

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
COURTHOUSE ANNEX, COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
AUGUST 24, 2021
9:00 AM
MINUTES**

Commissioners Present: Ricky Jones-Chairman, Noah Lockley, Joseph Parrish, Jessica V. Ward
Commissioner Via Zoom: Bert Boldt, II-Vice Chairman
Others Present: Michael Shuler-County Attorney, Michael Moron—County Coordinator, Jessica Gay-
Deputy Clerk to the Board

1. Call to Order

Chairman Jones called the meeting to order.

2. Prayer and Pledge

Commissioner Ward led the Board in prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Payment of County Bills

On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, to ratify the Chairman’s approval of the payment of the County’s bills on August 17, 2021, during the Local State of Emergency. Motion carried 4-0.

On a motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Ward and Commissioner Parrish, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, to approve the County Bills. Motion carried 4-0.

4. Public Comments

Mr. Steve Kirshenbaum spoke regarding the job description for the airport manager. He does not feel that the qualifications required, and the pay being offered will attract a viable candidate. Mr. Kirshenbaum also noted that the vegetation around the airport needs to be removed.

Constitutional Officers

5. Clerk of Courts – Michele Maxwell – Report

Mr. Moron reported that Clerk Maxwell was attending a New Clerk’s Training and that she did not have a report at this time.

6. Sheriff – A. J. Smith – Presentation

Sheriff Smith presented a slideshow to the Board. Sheriff Smith showed a slide stating starting salaries for surrounding counties, which shows Franklin County as lowest. We still have a drug issue however we are

offering people rehabilitation, programs to find rehab outside the jail as well as inside the jail. The disaster related work has increased with in the past few years. Deputies serving the people in every way possible. They are doing a lot of community outreach, and this helps for law enforcement to be seen in a positive light. We are providing high level service with high level professionalism. We have done thousands of hours of training. Continual training is required to provide the top-level service being provided. Commissioner Ward said this is one of the biggest things that she would like to see done. Thanked everyone for the job they do and stay safe out there. Commissioner Lockley said he would like to second Commissioner Ward's sentiments. He believes that law enforcement's pay should be higher due to the high risk. Commissioner Boldt said the sheriff's office brings peace of mind to the community and he advocates as much as possible to get the salaries up. Chairman Jones said that whatever we pass in the pay plan is to make sure that the money is being passed out to the employees. Commissioner Ward said yes that it should be equal amounts across the board. Commissioner Lockley said that he will fight for the raises for the sheriff's office. Mr. Moron said at the next meeting the Board will decide on the pay increases. Mr. Moron announced that the street sweeper will be delivered today.

Department Directors Reports

7. Superintendent of Roads and Bridges – Howard Nabors Informational Items:

a. Detail of Work Performed and Material Hauled by District (Agenda Packet)

Mr. Moron presented the following item from his report at this time.

k. COVID Sick Leave – At your January 19th meeting the Board agreed to provide an equivalent benefit equal to the unused remainder of the Federal FFCRA emergency paid sick leave for employees that had not used all of the provided two weeks' time if an employee was unable to work, including able to telework, because the employee: 1. was subject to a Federal, State or local quarantine or isolation order related to COVID-19 or 2. had been advised by a health care provider to self-quarantine related to COVID-19 or 3. was experiencing COVID-19 symptoms and was seeking a medical diagnosis. Employees would still need to complete the Emergency Paid Sick Leave Request Form for eligible reasons 1-3 above to utilize this leave. The Federal requirement to do this expired on December 31, 2020, but the Board extended this leave to March 31, 2021. I bring this item to you for consideration because several the Road and Bridge Department employees have tested positive for COVID-19 and approached Mr. Howard Nabors, Superintendent, about access to their unused emergency paid sick leave. I have discussed this with Mrs. Maxwell, Clerk of Courts, and she is sure that her Finance staff can run a report to determine which employees have available emergency paid sick leave, what I didn't discuss with Mrs. Maxwell is the potential cost for paying this leave. How would the Board like to proceed on this matter? Board discussion and direction.

Mrs. Griffith said about 1/3 of the county staff have used their time so it would apply to about 2/3 of the county employees. Commissioner Lockley said he didn't think it would be fair to extend to the county employees without extending to the constitutional offices. Mrs. Griffith said there really isn't a budget impact per se, it is more of an impact to productivity. Commissioner Parrish asked how this was paid for. Mr. Moron said it is an indirect cost because it will just be unproductive time. Commissioner Ward said you are basically getting paid; it is additional sick leave. Mr. Moron

said now the employees are having to use their own sick leave. Mrs. Griffith said you don't really want to issue the 10 days to their balance because everyone may or may not need it. Mr. Moron said to be clear this is just for employees who haven't already used their Covid time. **Commissioner Ward made a motion to extend the policy to an indefinite date. Seconded by Commissioner Lockley.**

Commissioner Ward amended her motion to include extending the opportunity for constitutional offices. Seconded by Commissioner Lockley.

Mr. Davis asked if this leave included new employees. Mr. Moron said he was not sure if they were hired after March 31st. Chairman Jones recommended addressing this with the labor attorney. Attorney Shuler said he isn't sure why the policy wouldn't apply. He recommended passing the policy and following up with the labor attorney. Mr. Moron suggested adding a sunset period for new employees. Mrs. Griffith said we may want to revisit because if not the leave will go on forever.

Motion carried 4-0.

8. Solid Waste Director – Fonda Davis Informational Items:

- a. Right-Of-Way Debris Pickup/Recycle Material Hauled (Agenda Packet)

Mr. Davis said they are working some overtime due to debris from Fred. They have one employee who is out with Covid. He said he appreciates everything the Board is doing to get the pay scale up. Commissioner Ward asked Mr. Moron about an animal control issue on Wilderness Road. Mr. Davis said he could provide some additional patrol in that area.

9. Emergency Management Director – Pam Brownell Action Item:

- a. Request the Board retroact the Chairman's Signature on the LSE Dated 08/12/21 for Tropical Depression Fred.

On a motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Ward, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, to retroactively approve the Chairman's signature on the LSE dated 8/12/21 for Tropical Depression Fred. Motion carried 4-0.

Commissioner Ward extended her appreciation for all the Emergency Management staff do to keep the public informed and safe.

Informational Items:

- b. EOC Staff worked Tropical Depression Fred.
- c. EOC staff attended the FEPA Mid-year Training and workshop in Crystal River from 08/01/2021-08/06/2021
- d. EOC staff continue to update plans and contracts for Franklin County.
- e. 08/12/21 EOC Staff completed the Desktop Review with FDEM for EMPA, EMPG, & EMPG-S grants.
- f. 08/13/21 Regional Hospital, EM, and CHD Coordination Call.

- g. 08/12/21 EOC Staff completed IPAWS Required monthly testing.
- h. 08/14/21-08/15/21 and 08/21/21-08/22/21 EOC offered a CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) Training here at the EOC.
- i. EOC Staff continue to update our Kiosk located throughout Franklin County with COVID Information along with Preparedness information for the storm.

KIOSK LOCATIONS:

Carrabelle – Franklin County Courthouse Carrabelle Annex Carrabelle Chamber of Commerce

Eastpoint – Carquest

Apalachicola – Franklin County Emergency Management Apalachicola Chamber of Commerce

Apalachicola Post Office

10. Extension Office Director – Erik Lovstrand Informational Items:

General Extension Activities:

- a. During this period, the Extension office assisted citizens on topics of focus disease, ants swarming, invasive weeds, spider mite treatment options, and more.
- b. Extension Director participated in a webinar training about the invasive carrotwood tree.
- c. Extension Director assisted with the Apalachicola NERR’s 5-year evaluation process.
- d. Extension Director participated in two days of promotion/permanent status workshops to evaluate District Extension faculty who are submitting a promotion packet this year.

Sea Grant Extension:

- e. Extension Director working with State Shellfish Specialist and other faculty to host an in-service training for county extension faculty on the topic of the off-bottom oyster aquaculture industry.

4-H Youth Development:

- f. Extension Director met with District III 4-H Agents to plan for coming year and to prepare for the upcoming North Florida Fair.

Family and Consumer Sciences:

- g. Family Nutrition Program assistant continues providing nutrition programing in local schools and is assisting with training activities for the newly hired Gulf County FNP staff. Agriculture/Home Horticulture:

- h. Franklin County Master Gardeners are meeting monthly now and hosting weekly plant clinics at the Extension office on Wednesdays from 10-noon to answer questions for walk-in visitors on gardening and home horticulture issues. Plant clinics are also being scheduled for local libraries.

11. Building Official – Steve Paterson

Mr. Paterson updated the Board on the revision to the Building Department Fee Schedule. Chairman Jones said that we need to make sure that all the changes we are making are conveyed to every employee.

On a motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, to approve an amendment to the resolution for permit fees.

Commissioner Lockley confirmed with Mr. Patterson that this is for the county only and not the cities. Commissioner Boldt said he thinks that lowering the demolition fee to zero is excellent but that the homeowner will still be required to pay the tipping fee.

Motion carried 4-0.

**RESOLUTION
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

BUILDING DEPARTMENT FEE SCHEDULE

RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL: ALL NEW CONSTRUCTION BASED ON VALUATION, DETERMINED BY GROUP AND TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION PER ICC’S CURRENT VALUATION DATA TABLE. REGIONAL MODIFIED INCLUDED TO BE CALCULATED ANNUALLY.

A RESOLUTION OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, AMENDING THE FEE SCHEDULED FOR DEVELOPMENT PERMITS AS FOLLOWS:

SCHEDULE OF FEES:

MOBILE HOMES	\$125.00 SINGLE WIDE
	\$250.00 DOUBLE WIDE
	\$375.00 TRIPLE WIDE
MOVING OF BUILDINGS	\$500.00
DEMOLITION OF BUILDINGS OR STRUCTURES	NO CHARGE
SITE PREP PERMITS	\$100.00
ELECTRICAL UPGRADE PERMITS	\$100.00
OPEN POLE BARNs AND PREFABRICATED SHEDS	\$100.00
(RESIDENTIAL ONLY)	
SUPPLEMENTAL PERMITS	\$200.00 FLAT FEE COVERS ALL SUPPLEMENTALS
(TEMP POWER POLE, ELECTRICAL, OLUMBING, HVAC, ROOFING)	
PRIVATE PROVIDER PERMITS WILL RECEIVE A 30% DISCOUNT.	

PERMIT FEES NOT EXPLICITLY LISTED ABOVE SHALL BE BASED ON CONTRACT COST. A COPY OF CONTRACT/PROPOSAL REQUIRED WITH PERMIT APPLICATION.

FEES SHALL BE DOUBLED WHEN WORK IS STARTED PRIOR TO OBTAINING A PERMIT. THE PAYMENT OF SUCH DOUBLE FEE DOES NOT RELIEVE ANY PERSON FROM FULLY COMPLYING WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF FRANKLIN COUNTY OR THE FLORIDA BUILDING CODE.

THIS RESOLUTION ESD ADOPTED THIS 24TH DAY OF AUGUST 2021 BY THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

The Board recessed at 10:05 am and reconvened at 10:15 am.

Other Reports

12. Interim Airport Manager – Ted Mosteller

- a) FYI: Our Airport Manager committee has been meeting and Erin has a report for you.
- b) FYI: Concerning the Obstruction Clearance Project (Tree/Vegetation eradication)— which I deem high priority—because of deficiencies listed from the last Airport Licensing Inspection—and deemed a safety issue. As I had reported some weeks back--I had consulted with several contractors (Loggers/Mulchers/Chippers, etc.) who led me to believe that \$150,000 would be an adequate amount— however after recently consulting with John Collins, he informs me that to do the job adequately, that the figure could be up to \$5,000 per acre. Concerned--I then consulted with Quinton Williams (FDOT) to consider more funding. He/we decided on \$450,000—which even may not be adequate—however we should be able to get most of it done—especially the priority deficiencies cited in the airport inspection. The density and type of vegetation of each acre will determine that cost per acre—some will just need mulching while other areas will require logging and bulldozer/excavator. I called John to re-arrange the funds in the grant—to request of FDOT the re-arrangement. I am informed that the grant total is for \$1,550,000 and is purposed for drainage. As we have already re-purposed--\$1,300,000 for drainage, \$150,000 for obstruction clearance and \$100,000 for the generator.

The revised re-purpose would be \$1,000,000 for the drainage, \$450,000 for obstruction clearance and \$100,000 for the generator. I'm led to believe--this re-purposing should be more than adequate for the immediate drainage issue on the West Ramp.

Note: I also understand there is another large grant in next year's FDOT program for drainage.

Note: Next year's FDOT program includes \$600,000 for drainage and \$800,000 for pavement rehabilitation.

In consulting with contractors—I had asked for complete clearing—to the condition that it could be bush hogged/mowed—however the stumps would be cut to the ground level and left in place—knowing that sometime in the future—they would rot, and the holes would have to be filled in. I have reconsidered and John has agreed that the stumps should be removed now. Probably the best way is to push the trees over—stump and all —then saw up, mulch or chip and completely remove the debris from the airport. One contractor I consulted would chip and salvage the product and manufacture pellets for fuel to power a power plant, etc. John informed me that mulching in place and leaving the product on the airport is not advisable.

Request to proceed with an RFP for Obstruction clearance.

Mr. Mosteller revert to the \$150k discussed at the last meeting. Chairman Jones asked for clarification. Mr. Moron recommended the Board focus on the design of the drainage system with \$750k, obstruction removal with \$150k and airfield vault replacement with \$100k. Commissioner Lockley said that we need the drainage out there working properly or its going to flood the whole area, airport, and all.

Chairman Jones said the Board has asked to set aside \$150k to start cleaning the vegetation, and the rest to use for drainage. Mr. Moron said there is also \$100k set aside for generator, Chairman Jones said we need to take care of the issues that we have the money to do now. He said he is good with us acting and clearing the RPZs. Chairman Jones said he would like for us to take a both approach and not an either or.

Commissioner Lockley asked if they had to do a study to remove the water. Chairman Jones said like what we are doing on the island, they are trying to address the drainage issues, design study for where the improvements are needed. Mr. John Collins with AVCON said there is a very high-level study confirming if this is an airport problem or not. Is the runoff from the airport going onto private property? We can put together an analysis with options and costs. It is possible that the drains are stopped up. There is a large open area that doesn't have any swells on the south edge of the southland property. It is possible that water is coming from this area and onto southland. Once we receive the study, we can present to you some options on how to proceed to fix those problems.

Commissioner Parrish the \$750k will not all go into a study and design, some of the funds will be used to alleviate the problem. Everyone must understand that the airport is at a higher elevation, without proper drainage. We're not going to eat up all the money on study and design, there will be money left over to move forward to resolve some of the issues. Mr. Collins said a very small % will be used for the design. The original drainage scope of work has been designed this will be a special piece that we are adding to it. Mr. Collins confirmed that most of the \$750k will go towards correcting the drainage issue.

Commissioner Parrish asked if AVCON applied for all the FDOT grants. Mr. Collins said yes, it was a joint effort with county staff. Commissioner Parrish said he would like for their firm to be in on the decision to make changes when we are asking for repurposing the funds. The firm should be consulted and provide the Board a recommendation. Mr. Collins explained that when we apply for FDOT funding we apply for five years out. So, in March 2021 we apply for funds five years out. We provide two or three projects to DOT and rank the projects, then they select what they want. Things change on airports all the time. You may have a tenant come that you must accommodate. The FDOT are very flexible with us and know that things change all the time. The money sits in the five-year program. In July is when the grant is issued. We start working with the county about six months before the funding is available to make sure that we still want to do the projects originally. That is when we really start focusing on what is priority to spend money on. We are involved and work with the county to make sure the grant money is reasonable for the projects we want to accomplish. Just like the roof, we didn't know it was a need five years ago. But now it needs to be replaced.

Commissioner Lockley asked how many runways we were working with. Mr. Collins said there were three runways. The main runway is 1432 it is about 5500 feet. The secondary is 624 and third is 1836. 1836 is fully operational. All the runways need tree removal. Mr. Collins said he believed the \$150k would allow for all runway protection zones to be cleared. Caveat 1836 on the north end of it there is about 45-50 trees on private property that we will not be able to clear unless we get permission from private landowners. From our experience this is not a process airports want to take on.

Chairman Jones said there are other areas in the county that we have mentioned about cutting trees. It may be something that the county could coordinate and get even more bang for our buck. Mr. Moron asked Mr. Collins if we want to do more tree clearing, can the county put out a full bid and then determine what funds are paid from what grant. Mr. Collins said that we can check into it, but it can get messy. FDOT concerned that it may impact the pricing they are getting to do repairs to the airport. Mr. Moron asked for clarification what was needed for the record.

Mr. Collins said if the Board could vote to allow the Chairman to sign the revised resolution to send to FDOT to change the work program, because as of now the full one million is designated for stormwater and drainage improvements.

On a motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, to approve an amendment to the resolution authorizing the Apalachicola Regional Airport Manager to coordinate with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to change the project name as further described in resolution below.

Chairman Jones said he would like to put on the record that he was in no way trying to direct the rest of the Board on what amounts we were trying to do.

Motion carried 4-0.

RESOLUTION

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APALACHICOLA REGIONAL AIRPORT MANAGER TO COORDINATE WITH THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (FDOT) TO CHANGE THE PROJECT NAME FOR FDOT NUMBER 4160477 FROM:

“Stormwater and Drainage Improvements” (\$1,000,000)

TO:

“Design and Construction of Stormwater and Drainage Improvements” (\$750,000)

“Design and Construction of Obstruction Removal” (\$150,000)

“Design and Construction of Airfield Vault Replacement” (\$100,000)

AND REVISE THE PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION ACCORDINGLY.

WHEREAS Franklin County owns and operates the Apalachicola Regional Airport which serves the Franklin County regional area.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, THAT THE WORK SPECIFIED IN THE REVISED PROJECT NAMES AND DESCRIPTIONS IS SANCTIONED AND THE APALACHICOLA REGIONAL AIRPORT MANAGER IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO COORDINATE THE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION GRANT AGREEMENT (PTGA) WITH THE FDOT AND PROVIDE THE AGREEMENT TO THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR SIGNATURE.

This Resolution adopted in open regular meeting of the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners this 24th day of August 2021.

c) FYI: John informs that funding in the fuel farm is tight—that while the mo-gas will be part of the self-serve credit card reader, etc. that there are not adequate funds for the mo-gas tank and associated dispenser nozzle and reel/hose system—which will be a third fuel choice. While space will be made available—and mo-gas equipment can be added later—it would be prudent to include this equipment during the construction of the new fuel farm.

Note: Currently, owners of aircraft that require mo-gas must carry fuel onto the airport in cans from the local gas station that sells it. Mo-gas refers to motor gas, slang for gasoline used by aviators to distinguish from avgas (aviation gasoline) --the premium no lead/no ethanol gas (white gas) that some gas stations sell for your boat/small engine and vehicles that require it, etc.

d) John is here to update you on Projects and answer your questions.

e) FYI: The roof repairs done to the FBO hanger/office done on 08/02/21 did stop the leak into the FBO front office as I reported the FBO reported last meeting—however a subsequent rain proved that we still have a problem—the roofer missed at least two other leaks. More repairs were done Monday 8/9/21. The next rain should reveal if they were successful.

Note: Hold the Press--Thursday afternoon--we just had a rainstorm and the FBO reports no leaks—also no leaks from the storm.

f) FYI: Sewer lift station: Arrangements have finally been made with Johnny Varner Plumbing for a pumper/tanker truck and repair/replacement of the sewage lift pump— scheduled for Thursday 8/12/21— will report the results Tuesday.

I am happy to report that the pump has finally been replaced and working on an extension cord plugged into the EOC—as of noon Thursday. The breaker in the hangar appears to be defective. Randall Terry reports that he is unable to reset. I have already replaced the GFCI—a second time. The line checks not shorted.

I have called Mike Cates to arrange repair of the electric—scheduled for tomorrow—Friday.

Note: The replacement pump is a 1 hp grinder pump. Cates Electric replaced the defective breaker located in the Randy Randolph hanger and the station is now working. There are a few follow-up details yet to be resolved/addressed (vent stack and cover broken).

Thursday (8/19/21) morning--I found the new pump not working. The breaker was blown. Johnny pulled the pump and found some sort of cloth material entangled in the grinder impeller—stalling the motor—thus overloading and blowing the breaker. After un-tangling the impeller—Johnny re-installed the pump—and all is well again with the pump.

Note: Now that the 60 x 60 hanger pump is working—the next pump in line has been found (8/15/21) to not be working—which feeds direct to the city. The Randall Terry hanger also feeds this station in a “Y” configuration. This is a larger 240-volt grinder pump. Johnny Varner Plumbing made arrangements for the (Collins) pumper truck and has scheduled for Thursday August 19th to replace the pump—this was successfully accomplished.

Now--Concerning the electrical—while currently barely working--is in a deplorable unsafe condition. I have arranged with Mike Cates Electric for replacement of the rusted out disconnect box—and electrical up-grading.

This electrical service also feeds the entrance electric gate to the EOC.

This electric service is not on the generator circuit—thus Monday during the storm and the Duke Energy electrical outage—the gate was inoperable--therefore I'm looking into re-arranging the electrical to feed this system also from the EOC generator circuit— which has abundant capacity.

Note: During the storm when the 3-phase commercial power was single phasing and was eventually out completely—the EOC generator failed. That's when Jennifer called me. I reset the generator control panel (over crank cut-out alarm) and after several attempts--started the generator manually. The generator successfully ran for the remainder of the 8-to-9-hour power outage and automatically shut off when the commercial power was restored. The generator started normally on Thursday (8/19/21). Ring Power is checking into this situation.

Note: During the storm—I discovered that the roof over the EOC electrical service main panel is leaking (pouring in) onto the panel--again—not good. This has been an ongoing problem over the years--the roof around the stack has been patched numerous times. The electrical service vault equipment is in the old generator building—with a thru-the-roof stack--and is in unsafe/deplorable condition. I was leery about touching any of the electrical equipment (main breaker/distribution panel/generator transfer switch/battery charger/ice machine/washer/dryers and miscellaneous receptacles/switches, etc.) in the room. Everything was wet part of the ceiling is collapsing. Also contributing to the situation was the door had blown open.

On Thursday afternoon (8/19/21) I asked Mike for suggestions on updating and making the equipment safe. He was to consult with Duke Energy Engineering. As of this report-- Thursday evening—I haven't heard back from Mike yet—however his initial suggestion is to update--replace the old CT (current transformer) type 400 Amp service installed by NOAA in the 70's/80's? with a new modern standard weather tight meter box on the outside of the building and a new 400 Amp main breaker service panel thru-the-wall on the inside. Of course, the flat roof will have to be repaired (cover the stack hole, etc.).

Request to proceed with this emergency up-date/repair of the EOC electrical service and roof repair.

Mrs. Griffith asked if this is the building next to the EOC. Mr. Mosteller said it is the building next to the main building. Mrs. Griffith asked if it serviced any airport functions. Mr. Mosteller said no, it powers the sewage pump. Chairman Jones said to do the emergency repairs it would have to be under \$10k for us to do without going out for bids. Mr. Moron are we still bound by the \$10k since this is an emergency. Commissioner Parrish said that if the box is put on the outside with a weatherproof box, and the roof is repaired it should fair fine. Not sure where we are in building new EOC, but we must take that into account when spending funds for repairs. Mr. Mosteller said the roof structure is approximately 12x24 feet. Mrs. Griffith said we will need quotes on the roof repairs.

Attorney Shuler they will be two separate bids and two \$10K caps. The electrical is clearly an emergency however it is under the \$10k cap. Mr. Mosteller will acquire bids for the roof repairs and provide those back to the board for consideration. Attorney Shuler said the Board could authorize Mr. Moron to work with Mr. Mosteller on the roof repairs and authorize up to \$10k for the repairs.

Chairman Jones asked if the Board wanted to approve the electrical repair and the roof repairs up to \$10k or just approve the electrical repair and wait for bids on the roof.

On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Parrish to proceed with the emergency repair of the electrical. Motion carried 4-0.

g) FYI: vault generator: As of Tuesday 8/10/21, Ring Power is still waiting on parts delivery for the generator. Matt Taylor informs that they will schedule repair of the control panel as soon as the parts come in.

In the meantime—as of Thursday--I can still manually start and run the generator without having to prime the injector pump. I also showed Jay how—in case of an emergency and I'm not immediately available.

Note: During the commercial power outage Monday (8/16/21)—after I was able to stabilize the EOC electrical--I proceeded to manually crank and run the vault generator until the power was restored. The power was out for some 8 to 9 hours during the storm

—T S Fred. (This was the longest of some three power outages in the last two and one-half months.)

Update Note: Clint (Ring Power technician) informed me Thursday (8/19/21) that he is scheduling repair of the generator control panel and servicing for next week--mid-week.

h) The FBO (Jay) reports that the 20' Bat-Wing mower needs repair and should be replaced. I consulted with Matt Cobb (John Deere—Ag-pro) and for budgetary pricing the cost would be approximately up to \$27,000.

Matt informed me that Ag-pro may have one in stock in Valdosta.

It would be purchased on the state bid contract.

Request to proceed with the purchase of a new 20' Bat-Wing mower implement. Note: Erin reports that there are funds in the airport account to cover this purchase. You can almost see the grass growing. I suggest that after/if the new mower is purchased that the old worn-out mower be refurbished for a spare.

FYI: Jay also reports that the older standby tractor (JD 5520) needs work—that it has very little power. — I will add it to the list.

Commissioner Ward, Commissioner Lockley to purchase tractor 4-0

i) FYI: To reiterate: Some issues currently listed:

Airport Manager Duties, etc. report. Update. Flight Obstruction Clearance.

Fuel Farm, Mogas, etc. EOC

Prospective list in excess of 12 waiting for T hangars. Prospective tenant for a box hangar.

Review of leases—(FDOT) including revenue flow and use of facilities. Equipment inventory (including repair and maintenance) (JD 5520) Shelter for airport equipment.

Building maintenance--Leaking roofs, etc.--Electric service for T hangars Flight operations counter

NDB

Security Plan

Master Plan

Apron rehabilitation

FBO hangar ventilation ceiling fans FBO hangar floor (original WWII)

13. AVCON – John Collins

Mr. Collins will update the Board on current Airport grants and other Airport matters.

Mr. Collins gave a brief update on the projects going on at the airport. He reported that the 6/24 lighting project should be completed by the end of September. There is about \$1.3 million available to rehabilitate the apron. The complete rehabilitation project will cost around \$10 million and will be a multi-year project with funding from FAA and FDOT. We are putting together a rehabilitation for your review and to submit with grant. The fuel farm replacement is going well. We plan to have the design documents ready by end of September on the new fuel farm. The existing system is quite rusty and in need of replacement. Mr. Collins said that they are very close to presenting the airport layout documents. We plan to present to the Board in the next few weeks. It will show a future 8K feet runway should the board decide to go in that direction. We will show what it will take to get to 8k feet to accommodate cargo operations. The third runway is going to be open long term. There is no intention in closing it as determined by the board at a past meeting.

Chairman Jones asked if it becomes time to length the runway for cargo freight, not international, it will require some thickening of the runway for weight. Mr. Collins said we would need to strengthen runway or create a new cargo apron exclusively for the cargo operations. We would present those options to you.

Chairman Jones as we are looking at drainage issues, is there a way to look at doing so kind of drainage as far as ponds. Mr. Collins said yes stormwater ponds are typical in airports. The FAA requires that you make these dry ponds. The newest pond that was created in 2012 was a wet pond.

Commissioner Lockley asked if he knew of any companies that would come into the airport to provide jobs. Mr. Collins said typically companies will contact the economic counsel or counties to let them know that they are wanting to relocate. Mr. Collins said if they become aware of any opportunities, they would let the board know. There is room ready for them. Currently, not aware of any specific companies that are looking to relocate currently.

Mr. Moron said that Commissioner Ward sits on the Opportunity Florida board. She has met with them, and we will discuss later in the meeting.

Mr. Moron said the problem we are waiting with the EOC is a state issue. They must tell us where we can put it based on the storm surge zone that we are in. Can we appraise all the property that we can use at the airport? We need to know what exactly we are going to have to pay for the EOC to stay at the airport. Mr. Moron said he would prefer that we use one blanket appraisal. If we could provide evidence to the state that having the EOC at the airport provides some type of service, then maybe we can get it waived.

Chairman Jones said that is not going to alleviate putting some 12-14 feet in the air. Mr. Moron said that we are still working with the state on how high we must build it.

Commissioner Parrish said the airport is higher than most surrounding lands around it. Some of the property is 12 feet above sea level and some is 8 feet above sea level. Commissioner Parrish said he would rather look at the exact property we were considering putting it, have that particular property appraised. He gave some advantages of having the EOC at airport. Flying in emergency supplies, having Duke Energy staging area there. Mrs. Griffith said we need to have a square footage price.

Mr. Mosteller said there is a study that exists, and he will review. There is a possible opportunity that looks promising, it will employ some people.

Chairman Jones let's look at the airport but if we are not going to be able to put it there, let's move on and find somewhere to put it.

Mr. Moron asked the board for a motion to allow me to get an appraisal and ask Mr. Collins to check with FAA to see if we can get a waiver. The appraisal would be useful for future leases.

Attorney Shuler said why don't you just talk to some realtors about square footage of commercial properties in downtown Apalachicola unless FAA some regulations on how to determine value. Mr. Collins said that FAA does have specific regulations and it is extensive. Mr. Collins suggested contacting FAA and go from there.

On a motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Ward and Commissioner Lockley, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board authorized Mr. Moron to move forward with obtaining an appraisal of the airport property to determine fair market value. Motion carried 4-0.

Mrs. Griffith presented the following item from her report at this time:

a. BOARD ACTION: Approval of Airport Manager Job Description

At the June 1st, 2021, meeting, upon news of the resignation of Jason Puckett the BOCC appointed Mr. Ted Mosteller as the interim Airport Manager through September 30th to give staff time to develop an accurate job description for the contract position. The proposed job description is attached. The amount available for a contractual agreement for airport manager services will be \$30,000 and as this will be for professional services, the advertisement will be a request for qualifications. Once proposals are submitted by interested parties and opened at a public meeting, the Board will then release the proposals to a review committee which will rank the proposers based upon qualifications and upon confirmation by the BOCC, staff will then proceed with negotiations with the highest ranked proposer.

Board action to approve the attached Job Description and authorize staff to proceed with advertising the request for qualifications.

Commissioner Lockley said that he believes they should be on site. Chairman Jones noted that the pay has increased from \$18k to \$30k. Commissioner Boldt said that he agrees with Commissioner Lockley and that you can see that now that there is someone on site.

Mrs. Griffith said the 100-mile radius was included so that someone can easily respond. Commissioner Ward said her only concern is the requirement for a pilot. She said that this requirement may take good applicants out of the pool. Mr. Moron asked if Commissioner Ward wanted to make that an option. Commissioner Ward said yes. that she would like to remove this requirement. She does not want that to be

a reason why you would not hire someone. Commissioner Parrish pointed out a sentence says that you must be using the airport facilities. Mrs. Griffith said the job description was from another state and all options are up for discussion. Mr. Moron asked if the Board would you be okay with them being onsite two-three days as part of the negotiations. Commissioner Parrish said we are kind of spelling out that you must have the experience or training in aviation. Commissioner Parrish said the time could be a win or a loss, if you give them the option to be here one day a week that is what they are going to do. Commissioner Lockley said he doesn't see where you need the college degree. Mr. Moron said if they don't have the experience then the college degree would fall into play. Mr. Moron said let's run the ad and see where we are at. Commissioner Ward said everything is negotiable.

Commissioner Ward made a motion to approve the job description removing the pilot license requirement and user of the airport requirement and authorizing staff to proceed with advertising the request for qualifications, seconded by Commissioner Parrish. Motion carried 4-0.

The Board recessed at 11:38 am. and reconvened at 11:43 pm.

14. CDBG Administrator – Deborah Belcher Action Item:

a. The County may apply again for CDBG Disaster Recovery funding for Hurricane Michael in Round 2 of the General Infrastructure program component. Applications are due to DEO September 17, 2021. In Round 1, the County submitted an application for beach/dune restoration on Saint George Island. It is not likely that the application would be approved in Round 2 due to the fact that the project is not one that primarily benefits low/moderate income people. However, I am willing to do the work again if the Board so directs. We could now claim 5 points for leveraging federal funds if we count the County's contract with MRD to do the Saint George Island study/design. The Board must decide whether to pursue the application. Another public hearing on the grant application will be required prior to the application submission.

Commissioner Parrish made a motion to not proceed with the CDBG Disaster Recovery funding for Hurricane Michael application.

Commissioner Parrish congratulated Ms. Belcher on her semi-retirement. Ms. Belcher said it has been a pleasure working with the county over the past few decades. Commissioner Lockley inquired about low to moderate income. Ms. Belcher explained the CDBG guidelines for low to moderate income. Commissioner Lockley asked about roads and ditches, Ms. Belcher said that we talked about those but there weren't any that had not been filed through FEMA. Mr. Moron said we would have to find a road that was destroyed by Hurricane Michael that hasn't been repaired through FEMA funds that is in a low to moderate income region. They want you to be able to prove damage. Mr. Moron said there were a couple of roads in Eastpoint. Commissioner Ward said she isn't aware of any roads that would fall under these qualifications. Commissioner Ward asked if some of the funds could be used for removing dilapidated buildings. Ms. Belcher said not with this project. The hometown revitalization project may have covered this however the board chose not to pursue this project.

Commissioner Ward seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Chairman Jones said that he still contends that the way they configure low to moderate income in the county is completely skewed, when 99% of our population makes below \$25,000. Chairman Jones thanked Ms. Belcher for her many years of service to the county. Commissioner Lockley told Ms. Belcher to enjoy her retirement and Commissioner Boldt gave his congratulations.

Informational Items:

- b. On July 1, 2021, DEO issued the Administrative Closeout letter to the County for the Eastpoint Wildfire CDBG project. The County will now be eligible to apply for Small Cities CDBG funds in the next application cycle. The cycle has not been announced.
- c. I am starting the process of “semi-retiring”. That means I will not be doing any more housing grants or other new projects that will take a lot of my time or require much travel.

Planning and Zoning Adjustment Report

15. Variance Requests

a. 355 Bruce Street

Consideration of a request for a variance to construct a house (footprint 1458 Sq feet) 18' into the Critical Habitat Zone setback and 3' into the front setback.

Property is described as 355 Bruce Street, Block 57, Lot 1, Unit 5, St. George Island, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by Billy G. Blackburn, Applicant. Board recommended denial of request.

Chairman Jones asked if the pictures the Board was looking at are a true representation of the property specifically page 7. It appears like there is whole lot more county owned land there than really is. Do we have any idea how many feet we have where the county owns up to the property? The two adjoining property owners-built sea walls before he bought it and the county never constructed a seawall. The county has allowed the property to erode over time. Mrs. Bankston said the issue was exceeding the 1000 square feet maximum which would be in a critical habitat zone. Chairman Jones asked if they must meet the 1000 square feet minimum and 1000 square feet maximum. Mrs. Bankston explained that 1000 maximum is footprint when you are encroaching into the critical habitat zone. If you are not encroaching into the critical habitat zone, the minimum is 1000 square feet heated and cooled, and they can have 500 square feet on first floor and 500 square feet on top floor. If they are encroaching into the critical habitat zone, they must have 1000 square feet maximum footprint. The 1000 feet footprint maximum only applies when you are encroaching in the critical habitat zone.

Attorney Shuler said the county adopted the 1000 square feet maximum footprint for encroachments into the critical habitat zone in 2003 or 2004. He said what lead to the adoption of the policy was that there had been a yearlong buildup during one of the real estate cycles where people were building huge houses on marginal lots in critical habitat zone. The default is that you don't build anything in the critical habitat zone. The board adopted the policy to balance not being sued in telling people they couldn't build on their property and being consistent in R-1 zoning designation where you have a 1000 square feet minimum footprint of heating and cooled space. Commissioner Parrish said there were issues with people purchasing properties that were not buildable and then requesting variance to build. He said that the applicant was asking for 1458 square feet and not the allowable 1000 square feet.

Chairman Jones said the erosion issue was at no fault of the owners. He said he would like to see the Blackburn's be able to build their house. He said that we need to address the erosion in between those two lots and not let it get any worse than it is.

Mrs. Bankston noted that Mr. Curenton had a discussion with the property owner. Mr. Curenton told him that if he would reduce the square footage to 1000 the board would be more likely to approve it.

On a motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, to deny the request for a variance to construct a house (footprint 1458 Sq feet) 18' into the Critical Habitat Zone setback and 3' into the front setback.

Chairman Jones said he supports the applicant but does realize that we have a rule in place.

Motion carried 4-0.

Commissioner Boldt voted nae. However, his vote was not counted as he is attending by Zoom only.

b. 219 West Gorrie Drive

Consideration of a request for a variance to construct a 15' x 50' Storage Building 5.5 feet into the 10-foot left and right-side setbacks. Property is described as 219 West Gorrie, West Block 9, Lot 11, Unit 1, St. George Island, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by Calvin Dunn, agent for Gary Rhinehart, applicant. Board recommended approval of request.

Mr. Calvin Dunn said that he is now the owner. Chairman Jones asked if there was an issue with the ownership being different from the application. Attorney Shuler said he didn't see any issue with the Board proceeding with the request as is. If approved, the variance would run with the land and would benefit the future owners. Attorney Shuler recommends the Board move forward with approving or denying the request.

On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board approved the request for a variance to construct a 15' x 50' Storage Building 5.5 feet into the 10-foot left and right-side setbacks. Property is described as 219 West Gorrie, West Block 9, Lot 11, Unit 1, St. George Island, Franklin County, Florida. Motion carried 4-0.

16. Critical Shoreline Applications

a. 1490 Alligator Drive

Consideration of a request to construct a 350'x4' Single Family Dock with a 26'x6' Terminus Platform and a 40'x14' Covered Boat Lift. Property is described as Block L, Unit 2, Lot 4 Penn Point, Alligator Point, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by Garlick Environmental Associates, Agent for Jay Briland, applicant.

Proposed request will be contingent upon State and Federal Permits. Board recommended approval contingent upon State and Federal Permits BOARD ACTION: Approve, Table, or Deny

On a motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board approved a request to construct a 350'x4' Single Family Dock with a 26'x6' Terminus Platform and a 40'x14' Covered Boat Lift. Property is described as Block L, Unit 2, Lot 4 Penn Point, Alligator Point, Franklin County, Florida, contingent upon State and Federal Permits. Motion carried 4-0.

17. Re-Zoning & Land Use Change Applications

a. 780 Hickory Hammock Road

Consideration of a request for Public Hearing to re-zone a 38.54-acre parcel lying in Section 25, Township 6 South, Range 4 West, property address described as 780 Hickory Hammock Road, Carrabelle, Franklin County, Florida from A-2 Forestry Agriculture to R-6 Rural Residential District. Request submitted by Wanda Rose, agent for Al Byrne and Mary Lynn Mathre, applicants. Board recommended approval of request.

On a motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Ward, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board approved a request for Public Hearing to re-zone a 38.54-acre parcel lying in Section 25, Township 6 South, Range 4 West, property address described as 780 Hickory Hammock Road, Carrabelle, Franklin County, Florida from A-2 Forestry Agriculture to R-6 Rural Residential District.

Chairman Jones asked if this request was like what was being sought previously from other property owners on Hwy 67, to change from agriculture to other use. Commissioner Parrish confirmed that R-6 zoning is one home per 10 acres. Commissioner Parrish said this request is a little different than what was brought before. Mrs. Bankston said yes, the previous request was from R-7.

Motion carried 4-0.

RFP/RFQ/Bid Opening

18. Request for Qualifications - Architect for Fort Coombs Armory

The Franklin County Board of County Commissioners is seeking architectural services relating to the renovation of the Fort Coombs Armory and Convention Center, 66 4th Street, Apalachicola, Florida. Franklin County is interested in hiring an individual or firm to design and oversee the renovations to the building, which will include completing the design and installation of a fire sprinkler system. The architect should have experience in renovating historic buildings. The architect shall be licensed to practice in the State of Florida.

Mr. Moron and Mrs. Griffith opened the RFQs as follows:

1. Barnett Fronczak Barlowe & Shuler Architects, Tallahassee
2. Gilchrist Ross Crowe Architects, Tallahassee
3. TLC Engineering Solutions, Melbourne

Mr. Curenton, Mr. Patterson, and Mrs. Griffith will serve on the selection committee.

On a motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, the Board approved sending the RFQs for Architect for Fort Coombs Armory to the selection committee for a recommendation. Motion carried 4-0.

19. Notice to Receive Sealed Bids - CR 370/Alligator Drive Multi-Use Path Phase I The Franklin County Board of County Commissioners will receive sealed bids from any qualified person, company or corporation interested in constructing:

CR 370/ALLIGATOR DRIVE MULTI-USE PATH PHASE 1

Project is in Franklin County, Florida and consists of approximately 1 mile of 10' multi-use path construction on CR 370/Alligator Drive at Alligator Point, Florida.

Mr. Moron and Mrs. Griffith opened the bids as follows:

1. Pigott Asphalt and Sitework, LLC, Crawfordville \$479,678.00
2. CWR Contracting Tall \$529,458.35
3. Roberts and Roberts Inc., Tall \$521,929.00
4. Capital Asphalt, Inc., Tall \$1,427,540.00

On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, to approve sending the CR 370/Alligator Drive Multi-Use Path Phase I bids to Dewberry for review and recommendation. Motion carried 4-0.

County Staff & Attorney Reports

20. Fiscal Manager/Grants Coordinator – Erin Griffith Action Items

a. BOARD ACTION: Approval of Airport Manager Job Description

At the June 1st, 2021, meeting, upon news of the resignation of Jason Puckett the BOCC appointed Mr. Ted Mosteller as the interim Airport Manager through September 30th to give staff time to develop an accurate job description for the contract position. The proposed job description is attached. The amount available for a contractual agreement for airport manager services will be \$30,000 and as this will be for professional services, the advertisement will be a request for qualifications. Once proposals are submitted by interested parties and opened at a public meeting, the Board will then release the proposals to a review committee which will rank the proposers based upon qualifications and upon confirmation by the BOCC, staff will then proceed with negotiations with the highest ranked proposer.

Item addressed earlier in the meeting.

b. BOARD ACTION: 1st & Final Change Order, SGI Restrooms Project

This is the first and final change order for the SGI Restrooms Project for Storm Construction. The change order entails a \$2,500 reduction in the total cost of the project relative to the duct work being galvanized in lieu of plastic with the contractor providing an extended warranty concession of ten years and a change in the date for substantial completion from March 18, 2021, to April 20, 2021, due to delays in materials. All items that were on the architect's final inspection punch list have been completed and resolved. Once this change order is approved, the final pay request with the project retainage can be processed and released to the contractor.

On a motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Ward, to approve the attached first and final change order for the SGI Restrooms Project. Motion carried 4-0.

c. BOARD ACTION: Construction Notice of award, FEMA C30 East and West Washouts Project

Pigott Asphalt and Sitework, LLC was the lowest, responsive bidder for the FEMA C30 East and West Washouts Project with their bid of \$816,218.34. The original project cost estimate for this project was \$387,336.27. Franklin County requested a project amendment with the Bureau of Recovery as the total project cost was over two times the original cost estimate developed by FEMA. The Bureau of Recovery did not see any problem with proceeding with the project award so long as the project is completed as written and the county followed all bid policies and procedures.

On a motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the attached Notice of Award for Pigott Construction. Motion carried 4-0.

d. BOARD ACTION: FEMA C30A East Gulf Avenue Washouts Project Dewberry Task Order
Hurricane Michael damaged approximately 480' of existing rip rap and undermined sections of C30 Gulf Avenue going east out of Carrabelle. The FEMA estimated cost to repair is \$109,814.59 and the cost for hazard mitigation providing additional rip rap, rock lining, slope protection and filter fabric is estimated at \$108,165.00. This is the last outstanding large project remaining in the que for Hurricane Michael Repairs. Dewberry's cost proposal of \$36,220.00 for the survey, engineering design, bidding/contract award and CEI is within the FEMA cost curve for this type of construction project.

On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the Dewberry Task Order #9 for the C30A East Gulf Avenue Washouts Project. Motion carried 4-0.

e. BOARD ACTION: Approval of Franklin County Tourist Development Council Museum Projects Grant Application and budget for 2021/2022.

At the August 5th, 2021, meeting of the Tourist Development Council, a DRAFT grant application and preliminary budget was approved for a \$100,000 Museum Projects Grant Program for fiscal year 21/22. Florida Statute 125 states that: TDC sales tax proceeds may be used to: acquire, construct, extend, enlarge, remodel, repair, improve, maintain, operate, or promote one or more: c. aquariums or museums that are publicly owned or operated by non-for-profit organizations and open to the public, within the boundaries of the county or sub county special taxing district in which the tax is levied. This special grant program will assist museums with large capital improvements and extraordinary repairs which will attract and promote tourism while preserving the heritage of the community. Applicants must meet all eligibility requirements and the maximum award per approved project will be up to \$25,000 in 21/22.

On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, to approve the attached draft application for the Tourist Development Council Museum Projects Grant Application and proposed project budget for 21/22. Motion carried 4-0.

f. BOARD ACTION: 1st & Final Change Order, C30A Resurfacing Project

Attached is the 1st and final change order to close out the CR 30A resurfacing project from the Gulf County line to Thirteen Mile Road. This adds \$3,217.00 to the construction costs. The \$3,217 change order has already been reviewed and approved by the Florida Department of Transportation and staff recommends approval by the Board.

On a motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the 1st and final change order in the amount of \$3,217 to Roberts and Roberts for the CR30A Resurfacing Project. Motion carried 4-0.

g. BOARD ACTION: Approval of County Letter Introducing Vibration Monitoring

As part of the permit specifications for the Hurricane Michael repairs of Alligator Drive, the contractor was required to have a vibration monitoring plan in place. To comply with the permit, the monitoring plan as developed by contractor Anderson Columbia includes the placement of vibration monitoring devices on adjacent properties. It is in the best interest of the county to assist Anderson Columbia to ensure that the

project continues to move forward on schedule and to keep homeowners well-informed. There are approximately 17 homeowners who will receive the attached letter of introduction from the County with subject correspondence from Anderson Columbia regarding the vibration monitoring. Anderson Columbia is requesting authorization from homeowners for the placement of the monitoring devices. A homeowner can allow entry to their property (it is not necessary to go inside homes) or refuse, however, the vibration monitoring plan was put in place to ensure that if a home was damaged by vibration, the monitoring device would store that information and would register/document when the strong vibration occurred. This device also provides feedback to the contractor – if vibrations are registering too high, they can then slow the pile driving.

On a motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, to approve a letter from Franklin County notifying homeowners within the construction zone of the Vibration Monitoring Plan for the Alligator Drive Project. Motion carried 4-0.

Information Item

h. BOARD INFORMATION: Evergreen Pay and Classification Plan Update

The pay and classification plan are in the review stage currently. Dr. Jeff Ling with Evergreen Solutions will be at your next meeting on September 7th to present the report.

21. County Coordinator – Michael Morón Action Items

a. Armory Reopening: At your last meeting the Board directed me to contact the State Fire Marshall office and ask if the County could reopen the Armory prior to the installation of the fire sprinkler system. I spoke to Mr. Paul Dyer, District Chief, and his preference is for the County to proceed with the installation of the fire sprinkler system prior to opening the Armory, however, if the County decides to open the Armory prior to the fire sprinkler installation, occupancy will be limited to 50 people with a fire watch on duty. With the opening of the Requests for Qualifications for Architectural Services for the Armory this morning, if the Board decides not to open the Armory until after the fire sprinkler installed, authorizing bids for painting the inside and refinishing the floors of the Armory should be a consideration. The painting and floor refinishing projects would be coordinated with the fire sprinkler installation project to avoid any scheduling or construction conflicts. Board discussion and direction.

Chairman Jones said the fire sprinkler system needs to be installed by January 1st. Commissioner Parrish does not think we should open the armory due to the Covid numbers. He would like to move forward with getting the bids for the repairs.

On a motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, to approve keeping the Armory closed until the fire sprinkler is installed, and authorizing obtaining bids for painting the inside and refinishing the floors. Motion carried 4-0.

b. Armory Management transfer to TDC: In 2019 the Board discusses transferring the management and rental of the Fort Coombs Armory from your Administrative Office to TDC Administration. Mr. Solomon, TDC Administrator, explained that to promote the Armory, a separate webpage for the Armory with pictures of past events, a portal to pay for Armory rentals online, along with other projects would be done. Not too long after that discussion, the Armory was closed due to COVID-19 and continued to stay closed until the fire sprinkler system was installed. Is the Board ready to move forward with the transfer of

Armory management, promotion, and rental responsibilities to the TDC? Guidance from the County's auditor and attorney may be needed if the Board decides to proceed. Board discussion and direction.

Commissioner Ward asked Mr. Solomon if he was okay with taking on this duty. He said that he has spoken with the two staff members who will be handling it and they would be glad to do it.

On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Parrish to approve transferring the management and rental of the Fort Coombs Armory from the County Administrative Office to the Tourist Development Counsel Administration. Motion carried 4-0.

c. Lanark Village Fire Department Update: At your last meeting the Board discussion issues regarding the St. James-Lanark Village Volunteer Fire department and possible options to provide temporary fire department coverage of that district in case of a fire. Not too long after the Board meeting, Commissioner Boldt attended a meeting, hosted by the St. James-Lanark Village Fire Department Board of Directors, to discuss the current issues facing the Fire Department. Commissioner Boldt stated that the meeting went well and besides the Fire Chief there are eight (8) volunteer firefighters. Commissioner Boldt expressed great confidence in the Board of Directors overseeing an effective volunteer fire department. Commissioner Boldt will comment further on the meeting and the volunteer fire department. Board discussion and direction relating to the St. James-Lanark Village Fire Department.

Commissioner Boldt said the meeting was well attended. The main thing is getting more volunteers. Looking forward to having input from the fire marshal. Chairman Jones said the limited residents that reached out to him did express concern most of the people that are listed that have been filed they all have addresses that are not listed in Franklin County.

Commissioner Ward said she had been contacted also. Commissioner Boldt said as he understands the persons who misappropriated the funds have left the state. Commissioner Parrish said he just wants to make sure that there is accountability. There needs to be more oversight from the board to make sure the funds are being spent appropriately. Commissioner Parrish said the monies that are raised by different fundraisers can be spent as they wish, but the money from the MSBU must be spent for specific things within the fire departments.

The main thing is accountability. Chairman Jones inquired of the Board as to how they want to proceed. Commissioner Ward asked Commissioner Boldt what his thoughts were, was he satisfied with the changes made. Commissioner Boldt said he is comfortable and believes they can productively move forward. He is going to take the helm and lead the fire department to get it going.

Attorney Shuler asked if the board wanted to have the CPA do a follow up audit. Commissioner Ward said she believes that we need to make sure the funds are being spent appropriately. Mr. Moron suggested he send a letter to the board of directors asking them to put in writing their plan of action. Chairman Jones said to clear things up, anything that has been turned over to authorities we can't answer for that we are not a judicial body. Commissioner Parrish said we cannot continue the status quo we have got to do better. Commissioner Parrish said he would like to see a quarterly report. Commissioner Ward said she wouldn't mind putting a time limit on it, if there isn't continual improvement, then we will have to proceed with other avenues. Commissioner Parrish said the treasurer should know what is being spent. He also does not agree with them using a credit card to make purchases. Chairman Jones said if we ask for copies of their minutes then we will know when they are meeting.

Attorney Shuler said if we are going to require a report from them, then we should ask for specifics, like copy of bank statements.

Commissioner Ward made a motion to authorize Attorney Shuler and Mr. Moron holding off on proceeding to reach out to the other fire departments and writing a letter to the Lanark fire department asking for a report from them. Commissioner Parrish seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

d. State Fire Marshal: As directed by the Board, I contacted the State's Volunteer Fire Coordinator, Mr. Charlie Frank to discuss the possibility of representative from the Fire Marshal's office attending a Board meeting to provide any assistance or insight with the volunteer fire departments located in the County. Mr. Frank stated that if the BOCC sends an official request signed by the Chairman, he and other State Fire Marshal staff would appear before the Board to offer any assistance and guidance with the volunteer fire departments. Scheduling a workshop, outside of a regular meeting, would probably be more effective and productive. Board discussion and direction.

On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board authorized sending a request to the State Fire Marshal asking for his guidance and authorizing the Chairman to sign the letter. Motion carried 4-0.

e. SHIP Projects Inspections: Some time back, the Board assigned the responsibility of SHIP project final inspections to Mr. Steve Paterson who was, at that time, the County's Building Inspector. Since then, Mr. Paterson has been promoted to the Building Official is responsible for both jobs as the Building Inspector position is still vacant. With that stated, Mr. Paterson asked if there was a possibility of relieving him of that responsibility. I contacted Ms. Angela Webster of Community Action Agency to find out who they were using for their home rehab program inspections as their projects are like the SHIP projects. Community Action uses Mr. Terry Mulch the Weatherization Program Manager for Capital Area Community Action Agency. Weatherization oversees eight counties and provide services that includes client retention and maintenance, contractor acquisition and oversight, pre, post and quality control assessments for all homes that they serve. Mr. Jerome Hamlet serves as the program's Field Coordinator and handles all direct client relations and job scheduling. The inspectors would do a midpoint inspection for \$375 and a final inspection for \$275. Those fees would be included as part of the final project cost. Mr. Michael McWilliams will continue to be responsible for the initial work write-up with a new rate of \$300 per project, also included in the final project cost. Board action to transfer the SHIP program project inspections from Mr. Paterson to Mr. Mulch of the Weatherization Program with the rates stated above, including the new rate for Mr. McWilliams.

On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board transferred the SHIP program inspections from Mr. Paterson to Mr. Mulch of the Weatherization Program with the rates as follows: a midpoint inspection for \$375 and a final inspection for \$275. Motion carried 4-0.

f. Airport Drone Promotional Video: At your July 6, 2021, meeting I informed the Board

that Opportunity Florida (OF) offered to create an overhead drone video of the airport for promotional economic opportunities use at no charge to the County, a benefit of being a dues-paying member. This was an idea was brought to light by Duke Energy to OF. I've forwarded you a Dropbox link of similar videos made of the Highway 79 Corridor in Holmes County and the Highway 77 Corridor in Washington County. Once created, a link to this tool could be added to the County's website. The Board wanted to give

Commissioner Ward, your Opportunity Florida appointee, the opportunity to meet with Mr. Roy Baker (OF) and his staff to discuss this offer further. Commissioner Ward may have additional comments. If approved, I will coordinate this project with Mr. Mosteller and the FBO. Board action to authorize Opportunity Florida to create this video of the Apalachicola Airport.

Commissioner Ward said she feels it will be a great tool to advertise the airport.

On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Lockley and Commissioner Parrish, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board authorized Opportunity Florida to create the video of the Apalachicola Airport. Motion carried 4-0.

g. OF Letter of Support: Opportunity Florida is requesting the Chairman's signature on a letter of support. This letter states that Franklin County will continue its membership with and continue to support Opportunity Florida. Board action to authorize the Chairman's signature on the Opportunity Florida letter of support.

On a motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Ward, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board authorized the Chairman's signature on the Opportunity Florida letter of support. Motion carried 4-0.

h. Weems CDBG Funding: Recently, Michael Langton of Langton and Associates contacted staff about the possibility of applying for Hurricane Michael CDBG funding. After meeting with Michael, Melissa, and Erin to discuss possible projects, we agreed that a new generator for the hospital and West Clinic along with upgrading the windows in both buildings would be an application with a very good chance being funded as it serves the entire County. Approval of CDBG projects is based on income, which makes it difficult to submit applications that serve specific geographical locations in the County. Michael and Melissa have been in conversation with Mr. David Walker (Weems CEO), and he supports this application, which is due by September 17th. There is a \$5000 application fee to Langton and Associates that will be paid by Weems. Board action to authorize Weems to engage Langton and Associates to complete the Hurricane Michael CDBG application for replacing the windows and purchasing generators for the hospital and clinic buildings.

On a motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board authorized Weems to engage Langton and Associates to complete the Hurricane Michael CDBG application for replacing the windows and purchasing generators for the hospital and clinic buildings. Motion carried 4-0.

i. AP Beach Restoration: Last week staff was notified by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Beach Management division that the State would fund the entire \$200,000 for design and permitting phase of the Alligator Point beach restoration project, therefore eliminating the need for the \$100,000 match. Construction is scheduled for 2023. Mr. Michael Dombrowski is available for questions. Board action to authorize the Chairman's signature on the \$200,000 Department of Environmental Protection Standard Grant Agreement for the design and permitting phase of the Alligator Point beach restoration project.

Commissioner Parrish asked if we proceeded with the design of the beach renourishment are we obligated to move forward. Mr. Dombrowski said the Board would not be obligated to move forward after the design.

On a motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Ward, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board authorized the Chairman's signature on the \$200,000 Department of Environmental Protection Standard Grant Agreement for the design and permitting phase of the Alligator Point beach restoration project. Motion carried 4-0.

j. CSGC Agreement: CareerSource Gulf Coast submitted their 2021-2022 budget for your review and approval. State law requires that this item be approved by their respective county commissioners in the workforce area that they serve annually. Mrs. Kim Bodine is available to answer any questions you may have. Board action to approve the CareerSource Gulf Coast 2021-2022 budget.

On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board approved the CareerSource Gulf Coast 2021-2022 budget. Motion carried 4-0.

k. COVID Sick Leave – At your January 19th meeting the Board agreed to provide an equivalent benefit equal to the unused remainder of the Federal FFCRA emergency paid sick leave for employees that had not used all of the provided two weeks' time if an employee was unable to work, including able to telework, because the employee : 1. was subject to a Federal, State or local quarantine or isolation order related to COVID-19 or 2. had been advised by a health care provider to self-quarantine related to COVID-19 or 3. was experiencing COVID-19 symptoms and was seeking a medical diagnosis. Employees would still need to complete the Emergency Paid Sick Leave Request Form for eligible reasons 1-3 above to utilize this leave. The Federal requirement to do this expired on December 31, 2020, but the Board extended this leave to March 31, 2021. I bring this item to you for consideration because several the Road and Bridge Department employees have tested positive for COVID-19 and approached Mr. Howard Nabors, Superintendent, about access to their unused emergency paid sick leave. I have discussed this with Mrs. Maxwell, Clerk of Courts, and she is sure that her Finance staff can run a report to determine which employees have available emergency paid sick leave, what I didn't discuss with Mrs. Maxwell is the potential cost for paying this leave. How would the Board like to proceed on this matter? Board discussion and direction.

Item addressed earlier in the meeting.

l. Eastpoint Building Removal Update: A few months ago, Mr. Rex Pennycuff appeared before this Board to discuss the Eastpoint Civic Association's mission to clean-up the Eastpoint waterfront area. Mr. Pennycuff stated that he was in contact with Attorney John Riedel who represented owners of property around the Eastpoint waterfront area that had damaged buildings that the Association would like demolished and removed. As a point of clarification, Attorney Riedel works for Chambers Bank, however, Attorney Riedel states that the property isn't owned by Chambers Bank, but a separate entity made up of the bank's stockholders. Mr. Pennycuff asked the Board to consider waiving some of the tipping fees for debris that may come over the landfill scales as an incentive to encourage the property owners to demolish the buildings. As part of that discussion the Board suggested that the property owners contact one of the local contractors that would be interested in crushing and reusing some of concrete, reducing the amount of building debris that would be deposited in the landfill. I forwarded this information to Attorney Riedel and in his response, he stated, "It is the owners hope that a resolution can be reached in partnership with the County to make the appearance and expenses associated with this property more tenable for both parties." Is the Board of the same mind that once the property owner has an approximate amount of tonnage that will be deposited in the County's landfill, there might be some waiver considerations? Board discussion and direction.

Chairman Jones said he is fine with giving consideration of waiving some of the tipping fees. The building beside it has been burnt and needs to be addressed. The owners need to come back to the Board with an amount so the Board can consider what amount to waive.

m. FWC Meeting: On Friday, August 13th, Commissioner Boldt and I met with Billy

Sermon and BJ Jamison at the FWC Carrabelle Station to discuss the status of the Bay closure for oyster harvesting. Commissioner Boldt explained that he wanted FWC, in coordination with other agencies, to provide a status update on the progress of all studies relating to the Bay and oyster harvesting to the Board. He suggested that all agencies and partners involved in the Bay research, including scientist, meet in roundtable fashion and FWC takes on the role of facilitator. During this roundtable meeting, four key points would be agreed to that would be presented to the Board and public, perhaps at a BOCC workshop, in very plain language for all to understand. Since these agencies and partners do not fall under the jurisdiction of FWC, letters inviting them to participate and attend the roundtable should come from the BOCC. Commissioner Boldt may have additional comments on this item. Board discussion and direction.

Commissioner Boldt said that he would like a progress report once every six months on how the bay is coming along regarding water quality, oyster growth, oyster coverage, and testing area. Chairman Jones said that we can't make anyone participate and if everyone is not there, we are not going to get a complete picture. Chairman Jones said he thinks we will have a hard time with the working public listening to the FWC. The public doesn't trust what they are being told. Chairman Jones said that he just doesn't want to give Commissioner Boldt any false expectations. Commissioner Ward said she doesn't mind sending the letters out but concurs with Chairman Jones.

Commissioner Ward made a motion to send letters inviting the agencies and partners who do not fall under the jurisdiction of the FWC inviting them to participate and attend the roundtable. Motion seconded by Commissioner Lockley.

Commissioner Lockley said the public wants to know when the wild oyster bars are going to open back up. Chairman Jones said to clarify who are we are sending these letters to: FWC, ANERR, FSU Marine Lab, local fishery associations, the APSY.

Commissioner Ward amended her motion to include the specific agencies stated by Chairman Jones. Seconded by Commissioner Lockley. Motion carried 4-0.

Informational Items

n. \$1000 Pandemic Bonus: Sheriff Smith informed me that he was contacted by some volunteer firefighters wondering if they would receive the \$1000 Pandemic Bonus airmarked for first responders approved by Governor DeSantis. I contacted the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity who is the responsible State agency for this program, and they sent documentation that states, "Employees who are employed on an hourly-rate basis, who are considered auxiliary, or who work on a volunteer basis are not eligible for this payment, regardless of how many hours per week they may work." I forwarded that information to the Sheriff.

o. USDA approval of RBDG to Eastpoint: USDA notified the County that the \$71,500 Rural Business Opportunity Grant for Eastpoint Highway 98 Waterfront and Business Corridor Feasibility Study has been approved and the appropriate funds have been obligated.

p. Coastal Clean-Up Day: There will be a Franklin County Coastal Clean-Up Day on Saturday, September 18, 2021, from 8:30 – 11:30 a.m. A list of sign-up locations throughout the County are on the flyer (attached). The flyer also contains a contact number and email for additional information.

Commissioner Ward said that it was brought to her attention by Clerk Maxwell that Mrs. Griffith's experience is at a lower level than it should be. Her experience needs to be considered as well as any other employees experience level. Chairman Jones said the pay plan will be a work in progress, adjusted as we move through the next five years.

Commissioner Ward said that we have talked in the past about FDOT and trying to reach out to someone who can give us direction regarding the issues on Hwy 98 in Eastpoint. She said that she has some contacts with FDOT and wants the issues addressed.

Commissioner Ward said she would like to see the creation of the code enforcement officer move forward. She asked for Mr. Moron to obtain an update from ARPC and provide this information to the Board.

22. County Attorney – Michael Shuler

The Dollar General final order was entered in the county's favor subject to appeal for the next 30 days. The Board will have to decide whether to seek attorney's fees at a future meeting.

Commissioners' Comments & Adjournment

23. Commissioners' Comments

There were no additional Commissioners' comments.

24. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Ricky Jones – Chairman

Attest:

Michele Maxwell - Clerk of Courts