mrs. Belcher explained approximately 2 years ago the Board started the process of providing a replacement home for Josh and Angela Polous and it was completed in June, 2017. She reported since then they have not been in the home for various reasons and the home is deteriorating and has been vandalized. Mrs. Belcher pointed out one of the terms of the CDBG loan is you have to live in the home and she does not know the legal status of the two homeowners but they are not living in the home. She questioned if the county wants to look into the possibility of initiating a foreclosure. She explained if it looks like they are in default of the agreement then the county would have to follow the Florida Law on the mortgage foreclosure process. Commissioner Massey suggested Attorney Shuler contact the individuals. He stated he does not want to take anyone's home but this is a good trailer and some windows are out and it is raining in. He said there is no use in it being damaged when someone could use this trailer. Mrs. Belcher stated if it goes through the foreclosure process someone could bid on the home so there is the potential that someone else could end up with the home. She explained if the county received the home then they could dispose of it as they see fit but she suggests taking applications from people who would like to have it. She explained if someone else gets the property and the county receives the money then they would be required to send the money to the state. Mrs. Belcher stated the only other option she can think of is if the county wants to approach the homeowners about a deed in lieu of foreclosure on a voluntary basis and then the county would get the property. Mrs. Belcher stated the foreclosure process is a legal procedure and there are certain steps that have to be followed carefully especially when it is homesteaded. Chairman Lockley said once that happens it is out of their hands and goes to the legal system. Attorney Shuler explained after hearing this presentation if the Board wants to move forward with potentially pursuing a mortgage foreclosure then his recommendation is to authorize him to investigate if there has been a default under the terms of the agreement and if there has been a default authorize him to file the appropriate mortgage foreclosure lawsuit. **Commissioner Massey made a motion to direct Attorney Shuler to investigate if there has been a default under the terms of the contract and if there has been a default authorize Attorney Shuler to file the appropriate mortgage foreclosure lawsuit. Commissioner Boldt seconded the motion.** Commissioner Boldt asked Mrs. Belcher if she can foresee where the money will come from to repair this trailer. Mrs. Belcher stated if the county gets the property then they could sell or give the trailer as is. She reported the county could take applications and set an income limit and say the person would have to make the necessary repairs at their expense. Commissioner Massey stated Attorney Shuler needs to contact the homeowners and see if they are going back in the trailer or they are going to fix it before the Board does anything. Chairman Lockley asked if anyone has been in contact with the homeowners. Mrs. Belcher stated she was tracking them through the court system and she has talked with relatives but not the in last month or so. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

Mrs. Belcher said she will be bringing more applications in the future for the Eastpoint project.

Marcia M. Johnson – Clerk of Courts – Report

Clerk Johnson did not have a report.

Mr. Pierce continued with his report, as follows:

1-This item was addressed earlier in the meeting.

2-Mr. Pierce presented this item earlier in the meeting.

3- Request Board direction on submitting a rough damage assessment on the loss of sand from the county's dune systems because of Hurricane Michael to FDEP. FDEP is collecting data to submit to the legislature to justify a legislative appropriation based upon the damage done by Hurricane Michael. FDEP is looking to quantify the loss of sand dunes in the affected counties and I think we should submit some estimation. I have spoken to FDEP staff, and FDEP staff has advised me that the standard arrangement for state funds is a 50/50 match with local funds. I have advised FDEP that Franklin County cannot identify any local match funds at this time, but I still think we should submit some estimate of sand loss in the event the legislature waives the local match requirements. I have asked our beach consultants, MRD, for some rough calculations, and I have received assistance from a scientist and resident of St. George Island, Dr. Rebecca Dolan, as well. The estimate I recommend we submit to FDEP is approximately 500K cubic yards of sand was lost across Franklin County dune system. Board direction.

Mr. Pierce stated this total represents 200,000 cubic yards at St. George Island and a similar amount at Dog Island. Mr. Pierce reported there are more homes damaged and at risk on Dog Island now because of the hurricane than any other part of the county. He stated there is also a little amount of sand needed for Alligator Point. Mr. Pierce estimated the cost of sand to be \$20.00 per cubic yard delivered and put in place so the county's obligation would be \$5 million of a \$10 million project. He explained the county has not committed to a match and they will have to see what the Legislature does. Chairman Lockley asked who owns Dog Island. Mr. Pierce said it is privately owned and was developed by the Lewis family. He explained the roads are public but run by the Dog Island Conservation District. He estimated there are about 400 lots and 200 homes on Dog Island. He stated there is an airstrip open to the public but he was not sure who owned the airstrip. He said in the past the county helped fund a ferry to Dog Island but now the county has an agreement with the Dog Island Conservation District to help remove garbage off the island. Mr. Pierce reported the Dog Island Conservation District can raise their own assessments and they are assisting with the debris removal. He stated the Board heard DOT was on Dog Island and they were there because the roads to some degree are public. He explained the dunes on Dog Island called the mountains are larger than any dunes on St. George Island. He said the biggest hurricane damage was to The Pelican Inn that got wiped out. He stated The Pelican Inn was a non-conforming commercial structure so now all of Dog Island is private property, single family homes and a large tract of land that is owed by The Nature Conservancy. Commissioner Parrish asked if in relation to the damage to the dunes the county can get mitigation funds from FEMA to offset the costs. Mr. Pierce stated the dunes were not engineered. He explained dunes and beaches are the same so if the county built the

beach or dunes and can calculate the amount of sand they put there then it is an artificial structure and can be reimbursed. Commissioner Parrish asked if the county rebuilds the dunes will it be considered engineered. Mr. Pierce answered he hopes so. Commissioner Parrish said he thinks they need to do this. Commissioner Jones inquired if they can clarify this. Mr. Pierce stated he will talk with DEP and Mrs. Brownell to clarify this matter. Commissioner Parrish reported a lot of houses will be knocked down if there is another storm as there are no dunes to protect the homes on the Gulf of Mexico or the state park. He questioned the amount of revenue that would be lost if these homes are destroyed. He said it also affects tourism. Commissioner Parrish reported the beach is flat now and there is no dune system to protect anything. He stated they need to use RESTORE funds and there may some pots of money where they can find this match. He said the Board needs to move forward with this and it should be one of the main priorities. Commissioner Parrish stated they need to make sure the 500,000 cubic yards is what they need and they need to see if they can increase this number if that is not enough. Mr. Pierce explained they started at 1.5 million cubic yards but St. Vincent Island was removed because it was federal land. Commissioner Massey said Carrabelle Beach is damaged. Mr. Pierce explained Carrabelle Beach cannot be considered a dune system as it must be on the Gulf of Mexico or the Atlantic Ocean. Commissioner Parrish agreed Carrabelle Beach is flat too. Mr. Pierce said they can add some cubic yards. Commissioner Parrish stated the county's numbers just need to be accurate. Chairman Lockley asked if they use a certain kind of sand. Mr. Pierce answered yes, and that is the reason for the cost. Commissioner Boldt stated Mr. McColm is looking at a holistic approach at Alligator Point including preserving the barrier and renourishment of the whole peninsular. He said potentially this data would be good data for the review by the COE. Mr. Pierce reported they can go to 750,000 cubic yards but it is a rough estimate. He explained DEP estimated St. George Island lost 200,000 cubic yards. Mr. O'Connell stated the estimate was 400,000 cubic yards. Mr. Pierce suggested the number be increased to 750,000 cubic yards. **Commissioner Parrish made a motion to proceed and direct staff to start looking at other ways other than ad valorem taxes that they can pay for this. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.** Commissioner Parrish explained this is the top priority and everyone should be aware if they use BP monies out of other pots to make the 50/50 match then other projects will have to stand down. He reported without the protection of the beaches across the county he thinks they will be remorseful if they do not proceed with the 50/50 match. Mr. Pierce said they may go 800,000. Commissioner Parrish stated this is a wise thing to do because they can scale down the amount but after they make application they cannot increase the amount. Chairman Lockley asked if there is a consultant they can contact to try and help find the money. Mr. Pierce reported they will see what the Legislature does because they have to fund half of it. He explained if the Legislature does fund it then RESTORE is a logical pot because RESTORE has environmental components to it. He stated this project will be bid out because it is so large. He explained outside consultants will help with a lot of things. Mr. Pierce reported it is possible Mr. McColm could find some funds from the COE especially for Alligator Point and maybe other areas. Chairman Lockley asked if the sand from dredging would work. Mr. Pierce stated it is possible and said the \$20.00 per cubic yard was delivered. Mr. Clay Kennedy, Dewberry, asked if the county is committing to maintenance. Mr. Pierce explained this is just a rough estimate from DEP to get a legislative appropriation.

He agreed maintenance is another issue but said it is not as critical with dune restoration as it is with beach renourishment. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

4- Inform Board that Commissioner Boldt, Clay Kennedy, and I met with approximately 10 state and federal representatives on Alligator Point on Feb. 11 for the required site visit prior to FEMA writing any PWs for Alligator Point. Commissioner Boldt may want to add to my report, but the essence of the meeting was to quantify the damage caused by Hurricane Michael. At first FEMA wanted the county to perform a full scale topographical survey of the damaged area. Getting a surveyor out there, even under an emergency situation, and creating the survey that FEMA wanted was going to take at 30-60 days. After additional consultation with what documents the county already has FEMA agreed to use the data generated from the last time the road was completely rebuilt, which was after Hurricane Dennis, and use that as the pre-storm condition. The road after Hurricane Dennis was a two lane paved road, with a concrete cap on the water side, and the rock revetment. So all the components of the road we lost in Hermine, and never rebuilt, are all captured by the status of the road as it was in 2007.

Clay Kennedy, Dewberry engineer, was extremely efficient in finding the construction documents from 2007, and they have been provided to FEMA. There is some confusion over what FEMA authorized after Hurricane Hermine for rebuilding Alligator Drive. As the Board may recall at one point there was a PW for some \$3.2M that was then reduced by FEMA to \$2.6M. I have sent all this documentation to FEMA reps and am waiting a response.

At this time the Mr. Dave Lewis, who led the FEMA site visit, has written a report only for the 230 feet of Alligator Drive on the east end that was damaged only by Hurricane Michael. Mr. Lewis said how this 230 feet ties into the rest of the damage is something to be done by his superiors. I have been advising FCMC on all of this. At this time, I am waiting for confirmation from FCMC that they support a site visit report on only the new damage. Their contacts with FEMA have previously indicated the site visit report should cover all the damaged area.

Mr. Pierce referenced an email he received from Mr. Sid Melton, FEMA, confirming to Ms. Sarah Kelty, FCMC, that the county should not sign the PW or the report for the 230 ft. because FEMA at the Atlanta level think the PW should include all the damage to the whole road. He said he is waiting for confirmation on what FEMA internally wants them to do. Chairman Lockley agreed they should cover the whole road. Commissioner Boldt agreed they should.

There was not uniform support for an emergency sand berm so FEMA is mulling over what to do for emergency protection. The problem, and we all know it, is that the road is so close to high tide that the emergency berm is going to be subject to constant erosion and FEMA is not sure it will be a cost effective measure.

Mr. Pierce reported FEMA have been given all the information and they are waiting to see what happens. Commissioner Boldt said when they walked the road the man with Mr. Lewis measured the area and it was 1,235 ft. so he is surprised Mr. Lewis is thinking about 230 ft. Mr. Pierce reported it is easy to define the damage from Hurricane Michael on the east end but it much harder to write up the damage that was on top of the other damage. He explained they do not have a good post-Hermine pre Hurricane Michael calculation. He stated they made

some estimates but Mr. Lewis is trying to separate the storms. Mr. Pierce said it does not matter so they should go back to 2007 when they had a full road there and work off of that. He explained Mr. Lewis did not think he could do that so he wrote up the 230 ft. Commissioner Boldt stated that confuses the issue. He stated it is a functional road the whole way not 230 ft. Chairman Lockley reported in the last 20 years the county has had some storms but not a Category 4 or 5 like this storm. Mr. Pierce stated the storm surge was greater than anyone here has seen during their lifetime. Chairman Lockley said they should not say this will do because they do not know when the next storm will come. Mr. Pierce stated the county did not sign anything and they will have to wait and see what consultants find out. Commissioner Boldt said Senator Marco Rubio was here and empathized with the county. He reported the county needs to keep their data and move through to get this funded. Mr. Pierce commented that Mr. Lewis was under pressure to get something written up so he was trying to get a solution on at least one part of the road. Mr. Pierce reported the goal is to roll the \$3.2 million allocated for Hurricane Hermine into a larger project so they did not want to write a project for this small amount and then the other part dropped off and they have to get a whole new obligation. Chairman Lockley reported he hopes they do not lose this allocation if another disaster happens because that happened before with the funding for the Eastpoint Channel. Mr. Pierce reported it is a risk because the county will probably go through 2 hurricane seasons before the road is fixed. Chairman Lockley stated he would like to fix the whole thing and do it right. Mr. Pierce said they asked about a bridge and there was no positive comment and they ruled out that option.

Attorney Shuler asked Mr. Pierce to address the issue of a lot owner, Mr. Ray Maynard, at Alligator Point asking the county to re-convey back to him some land that he had conveyed to the county to help rebuild a road back at Alligator Point. He said Mr. Pierce is more familiar with the details. Mr. Pierce explained this is for the relocation of Gulf Shore Blvd. He stated there were 7 lots that needed access and Mr. Maynard was the last lot. He reported they had an easement across all 7 lots but only needed the road built to the 6th lot so Mr. Maynard had access to his lot. He reported they save FEMA money and local money by not building across Mr. Maynard's lot. Mr. Pierce explained the road does not go on his property so the county does not need an easement and Mr. Maynard would like the easement dissolved. Mr. Pierce reported he does not have any problem with dissolving the easement. **On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to dissolve the easement.**

Commissioner Jones asked if Mr. Pierce has heard anything back from the EOC survey. Mr. Pierce responded he has one proposal and has requested another. He stated Mrs. Brownell did an internal review (after storm report) but the community had asked for a third party review. He said he would like to get the second proposal so the county has a fair cost.

Michael Morón – County Coordinator – Report

Mr. Moron presented his report, as follows:

1. Over that last couple of months, the Board has been discussing options regarding the Supervisor of Election's request to consider a different location for her office as the current building is too small and requires structural and other repairs. In an attempt to offer another option for Board consideration, I met with Mrs. Heather Riley, Franklin County's Supervisor of Elections, and Mr. Harry Arnold, the building's owner, to discuss what changes could be made at the current location that would be acceptable to Mrs. Riley. Mrs. Riley and Mr. Arnold agreed to a list of repairs and improvements, however Mr. Arnold is requesting a new lease with changes to the terms. Mr. Arnold would consider a lease to own option for that building if the Board is interested. **Board action** to authorize Attorney Shuler to discuss a new lease, including the possibility of a lease to own agreement, with Mr. Arnold.

Commissioner Parrish made a motion to authorize Attorney Shuler to discuss a new lease, including the possibility of a lease to own agreement with Mr. Arnold. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Commissioner Jones stated he would like to see any of the repairs they are referring to being made before they start a new lease. He reported he would also like to see clear language in the lease stating the maintenance of the building is the responsibility of the person that is leasing the building not the leasee. He said his understanding is everything that is being done in the building now is being done by the county. Mr. Moron said anything below a certain amount is being done by the county. Mrs. Griffith explained it excludes major repairs. Commissioner Jones said they are here now because major repairs have not been done. Chairman Lockley reported when the repairs are done then the price will go up so he would like to see how much it will cost, the cost of the repairs and if the space will be big enough. He stated he would also like to see the difference in the new prices versus pushing down the old jail and building a new building. Attorney Shuler said he intends to negotiate and then bring the information back to the Board for approval. He stated if the Board approves the proposal then he would put it into the lease extension a contractual obligation on the part of the landlord that as part of the renewal the following repairs will be made. He said the Board is saying the repairs should be made before the lease is extended. Commissioner Jones said the repairs should be made before an increase in price. He explained it is written in the current lease that major repairs are his responsibility and they have not been done. Commissioner Massey agreed and said the former Supervisor of Elections spent a lot of money on the building. Attorney Shuler reported he will negotiate and come back to the Board for further instructions. Mr. Moron pointed out there is a difference in the repairs that need to be done and the improvements that need to be made. He said the changes to the lease are based on improvements that the Supervisor of Elections wants to make. He stated the repairs need to be done no matter what. Commissioner Boldt reported the repairs need to be clarified. Mr. Moron agreed that is what the attorney is working on. Chairman Lockley stated they can take the old jail down and solve two or three issues by putting a building on stilts and put parking underneath. He explained they could also make it two floors and put two people in it. Mr. Moron agreed two constitutional officers could be put in the building. Attorney Shuler stated he will get the list of repairs and a list of improvements from Mr. Moron and report that back when he reports on the negotiations. Commissioner Boldt said they need to address the current building being too small. He stated they recognize this but have a word of caution on the budget so they will keep things appropriate as they are. He reported there is a need for a

new Supervisor of Elections' office but they have to make do with what they have right now. Commissioner Boldt asked if the Finance Department agrees this is where they are. Clerk Johnson answered yes. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

2. This item was addressed earlier in the meeting.
3. Mrs. Kim Bodine, of CareerSource Gulf Coast, submitted the Subsequent Local Area Designation for Local Workforce Development Boards under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) for Board approval and the Chairman's signature. Local workforce development areas that receive an initial designation by the Governor may be granted a Subsequent Local Area Designation for Local Workforce Development Boards if, for the two most recent program years, the local area performed successfully and sustained fiscal integrity, and in the case of a local area in a planning region, met the regional planning requirements as described in Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Sec. 106(c)(1). The chief elected officials must submit a request for subsequent designation to CareerSource Florida and DEO every two years beginning July 1, 2017. The application to request subsequent designation is due by April 15 of the renewal year. **Board action** to approve and authorize the Chairman's signature on the Subsequent Local Area Designation for Local Workforce Development Boards contingent on Attorney Shuler's review.

Commissioner Massey made a motion to approve the Subsequent Local Area Designation for Local Workforce Development Boards contingent upon Attorney Shuler's review and authorize the Chairman to sign. Commissioner Parrish seconded the motion. Chairman Lockley said there is a program to hire volunteers and this would be a good time to ask Ms. Bodine for more workers to clean up the sides of the road. He explained Workforce is set up for this type of program and has insurance. Mr. Moron said the workers are under an agreement with the county so the county would need to add the volunteers. He reported if they are okay with them working on the sides of the road then it would be added under Mr. Davis' department. Mr. Moron agreed to ask Ms. Bodine about this matter. Attorney Shuler said this is a good suggestion. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

4. At your January 16, 2018 regular meeting, Mr. Grayson Shepard appeared before the Board seeking your approval to create the Buddy Ward Artificial Reef. There was a motion, approved with a unanimous vote, to have the County sign any required permits and pay a \$700 permit fee. Attached to my report is a copy of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection permit. Mr. Shepard is working with the Corps of Engineers for his Federal permit.
5. At your December 18th meeting I informed the Board that Florida Department of Transportation application cycles were open for SCOP, SCRAP, CIGP, and Transportation Alternative grants. Based on your conversations with Mr. Mark Curenton, County Planner, the following projects are recommended for approval.
 - a. The SCOP, SCRAP and CIGP grant applications must be submitted to the Department of Transportation by March 22. The County is eligible to submit one application in each grant. Based on the criteria for each grant, the Planning Department recommends submitting a SCOP application to replace the three large culverts at Womack Creek on Highway 67, a SCRAP application to widen and repave a portion of Highway 67 north of Crooked River, and a CIGP application to repave the Begonia Street/Creamer Street/South Franklin Street route in Eastpoint. If the Board approves these projects, I

will bring the completed applications back to the Board in March for final approval.
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 projects.

- b. Approval of a Resolution supporting a Transportation Alternatives grant application for \$218,517 to build a sidewalk on the north side of Highway 98 from Prado Street in Apalachicola to the Ace Hardware Driveway west of Apalachicola. If approved, this project will be built and maintained by the Department of Transportation with no required local match. This grant application has to be submitted by the end of February.
Board action.

On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the Resolution supporting a Transportation Alternatives grant application for \$218,517 to build a sidewalk on the north side of Highway 98 from Prado Street in Apalachicola to the Ace Hardware Driveway west of Apalachicola.

6. The Annual St. George Island Chili Charity Cookoff will be held on March 2nd. Like past Chili Cookoffs, there will be many different types of contests and a silent auction, with all proceeds going to the Island Volunteer Fire Department and First Responder Unit. The organizers are asking for Board action to close Chili Boulevard and West Gulf Beach Drive from Franklin Boulevard to 1st Street on Friday March 1st and Saturday March 2nd for the event. ***Board action.***

On motion by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to close Chili Boulevard and West Gulf Beach Drive from Franklin Boulevard to 1st Street on Friday, March 1st and Saturday, March 2nd for the event.

7. Mr. Harry Arnold, a Franklin and Leon County business owner, would like to donate 400 theater chairs, currently at Florida State University, to the Panhandle Players, on behalf of the County, for the Chapman Auditorium. The chairs are in great condition and padded (see attached pictures), which will make for a better experience when attending events at the Chapman Auditorium. Mr. Curenton stated that the wooden chairs currently in the Auditorium are not the original chairs, so there is no issue with replacing them with the padded chairs. The Panhandle Players would like the Board to consider allowing them to sell the wooden chairs as a fundraiser, with all proceeds going towards re-doing the floor in the auditorium, before installing the padded chairs. If approved by the Board, the Panhandle Players should take possession of the padded chairs towards the end of April and install them during the summer. ***Board action*** to authorize the Panhandle Players to accept the padded chairs from Mr. Arnold on behalf of the County and allow the Panhandle Players to sell the wooden chairs as a fundraiser, with all proceeds going to re-doing the Auditorium's floors.

On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize the Panhandle Players to accept the padded chairs from Mr. Harry Arnold on behalf of the county and allow the Panhandle

Players to sell the wooden chairs as a fundraiser, with all proceeds going to re-doing Chapman Auditorium's floors.

Mr. Moron reported about a week and a half ago the Building Official told him he was offered a contract from another county to be their Building Official starting on April 1st. He said at that time they discussed the county outside employment policy and that this would violate the policy. Mr. Moron reported he said the only other option for the Building Official to stay on would be if he also contracted with Franklin County. He explained yesterday the Building Official informed him the date had been moved up to March 1st. He reported the Building Official wants to do the same thing and contract with Franklin County so he would get a monthly allotment but he informed him that might not work and Franklin County would be in favor, if he remains a contracted employee, to be billed for items depending on the type of inspection he did. Mr. Moron said at that time the Building Official was not in favor of that but they need to discuss it and that will be his top priority tomorrow. He explained the Board does not meet again until March 5th so he needs the option if they cannot agree to terms as a contracted worker to advertise for a new Building Official. Commissioner Parrish said the county needs to advertise for a Building Official. He explained the county gave the Building Official time to get his license and now he wants to work for someone else and that will put the county in a bind. He stated the county cannot have someone working part time for the county and part time for someone else especially with all the hurricane damage and all the building that will be going on. He reported the county needs a full time Building Official. **Commissioner Parrish made a motion to move forward with advertising for a Building Official.**

Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Chairman Lockley asked if this is premature as he has not put in notice. He said the Building Official talked about this but what will happen if he changes his mind. Mr. Moron stated he told him no matter what he is taking the contract in Liberty County and he sent that in writing as the policy requires that. Mr. Moron said the negotiation will be whether he will be a contracted employee for Franklin County and under what conditions because that is the only negotiated option. Chairman Lockley stated he did not know something was received in writing. Mr. Moron answered yes; it was required by the personnel policy. Commissioner Boldt said the county needs a bridge during the time the Building Official is going to Liberty County and the county is advertising for a new one. Mr. Moron agreed. Mr. Pierce reported the county cannot issue building permits without a Building Official so someone must be available. Mr. Moron said he reached out to Mr. Bo Creel yesterday and he will talk with Mr. Gary Millender, Building Official, and then go with the best option for the county. Commissioner Boldt agreed to performance based where he is paid on productivity and not just a flat fee. Mr. Moron said it will be as a bridge while they advertise for a new Building Official. Attorney Shuler requested an amendment to the motion to also authorize Mr. Moron to hire someone on a temporary basis if he cannot work out a bridge agreement with the current Building Official. **Commissioner Parrish amended his motion to include authorizing Mr. Moron to hire someone on a temporary basis if he cannot work out a bridge agreement with the current Building Official. Commissioner Jones amended his second. Motion carried; 5-0.**

Commissioner Parrish announced he would leave the meeting at this time due to an appointment.

T. Michael Shuler – County Attorney – Report

Attorney Shuler said the Board took care of his only item earlier in the meeting.

Commissioners' Comments

Commissioner Jones stated the Apalachee Regional Planning Council (ARPC) is doing a meet and greet/workshop at the Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve (ANERR) Tuesday, February 26th from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. He reported there are different items being addressed for coastal communities and he wanted the Commissioners to be aware of the meeting.

Commissioner Boldt re-emphasized the importance of the Board of Adjustment needing more standby members so they have a quorum each month. He stated they need to facilitate these efforts. Commissioner Jones said there is one alternate and one vacant. Mr. Moron stated Mrs. Ham-Kelly is asking each member if they want to continue to serve or be moved to an alternate so they can fill these seats. Commissioner Jones asked if they have heard back from the members. Mr. Moron was not sure but said he would check and notify the Board.

Commissioner Boldt said the St. Teresa substation fire house located at Bay North is going to be upgrading their facility.

Commissioner Boldt reported he is offering, with the approval of Clerk Johnson, some limited hours as a Commissioner on the last Tuesday of the month at the Carrabelle Courthouse Annex after lunch from 1:00 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. He stated he will be available to his district. Mr. Moron said Clerk Johnson offered the use of her office at the Carrabelle Annex on Tuesdays.

Chairman Lockley stated he does not want anyone to take what he said this morning out of context about the studies. He reported he believes in people working instead of studies. He explained he has been here a long time and there have been a lot of studies but no work.

Commissioner Jones said the basketball game will be Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Noah Lockley - Chairman

Attest:

Marcia M. Johnson - Clerk of Courts