

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
COURTHOUSE ANNEX, COMMISSION MEETING ROOM  
NOVEMBER 16, 2021  
9:00 AM  
MINUTES**

Commissioners Present: Ricky Jones-Chairman, Bert Boldt, II-Vice-Chairman, Noah Lockley, Joseph Parrish, Jessica V. Ward

Others Present: Michele Maxwell-Clerk of Court, 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 at 9:00 a.m.**

**2. Prayer and Pledge**

**Chairman Jones led the Board in prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.**

**Organizational Meeting**

**3. Selection of Chairman**

**On a motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Lockley and Commissioner Boldt, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board appointed Commissioner Jones as Chairman. Motion carried 5-0.**

**4. Selection of Vice-Chairman**

**On a motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Ward, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board appointed Commissioner Boldt as Vice-Chairman. Motion carried 5-0.**

**5. Committee Assignments**

There were no committee assignments to update currently.

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

19. a. ACCESS 67 Program: At your last meeting I informed the Board of the Small County Coalition request to have the Board appoint what is being referred to as a Commissioner Champion Designee and a Lead Staff Liaison to work with and support the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) with the ACCESS 67 County Champion Program, which is the State's Broadband Initiative. In addition, the Board would appoint a cross-section of community members to what would be known as the County's Local Technology Planning Team (LTPT). Small County Coalition sent another email stating the importance of appointing the Commissioner and staff member and submitting it to DEO as soon as possible as "it ensures that your county will be linked

in a collaborative network with designees from counties around the state, with our effort to support DEO and to work with the provider network.” The Board can consider the appointments to the LTPT at a future meeting.

Board action to appoint a commissioner as the Commissioner Champion Designee and a staff member as the Lead Staff Liaison for the ACCESS 67 County Champion Program.

**On a motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board appointed Chairman Jones as the Commissioner Champion Designee and Mr. Michael Moron as the Lead Staff Liaison. Motion carried 5-0.**

### **Regular Meeting**

#### **6. Payment of County Bills**

**On a motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board approved the payment of County Bills. Motion carried 5-0.**

#### **7. Public Comments**

Ms. Victoria Hart from Lanark Village spoke to the Board regarding the Lanark Village Fire Department and the Florida Sunshine Law. Ms. Hart had prepared a list of violations that she felt the fire department had committed. She said that at the last meeting held by the fire department, she had requested a copy of the bylaws and was refused. She was told that Commissioner Boldt had been given a copy of the bylaws and had been told not to give them to her. Ms. Hart brought up the issue of the fire chief's girlfriend's residence being in Wakulla County. She also stated that he did not have a valid driver's license but continues to drive the fire truck. She said that if he were to be in an accident the insurance would be invalid. She spoke about the continue use of the fire house as a residence and noted that there are lights on and vehicles there at night. She said that she had requested the bylaws back in October specifically regarding the election process. She was told the election had already been held but there were no minutes available. The fire department website has not been updated since 2019. The fire department refuses to live stream meetings. Ms. Hart recommended that the board reject the recent election results and remove David Curry, his girlfriend, and his sister from the board.

Ms. Debbie Jordan stated that the legal name of Chasity Nicole Baker also known as Nikki and her address is in Sopchoppy. Ms. Jordan said there is no public notice given for meetings, their Facebook page is private. She noted that the chief does not have a valid driver's license. She said there are several witness statements and affidavits that David Curry was driving the fire truck and his girlfriend was riding shotgun. She said that she had given a written statement to Sgt. Brad Segree at the Sheriff's office. She said that they refuse to respond to request for documents. She said that Attorney Shuler and Mr. Moron were able to provide to them the documents provided to Commissioner Boldt. She said it is her understanding that the checkbook has been handed over to Mr. Curry. He recently wrote a single signature check for \$18k to pay the water bill. Mr. Curry

said that he has a work driver license. Ms. Jordan said that she is very concerned about MSBU funds being turned over to them and they are spending this money on whatever they want to. Ms. Jordan said that she would like to see bank statements and it is her understanding that they should not be redacted.

Ms. Hart added that on their Facebook page they are saying that you must be a member of the fire department district to vote. However, when you ask for an application, they say you must be approved. Ms. Hart asked for clarification and said all the residents should be able to vote. She said there should be a petition to remove him should he be reelected.

### **Constitutional Officers**

#### **8. Clerk of Courts – Michele Maxwell – Report**

Clerk Maxwell presented the following report to the Board.

In an effort to preserve and share Franklin County's history with the public, I am requesting the archival digitization of 299 Record Books in the Franklin County Clerk's Office.

The Clerk of Court is the official recorded and custodian of all documents placed in the Franklin County Official Records. We currently have records on my website that date back to 1986. The records that are being requested to be scanned date back to 1855. If the board approves of this project, official records dated 1855 to present would be available to our constituents on my website. You will be able to search index books, view, and purchase document records. Having this information available on my website is to better serve our customers, by using internet-based technology and support. The website is designed to provide 24-hour internet based remote access to our official records as an alternative to in-person courthouse access.

Mr. Trae Scism with Kofile spoke to the Board about the proposal. Mr. Scism demonstrated to the Board the application from Kofile's website. He noted that in addition to the original paper copy, there would be a digital copy available to print and a cloud version. Mr. Scism noted that several other counties in Florida have used ARPA funds to complete the project. Commissioner Lockley asked if this could be paid out of Covid funds. Mrs. Griffith said that at this time the ARPA funds are still tied to water, infrastructure because we are not a loss revenue county. She said that Ms. Buzbee has been on the fence about using the funds but that she is hoping by the time the final rules come out, we will be able to use them to do what we need to do. Mrs. Griffith stated that there is \$82,811 available in CARES money that could be used towards this project. Commissioner Lockley asked how much the total project would cost and Mr. Scism said that the total quote is \$275k. Mr. Scism said that having the records accessible online is directly related to the Covid pandemic. Commissioner Ward said that she thinks this is a great idea and would hate for these originals to be obliterated. Also noting that constituents with mobility issues will be able to access the records. Mr. Moron said that he thinks it would be a great idea for Mr. Scism to speak with Ms. Buzbee to let her know how other counties are funding their projects. The Board discussed completing the project in phases while looking for additional funding options.

**On a motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, to authorize Phase I of the project to be funded by the \$82,811 in CARES funds. Commissioner Lockley included in his motion to direct staff to research the use of ARPA funds and report back to the Board.**

Clerk Maxwell noted that she has spoken with all the clerks who have used Kofile, and they have nothing but great reviews.

Commissioner Boldt asked if the records will be key word searchable. Mr. Scism said that today there are not, but once the project is complete, they will be. They will be searchable online. Commissioner Lockley asked if this included court records. Clerk Maxwell said no, it will only be for official records. Mr. Scism said in scanning these documents, they will be preserved. Clerk Maxwell noted that we have the original will of John Gorrie as well as his inventory which includes the ice machine. Commissioner Boldt asked if other counties charge for searchable records online. Mr. Scism said that some do, and some don't. There is an available feature that can be added. Attorney Shuler asked about ADA compliance. Mr. Scism said that the records will be full ADA compliant, and he can provide that documentation to the Clerk. Attorney Shuler asked if the website could be customized so that it looks more like an official website, and Mr. Scism confirmed that it can. **Motion carried 5-0.**

### **Department Directors Reports**

#### **9. Superintendent of Roads and Bridges – Howard Nabors**

##### Informational Item

- a. Detail of Work Performed and Material Hauled by District Report (attached)

Mr. Nabors had no action items for the Board. He stated that they were still short on inmates, that last week they received none and five today. Mr. Nabors said that he anticipates this to pick up. Commissioner Boldt noted that he received some insight from Mr. Nabors in that normally we would have 30 inmates to divide between five groups.

Chairman Jones thanked Mr. Nabors and his department for the job they do on behalf of our residents. Commissioner Lockley wished Mr. Nabors and his crew a Happy Thanksgiving.

#### **10. Solid Waste Director – Fonda Davis**

##### Informational Items

- a. ROW Debris Pickup/Recycle Material Hauled Report (attached)

Mr. Davis had no action items for the Board. Mr. Davis briefed the Board on the paving of the walk track at the DW Wilson Park which would include overlapping the old track. Mr. Davis said that he plans to meet with the contractor to see if they can stay within the bid amount. The Eastpoint property on Hwy 98 has about 25 loads to be disposed of. Mr. Davis said that he is continuing to work with the owners to come to a resolution on the tipping fees. Chairman Jones thanked Mr. Davis for all the work on the facilities. Chairman Jones said that he believes the Board can come

to a happy medium on the tipping fees. Mr. Davis said he is hoping that we can do something to help them. Mr. Moron said he believes the One-Shot Basketball team starts playing today. He said the team goes beyond basketball and builds character. Commissioner Lockley wished Mr. Davis and his crew a Happy Thanksgiving. Chairman Jones asked Mr. Davis to relay to his employees the Board's appreciation for the job they do for our residents.

## **11. Emergency Management Director – Pam Brownell**

### Informational Items

- a. Pamela Brownell and Jennifer Daniels will be attending the Directors Workshop in Ocala on 12/7/21-12/9/21.
- b. Amanda Anthony will be virtually attending the G197 Integrating Access and Functional Needs into Emergency Management Class on 11/30/21-12/2/21.
- c. EOC staff are in the process of applying for a grant from Duke Energy for \$10,000. This grant will be used to build disaster kits to distribute to our vulnerable population. If anyone is interested in partnering with our office, please let us know.
- d. EOC staff continue to update plans and contracts for Franklin County. This includes our Logistics plan and MOUs with our partnering organizations.
- e. EOC staff continue to update our Kiosks located throughout Franklin County with Covid information along with preparedness information for storms and disasters.

### 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

Mrs. Jennifer Daniels attended for Mrs. Brownell. They had no action items for the Board. Commissioner Lockley inquired as to how many weeks were left in storm season. Mrs. Daniels noted that right now there are no storms out there. She said that she has been pushing out information regarding red tide as she receives it. Mr. Moron noted that he had received a report recently. Chairman Jones asked Mrs. Daniels to tell her staff thank you for the job they do and wished them all a Happy Thanksgiving.

## **12. Extension Office Director – Erik Lovstrand**

### Informational Item

*General Extension Activities:*

- a. During this period, the Extension office assisted citizens on topics of gardening soil amendments, home wine making, citrus greening positive test on SGI, and more.
- b. Extension Director participated in the two-way County Director Leadership Team meeting in Tallahassee.
- c. Extension Director participated in the annual Florida Seafood Festival this year with a booth to highlight Extension services available for the public.
- d. Extension Director set up natural resources exhibit in UF/IFAS building at the North Florida Fair and worked a shift to engage with visitors, along with other NW District Extension faculty.
- e. Extension Director participated in the virtual meeting with the Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference and the FDA regarding updates on shellfish safety issues.
- f. Extension Director participated in another Community Advisory Board meeting of the ABSI FSU project.

*4-H Youth Development:*

- g. The Extension Director participated as a judge for 4-H exhibits at the North Florida Fair.
- h. Our local 4-H club set up a booth to highlight their activities this year in the archery program they are implementing.

*Family and Consumer Services:*

- i. Our Family Nutrition Program assistant continues providing nutrition programming in local schools.

*Agriculture/Home Horticulture:*

- j. Wednesday plant clinics continue at the Extension office to assist citizens with gardening and horticultural issues that they are dealing with.

**OTHER REPORTS**

**13. Interim Airport Manager – Ted Mosteller**

Report (attached)

Mr. Mosteller had no action items for the Board. Mr. Mosteller wished the Board a Happy Thanksgiving. Mr. Moron said he was told Mr. Mosteller requested a meeting with DOT. Mr. Moron asked Mr. Mosteller to coordinate with him the next time so that he can get with the commissioners. Commissioner Lockley wished Mr. Mosteller a Happy Thanksgiving.

**14. TDC Administrator – John Solomon**

Action Item

a. On Wednesday, November 10<sup>th</sup> the TDC Board approved to recommend awarding the first Museum Project Grant to the Camp Gordon Johnston Museum for their paving project. They have requested \$20,000 for the project. This is a reimbursable grant, and the project must be completed before reimbursement if approved. The grant had been approved as acceptable by Mrs. Erin Griffith before the TDC board voted on recommending it to the Commission. (Board Action Approve or Deny Grant Application)

**On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board approved the Museum Project Grant to the Camp Gordon Johnston Museum for their paving project. Motion carried 5-0.**

#### Informational Item

b. The August 2021 collections were \$306,565.12. The total collections for the 20-21 fiscal year to date is \$2,294,173.25. We still have the month of September left to complete the fiscal years collection numbers.

Chairman Jones said to tell your staff, TDC board, and vendors, thank you for the job they do and Happy Thanksgiving.

The Board recessed at 9:46 a.m. and reconvened at 10:00 a.m.

### **Board of Adjustment Reports**

#### **15. Variance Requests**

##### **a. 667 Bald Point Road**

Consideration of a request for a variance to construct a house (footprint 1000 sq feet) 10' into the front setback, 34' into Wetlands/Critical Habitat Zone. Property is described as 667 Bald Point Road, Block 10, Lot 85, Unit 1, Alligator Point, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by Tara Morgan, agent for Scott Shanley, Applicant. PZA Board recommended approval of variance contingent upon written authorization from property owner allowing buyer to proceed with variance request. Letter has been received.

Attorney Shuler asked Mr. Pierce to confirm that the proposed house was going to be in line with the other houses and the application request is consistent with the Board's policy.

Mr. Pierce said that the proposed house will be in line with the other houses in the area who have been awarded variances. Commissioner Parrish asked how the large carport plays into this. He noted that the carport is three times the size of the house. Chairman Jones noted that the carport is underneath the house. Mr. Moron showed the Board the layout of the house plans. Commissioner Boldt said he has visited the site and knows there is a multi-year precedence as far back as twenty years. He said that he understands where we are but feels that the property is very strained. He said that he feels it is being pushed from various directions and a very awkward position.

**On a motion by Commissioner Boldt, seconded by Commissioner Ward, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board approved the variance to construct a house (footprint**

**1000 sq feet) 10' into the front setback, 34' into Wetlands/Critical Habitat Zone. Property is described as 667 Bald Point Road, Block 10, Lot 85, Unit 1, Alligator Point, Franklin County, Florida. Motion carried 5-0.**

**b. 4198 St. Theresa Avenue**

Consideration of a request for a variance to construct an addition to existing home 15' into front setback. Property is described as 4198 St. Theresa Ave, Block A, Lots 3 & 4 Cochrans Beach, St. Theresa, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by Charles and Leslie Redding, applicants. PZA Board recommended approval for variance.

**On a motion by Commissioner Boldt, seconded by Commissioner Ward and Commissioner Lockley, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board approved the variance to construct an addition to existing home 15' into front setback. Property is described as 4198 St. Theresa Ave, Block A, Lots 3 & 4 Cochrans Beach, St. Theresa, Franklin County, Florida. Motion carried 5-0.**

### **Planning and Zoning Reports**

**16. Critical Shoreline Applications**

**a. 19 Carousel Terrace**

Consideration of a request to construct a 6'x30' single family dock with a 12'x24' Slip with Lift, a 102 Linear Foot retaining seawall, and a floating turbidity barrier. Property is described as Lot 9, Holiday Beach, 19 Carousel Terrace, Alligator Point, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by Docks 4 Less, agent for Ryan Lawson, applicant. State exemption has been received. PZA Board recommended approval contingent upon Federal Permit or Exemption.

**On a motion by Commissioner Boldt, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board approved the request to construct a 6'x30' single family dock with a 12'x24' Slip with Lift, a 102 Linear Foot retaining seawall, and a floating turbidity barrier. Property is described as Lot 9, Holiday Beach, 19 Carousel Terrace, Alligator Point, Franklin County, Florida. Motion carried 5-0.**

**17. Preliminary Plat Applications**

**a. Miller's Landing**

Consideration of a request for Preliminary Sketch Plat approval of a 2.01-acre parcel of land lying in Section 12, Township 7 South, Range 4 West, Lanark Village, Franklin County, Florida. The subdivision will be named "Miller's Landing" and will consist of 6 lots meeting the minimum requirement of 14,000 sq feet each for R-1A Zoning. Request submitted by Melinda Carroll and Vicki Williams, applicants. Letter from Carrabelle Water and Sewer has been received. PZA Board recommended approval.

**On a motion by Commissioner Boldt, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, to approve the request for Preliminary Sketch Plat approval of a 2.01-acre parcel of land lying in Section**

**12, Township 7 South, Range 4 West, Lanark Village, Franklin County, Florida. The subdivision will be named “Miller’s Landing” and will consist of 6 lots meeting the minimum requirement of 14,000 sq feet each for R-1A Zoning. Motion carried 4-1, Commissioner Parrish opposed.**

### **County Staff & Attorney Reports**

#### **18. Fiscal Manager/Grants Coordinator – Erin Griffith**

##### **a. BOARD ACTION: FDEP Application Reconstruction Alligator Drive**

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection had been allowing the county to operate under a statewide Emergency Final Order (EFO) that had been issued after Hurricane Michael for the reconstruction of Alligator Drive. The EFO has now expired. Clay Kennedy with Dewberry met with FDEP and the simplest solution to let the county continue the reconstruction of the road is to issue a permit specifically for the road. This added step will not change the design, timelines, or any of the conditions, only the way the reconstruction is authorized. Board action to sign the FDEP permit application when it is completed by Dewberry.

Board action to approve the chairman’s signature on the permit application for the reconstruction of Alligator Drive once complete.

**On a motion by Commissioner Boldt, seconded by Commissioner Ward, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board approved the chairman’s signature on the permit application for the reconstruction of Alligator Drive once complete. Motion carried 5-0.**

Mr. Pierce stated that the State of Florida is just as eager as we are to get this road completed.

##### **b. BOARD ACTION: Approval of the SCOP Agreement and Resolution for Womack Creek Culvert Repairs**

Franklin County has received a SCOP grant agreement from the Florida Department of Transportation for the Womack Creek Culvert Repairs on CR67. This phase entails the survey, design, permitting and preparation of the construction plans, specifications and bid documents for the construction of new headwalls, cleaning and repairs of the arch corrugated metal pipes, and the addition of barrier walls to replace the guardrails over the culvert.

Board action to approve the attached grant agreement and resolution.

**On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Lockley and Commissioner Boldt, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board approved the SCOP grant agreement from the Florida Department of Transportation for the Womack Creek Culvert Repairs on CR67. Motion carried 5-0.**

##### **c. BOARD ACTION: Architectural and Engineering Services Proposal Carrabelle Beach Park**

In late September the Florida Historical Commissioner reviewed and scored all the applications that were submitted for the 2023 historic preservation grant cycle. The Carrabelle Beach Wayside

Park Project was ranked 46 out of 77 applications in the attached ranking summary. As the pavilions and restroom building have neared a critical point with deterioration of the concrete picnic pavilions, it would be prudent to proceed with the restoration utilizing the \$80,484 in Hurricane Michael Insurance proceeds which was initially pledged as grant match and ask the TDC if they would also support the project using tourist development sales tax proceeds (within the available balance of the 10% beach park funding limitation). There is approximately \$52,745 in additional funds available for beach park facilities at this time. Subject to funding limitations and the need to keep the park partially open during the restoration, construction could be completed in phases (west pavilions, east pavilions, restrooms or by condition of individual structures). Barnett, Fronczak, Barlowe and Shuler were the architects used in the 2016/2017 rehabilitation project for the interior restroom renovation and roof replacement for the park and we requested a fee proposal from them to develop the plan specifications, bid documents, and construction inspection because of their prior experience with the park location. The architectural and engineering fee proposal is \$23,800 and this will be the first step in the restoration process.

Board action to approve the attached fee proposal for architectural and engineering services for the Carrabelle Beach Wayside Park Restoration Project.

**On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, to approve the attached fee proposal from Fronczak, Barlowe and Shuler for architectural and engineering services for the Carrabelle Beach Wayside Park Restoration Project.**

Chairman Jones asked if it would be possible to change the structure of the current TDC loan taken out for the restrooms on St. George Island, change the loan to beachfront facilities and extend the loan. Mrs. Griffith said that is an option that we can explore. **Motion carried 5-0.**

d. BOARD ACTION: Budget Resolutions – Fiscal Year 2020/2021

Attached are nine resolutions for the adoption of unanticipated revenues as part of the end-of-the-year bookkeeping. These funds were not included in your original adopted 2020/2021 budget because at the time of budget adoption they were unanticipated. Florida Statute 129 allows a county 60-days after the end of a fiscal year to incorporate unanticipated revenues into the prior year's budget. This is the final installment of budget resolutions to conclude this process.

The 1<sup>st</sup> resolution is for \$7,875 in state grant funds received from the State Housing Initiative Partnership Program relative to the administration of the SHIP program. The 2<sup>nd</sup> resolution is for \$169,035 in federal funds received from the Florida Housing Finance Corporation relative to Coronavirus Relief Funding Assistance. The 3<sup>rd</sup> resolution is for \$114,485 in state funds received from the Florida Housing Finance Corporation relative to the administration and aid provided for the Hurricane Housing Recovery Program. The 4<sup>th</sup> resolution is for \$336,038 in loan proceeds received from Peoples South Bank relative to the loan to build the new restrooms on St. George Island. The 5<sup>th</sup> resolution is for \$1,860,477 in federal funds received from the US Department of the Treasury for the CARES Coronavirus Relief Program. The 6<sup>th</sup> resolution is for \$2,465 in additional state aid grant funds from the Florida Department of Agriculture and \$704 in additional FEMA match-waiver funds received from the Florida Division of Emergency Management for the

Mosquito Control department. The 7<sup>th</sup> resolution is for \$692,500 in loan proceeds from Leasing 2, \$145,188 in tipping fee revenues and the \$30,000 in trade-in sales proceeds for the purchase of the new tub grinder at the landfill. The 8<sup>th</sup> resolution is for \$319,246 in loan proceeds received from Leasing 2 and \$287,000 in trade-in sales proceeds for the rolling-dump truck lease agreement for the road department whereas the 2020 trucks were replaced with 2021 model year trucks. The 9<sup>th</sup> resolution is for \$1,000 in federal grant revenues relative to the administration of the American Rescue Act of 2021 Program.

Board action to adopt the nine attached budget resolutions.

**On a motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Ward, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board adopted the nine attached budget resolutions as described above. Motion carried 5-0.**

e. BOARD ACTION: Line-Item Budget Amendments

I have three line-item budget amendments for approval by the Board – budget amendments simply move budgeted amounts between line items during the fiscal year.

Line-Item Budget Amendment Requests:

i. The budget amendment below is needed to adjust line items to cover additional expenses in the planning and zoning department which has shared expenditures with the Administrative Services Department.

DECREASE 001.25.515.1200 Planning & Zoning – Regular Salaries \$ 14,138.00  
INCREASE 001.21.512.1200 Administrative Services – Regular Salaries. \$ 8,409.00 INCREASE  
001.21.512.1400 Administrative Services – Overtime \$ 2,333.00  
INCREASE 001.21.512.2100 Administrative Services – FICA Taxes \$ 548.00  
INCREASE 001.21.512.2200 Administrative Services – Retirement \$ 2,848.00

ii. The budget amendment below is needed to adjust line items to move budgeted funds from the Professional Services Line Item to find the Fiscal Management Department.

INCREASE 001.27.513.2100 Fiscal Manager – FICA Taxes \$ 3,496.00  
INCREASE 001.27.513.2200 Fiscal Manager – Retirement \$ 5,326.00  
INCREASE 001.27.513.2300 Fiscal Manager – Insurance \$ 9,460.00  
INCREASE 001.27.513.4100 Fiscal Manager - Communications \$ 156.00  
INCREASE 001.27.513.5100 Fiscal Manager – Office Supplies \$ 413.00  
INCREASE 001.27.513.5200 Fiscal Manager – Operating Supplies \$ 148.00

iii. The budget amendment below is needed to move budgeted funds from the Mosquito Control Reserve for Contingency line item to the Mosquito Control Pesticides line item for additional pesticides purchased in last fiscal year to combat the ZIKA virus.

DECREASE 142.99.584.9600 Mosquito Control – Reserve for Cont. \$ 9,580.00  
INCREASE 142.99.584.5220 Mosquito Control – Pesticides \$ 9,580.00

iv. The budget amendment below is needed to move budgeted funds from the Solid Waste Department to Animal Control and Parks and Recreation to cover shared operational expenses.

**DECREASE 001.40.534.3100 Solid Waste – Professional Services \$ 18,000.00**  
**INCREASE 001.53.562.1200 Animal Control – Regular Salaries \$ 4,000.00**  
**INCREASE 001.70.572.4600 Parks & Recreation – Repair/Maint. \$ 14,000.00**

Board Action to approve the four line-item budget amendments summarized above.

**On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board adopted the four line-item budget amendments summarized above. Motion carried 5-0.**

f. BOARD INFORMATION:

Transportation Alternatives Funding Cycle is now open. The Florida Department of Transportation has announced that the Transportation Alternatives funding cycle is open until February 24, 2022. This is the funding source that Franklin County has used for sidewalks and multi-use transportation paths in the past. For practical purposes, the county should limit itself to two projects per year. During the last funding cycle, three projects were submitted: Otter Slide Road and Avenue A Sidewalk in Eastpoint, River Road Multi-Use Path in Carrabelle and the widening/resurfacing of the multi-use path on St. George Island. Last year, the Otter Slide Road and Avenue A project was ranked first, River Road second and the St. George Island path third. Otter Slide Road and Avenue A has since been funded. The Board will need to decide if the other two projects should stay in rotation and River Road move to being ranked as first and St. George Island as second or if there are any projects that the Board would like to add. Please let the Planning office know as soon as possible if there are any additional projects that should be submitted for consideration. The Board will need to authorize the project applications and formally rank the projects at a later date.

Commissioner Ward said that since the sidewalk in her district was funded, she would like to take River Road out of the rotation at this time. She recommended allowing another district to go first for the next project. Chairman Jones thanked Commissioner Ward for her consideration and recommendation.

Commissioner Boldt noted that he may have a project for sidewalk in his district. Chairman Jones said that maybe at the December meeting the Commissioners could provide their input and go from there. Attorney Shuler noted that removal of River Road would require board action. Mrs. Griffith said they will come back in December for the official ranking. Chairman Jones thanked Mrs. Griffith and wished her a Happy Thanksgiving.

19. County Coordinator – Michael Moron

a. ACCESS 67 Program: At your last meeting I informed the Board of the Small County Coalition request to have the Board appoint what is being referred to as a Commissioner Champion Designee and a Lead Staff Liaison to work with and support the Department of Economic

Opportunity (DEO) with the ACCESS 67 County Champion Program, which is the State's Broadband Initiative. In addition, the Board would appoint a cross-section of community members to what would be known as the County's Local Technology Planning Team (LTPT). Small County Coalition sent another email stating the importance of appointing the Commissioner and staff member and submitting it to DEO as soon as possible as "it ensures that your county will be linked in a collaborative network with designees from counties around the state, with our effort to support DEO and to work with the provider network." The Board can consider the appointments to the LTPT at a future meeting.

Board action to appoint a commissioner as the Commissioner Champion Designee and a staff member as the Lead Staff Liaison for the ACCESS 67 County Champion Program.

***Item addressed earlier in the meeting.***

b. Zoning Office Hours: Until Mrs. Cortni Bankston, Zoning Administrator, returns from maternity leave, the Zoning office hours are now 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. from Monday to Thursday or by appointment. Mr. Alan Pierce will be available during these hours to answer Zoning related questions and meet with variance and zoning applicants. If a customer calls or comes to the office outside of these hours, and the available staff is unable to answer any questions they may have, the necessary information will be collected with the intentions of that customer receiving a return call as soon as possible.

Just wanted to inform the Board and the public that the office isn't closed, but staff may not be available. Mr. Pierce said he will do his best to be available as much as possible. Mr. Moron said they are hoping to return to normal in January. Commissioner Ward said that the constituents need to be aware, and she doesn't want the services to be compromised. Mr. Pierce said the PZA meeting schedule will remain the same, and Mr. Curenton will be able to assist if Mr. Pierce is not available.

Chairman Jones noted a discussion with Mr. Pierce regarding the status of the dredging project. Mr. Pierce encouraged the commissioners to speak with our any leaders that are available at the meeting. Mr. Pierce said the Two-Mile channel should be addressed quickly, but with the Eastpoint channel we had to create an easement. Franklin County needs to create an easement for uplands. He said that nobody seems to have a schedule. There's a form and we must pay a small fee. The Division of State Lands is the hold up. Once the easement is approved, the Corps will send us a copy of the construction plans and copy of the permit. We will send that to the Consortium, and they will send us funding for the project. Chairman Jones asked if the easement for the Eastpoint channel was holding up both projects. Mr. Pierce said he doesn't know that it is holding up the Two-Mile channel project, they are two separate projects. Chairman Jones said that he hopes both projects will remain on the same timeline as planned. Chairman Jones said this will be the third time the Two-Mile channel has been dredged since Eastpoint channel was. Mr. Pierce said the problem is we are relying on the federal government to fund a small project. In the future we may want to explore other funding. Commissioner Parrish said no matter what the county does we are still going to have to deal with the Corps. Mr. Pierce noted that the cost for a private company to complete the project would be significantly higher.

c. Library Appointment: Mrs. Ellen Ashdown informed me that her term on the Wilderness Coast Public Libraries (WILD) Governing Board expired and she is not seeking reappointment. This seat, that represents Franklin County, is not appointed by the County Commissioner but instead by the Library Advisory Board (LAB) committee. Unfortunately, the LAB has been inactive since early 2020, so Mrs. Ashdown and I agreed to allow an “ad hoc” committee to discuss and recommend a candidate to fill this vacant seat, with the approval of the WILD’s Central Administrator, Mrs. Courtney Whitaker. Mrs. Brenda Humphrey, who has served on the Friends of the Franklin County Public Libraries’ executive board and volunteers and both branches was recommended as the candidate to fill that vacant seat. Mrs. Ashdown conferred with Commissioner Boldt, who is the Board’s current appointment to the WILD Board, regarding this nomination. Mrs. Humphrey’s statement of interest was emailed for your review.

d. SGI Lighthouse: The St. George Island Civic Club is introducing a new fundraising campaign for the renovation of the Children’s Playground at the SGI Lighthouse Park. I’ve attached a flyer with additional information on this fundraising campaign.

## **20. County Attorney – Michael Shuler**

Attorney Shuler had no action items for the Board.

Chairman Jones asked Attorney Shuler to follow up on the status of the audit on the Lanark Fire Department. Chairman Jones said he believes the resident deserve some answers from the Board and not silence. Commissioner Ward said there seems to be some confusion as to if there is an investigation being done. We just need to get a direction to make sure that things are being done the way they should be. Attorney Shuler said that he will get with Mr. Moron and have the Clerk’s office pull the records and report back to the Board at the next meeting.

Commissioner Boldt said that the Board should look at the structure of the current officers at the Lanark Village fire department and consider what if any actions our Board should have on the retention of those officers.

Attorney Shuler said that based on his preliminary research the law is clear that the VFDs are private corporations. They do provide a public service on behalf of the Board based on statute giving us the right to provide fire services. This board certainly has some skin in the game, but I don’t think we can micromanage. That doesn’t mean that we don’t have recourse, it would probably take a judge to decide. This issue is separate from the audit issue. The audit speaks for itself, and it is bad based on my perception. Attorney Shuler said he would report back to the Board via email with an update and publicly at the next meeting.

Commissioner Parrish said the VFD board structure is governed by bylaws. When those bylaws are updated, the board should be going by the most recent. He said that all of this must be in the bylaws. When members want to appoint themselves, they’ve got to go by what is in their bylaws. They are updated based on statutes. Someone needs to be determining how things should be held. There are several training hours the volunteers are supposed to have to drive the fire truck. They can’t go back to the old bylaws because they don’t want to abide for them.

Mr. Moron said that the county does not have a copy of either set of bylaws for the Lanark Village Fire Department. He said that Commissioner Boldt was given three years of the treasurer's files. However, it consisted of some minutes and bank statements. Mr. Moron said that is all we have. We do not have copies of any bylaws for the fire department. Attorney Shuler asked if the county had any bylaws for any of the other fire department. Mr. Moron said we do not. Commissioner Ward noted that we probably never needed them before this issue arose. Commissioner Boldt asked the Board to consider developing a contract of standards of practice that we as a Board require with the management of MSBU funds. Commissioner Ward asked if we had the audit. Mr. Moron said yes, we have the audit.

Attorney Shuler said that he will provide a status of where we are on the audit. He advised the Board that he would not recommend them trying to wrangle the internal structure of a private corporation.

### **Commissioners' Comments & Adjournment**

#### **21. Commissioners' Comments**

Commissioner Ward wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Commissioner Boldt did the same. Chairman Jones announced that the Franklin County Varsity Basketball team will kick off their pre-season tonight. He encouraged the Board to come out and support the team.

Chairman Jones announced that he will be talking to the school board tonight regarding the property located up Hwy 65 and workforce housing. He will be presenting a scenario to the school board to donate the property back to the county for work force housing. He said that he believes it will help the county as a whole and the work force.

Mr. Moron asked everyone to wish Mrs. Bankston good luck as she will be giving birth any day now.

Commissioner Parrish spoke regarding Veterans' Day. He described a 92-year-old veteran's interview and how he said he would like to see this county reunited. Commissioner Parrish said this year it really hit home for him. He said this year our legislative delegation came separately. This year we had two different meetings because one is a republican and one is a democrat. He said that he felt it was appropriate to remind people that it isn't about an R or a D, we can agree to disagree. I vote my conscience; you vote your conscience. Commissioner Parrish said he too like the 92-year-old veteran would like to see this country reunited.

Commissioner Boldt said he would like to compliment what Commissioner Parrish said. He said we need to stop thinking of boundaries.

Commissioner Lockley wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Chairman Jones echoed what Commissioner Parrish said and noted that is why he felt local government was the best form of government because people were closest to their representatives.

### **Adjournment**

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

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**Ricky Jones – Chairman**

**Attest:**

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**Michele Maxwell – Clerk of Courts**