



**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING
COURTHOUSE ANNEX, COMMISSION MEETING ROOM**

MAY 18, 2021

9:00 AM

AGENDA

*The Board of County Commissioners asks that all cell phones are turned off or placed on silent (vibrate) mode. **Any handouts (information) for distribution to the Commission must be submitted to the Board Secretary (Clerk's Office) or to the County Coordinator on or before the Thursday prior to that Tuesday's meeting. Failure to do so will result in your removal from the agenda or a delay of any action relating to your request until a future meeting.***

Meeting Information

Effective May 4, 2021, the general public will be allowed in the commission meeting room for regular meetings. The Board of County Commissioners encourages the public to continue the use of the livestream link or Zoom. Those wanting to view the meeting can use the livestream link (<https://facebook.com/forgottencoasttv/>) or go to Forgotten Coast TV's Facebook Page. You do not need a Facebook account to view Facebook live. The livestream feed will promptly start 5 minutes before the meeting commences. Those wanting to participate virtually during the meeting should use the Zoom log-in/call-in information provided below. There is a link to a list of videos and Getting Started Resources on the main "Agenda and Minutes" webpage for those unfamiliar with Zoom. If you are experiencing any issues with the livestream or Zoom, call (850) 653-9783 extension 373 for assistance.

To join Zoom via computer, use the link (<https://zoom.us/j/98870149279>) on the meeting date and time. If you do not have speakers or a microphone on your computer or prefer to call, you can dial in for audio. Call (301) 715-8592 or (312) 626- 6799 or (929) 205-6099 and enter ID number (988 7014 9279). All attendees are muted by default.

If you would like to speak during the meeting in-person or via Zoom, you are required to complete the virtual speaker card (<https://www.franklincountyflorida.com/virtual-speaker-card/>). This card must be submitted to the County Commission Administrative Office prior to the start of the meeting in order for you to speak during the meeting.

During "Public Comments" you may comment on a non-agenda item or a non-action item for up to 3-minutes when recognized by the Chairman.

You may also address the Commission on an agenda action item for one minute (which may change based on the number of speakers waiting to comment) during the meeting after a motion has been seconded and you are recognized by the Chairman.

*Once recognized by the Chairman, if you are on Zoom with a computer or smart device select the 'raise hand' icon. If you have dialed in to the meeting by phone press *9 to raise your hand, then *6 to unmute.*

Public engagement is important to us and use of Zoom for public participation is still a new process. We appreciate your understanding.

Call to Order

Prayer and Pledge

Approval of Minutes

- A. May 4, 2021 Regular Meeting

Payment of County Bills

Awards and Recognitions

Public Comments

This is an opportunity for the public to comment on a non-agenda or non-action agenda item. When you are recognized to be heard by the Chairman, please adhere to the 3-minute time limit.

Clerk of Courts – Michele Maxwell – Report

- B. Report (agenda packet)

Department Directors Report

Superintendent of Public Works – Howard Nabors

C. Informational Item

- 1. Detail of Work Performed and Material Hauled by District (agenda packet)

Solid Waste Director – Fonda Davis

D. Informational Item

- 1. Right-of-Way Debris Pickup/Recycle Material Hauled (agenda packet)

Emergency Management Director – Pam Brownell

E. Action Item

- 1. Request the Boards approval to advertise for RFP for Debris Monitoring and Debris Removal Services. This request includes the advertising for the municipalities (City of Carrabelle and City of Apalachicola) and Special District (Dog Island). The municipalities and special district will then have to sign their own contracts. Allowing them to advertise assures their compliance in the RFP Process.

Informational Items

- 1. EOC Staff along with our CERT Volunteers continue to distribute washable & reusable cloth mask throughout our community. We have partnered with the City of Carrabelle and City of Apalachicola Chamber of Commerce along with the St. George Island & Eastpoint Visitor Centers to assist with distribution to local businesses and residents. We will continue this effort as long as supplies are available.
- 2. EOC Staff continue to participate in conference calls with State DEM, Region 2, DOH, FEMA, etc. regarding COVID 19. We also continue to update WebEOC with Local State of Emergency and SitReps.
- 3. Amanda Anthony completed the Integrated Emergency Management Class.
- 4. EOC Staff participated and passed the K0705 Class.
- 5. Moulage is the art of applying mock injuries for the purpose of training emergency response teams. Amanda Anthony is training to become efficient in the art of Moulage. This will enable our exercises to better simulate real life events allowing for trainees to respond more effectively. Attached are a few pictures of her work.

6. EOC Staff will participate in the National Weather Training on 05/17-05/21/21.
7. Franklin County EOC/Duke Energy Meeting - Storm Season 2021 is scheduled for 05/19/21.

Extension Office Director – Erik Lovestrand

F. Informational Items

General Extension Activities:

1. During this period, the Extension office assisted citizens on the topics of pine bark beetles, composting methods, plant identification, tent caterpillar identification, and more.
2. Extension Director participated in statewide Extension Symposium that met virtually for the week of May 3-7.
3. Extension Director participated in a planning meeting for the annual CED In-service Training session for this year.

Sea Grant Extension:

4. Extension Director participated in the Reserve Advisory Committee regular meeting for the Apalachicola NERR.
5. Extension Director participated in a conference call with other UF faculty regarding a grant proposal focused on oysters as a tool for nitrogen removal from coastal ecosystems. Call for proposals is out from The Nature Conservancy.
6. Extension Director participated in the FL Sea Grant: Aquaculture Work Action Group planning meeting and a workshop in Wakulla County regarding ideas to move the oyster aquaculture industry forward in the region.

4-H Youth Development:

7. The Extension office, on behalf of the Local 4-H shooting sports club, has submitted an application to the NRA Foundation Teach Freedom grant program for additional archery supplies to be operational for additional youth. Thus far, the proposal has reached the status of “recommended for funding” by the review committee and awaits approval from their Board.
8. Extension Director participated in planning meeting for this year’s Ag Adventure program for 4th and 5th grade students.

Family and Consumer Sciences:

9. Family Nutrition Program assistant continues providing nutrition programing in local schools.

Agriculture/Home Horticulture:

10. Two Master Gardener classes took place at the local Extension office during this period. There are ten people currently taking the training over a 13-week period.

TDC Administrator – John Solomon – Report

G. Informational Items

1. Parks & Recreation installed all 20 signs on public beach access points. In the process of installing the signs they needed to construct nice frames for the signs. They used \$1049.60 of their budget to build the frames the TDC board voted to reimburse Parks & Recreation the funds.

2. The February Collections were \$84,508.31 which is a decrease of \$10,508.71 or a 11.06% decrease over February 2020.

3. The Florida's Forgotten Coast Mobile App now has 2,447 users. It has been averaging about 18 new users every day for the last few weeks.

Consultant – Traci Buzbee – Update

H. Update

Public Hearings 10:35 a.m. (ET)

- I. 10:35 a.m. (ET) or as soon thereafter as possible: AN ORDINANCE REZONING 20 ACRES OF LAND IN SECTION 30, TOWNSHIP 6 SOUTH, RANGE 7 WEST, FROM R-6 RURAL RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT TO R-1 SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT
- J. 10:50 a.m. (ET), or as soon thereafter as is possible: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING FRANKLIN COUNTY ORDINANCE 2013-1 TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXEMPTION OF WHOLLY SUBMERGED LANDS FROM MUNICIPAL SERVICE ASSESSMENTS FOR FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE
- K. 11:00 a.m. (ET), or as soon as possible; AN ORDINANCE LEVYING AND IMPOSING AN ADDITIONAL ONE CENT TOURIST DEVELOPMENT TAX; PROVIDING FOR USE OF THE TOURIST DEVELOPMENT TAX; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
- L. 11:15 a.m. (ET) or soon thereafter as is possible: AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A PROGRAM IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA OF FRANKLIN COUNTY FOR THE PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF PRIVATE DIRT ROADS; FINDING THAT THIS PROGRAM SERVES A PUBLIC PURPOSE; LIMITING THIS PROGRAM TO PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS ONLY, EXCLUDING ALL ROADS OF ALL GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES AND AGENCIES, EXCLUDING ALL ARTIFICIAL ENTITIES; REQUIRING THAT THE COUNTY SHALL BE PAID IN ADVANCE FOR ITS ACTUAL COST FOR SUCH PROGRAM; ESTABLISHING LIMITATIONS AND GUIDELINES FOR SUCH PROGRAMS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE

RFP / RFQ / Bids Opening

- M. The Franklin County Board of County Commissioners is seeking civil engineering services relating to the construction engineering and inspection (CEI) of the multi-use trail and bike path on the CR 370 Alligator Point Multi-Use Path Project. The scope of this project will include the construction of a 10' multi-use path from George Vause Road eastward for approximately 1 mile to Gulf Shore Boulevard on Alligator Point, FL as identified in the County's Local Agency Participation contract with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). Consideration will be given to only those firms that are qualified pursuant to law and that have been prequalified by FDOT to perform the indicated types of work.
- N. The Franklin County Board of County Commissioners is seeking civil engineering services relating to the construction engineering and inspection (CEI) for the widening and resurfacing improvements on County Road 30A from U.S. Highway 98 to Thirteen Mile Road. The total length of the project is approximately 5.3 miles. The scope of the project includes widening the existing roadway from 22' to 24' wide and resurfacing the existing travel lanes, adding 5' wide paved shoulders, necessary drainage improvements, and upgrading signage and pavement markings. Consideration will be given to only those firms that are qualified pursuant to law and that have been prequalified by FDOT to perform the indicated types of work.

Fiscal Manager/Grants Coordinator – Erin Griffith – Report

O. Action Items

1. Accept rankings of firms for RESTORE Projects and authorization to negotiate

On Wednesday, May 5th the evaluation committee met and ranked the firms who responded to the RFQs for the County Wide Dune Restoration Project and the St. George Island Storm Water Improvements Project. Upon tabulation of the attached rankings, MRD & Associates was the highest ranked firm for the County Wide Dune Restoration Project and Dewberry and Associates was the highest ranked firm for the St. George Island Storm Water Improvements Project. On May 12th, the county finally received the formal grant award from treasury for the two design grants. As the grants are now approved, county staff can now proceed with negotiations and contract award with the two highest ranked firms.

To avoid confusion with the goal of the projects during the contract negotiations, Alan wants the Board to be aware of what kind of construction budget he thinks is realistic for \$100K worth of design. For both projects, it was Alan's intention that the design projects not only provide recommendations for solutions for each project, but also construction plans and permit applications, where applicable. Due to the significant time delay between application and approval of projects by treasury, Alan wants the design projects to be complete so that the Board and the community can move to construction as quickly as possible.

Dune Restoration- this project covers about 16 miles of beaches. Because of the variability in existing dune and beach profiles around the county, there will mostly likely be multi-pronged design recommendations. The estimated construction budget for dune restoration is \$1 million to \$1.5 million. Alan wants to make sure the Board understands that this is a dune restoration project. In areas where there are no existing dunes or existing beach, like the area in front of the section of Alligator Drive that the county is currently rebuilding, this dune restoration project will not work and those areas are not covered by this project. There must be adequate existing beach present in order to build dunes on a \$1 million dollar budget. The design consultant will evaluate the beaches and make recommendations on appropriate solutions for different scenarios.

St. George Island Storm Water- this project covers the entire business district, which is about 30 acres. There are a few isolated drainage pipes in the district leading to the retention ponds on Franklin Blvd, but those ponds are at capacity and probably treat less than 1/3 of the storm water accumulating in the district. The untreated storm water currently stays on the road surfaces causing failure of asphalt and base as there is no storm water conveyance system except for those leading to the Franklin ponds. The storm water project will analyze the entire district and then prioritize the areas that need improvements first. Alan still wants this design project to result in construction plans that will solve at least some of the storm water problems. The complexity of the solutions will determine how much construction will occur. Alan is estimating a construction budget of \$3 million to \$3.5 million.

There is currently \$9.9 million at Treasury for Franklin County. The design and construction of these 2 projects would use about \$5 million of the current funds. Next April another \$1.2 million will be put into the Treasury in accordance to the settlement worked out by the federal government and BP. Over 15 years, the Board will receive some \$22 million of RESTORE funds, so as the funds come in the Board can continue to develop projects. Treasury will not approve projects in excess of the funds available so the Board will need to work within the funds available.

Alan has talked to the Board in the past about a beach restoration project that would build about one mile of beach in front of the Alligator Drive washout. The total budget for this project has been estimated by Mike Dombrowski of MRD and Associates at \$10 million, with \$5 million of RESTORE funds matched by \$5 million of FDEP funds. Franklin County has requested \$200,000 from FDEP this year to finish the design of the beach project. The county has not been notified whether those funds were allocated by the Legislature. If granted it could be possible that in 2023, or 2024, the county would be in the position to request \$5

million from FDEP for construction of the beach, which in turn would mean the Board would need \$5 million of RESTORE as a match. Of course, the issue of who pays for the maintenance of the beach will still need to be resolved before the county could commit to building a beach.

Board action to accept the rankings of the evaluation committee and to authorize staff to negotiate with the two highest ranked firms for the two RESTORE design grants.

2. Gulf Council Letter for Dredging Projects

Alan has been working with the Consortium to resolve issues raised by the Gulf Council concerning our dredging projects. Please find attached the questions from the Gulf Council, and the joint response from Alan and the Corps. After the Gulf Council reviewed the response, they then asked for a letter on county letterhead confirming the county will be responsible for any non-federal cost over-runs above \$5 million dollars. Alan has drafted a letter and it is also attached. The Board needs to approve this letter, or some form of it, and have Alan send it to the Gulf Council.

Just for information, Alan had a teleconference call last week with Mr. John Collins, AVCON, and the Corps of Engineers regarding the status of the FDEP permit for the Two Mile Channel. The Corps believes that FDEP will find the Corps application to be complete by the end of May, and then FDEP will have a statutorily limited time to review and issue the permit. Just like the Eastpoint Channel, the Corps says the dredging of Two Mile will take place in the fall.

Board action to approve the draft letter in regards to cost over-runs for the dredging projects and send to the Gulf Coast Consortium as written or with modifications.

3. Grant Resolutions Florida Historic Preservation Grants

Requesting adoption of the attached two resolutions supporting the grant applications for the Florida Historic Preservation Grant Program for the Carrabelle Beach Wayside Park Restoration Project and the Buddy Ward Maritime Museum Project. The applications are due on June 1st and documented community support is needed for the two projects

Board action to adopt the two resolutions supporting the Florida Historic Preservation Grant Program applications.

4. Rolling Dump Truck Lease – Road Department

It is time to renew the rolling dump truck lease-purchase agreement for the Franklin County Road Department. Eight surrounding rural counties participated in this same program previously through Capital Truck of Tallahassee including Liberty, Madison, Suwanee, Taylor, Holmes and Calhoun. Unfortunately, this past year, Capital Truck of Tallahassee filed Chapter 11 Bankruptcy. The Mack dealership is now owned by Nextran and Nextran does not offer the same arrangement in place by Capital City as they are unable to guarantee the buyback price of the trucks. The buyback will occur at market pricing at the time of disposal. The 2021 cost of a new heavy-duty dump truck is \$154,697 per truck. The new structure will have the county owning the trucks for up to twenty-six months with making the first lease payment of \$15,000 per truck as in the previous agreement with the second year payment increasing to \$17,500 per truck. Before the third payment, the trucks will be returned to Nextran and replaced with two new model year dump trucks. This program allows the road department to have reliable dump trucks, covered by an added extended warranty with little maintenance expense year after year. This is the fourth renewal of the rolling lease program with some changes to the previous structure with new vendor Nextran.

Board action to approve the attached resolution and authorization for the Chairman to sign the six year lease purchase agreement with Leasing 2 to finance the purchase of two new dump trucks in the amount of \$319,245.72 from Nextran of Tallahassee and the trade-in of the 2020

trucks, county property tag numbers A005451 and A005452 subject to review and approval of the agreement by County Attorney Michael Shuler.

P. Informational Items

1. Sweeper Truck Status Update

On January 20, 2021 Franklin County issued a purchase order for the Sweeper Truck. The truck was initially supposed to be delivered in March, then delays in manufacturing caused by the Coronavirus Pandemic moved the anticipated delivery date to May and now back until sometime in June. I will keep the Board informed as to any additional changes in the anticipated delivery date.

2. Second Installment of Coronavirus Relief Funding for Airport

Franklin County was recently notified of a second round of Coronavirus Relief funding through the FAA to help offset a decline in revenues arising from diminished airport operations and activities as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency. The funds provided can only be used for purposes directly related to the airport and can include the reimbursement of an airport's operation and maintenance expenses. The county is working on the application at this time for these funds. The first award was \$30,000 through CARES and was used to offset the annual cost of property insurance for the airport.

County Coordinator – Michael Morón – Report

Q. Action Items

1. Congressman Dunn's Request: At your April 20th meeting, the Board was informed of Congressman Dunn's request for Congressionally Directed Community Project Funding applications. Mrs. Traci Buzbee, County's Consultant, was tasked with preparing and submitting two applications, construction funding for a new EOC and additional funding for Fort Coombs Armory fire sprinkler system. The County was notified on May 5th that Congressman Dunn submitted the \$1.5 million dollar application for a new EOC construction funding as one of the ten projects he was allowed to submit for funding. Mrs. Buzbee is available to answer additional questions regarding the application. Board discussion and direction.

2. TRIUMPH Meeting List: At your last meeting the Board discussed State Senator Doug Broxson's invitation to attend an 8 County Oil Spill Administrator's meeting on Monday, May 24th at 12:30 p.m. (ET) at the Walton County Courthouse Annex in Santa Rosa Beach. The Board agreed to create a list of projects that could be funded by TRIUMPH funds set aside for Franklin County. The current list of projects includes an additional wing to Weems Hospital, completion of the Coombs Armory renovation project, Broadband infrastructure project, and a trust fund for maintenance dredging of the Eastpoint Channel and 2-mile Channel. Will the Board add any additional projects to the list? Board discussion and direction.

3. Building Official: I am happy to report the Mr. Steve Paterson has received his Provisional Building Official (Code Administrator) license which allows him to assume the role as the County Building Official. He will have one year to pass an additional test that will remove the Provisional status. I am recommending an annual salary of \$50,000 for Mr. Patterson as your Building Official effective March 15th, as the County will not renew Mr. Garry Millender's contract for Building Official services. Board action to approve a \$50,000 salary for Mr. Paterson as the County's Building Official.

4. Eastpoint Streetlights: The Eastpoint Civic Association would like to install 16 streetlights on US 98 in Eastpoint between 2nd and Bayshore. It would light the area in Eastpoint that is considered the Business District with the most pedestrian traffic across Highway 98. Over the years there have been a number of traffic accidents, some including pedestrians, at this

location. In addition, increased lighting reduces crime and drug activity. Duke Energy's proposal to install these 16 streetlights has a \$344.00 upfront deposit cost and has a \$171.84 monthly recurring fee. With a few exceptions, the Board has turned down past requests for streetlights in more rural and secluded areas of the County, but keep in mind this request is along Highway 98 on a heavily traveled area. I have asked FDOT to look at the streetlight proposal to determine if, based on their criteria, there is adequate lighting. If FDOT determines there isn't adequate lighting, they may add streetlights in this area at their expense therefore reducing the number of lights that the Eastpoint Civic Association would be requesting for Board consideration. Board discussion and direction.

5. Flood Ordinance Public Hearing: Mrs. Angela Lolley, the County's Floodplain Manager, is ready to proceed with the Flood Ordinance process. Mrs. Lolley has been working extensively with the FEMA representative on the ordinance. The next step is to schedule a public hearing to discuss the draft ordinance. Board action authorizing Attorney Shuler to schedule and advertise a public hearing for the Flood Ordinance.

6. County Beach Parking Workshop: At your last meeting there was Board action to schedule a workshop to discuss the County's beach parking issues before we proceed with changing the ordinance. Staff, as directed in that same action, is in the process of contacting towing companies in Wakulla and Leon counties about providing weekend "roam and tow" services on Alligator Point. I am in the process of creating the June agendas and would like some consensus if the Board wants this workshop during the regular meeting agenda or at 1:30 p.m. (ET) after one of your regular meetings in June. Board discussion and direction.

7. Bridge Clean-Up Agreement Renewal: In 2020 the Board entered into a six-month agreement with the Sheriff for bridge clean-up services. That agreement has expired and requires a renewal if the Board would like to continue these services. Board action to renew the \$11,002.00 agreement with the Sheriff for bridge clean-up for another six months.

R. Informational Items

1. New EOC Update: At your April 20th meeting, we agreed to build the new Emergency Operation Center at the western corner of the Brownsville Road and Airport Road intersection. During that discussion there were concerns raised that if the communication tower had to be moved to that location there could be a possible issue with runway 18/36. I have asked Mr. Clay Kennedy of Dewberry to evaluate the eastern end of that same intersection as an option for the building. Mr. Kennedy has submitted both locations to the State and is awaiting a response.

2. Carrabelle Beach Crosswalk Update: Commissioner Ward, with Board support, requested a crosswalk with appropriate signals at Carrabelle Beach to allow of safer pedestrian crossings. Carter Johnson of FDOT and I have been working on this request for a few months now. Mr. Johnson called on Thursday to inform me that FDOT has submitted a request for a HAWK Pedestrian Crosswalk to the Federal Highway Administration for approval. He feels that it is a matter of when and not if, the HAWK Pedestrian Crosswalk will be installed. Below is a YouTube link that explains how the HAWK system is used in Sarasota. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=71sr59CYf54>.

3. Shiver to Alternate Seat on P&Z: At your April 20th meeting the Board appointed Mr. Tony Shiver to the Planning and Zoning District 1 seat. Since that time, staff realized that Mr. Shiver resides just outside of District 1's boundaries so he will serve as an alternate Planning and Zoning Board member.

4. BOA New Meeting Day: Inform the Board that the Advisory Board of Adjustment (ABOA) will now meet on the second Wednesday instead of the first Wednesday every month. Since the Planning and Zoning Commission meets on the second Tuesday every month, it is easier

to prepare for both meetings and meet advertising deadlines if they are both on the same week. ABOA members had no issues with the new meeting date.

County Attorney – Michael Shuler – Report

Commissioners' Comments

Adjournment

Any person who wishes to appeal a decision made by the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners, with respect to any matter considered at the meeting, must have a record of the proceedings. He or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made