

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

**JUNE 1, 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

Call to Order

Chair Jones called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Prayer and Pledge

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

Approval of Minutes

A. May 18, 2021, Regular Meeting

On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the minutes from the meeting held on May 18, 2021. Motion carried 5-0.

Payment of County Bills

On a motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve payment of County Bills. Motion carried 5-0.

Public Comments

Mrs. Cheryl Sanders asked the Board to retract their letter of support to the Liberty County Board of County Commissioners in support of the lime rock mine and land swap.

Clerk of Courts – Michele Maxwell – Report

Madam Clerk did not have a report for the Board.

Duke Energy – Danny Collins – Update

B. Mr. Danny Collins will update the Board on recent activities including the Vegetation Management Herbicide Project.

Mr. Danny Collins thanked the Board for leasing the staging site to Jingoli Power and for their continued permission to use Apalachicola Airport for a storm staging site. Mr. Collins announced they will be holding forums for contractors to provide proactive outreach as there are a lot of new builders coming into the area. Mr. Collins said the Eastpoint lighting project should be installed this month weather permitting.

Chairman Jones asked about the vegetation management project. Mr. Collins said they will be doing some vegetation management throughout the county. However, it will not look like it did the last time it was done which was three years ago.

Chairman Jones asked Mr. Collins if other counties have created resolutions recognizing the work Duke Energy has done throughout the region. Mr. Collins said they were awarded one from Citrus County recently. Mr. Collins said he loved working in Franklin County and the standing ovation received at a past FBCC meeting was one of the highlights of his career.

Chairman Jones said he believes the Board should pass a resolution thanking Duke Energy for all of their assistance during and after Hurricane Michael. Mr. Moron agreed and said he believes it would be appropriate to put something in writing to show the Board's support and appreciation for Duke Energy.

Commissioner Boldt made a motion to create a resolution thanking Duke Energy for all of their great work in the entire region, seconded by Commissioner Ward.

Commissioner Parrish said he would like for Mr. Collins to attend the meeting in person to accept it.

Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Boldt thanked him for his continued support of the charging systems around the county.

Commissioner Lockley asked if Mr. Collins could repair the lighting around the old IGA. Mr. Collins said he will take a look at it. Mr. Collins said they will get the lighting there and on Bluff Road done as soon as possible.

Department Directors Report

Superintendent of Roads and Bridges – Howard Nabors

C. Report Informational Item

1. Detail of Work Performed and Material Hauled by District

Mr. Nabors thanked the Board for approving the new trucks. Mr. Nabors noted they have moved into their new office and plan to have a ribbon-cutting in the next few weeks. He said his department has been working on the shoulders of the roads as well as cutting grass. Mr. Nabors said they are still short on inmate labor but they are going to try to get to Hwy 98 this week.

Solid Waste Director – Fonda Davis

D. Report

Informational Item

1. Right-of-Way Debris Pickup/Recycle Material Hauled Report

Mr. Davis said his department has been busy keeping up with the large beach crowds throughout the county. He said the recycling trucks being used are older and on their last leg. Commissioner Ward asked if staff could check in to leasing trucks. However, Mrs. Griffith said unfortunately companies aren't interested in leasing trucks to the landfill due to the high wear and tear.

Commissioner Lockley made a motion to add purchasing new recycling trucks for the landfill to budget discussions. Commissioner Boldt seconded the motion.

Commissioner Boldt said he would like to put money aside for waste management in the future. Chairman Jones said the department heads should be compiling a list of items that may be coming up in the future. Mr. Moron reminded the Board they have requested this information from each of the department heads, a projection of items needed in the next 3-7 years. Commissioner Boldt said he is speaking of purchasing additional land to enlarge the landfill. Commissioner Lockley asked Mr. Davis to get a quote on the trucks so the Board will know what they are looking at.

Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Davis said he is working on opening the landfill on holidays to prevent a backup of trash pickup.

Mrs. Griffith presented the following item from her report.

1. BOARD ACTION: Use of CARES funds for Landfill Receiver Box Slab Pad

Of the first CARES allocation, Franklin County has a remaining balance of approximately \$61,000. At the Franklin County Landfill's transfer station, there is a 66'x33' concrete receiver box slab where the transfer containers for household waste are set to wait for transport to the Springhill landfill for disposal. This slab area was completed several years ago and prevents soil and groundwater contamination by draining the runoff from the transport containers to the sewer system. The containers are very heavy as is the equipment required to move the containers. To protect and preserve the concrete slab and the integrity of the drainage system, welded metal sheeting is needed for the pad area. The market prices of metal sheeting change daily and the current estimate for the materials is \$29,178 with the necessary labor to install the sheeting estimated to be \$4,635. Does the Board want to consider using some of the balance of the first CARES allocation to preserve and protect the receiver box slab at the Landfill? The CARES expenditure worksheet is attached.

Board action to authorize the use of an estimated \$33,813 of the remaining proceeds from the 1st Cares Allocation to preserve and protect the receiver box slab at the landfill.

On a motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, to authorize the use of an estimated \$33,813 of the remaining proceeds from the 1st Cares Allocation to preserve and protect the receiver box slab at the landfill.

Attorney Shuler requested the Board modify the motion adding a provision waiving the local bid policy based on the declaration of an emergency based on health and safety.

Commissioner Parrish amended his motion to include the provision waiving the local bid policy based on the declaration of an emergency based on health and safety. Commissioner Lockley amended his second. Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Davis thanked the board for allowing the Evergreen team to come out and speak with staff members.

Emergency Management Director – Pam Brownell

6. Report Informational Items

- a. HURRICANE SEASON STARTS TODAY. MAKE SURE YOU HAVE A PLAN!
- b. EOC Staff continues to monitor the stages of the HLMP (Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program) Grant. The HLMP grant has allowed us to mitigate numerous homes throughout Franklin County over the past 5 years.
- c. EOC Staff are working diligently with DOH Staff regarding the COVID-19 virus. This includes hosting meetings with representatives from DOH, Sheriff's Department & Weems, EMS, Conference Calls, pushing out messaging from DOH on Facebook and our EOC Website.
- d. 05/26/21 EOC staff completed the IPAWS Monthly Test.
- e. 05/24/21 Amanda Anthony Completed Moulage Training in Tallahassee. This skill will be very useful in exercise participation. Moulage allows participants of the exercises to have a more "real-life" experience. Attached is a picture of a moulage (burned arm) that Amanda created in the training she attended. Moulage is the art of applying mock injuries for the purpose of training emergency response teams and other medical and military personnel. Moulage may be as simple as applying pre-made rubber or latex "wounds" to a healthy "patient's" limbs, chest, head, etc., or as complex as using makeup and theatre techniques to provide elements of realism (such as blood, vomitus, open fractures, etc.) to the training simulation.
- f. 05/27/21 EOC Staff hosted the Emergency Support Function 8: Public Health & Medical Services Hurricane Preparedness Meeting.
- g. 06/03/21 Region 2 Meeting in Columbia County.
- h. EOC assisted DOH with COVID Signs for immunization clinics held in Carrabelle and Eastpoint.

Mrs. Daniels informed the public that the re-entry tags can be picked up at their office or they can apply online and they will be mailed to them.

Extension Office Director – Erik Lovestrand

7. Report Informational Items

General Extension Activities:

- a. During this period, the Extension office assisted citizens on the topics of vegetable gardening, injured wildlife, oyster aquaculture, palm nutrients, soils, and more.
- b. Extension Director participated in a District-wide call regarding a grant proposal to tap into the AmeriCorps program for Extension programming expansion/assistance.
- c. Extension Director participated in a virtual conference for the Association of Natural Resource Extension Professionals and co-presented on two presentations for this national audience.

Sea Grant Extension:

- d. Extension Director collaborated with Bay and Gulf County colleagues to develop a training video for the volunteer Scallop Sitters. Franklin County volunteers will pick up their scallops from FWC on June 3 to be placed in predator exclusion cages in St. George Sound. Scallops are maintained in cages until after spawning season in the early fall.
- e. Extension Director participated in a second conference call with other UF faculty regarding a grant proposal focused on oysters as a tool for nitrogen removal from coastal ecosystems.
- f. Extension Director participated in the bi-monthly ACF Stakeholders Apalachicola Caucus call with other caucus members.

4-H Youth Development:

g. 4-H shooting sports club is actively practicing on the archery range now with 8 members. Family and Consumer Sciences:

h. Family Nutrition Program assistant continues providing nutrition programming in local schools. Currently teaching “Soccer for Success” in partnership with the US Soccer Foundation; a physical activity curriculum with nutrition messaging.

Agriculture/Home Horticulture:

i. Two Master Gardener classes took place at the local Extension office during this period.

Potential dates for ribbon-cutting June 22 or 24, maybe have open hours from 4-6:30. Try to do an official photo-op around 5ish.

The consensus of the Board was June 24th.

Library Director – Whitney Roundtree

8. Report Action Item

Unfortunately, I was given the resignation by Danielle Millender, who is a permanent part-time library assistant at the Carrabelle branch, effective May 24th. I am requesting board approval to advertise and fill the vacated position.

On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board agreed to approve advertisement and filling of the vacated position. Motion carried 5-0.

Informational Items

The Eastpoint branch will be hosting The Kick the Can, Cancer Support Group on June 7th at 1:00 pm. This is a monthly program for anyone who is battling cancer and their caregivers. This group is intended to be a source of encouragement to those who are either on their journey with cancer currently or are recovering or in remission. There will also be a caregiver’s support meeting at the same time in another room.

Franklin County Public Library is excited to host our annual summer learning program! Our summer learning program helps kids, teens, and adults learn all summer long. The 2021 Summer Reading Theme is Tails and Tales! Animals of all kinds roam the lands and soar through the air, and many have both a Tail and a Tale! Explore the world of life around you and find out what is special about so many of the animals who live with us on our little blue planet. Programs typically take place from early June to late July or early August. Check your local branch for their dates, registration is required for some events. All library programs and events are free and open to the public.

This year, the Wilderness Coast Library system is providing online access to Beanstack to all its patrons. Through Beanstack, users can track reading, participate in challenges, and engage with fun literacy activities. Every challenge completed is a chance to win a prize! Download the free Beanstack app or visit fcplfl.beanstack.com to register.

June Calendar of Events:

Eastpoint Branch

June 1st – Diabetes Awareness at 10:00 am-11:00 am. This is a monthly program that you can come to and have all your questions answered about Diabetes from a trained professional.

John is here to answer any questions you may have. No appointment is needed, and this is a free program.

This is Australian music, education, and entertainment program. Come out and enjoy the unique sounds and learn about the culture “Down Under”.

June 7th – Kick the Can, Cancer Support Group at 1:00 pm. This is a monthly program for anyone who is battling cancer and their caregivers. This group is intended to be a source of encouragement to those who are either on their journey with cancer currently or are recovering or in remission. There will also be a caregiver’s support meeting at the same time in another room.

Jerry Walls’ Amazing Animals is a traveling educational program series that introduces the audience to the fascinating world of animals.

June 14th – Movie Matinee at 1:30 pm. FCPL will be hosting a movie matinee with popcorn and light refreshments. The featured film is Disney’s Zootopia.

June 15th & 29th – Adult Meditative Coloring at 10:30 am. Come create, relax and let your mind relax and take you away to your world of imagination. Supplies will be provided as well as light refreshments.

June 16th - Writers forum at 1:00 pm. Interested in becoming a writer? This group meets once a month to discuss new ideas and learn useful tips from local author, Dawn Radford.

June 16th, 23rd & 30th--Animal Science and Dissection ages 11+ at 2:30 pm. Registration is required for this event. This is an educational animal science program featuring hands-on learning that keeps students engaged. There will be three classes: June 16th- Owl Pellets, June 23rd- Earthworms, and June 30th –Sheep Eyes. Stop by the Eastpoint branch or call 850-670- 8151 to register for this event.

June 24th -- Storytime (ages 1-6) at 10:30 am. A program for younger children featuring a fun story and craft.

Carrabelle Branch

June 4th – Didgeridoo at 2:00 pm. This is Australian music, Education, Motivation, and an entertainment program. Come out and enjoy the unique sounds and learn about the culture “Down Under”

June 4th- Book Chat at 1:30 pm. This is a monthly group that meets to discuss the current books they have been reading or maybe interested in reading. There is no set book for this group; the book of choice is up to the individual.

June 8th & 22nd – Adult Meditative Coloring at 10:30 am. Come create, relax and let your mind relax and take you away to your world of imagination. Supplies will be provided as well as light refreshments

June 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30--Stop Motion Movie Making ages 8+ at 2:30 pm. Registration is required for this event. Learn the art of stop-motion movie-making, a time-consuming and precise filmmaking technique. Stop by the Carrabelle branch or call 850-697-2366 to register.

June 10th – Amazing Animals at 3:00 pm. Jerry Walls’ Amazing Animals is a traveling educational program series that introduces the audience to the fascinating world of animals.

June 12th- Animal Clay Sculpting (ages 5+) at 10:30. This is a program that allows your child to learn some basic techniques in clay sculpting.

June 17th - Rebuild Florida 9:30 am-4:30 am is aiding those still recovering from Hurricane Michael. Rebuild Florida is a state program launched with federal assistance to help Florida's long-term recovery efforts from the devastating impacts of natural disasters.

June 18th - Movie Matinee at 1:30 pm FCPL will be hosting a movie matinee with popcorn and light refreshment. The featured film is Disney’s The Junglebook (2016).

June 25th- Backyard Birding at 1:30 pm. The Apalachee Audubon Society will be at the Franklin County Public Library Carrabelle branch discussing how to make your yard more attractive to birds. Learn how to make your yard attractive to birds and teaching you how to identify them.

Alligator Point Water Resources District – Sara Turner – Request

9. APWRD will present a resolution for Board support, to expand their current district boundaries. The expansion project would extend to include only the areas served by the district and the district's well fields.

Attorney Ron Mowery, Sara Turner, Skip Cook, and Emmett Mitchell were in attendance. Attorney Ron Mowery presented the request to the Board.

On a motion by Commissioner Boldt, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board agreed to approve a resolution for Board support to expand the Alligator Point Water Resources District boundaries. Motion carried 5-0.

Action Item:

Clerk Maxwell requested that a previously omitted invoice from Lori Switzer for \$7,031.86 from the SHIP program for administration fees be approved.

On a motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Ward, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board agreed to approve the payment of an invoice from Lori Switzer for \$7,031.86 from the SHIP program for administration fees. Motion carried 5-0.

The meeting recessed at 10:01 a.m. and resumed at 10:15 a.m.

RFP / RFQ / Bids Opening

10. Pursuant to the regulations found at 2 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 200 at seq., in addition to the statutory authority requirements and programmatic guidance governing the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Disaster Recovery Programs the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners will receive sealed bids from any qualified person, company or corporation interested in constructing:

EASTPOINT FISHING PIER WASHOUT REPAIR

The project is located at the Eastpoint Fishing Pier in Franklin County, Florida, and consists of regrading embankment, patching asphalt parking due to storm damage, installing articulating concrete block, remove and replace guardrail, ADA wooden boardwalk, and rubble.

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

- a. Duggar Excavating Inc. of Crawfordville \$347,192 with alternate bid and bid bond
- b. North Florida Construction of Clarksville \$313,549.14 with alternate bid and bid bond
- c. Inland Construction and Engineering, Inc. of Panama City \$743,077.73 with alternate bid and bid bond

Chairman Jones questioned as to what alternate bids are. Mrs. Griffith said they are things the companies believe would be a good idea to do. Commissioner Lockley questioned as to if the two companies underbid or if the one company overbid. Mr. Clay Kennedy said all of the quotes were higher than the allotted funds from FEMA. He said the bid alternates are line items that were not previously included in the FEMA damage description but we felt like they needed to be in there. We put those in there to see if they were something FEMA would pay for but kept them separate so that we would have a base bid. Commissioner Parrish said he liked the idea of having parking lot striping. He would like them to request the alternate bid be funded by FEMA.

On a motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board agreed to turn over the bid packages to Mr. Clay Kennedy for review and ranking. Motion carried 5-0.

11. 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 Timber Island Road from U.S. Highway 98 to the end of the road at the Carrabelle River. The total length of the project is approximately 0.9 miles. The scope of the project includes widening the existing roadway from 20' to 24' wide and resurfacing the existing travel lanes, adding 6' wide grassed shoulders, necessary drainage improvements, adding guardrails, and upgrading signage and pavement markings. Consideration will be given to only those firms that are qualified according to law and that have been prequalified by FDOT to perform the indicated types of work.

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

1. Southeastern Consulting Engineers - Port St. Joe
2. Anchor Consulting – Panama City
3. EXP Engineering – Tallahassee
4. AE Engineering – Tallahassee
5. AECOM Technical Services – Monticello

On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board agreed to turn over the RFQ packages to the evaluation committee for review and ranking. Motion carried 5-0.

Fiscal Manager/Grants Coordinator – Erin Griffith – Report

12. Report Action Items

a. BOARD ACTION: Accept rankings of firms for CR30A SCOP Resurfacing Project Highway 98 to 13 Mile

The committee has ranked Southeastern Consulting Engineers, Inc. as the top firm for the CEI consultant on the CR30A SCOP Resurfacing Project from Highway 98 to 13 Mile Road. Board action to direct the Planning Department to proceed with negotiations with Southeastern Consulting Engineers, Inc. The CEI for this project will include the construction engineering and inspection services for approximately 5.26 miles of resurfacing and widening.

Board action to authorize the Planning Department to proceed with negotiations with Southeastern Consulting Engineers, Inc.

On a motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board agreed to authorize the Planning Department to proceed with negotiations with Southeastern Consulting Engineers, Inc. Motion carried 5-0.

b. BOARD ACTION: Accept rankings of firms for CR370 Alligator Drive Multi-Use Path Phase I

The committee has ranked AECOM Technical Services, Inc. as the top firm for the CEI consultant on the CR370 Alligator Drive Multi-Use Path Phase I from George Vause Road to Gulf Shore Boulevard. As this project is federally funded through the Florida Department of Transportation LAP program, FDOT also needed to review and accept the rankings, which they have done so already.

Board action to authorize the Planning Department to proceed with negotiations with AECOM Technical Services, Inc.

On a motion by Commissioner Boldt, seconded by Commissioner Ward, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board agreed to authorize the Planning Department to proceed with negotiations with AECOM Technical Services, Inc. Motion carried 5-0.

c. BOARD ACTION: Approval to obtain an easement for Eastpoint Channel Dredge Disposal Area

The Corps of Engineers, in consultation with FDEP, told Alan last week that Franklin County will need to obtain an easement from FDEP for the 26 acres Eastpoint Channel Disposal Area. An easement will be needed as the creation of the disposal area is going to turn currently submerged lands into an upland area. The county is already responsible for planting and stabilizing the area. The estimated fee for Dewberry to complete the necessary surveys and application will not exceed \$5,000 and can be paid out of the budget line item for professional services.

Board action to authorize Dewberry Engineers to complete the necessary surveys and application to obtain an easement from FDEP for access to the Eastpoint Channel Disposal Area.

On a motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board agreed to authorize Dewberry Engineers to complete the necessary surveys and application to obtain an easement from FDEP for access to the Eastpoint Channel Disposal Area. Motion carried 5-0.

d. BOARD ACTION: Approval to develop bird monitoring plan Two Mile Channel Dredge Project

The disposal area for the Two Mile Channel Dredge project is south of the Apalachicola Regional Airport. Alan was on a conference call last week with the Corps and the FAA and due to the proximity to the airport, the county will need to develop and implement a bird monitoring plan to satisfy the FAA. With approval from the Board, airport engineers AVCON can develop this plan and submit it to county staff for review. The bird monitoring plan is going to require the Board to hire an FAA-qualified biologist for this type of work. When the board dredged the Two Mile Channel some 15 years ago, this same requirement was in place. At that time, the Board contracted with FWC for the use of a licensed 'Bird Harassment Officer' to be on-site during dredging to make sure birds did not congregate at the disposal site. The contract with FWC at that time was for about \$15,000.

Board action to authorize AVCON to develop and implement a bird monitoring plan to satisfy FAA requirements for use of the 2 Mile Channel Dredge Disposal Area.

On a motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board agreed to authorize AVCON to develop and implement a bird monitoring plan to satisfy FAA requirements for use of the 2 Mile Channel Dredge Disposal Area. Motion carried 5-0.

e. BOARD ACTION: Use of CARES funds for Landfill Receiver Box Slab Pad

Of the first CARES allocation, Franklin County has a remaining balance of approximately \$61,000. At the Franklin County Landfill's transfer station, there is a 66'x33' concrete receiver box slab where the transfer containers for household waste are set to wait for transport to the Springhill landfill for disposal. This slab area was completed several years ago and prevents soil and groundwater contamination by draining the runoff from the transport containers to the sewer system. The containers are very heavy as is the equipment required to move the containers. To protect and preserve the concrete slab and the integrity of the drainage system, welded metal sheeting is needed for the pad area. The market prices of metal sheeting change daily and the current estimate for the materials is \$29,178 with the necessary labor to install the sheeting estimated to be \$4,635. Does the Board want to consider using some of the balance of the first CARES allocation to preserve and protect the receiver box slab at the Landfill? The CARES expenditure worksheet is attached.

Board action to authorize the use of an estimated \$33,813 of the remaining proceeds from the 1st Cares Allocation to preserve and protect the receiver box slab at the landfill.

Item previously addressed.

Informational Items

f. Board Information: Alligator Drive Hurricane Repair Project

At your last meeting, Alan informed the Board about an FDEP special permitting condition issue that had come up at the pre-construction meeting for the reconstruction of Alligator Drive. The subject special permit condition prohibited construction during Sea Turtle Nesting Season. Franklin County already had a letter from FWC acknowledging that there was no turtle nesting habitat in the area of construction so the special permit condition would and should not have applied, however, the FDEP staff on site were unable to waive the condition without moving up the chain of command at FDEP. Franklin County received formal approval/acknowledgment on Friday that this special permit condition would be waived by FDEP due to the lack of nesting habit. Dewberry Engineers can now move forward with issuing the Notice to Proceed for the reconstruction of Alligator Drive sometime this week.

g. Board Information: Buddy Ward Artificial Reef Project

Walter Marine of Orange Beach, AL will be in Franklin County on or around June 15th for the deployment of the prefabricated articulated reef balls for the Buddy Ward Artificial Reef Project. The deployment is expected to be completed in one day and the Apalachicola Artificial Reef Association will be at the site to fully document and monitor the deployment.

h. Board Information: Preliminary Estimate of Taxable Value

The Franklin County Property Appraiser has provided the Board with a good faith estimate of taxable value for use in the 2021/2022 budget cycle. In the attached, the estimated taxable value

of property in Franklin County is \$2,310,915,668 which is an increase of 13.81% in value over the previous year. This percentage of increase fueled by sales data and new construction is the fastest rate of appreciation as seen by Franklin County since the crash of the housing market almost fifteen years ago. The decline in values during the housing crash was so severe that the taxable value of the property today is now just above the taxable value in 2004 which was \$2.107 billion and still 43% less than the taxable value at the high in 2006 when the taxable value was \$4.112 billion. The revenue estimates for state shared revenues and sales tax proceeds will not be released by the Florida Office of Economic Development and Research until sometime in July.

County Coordinator – Michael Morón – Report

13. Report Action Items

a. Airport Manager's Resignation: Mr. Jason Puckett submitted his resignation as your Airport Manager effective today June 1, 2021. My recommendation is to appoint me as your interim Airport Manager. This would allow the Board the opportunity to determine the role and responsibilities of a future Airport Manager, along with a job description and salary before advertising for a permanent candidate. I also recommend transferring the grant and reporting responsibilities, permanently, to Mrs. Erin Griffith, your Fiscal Manager/Grants Coordinator. *Board action to accept Mr. Puckett's resignation, appoint me as the interim Airport Manager, and assign Airport grants and report to Mrs. Erin Griffith.*

Commissioner Boldt said he would like to see an experienced airport manager temporarily fill in. He has spoken with Mr. Ted Mosteller inquiring to see if he'd be willing to be an interim airport manager.

Commissioner Boldt made a motion to accept Mr. Puckett's resignation and to permanently transfer the grant and reporting responsibilities associated with the airport to Mrs. Erin Griffith. Commissioner Ward seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-1, Commissioner Parrish opposed.

Commissioner Ward asked Mr. Mosteller if he was interested in being the interim airport manager. Mr. Mosteller said that he would be glad to.

On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, to appoint Mr. Mosteller as the interim airport manager through the end of September 2021. Motion carried 3-2, Commissioner Parrish and Commissioner Lockley opposed.

b. 8 County Oil Spill Administrators' Meeting & Superintendent at July Meeting: I attended the 8 County Oil Spill Administrators' Meeting hosted by Senators Broxon and Gainer on Monday, May 24th. The purpose of the meeting was for all 8 counties to express concerns and suggestions regarding the TRIUMPH application process, with more funded projects as the result. Job creation requirements, clawback clause, increase in infrastructure projects, and small county vs bigger county obstacles were discussed during a closed-door session. Later that afternoon, the Senators invited TRIUMPH representatives, Chairman Don Gaetz, Mr. Rick Harper (Economist), and the Alan Manning General Council to the meeting and presented the concerns and suggestions discussed earlier. During the TRIUMPH representatives dialog and exchange of information, there was one suggestion from the representatives to the 8 counties, especially the smaller counties,

include TRIUMPH in the early stages of planning or considering any project so they can assist with the application process. With that in mind, and based on an offer from Mr. Rick Harper (Economist) to meet with County representatives, I suggest that the Board consider authorizing Chairman Jones, Mrs. Erin Griffith, and I to meet with TRIUMPH representatives to discuss Franklin County's unique issues and perhaps generate some possible projects that TRIUMPH would consider.

On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, to authorize Chairman Jones, Mrs. Griffith, and Mr. Moron to represent the Board and meet with TRIUMPH representatives to discuss possible projects. Motion carried 5-0.

Inform the Board that Mr. Steve Lanier, Superintendent of Schools, and I talked last week about the "adult vocational" program. Mr. Lanier along with his staff will be at your July 6th meeting to discuss this program in more detail.

Commissioner Lockley asked if Mr. Ted Mosteller would be paid for his role as the interim airport manager.

Motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Boldt to pay Mr. Ted Mosteller as the interim airport manager.

Mr. Moron asked Attorney Shuler to give his guidance regarding this matter. Attorney Shuler said he could draft a contract and have it ready for the next board meeting. Commissioner Lockley believes the pay should be equivalent to Mr. Puckett. Attorney Shuler said he is not sure that Mr. Mosteller has the same credentials as Mr. Puckett but it is entirely up to the Board. Commissioner Boldt said he believes Mr. Mosteller has the same knowledge as Mr. Puckett and Mr. Mosteller will be present at the airport. Mr. Mosteller said he appreciates the discussion of payment. However, he has always volunteered for the position of airport manager. He appreciates whatever the Board decides regarding compensation.

Motion carried 3-2, Chairman Jones and Commissioner Parrish opposed.

Mr. Moron confirmed that the motion is for Attorney Shuler to draft a contract based on the Board's direction.

c. Eastpoint USDA Grant: At your March 16, 2021 meeting the Board authorized the Eastpoint Civic Association, by Resolution, to apply for a USDA Rural Business Development Grant to complete an Eastpoint Highway 98 Waterfront and Business Corridor Feasibility Study. The Resolution authorized the elected officers of the Eastpoint Civic Association, Inc. to execute the grant application, agreement, change orders, and other documents related to the grant as signatories for the County. However, Mrs. Betty Webb who made the initial presentation to the Board is of the opinion that since the County is the ultimate responsible party, the Chairman's signature is required on the application and related documents. The application is due in USDA's Marianna office tomorrow by 10 a.m. Mrs. Webb is available virtually to answer any questions.

On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, to authorize the Chairman's signature on the application and supporting documents for the USDA Rural Business Development Grant. Motion carried 5-0.

Informational Items

d. Courthouse Structure: Based on the Board's request, a structural engineer inspected the courthouse for any indication that undermining issues on Leslie or Forbes Street may cause structural issues in the courthouse. Mr. Lance Watson, Southeastern Consulting Engineers, does not believe that the issues on both roads present an immediate threat to the building's foundation because they are far enough away that they shouldn't impact the structure. However, he recommends that both roads are repaired as soon as possible to prevent further damage to the roadway and that the damage does not extend toward the Courthouse structure. There are some other issues that may have been caused by damaged infrastructure and recent hurricanes/storms that need to be addressed. Mr. Watson and I will be meeting soon to discuss addressing these issues. I will continue to update the Board on this matter.

e. SHIP Funding: Mrs. Lori Switzer-Mills, your SHIP Administrator, participated in a webinar on Thursday, May 20th where she was informed that the County will most likely receive \$350,000.00 for the 2021/22 SHIP allocation. She will update the Board once this information is confirmed.

f. NFWFMD: Attached are the Northwest Florida Water Management District's Annual Wetland report and summary. This report is based on the District's compilation of the status of wetland and related habitat protection in northwest Florida. It includes a cumulative summary of wetland impacts permitted by the Districts' Environmental Resource Permitting (ERP) program with a summary of wetlands and associated water resource lands restored and protected by District's programs.

Commissioner Ward asked Mr. Moron to reach out to the individual at FDOT who is responsible for Hwy 98. She has two areas of concern where the speed limit may need to be reduced and double lines placed. She would also like for Mr. Moron to check on what can be done at the junction of Hwy 67 and Hwy 98 in the downtown area of Carrabelle. Commissioner Ward suggested installing a crosswalk.

Commissioner Boldt said he has similar issues in his district westbound on Hwy 98 at Crooked River Road. He would like to have the speed limit reduced, double lines placed, and possibly a turn lane added.

Mr. Moron asked the Board to send him an email with all of their state road concerns and he will submit one request to FDOT.

Chairman Jones asked Mr. Moron to get a quote for cell phones for the Board. Chairman Jones said he felt like a separate phone device would help in being transparent to the public.

Attorney Shuler asked the Board for direction on the request from Mrs. Sanders to rescind the letter of support sent to Liberty County. Chairman Jones asked if she was wanted us to rescind the letter. Commissioner Boldt said he had lengthy a conversation with the Sanders family and they do want the letter rescinded.

Attorney Shuler said he is waiting for either a letter from Liberty County BOCC or their revised board meeting minutes. This is due to the Board's direction to have something in writing from the BOCC to show their support for the project.

Chairman Jones said since we are waiting on those items from Liberty County he recommends waiting to take action after we received them. Commissioner Boldt said he felt they are spinning their wheels and dragging their feet.

Motion by Commissioner Boldt to rescind the letter of support to Liberty County. Commissioner Parrish said he didn't vote to send the letter to start with so he is not going to make a second. **The motion fails for lack of a second.**

Chairman Jones said we will wait for Liberty County to provide the documentation previously requested by the Board.

County Attorney – Michael Shuler – Report

14. Report

Action Items:

a. Settlement: Two claims are pending against the Weems EMS. A settlement has been reached without any admission of liability, but your insurance has agreed to settlement terms. The county's only financial responsibility will be the payment of two \$5,000 deductibles. I recommend that you accept the insurance company's recommendation. I have discussed the terms of the settlement with each of you individually.

On a motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board authorized acceptance of the two settlements recommended by the insurance companies. Motion carried 5-0.

a. Enhanced Cleaning of Vacation Rentals: Last year around this time, the board adopted an enhanced cleaning program for vacation rentals so that they could re-open. Now that the Governor has eliminated all China Virus related restrictions, the board should reconsider officially disposing of the enhanced cleaning protocol for vacation rentals.

On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board agreed to rescind the enhanced cleaning procedures for rental companies. Motion carried 5-0.

a. Land Swap Proposed by the City of Apalach and Land Trust and Request to Release Reverter Clause: The City of Apalach and the Land Trust propose to swap one 60'x100' given by Franklin County to the Land Trust (subject to a reverter clause) for affordable housing to the City in exchange for four 30'x100' lots. For purposes of the City's land development code, the four lots equal two 60'x100' lots; representing two buildable lots being exchanged for one buildable lot. In 2010, Franklin County donated the one 60'x100' lot to the Land Trust for affordable housing subject to a reverter clause which automatically transfers title back to Franklin County if the Land Trust uses it for any other purpose than affordable housing or transfers title. Thus, their request that Franklin County releases the reverter clause. I believe that they want the Land Trust to donate the 60'x100' lot without condition, but on May 29, 2021, I asked for the City Manager and City Attorney to provide me with a written position on this matter.

The Board discussed the issue as to whether the lots were buildable. Commissioner Parrish said he would like assurances from the city that are going to be buildable lots. Cliff Butler said they are more buildable than the one we are giving up.

Commissioner Parrish made a motion to accept the land swap based on Attorney Shuler's recommendation that one of the lots have a reverter clause back to the County and that both lots are buildable.

The Board discussed the location of the two lots which are located on 25th Street behind the Villas. Mr. Butler said the deal would allow for a swap of one lot zoned R-1 for four lots zoned for manufactured housing.

Commissioner Lockley seconded the motion to approve with the provision that Attorney Shuler receives assurances from the City of Apalachicola that the lots are buildable and the reverter clause is included. Motion carried 5-0.

Attorney Shuler noted that a letter was sent to the Department of Revenue regarding the new TDC tax and he has received confirmation of receipt. The new tax will go into effect on July 1st. Commissioner Ward said a couple of people have reached out to her about the leave no trace ordinance noting that there are turtles nesting on beaches other than St. George Island. She suggested we take a look at the current ordinance and revise it to add other locations.

Commissioner Ward made a motion to revisit the Leave No Trace ordinance to include all of the beaches in Franklin County. Commissioner Boldt seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Non-Action Items:

Jingoli Power: The lease at the airport is waiting on Phase I environmental report. The environmentalist was in the field on May 28, 2021, working on this report.

Commissioners' Comments

None.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Ricky Jones – Chairman

Attest:

Michele Maxwell – Clerk of Courts