

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING
COURTHOUSE ANNEX – COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
JULY 26, 2019
1:00 P.M.
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, Michael Shuler – County Attorney, Lori P. Hines-Deputy Clerk to the Board.

Call to Order

Chairman Lockley called the meeting to Order.

Public Comments

Mr. Alan Feifer, Concerned Citizens of Franklin County, said he is holding the latest financials for June and it shows that current payables due this year are \$1.6 million and 3 months payables to vendors. He stated the money market balance is \$123,000. He read total patient revenue and expenses. He presented the losses before and after subsidies and read the future projections. He reported there were only 7 patient overnight stays for the month. Mr. Feifer said these numbers come from Weems Memorial Hospital. Mr. Feifer encouraged the Board to study these numbers and realize this is an extension of a long term problem that has never gotten better.

Ms. Kristen Anderson, Weems Memorial Hospital Board, referenced two letters in The Apalachicola Times this week. She stated one letter is hers and the other one is from Ms. Jennifer Tompkins who is a Registered Nurse (RN) at the hospital. She read a portion of Ms. Tompkins' letter for the Board. She stated this is an excellent letter and she hopes the Board will think about it.

Lori Switzer – SHIP Administrator – Hurricane Housing Recovery Program

Ms. Switzer stated through the SHIP Program Franklin County will be receiving \$1,235,000 from the Hurricane Housing Recovery Program (HHRP). She reported these funds were appropriated through the Legislature to aid in housing recovery and rehabilitation for citizens displaced or affected by Hurricane Michael. She said they will receive the funds in October but she is not

sure the exact date. Ms. Switzer explained after meeting with the housing board they developed two strategies to expend the funds. She reported one of the strategies is HHRP Home Repair and will be used to provide rehabilitation repairs to owner occupied households in the aftermath of Hurricane Michael. Ms. Switzer stated the funds will be used to improve the structure to meet the required building codes of Franklin County, address health and safety hazards, provide handicap accessibility and for removal of trees and debris if needed. She reported this money is for fiscal year 2019-2020 and the income categories to be served are very low, low and moderate. Ms. Switzer said the maximum award will be \$50,000 but not everyone will need the full \$50,000. She explained this will be a deferred payment loan and the lien time will be 10 years for up to \$25,000 and 15 years for over \$25,000-\$50,000. Ms. Switzer explained applicants will be ranked for assistance on a first come, first serve basis with a priority for very low income, low income and special needs applicants. She stated 60% of the funds must be spent on low income or lower and 20% of the funds on special needs. She said the home must be located in Franklin County and the appraised value of the home cannot exceed the maximum sale price allowed in the SHIP program which is \$175,000. She stated the applicant cannot be delinquent on any debt owed to Franklin County. Ms. Switzer said all work will be performed by contractors on the approved contractor's list. She reported the second strategy is the HHRP Manufactured Home Repair/Replacement. She stated this strategy will be used to provide repairs to owner occupied households in the aftermath of Hurricane Michael to address necessary repairs or replacement. She reported if the manufactured home is beyond repair or was built before June, 1994 it will be an automatic replacement. Ms. Switzer said the funds will be used to improve the structure to meet the building code in Franklin County, address health and safety issues, provide handicap accessibility and for removal of trees and debris if needed. She explained the maximum award for repairs is \$20,000 and for replacement is \$75,000 and there will be a 10 year lien. Ms. Switzer said the ranking will be first come, first serve with a priority for very low and low incomes and special needs. Chairman Lockley asked if this is for mobile homes. Ms. Switzer answered yes. She said if this is approved she will send it through to Florida Housing Finance and advertise. She reported it will be advertised for 30 days and then they can accept applications. **Commissioner Massey made a motion to direct Ms. Switzer to put this agreement through to Florida Housing Finance. Commissioner Boldt seconded the motion.** Mr. Moron reported the motion should be to approve the agreement contingent upon Attorney Shuler's final review. He explained Attorney Shuler reviewed the draft but there are a couple of things he wants to work on with Ms. Switzer. He said the Board also needs to approve both strategies. **Commissioner Massey amended his motion to approve the agreement contingent upon Attorney Shuler's final review and to approve the two strategies as presented. Commissioner Boldt amended his second.** Chairman Lockley questioned if this funding came from the Governor. Ms. Switzer answered yes and the Legislature through the SHIP Program. She stated all the counties affected by Hurricane Michael are receiving funding. She explained Franklin County is on the lower tier since they did not have as much damage. Chairman Lockley reported Gulf County received \$5 million but they had more damage. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

H.D. Cannington – Weems CEO – Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) update fee for Weems New Facility

Mr. Cannington reported at the last regular meeting he presented a scope of work for the hospital with a minimum price of \$12,144,000. He explained this price was a projection and to come up with the actual costs they will need to spend some money for the architects, engineers and others consultants to come in and develop the specifications to get the true cost for the guaranteed maximum price (GMP). He explained Mr. Joe Bynum, TRO Jung/Brannen, sent something out to the parties that were involved in 2016 and they asked them what it will cost to look at it again and develop the specifications based on the scope of work. He stated they will also have to look at any changes to the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) standards or building codes in the last 3 years. He explained they need to know what it will take to get an actual cost so they have something to send to the contractor to get a good projection which they will do over the next 2 ½-3 months. Mr. Cannington said the Board has a copy of the proposed prices and he read each item and said the total is \$207,003. He stated this will allow these professionals to provide specifications according to the scope and what the current requirements are so they can send it to the contractor and find out what the true cost is. Mr. Cannington reported at the same time they will be working with AHCA to get the stand up review scheduled and work to make sure they have construction financing in place. Mr. Cannington explained once they come back to the Board with the GMP if they want to move forward then they will already have the AHCA review scheduled and the construction financing in place. He stated the only thing the Board is committing to is the \$207,003. He reported there could be up to \$15,000 of reimbursables for travel and other items that may be in addition to this amount. Mr. Cannington explained all of these numbers were included in the \$12.1 million budget but the Board must approve the expenditure before they can move forward. Mr. Cannington went on to say the \$12.1 million budget is only based on a lot of rough estimates and they need to do this to get a firm number from the contractor on what it will cost to build. He stated the \$207,003 is included in the \$12.1 million budget. Mr. Moron said normally there is a design the county would pay an engineer for and then it is bid and they go forward with construction. He questioned why they are paying to get a price on something they would normally have the engineer design. Mr. Cannington said he does not think they can get hospital facility designs and specifications without paying for it and cannot get bids without the design and specifications. Commissioner Massey said the Board has already paid one time to do this. Mr. Moron explained that was in May, 2017 but the GMP is only valid for so long. Mrs. Griffith stated she did not find an expiration date in the GMP. Commissioner Massey asked where this money is coming from. Mr. Moron replied out of the Health Care Trust Fund (HCTF). Chairman Lockley asked how much they paid for the first one. Mrs. Griffith responded \$62,500 plus a lot of architectural fees. Mr. Moron said Culpepper Construction was paid \$62,500 then and now the price is \$65,000. He stated there were also a lot of other fees. Mrs. Griffith agreed TRO Jung/Brannen was also paid back then. Mr. Cannington asked if Culpepper Construction was actually paid the \$62,500. Mrs. Griffith replied yes. Mr. Moron said TRO Jung/ Brannen's price is \$131,000 this time. Mr. Moron reported an acoustic consultant was not required in 2017. Mr. Cannington said it was not included then but his understanding that

when they were meeting with AHCA this was one of the comments. He discussed the acoustic requirement in relation to HPPA regulations and a patient not being able to overhear what occurs with other patients. Mr. Cannington reminded the Board Mr. Bynum said there is \$887,000 worth of required items just to bring it up to the current code and in that figure was \$94,000 for acoustics and a physicist and other consultants. Chairman Lockley asked where Mr. Bynum is today and if he was required to be here. Mr. Cannington stated he did not understand that Mr. Bynum was to be here today. Chairman Lockley reported they did everything back then and now none of it is any good. Mr. Cannington said a lot of the work that was done is still good. He explained when Mr. Bynum went to the companies to get the prices to come up with the costs this is how much it is. Commissioner Boldt stated \$50,000 was given in the spring for a model and questioned where that money went. Mr. Cannington said that was given to the architects from January until now. He explained Mr. Bynum presented a cost of what it would take for him to look at this again. Chairman Lockley again asked if any of the previous work was good. Mr. Cannington answered yes but they have to re-do the specifications to add any changes made by the county, state or federal government. He stated he has been told that they cannot send the 2016 plans out and have someone bid on them. Chairman Lockley asked why they are paying now. Mr. Cannington explained so they can get the specifications to send to the contractor for a final price. He reported everything presented was rough estimates given to Mr. Bynum but until they get the exact specifications they cannot tell the county what it will cost to build. Chairman Lockley asked who the second company was that bid on this project. Commissioner Jones replied Ajax. Chairman Lockley stated they need to send the plans to Ajax and see what they will do. Chairman Lockley stated they have told him they cannot pay this money over and over. He asked how much they paid before. Commissioner Jones said from the beginning of the project they have paid out \$1 million from the HCTF. He questioned why the \$1 million would not be included if the \$207,003 is included. Mr. Cannington said if they do not go forward then the \$50,000 will be added to the \$1 million that have already been spent and listed as Construction in Progress. He stated this cannot be depreciated until they are using the building. He explained in a long term building program all the costs cannot be expensed and must be capitalized or they are an asset. He reported this money will stay there until the building is built or they decide not to build. Mr. Cannington said since they were still planning to build the item shows up as an asset on the audit. Commissioner Jones reported the amount is really \$257,000 since they have already paid \$50,000. Commissioner Massey asked if the \$50,000 was for phone calls between Mr. Cannington and Mr. Bynum. Mr. Cannington said no, Mr. Bynum has also talked with Ms. Nikol Tschaepe, Operations Director, and they have done drawings. He stated he cannot justify their costs but they are a very reputable architect and build lots of hospitals. Commissioner Boldt said this is chaos. He stated he supports the Chairman and believes they need a health care model. He reported they are not saying no but they need to table this information and have a public workshop to determine where they are going. He stated this model is 12 years old and they need concept and stakeholders from the community to comment on what they want to compliment what they voted for in 2007. Commissioner Boldt said they have no vision and he wants an informed direction on where they are going with health care. He stated he wants to support this and wants something good but he thinks it needs to be tabled and they need a

public workshop soon. Chairman Lockley said his opinion is to build a hospital. He reported the people have already told them what to do and if they had done what they were supposed to they would not be going through all these changes. Chairman Lockley asked Mr. Moron to read the ballot language. Mr. Moron left the meeting to get the ballot language. Chairman Lockley stated they are worried about how it looks but he wants to get in a facility that will save his life and he does not care what it looks like. Commissioner Boldt said they need health care direction from community people and good consultants on what this building looks like. Commissioner Massey stated the \$.01 was supposed to build a hospital but now it is running a hospital. He went on to say if they had never spent this money and placed it in savings they would have been able to pay cash for the hospital. He asked what would happen if they took the \$.01 surtax away. Mr. Cannington stated a critical access hospital cannot sustain itself because they are cost based reimbursed by Medicare. He explained how the critical access hospital designation started and the various items affecting the hospitals. He reported most critical access hospitals he has been in contact with have gotten their additional funding from ad valorem taxes which puts a strain on rural residents. Commissioner Massey asked if they build a hospital and the payments have to come out of the \$.01 surtax and the hospital is in bad shape is there going to be enough money left to keep the hospital going. Mr. Cannington answered yes. He explained one of the problems right now is whether they have 1 patient in a swing bed or inpatient they must have 2 RN's or an RN and Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) on staff 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in addition to staff they have in the Emergency Room. He explained they could get up to 8 or 9 patients for a short time without having to add any additional staff. He listed the other staff that they are required to have 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Mr. Cannington reported with the new hospital they will have more patients. He said it is hard to build up the swing bed program when the rooms need to be updated and some do not have private baths. Mr. Moron read the official ballot language from small County Sales Surtax Referendum election held on November 6, 2007. Chairman Lockley said it means the surtax is supposed to provide operations out of the surtax. Attorney Shuler answered yes. He advised the Board there are also two other documents that are critical to the picture of the health care surtax which are the Interlocal Agreements. He explained those three agreements together created the HCTF and out of the HCTF they have agreed to limit the use of the surtax to an operational subsidy and a capital fund. Attorney Shuler stated the Board has the discretion to reallocate and re-balance the allocation between the capital fund and operations and on occasion they have done that. He explained originally it was a 50/50 allocation to the capital fund and operations but presently it is about 60% to the operational subsidy and 40% to the capital fund. He stated in 2012-2013 for about 6 months they allocated 100% of the surtax to pay down debt service. Commissioner Jones asked Attorney Shuler how many items are spelled out in the ballot language. Attorney Shuler reported there are 4 items and they are to build the clinic in Carrabelle, other authorized uses for upgrading the ambulance service, paying the cost to subsidize the operation and construction of a new hospital. He said the Interlocal Agreements are the other two necessary documents to interpreting these items where the County Commission and the two cities agreed that of those potential authorized uses they would limit the use of the funds to operational subsidies for the hospital and the construction of the capital facility in Carrabelle and the new hospital in Apalachicola. Commissioner Jones

said he is asking because he can remember upon being elected at the first conference that he and Mr. Moron had a lengthy conversation about Weems Memorial Hospital and he was informed the money was not being set aside for the building of the hospital and was being used to operate the hospital. He explained as a voter and resident when he voted it was for three things the Carrabelle Clinic, EMS and building the hospital. He said they have given it to operations for so long it is almost like the conversation about the TDC sustaining grants in that it is supposed to help get you by but is not supposed to be your primary source of income. Commissioner Jones stated they have not built a hospital but the money is not there with the current financial state of the hospital and it is not going to be there any time soon. He reported if they move forward with constructing this building then they are going to be bankrupt or lose the critical access and not have anything and that is a problem. Commissioner Jones stated they need to say how they feel and he has an issue with this. Commissioner Massey asked if a nice urgent care would be best or a hospital because they can build the urgent care a lot cheaper and have money left over to help. He explained you can stay at an urgent care for 48 hours before you are moved if necessary. Mr. Cannington reported he thinks Franklin County needs a hospital. He said they need an emergency room, and availability of inpatient services which includes swing beds, inpatient beds, and people need to get diagnostic services locally. Mr. Cannington said if the Board decides they do not want a hospital and want an emergency room it is very expensive and they must also have a lab, x-ray, radiology and pharmacy. He stated that does not meet the needs of the community and they are taking the most important part of the health care system and someone has to pay for it. Mr. Cannington explained stand alone ER's in rural communities does not make money but large hospitals can do this in cities and it is a different story. He reported there is a big difference in the services provided at an urgent care and a hospital. He stated in Florida there are no requirements or certification for an urgent care center. He said if they are an urgent care facility then they post prices and take walk-ins and he thinks they are the only two requirements in the statutes. Commissioner Massey stated he is like Commissioner Jones and does not want to be bankrupt. Mr. Cannington discussed a consulting group that looked at all critical access hospitals that had a replacement or rehabilitation and they found volume and revenue increased an average of 12%. He said if they modernize the facility and still provide good services it will improve the volume. Mr. Moron clarified Commissioner Massey is talking about an Emergency Room and not Urgent Care. Commissioner Massey agreed he meant Emergency Room. Mr. Moron pointed out if someone calls EMS the ambulance cannot go to an Urgent Care Facility only an Emergency Room. Mr. Moron said if they ever consider a free standing Emergency Room then a decision will have to be made on what the critical access designation is worth to the county because they will lose that designation. Mr. Cannington agreed the facility cannot be a critical access hospital without inpatient rooms. Commissioner Massey stated he is for health care but does not want to put the county in debt for 40-50 years and they cannot pay for it. Chairman Lockley reported they cannot keep taking the money and do nothing. Mr. Cannington said he was not here when these decisions were made but he knows the architects are well respected for hospital design and construction. He stated he has never worked with Culpepper Construction but have heard good things. Mr. Cannington said he is sure the contractors and architects were vetted at the time they were selected. He stated he thinks the county has a

good team but it will cost money to go where they want to go. Mr. Cannington commented \$200,000 is a lot of money but the county has to decide if they want to build a new hospital or not. He explained in a few months once they have the proformas and the actual costs then they can make a decision to move forward or not move forward. He said if they delay, the costs will continue to go up. Chairman Lockley said if they are not going to build the hospital then they need to stop collecting the money. Commissioner Massey stated that will shut down the hospital. Commissioner Parrish said the clinics would shut down also. Commissioner Massey agreed everything will shut down. Chairman Lockley said they are not for paying for operations. Commissioner Massey stated he is for building the hospital but the \$.01 is running the hospital and the clinics. Commissioner Massey asked what will happen if they give the \$.01 back. Mr. Cannington said they would continue to operate the hospital with the \$3.8 million if the county continued to give them a stipend but it would only last for about 3 years. He explained if there is no outside funding coming in they cannot stay open and provide services. He reported it does not matter who operates the hospital, a critical access hospital cannot operate without outside funding. Commissioner Jones inquired about the Medicare Rural Health Care Flex Program which was also created by the federal government and is a second component to help fund and support critical access hospitals. Mr. Cannington stated flex grants were a way for the federal government to assist critical access hospitals. He said he thinks there were 4 components and the ones he remembers were improving the quality of critical access hospitals, EMS services and IT services. He reported the Flex Program is still there but some of the funding goes to support the State Offices of Rural Health and some of the offices are run by state government and some by universities. Mr. Cannington said in Florida there is a State Office of Rural Health under the Florida Department of Health. He reported Small Hospital Improvement Program (SHIP) grants are FLEX monies that the hospital receives. He explained an Operational and Quality Review was done at the hospital several months ago by a rural health consultant, North Highlands, and the hospital did not have to pay for it because it was paid for by the flex grant. He said these reviews were done in 12 -13 critical access hospitals in Florida. Mr. Cannington explained the FLEX grants do not give them money or help operationally. He reported they provide resources so they can do better. Commissioner Jones clarified he does not think anyone on the Board is opposed to building a hospital but they have to know that they can fund it. He stated all the money is going to operations and what are they going to make the payment out of and this is his concern. Chairman Lockley reported half of the money is going to savings. He stated they are putting \$1 million in savings. Commissioner Jones asked how much they will have left if they paid everything off. Mr. Cannington answered probably \$2 million with what they owe in payables and what is owed to Tallahassee Memorial Hospital. He said that also includes the transfer they got in 2016 for operations. He stated the hospital has no long term debt. He estimated the trade payables are around \$300,000, the money owed to TMH is \$600,000 and another \$300,000 so about \$1.2 million owed. Commissioner Boldt questioned if it is \$1.6 million in payables excluding TMH. Mr. Cannington said he does not have the financials in front of him but the payables are not \$1.6 million. He stated these items are all listed on their balance sheet and if they paid them off they would still have a substantial amount in the HCTF. Clerk Johnson said in listening to the Board she thinks they need to get the GMP because they are not able to

make a decision until they know what it will cost. She stated the Board should approve this \$207,003 so they can get a price. She explained at the workshop the Board was saying they could not move forward until they know what it will cost. She reported they have money in the HCTF for the \$207,003 and it will be included in the GMP. Clerk Johnson stated once they have the cost then if they want to have public hearings and delve into the finances more they can. She said until they get the price she does not know how they can make a true decision. She suggested they include in the contract with Culpepper Construction and the architect that whatever they spend this time the price is guaranteed to a certain time in the future in case it did not happen now. Clerk Johnson said it is a lot of money and she could not find a date in Culpepper's contract. She explained a date needs to be put in there for how long the GMP is good and she thinks they should move forward today. Commissioner Boldt said the model is 12 years obsolete and it may not be what they need to get a GMP on. Chairman Lockley said he wants to know how the doctor looks not the model. Commissioner Boldt explained he is not looking at cosmetics but is looking at good outcomes in a model they can afford. Mr. Cannington reported they discussed a standalone ER but they will not have critical access status and will lose all the cost based reimbursement from Medicare which is between 40%-45% of their business. He explained the problem with Franklin County is they do not have a lot of residents. He stated they still want to make sure that the people that are here have access to good quality health care. Mr. Cannington said he would have to review it but he thinks a standalone ER would cost more to keep open than they are getting now. He stated the original number of beds was 14 and then it was reduced to 10 and he thinks 10 is the right number. Mr. Cannington said they had 10 patients at the hospital at one time this year on a weekend. He stated there were 7 patients last Saturday. He commented that includes swing bed patients, acute inpatients and observation patients that stay overnight. He reported this morning there was 1 swing bed patient, 2 observation patients and 1 inpatient. Mr. Cannington said they can reduce the number of beds but it will not reduce the amount of construction costs that much so he would build the 10 beds. Chairman Lockley discussed the HCTF and said they are supposed to be taking half the money for operations and half for capital so they are not taking the whole amount to run the hospital. He suggested no matter how bad it gets they do not get any of the capital side and they have to make it on their own. Commissioner Parrish stated he does not think they can. He said the county is giving them 60% now to operate and only 40% is going to the capital fund. Chairman Lockley stated they just cannot go back into the capital fund. Commissioner Parrish questioned what happens when people cannot get paid and they have a 40 year debt. Mr. Cannington reported Clerk Johnson is right that the Board cannot make a decision until they know exactly what the scope is, and exactly how they are going to pay for it. He stated they do not have the information to make the decision and it will cost \$207,003 to find out. Mr. Moron reported he does not think there has ever been a year where they were able to put half of what was collected in the capital fund. Chairman Lockley stated maybe it needs a 60/40 split. He said whatever the Board decides is what they get and no more. Clerk Johnson explained the problem is they have had to spend money from the capital side for equipment and things that are happening at the old building. She reported maybe if they build a new building, they would not have to spend some of that money they had to spend. Chairman Lockley pointed out they added Weems West when the agreement only referenced

Weems East. He said Weems West is costing half a million dollars. Mr. Moron said he and Mr. Cannington had a conversation about Weems West and its intention which were to ease off some of the non-emergency cases that go to the ER but whether it works that way or not is a question for Mr. Cannington. Mr. Moron agreed that was never part of the ballot language or any agreement. Chairman Lockley asked how much it costs. Mr. Cannington said Weems West loses about \$150,000-\$180,000 and Weems East loses about \$120,000-\$150,000. He stated when they are seeing patients on Saturday they are losing money but they are providing health care services. Chairman Lockley asked how much it costs a year to run Weems West. Mr. Cannington was not sure but said the biggest expense is salaries. He said he will get the answer. Mr. Moron stated he asked how much EMS cost and the CFO did not know so that is another thing they need to know.

The meeting recessed at 2:36 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 2:45 p.m.

Commissioner Parrish made a motion to go out and get a GMP on this project. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Commissioner Jones said if they take the \$3.8 million they currently have in the HCTF and divide it by the 12 years they have been collecting the surtax that is about \$315,000 a year. He reported that does not make a \$600,000 a year payment so that is where he is coming from. He said they do need to go forward and get a real price and he supports that but at some point it has to be sustainable and it has not shown that. Commissioner Parrish stated he agrees and if the hospital cannot stand on its own then they cannot expend dollars when they do not have revenue to match the expenditures and that is the way a business runs and that is where he is. He explained the county does not need to make money at the hospital. He reported the county gives \$1.1 million a year to sustain the hospital to make up for some of the indigent care but above that trying to make a payment on a new building and insurance they cannot keep coming back to the HCTF for operations. He clarified in the last discussion they thought there was a requirement to have \$2 million in escrow for a new building but that is not true and was a misstatement on his part. He said the USDA requires them to put 1/10 of the annual payment aside for 10 years. He stated there is \$3.8 million in the HCTF and they do not need to expend \$2 million for escrow. He reported they do need the GMP to know about moving forward. Commissioner Parrish stated he understands the concerns of the Board about spending the money because he feels the same way but they need to know the GMP. Commissioner Boldt said they do not have a vision for health care in the community today. He said they have a plan from 12 years ago but it is obsolete. He reported they are asking to approve spending \$250,000 for a GMP and there is no informed structure today for their current modern health care need. Commissioner Boldt stated he is in favor of a health care facility in the community but wants it to be up to date with current technology. He said he supports trashing this entire idea and beginning with a public workshop and mandated schedule to talk about the hospital every month until they come up with good conclusion. He reported he does not want to spend the public's money for a 12 year old plan. Commissioner Massey stated they have also used the money in the checking account

to run the hospital. He reported there was \$800,000 in the checking account and now the balance is \$123,000. Clerk Johnson asked the Board to include in the motion that there is some kind of expiration date on the GMP. **Commissioner Parrish amended his motion to request some kind of expiration date on the GMP. Commissioner Jones amended his second.** Mr. Moron said they need to ask for more information because they also need to know what kind of plans they are getting. He asked Mr. Cannington to ask Mr. Bynum what they are getting, how long it is good for and what kind of plans they are. The Board discussion the motion and what they are getting from Mr. Bynum. Mr. Cannington said the Board has obligated this amount of money today to get the GMP. He reported in 2½ months they will come back with that information but what the Clerk requested was that the GMP has a date that it is good through. Chairman Lockley said this is a great day for Franklin County because they are moving forward and they have been stalled for a while. He stated the Board has the right to agree to disagree and at the end of the day no one is going to be mad. He explained he is listening to his fellow Commissioners and the public. He reported he wants a good doctor in a good facility with good equipment. **The motion passed by the following vote of the Board present:**

AYE: PARRISH, JONES, LOCKLEY, MASSEY

NAY: BOLDT

Commissioner Boldt clarified he supports a new public hospital facility just like the referendum stated but he feels like they are looking at a picture that is 12 years old and they do not have modern up to date thinking with stakeholders in the community today. Attorney Shuler said he wants to focus the Board on the fact that it is not just the ballot language. He explained the election was going to be cancelled if the Interlocal agreements had not been entered into. He reported there are 3 documents not just ballot language. Commissioner Jones asked what that is in reference to. Attorney Shuler reported everyone keeps talking about the ballot language but this is a tri-party agreement of the ballot language and the 2 interlocal agreements to form the HCTF. Chairman Lockley said both cities agreed. Commissioner Parrish stated they agreed to leave their money in the HCTF. Commissioner Jones reported the Interlocal Agreements do not trump what people voted for. Attorney Shuler explained this is general revenue surtax so if the Interlocal Agreements are breeched and go away then they do not have a HCTF there are just general revenues going to the cities and the county. Commissioner Jones asked what he is trying to clarify. Attorney Shuler explained the 3 purposes were to construct the Carrabelle Clinic, to limit the use of the funds for the operational subsidy and the capital fund for the construction of the hospital. He reported the projected numbers from the Department of Revenue is \$2.3 million estimated this year from the tax revenue and the majority of 70% comes from the county, 18% comes from the City of Apalachicola and 12% comes from the City of Carrabelle. He explained without the Interlocal agreements the HCTF revenues could then go to the cities and they could use that for any purpose they wanted. He went on to say the ballot language is important but without the Interlocal agreements there would be no HCTF.

Michael Morón – County Coordinator – New Carrabelle EMS Location

Mr. Moron said he is going to rely on Ms. Nikol Tschaepe, Operations Manager, as she has more detail about this item. He reported there is a problem with the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) location at the fire station in Lanark Village. He explained there are some activities going on there that are causing serious issues with EMS being able to respond to calls. He explained yesterday evening the EMS was either blocking going back into the location or going out because there was a party going on in the parking lot by the Lanark Village Fire Station where EMS is located. Chairman Lockley asked for the location. Commissioner Massey stated it is on Oak Street and described the location. He said a family has moved into the fire house and he has asked the County Attorney to look into it because he and Commissioner Boldt are getting a lot of complaints. Chairman Lockley asked if this is a county building. Mr. Moron answered no; the county is leasing part of the building for the EMS location. Commissioner Parrish asked what will happen if they have a fire and they need to get the fire trucks out. He questioned who is running the department. Mr. Moron said the fire chief is related to the situation they are having on 2270 Oak Street. Commissioner Massey reported the fire chief has moved in the building and his parents are the people at the location Attorney Shuler is already looking into. Commissioner Parrish questioned if there is a law about blocking the fire trucks entrance and exit. Mr. Moron replied yes, and he has talked with the Sheriff on several occasions and he is frustrated also. Mr. Moron said the most important thing is to get EMS out of the location and get them somewhere so they can function and do their job. Mr. Moron reported he would like to use the location of the old annex right before Island View Park. He requested the Board authorize the architect to come down and do a scope of work and waive advertising and send this out to the general contractors. He reported they can have a committee with some people from the hospital and Mr. Doug Shuler, architect, and have them pick a contractor and get the work done. Commissioner Massey said he thought they had already voted on this. Mr. Moron stated the Board voted to allow them to use the building but they never did any work. He reported the building is not suitable and there was damage done by Hurricane Michael. Commissioner Parrish inquired how much they are going to spend on the building. He said he is not willing to give authorization to spend \$100,000 and it will move forward without coming back to the Board and this is more money coming out of the HCTF. He asked if they can get this done and bring the amount back to the next scheduled meeting. Mr. Moron said Mr. Shuler will meet with Ms. Tschaepe on Monday afternoon. Mr. Moron stated Mr. Shuler said if he met with her early next week he could have something back to the Board for the August 6th meeting. **Commissioner Parrish made a motion to move forward but the numbers have to come back to the Board. Commissioner Boldt seconded the motion.** Commissioner Massey asked if the Building Inspector can look at the building and tell them what needs to be done. Mr. Moron was not sure if he could create a scope of work that can be used to bid. He said Mr. Gary Millender, Building Official, did look at the building and told Ms. Tschaepe what needed to be done. Chairman Lockley asked if that is the only building the county owns there. Mr. Moron answered yes. Commissioner Boldt asked if they will pay Mr. Shuler to give this scope. Mr. Moron responded yes. Commissioner Parrish said he wants to know how much it will cost but it will not be \$10,000 because that is their bid policy. Ms. Tschaepe stated the current building is no more than 1,200 square feet. Mr. Moron clarified they are not expanding the building just

rehabilitating what is there. **Commissioner Parrish amended his motion that if the price is above the bid policy it needs to come back to the Board.** He said if it can be done for less than \$10,000 that is fine but if not then it must come back to the Board. Commissioner Boldt asked if they will need coverage for the ambulance. Ms. Tschaepe stated they can look into that or add it later if needed. Commissioner Boldt reported they should consider a tripping light as the ambulance is entering/exiting off of the highway. Mr. Moron stated because of the curve he was going to ask Mr. Shuler to include those lights to stop traffic. Commissioner Massey said they do not need to spend money covering the ambulances as none of the rest of them are covered. **Commissioner Boldt amended his second.** Chairman Lockley reported they need a good stable place for all the ambulances. The Board discussed the locations of all the ambulances. Mr. Moron said they are looking at locations. Commissioner Parrish said that is more money coming out of the HCTF. Chairman Lockley stated they need a stable location because they are the first to respond. Commissioner Massey explained there is a mess at the fire station. **Motion carried; 5-0.** Mr. Moron thanked Ms. Tschaepe for her report and said he will send it to the Board. Chairman Lockley stated it is still bad if they are blocking the fire station. Commissioner Jones reported even if they move EMS there is still a fire house problem. Commissioner Parrish said the county does not run the fire station that is the responsibility of the fire department as each area has a fire chief. He stated the police need to be called when there is a problem.

Michael Morón – County Coordinator – Request for Community Action Agency RV/Travel Trailer

Mr. Moron stated Capital Area Action Agency has sent a request from someone who was a fire survivor that is requesting a RV/travel trailer. He explained the difference with this situation is at the time the person moved away and has separated from the person they were living with at the time the fire happened. He stated they have come back and are asking to use one of the vacation RV/travel trailers for 6 months as they try to re-establish themselves in the county and seek permanent housing. Mr. Moron explained this will be the same six month lease the other survivors received and they have their own property to put the trailer on. Commissioner Massey asked if they have a power pole. Mr. Moron said they have a power pole and water and sewer connection. **Commissioner Massey made a motion to let the individual have the trailer. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.** Commissioner Boldt inquired if the county has any liability. Attorney Shuler said the county does not own the RV's; they belong to the Capital Area Community Action Agency. Commissioner Parrish asked why they are contacting the county. Attorney Shuler reported under the contract they are required to consult the county. Commissioner Parrish said the agreement is between Capital Area Community Action Agency and the individual. Attorney Shuler agreed but said the Capital Area Community Action Agency has a contractual privity with the county and they are required to coordinate with Mr. Moron and he felt obligated to bring this request to the Board. Mr. Moron said the agreement will be between the individual and the Capital Area Community Action Agency. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:16 p.m.

Noah Lockley - Chairman

Attest:

Marcia M. Johnson - Clerk of Courts