

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
COURTHOUSE ANNEX – COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
MAY 7, 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, Erin Griffith-Assistant Finance Director, 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.

Approval of Minutes

On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the minutes of the meeting held on April 16, 2019.

Payment of County Bills

On motion by Commissioner Boldt, 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. Alan Feifer, Concerned Citizens of Franklin County (CCFC), said he has requested time on the Agenda to make a full presentation and has been denied every time. He explained the CCFC has been a watcher of health care for over 13 years. He reported the issues today are much the

same as then. Mr. Feifer discussed the passing of the health care surtax and the subsidies provided to the hospital. He said the surtax money was to be divided half to operational support and half to capital costs to build a new facility that was promoted with a rendering of a 2 story, 31,000 square foot full service hospital. He reported presently there is about \$3.5 million in the capital fund. He explained approximately \$700,000 is owed to the capital fund from past borrowing by Weems Memorial Hospital. He reported Tallahassee Memorial Hospital is owed close to \$600,000 and there is approximately \$140,000 owed in other bills. Mr. Feifer stated Weems Memorial Hospital has lost more than \$500,000 in cash over and above the \$1,000,000 in subsidies they have received since October, 2018. He reported the Board has repeatedly said they would like to get out of the health care business and he would like to know what has changed. Mr. Feifer explained they do not bring in enough revenue now and the situation will not improve after assuming a \$10 million loan to remodel and add space to the existing facility. He stated the CCFC has been unable to view financial projections that could make or break the case for where the county is heading. Mr. Feifer reported the CCFC has talked with experts and lay people about the hospital. He stated the CCFC has a petition they will present with 177 names asking the Board to hold a series of town hall meetings to discuss what was originally promised in the ballot initiative in 2007 and whether or not these obligations have been met. He asked for the current financial status of the hospital, the health care trust fund and the reasonable future financial estimates of where the hospital will be 1 year, 5 years and 10 years after the facility is built. Mr. Feifer questioned where or who the money will come from if they miss the projections and if necessary what their exit strategy will be. He inquired how long it will take for revenue to rise to a sustainable level after construction is complete and where the additional funds will come from to bridge the gap. Mr. Feifer asked what direct effects a new facility will have on health care outcomes in the county. He stated they must view all available options to prevent failure. He requested the Board hold two town hall meetings with one in Apalachicola and one in Eastpoint or Carrabelle so citizens can understand what the county is proposing and why. He explained at the meetings citizens can share what they expect from healthcare in the future.

Mrs. Martha Linn, a resident of Apalachicola, stated on March 9th she used the St. George Island walkover on 10th Street and slid on sand and broke her ankle. She reported she has tried to contact the Board and emailed them and no one has responded. She explained the condition on the walkway is dangerous. Mrs. Linn stated after Hurricane Michael the walkover was repaired but the slope of the ramp is much too steep. She reported no-skid surfaces have been added to some of the walkovers but it has done nothing to help the situation. Mrs. Linn said on April 28th she returned to see if any repairs had been made. She reported they visited 3 of the walkovers and each has serious deficiencies. She explained some of the deficiencies and said she has photographs to show some of the deficiencies. She requested the county inspect and repair all the county maintained walkovers to remove the dangerous conditions so no one else sustains an injury. Mr. Pierce stated he met with Mrs. Linn, went to the boardwalks and talked with Mr. Davis about this issue. He agreed the walkovers are steep. He stated the problem is the walkovers were rebuilt in the same length as before but after Hurricane Michael the beach profile changed dramatically. He explained the hurricane washed the sand out and the grade

has steepened dramatically. Mr. Pierce explained the ramp was rebuilt but the county did not have a permit from DEP to extend it. He suggested the county build stairs beside the ramp so both are available and contact DEP to see if the walkovers can be extended or they can drop the ramp down at the roadside so it is not so steep. Mr. Pierce expressed his opinion that the walkovers were placed back where they were prior to the storm. Mrs. Linn presented pictures of the walkovers. Attorney Shuler stated what Mrs. Linn has asked for is reasonable so the Board could have Mr. Davis do an inspection and report back at the next meeting as the Board does not take action under public comment. Commissioner Boldt said people in his area have also expressed concern about the boardwalks/walkovers in the Alligator Point area. He explained the boardwalk at Grouper Street is severely damaged so they may need to look at all the walkovers in the county. Chairman Lockley agreed they should check all of the walkovers. Mrs. Linn asked someone to contact her after the inspections to let her know what is happening. Mr. Pierce said he has Mrs. Linn's contact information. Chairman Lockley thanked Mrs. Linn for providing the information.

Ms. Mel Kelly, a resident of Carrabelle, requested the Board consider making arrangements for one of the doors into this building to be handicapped accessible so they can push a button and the doors open. She informed the Board she found it difficult to get into the building this morning. Ms. Kelly reported this is a public building and they have the responsibility of providing access. She read a prepared statement asking the Board to consider appointing a county-wide health care advisory board

Mr. Mason Bean, a resident of St. George Island, said he concurs with Ms. Kelly and Mr. Feifer and encourages the Board to hold town hall meetings and appoint a health care advisory board.

Department Directors Report

Howard Nabors – Superintendent of Public Works

Mr. Nabors stated his department is cutting grass throughout the county but are short on inmate crews as the prison does not have enough staff. Commissioner Massey asked how the grader is working. Mr. Nabors said they were having issues with it but it is running good now. He stated he has talked with Mrs. Griffith about trying to get a new one as his other piece of equipment is paid off. He said he will have a price at the next meeting and see if the Board wants to vote on it. Mr. Nabors brought into discussion the city saying they are not going to cut grass in the city limits. He stated people inside the city limits are calling him and he has told them the county does not cut grass inside the city limits. He said they are asking who will cut the grass. Chairman Lockley said the county is not cutting the grass for the city. Mr. Nabors explained the city says 12th Street is a county road and the county says it is a city road but it has always been a city road. Attorney Shuler said he and Mr. Pierce have had this conversation with the city for many years. He stated the county's position is they do not cut grass along the streets inside either of the municipalities and the county has held firm in this position. Chairman Lockley asked him to comment about 12th Street. Mr. Pierce reported any road inside

the city limits the county considers to be a city street with the exception of any federal or state highway. He said the city should be maintaining their streets, ditches, sidewalks and cutting their grass. Attorney Shuler agreed this was the county policy when he became the County Attorney and they have maintained that policy. Mr. Pierce explained the City of Apalachicola and the City of Carrabelle both get a share of the gas tax money for their purposes and it is intended to maintain the roads. Commissioner Massey reported the City of Carrabelle maintains and mows their streets. Mr. Pierce said the City of Carrabelle also does some paving. Commissioner Massey stated the new manager at the City of Apalachicola has told them to stop mowing and the county will do it. Chairman Lockley stated the county is not going to do that. Mr. Nabors said the City of Apalachicola is cutting grass in the cemetery and along Highway 98 but nothing else. Chairman Lockley said the city should not be cutting grass along a state highway. Mr. Pierce commented the city may receive compensation from the state for mowing along Highway 98. Chairman Lockley said if the city is telling individuals to call the county then tell them the county is not going to cut inside the city limits. Mr. Nabors stated the City of Apalachicola gets four inmate crews. Commissioner Boldt asked if there is something they can do to encourage getting the prison crews. Mr. Nabors said this is not the county's decision. He reported if the prison gets more staff then the county will get inmate crews. He commented if they do not get additional staff at the prison then he does not know when they will get inmate crews. Mr. Moron clarified it is the City of Apalachicola that is causing the issue not the City of Carrabelle. He informed the Board he called Mr. Ron Nalley, City Manager for the City of Apalachicola, and informed him the county does not cut grass within the city limits so they should stop telling their employees to have people call the county. Chairman Lockley reported the City of Carrabelle has been doing their job as long as he has been on the Board. Mr. Moron read the following item:

1. **Board action** to ratify the Chairman's signature on five Department of Corrections' (DOC) Interagency/Public Works Local Agreements. These are the agreements that allow DOC to provide inmate crews to our various County departments. The agreements were due on April 22nd.

On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to ratify the Chairman's signature on five Department of Corrections' (DOC) Interagency/Public Works Local Agreements.

Commissioner Parrish said people in the unincorporated areas do not have anyone to call except the county and the county provides services to them. He stated he talked with Mr. Nabors earlier in the week about the requests but the county cannot take on the obligations of the municipalities. Mr. Nabors said he wanted the Board to know what is going on. He said his department is working west to east on the grass cutting.

Fonda Davis – Solid Waste Director

Mr. Davis stated he does not have a report today. He said they will inspect the dune walkovers and provide a report to the Board. Chairman Lockley asked Mr. Davis to check the walkovers all over the county.

Commissioner Jones asked Mr. Davis to provide an update on the oil collection units even though it was delayed because of the storm. Mr. Davis reported the tanks are in and they are reviewing each site in the City of Apalachicola, City of Carrabelle, and Eastpoint and looking at a platform for the tanks that has them contained. He stated they pulled one in Eastpoint and will move to Carrabelle. He stated they talked with Mr. Jim Reece about requesting funding in June when the new budget starts but due to Hurricane Michael the funding was wiped away. Mr. Davis said these units should be up and running in July.

Chairman Lockley asked about the status of equipment in Mr. Davis' department. Mr. Davis said the cardboard truck is down. Chairman Lockley stated Mr. Nabors needs a grader and asked what equipment Mr. Davis needs. Mr. Davis explained they are talking with the Finance Department about an excavator and recycling trucks. He said the one recycling truck is down and needs to go to the shop so they are relying on a 1998 truck. He stated overall they do need some equipment. Chairman Lockley asked if they will have some money for this equipment. Mrs. Griffith stated some equipment will be paid off in their budget so they may be able to replace the equipment in next year's budget. Chairman Lockley asked if they made some money on the storm. Mrs. Griffith reported the Tipping Fee Fund received a lot of revenue but the Landfill Management Escrow Fund which is the long term closure costs at the landfill may not have enough in it as the debris from the storm has taken up a lot of space. She explained they are worried about not having enough in this fund when they do the renewal so in the next budget they may try to sweep some funds from the tipping fees from the storm into the Landfill Management Escrow Fund to save the county from having to come up with a large amount of cash. She reported they may be able to buy the excavator out of these funds too. Chairman Lockley said they should get something as they did the work but he knows they have to put some of the money up. Commissioner Boldt questioned if the incinerator needs rehab and is on a priority needs list. Mr. Davis explained he would rather burn some of the smaller limbs and leaves instead of putting it in the Construction & Demolition (C & D) site but they can chip most of the vegetative debris. He stated a major repair was done on the chipper so it should last a while. He said the main thing they need is the excavator. Commissioner Boldt asked if there is a cost and plan for addressing the berm on the south side that DEP said is not appropriate and interfering with the wetlands. Mr. Davis stated an excavator would help with this but they are doing the best they can with the track loader. He explained they are trying to get the berm moved. Commissioner Boldt asked if DEP knows the county is working on this. Mr. Davis responded yes. Chairman Lockley said the county just came out of one of the worst disasters that has ever happened in the area so the county still has to be prepared and the equipment needs to be updated. Mr. Davis stated the low boy is old so they may need to consider a low boy or truck for recycling. Chairman Lockley reported they are not doing good with recycling at this time. Mr. Davis stated he will provide some numbers on the recycling program. Chairman Lockley agreed he should provide the numbers.

Pam Brownell – Emergency Management Director

Mrs. Brownell read the following item for the Board:

Action Items:

1. Utilize \$3,365.00 for lights for the Hanger at the Airport, HLMP grant had \$4,000 in excess from last year and those funds went into the County general budget. During Hurricane Michael EOC realized that the lights in the Hanger are essential to perform EOC duties.

Mrs. Brownell stated their plan was to use EMPA funds at the end of the year so they installed the lights and then the generator board went out. She reported it costs \$4,000 to replace the generator board and they also had to replace the hot water heater. Mrs. Brownell reported the EOC is showing its age and also had more use than normal last year. **On motion by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to utilize \$3,365.00 for lights at the hangar at the airport.**

Mrs. Brownell said next week she will be speaking on the county's response and recovery to Hurricane Michael at the Governor's Hurricane Conference. She stated money is slowly coming in from the storm. She explained the county's projects are in and they are doing the EEI's but there are always more questions. Commissioner Boldt said as appropriate Mrs. Brownell seems to have a good pulpit for speaking at the conference. He reported when he toured the facility he was impressed with the stewardship the county has in maintaining outdated equipment and facilities. He said our county is one of the last counties to get their EOC up to date. He stated it is important that Mrs. Brownell talk about what a great steward this county is. Commissioner Boldt reported the county should be given new money for these buildings now. Chairman Lockley asked about the lights. Mrs. Brownell said they are at the county hangar. She discussed the details required by FEMA and the length of the process.

Mr. Moron offered the following item from his report:

2. Chairman Lockley and I met with Mr. Tim Centers, Executive Director of Capital Area Community Action Agency (Action Agency), Ms. Angela Webster (Action Agency staff), along with Ms. Tress Dameron of the County's Emergency Management Office, for an update on the residents affected by the Eastpoint Limerock fires. Mr. Centers stated that there are two families that will be moving from travel trailers to permanent homes, within the next thirty to forty-five days, once production of those homes are completed, delivered, and setup. There are some other items that Mr. Centers would like to Board to consider that would assist some of the other fire victims.
 - a. **Board action** to authorize repairs to three camper/travel trailers that are considered normal wear and tear:
 - i. @ 605 Wilderness Road – repair HVAC

- ii. @ 714 Buck Street – remove and reinstall toilet
- iii. @ 633 Ridge Road – replace damaged window and repair or replace HVAC

On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize repairs to the three camper/travel trailers. Mr. Moron explained this is normal wear and tear on the units and not any excessive damage to the unit.

- b. Another fire victim received a travel trailer but moved into a RV Park here in the County. This individual, who doesn't own any property, would like to assume ownership of the travel trailer rather than receive a permanent home. If the Board is willing to transfer \$5000 of the donated funds to Action Agency on this individual's behalf, they would transfer ownership of the travel trailer, "as is" with no warranty or further responsibility, to this person. **Board discussion/action.**

Mr. Moron asked that Attorney Shuler work on this agreement so they specify "as is" and the person does not come back later and want a permanent home. He stated after the money is received then their name is off the list for a home. He said there was a question about the \$5,000 because they received it from a Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) sub-grant. He explained the problem is this is not an asset on their books so they have to clear it in some way and that is why they are asking for the \$5,000. **Commissioner Massey made a motion to approve this request and direct Attorney Shuler to work on this agreement.** Commissioner Jones asked if these monies will be paid out of the donated money and if this is something the individual asked for. Mr. Moron answered yes and said the individual approached the county. Chairman Lockley said it is okay as long as they do not come back later. **Commissioner Boldt seconded the motion. Motion carried; 5-0.**

- c. A family, that includes two children, were renting from a property owner at the time of the fire and lost the unit they were renting and all of their belongings. Since that time, the family has purchased property in Eastpoint. Even though there were not property owners when the fire destroyed the mobile home they were renting, would the Board consider authorizing the purchase of a permanent home for them? Action Agency would be responsible for verifying their deed before the home is ordered and installed. **Board discussion/action.**

Commissioner Parrish said these people were renting from the property owner and he wants to know what happens to the property owner because he does not want to buy two homes. Commissioner Jones said this property owner was renting the land to them but the trailer was theirs. Commissioner Parrish confirmed if they buy this home then there will not be a home bought for the property owner. Mr. Moron said he does not think the property owner has asked for a home. Mrs. Tress Dameron, Emergency Management Department, and Mrs. Angela Webster, Capital Area Community Action Agency, appeared before the Board. Mrs. Dameron

agreed the property owner has not contacted them or requested a permanent home. Commissioner Parrish said he should not if he did not own a home that was on the property because he did not lose anything but these people lost their trailer. **Commissioner Parrish made a motion to approve this purchase. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.** Commissioner Parrish asked if Attorney Shuler needs to be included on this matter. Mr. Moron answered yes, as they do not want the landowner coming back and asking for a home also. **Commissioner Parrish amended his motion to include Attorney Shuler's review of this. Commissioner Jones amended his second. Motion carried; 5-0.**

- d. There is a resident who was affected by the fire but was given a permanent home from the Sheriff. This person is stating that he is dissatisfied with the structure he received from the Sheriff and would like one of the new units from the County. What guideline or policy would the Board require that both Action Agency and CDBG follow as it relates to assisting residents who received permanent housing units from the Sheriff? **Board discussion.**

Mr. Moron said the Board needs to give clear direction forward to Capital Area Community Action Agency and Mrs. Deborah Belcher. He stated this resident should be at the bottom of the list because it is unfair that this person took a unit from the Sheriff's Office and the Board needs to address people that do not have anything. Commissioner Parrish stated the Sheriff took donated funds, bought the 6-7 trailers and gave them to these people so they have had a permanent home for the last 7 months when the other people have had nothing. He asked what the Sheriff will do with these homes if people return them. He stated the funds were donated and the Sheriff did what was best for people at the time. Mr. Moron said the Sheriff might have already transferred ownership of the trailers to the people. Commissioner Parrish agreed he probably already has. Chairman Lockley explained these people have been in trailers since the Sheriff bought them but the other people have not had a home and it is not right. He reported they should not get something when the other people do not have anything. He said they were satisfied and now they want something else. Commissioner Jones expressed his opinion that there is a lot of money in the grant fund so if or when they are going to approach anyone that has received help they do not need to be first. He explained there are people living in travel trailers because their home burned and they need help. He reported the Board does not administer the grant fund but he would like to see the grant used to the fullest extent of its abilities. Commissioner Jones stated he has heard that some residents are getting \$85,000 homes and some are getting \$50,000 homes. He said this was a grant the county applied for so he wants to see them get as much as the county can give them. Commissioner Jones stated he has some issues with the time line. He reported the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Capital Area Community Action Agency was for travel trailers for 18 months but that is never going to happen at the rate they are moving. Chairman Lockley stated he could understand a cost difference if the number of bedrooms is different but he is not going along with a difference if they are the same size. Commissioner Jones clarified he has not seen this on paper as these are reports from residents so he does not know if it is factual but he has an issue with it. Mrs. Dameron explained the difference is the trailers that were purchased with

donated funds do not have to follow guidelines but the trailers purchased with CDBG funds must follow certain guidelines. She stated they are trying to make sure the grant funds are being used effectively and they can help as many people as possible that qualify for the CDBG funds. Commissioner Jones said all he was referring to was the CDBG funds. He stated in relation to the time line 18 months is way too long. Mrs. Dameron reported they are trying to expedite the grant funds but it is up to Mrs. Belcher. She stated there are reports that Mrs. Belcher is not calling people back. Chairman Lockley questioned if everyone meets the threshold that the county requires. Mrs. Dameron answered yes; they are all in compliance for the county and meet code. Mr. Moron stated he will ask Mrs. Belcher to appear before the Board for an update. **Commissioner Jones made a motion that the county make the statement that if you have already received help in any form that is permanent it might be considered at a later time when everyone else has a home if there are grant funds left available. Commissioner Boldt seconded the motion.** Commissioner Boldt said he wants to be sure they have a census of the needs of people in this area affected by this fire and that the census has a priority of who needs what first so they have some control over making these decisions. He asked if this is in place now or they would consider doing it. Mrs. Dameron stated they have had some long term recovery meetings and have discussed this with Capital Area Community Action Agency and Mrs. Belcher and have criteria for who received what assistance and how they moved forward. She explained the people who have been living in the campers for close to a year are their first priority. Chairman Lockley asked if anyone is receiving special treatment. Mrs. Dameron responded no, they are treating everyone the same. Chairman Lockley said the Sheriff gave them a trailer and if there is money left over that is fine but they need to let other people who have been camping out get a trailer. He pointed out the fire was not their fault or Franklin County's fault but they would like to get them back as close as possible to whole. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

Information Items:

1. Franklin County has provided Michael Moron the outreach information for the County Alert System (Alert Franklin) and Re-entry Tag information for the County to ensure that is in the newspaper, radio stations and websites. Flyers have been handed out throughout the county as well.
2. EOC Staff is working diligently with FEMA representative to input all Project Worksheets for Hurricane Michael
3. EOC is still requesting 2 volunteers to assist with our Business Continuity desk during an activation
4. 5/9/2019 EOC Staff will be participating in State Hurricane Exercise training for all ESF partners that are activated during an event. During this time EOC and all essential personnel will be testing Crisis track software to determine how well it works during an emergency.
5. EOC staff has been conducting public Outreach through their website, and Facebook, and radio to ensure all residents are prepared for the upcoming Hurricane Season.

Erik Lovstrand – Extension Office Director

Mr. Moron stated Mr. Lovstrand is attending a 2019 Extension Symposium in Gainesville and did not have any action items.

County Extension Activities April 17 – May 7, 2019

General Extension Activities:

- Assisted local citizens with information regarding control of broadleaf weeds in sod, soil tests, construction of dune walkovers, native plant identification, and herbicide use.
- Extension Director submitted an abstract for presentation at the annual Extension Professionals Associations of Florida meeting in August.
- Attended the Friends of the Reserve Board meeting.

Sea Grant Extension:

- Attended the National Sustainability and National Energy Extension Summit in Tampa to present results from the Sea Turtle Lighting grant projects in Franklin County.
- Staffed a Sea Grant exhibit/booth at the FSU Coastal and Marine Lab open house event.
- Participated in a hurricane economic assessment planning session with NOAA staff and other Sea Grant faculty.

4-H Youth Development:

- Two Franklin County youth participated in Tropicana Public Speaking competition District contest at the Liberty County Extension office.

Family Consumer Sciences:

- Family Nutrition Program (FNP) Assistant has returned from maternity leave and is scheduling nutrition classes in the local schools.

Agriculture/Horticulture:

- Participated in Extension group discussion regarding potential USDA disaster assistance grants with the Apalachee Regional Planning Council.

H. D. Cannington – Weems CEO – Audit Review

Mr. Cannington reported the fiscal year 2018 audit for the Hospital was done by Carr, Riggs & Ingram. He thanked the Board for selecting Carr, Riggs & Ingram as they did a good job, have a lot of experience and were extremely thorough. He stated this firm also did the cost report for Medicare as part of the audit. Mr. Cannington said the Hospital is getting \$152,000 from Medicare based on the audit. He explained as part of a comparison to the year before they found an error and they have re-filed the 2017 cost report and the Hospital will be getting back approximately \$127,000 from Medicare. He reviewed the audit for the Board. He stated they received an unqualified opinion which is a clean opinion and there is nothing to make them

change their opinion or give them a qualified opinion. Mr. Cannington said this was a good audit and he looks forward to Carr, Riggs & Ingram coming back next year and the Hospital getting another good report. Chairman Lockley stated the tax of \$.01 was for health care and he does not understand how the Hospital can owe for what the people voted for. He reported the money was spent on the Hospital. Mrs. Griffith explained on December 30, 2015 the prior CEO Mr. Mike Cooper presented the emergency advancement as a loan arrangement so that is why it is booked that way. She said at the end of the fiscal year they came back with some of the budget amendments and formally booked the amount that was outstanding because that is the way it was presented. Mrs. Griffith reported if the Board decides to do it another way then it can be changed but that is the reason it is on the books this way. Chairman Lockley stated this should not have been written up as a loan. He reported the Hospital may have trouble again and may need to use the money. Chairman Lockley asked what the other Board members think. He said he would like to see this go away because it was used for the hospital and clinics. Chairman Lockley reported this will be there forever because the Hospital cannot pay it back. Commissioners Jones asked what this would look like if they were trying to change it. Mrs. Griffith said it was booked as a receivable so it would take a vote of the Board to undo that. Commissioner Jones stated he understands what Chairman Lockley is saying because it was tax dollars and was presented as a loan at the time. Mrs. Griffith said they cannot make this retroactive so if they decided to change it that would be in this audit year. Commissioner Massey explained that money is to build the hospital and if they do not pay it back then the money will not be there to build the hospital. He reported the money was borrowed from the building part and used for operating. Chairman Lockley said he does not think it is necessary to separate the money 50/50. Commissioner Boldt reported they need a refresher about the history of why they are talking about building a hospital. He asked Attorney Shuler to help them relative to the vote of the people in 2007 where there was a history of the people saying they wanted a new hospital and the funds are coming from a certain fund that the Board is approving. He requested a refresher in writing from Attorney Shuler of why they are moving forward which is because the people told them they want it. Commissioner Massey said the people voted on it. Commissioner Boldt agreed and said they are forgetting that and need to remember there is a legal issue also and that is why he requested help from Attorney Shuler. Attorney Shuler stated the Board put to the people a decision on whether or not to tax their selves to move forward with health care in the community and specifically construction of a new hospital and it was on the ballot and did pass in excess of a 70% voter approval. He explained there are Interlocal agreements with the two municipalities to pool the monies together so 100% of the money is spent on health care as opposed to the gas tax money that has no Interlocal agreements so the municipalities get a share. He reported these Interlocal agreements were put in place so 100% of the surtax would be pooled in a trust fund managed by the Clerk of the Court for healthcare partly as an operational subsidy and party in a capital fund for construction of a hospital. He said originally the split was 50/50 but based on various decisions of the Board over the last decade it is probably closer to a 60/40 split. Attorney Shuler said this is a brief summary but if the Board wants something more he will be more prepared at the next meeting. Commissioner Boldt said he is looking for a guiding compass and Attorney Shuler knows the legal history and the will of the people. He stated he wants a

refresher as they move forward in the discussions. He reported they do have mandates from the people. Attorney Shuler agreed they do. Chairman Lockley stated Mr. Cooper did this to try and get the loan and he knew they could not pay it back. Commissioner Massey explained it was borrowed to pay the payroll. He stated Carrabelle got their clinic but Apalachicola did not get their hospital. Attorney Shuler reported the Board's priority for the capital fund was to build the clinic in the City of Carrabelle first because they had lost all their health care facilities and had an immediate need. He stated Apalachicola had a facility that was still operating. He said building a hospital in Apalachicola is a county wide issue. Mr. Moron reported it has been stated that the hospital shifts from cash to accrual when it is convenient and questioned if the auditors addressed this issue. Mr. Cannington did not know if the auditors specifically looked at this item. He commented it clearly states they use an accrual basis for accounting and that is what they use not a cash basis. Mr. Cannington explained the process used for accrual accounting. Mr. Moron asked for Mr. Cannington to explain how the process works on a monthly basis with the Weems Board of Directors and when they are given time to review the financial records. Mr. Cannington said they provide the financials the Friday before the meeting and about 10 months ago they started having Finance Committee meetings the Wednesday before the Board meeting. He stated that allows them to focus on the financials and when the regular Board meeting occurs they present it in a summary manner and the Finance Committee makes recommendations to the Board for approval of the financial statements. Mr. Moron questioned if the Hospital Board has ample time to review the financials. Mr. Cannington responded yes. He stated most of the details and questions about the financials come up on Wednesday or at the Finance Committee meeting. Mr. Moron said town hall meetings have been brought up and he wanted to know how long Mr. Cannington and the Hospital Board members have talked about having these meetings when they get the estimated costs for the new facility. Mr. Cannington estimated 2-3 months or even as far back as January. He explained they were having more meetings about the building program and talked about having 3 meetings throughout the county and definitely having a moderator or facilitator there that is impartial and keeps things moving. He said this is still being talked about. Mr. Moron stated the Weems Board of Directors and the Weems Administration have been proactive with having these meetings as part of their plan. Mr. Cannington answered yes, and it was also a matter of being able to present to the public the plan, projections and how it was going to be paid for. He stated they wanted to provide more information and answer questions. Chairman Lockley asked how much the health care surtax brings in each year. Mr. Cannington estimated \$2.4 million. Chairman Lockley stated 2 years ago the numbers on the new hospital were \$400,000 a year. Mr. Cannington reported it is closer to \$500,000. Attorney Shuler stated the last estimate the Board had was \$464,000 annually. Chairman Lockley said they can build the hospital out of these funds even though he knows the cost is going up from the storm and other items. Mrs. Griffith reported the total sales tax collections in 2017-2018 were \$2.14 million and the sales tax revenue estimates for 2018-2019 are \$2.338 million. Chairman Lockley reported there will be money left over to put in a building fund after they pay the note and he questioned why they are arguing about building the hospital. He said they need to build the hospital because the people have already told them to do it. Chairman Lockley discussed the amount that would be left over and asked if his numbers are right. Mr.

Cannington agreed his numbers are right but they are working on final numbers now. He felt they needed to move forward also but said for the Board to actually vote on it and the public to understand what is going on they need to get the detailed numbers. He reported they are waiting on final estimates from the architects, engineers and contractors. Chairman Lockley stated it is time to build the hospital. Commissioner Jones questioned the \$1 million in construction in progress under non-recurrent assets. Mr. Cannington explained this is what has been spent on the construction project through September, 2018 but is not in use so it must be construction in progress. He reported it will stay in this category until the building is constructed and in use and then it will convert to other asset categories. Mr. Cannington said the auditors asked him if they are still planning to build and he answered yes so they put the \$1 million in construction in progress. He explained it becomes an asset because they do not have to spend it again.

The meeting recessed at 10:29 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 10:36 a.m.

Marcia M. Johnson – Clerk of Court – Report

Clerk Johnson presented her report, as follows:

1-I need Board approval of a contract renewal between the State Department of Revenue and the County which provides for State approved payments to the County for service of process in child support cases. To explain, when the State files proceedings in child support cases, our Sheriff's department may be required to serve papers on individuals involved with the cases. The Sheriff's Department usually charges a fee for that service which is set by law, but they don't collect the money in these types of cases. With the contract, the County can be reimbursed at a rate of 66% which would help offset our costs of performing this service. The current contract was approved for 1 year in 2018, and this contract renewal period would run for 1 year from July 1, 2019 until June 30, 2020. Attorney Shuler has received a copy for review.

Commissioner Parrish made a motion to approve the contract between the State Department of Revenue and the county. Commissioner Massey seconded the motion. Attorney Shuler stated his computer has been down this week so he was not able to review the email. He said he explained this to the Clerk and will review this and bring back any questions he has. Clerk Johnson suggested the motion be contingent upon Attorney Shuler's review. **Commissioner Parrish amended his motion to approve the contract contingent upon Attorney Shuler's review. Commissioner Massey amended his second. Motion carried; 5-0.**

2. My office will soon start preparing the letters requiring the constitutional officers, your department heads, and the other agencies you fund to turn their budgets in. Are there any special instructions you wish to be included in the letters?

Commissioner Boldt asked if they have a budget instruction manual that the departments have as a guide for preparing their requests. Clerk Johnson stated they do not have a manual but Mrs. Griffith has forms that are sent that each department has to complete. Mrs. Griffith stated each year she prepares the budget forms and compiles 5 years of history for each department and also the constitutional officers based on the prior year's forms they turned in. She explained they each have a historical trend by category of what their expenses are. Mrs. Griffith stated they also go over the insurance numbers with them and look at the trends for anything extraordinary that may be coming up. She explained the Finance Office offers guidance to the departments if they need assistance. Commissioner Boldt asked if they have some way to predict the life span of equipment so they can proactively begin to budget in the future for replacement of equipment. Mrs. Griffith answered yes, and reported in the last cycles they actually have payment funds set aside in the different department budgets so once one piece of equipment is paid off then they can replace another piece. She said 5-10 years ago that was not the case and when a large piece of equipment broke down it was a large increase to the budget but now they are stable. Commissioner Boldt asked if they should be thinking about the lifetime of the equipment. Mrs. Griffith responded they have not had payment funds available that long for this to happen. She stated they can have each department summarize the age of their equipment and they could include that as part of each request. Commissioner Boldt asked if the department could justify why they are including these items. Mrs. Griffith answered yes and said the Board can ask what is included in any line item. Chairman Lockley explained it is hard to keep up with the equipment as some years are worse than others. Mr. Pierce agreed some years the equipment is used more and that affects the life expectancy. He reported previously the county was leasing equipment but they were losing money because the leaseholder was buying back the equipment at a great discount. He said currently it is better to purchase the equipment and get the full life of the equipment. Clerk Johnson said they have come a long way with the department heads working closer with Mrs. Griffith when they see things happening instead of waiting. She stated Mrs. Griffith is talking with them more now about the needs. **Commissioner Parrish made a motion to request all county offices and constitucionals maintain their current budget submitted last year without any increases.** He explained this is due to the storm and slow rate of reimbursement from FEMA. Commissioner Parrish said there are a lot of issues this year that they did not have to face last year such as trying to put back the \$1 million in the contingency fund. He explained FEMA will only reimburse 75% so the other 25% must come from somewhere else. Clerk Johnson asked if this motion includes the non-governmentals. Commissioner Parrish answered yes. **Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.** Commissioner Jones asked if it is possible for the Road Department and Solid Waste Department to develop a five year plan for what needs to be replaced so the Board knows ahead of time. Mrs. Griffith stated this is a great idea. She said they could do some sort of formal capital improvement plan for each department. Commissioner Jones reported this would provide better insight during discussions in the budget process. Chairman Lockley asked if they want to do this when each department head comes in. Commissioner Jones said that will be fine. **Motion carried; 5-0.** Clerk Johnson offered to answer any questions.

Alan Pierce – RESTORE Coordinator – Report

Mr. Pierce read his report, as follows:

1- Provide Board with statement created after the April 24 meeting with senior DEM staff and FEMA personnel over the future of Alligator Drive. The statement is attached. The short story is we are building the road back in its current location because of the uncertainty when we will get a new right of way acquired. Two factors really drove us to this- One, FEMA will not reimburse the county for any continuing damages done to the temporary road, and they won't pay to put asphalt on it to protect it. FEMA came back to their restriction on making a temporary road look and act as a permanent road. Two, FDEP said that if we can build a new permanent road by April 2020 then we can build it under their Emergency Order which waives certain permitting requirements. Since the county road department would be at risk for trying to maintain the temporary road in a location we know is vulnerable while we sought a new right of way, and we are getting a green light to rebuild without all the permitting requirements, and we don't know when we will ever get all of the land necessary to move the road, we are rebuilding the road in its current location using the design we started after Hermine. We are seeking to modify this design to provide additional protection on the north shoulder, and Clay Kennedy and MRD, in consultation with others, are trying to provide the best protection in a very limited space. FDEP would not allow the county to move the road south so we are basically building the road up against the northern right of way. In order to facilitate construction the county might need to seek temporary construction easements from some of the property owners in the construction zone.

On Friday, May 3, Clay Kennedy and I attended a meeting in Tallahassee with senior FDEP staff, and FCMC to discuss the permitting requirements to build the road back in its current location. FDEP provided the necessary guidance for Clay and I to understand the various documents they need, and the various exceptions available to us under the Emergency Order. At this time, Clay and I believe the county will be able to open bids for the permanent reconstruction of the road at the June 18 meeting, with the intent of awarding a bid at a July meeting. Such a schedule would provide the contractor with 10 months to construct a road and sheetpile revetment, all the while maintaining traffic flow.

However, as far as I am concerned, rebuilding the road in its current location is NOT the end of what needs to be done. If the road is going back to a location we know has risks additional protective measures should be taken. If I had to recommend something now it would be beach renourishment with an MSBU assessment on property owners for the maintenance, but there might be other ideas coming out of our consultants.

Mr. Pierce said he is not asking them to take action but he wants to reinforce that something else needs to be done because the road cannot be maintained with the water at the base of it. He stated this is the direction they have been given by DEP, DEM and FEMA so the road is going back in the current location with as much protection as they can get. Chairman Lockley asked how far the water is from the road. Mr. Pierce estimated 10-15 feet on high tide. Commissioner Boldt reported with all the work that has been done and all the conversations they are doing the best they can at this time with the rules and regulations. He explained the money is here and committed with FEMA if it is done the way they say. Mr. Pierce stated they

do not have a Project Worksheet (PW) approved yet as it is in the design phase. He said they hope to get the approval fairly quickly for this to go forward. He reported Mr. Clay Kennedy, Dewberry, is present and will do a survey and get accurate values and volumes of materials needed so they can get an accurate bid. Mr. Kennedy said one thing that was not mentioned is the Corp of Engineers (COE) permit that is still needed. He stated the COE component is still unclear. Commissioner Boldt explained when the COE met with them they did not seem adverse to the process. Mr. Pierce stated there are processes that people do not realize have not been waived. Chairman Lockley explained building it back in the same place will cause this to happen over and over. He asked how far it will be pushed back if beach renourishment is done. Mr. Pierce said it will depend on how much money they have to pump sand in. He estimated 50-100 ft. deep seaward. Commissioner Massey stated that will help for 7-8 years. Mr. Pierce explained the normal maintenance to put sand back would be every 8 years. He reported the maintenance is critical and he has discussed with each Commissioner that there is no point in building a beach unless they are going to maintain it because it will wash away. Chairman Lockley asked how long the beach will be. Mr. Pierce stated it is open for public debate but if they are just doing beach renourishment to protect the road then it will be about a mile long. He explained it would be centered where the old KOA was and stretch ½ mile in each direction. He reported if the community embraces the idea then they can go back to the original design and do a larger beach renourishment that wraps around Bald Point. Mr. Pierce said it will depend on the money available. He pointed out the cost of construction has gone up dramatically. He explained Gulf County did a beach renourishment project last year and the costs were a third higher than they estimated. Mr. Pierce said the estimate for Alligator Point was \$8 million for a mile of beach but he expects the estimate now to be \$10 million. He stated the question is where the funding will come from. He reported if the county does beach renourishment and DEP has funds available, the county could qualify for a 50% match and the other 50% would have to come from the county's RESTORE funds unless there is another funding source. Mr. Pierce commented DEP did not receive any particular Hurricane Michael funds. He stated they may have received beach renourishment funds like they normally do but there was no additional allocation. Commissioner Boldt said as they see the issues of having to build the road back where it is currently is they need to think about how important it is to double harden everything in their specifications. Mr. Pierce asked if Commissioner Boldt wants to talk about any temporary protection actions on the road. Commissioner Boldt said he understands there is money available to put a hard surface on the road temporarily to stop the constant wear and tear on the dirt and limerock that is on the road. He explained this will provide something that is temporarily sustainable over a longer period of time while they are waiting to rebuild the road. Mr. Pierce reported Mr. Emory Mayfield, M Construction, approached him last week about the road. He reminded the Board Mr. Mayfield was the person who opened the road after the storm. He stated Mr. Mayfield owns the marina and has a vested interest in the road. He explained Mr. Mayfield feels he is losing business because the road is not substantial enough or wide enough for boats and trailers to get down to the marina. Mr. Pierce stated Mr. Mayfield called him to determine what could be done to widen the road and get a better road for his use and the public's use. Mr. Pierce said he thanked Mr. Mayfield for his previous work on the road and said they are trying to get reimbursement through FEMA.

He stated he asked Mr. Mayfield for a price for doing this work even though FEMA will not reimburse the county. He said if the Board voted in favor Commissioner Boldt could use some of his gas tax money dedicated to his district to make some improvements to the road. Mr. Pierce explained Mr. Mayfield would widen the road so it would be for 2 lane traffic and place a 1" asphalt surface on the road. He reported the cost is 30,000-\$35,000. Mr. Pierce reported the county could then get rid of the traffic light and they would have a paved road for temporary use. He said he talked with Mrs. Griffith and the money is available in the road paving funds out of Commissioner Boldt's district. Mr. Pierce stated he talked with Mr. Kennedy and he does not see an issue for a new contractor. He explained this would not be a bid out project but would be done as an emergency based upon the need to get it done now. Mr. Pierce reported if the Board is in favor of this then they could come to a final conclusion with Mr. Mayfield and Mr. Kennedy on if this is the best way to proceed. He explained the goal is to create a 2 lane road with a 1" asphalt surface. Mr. Pierce said the benefit to the county is they would have less maintenance on the road. Commissioner Massey stated they need to move forward. Mr. Pierce said they will save \$4,500 a month on the traffic lights even though FEMA will reimburse the cost of the lights. He reported this improvement will get the traffic moving. Commissioner Jones asked if they need the Board to vote on this issue. Mrs. Griffith answered yes as the current paving project has concluded. Chairman Lockley asked if each Commissioner should spend \$35,000 from these funds. Mr. Pierce said there is only about \$1 million in the fund so it is not enough for a road paving project. He explained this is a necessary improvement at Alligator Point. He said the cost 2 years ago was \$20,000 and the offer Mr. Mayfield made was \$20,000 for materials and \$15,000 for labor so this is a very fair price. **On motion by Commissioner Boldt, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to declare an emergency and authorize Mr. Mayfield to complete this work.**

2- Board action to approve a Grants Manual that has been reviewed by the county Finance Office and approved by US Treasury to keep us compliant with Treasury rules when we start back up with RESTORE funds.

Mr. Pierce presented the manual. **On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the Grants Manual.**

3- Inform the Board that I participated in a FEMA site visit at Island View Park yesterday, Monday, May 6. At this time we are waiting for FEMA to calculate the damages in its own way, but Wood Partners has provided the county with its estimate of rebuilding the park at \$1.8M.

Mr. Pierce explained during the site visit he discussed with FEMA redesigning the park to reduce future damage and maintenance costs. He said they specifically talked about replacing the cement that was undermined with a boardwalk. He stated they also talked about redoing the parking lot to make it more durable. Mr. Pierce explained they are looking at a hazard mitigation project now for Island View to make it more durable in the future. He reported Wood Partners, the design company, acknowledged they were shocked at the damage to the

park. He said the pile supported structures worked but the concrete land based structures did not work. Mr. Pierce stated it may take a while because it is easier for FEMA to approve rebuilding what was already there than it is to do a hazard mitigation project. Chairman Lockley asked if FEMA will pay for these repairs. Mr. Pierce answered yes, and they are looking at options. He said he talked with some of the people that were involved with building the park and they may help with the matching costs. He explained if the county does not get a waiver then they will be responsible for the 12 1/2 % match and the Parks & Recreation Budget does not have money available for a match. Chairman Lockley asked if it will come down now that the storm has been classified as a Category 5. Mr. Pierce said the State of Florida has said it is not guaranteed but it may be an option for someone to pay. He explained based on what the Legislature does they may get a cut but they still need to apply for the waiver. He stated he has not had time to get with the Finance Office and get all the documents they want to apply for the waiver. Mr. Pierce reported the county got half a waiver after Hurricane Hermine. Chairman Lockley asked if there is a lot of cement at the park. Mr. Pierce stated there is a lot of concrete at the site. He estimated 80% of the park was destroyed. Chairman Lockley suggested instead of throwing away the concrete they could rent a chipper and bust up the concrete to use for the road department. Mr. Pierce said it may be possible but he does not know if it is worth it or not.

4- Board discussion of what funds, if any, the Legislature approved for Hurricane Michael, and what funds, if any, were directed to Franklin County on

A) A new EOC- the county had asked for \$3M to match the \$1M of Consortium funds.

Mr. Pierce said there might have been a specific allocation for a new EOC but they are not sure because there is \$750,000 under infrastructure repairs for Franklin County. He stated they are not sure yet because they do not know what infrastructure repairs the Senate may have known about so they will need to verify it.

B) Dune Restoration- FDEP and the county had jointly estimated that \$20M worth of sand had been lost on the beaches of St. George Island, Dog Island, and Alligator Point because of Hurricane Michael.

Mr. Pierce reported DEP did not receive any money for dune restoration.

C) Beach renourishment for Alligator Point road protection- If the county is going to provide additional protection to the road through an engineered beach then FDEP would need to have enough funds from the Legislature to provide a match. Under the previous application, Franklin County was eligible for a 50% match. My guess now is a beach renourishment project is going to cost around \$10M, so Franklin County would seek a match of \$5M.

Mr. Pierce said he has not heard from DEP about how much money they received for beach renourishment or how many people are ahead of the county.

(D- In addition the county asked for some \$175K to install a sprinkler system in the Armory. The county tried to maximize our chances by asking Senator Montford for a line item in the budget for the sprinkler system, and Mark Curenton submitted a grant request to the Div. of Historical Resources for the same thing. I am not aware of the outcome of either path.)

Mr. Pierce stated they do not know yet but Mr. Curenton will research this matter. Chairman Lockley pointed out they have asked for this budget but the Governor has not signed it. Mr. Pierce reported that may be the reason they are not getting any answers yet.

It is my understanding that \$25M went to the state Division of Emergency Management for funding a variety of post-Michael issues, but I am not aware whether any of those funds are reserved for Franklin County, specifically for a new county EOC. I also understand the budget, which has yet to be approved by the Governor, had some \$200M of Hurricane Michael funds spread in various agencies. I did learn that FDEP did not receive any funds for dune restoration. At the meeting on Friday, FDEP said the county would have to seek funds out of the \$25M that DEM received if we want to pursue dune restoration. Considering the limited funds DEM has to respond to all of their needs I think it is unlikely that dune restoration will rank high with DEM.

The only county funding source available for any of our projects would be RESTORE funds. If the Legislature did not fund any of these projects the county might end up using all of the currently available RESTORE funds to do a reduced version of these projects. There is currently about \$10M of RESTORE funds available to the county. If the Legislature did not provide adequate funds for these projects, and the Board still wants to consider them, then I recommend we seek some guidance from Langton Consultants about other funding sources. Langton was successful in working with Gulf County to find additional funds for their projects.

Mr. Pierce stated in a week or two when the Governor signs the budget then they will know what the county received and what is needed.

5- As the Board may recall, AVCON and FDOT agreed to delay the bidding of the new airport access road because of Hurricane Michael. The county was going to open bids in November and everyone agreed that all the road contractors were so busy that the bids would be unusually high, or may not even have responses. So, AVCON is now preparing a bid packet and advertising for bids for the airport road which will loop around behind the T-Hangers and provide access to the T hangers without vehicles driving on the ramp where planes are parked. The bids will be opened at the June 4 BCC meeting, so that needs to be on the agenda. AVCON will be here to help open the bids and then the Board will turn over the bids to AVCON for review and a recommendation.

Mr. Pierce said this road has been in the works for years so this is not a new project.

Commissioner Jones asked the status of the bid being prepared to repair the Eastpoint bathroom and fishing pier. Mr. Pierce stated Mrs. Brownell's department is submitting the documentation and waiting for FEMA to approve the PW for the amount of money. He said the engineering firm has done the estimate and they have turned it in to FEMA for approval.

Chairman Lockley stated FEMA is working slow for the hard hit areas. Mr. Pierce agreed and said the county does not have a consultant assisting so Mrs. Brownell's office is handling this. Chairman Lockley said he does not think a consultant is helping because he thinks Panama City probably has one. Mr. Pierce advised Commissioner Jones he will need to consult Mrs. Brownell about where the Eastpoint Fishing Pier is in the process but he knows the engineers submitted the estimate.

Mr. Pierce said it is possible when they start to build the permanent road on Alligator Point it is the time to straighten out the jog from Alligator Drive up to Tom Roberts Road. He stated the property owners involved in this have not signed up for land acquisition at this time. He reported the county may want to look into acquiring the corner of the property to straighten out the curve. He explained this would not require the condemnation of someone's house but would involve a sliver of property along the road. Mr. Pierce said he wanted Attorney Shuler to know they may be looking into some kind of non-voluntary acquisition. Mr. Pierce reported on the voluntary acquisitions the State of Florida is moving through the grant application and FCMC is preparing a second round of acquisitions because people are still interested in selling. Chairman Lockley stated they need to use what they have before they lose that. Mr. Pierce said that is what FCMC is doing.

Commissioner Massey asked if they are still waiting on the Triumph money for the Eastpoint Channel. Mr. Pierce stated they are waiting for the COE and hopefully they will be here next month to do a site visit. He explained the COE has already been out there once and done some post Hurricane Michael surveying. He stated he talked with the COE out of the Mobile office and they think they will be here in June to confirm the volume of materials. Mr. Pierce reported the COE has said if they have to go through the materials at the east end they may have to build a retention area inside the breakwater because they do not want to put spoil inside the breakwater. He explained it is possible the east end may not go to the extent it should. He reported it will go down to Barber's Seafood but he does not think it will go any farther because there is a huge amount of material out there. Mr. Pierce stated if it went down any further they would need to have another spoil disposal site and they do not want to do that. He said they wanted to dredge a channel the length of the breakwater but they are not going to be able to do that. Commissioner Jones stated historically no one goes out the east end because it is shallow. Mr. Pierce reported once they confirm they do not need to go beyond a certain point then they will do some construction plans. Mr. Pierce explained if necessary they will use the Consortium money but they are not sure yet how to get the money from the Consortium to the COE. He said an interlocal agreement may be required.

Michael Morón – County Coordinator – Report

Mr. Moron provided his report for the Board, as follows:

1. This item was addressed earlier in the meeting.

2. The Board voted on this item during the Emergency Management Director's Report.
3. At your November 20, 2018 meeting, in an effort to solve the Fire Net communications issue the County was experiencing, the Board authorized payment up to \$60,000 from the Reserve for Contingency for the purchase and installation of two new Harris Multi-band radio base stations, a multi-band handheld radio, renewal of the FCC License, tower replacement/relocation and other maintenance items. Thus far, Williams Communication has requested a purchase order in the amount of \$37,187.76 for some of this equipment and the license renewal, which leaves a \$22,812.24 balance. There has been no final decision on the tower, as we are still looking at our options and cost. Currently, there are three outstanding invoices, which total \$2,209.32, from Williams Communication, for service calls from May 8th – 23rd related to the Fire Net communication system. Even though all three were billed to the Franklin County United Firefighters Association, the current Association President Mr. George Pruitt informed me that the County, not the individual Fire Departments or the Association, is responsible to pay for repairs or maintenance cost to the Fire Net system. I informed Mr. Pruitt that all future maintenance calls regarding the Fire Net communication system would be from Mrs. Renee Brannon, the Sheriff's Dispatch Manager, her designee, or me. Mr. Pruitt supported that policy. With all that being said is the Board willing to pay the \$2,209.32 for these three outstanding invoices from the remaining \$22,812.24 that was set aside for the Fire Net Communication system repairs. **Board discussion/action.**

On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to pay the three outstanding invoices in the amount of \$2,209.32 from the remaining \$22,812.24 that was set aside for the Fire Net Communication system repairs.

4. Mayor LaPaz (Carrabelle) informed me that at the March 28th City of Carrabelle regular meeting, the City Commission approved a letter supporting a request from Apalachee Regional Planning Council (ARPC). The request, which Commissioner Jones and Mr. Kwenting Eastberg of ARPC have been working on for almost six months, is for the Florida Department of Transportation to build an interchange at Interstate 10 and State Road 65. This interchange would drive economic development for Franklin and Liberty Counties and provide a natural disaster evacuation route. Mayor LaPaz will be reaching out to other departments, agencies, etc. for similar letters of support. The letter would go to FDOT's District 3 Secretary, Phillip Gainer. **Board action** to approve a letter of support for ARPC's request.

Commissioner Boldt made a motion to approve a letter of support for ARPC's request.

Commissioner Jones said this is actually going to be better than what he hoped for as he and Mr. Eastberg have been talking about this for months. He stated initially they were talking

about a build grant from the federal government because they set aside a certain amount for rural areas. He said at the meeting some of the other members on the Board expressed the need for our county and the counties around us to be able to get out during emergencies. He stated Hurricane Michael was not good but there can be some good that comes out of it if the right actions are taken. **Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.** Commissioner Massey said they will not be able to get to Highway 65 to get out so they need an interchange on Highway 67 too. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

5. At your February 5th regular meeting, the Board appointed Mr. Lon Wilkens to serve on the Planning & Zoning Board as an alternate for three months, which gives the candidate the opportunity to determine if they are truly interested in serving and the County the opportunity to determine if they would be a good candidate. That three-month period has passed, so Mrs. Amy Ham-Kelly is recommending that the Board appoint Mr. Wilkens, who is also interested in continuing his service, to the Science seat based on his education and experience (*see attached email*). **Board action** to appoint Mr. Wilkens to the Science seat on the Planning and Zoning Commission.

On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to appoint Mr. Lon Wilkens to the Science seat on the Planning & Zoning Commission.

6. Based on your action on the previous item, there will now be a vacant Alternate seat on the Planning and Zoning Board. Mr. Ronald Schlitt, a local realtor is interested in serving, and would fill the vacant Real Estate seat. Mr. Schlitt would follow the same path as Mr. Wilkens and other recently appointed members, which is serving for three months as an alternate on the Commission. After the three-month period has passed, Mr. Schlitt would then be considered for the Real Estate seat. **Board action** to appoint Mr. Ronald Schlitt as an alternate to the Planning & Zoning Commission.

On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to appoint Mr. Ronald Schlitt as an alternate to the Planning & Zoning Commission. Mr. Moron said this lessens the chance of not having a quorum at these meetings.

7. FAC sent two notifications to the County:
 - e. The first (attached) is an email memorandum from the Florida Association of Counties (FAC). Included in the memorandum is a link to FAC's Annual Report which highlights many of their accomplishments in 2018.
 - f. The second (attached) is a notice informing Counties of the Qualifying Period for Election of Officers. The notice includes eligibility and qualification requirements. If anyone is interested in running for a vacant officer seat, the required information is due by May 15, 2019.

8. Also attached to my report is the Army Corps of Engineers' Public Notice regarding the artificial reef application that this Board agreed to file on behalf of Grayson Shepard and his group? There is contact information included in the Notice if there are questions or comments regarding the application.

Mr. Moron offered to make any inquiries if the Board has questions.

9. Remind the Board that the public hearing for the Serenity Seaside Resort LLC. request for a Land Use and Rezoning change will be on Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at 1:30 p.m. (ET) here in your meeting room.

Commissioner Boldt stated at the last meeting he suggested the Board consider an individual not to make decisions for the Board but as a moderator to condense and organize the meeting. Mr. Moron said normally the Board would confer with their County Planner who can provide information. He pointed out the Board members can also meet with the developer one on one and with residents who oppose the development. Commissioner Boldt said he wanted some indication from the Board. Chairman Lockley stated the Board can handle this.

10. On Thursday, April 18, the County formerly opened the Olan "Buddy" Ward Seafood Landing Park and Maritime Museum with a Ribbon Cutting ceremony. I would like to thank County staff, especially Mrs. Whitney Barfield, for organizing this event, and Mr. John Solomon along with the TDC staff for providing and serving lunch, the Ward family, all attendees, and speakers. The event was well attended, and all seemed pleased with the outcome of the project.
11. Tomorrow I will meet with the 2nd Circuit Court Admin staff and the Court Marshall to review the security updates that have been put in place since the active shooter exercise. There has been a lot of work done behind the scene, and there is more to be done, to increase security and safety at all three buildings. If there any security issues you would like addressed tomorrow, let me know after the meeting.

Mr. Moron said he will address what Ms. Kelly brought up this morning about the doors into the Annex.

Mr. Moron reported someone in the City of Apalachicola would like to survey the squares in Apalachicola including Washington Square where the hospital is. He said Mr. Curenton does not think this is a bad idea and with the letter of support the county could also ask for a free copy of the survey for Washington Square. Mr. Pierce reported this is a boundary survey. Attorney Shuler said maybe the decision can be contingent because the county has already performed a boundary survey of the property the county owns as part of the application for the USDA loan authorizing construction of the new hospital. He suggested they make the person aware that the county already has a boundary survey. Attorney Shuler said they cannot stop

someone from surveying public property but he would not like to have two surveys saying two different things if possible because then they have to go through a resolution process if there is a conflict. Mr. Moron explained they want a letter of support because they are trying to get a \$10,000 grant to do all the squares in the City of Apalachicola. Mr. Pierce reported some of the squares were surveyed before under a historical preservation grant and this is part of a follow-up. He stated they are doing the entire square which is not just the portion owned by the county but also includes the other property owners. Mr. Moron asked if there is any reason not to send a letter of support. Attorney Shuler answered he does not see any reason not to send a letter of support. **On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve a letter of support.**

Commissioner Boldt brought into discussion shirts for the Commissioners. Mr. Moron said the conference is next month and this is the time they normally order shirts for the conference. **Commissioner Parrish made a motion to approve purchasing the shirts. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.** Chairman Lockley asked why the Board needs to take action every year and cannot just authorize the purchase of the shirts continuously each year. **Commissioner Parrish amended his motion to order the shirts annually. Commissioner Jones amended his second. Motion carried; 5-0.**

Commissioner Boldt stated he is hearing from his constituents that many of the boat ramps around the county are in disrepair. He reported there are photographs of Surf Road at Alligator Point seaward of the Sun n Sand boat ramp and there is an accumulation of sediment that makes access very difficult. He said the concrete is also broken. Commissioner Boldt stated Chairman Lockley also mentioned the option of a hitching post at the boat ramps to prevent the boats from floating away. Commissioner Boldt asked Mr. Moron to get a status of all the boat ramps and what they can do to mitigate the issues. Mr. Pierce stated the county has been down this path before. He explained FWC has the Boating Improvement Trust Fund where the county applies for grants for these items. Mr. Pierce stated the issue with FWC is the boat ramp must have enough water in it to launch a boat without dredging and in the east end of the county it has been hard to find a location. He said one reason a boat ramp was built at the Ochlocknee Bridge is because there is deep water. Mr. Pierce explained they have tried everywhere on Alligator Point looking for a satisfactory boat ramp site. He reported the boat ramp at Sun n Sand is a street end not a boat ramp. He stated this boat ramp will never get an FWC grant because there is no parking and you must have adequate parking. He said the other reason it will not get a grant is it is part of the aquatic preserve and you cannot get a permit to dredge and make it deep enough. He stated it is heavily used but the county will never get money to improve it. Mr. Pierce reported the place for people to use that the county might get benefit of is Leonard's Landing. He said they can certainly revisit the Sun n Sand boat ramp and see if the rules have changed but there are issues because it was never built as a boat ramp just as a street end. Chairman Lockley asked if this can be done as a BP project. Mr. Pierce did not think it would work in any way since it is a street end and there is no parking. He stated he does not think the county could get a permit to improve this boat ramp and he expressed concern that it may also create a neighborhood battle. Commissioner Parrish said there is a

problem already with all the aquaculture leases in this area and no access. Commissioner Boldt stated he did not know Sun n Sand was just a street end. Mr. Pierce explained his solution which they looked into but were never successful at was to get access to the old Florida State University (F.S.U.) Marine Lab on Alligator Point which is public land owned by the Governor and Cabinet. He said it has a boat ramp and 5 acres of land that could be used for access and parking. He stated it is public property and the gate is locked and it has been closed for 25 years. Commissioner Boldt said he will start helping with this idea. Mr. Pierce explained it was owned by FSU but was then transferred back to the Governor and Cabinet. Mr. Moron said they will send a letter requesting it and he will follow through with what they are asking. Chairman Lockley said they need boat ramps and all the access they can get to the water. Mr. Pierce stated the Indian Creek Boat Ramp is the next one to be improved. Commissioner Jones said the next one is the old Ferry Dock Boat Ramp. Mr. Pierce explained the county is making improvements at boat ramps they know FWC will support.

Michael Shuler – County Attorney – Report

Attorney Shuler stated the Board previously authorized it but for information he is preparing a conveyance of a small piece of property from the county to Mr. Johnny Byrd conditioned on the City of Apalachicola first deeding the property back to the county. He informed the Board he now has a deed from the City of Apalachicola deeding the 15 ft. property back to the county. Attorney Shuler explained he will now go through the process of transferring the 15 ft. strip from the county to Mr. Byrd for a \$2,500 price which is what the Property Appraiser said the property is worth. Attorney Shuler said no action is required but he wanted the Board to be aware he was doing this.

Commissioners' Comments

There were no Commissioners' comments.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:36 a.m.

Noah Lockley - Chairman

Attest:

Marcia M. Johnson - Clerk of Courts