

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
COURTHOUSE ANNEX – COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
AUGUST 20, 2019
9:00 AM
MINUTES**

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

Others Present: Marcia M. Johnson-Clerk of Court, Michael Moron-County Coordinator, 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

There were no minutes available for approval.

Payment of County Bills

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

Public Comments

Ms. Deborah Clifford, a property owner at Pine Log Creek, voiced strong opposition to the proposal from Mr. Chris Langston and Coastline Environmental Materials (CEM) to operate a fossil shell mine in Tate's Hell Forest. She stated she is a business owner and private property owner and said the proposed mine will impact their businesses and quality of life. She explained the location of her property and said she is a certified green guide and partner in La Lutra Tours, an ecotourism business based on Pine Log Creek. She reported on the tours offered by La Lutra Tours and the people who have toured the area. She described the habitat

and the rare and threatened species that have been documented. She explained the proposed mine will be less than 5 miles upstream from La Lutra Tours and she finds it hard to believe this sensitive ecosystem will not be adversely affected. She read from the proposal that the mining activity will have zero negative impacts on any adjacent wetlands, waterways or tributaries. She reported a nearby similar quarry operation, the former Langwood Industries, had complaints from neighboring landowners of water well contamination. She explained this proposal by CEM stated they will be using the same process in this mine to contain any industrial wastewater and stormwater. She reported this part of the Tate's Hell habitat is critical for some of the least studied amphibians in this area that can be impacted by water quality, degradation and industrial runoff. She requested the Board oppose this proposal. Ms. Clifford presented copies of her comments.

Mr. Serge Latour, a resident on Pine Log Creek and partner in La Lutra, LLC, discussed the significance of the Pine Log Creek watershed on the bays in Franklin County. He reported this is one of the last pristine waterways that extends from the Apalachicola National Forest down to the wetlands at the top of Pine Log Creek. He stated the wetlands flood into Crooked River and feeds the last freshwater they have coming down the river. He explained the open strip mine is proposed to be at the point where the wetlands of the Apalachicola Forest drain into the headwaters of Pine Log Creek. He said the proposal states there will be 0% discharge and he understands the systems they will use as he has experience in this field but this area floods all the time and this equipment does not work when it is flooded. Mr. Latour stated Pine Log Creek is one of the few remaining pristine watersheds in this county and it is critical to their survival and keeping that end of the bay alive. He reported they know how important the freshwater is and any spill over this site will flow into Crooked River and down into both bays depending on the tides and conditions. He stated a new location should be considered if nothing else for the mining materials. He listed the recognitions Pine Log Creek has received and said this little piece of the watershed is uncontaminated by agricultural or residential runoff. He asked the Board to take these items into consideration.

Mrs. Donna Butterfield, a resident of St. George Island, referenced the Board packet online and said the hospital report gives a paragraph on new construction and she read from the document. She questioned who went to this meeting, who called the meeting and who has the authority to sign a contract for new construction business. Mrs. Butterfield stated she thought this matter was on hold. She reported Weems Memorial Hospital is losing money and the Board needs to direct their staff on what they can and cannot do before a final decision is made by the Board on whether they do a standalone Emergency Room or a 10 bed rebuild. She stated she is concerned and the Board should ask good questions. She reported Mr. Moron has been good about the details so hopefully when this comes up on his report he will explain who the players are and who is doing what.

Mr. Chester Butler, a resident of Carrabelle, read from the proposal for mining. He reported in the proposal it references a report done by a qualified researcher. Mr. Butler said he spoke with Ms. Melani Parker who prepared this report yesterday and she was stunned because the

conclusion is not being presented today and she does not understand how they got those particular pages. He reported he asked her if fossilized shell is the best material to use in the bay and she responded her report did not address that all sites used were fossilized shell and there was no comparison of materials. He questioned how one product can be the best or superior if no comparison was done. He said Ms. Parker stated her conclusion was not in those lines. Mr. Butler said he was in the January meeting when that report was given and what he heard is there was a number of factors causing the oysters to grow to a certain size and die and that she was just beginning to understand the causes of oyster mortality and had a lot more work to do. Mr. Butler stated Ms. Parker said what they are finding out is location is very important. He reported he hopes the Board reads this carefully and votes on whether it is fact or fiction.

Ms. Leslie Cox, a resident of Carrabelle, reported she has an ecotourism business and is a certified green guide. She stated she is also a Florida master naturalist and participates in wildflower tours on Tate's Hell Forest. She stated she has also participated in the Land Management reviews for Tate's Hell State Forest. Ms. Cox reported they currently have a draft of the 10 Year Management Plan that will be presented to the State Acquisition and Restoration Committee (ARC) in October and after that it will go to the Governor and Cabinet, sitting as the Board of Trustees, for final approval. She explained the sites in the Management Plan referenced in the proposal are not the current Management Plan being presented to the Governor and Cabinet in the next six months. Ms. Cox stated there are two proposals and one is for an artificial reef out from St. George Island. She explained the rock for that reef will be sourced from Jefferson County and trucked to Gulf County and deposited off of Franklin County and she does not have a problem with that. Ms. Cox stated the other proposal is for the City of Apalachicola to lease a portion of Tate's Hell State Forest land and those mining deposits will be used in the bay, be sold to Louisiana or used as road material in the county and the forest. She questioned why the lease agreement with the City of Apalachicola has not been included in the documents presented. She asked why there are not support letters from the jurisdictions where roads will be impacted if they are hauling mined deposits out of the forest. Ms. Cox reported not included in the Agenda packet were results from the study that Mr. Butler was referring to. Ms. Cox said the scientist started with a clean spat block and one month later it was covered with predators. She inquired why they are mining deposits to put in the bay and build predators. She stated there will also be an impact to the roads and the county has jurisdiction over the roads.

Ms. D.T. Simmons, Florida Department of Health, said they are in the process of completing their Community Health Assessment. She invited the Board to the final workshop hosted at the Department of Health. She explained they are working with partners to identify their priorities and on that day they will review the data and do a priority selection in addition to hearing different concerns about what this community needs and the best way of getting those items. She stated access to care will remain a priority as it has been in the past. Ms. Simmons explained they are working with a health counsel to get some guidance on how they can go about driving that priority. She reported they are also working with the new interim CEO of

Weems Memorial Hospital, Mr. David Walker, and other partners on how to enhance access to care specifically with a focus on sustainability. Ms. Simmons presented flyers advertising the workshop. She explained at the meeting they will be selecting their priorities, wrapping up their assessment and providing a report, and determining how to implement their priorities for the next 3 years. She stated they would like the Board to attend but if they cannot then they will provide the information to them. Commissioner Jones asked for the time and date of the meeting for the public. Ms. Simmons reported 10:00 a.m. on August 27, 2019 at the Department of Health Office located at 139 12th Street, Apalachicola.

Mr. Alan Feifer, Concerned Citizens of Franklin County, stated over the last 12 years over \$18 million has been spent out of the Health Care Trust Fund (HCTF) in support of Weems Memorial Hospital's operations and still the county struggles without a successful and safe health care facility. He reported Weems Memorial Hospital has been borrowing from the operational and capital portion of the HCTF and using nearly 100% of the HCTF tax for operations. He said this is unsustainable and there are no existing plans to stop the spending. He stated revenues will be negatively affected during the new roof construction and he believes this may create the need for another cash infusion but no one has been discussing this that they are aware of. Mr. Feifer stated the biggest challenge is vision and without a course change bad things will happen. He said the departure of the 6th CEO in 12 years should mandate a pause in direction Mr. Feifer asked for a freeze on the Board's decision to spend additional money on a guaranteed maximum price (GMP). He suggested they look at more practical options for the people who voted for the health care surtax. He asked the Board to speak to the citizens in the community who have experience in health care and open a dialogue that is currently impossible with their policy of non-engagement. Mr. Feifer reported they need to open their minds to different options because everyone wants the best health care they can afford. He stated they are compiling a list of qualified names that will offer to be involved to help find a more realistic health care facility direction. He asked the Board to consider centralizing a facility in Eastpoint and having a right size for a 24/7 emergency room with observation beds and the latest technology. Mr. Feifer stated most people do not realize the new Weems Memorial Hospital will still have the existing dated equipment and technology. He reported new updated modern equipment is a must for patient care today and will save lives. He said they must live within their means and partner with a health care system that is involved instead of the unsuccessful partnerships they have had to date. Mr. Feifer reported as they build staff and operate a new facility they will build pride, local jobs, and better outcomes. He suggested a permanent health care partnership be created to have best practices, create more community involvement and determine the best health solutions for the county. He discussed the positions on this task force. He reported the Board should allow the people to speak.

Ms. Sierra Anderson, District Director for U.S. Senator Rick Scott, said she is here to make sure the Board knows she is the primary point of contact for the senator's office. She reported Mr. Moron has her contact information and she will be glad to meet with the Board about any particular needs. Chairman Lockley asked where their office is. Ms. Anderson said they do not have an office as she works remotely and travels wherever she needs to be in the region.

Ms. Meagan Myhill, Regional Director for U.S. Congressman Neal Dunn, said their office is located in Tallahassee in City Hall. She offered to provide assistance if needed. Mr. Moron reported they are trying to coordinate a round table where both Ms. Anderson and Ms. Myhill will be here to speak with everyone individually including the constitutional officers and community leaders. He stated they are hoping to make this a bi-monthly meeting.

Mr. Larry Hale, a resident of St. George Island, requested the Commission put pressure on the Department of Transportation (DOT) to get a traffic light at Highway 65 and Highway 98. He explained this is a dangerous intersection and cars have run off the end of the road at night because there are just a few rumble strips before the end of the road. Mr. Hale said there was a terrible accident recently and he feels a caution light would have helped prevent this accident. He reported in addition to that request every year for about 6 years he has been in contact with DOT asking for a traffic light at Island Drive and Highway 98. Mr. Hale stated this intersection is getting worse and there are also new businesses in this area. He said there have been a number of accidents at this intersection and DOT keeps telling him Franklin County does not qualify for a light based on the national model. Mr. Hale reported they normally count traffic after Labor Day and that is what the traffic report is based on. He reported he talked with Sheriff A.J. Smith and he is in favor of this request and the Sheriff's Department has someone present this morning to address this item. Mr. Hale said the county needs to put pressure on DOT and ask the senators to address this matter. Mr. Dewayne Coulter, Captain with the Franklin County Sheriff's Department, stated he is here on behalf of Sheriff Smith and did speak with Mr. Hale about the intersections. He said the Sheriff is in support of a Dangerous Intersection sign coming from any direction. Captain Coulter reported they are running a traffic initiative right now and Lt. Jim Ward is running the initiative. He stated they are writing about 60-70 tickets a week. He said they have a new traffic data device that collects data and they would be happy to employ it anywhere it is needed to see the true numbers. He offered to provide assistance and said they can contact him or the Sheriff anytime.

Mrs. Heather Riley – Supervisor of Elections – Cyber Security Proposal Discussion

Mr. Moron stated Mrs. Riley had a scheduling conflict and he will place her on the next Agenda on September 3, 2019.

Department Directors Report

Howard Nabors – Superintendent of Public Works

Mr. Nabors said his department is cutting grass and maintaining the roads. He reported there was rain on the weekend and a few places flooded and there were some trees down but other than that everything went pretty well. Commissioner Jones asked if they are using the same schedule for grass cutting they talked about months ago. Mr. Nabors answered yes, they are in Eastpoint and St. George Island this week then Carrabelle, Lanark Village and Alligator Point. Mr. Nabors presented the following request:

Board Approval: Approval to advertise concurrent in house and out of house for an Inmate Supervisor.

The Road Department had an inmate supervisor who terminated his employment as of Thursday, August 15, 2019.

On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to advertise concurrently in house and out of house for an Inmate Supervisor. Mr. Nabors said he would like to run this in house and in the newspaper at the same time so they can get someone hired. Chairman Lockley stated that will be fine.

Mr. Moron asked if the Board would like him to post the grass cutting schedule on the county's website. Commissioner Jones agreed that would be better. Mr. Nabors explained it takes a month before they get back around to an area. Commissioner Parrish said they are also not getting inmate crews. Mr. Nabors agreed they only get 2 or 3 a crew. He said they had 2 crews this morning but both trucks are broken and they do not have a truck to pick up the other crew. He stated one truck is in Tallahassee and should be back soon. Mr. Nabors reported a new truck came in but they need to get the tag and insurance before it can be used.

Fonda Davis – Solid Waste Director

Mr. Davis reported the Animal Control Department has been experiencing some rabid animals. He said there have been 2 foxes and 1 raccoon but another raccoon is being tested. He asked for people to be aware of their surroundings and not come in contact with any stray animals.

Mr. Davis stated the Parks & Recreation Department has soccer and football registration going on so they will kick these seasons off soon. He reported the coaches are asking for a scoreboard at the football field at Kendrick Park. He said there is a scoreboard that needs to be repaired and they are working on it and it will need to be relocated from one end of the field to the other. He stated the request is for a bigger scoreboard and he has not priced it yet but the normal size is approximately \$4,000. Mr. Davis reported they have been talking with Commissioner Jones about this request. Commissioner Jones said they are soliciting donations from businesses for the scoreboard. He stated they need a new scoreboard and his understanding is their league has the opportunity to host the Super Bowl for all the little league teams. He said then the championship games would be played on the county's fields. Commissioner Jones explained they are not just asking the county to pay for the scoreboard but are also trying to raise money for it. Chairman Lockley asked how many fields they are talking about. Commissioner Jones said one field. Mr. Davis stated they also have a new field in Apalachicola. Commissioner Parrish suggested Mr. Davis contact Mr. Danny Collins, Duke Energy, as they have supported youth and may make a donation. He stated Duke Energy uses Kendrick Park and the Apalachicola Airport for storm events so they may help. He asked Mr. Davis to contact Mr. Collins. Commissioner Boldt encouraged Mr. Davis to coordinate with EMS

so they have staff and units at as many events as they can. Chairman Lockley asked if they have a scoreboard at both fields. Mr. Davis responded there is a scoreboard at the soccer/football field at Kendrick Park but there is not a scoreboard at the new soccer/football field in Apalachicola as it was just built last year. Chairman Lockley asked Mr. Davis to check the price for two scoreboards.

Mr. Davis reported the recycling bins have been placed back at the sites and the primary truck is up and running.

Chairman Lockley inquired if they want to address the lights on the bridge. Mr. Moron read the following item from his report:

10. Staff has received complaints regarding the height and thickness of the grass (hedge, brier) on the Apalachicola causeway, and between Eastpoint and Carrabelle. We have also received complaints on the need to replace the overhead lights on the Apalachicola bridge and lights in the waters around the St. George Island bridge that were damaged during Hurricane Michael. The FDOT contractor has informed me that the “shoulder” work contract has been awarded and should start any day now. However, the contract to replace the lights on or around both bridges is a FEMA funded Hurricane Michael contract and has not yet been awarded. Hopefully, this will be done within the next sixty days. I have been told that once that contract is awarded, the lights will be replaced rather quickly.

Mr. Moron explained when they say shoulder work they are talking about grass cutting and it has started already. He reported the navigational lights are also out and part of this contract. He stated the solar light on the boat ramp is the county's and the person that installed the light is checking on what they will need to do to repair or replace it. Chairman Lockley stated he wanted everyone that called to know they are working on this item. Mr. Moron said he is getting updates from Ferrovia who is the DOT local contractor and he will contact them today about replacing the rumble strips on Highway 65 and Highway 98 and maybe adding a blinking light. Commissioner Jones said he knows what is going on and they need to do something about the lights but Mr. Moron is right to get direction from the Board and contact DOT to find out what the procedure is for the county to ask for a light. He reported demanding a light will probably not work. Commissioner Jones asked Mr. Moron to find out and let the Board know the procedure to do this right. Commissioner Boldt stated Mr. Moron needs to re-emphasize about the fatality that occurred at this intersection because now is the proper time to take care of this. Chairman Lockley suggested sending a letter to DOT. **Commissioner Jones made a motion to write DOT asking them to consider a light at the intersection. Commissioner Massey seconded the motion.** Attorney Shuler reported he has a telephone conference today with one of the DOT General Counsels and he will be glad to bring this up and ask for some guidance and report back to Mr. Moron. The Board agreed that would be good. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

Pam Brownell – Emergency Management Director

Mrs. Brownell offered the following report:

Action Items:

1. Request the Board's approval and signing of the Alert Florida MOU.

Mrs. Brownell explained this is a MOU between the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) and Franklin County for the use of Everbridge which is the mass notification system. She said they have renewed the contract and the county must sign a new MOU to be able to use the system. **On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve and sign the Alert Florida MOU.**

Mrs. Brownell reported the second item is opening the Request for Proposals (RFP's) for Emergency Management Contractual Services. She explained this is nothing to do with recovery but strictly a consultant for the Emergency Management Department. She stated the county will receive \$5 million for Hurricane Michael Hazard Mitigation. Mrs. Brownell said they have a lot of Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) projects that the consultant can write up and submit to the FDEM before the deadline. **On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve this request.** Mrs. Brownell read the RFP's, as follows:

- **Open Request for Proposal – Emergency Management Contractual Services**

<u>Company</u>	<u>Location</u>
AC Disaster Consulting, Inc.	Arlington, TX
Pegasus Engineering, LLC	Winter Springs, FL
Arcadis Design & Consultancy	Tallahassee, FL
Integrated Solutions Consulting	Chicago, IL
Atkins North America, Inc.	Tallahassee, FL
The Management Experts	Tallahassee, FL
Disaster Law & Consulting, LLC	Tallahassee, FL
ICF Incorporated, LLC	Fairfax, VA

Mrs. Brownell reported the review committee will be Mrs. Tress Dameron, Emergency Management Department, Mrs. Jennifer Daniels, Emergency Management Department, and Mr. Moron. **Commissioner Massey made a motion to turn the RFP's over to the committee for review and a recommendation.** Mrs. Brownell explained she cannot score the RFP's because she has a personal relationship with one of the vendors and does not want it to affect the scoring. **Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried; 5-0.**

Mrs. Brownell stated they found out yesterday the county was awarded the grant for \$194,000 for the Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program (HLMP). She reported they have been doing this

program for 3 years and it is for hurricane shutters and roofs. She reported the City of Apalachicola did not apply but the City of Carrabelle applied and received funding. Mrs. Brownell said anyone living in the City of Carrabelle will have to apply to the City for funding. She stated they will be advertising for people to come in and do their applications. She explained they will address the unincorporated areas of the county before moving into the city. Commissioner Boldt asked if the public is notified in the newspaper. Mrs. Brownell replied yes, there is a notification process. She reported there are applications left over from the last year but they have to re-submit because their financials are part of this. She stated there are areas that still have a lot of blue tarps and they are going to knock on the doors and find out why they still have a blue tarp. Mrs. Brownell reported if they are eligible then they will get them an application and try to take care of some of the blue tarps in the county. Mr. Moron asked them to coordinate with Ms. Lori Switzer, SHIP, to make sure it is not a roof they are going to address. Mrs. Brownell stated they always coordinate with Ms. Switzer. Mrs. Dameron said they also coordinate with CDBG.

Mr. Moron said Mr. Alan Pierce, RESTORE Coordinator, just sent him a message that he and Mr. Frank McComb, FCMC, submitted a scope of work to FEMA for rebuilding Alligator Drive in its current location at an estimated cost of \$5.9 million. He reported the scope of work is consistent with the plans completed by Mr. Clay Kennedy, Dewberry, and will now be reviewed by FEMA. Mr. Moron said the scope of work is 195 pages and the Board will receive an electronic copy. Chairman Lockley questioned if they were able to get the land for the curve. Attorney Shuler stated the original plan was to rebuild the road in its current location with the curve. He reported as referenced in his report Mr. Norman has denied a land swap so the intersection will remain as is. Commissioner Boldt said there is a safety issue in this location. Commissioner Boldt reported they need to have a discussion about the safety of the people there because there has already been one accident in this area. Commissioner Boldt inquired if there is anything they can do to convince the landowner to work with them. Attorney Shuler stated he put a request out for aid and assistance to the county on this issue and it is still being developed and processed. Commissioner Boldt said he will be standing by to facilitate or compliment anything they can do with regard to that district and this issue. Chairman Lockley asked if Commissioner Boldt talked to him. Commissioner Boldt answered once and asked him to consider all the things the county has done already in paving the road and pledged to work with him in the future. Attorney Shuler agreed there is a safety consideration but he is confident the county's engineer will design an intersection that is safe and appropriate for public use and it may require a reduction in the speed limit.

Erik Lovstrand – Extension Office Director

Mr. Lovstrand stated he does not have any additional items. Commissioner Boldt said he appreciated the article in the newspaper and will be looking for tiger beetles.

County Extension Activities August 7 – August 20, 2019

General Extension Activities:

- Assisted local citizens with information regarding soil tests, home pests, bark beetle attacks in local pine trees.
- Extension Director participated in ACF Stakeholder's Executive Committee call.
- Extension Director hosted District Extension Natural Resources Program Implementation Team planning meeting.

Sea Grant Extension:

- Extension Director participated in oyster grower financial assistance workshop at FSU Coastal and Marine Lab. Representatives from USDA's Farm Service Agency and the SBA's Small Business Development Center were in attendance to talk with growers regarding crop insurance options and other financial assistance programs.

4-H Youth Development:

- Extension Director participated in District III 4-H Agent planning meeting in Leon County.
- Four Franklin County 4-H youth submitted photos in the state 4-H photography contest and received 15 awards, including 4 first place state-level awards for their age and photo entry category.

Family Consumer Sciences:

- Family Nutrition Program (FNP) Assistant teaching hands-on cooking skills with pre-KK youth to 8th grade with "Kids in the Kitchen" curriculum. Includes kitchen safety, cooking skills, how to follow recipes and, always the favorite part, taste testing. During July 30 classes were taught with 158 students (unduplicated).

Agriculture/Horticulture:

- Program provided by Wakulla Extension Director at Eastpoint Public Library on Bad Bugs and Wicked Weeds for general public.

Jason Puckett – Airport Manager

Mr. Puckett said he does not have any action items.

Mr. Puckett reported bids were received on the access road development and Roberts & Roberts submitted the lowest bid. He stated at the same time they received bids the Northwest Florida Water Management District (NFWFMD) provided Avcon with their comments from the stormwater permit application. He explained most of the comments were typical but they are now requiring the county to provide a cultural resources assessment of the site since the airport was utilized during World War II. Mr. Puckett stated there are other projects at the airport the county permitted through NFWFMD that did not require this survey so Avcon had coordinated the work with Mr. Pierce and authorized the sub-consultant to begin this study. Mr. Puckett said Avcon should receive this study soon and will coordinate with the NFWFMD in order to get the permit. Mr. Puckett reported Avcon will then coordinate the

contract signing with Roberts & Roberts as soon as the permit is issued hopefully by the end of September.

Mr. Puckett stated in relation to the Airport Master Plan update, Working Paper #1 which was the introduction, the inventory of existing conditions and aviation forecast has been completed and was submitted to the county on July 3rd. He said a copy was also submitted to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the DOT for review. Mr. Puckett reported Avcon and the ones working on the Airport Master Plan received the FAA comments and now they are working on Working Paper #2 which includes the capacity assessment and facility requirements.

Mr. Puckett said Runway 6-24 received a DOT grant of \$800,000. He explained a couple of years ago they did Runway 14-32 with all new LED lighting and underground conduit and they are now doing that for Runway 6-24. Mr. Puckett reported now the primary and secondary runways will all be LED lit and have underground conduit and cables. He stated Avcon is preparing a task order for the county's consideration this week.

Mr. Puckett reported the DOT issued a grant for \$779,000 to rehabilitate the concrete apron on the east side and the goal of the project is to restore the pavement in front of the Fixed Base Operator (FBO) building. He said the main area is where the aircraft are tied down. He explained over the last few years they have focused primarily on the runways and they are now at an acceptable level so they will focus on the area where the aircraft are tied down. He said Avcon is preparing a task order for the county's consideration this week.

Chairman Lockley asked if they are keeping up with the traffic flow coming in and out of the airport. Mr. Puckett reported Centric Aviation is keeping a record of traffic but there is some traffic that occurs after hours that is not captured. Chairman Lockley stated he is asking about all traffic after hours and during business hours. Mr. Puckett explained they would keep up with it but there are times the airport is operational and no one is there. He reported if someone flew in during the early morning hours they would not know about it but they track it when someone is there. Chairman Lockley asked what happens if they need fuel. Mr. Puckett reported the airport has self service fuel which is available 24 hours a day but if they want fuel serve then there is an after hours number to call and Centric Aviation will dispatch someone to dispense the fuel and the person pays a call out fee. Chairman Lockley inquired if they have mechanics. Mr. Puckett said they do not have mechanic's service now but that is something he has been pushing for. He stated the previous FBO had some light maintenance but they do not have an Aircraft Maintenance Technician (AMT) now.

The meeting recessed at 10:05 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 10:15 a.m.

Mr. Moron stated Mr. Keith Bassett, Synergy, is here to provide an update on the hospital roof and Mr. Richard Lewis, EMS Director, will provide a report on the ambulance fleet. He said he also has a few items on his report that apply to Weems Memorial Hospital and he would like to present them while Ms. Tschaepe is present.

Nikol Tschaepe – Weems Facilities Operation Director – Report

Ms. Tschaepe read the following report:

A Life Safety Inspection (revisit) was completed yesterday by the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) Life safety inspection from AHCA yesterday and went well and they have a few paperwork items to complete in the coming weeks.

New construction – A planning meeting was held on August 7, 2019 with architects, clinical staff, and administration. A consultant for the acoustical analysis of the new construction has been retained. We anticipate receiving the acoustical report by the end of September. We have a target of completing the AHCA Stage II review in November. We expect to receive the updated Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) from Culpepper by mid-December.

Synergy - Re-roofing project - Ongoing collaboration efforts with the Gary Gargus, the architect retained by Synergy, and Synergy management and subcontractors. Cates Electric Services started site preparation work on August 16, 2019. Keith Bassett to present additional information.

Mr. Bassett said GWG architects have been engaged to help them get through the AHCA process. He stated they are working to put together the book AHCA requires and they are waiting on some documents from the hospital regarding some testing that is required. He said once the documents are in place they will submit everything to AHCA. Mr. Bassett explained they have asked for expedited approval and Mr. Gargus seems to think AHCA will assist them with expedited approval. He stated all the temporary items (trailers) will be starting to come in next week. He explained he is waiting on a confirmation date because they will have a set up crew the company uses to tie down the trailers and secure them. He reported everything will get hooked up to the trailers once they are on site. Mr. Bassett stated the roofing contractor has been directed to order his materials with the hope of starting the 1st of September. Chairman Lockley said the county is getting a lot of rain and asked if it is affecting this project. Mr. Bassett reported it will affect the project when they start the roof but is not affecting the set up of the temporary items. He informed the Board he has already talked with the roofing contractor about making provisions for pop-up showers. Chairman Parrish inquired about the trailers and if they are still looking at moving the hospital out to a temporary building. Mr. Bassett stated the trailers are for the administrative functions of the hospital and sleep rooms for the people who are there overnight. Chairman Lockley thanked Mr. Bassett and asked him to keep the Board informed.

Ms. Tschaepe continued her report at this time:

On August 5, 2019 ceiling board collapsed in Weems Medical Center West. Staff discovered this was due to condensation from the HVAC duct work. Upon further discovery, the insulation of the duct work is no longer intact and with the extreme heat conditions condensation has occurred leaving the attic environment extremely wet. In addition, staff discovered the attic space does not have adequate ventilation. We are seeking approval to spend up to \$14,000.00 to re-seal and re-insulate the duct work on the four (4) HVAC systems. Additionally, we are looking to add attic fans for exhausting the heat from the building and repairing the damaged ceiling board.

On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to spend up to \$14,000 to re-seal and re-insulate the duct work on the four (4) HVAC systems and to add attic fans for exhausting the heat from the building and repairing the damaged ceiling board.

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) - Apalachicola. Franklin County Roads Department have been preparing the hospital site for the trailer. The vendor has provided an anticipated arrival date of August 22, 2019.

Ms. Tschaepe reported because of the rain the site is not 100% ready and they will ask for the delivery of the trailer to be delayed by one week.

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) - Lanark/Carrabelle. EMS Director and I have identified a possible location to be utilized as a short-term location for an EMS station on the East side of Franklin County. The location will need renovation work. We are currently seeking quotations regarding the renovation cost. We do anticipate furniture and equipment (F&E) items to transition to the permanent location. A potential construction site on Franklin County property has been identified. We are seeking approval to utilize the architect to adapt the earlier concept for the construction on Franklin County property.

Mr. Moron reminded the Board the previous building they discussed for relocation does not belong to the county so they did not want to invest money to rehabilitate the building. He said they were looking for a short term temporary location to use while they look for a permanent location. He reported the county owns a lot in Carrabelle behind the Courthouse Annex and the location is one block off of Highway 98. He stated the county may be able to build a permanent home for EMS in this location. Mr. Moron explained the ambulance would not have to go down residential streets to access Highway 98 and he thinks this would be an excellent location. He said he and Ms. Tschaepe talked with the architect and for a few more dollars they could build a small EMS station in Carrabelle on the county's property. He reported parking will not be an issue because they have the entire parking lot at the Annex. Chairman Lockley stated this will be better because in the future they will not have to move and the county has the land and it will take care of this situation. Mr. Moron questioned if the Board wants to give

authority for the architect, Mr. Doug Shuler, to start the plans to design this permanent building on this location. Commissioner Parrish asked for the location of the Annex. Mr. Moron described the location of the Annex and said the county owns the lot right behind the Annex. Commissioner Jones asked if the lot is to the north of the Annex. Commissioner Massey answered yes. Commissioner Parrish inquired if there is an estimate of the construction costs. Ms. Tschaepe stated \$175 a square foot. Chairman Lockley asked how big the building will be. Mr. Moron said he knows what Ms. Tschaepe would like but they have not decided yet. He explained they did not want to have a formal conversation with Mr. Shuler until the Board was aware of this plan and provided some direction. He explained they can bring an estimate to the Board before they make a final decision. Commissioner Boldt stated before they get into new construction ideas he would like to analyze the issue of the EMS service in Lanark Village. He said he has visited this location and has received many telephone calls and emails from people who live in Lanark Village about the co-dependence on the EMS service there which is significant. He reported the people in Lanark Village are very concerned about the relocation. Commissioner Boldt said they need to look at the fact based reasons why they should or should not have EMS services stationed at Lanark Village. He stated they need to look at rehabilitating the physical plant there at the fire station. He reported the travel path of the ambulance out of the fire station down the roads in Lanark Village does present a safety concern and they need to look at that. Commissioner Boldt stated the helipad is located contiguous to the fire station in Lanark Village. Chairman Lockley asked if the fire station belongs to the county. Attorney Shuler answered no, it belongs to the Lanark Village Fire Department. Mr. Moron said that is the main reason they were looking for a permanent home that the county owns in Carrabelle. He explained this location would only be a short distance from Highway 98 and while he understands the people in Lanark Village the ambulance service is not just for Lanark Village but for the whole eastern end of the county. Commissioner Boldt stated he did not know the county did not own the building. He said the people in Lanark Village need to be comforted that the county is thinking about this relocation and is accessible to their needs. Chairman Lockley explained they were not trying to look over Lanark Village but they were having a conflict with the fire department and EMS. He went on to say they were trying to get away from the situation and get their own location. He reported it was not that the county did not want to be in Lanark Village. Commissioner Massey stated they sent EMS a \$19,000 water bill. Commissioner Boldt said the water problem has been corrected. Commissioner Jones asked where EMS is presently staging on that end of the county. Ms. Tschaepe said they are still at Lanark Village. Commissioner Parrish recommended they bring the proposal back to this Board for approval. He said they want to know what they are doing and how much is being spent. Chairman Lockley reported the State of Florida will tell the county they do not have to operate a hospital but they must have an ambulance service. **On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to engage the architect, Mr. Shuler, to do this work and bring the plans back to the Board for approval.**

- Richard Lewis – EMS Director – Ambulance Update

Mr. Lewis said the ambulance fleet currently consists of 4 vehicles. He stated they had an accident so that put them in a bind but currently they have a 2016 Chevy stationed in Eastpoint with 127,000 miles, and a 2015 in Lanark Village with 140,000 miles. He explained the 3rd vehicle was a backup but is now a primary truck and it is a 2008 in Eastpoint that will be moved to Apalachicola when they get a station and it has 150,000 miles. Mr. Lewis stated the backup truck is a 2000 Ford that has 160,000 miles. He reported they are expecting the new truck that was ordered to be here the first week of November and at that point the 2008 model will be a backup so they will have 2 backups. He explained over the last six months all of these trucks have been in the shop at least once a month for multiple issues and servicing. He said they put about 5,500 miles a month on each truck and the trucks are on the road about 12 hours a day on average and making trips to the hospitals in Panama City and Tallahassee. Chairman Lockley asked if it takes about a year to get an ambulance in after it is ordered. Mr. Lewis said it takes 9 months to a year and they are all on backorder now. He explained it will take 2 years for a Chevy truck and 1 ½ years for a Dodge truck so they are ordering Ford trucks because they only take about 9 months. Commissioner Boldt asked what the average mileage should be before they start turning the units in. Mr. Lewis responded it depends on the truck but approximately 250,000-300,000 miles. He explained with the rough roads since Hurricane Michael they have had suspension issues. Commissioner Boldt asked if it is appropriate to move the wrecked ambulance outside of the Lanark Village station. Mr. Lewis said they are looking into that because they just received the insurance information and that is what they were waiting on. Chairman Lockley asked if they are going to sell the old ambulances when they get the new ones. Mr. Lewis stated they need 2 backup trucks in case something happens to one of the primary trucks so when the new truck is received the 2000 and 2008 will be used as backups and any additional ones they will be selling and putting the funds back for the newer equipment. Commissioner Boldt said as they consider the relocation of the EMS service, access to health care is critical and the ambulance is the first line entry into health care. He inquired if the county should consider buying another ambulance unit and think about staffing it. He stated there has been a conversation about the desert of care at Alligator Point and that area having more access to ambulance services. Mr. Lewis said they can look into this. Chairman Lockley stated at the last meeting he asked them to look into where the county had land in Lanark Village, Carrabelle or the east end of the county. Mr. Moron inquired if they are asking for a 4th Advanced Life Support (ALS) ambulance. Commissioner Boldt explained he is asking if they need an additional ambulance unit added to the fleet. Mr. Moron reminded the Board they are getting the new ambulance that was ordered in November and he is currently working with Mrs. Griffith on a USDA grant to get 2 more ambulances. He said by next summer they would have 3 new ambulances. He inquired if they want another staffed unit because the county currently has 3 ALS units 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Commissioner Boldt stated he just wants to make sure they have good coverage all over the county. Mr. Lewis thanked the Board for letting him use the projector for the community education classes.

Mr. Moron presented the following item from his report:

4. Carr, Riggs & Ingram, the auditing firm for Weems Memorial, has submitted the engagement letters for the 2019 audit and cost report for signature. With the recent change in CEOs, I recommend Board action to authorize the Chairman's signature on these documents. I sent the documents to Mrs. Erin Griffith for her review and she agrees with having the Chairman sign these documents. **Board action** to authorize the Chairman to sign the engagement letters for the hospital's 2019 audit and cost report.

On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize the Chairman to sign the engagement letters for the Hospital's 2019 Audit and Cost Report.

Mr. Moron reported Chairman Lockley had asked about an operational audit when they first switched the Chief Executive Officer (CEO). He said the Board can make a motion to have Carr, Riggs and Ingram provide a cost for this audit. He explained this audit would tell where the weaknesses are, how long it is taking to pay the vendors, the status of the cash flow and why they had to use the money market funds. Mr. Moron reported this audit would also help the new CEO. He was not sure how much this would cost but wanted to know how the Board felt about it. He pointed out this would be separate from the 2019 Audit and Cost Report. Chairman Lockley said he talked to Mr. Moron because the previous CEO told the Board after the storm that he was doing good and didn't need anything but then it was different and he did need something. He stated he is not accusing anyone of anything but he wants to see where the weaknesses are. Chairman Lockley said every year the codes are different and the employees may need to have training on this matter so the claims do not get rejected. Chairman Lockley explained he is not a hospital administrator and is not trying to be one but if they can do things that help then it would be good. **Commissioner Parrish made a motion to contact Carr, Riggs & Ingram and find out how much it would cost to do an operational audit as the Chairman suggested.** Commissioner Parrish stated they can make a decision based on what the audit will cost. **Commissioner Boldt seconded the motion.** Commissioner Jones said he is assuming the county knows they are able to do an operational audit. Mr. Moron stated he thinks they can. Mr. Moron reported a couple of years ago Community Hospital Corporation (CHC) did an operational assessment of their own and he will find out if that is different. Commissioner Parrish asked Mr. Moron to bring the information back to the Board. Chairman Lockley stated there are strong points and weak points and if they can find out and work on them it should be helpful. Commissioner Boldt asked if they are going to offer certain thresholds that the Hospital CEO works within and when the thresholds are exceeded he comes to the Board for advice. Mr. Moron said that is not what they are expecting from this particular audit. He explained this audit will show the weaknesses and then the Board will have to determine how to fix those issues. He reported what Commissioner Boldt is referencing would require additional meetings with the Weems Board of Directors and the CEO so they all are in agreement about who is responsible for what and when this Board wants to know something. Mr. Moron reported they can make decisions based on the results of the audit. Chairman Lockley said he wants to help get the money in and if there is a weak spot then they need to fix it. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

Mr. Moron read Item #5 from his report, as follows:

5. At your July 26th special meeting there was a motion to authorize the purchase of a manufactured building that will be used as an EMS station at the Weems site. The Board requested the removal of any trees that might damage the new building during a storm as part of site clearing that the County's Road Department was assisting with. What was not anticipated is the need to hire a contractor to remove the large trees from the property. **Board action** to authorize payment of a \$5000 invoice for the removal of the large trees from the Weems site for the new EMS station.

Mr. Moron reported the Road Department could not remove some of the larger trees that were knocked down during the site clearing. **On motion by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize payment of a \$5,000 invoice for the removal of the large trees from the Weems site for the new EMS station.** Commissioner Parrish said they are purchasing a manufactured building and asked if that is not possible in the City of Carrabelle because it would save money if they could do this instead of constructing a building. Mr. Moron explained he thought about it but then he heard about the lot. He said Mrs. Ham-Kelly also told him what flood plane the lot behind the Annex is in and they talked about it. Ms. Tschaepe reported during an evacuation they can stay longer in a permanent building. Commissioner Parrish questioned if they could not stay longer in Apalachicola but they could stay longer in Carrabelle. Ms. Tschaepe stated if it is a permanent building versus a trailer. Commissioner Parrish asked why they are not treating the two areas the same. He said they are going to build a permanent location in one place and a manufactured building in the other. Commissioner Parrish reported these are some things Mr. Moron needs to consider when thinking about these items. Mr. Moron explained the one in Apalachicola was an easier fix because they were replacing what was there before. Commissioner Parrish stated he is looking at it from a financial standpoint. Mr. Moron said at the time he did not know about the problems they were having at Lanark Village. He agreed to talk with Mrs. Ham-Kelly about the lot. Commissioner Parrish said the river in Carrabelle is way down and it would take a lot to get flooded in the middle of Carrabelle. He went on to say there is a huge elevation and they may not be in a flood zone. Chairman Lockley said they should also consider steel buildings because they are cheaper than a trailer or stick built and they convert them into houses. Commissioner Massey agreed the steel buildings are half the price. Mr. Moron agreed to look at all the options. Commissioner Massey asked where all this money is coming from—the HCTF. Mr. Moron answered yes. Commissioner Jones clarified the ambulance is something they have to do. He stated the HCTF is a valuable asset to have to make sure they can mitigate problems with the EMS service so he is good with that.

Mr. Moron offered the following item from his report:

6. Inform the Board that I met with representatives from HCA Health Care that included the CEOs from Gulf Coast Regional Medical Center in Panama City and Capital Regional Medical Center in Tallahassee. We discussed Weems current CEO status and other matters relating to Weems including the new facility project and telemedicine. HCA expressed a desire to partner with Weems as the Commissioners and the Weems Board of Directors moves forward with improving healthcare across the County. With that in mind, would the Board authorize me to contact all

three major hospital/healthcare systems in the County (HCA Health Care, Sacred Heart, and Tallahassee Memorial) and discuss future Weems partnerships? I would schedule workshops in October and November that would allow each organization an opportunity to make a presentation to the Commissioners and the Weems Board of Directors. Representatives from all three organizations would probably request preliminary meetings with Chairman Lockley, Weems BOD Chairman Creamer, and CEO David Walker prior to those public workshops. **Board discussion/action.**

Mr. Moron said HCA reached out through Ms. Tschaepe and after talking with him they would like to make a formal presentation to the Board. He explained he thought they should contact all the companies and have separate workshops for each one so they can give a presentation to this Board and the Weems Board of Directors and they can ask questions. Mr. Moron said this is one of the best ways to move forward not only with the management of Weems Memorial Hospital but with health care overall in the county. **Commissioner Boldt made a motion to move forward. Commissioner Parrish seconded the motion.** Chairman Lockley said this is good and they will see who comes up with the best idea. Chairman Lockley stated people start talking and some of the ideas will not work. He said anywhere you go in order to have an ambulance service the ambulance must have a home to go to. Chairman Lockley reported the ambulance must go wherever it comes from if they shut down the emergency room and the hospital. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

Commissioner Jones made a motion to freeze going forward with the GMP. He explained if they are going to have public workshops it will require a period of time and they have already spent some money on this item but they will not spend over \$200,000 and not know how the workshops will turn out. **Commissioner Boldt seconded the motion.** Commissioner Boldt said this is a wonderful opportunity to bring the integrated discussion of health care to the Commission. He stated these different groups are interested in the county's health care and want to talk about what the alternatives can be. He reported they need to look at the GMP issue because they are looking at a 12 year old set of plans that are not relevant in today's model. Commissioner Boldt explained they are not rejecting the public's desire for a new health care facility but are trying to be responsible. Commissioner Boldt reported he would like public input on what they want. He stated he supports tabling the GMP for now until they get more data about where they are. Chairman Lockley said he has been listening to this for years and the GMP was there before and they are putting it off and they are putting off the hospital. He stated they are going to need a hospital and the same people that do not want it now did not want it years ago. Commissioner Boldt said he shares Chairman Lockley's concerns because they need a health care facility to stabilize people. He reported they are not saying no but need to look at it in more detail. Mr. Moron questioned if he is telling the architect to stop and send a bill for what he has done so far. Attorney Shuler advised Mr. Moron to wait until the Board votes on the motion. Commissioner Jones clarified if they are moving forward with having a workshop with the three entities it needs to be on level footing. He said it is going to cost the county something but they can't move forward with getting the GMP when they do not know what the proposals are going to be. He explained that is his intent and his only intent and not to bash or delay. He said they need to move forward with a level playing field for all three that

are going to be presented to them and that is the only thing he is trying to state with his motion. Commissioner Parrish questioned if he means each one of the entities they are meeting with will say what they think is best in their proposal for Franklin County. Commissioner Jones said it at least should be considered and see what they think because they are bigger players. **The motion passed by the following vote of the Board:**

AYE: JONES, BOLDT, MASSEY, PARRISH

NAY: LOCKLEY

Attorney Shuler asked Mr. Moron to meet with him about this matter after the meeting.

John Solomon – TDC Administrator – Report

Mr. Solomon offered the following report:

Collections Report: The May (2019) collections were \$166,129.65. This is a \$25,999.51 increase over May (2018) which was \$140,130.14 this is an 18.55% Increase. This is the highest collections ever in the month of May by over \$22,000.00.

Web Site Activity: We had 31,021 web hits in the month of July (2019). Compared to 35,104 in July of 2018 which is an 11.6% decrease.

Visitor Center Numbers: The Visitor Centers welcomed 4,288 visitors in the month of July. The entire 2018 (January thru December) was 31,398 visitors. The total for January-July of 2019 is already 25,823 Visitors that have visited our centers.

Support Letter: The TDC Board voted unanimously to write a letter of support for the Franklin County's FDOT Beautification Grant for SR300.

Florida Governors Conference: Commissioner Jones and I will be attending the Florida Governors Conference on tourism hosted by Visit Florida in Boca Raton on September 4th thru 6th.

Visit Florida Community Meeting: Franklin County has been selected as one of 12 tourism markets to hold a Visit Florida Community Tourism Meeting. The meeting will be held at the Fort Coombs Armory on September 12th from 3:00pm-4:00pm. I would like to invite all the commissioners to attend. The meeting is open to anyone that would like to attend.

Grants Approvals: ACTION ITEM

The TDC Board has completed the process of reviewing the event and museum grant applications that were submitted. Included is a spreadsheet of all of the requested grants. This spreadsheet includes the Small Event Grants (up to \$2,000), Major Event Grants (up to \$5,000) and the Museum Grants (\$15,000). All applicants that applied were eligible for the grants and met all the criteria set forth by the TDC Board. On August 14th at the Grants committee meeting

the Committee recommended to fund all requests listed. At the Regular TDC Board Meeting on August 14th 2:00pm the Board voted unanimously to approve the Grant committee's recommendations and forward on to the County Commission for their approval. TDC Board is requesting the approval of (35) Thirty Five Small Event Grants, (7) seven Major Event Grants and (6) six Museum Grants. The total budgeted for the Grant program for the TDC 2019-2020 budget year is \$213,000. The total amount of the grants requested is \$193,050, with a remaining balance of \$19,950 still available in the Grants Budget.

On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the 35 Small Event Grants, the 7 Major Event Grants and the 6 Museum Grants.

Meetings:

The next scheduled board meeting is September 11th at 2:00pm at the Eastpoint Visitor Center

Commissioner Jones stated he is serving at the pleasure of this Board on the TDC Board as Chairman. He explained he has never done this before and Mr. Solomon has never been the TDC Administrator before but this process went very smoothly. He reported everyone that applied will receive money to advertise for events in the county in the coming year and he wants to give a shout out to the TDC Director and his staff for their hard work.

Amy Ham-Kelly – Planning and Zoning – Report

Mr. Mr. Curenton, County Planner, said he will present the Planning and Zoning Report. He read the items, as follows:

CRITICAL SHORELINE APPLICATION:

- 1- **RECOMMENDED APPROVAL: (Unanimous-Contingent upon Federal Permit or Exemption)** Consideration of a request to construct a Single Family Private Floating Pier located at 800 Hickory Hammock Road, Carrabelle, Franklin County, Florida. The proposed floating pier will be 16' x 30' and parallel to the shoreline. This request has the state permit and will be contingent upon receiving the federal permits. Request submitted by Timothy and Melody Small, applicant. (House Under Construction)

On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve this request contingent upon Federal Permit of Exemption.

- 2- **RECOMMENDED APPROVAL: (Unanimous- Contingent upon Receiving DEP/COE Permits)** Consideration of a request to construct a Single Family Private Dock located at 2912 US Highway 98 East, Lanark, Franklin County, Florida. The proposed dock will be 230' x 4' and have a 16'x 25' covered boatlift,

a 10' x 10' terminal platform and a 3' x 38' walk-around. This request will be contingent upon receiving all state and federal permits. Request submitted by David Plummer, Outback Marine Construction, agent for John Schnake, applicant.
(House Under Construction)

On motion by Commissioner Boldt, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve this request contingent upon receiving the DEP/COE permits.

- 3- **RECOMMENDED APPROVAL: (Unanimous- Contingent upon Receiving DEP/COE Permits)** Consideration of a request to a Single Family Private Dock located on property described as Lot 56 Alligator Point Subdivision, 1662 Alligator Drive, Alligator Point, Franklin County, Florida. The dock will be 200' x 4' with a 6' x 26' terminal platform and a 12' x 20' un-covered boatlift. This request will be contingent upon receiving all state and federal permits. Request submitted by Garlick Environmental Associates, agent for Kevin Taylor, applicant.

On motion by Commissioner Boldt, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve this request contingent upon receiving the DEP/COE permits.

- 4- **RECOMMENDED APPROVAL FOR A PUBLIC HEARING: (4-1 VOTE)** Consideration of a request to re-zone a 6.51 acre parcel of land lying in Section 32, Township 6 South, Range 1 West, 714 Alligator Drive, Alligator Point, Franklin County, Florida from C-2 Commercial Business to C-3 Commercial Recreational. Request submitted by Garlick Environmental Associates, agent for Debbie and Thaddeus Brett, applicant.

On motion by Commissioner Boldt, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve this request for a public hearing.

- 5- **RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF CONCEPTUAL PLAN: (4-1 VOTE- Contingent upon Re-Zoning Approval, Receiving State, Federal and Stormwater Permits)** Consideration of a request for Commercial Site Plan Review for a 10 Slip RV Park and Convenience Store (without fuel) on a 6.51 acre parcel of land lying in Section 32, Township 6 South, Range 1 West, 714 Alligator Drive, Alligator Point, Franklin County, Florida (contingent upon the re-zoning being approved from C-2 Commercial Business to C-3 Commercial Recreational). Request submitted by Garlick Environmental Associates, agent for Debbie and Thaddeus Brett, applicant.

On motion by Commissioner Boldt, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to recommend approval of the conceptual plan contingent upon the rezoning approval and receiving state, federal and stormwater permits.

- 6- **RECOMMENDED APPROVAL: (Unanimous)** Consideration of a request for Commercial Site Plan Review to place a 10' x 20' Office Shed, six 10' x 20' containers for construction material storage and two model homes on property located at 153 US Highway 98, Eastpoint, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by Steven Deputy, agent for Little Custom Homes of North Florida, LLC, applicant.

Mr. Curenton said the property is zoned C-4 and meets all the zoning requirements. **On motion by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve this request.**

- 7- **RECOMMENDED APPROVAL IN AMENDING THE OVERLAY DISTRICT TO EXEMPT THE FOLLOWING LOTS: (Unanimous)** Consideration of a request to exempt the following lots from being held to the St. George Island Overlay District Ordinance Number 2018-02. Lots 6,7 and 12, Block 9 West, Unit 1, Lots 1-16, 34, 42-46, Block 10 West, Unit 1, Lots 1-4, 7-9 and 12, Block 2 East, Unit 1, Lots 23-30, Block 4 East, Unit 1, Lots 1-3, Block 9 East, Unit 1 and Lot 1, 3-46, Block 10 East, Unit 1, St. George Island Gulf Beaches. Request submitted by Thomas M. Shuler, County Attorney.

Commissioner Jones asked if all of these had residences on St. George Island before the overalay. Attorney Shuler answered yes and said he talked with Mr. Curenton about this matter in terms of identifying which lots had C-4 residentially zoned houses with pure residential uses and his findings match almost exactly the findings the property owner had submitted to the Board with the exception of an area he referenced on the map which is the Villas of St. George which are not residentially zoned C-4 houses so they would be excluded from this consideration. Attorney Shuler recommended the Board take under advisement the recommendation from the Planning & Zoning Commission. He stated he wanted the Planning & Zoning Commission to review this and return their comments so he is not asking the Board to take any action or schedule hearings and move forward at this time. Attorney Shuler explained he would like to take the Planning & Zoning recommendation and hold it in abeyance but they are showing they are moving forward in the request and giving it serious consideration. He said he would like to think this over before coming back to the Board with a recommendation. **On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to table Item #7.**

Open Sealed Bids/Request for Qualifications

- **Alligator Drive Hurricane Damage Repairs** (*The opening of this item has been moved to the September 3, 2019 regular meeting*)

Mr. Moron reported the first item the Request for Qualifications will be delayed until the September 3rd meeting. He said he will read Mr. Pierce's comment. Commissioner Jones said he understands it is because the road cannot be relocated and they are going back to the original plan. Commissioner Parrish asked if FEMA has come back and asked the county to stay within the figures of Hurricane Hermine which brought the price down to \$3.5 million when after the damage from Hurricane Michael it went up to \$5 million and the county does not have the money to do what they want to do. Mr. Moron read the following item from Mr. Pierce's report:

1. Alan advised the Board at the August 6 meeting that it was possible the timeline for submitting bids would be extended to accommodate contractors interested in bidding on reconstruction of Alligator Drive. At this time 8 contractors have picked up plans from Dewberry Engineers. In order to accommodate them, and provide them with the best opportunity to create good bids, Clay has sent out a bid addendum to all the contractors extending the deadline for turning in bids till Friday, August 30, at the Clerk's Office. The bids would be opened at the Sept. 3 BCC meeting. So, bids will not be opened today, August 20, but will be opened on Sept. 3.

Resurfacing and Improvements to a portion of C30A

Mr. Moron explained these will be Request for Qualifications (RFQ's) so there are no prices. He read the following item from his report:

1. Today, the Board will open requests for qualification packets for the design of the widening and resurfacing of the western end, from US Highway 98 to Thirteen Mile Road, of CR 30A. This is part of a Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) funded SCOP project. The qualifications will be ranked by a three-person committee and a recommendation will be brought back to the Board for action at your September 3rd regular meeting. After the packets are opened and information read aloud, **Board action** is needed to send the packets to the committee for review and a recommendation.

Mr. Moron said the Committee will consist of him, Ms. Lauren Luberto, Finance Department, and Mr. Howard Nabors, Road Department. Mr. Moron and Attorney Shuler opened and read the RFP's, as follows

Company	Location
Dewberry Engineers, Inc.	Port St. Joe, FL
Genesis/Halff	Tallahassee, FL
George & Associates Consulting Engineers, Inc.	Tallahassee, FL
Gortemoller Engineering, Inc.	Panama City Beach, FL

On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to send the RFQ's to the committee for review and a

recommendation. Mr. Moron stated a recommendation will be presented at the September 3, 2019 Board meeting.

The meeting recessed at 11:22 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 11:35 a.m.

Chris Langston – Request

Mr. Langston would like the Board to sign a letter of support for his mining project

Mr. Chris Langston, Coastline Environmental Materials, said he wants to talk about the oyster densities they currently have in Apalachicola Bay. He stated when they first deposited there were three different types of materials that were planted in the bays from here to Pensacola and they were fossilized shell, limerock and granite and they were all placed in different columns of water. Mr. Langston reported even though the numbers are mediocre at best fossilized shell still outperforms the other materials available on the market. He explained his ultimate goal is to get a place in Tate's Hell State Forest and lease a tract of land from the State of Florida for the purpose of restoration of the habitat. He discussed the money spent on the water wars. Mr. Langston reported the last 3-4 years the salinity levels have not been an issue and the predators have not been a factor in the last couple of years. Mr. Langston stated the freshwater has come back but the oyster densities have continued to decline. He discussed the observations of Mr. Jonathan Brocker, Department of Environmental Protection, and Ms. Parker and said fossilized shells still outperforms even with the lack of freshwater or influx of freshwater. Mr. Langston said in the mining operation they have job opportunities and the job market here is stagnate. He stated the oyster industry is changing and that way of life is at an extinction level. He reported he has talked with the aquaculture industry and they agree they have to restore what has been damaged and replace what has been taken. Mr. Langston explained replacing it with granite and limestone or a material that is not indigenous to Apalachicola Bay has been proven not to work. He stated green shell or processed shell is the best but with fossilized shell the density is higher. Mr. Langston referenced the documents he presented which contained an aerial view of the mine he used to own and operate known as Langwood Industries. He reported throughout the history of Langwood Industries there were zero complaints and zero negative impacts outside the footprint of the mine. He explained someone brought up muddying the well but the nearest homestead to the site location is over 5 miles away and it is impossible for a well that far away to be affected by the mining process. He discussed the roads that are dedicated to mining practices and said in the purchase and creation of Tate's Hell Forest at some time mining was expected in the future. Mr. Langston stated to the eastern boundary of the property is Highway 67 so any impact to the wetlands have been done by the main road dedicated to mining practices and Highway 67. He reported this deposit is 65 ft. deep and according to the test scores high in calcium carbamate which is also a foundation builder for the oyster spat. He explained this material can be provided for many different purposes such as restoration of the bay, offsetting some of the maintenance costs at Tate's Hell Forest and accommodating some of the existing businesses with the

material. He said it would be a local source of material for people that are driving over 100 miles to get material. Mr. Langston estimated the project would provide 20 jobs at the mine and if a shelling program starts it would put 300 men and women back to work. Mr. Langston said he is only asking the Board for a letter of support. He stated he is not asking the county to assume any liability or make any capital investment. Mr. Langston reported he and his partners will pay for everything and the permitting. He stated they can be one of the largest private employers and at the same time restore the bay. He explained his proposal is not a contract but is an outline of his method of thinking. Mr. Langston stated in his material planning objective it says he had an agreement worked out with the Mayor of the City of Apalachicola to utilize Battery Park but that has not come to fruition yet. He reported they are currently trying to get Battery Park rezoned to allow barging because it is not zoned correctly. He stated he has a verbal agreement in Gulf County and is working on a lease deal in St. Marks. Mr. Langston reported he has a letter of support from the City of Apalachicola. He stated there are sample letters in the documents he presented to the Board. He said he would like someone to speak about the benefits the bay can see from using this material. He introduced Mr. Joe Shields, former employee and director of the Division of Aquaculture, and said he has over 10 years experience in this bay. Mr. Shields stated he is currently a consultant for Mr. Langston but prior to that he was an administrator over marine resource restoration and development for the State of Florida. He explained he and his team planted oyster reef substrate from Pensacola to Cedar Key as part of the state's efforts in trying to reestablish oyster reefs that over time had been degraded. He reported of all the materials used by the State of Florida for over 50 years fossilized shell works the best. He addressed the different products used in the bay over the years and said around 2009 they started using fossilized shell exclusively. He stated the material is not in question but the problems in Apalachicola Bay are from the lack of freshwater. He talked about the history of the bay and said the bay has come back before. Mr. Shields said this is the ideal time to be culching and restoring the oyster reefs in Apalachicola Bay. Mr. Langston reported they will dig inside the footprint of the mine but they are doing it to restore state lands. He reported they are not buying the land and at the end of the project there will be a deep water lake with a hardened boat ramp and camp sites for future generations. He explained by getting the letter of support it will help him up the line of command and if he does get this it is one facet of a multi-faceted project. Mr. Langston said they will not have to worry in the future about having suitable culch material to restore Apalachicola Bay's oyster harvest. He stated at one time Apalachicola Bay was this area's largest employer and he would like to see it come back to that. Mr. Langston said everyone has a concern about fossilized shell and its ability to perform but they can look at Chesapeake Bay and they have used processed shell and fossilized shell and their blue crab numbers are the highest in 12 years. Mr. Langston reported when they have a flourishing oyster habitat then they have a flourishing bay. He asked for a letter of support. Commissioner Boldt said he commends Mr. Langston and the research he has done. He reported he went on a field trip with Mr. Langston and touched the fossilized shell and saw the density. He said this is a pristine area of the state forest and he would like to have a conversation about engaging the State of Florida in this thought process. He stated he would like their opinion and like to have evidence based on what their opinion is supported by. Commissioner Boldt said it is appropriate to table

this request and seek the advice of the State of Florida and deliberate that point. Mr. Langston explained before he places a bucket in the ground DEP, the Corps of Engineers (COE) and the Franklin County Board will all have an opportunity for public comment. He reported they are not even at the level yet to involve the state and he is trying to get there now. He reported Gulf Triumph and the state want to see local support and a letter from this Board combined with the letter from the City of Apalachicola allows him to take the next step. Mr. Langston stated that does not mean there will not be future conversations. Attorney Shuler said Mr. Langston had an opportunity for his presentation and now there needs to be conversation between the Board members. Commissioner Jones asked if the state is currently rewriting their Tate's Hell Forest Management Plan. Mr. Moron answered yes and said they have one more public hearing and then it goes to the Governor for signature probably in the last quarter of the year. Commissioner Jones questioned if that plan would look to what they are directly looking at supporting. Mr. Moron replied yes, and said he attached the last Management Plan they had in place to the Board packet. Commissioner Jones stated he is not trying to delay anyone from trying to produce business but he does not think they should start approving something that the state may have a problem with. He said this Board is not writing up the plan and it has its own public comment and its own things that are allowed. Chairman Lockley said a letter of support will not hurt because this Board does not make the final decision. He explained the State of Florida makes the final decision and the land belongs to them. Commissioner Boldt reported the Board is stewards of state lands in some ways and they need to look at their thought process on this whole pristine area. He explained the Board needs to standby and have a look at that report from the state and get counsel from the state about what they intended and the reason they purchased the land in the first place relative to the entire ecosystem. Chairman Lockley stated they had mining on the land before. He said if they did not want it they should not have done it in the beginning. Commissioner Boldt pointed out there is new science today that they did not have before. **Commissioner Parrish made a motion to table this item until the State gets through with their plan management. Commissioner Boldt seconded the motion.** Commissioner Jones made a request that if the Board is going to table this as soon as the state weighs in on their plan the Board gets ready to re-address this issue. **Commissioner Parrish amended his motion to reflect Commissioner Jones' comments. Commissioner Boldt amended the second.** Chairman Lockley said they will wait until the state gets through with their plan and then the Board will revisit this issue. **The motion passed by the following vote of the Board:**

AYE: PARRISH, BOLDT, MASSEY, JONES

NAY: LOCKLEY

Commissioner Boldt said the county will watch and monitor when the state comes up with their new opinion for Tate's Hell Forest. Commissioner Jones clarified when the state weighs in then this will be back on the Agenda and there will not be a delay. Commissioner Parrish agreed it will come up automatically. Mr. Langston said the ART Council meeting is coming up in October and that will be the new management plan so when the new plan comes out he will

immediately be placed on the Agenda to address this again. Commissioner Parrish explained he will get back on the Agenda when the Management Plan is adopted by the Board of Trustees. He reported the Management Plan will not be adopted by the Board of Trustees in October.

Marcia M. Johnson – Clerk of Courts – Report

Clerk Johnson did not have a report.

Michael Morón – County Coordinator – Report

Mr. Moron provided his report, as follows:

1. This item was addressed earlier in the meeting.
2. Mr. Mark Curenton has received and reviewed the Local Agency Program (LAP) agreement for the County Road 67 (Tallahassee Street) sidewalk construction project from Avenue A to Crooked Creek Road. The estimated cost of this project is \$491,563 and should be completed on or before June 30, 2020. The next step would be to create bid and other required documents for FDOT's approval. **Board action** to authorize the Chairman's signature on the LAP agreement and the accompanying resolution.

On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize the Chairman's signature on the LAP agreement and the accompanying Resolution.

3. At your July 16th meeting the Board authorized preliminary approval allowing Mike and Pat O'Connell, of the St. George Island Civic Club, to create a plan and draft grant application for a FDOT funded Beautification Grant for the state-owned land between the exit of Bryant Patton Bridge to Bayshore Drive on SGI. The Civic Club has a completed grant application packet that includes the final design, final estimates of costs to install & maintain, letters of support, and the application form. This information is due to FDOT this Thursday, August 22nd. Board approval authorizing the Chairman's signature on two resolutions, the first is to authorize the SGI Civic Club to prepare the grant application and the second is the county's authorization of the grant application and commitment to maintain landscaping as required by the grant. Mr. Curenton, County Planner, is reviewing the grant application packet. **Board action.**

Mr. Moron questioned if Attorney Shuler needed to review the Resolutions. Attorney Shuler explained if the county wants the money they must sign the state's paperwork because they will not change it. **On motion by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to adopt the two Resolutions and authorize the Chairman to sign the Resolutions contingent upon Mr. Curenton's approval.**

4. The Board handled this item during the Hospital report.
5. This Board took action on this item during the Hospital report.

6. The Board addressed this item during the Hospital report.
7. As the Board is aware Mrs. Lisa Lance resigned from her position as Library Director effective June 7th. As of today, there is no candidate for this position and a new advertisement to fill the position won't start until after the final budget public hearing on September 17th when the board approves the county's budget. If you consider advertising, interviewing, selection, and notification, the earliest start date for a new director won't be until the last week in November or the first week in December. That is a long time to go without some type of supervision, and my current schedule doesn't allow for weekly visits to the Eastpoint and Carrabelle branches. However, I am working with Mrs. Griffith and Ms. Pat Gilleland of Wilderness Coast Public Libraries on the library administrative responsibilities such as the FY 19-20 State Aid to Libraries grant, a Playaway Launchpad grant order for tablets, and other items. I am asking the Board to consider authorizing Mrs. Kate Aguiar (Library Advisory Board Chairperson) and Ms. Pam Tullous (Friends of the Library) to act as Site Supervisors for both branches. Since they frequently visit your libraries, they could work with the library staff on day to day issues, with the understanding that I will be informed and have the final say on all issues. **Board discussion/action.**

Mr. Moron explained there are little issues they can take care of and when bigger issues arise he will get involved in making decisions. He stated they are not county workers but both serve on the two different boards that serve the library. Commissioner Jones asked how Mrs. Aguiar and Ms. Tullous feel about this suggestion. Mr. Moron explained they are in favor of it and think it will help the situation. **Commissioner Boldt made a motion to approve this action. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.** Commissioner Jones asked if this would only be until a new Library Director is hired. Mr. Moron answered yes. Chairman Lockley stated they still have not come up with a salary for the Library Director. Mr. Moron responded no. Chairman Lockley questioned how they are advertising without a price. Mr. Moron explained the last time this was discussed the Board agreed to address it at the final budget hearing on September 17, 2019 at 5:15 p.m. **The motion passed by the following vote of the Board:**

AYE: BOLDT, JONES, PARRISH

NAY: LOCKLEY, MASSEY

8. Remind the Board that the Florida Association of Counties (FAC) 2019 Innovation & Policy Conference is scheduled for Wednesday, September 25th and Thursday, September 26th at the Sheraton Panama City Beach Golf & Spa Resort in Bay County. FAC encourages attendance for an "on-the-ground" look at disaster response and recovery to get a clear picture of just what happened in the aftermath of October 10th, 2018. If you are planning on attending, I suggest you contact Ms. Cruson or let me know as soon as possible.

Mr. Moron said they need to register for the conference because there will also be other meetings such as the Consortium. Commissioner Parrish agreed he will be there to attend the Consortium meeting and Commissioner Jones serves on the Executive Board. **On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize travel and expenses to the conference for any**

Commissioners that want to attend. Commissioner Boldt asked what value they can bring to the County Commission by attending this event. Mr. Moron stated he will send Commissioner Boldt the Agenda. He explained they will be addressing recovery and what occurred during the storm and how they can improve the response. Commissioner Boldt asked if this is an annual event and the Commissioners attend and find value in it. Chairman Lockley replied every year they attend and sometimes they have classes as part of the course work for the certification for new Commissioners.

9. Inform the Board that your new permit specialist, Mrs. Cortni Bankston started yesterday. Feel free to stop by and meet Mrs. Bankston. Also, Mr. Garry Millender, your Building Official and Mrs. Amy Ham-Kelly, your Zoning Administrator, conducted the Building Inspector interviews last week. After interviewing all four candidates that applied, Mr. Millender and Mrs. Kelly selected Mr. Robert Steve Patterson as the county's Building Inspector. Mr. Patterson is in the process of completing the necessary paperwork and scheduling the required drug test. He should be starting sometime during the last week of August.

Chairman Lockley asked where Mr. Patterson is from. Mr. Moron said he worked previously for Heath Galloway Construction.

10. This item was addressed earlier in the meeting.

11. Inform the Board that I have received complaints regarding the conduct of a Planning & Zoning Commission member at the August 13th P&Z meeting. I will have a discussion with that member regarding their conduct at that meeting and depending on the outcome of that conversation, I may ask this Board to remove that member from the Planning & Zoning Commission at your September 3rd regular meeting.

Mr. Moron said there were too many complaints. Commissioner Parrish asked Mr. Moron to get with each Commissioner and tell them about the complaints. Commissioner Massey agreed he should discuss this with each Commissioner.

Chairman Lockley asked Myrtice Wynn to come to the podium. He introduced Ms. Wynn and said she is his new appointment to the Hospital Board. He asked if she is willing to serve. Ms. Wynn answered yes. The Board thanked her for serving on the Hospital Board. Mr. Moron said he will have them formally appoint her at the September 3rd meeting. Chairman Lockley reported it is good to have people to serve.

Mr. Moron reminded the Board the Budget Public Hearings are set for September 3, 2019 and September 17, 2019 at 5:15 p.m.

T. Michael Shuler – County Attorney – Report

Attorney Shuler presented his only action item, as follows:

1. **Gil vs. Franklin County (ADA Website lawsuit)**

On August 6, 2019, the board authorized me to settle this lawsuit for up to \$8,000.00 and creation of a ADA website policy.

I have entered into an agreement to settle the matter for \$500.00, plus a commitment to create a county ADA policy within the next three years which provides reasonable website access to those who have disabilities. I recall that the Clerk of Court mentioned a firm she is working with to upload accessible content to the website. The policy is limited to documents provided by Franklin County and will not make the county responsible for third party content posted on our website. There are also exceptions for documents which have limited accessibility features, as will be more fully set forth in the settlement agreement.

The written agreement will be circulated for signature by the chairman on or before September 7, 2019.

Board Action Requested: Motion to authorize the Chairman to execute the settlement agreement.

Commissioner Parrish made a motion to authorize the Chairman to execute this settlement agreement. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Chairman Lockley asked if these funds come out of Professional Services. Attorney Shuler said that is where he thinks it will be paid from. He stated the county is basically reimbursing them for their filing fee. Attorney Shuler reported Wakulla County paid them \$15,000-\$18,000. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

Attorney Shuler reported on the settlement with the Hiltons that the Board has previously approved, they finally got the settlement checks in last week and they have been delivered to the Hiltons. He stated the settlement agreement has been signed by the Hiltons so that completes everything other than having the Chairman sign the settlement documents. He explained no action is required as the Board previously approved the settlement. Attorney Shuler stated this does not include any county ad valorem funds as the money came from private sources.

Commissioner Parrish stated Attorney Shuler did a good job on the ADA website settlement and they appreciate his work as the settlement was substantially less than they expected. Commissioner Massey said they filed against people all over the state. Attorney Shuler estimated there were hundreds of cases.

2. Bobby Curry, Sr. (Oak Street, Lanark Village, Florida)

Mr. Curry was served with my demand letter by the process server last Wednesday, August 14, 2019. As with anyone else, the solid waste department has moved a dumpster to the site for clean-up at Mr. Curry's request. I have given him 30 days to clean-up.

Board Action Requested: None.

3. David Currey – Lanark Village Fire Department

On August 7, 2019, Mr. David Curry signed for the certified mail letter I sent notifying him that his, and anyone else's residential occupation of the Lanark Village Fire Department is unlawful and giving him 30 days to vacate.

Board Action Requested: None.

4. Airport Lease – possible extension

As I started to write this report, I'd received no response from FDOT legal counsel concerning the possible problem of collection of T-Hanger rent by Centric Aviation, who is the county's fixed-base operator. However, I received an email after lunch today (8/19/19) and will be speaking with FDOT legal counsel later today or tomorrow.

I have paused the negotiations with Centric Aviation pending the outcome of my discussion with FDOT.

Board Action Requested: None.

5. Dog Island – Hurricane Michael Debris

Instead of FDOT agreeing to remove Hurricane Michael Debris from Dog Island pursuant to its October 14th Memorandum, it awarded the Dog Island Conservation District ("DICD") a grant of approximately \$850,000.00. FDOT's failure to accept financial responsibility pursuant to the Memorandum is causing a series of problems, all related to non-payment of county tipping fees as they are incurred in the estimated amount of \$150,000.00 (Estimated by DICD).

Two materials issues are caused by the FDOT failure to extend the Memorandum to DICD: (1) the Oct. 14th Memorandum obligated FDOT to pay 100% of the remaining costs of debris removal for Hurricane Michael. By providing a grant, FDOT appears to have created a mechanism for the purpose of limiting its financial responsibility. (2) The DICD bid excluded (according to them) the cost of tipping fees for disposing of the debris at the Franklin County landfill. I've noted to DICD that the bid document from Crowder Gulf (the low bidder) specifically states that it includes the cost of disposal at an approved site, but they maintain that is a typo. I've asked who authorized DICD to issue a bid excluding tipping fees and have had no meaningful answer.

One big issue that myself and Pam Brownell are discussing with DICD is their request that Franklin County "defer" the payment of approximately \$150,000.00 in tipping fees and let DICD then apply for reimbursement. Past experience with FEMA indicates that its reimbursement programs all require prepayment by the local agency before seeking FEMA reimbursement. The DICD position is that the "deferral program for tipping fees" is the format suggested to them by FEMA. Pam and I are of the opinion that the above format suggested by DICD is contrary to prior FEMA experiences and leaves Franklin County exposed to the non-payment of \$150,000.00 in tipping fees.

A second issue is that I've asked DICD to provide me with its back-up plan to pay Franklin County if FEMA does not. I have not received a back-up plan from DICD as of the date of this report.

Where are we? DICD wants to set up a meeting with Pam Brownell and myself to talk to FEMA. We are willing to talk with FEMA, but I think the better approach is to contact Senator Montford and request that he intervene and have FDOT provide to DICD the same benefits of the Oct. 14th Memorandum as was extended to all other local governments in the Panhandle hit by Hurricane Michael; to wit: FDOT pays 100% of the remaining cost of clean-up, including tipping fees. There is simply no basis for Franklin County to assume the risk of non-payment of \$150,000.00 in tipping fees.

Board Action Requested: None, until after we meet and confer with FEMA as requested by the DICD.

6. Alligator Drive and Tom Roberts Road

George Michael Norman, the property owner located at the eastern intersection of Alligator Drive and Tom Roberts Road, Alligator Point, Florida, informed me last week that he is not interested in a land swap with Franklin County.

Mr. Norman's decision has been forwarded to the Alligator Point Water Resources District and Franklin County's engineering firm.

Without the land swap, the intersection will be rebuilt in its original footprint with a sharp right-hand turn off of Alligator Drive; at least that is how I understand the plan.

Board Action Requested: None.

7. HLS Properties vs. Franklin County (Kirvin Floyd Lawsuit)

We mediate the case on August 21, 2019, in Franklin County, Florida. Myself, Michael Moron and David Theriaque, outside counsel for Franklin County, will attend on behalf of Franklin County, Florida.

Also, I wanted you to know that Mr. Floyd's attorney sent another public record request for my billing records and the billing records of David Theriaque.

Board Action Requested: None.

Commissioners' Comments

Chairman Lockley said he needs a motion because all the money was hospital money and they are saying the hospital owes the money but they do not owe anything. He explained they need to straighten this out because they did not spend the money on anything outside of the hospital. He questioned why they owe money when the Board gave them 100% of the money at one time. Chairman Lockley asked how they are going to pay back the HCTF. He stated the Board needs to clear this up so it can come off the books. He reported they did not use ad valorem tax money they used money from the surtax. Mr. Moron said Chairman Lockley is referencing the money that was used from the HCTF and the Board called it a loan from the capital side to operations. He asked what the process is to change this. Clerk Johnson explained at the time the county called it a loan so it was entered as a loan on the books. She stated Mrs. Griffith brought this up sometime in the last few months. She reported this is still running on the books but if the Board makes a motion that they do not want this as a loan then the auditors have said they could change what the books say. Clerk Johnson clarified when the money was given to the hospital the motion said it was a loan but the Board has the right to change whatever they want to change. Chairman Lockley stated there are no bylaws saying it was a loan. Clerk Johnson explained it was the way the motion was done that day but the Board has the authority to change the motion. She reported it does not affect her or her office but Mrs. Griffith has to run it unless the Board changes something. Chairman Lockley said he would like to see it changed because the money is going to the hospital in one capacity or the other. He inquired if they want to let this sit there in the fund and let the hospital close. Clerk

Johnson said it is the Board's discretion to change this matter. Commissioner Boldt asked if the Clerk can give them the proposed wording of the motion they can review at the next meeting to see if they can clear this up. Clerk Johnson said Mrs. Griffith will be back at the next meeting and she will be glad to get with Mrs. Griffith about the exact language. Commissioner Boldt stated they have had another defining moment today about how they are resetting and looking at a new approach to health care and getting the new word from the people about the health care systems.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:26 p.m.

Noah Lockley - Chairman

Attest:

Marcia M. Johnson - Clerk of Courts