

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

FEBRUARY 04, 2020

9:00 AM

MINUTES

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

Others Present: Marcia M. Johnson-Clerk of Court, Erin Griffith-Assistant Finance Director, Michael Moron-County Coordinator, Michael Shuler – County Attorney, Lori P. Hines-Deputy Clerk to the Board.

Call to Order

Chairman Lockley called the meeting to Order.

Prayer and Pledge

Commissioner Jones said a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

1. Minutes-January 21, 2020

On motion by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the minutes.

Payment of County Bills

2. Bill List for Payment

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

Public Comments

Mrs. Brenda LaPaz, Major of the City of Carrabelle, said she brings a message from the Carrabelle City Commission and other citizens about the Weems Memorial Hospital dilemma. She explained they have reviewed both offers and support a medical facility that is centrally located and serves all the citizens. She stated multiple citizens have also asked her to deliver a second message that they prefer a centrally located facility managed by Sacred Heart because of the services offered, the central location and the end cost to the citizens and taxpayers. She reported the construction of the Carrabelle City Hall cost more to build because of a delay on the decision. Mayor LaPaz said they can

only imagine the cost of constructing a new hospital now compared to the figures presented in 2008-2010. She stated taking into consideration the individual interlocal agreements with the two cities, the ballot wording and the ordinance maybe they should consider a referendum. She reported medical services have changed since 2008 and in their decision making they should keep in mind all the citizens and equal access.

Mayor LaPaz invited the Board to hold some of their meetings in at the Carrabelle City Hall facility.

Mr. Alan Feifer, Concerned Citizens of Franklin County (CCFC), stated it is important to understand they have the Hospital Board but the Board of County Commissioners is the responsible party. He presented a financial analysis he prepared concerning Weems Memorial Hospital and said the figures were all provided by the hospital. He explained there have been 3 adjustments in the last 6 months that make their income appear higher. Mr. Feifer stated the accounts payable is growing very quickly and has doubled what it was 6 months ago which shows a shortage of cash. He reported the hospital is on the agenda asking for an advance of money for payroll. Mr. Feifer stated either the books were either altered by mistake or the belief that it was accurate. He explained these changes should have caused restatement of prior year numbers. He reviewed the financial analysis he submitted for the Board and said this is the type of offset some professional should be looking at. He asked for the numbers to be looked at since the Board is responsible and that they do not rely on numbers that are not certified when they make their decisions.

Mr. Bud Hayes, Franklin County Humane Society, thanked Commissioner Boldt for the signage. He stated in the budget hearings the Board voted to give money to the Franklin County Humane Society and then withheld the money when they blocked a driveway on their property. He explained the driveway was reopened but they have still not provided their money. He reported the Humane Society had extra expenses and he requested the Board allow them to get the money previously given to them.

Mr. Moron presented the following item on his report:

16. Second Amendment Resolution: At your last meeting there was action by the Board to have staff present a resolution declaring Franklin County's support of the Second Amendment. Attached (Agenda Packet) to my report is that resolution for your review and approval.

Request: Board action to approve and authorize the Chairman's signature on the resolution declaring Franklin County's support of the Second Amendment.

Mr. Moron said the Sheriff wanted to be here to show support for this action. Sheriff A.J. Smith said he supports what the Board is doing.

Commissioner Boldt brought into discussion some parking and speeding problems particularly on Heffernan Drive and Park Drive in Lanark Village and asked if they have resources to mitigate the speeding with more than surveillance. Sheriff Smith reported he has attended a number of meeting there and has a full time deputy assigned to traffic. He said the traffic deputy has worked there and they have put a traffic counter out there and most of the cars were not speeding. He read from the

report generated in September and said the maximum speed was 31 mph and 85% of the cars were doing 19 mph. He stated the speed limit in this area is 15 mph. Sheriff Smith stated these figures were from Parker Street but they have also done this on Heffernan Drive and Oak Street. He said some people have mentioned speed bumps but that is not a decision for him. He agreed they can collect some more data and put the counters out for a longer time if they would like that. Commissioner Boldt agreed the data is factual and asked Sheriff Smith to check it again. Sheriff Smith asked how long he would like them to check for. Commissioner Boldt stated whatever amount of time the Sheriff suggests. Sheriff Smith suggested 30 days and said they also bought radar signs. He said the staff has done a good job of enforcement and in addition to the person working traffic there is also a zone deputy out there. Commissioner Boldt agreed he could re-check this item and report back.

Mr. Moron stated Commissioner Jones made the motion for the 2nd Amendment Resolution and was involved in working and researching the Resolution. Mr. Moron read a portion of the Resolution for the Board's consideration. **On motion by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to adopt the Resolution, as follows:**

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, DECLARING FRANKLIN COUNTY'S SUPPORT OF THE SECOND AMENDMENT

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the United States is the supreme law of our nation; and

WHEREAS, the Second Amendment to the Constitution states, "a well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed;" and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Supreme Court in the *District of Columbia v. Heller*, 554 U.S. 570 (2008), affirmed that the Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms is unconnected with service in a militia; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Supreme Court in *United States v. Miller*, 307 U.S. 174 (1939), supports that firearms that are part of ordinary military equipment or whose use could contribute to the common defense are protected by the Second Amendment; and

WHEREAS, the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution states in part that, "[n]o State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws;" and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Supreme Court in *McDonald v. City of Chicago*, 561 U.S. 742 (2010), affirmed that a person's Second Amendment right to "keep and bear arms" is further secured by the "due process" and the "privileges and immunities" clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment.; and

WHEREAS, the Tenth Amendment to the Constitution states that, "[t]he powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people;" and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Supreme Court found in *Printz v. United States*, 521 U.S. 898 (1997), that the Federal government cannot compel law enforcement officers of the States to enforce federal laws as it would increase the power of the Federal government far beyond that which the Constitution intended; and

WHEREAS, Article I, Section 8(a), of the Florida Constitution states that, "the right of the people to keep and bear arms in defense of themselves and of the lawful authority of the state shall not be infringed, except that the manner of bearing arms may be regulated by law;" and

WHEREAS, due to dual sovereignty of the U.S. Constitution, the Federal government has no authority to enforce state laws and States cannot be compelled to enforce Federal laws; and

WHEREAS, the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners each took an oath to support, protect and defend the Constitution and government of the United States and of the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the protectors of the U.S. Constitution are "we the people of the United States of America" and our ability to fulfill that role successfully rests on our Second Amendment rights.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Franklin County, Florida Board of County Commissioners as follows:

Section 1. The Franklin County Board of County Commissioners hereby declares Franklin County's support of the Second Amendment and opposition to the infringement of the right to bear arms, in order to preserve for the People of, on, and in Franklin County, their rights guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States of America.

Section 2. The Franklin County Board of County Commissioners hereby reaffirms our solemn oath to support, protect and defend the Constitution and government of the United States and of the State of Florida.

Duly Adopted by the Franklin County, Florida Board of County Commissioners this **4th day of February, 2020.**

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: s/Noah Lockley, Jr. _____
Noah Lockley Jr., Chairman

Attest:

s/Marcia M. Johnson _____
Marcia M. Johnson
Clerk of Courts

Chairman Lockley stated it is his opinion that the city should attend to city business, the county should attend to county business and the state should attend to state business.

Superintendent of Schools –Traci Moses –Escape Route Discussion

Superintendent Moses said she appreciates the Board's partnership in keeping the schools safe and assisting with Triumph grants. She asked the Board to assist them with an emergency escape route for the school. She explained when the hurricane happened the road was damaged and there was no other way to get in or out of the school. She pointed out if an emergency happens on the school campus there is only one way in and out. Superintendent Moses stated they would like to use their property behind the school to put an exit onto Highway 65. She reported Mr. Rob Wheatley, Director of School Safety, is present to explain more about what they are asking for. She explained there has been some miscommunication because they had to change their email domain due to some potential cyber security threats. Superintendent Moses presented some information and copies of the easement and map to the Board. Mr. Wheatley said the last 2 years on their annual risk assessment the number 1 priority has been the evacuation road. He explained they only have one way in and out and if something happens in the front of the school they have no exit. He reported 1 of their rally points if something happens is the football field and from that area they would leave out of the back exit. He referenced the map provided and said the area is approximately 1 mile long and that is where they are asking for help to clear the road. He said the Franklin County School Board does not have the equipment to construct the road and they need help from the county or they will need to go another route. Mr. Wheatley offered to answer any questions. Chairman Lockley stated Attorney Shuler sent some papers to the School Board about this project. Attorney Shuler reported Superintendent Moses touched on a problem that prevented the exchange of information. He stated when this request first came to the Board in the fall of last year their direction to him was to gather information from the School Board so they could have the county's engineer create a cost assessment so the county would know how much time and effort from the county's in-kind labor would be needed and the expense to the county. He explained there was also a need to get clarification on how much money the school board had available for this project. Attorney Shuler reported they also needed clarification on what type of road is being built and answers to a list of questions the engineer provided. Attorney Shuler stated this letter was sent and he received a reply from the school board attorney last week. He said the county still does not have the information they need from the school board to move forward. He agreed there was some kind of email communication error. Superintendent Moses clarified the school board has \$56,000 allocated for school safety hardening on school grounds. She explained they need to move forward with this project because this money must be returned on June 30th if it is not allocated. She stated they are asking the county for the use of equipment but she is not sure how to estimate the cost of using the equipment. She reported the school board does not have the equipment so their next step is to go out for bids and take the money out of the general fund that is not allocated. Superintendent Moses said they are asking for some in-kind service in the form of equipment use and manpower from the county but there is no liability or responsibility for the county to maintain the road. She asked Mr. Wheatley to estimate the time involved to complete the road. Mr. Wheatley estimated it will take about 2 months to get the road done. Superintendent Moses stated they are not asking for the county to work every day on the road but as they can and they would provide school board district staff also. She reported she will ask the school board attorney to work

with Attorney Shuler to get an assessment of the cost of the project. She said they do not feel like this will be a major expense to the county and the maintenance of the road will be the responsibility of the school district. Superintendent Moses stated the road will have limerock so they can get school buses out but this road will not be used on a regular basis. She reported if there was a threat they would need to get students off the campus. Chairman Lockley agreed they need this road and must protect the children. Superintendent Moses suggested if a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is needed that would be acceptable to the school board. She explained liability is a concern for everyone and the next step is for the attorneys to speak and find out what information is needed to move this project forward. Superintendent Moses said if the road is not accessible and they have a threat on campus there is about 1,000 people at risk. She stated the school district should have done this a long time ago and getting the easements from the state were the biggest feat and they have them now. She reported they need the 1 mile section cleared so they can put down the limerock. Superintendent Moses stated they appreciate any assistance the county can provide even if it is not to totally get the road ready. Chairman Lockley said every Board member wants to help but they need to make sure the county is in the clear too. Commissioner Parrish explained they need to know what the obligation is because this expense is not in the county budget. He expressed concern about the maintenance and said every time it rains the road will wash out and his understanding is the easement will not allow the school district to pave the road. He said before he votes to obligate the county he needs to know what the obligation is in real numbers. Commissioner Parrish reported his understanding was the Forestry Service was going to clear the road and the county's obligation was to spread the limerock. He said the county hires someone to haul in limerock so there is also a cost to hire someone to haul the limerock and the cost of the limerock. He questioned if the Forestry Service is still willing to clear the road because the county does not have bulldozers to clear the road. Mr. Wheatley said when they talked with the Forestry Service they were in agreement but that was 4 months ago. He stated they will re-address this issue with them and get back together and see what they can do as a team. Commissioner Parrish agreed that is what they need to do so the county knows the total cost and what portion they are responsible for doing. He said he has no problem with the attorney working on this but they may need to get an engineer involved so they know the actual cost. Attorney Shuler reported the county engineer needs copies of the plans and what type of road will be built and what kind of cross section this will be so the county's engineer can calculate the materials needed and the manpower costs. He said they discussed widening the road and the engineer has a concern that if they go in and change the existing footprint of the road that would change the stormwater flow and they would be required to get stormwater management permits from the state and possibly from the Corps of Engineers (COE) which was another reason for asking for the construction plans. He stated some of these issues were addressed in the November 4th email that Superintendent Moses thought he had received but he just received the email last week. He said the email made reference to construction plans and permits. Attorney Shuler reported he has asked the school board attorney to provide this information so he can give it to the county's engineers so they can come up with a reasonable cost estimate. He reported there are things that need to be clarified but some of the points that had been unanswered are addressed in the November 4th email. He explained the email says the school board will be totally responsible for the costs. He said they had not addressed the indemnification issue but it has been addressed here this morning. Attorney Shuler stated they have made a lot of progress on the points that need to be discussed and now the attorneys can work together to create a working MOU. He reported the issue now is construction plans and whether or not there will need to be a stormwater

management permit and who will be responsible for attaining the permit. Attorney Shuler expressed his opinion that if this permit is needed it will not be issued within 2 months but those are decisions that must be made by the school board's engineer or someone that is consulting with the county to assist in this matter. He reported they need a plan to build the road before they can come up with what the cost of the road will be. Commissioner Parrish asked if there will be ditches on the sides of the road to keep water off the road. He explained the road also needs to be elevated and crowned so the water runs off the road and they need to know where the ditches flow to or it will be an ongoing issue with the road being washed out. Commissioner Parrish said the county does not build dirt roads and the design needs to be sustainable. He reported they want to work with the school board and build a road that will be there and they do not want to create something that will be a maintenance issue. He said his understanding is there are limitations on the easement they have been given. Superintendent Moses stated there are some restrictions in the easement that they must adhere to in order to have the access road. Mr. Carl Whaley, Franklin County School Board Member, said the road bed is typically laid out as a sand fire break but it has been hardened over the years from being used by the Forestry Service. He explained runoff is one of the reasons for a semi-permeable substrate. He went on to say a water management plan is not required because the water will hit the road and soak through. He said there are wash out issues that will need to be adjusted to over time. Mr. Whaley stated the school district owns equipment that is capable of maintaining the road but does not own equipment capable of constructing the road. He said this is to benefit the children and their main concern is if something happens at the school. He reported they worked for years to get the easement and they are anxious to move forward with the road for security of the students. Chairman Lockley asked how long the road is. Mr. Whaley answered a little over a mile. Commissioner Boldt asked about the money being time sensitive and what they can do to help. Superintendent Moses said she hopes they can provide the clarifying information the Board is requesting and she will request some additional information from the district facilities maintenance department so may they can be working on the road by April or May. She explained by June 30th they must either use the money or they will lose the money and they are restricted to spending the money for hardening. Superintendent Moses reported permitting takes time and she is concerned and does not want to give this money back because it has taken the school district a long time to get to this point. She thanked the Board for entertaining the request and said they will get the information from the school board attorney to the County Attorney so they can move forward. She apologized for the miscommunication error and said she did not get any notification that there was a problem with the email. Commissioner Boldt asked if the money will facilitate what they are asking from the county. Superintendent Moses answered no, and clarified the \$56,000 is to purchase the road materials. Mr. Whaley said they were hoping to spread the money further with the use of the county's equipment and their help. Chairman Lockley stated Attorney Shuler will get with the school board attorney and try to speed up the process so the county can help them and they do not lose their money. Superintendent Moses stated she thinks the time frame is adequate and she would like to finish the project so they are in full compliance but the state may understand the length of time it took to get the easement. Commissioner Massey suggested they work with Mr. Nabors because he can help. **On motion by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to direct the County Attorney to get with the school board attorney and hash out what it will take to do the MOU to try and construct this road for the school.** Commissioner Boldt asked if they will provide a progress report each month. Superintendent Moses agreed they will provide updates to the Board. She said

when the project is completed they will bring forward more information. She stated this is a huge concern if they had a fire or any other issues. Attorney Shuler reported they are waiting on the plans and permits to get to the engineer. Chairman Lockley said they will do everything they can to help.

Superintendent Moses referenced a letter received from the Triumph Gulf Coast Board concerning some fast track funds for career and technical education. She reported Triumph will reimburse the school board or technical college up to \$4,500 per completed certificate by residents in the county. She explained these funds are in relation to the high school and adult education population and the categories are carpentry, electrician, HVAC, plumbing and pipe fitting. She reported this was in her initial pre-application but they were told not to seek those funds because they would not have a return on the investment. Superintendent Moses said she is going back to her original pre-application and apply for these funds and hopefully bring the funds into the district and work with Tallahassee Community College (TCC) because it would be great economic diversification for the county. She stated the school just happens to provide that service on their campus. Superintendent Moses thanked the Sheriff for assisting the school district by providing another SRO on the main campus because they only had 1. She stated the MOU was for two paid positions and she is thankful the Sheriff is also in support of keeping the school students and staff safe. Chairman Lockley reported those are good trades they are offering because citizens can get work at the shipyard. Superintendent Moses stated they have also added the medical academy at the school and she thinks 11 students will graduate with their EKG certificate and CMA certificate. She said they were also successful with the welding program and they have added a business program, a drone program, an aviation program and a culinary program. She reported they are working to add more career and technical programs because that is what Franklin County needs to move forward. She thanked the Board for their partnership. Commissioner Boldt said he likes the intra-agency blending and how they work together.

Commissioner Jones left the meeting at this time.

RESTORE Coordinator – Alan Pierce – Update on Eastpoint Channel & Two-Mile Channel Dredging Project

Mr. Pierce read the following report:

- 1- Dredging Update- On Monday, Feb. 3, I had several conversations with USACOE personnel regarding the county's two dredging projects. Here is the current status:
 - A) Eastpoint Channel: The Corps has received the 3 potential designs for the disposal area, and are completing their cost estimates. They are in the process of scheduling a trip for the Mobile staff to come to Franklin County, but I offered to meet the Mobile staff at the Corp office in Panama City if that would speed up the meeting. The Corps still believes the channel will be dredged this summer.

Mr. Pierce said they will meet wherever they need to so this project can get started. He stated they hope to be able to complete this project with just the COE's money but the county has Triumph money if they need it but they will need some coordination and time to get the money delivered from the Consortium to the COE.

B) Two Mile Channel: The Corps is still working on the design and permitting of the Two Mile Channel. They still plan to use a smaller dredge so that the volume of water is less so there is less discharge back to the Bay. Mr. Waylon Register, USACOE office in Panama City, will lead the permitting and design for the Two Mile project. He has advised me that it would help if the county removed as many of the large trees and vegetation out of the disposal area, and then rebuild the dike walls to the best of our ability. The Corps will inspect the walls before the spoil site is used and if the walls do not meet the Corps standards the Corps would do additional work but whatever the county would do would be a benefit. It is still the intention of the Corps to utilize the same dredge for Eastpoint and Two Mile, but everything will have to work perfectly for the dredge to stay in the area and move from Eastpoint to Two Mile. If things do not work out perfectly the Corps would re-assign the dredge in the gap between the two projects, and then bring back the small dredge when Two Mile is ready.

Commissioner Jones returned to the meeting. Mr. Pierce said this item is just for their information. Commissioner Parrish stated he talked with Mr. Nabors about removal of the trees and rebuilding the walls with some of the dirt which will remove it from the site and make more room. He reported Mr. Nabors needs to get started and he told him to work with Mr. Pierce. He questioned if they can roll over the trees and cover them up in the area that has been dug out instead of digging them up and hauling them out of the site. Mr. Pierce said he will have to check with the COE. Commissioner Parrish stated he is concerned because the county does not have trailers to remove the trees. Mr. Pierce expressed concern that they will not have enough capacity if they bury the trees. Mr. Pierce questioned if maybe they could cut the trees down and burn them. Commissioner Parrish reported they need to get started on this site so they do not hold the project up while the dredge is in Eastpoint. He said the site needs to be ready so the COE is not waiting on the county. Mr. Pierce stated they may have permit issues with the Two Mile Channel because they do not have a permit for the dredging yet. He said there are some hurdles ahead and not just the spoil site. Commissioner Parrish reported they need to get the trees out and try to move the project forward. Chairman Lockley cautioned them to move carefully because sometimes they are particular about the site. Commissioner Jones asked if the county already addressed some items with the site when another person wanted to put spoil in the site. He questioned if they addressed removal of the trees. Mr. Pierce stated the COE said to remove as many trees as possible. Mr. Pierce reported the person that was interested in using the site did not move forward with his plan. Commissioner Jones explained he thought they already addressed what to do with the trees. Mr. Pierce agreed to review this matter with Mr. Nabors. Mr. Nabors said if they can get their equipment in the site then they can get the trees out. Mr. Pierce said he will find out if they can move the trees. He reported some of the trees may not need to be removed as they may not need all the site. He stated they told him to start on the east side and work west and most of the trees are on the west side. Mr. Nabors agreed to review the site.

2- Update on Alligator Drive. FEMA has sent over a draft Hazard Mitigation Project for county review. I have responded that FEMA has changed the material on Alligator Drive. The plans and the contractor bid on a vinyl stem wall on the north side of the road, but a much stronger steel sheetpile on the south side along the water. During the FEMA review, somehow all of the sheetpile was changed to vinyl. Hopefully, it was just an oversight

by FEMA, but it needs to be corrected because the engineer's plans call for metal sheetpile on the south side. Otherwise, it appears the mitigation project is ready for approval.

Mr. Pierce said he talked to the FEMA reviewers today and they assured him it is not a big deal but Mr. Clay Kennedy, Dewberry, talked with the design firm and it is a big deal. He stated the engineer would never use vinyl walls on the open face of the Gulf of Mexico. He was not sure why FEMA made this change unless it was a mistake or they were trying to make the cost benefit analysis work. He reminded the Board this happened with some plans after Hurricane Hermine and things were taken out to make their numbers work. Mr. Pierce stated the engineers will not certify a project that does not meet the specifications. He reported until this is resolved they cannot build the road without the sheetpile. He stated there is \$1.7 million in mitigation funds and the cost is the same so they have the right amount but need to correct the materials. He said FEMA gets a Project Worksheet (PW) to build the road back to pre-storm conditions which is about \$3 million and it is under the review of the Coordinated Review Council (CRC) and then they have hazard mitigation funds and they all go together in the end. He explained they are being reviewed separately because one is an improvement and one is a rebuilding. Mr. Pierce said there is no timeline now and if this keeps getting delayed the contractor is going to change the price in the bid.

3- Update on FDEP funding to complete the design of the beach renourishment project on Alligator Drive. The proposed budget from the Legislature has \$50M for FDEP beach renourishment projects around the state. I have spoken to FDEP staff and in order for our \$200K design to be funded in the order that FDEP ranked them, the Legislature needs to increase the funding to \$83M, or somehow move our project up. The normal funding for FDEP beach projects is \$50M annually, but FDEP staff said they had many more projects this year than they expected. If we do not get funded for the design this year, we can try again next year, but each year puts the project further away. I have notified Rep. Shoaf's office of our problem. If we do not get funded this year, then the soonest the road would be protected by a beach would be in 2023, and that would be the earliest.

I am going to the APTA meeting on Saturday, and will be telling them the same thing.

Mr. Pierce stated there is a possibility the representative could get direct language put into the bill that the county gets the \$200,000 to do the design and then let DEP work out the details. He said without that language there will not be any beach renourishment and the road will be at risk until this beach is in place. Commissioner Boldt stated Representative Shoaf suggested beach renourishment so there is some momentum. Mr. Pierce agreed Representative Shoaf knows about the road. Chairman Lockley said there could be some bad weather during the years they are waiting. Mr. Pierce explained FEMA had the plans for 4 months to review and then within 24 hours they want it signed and the plan has changed. Mr. Pierce stated the engineers would never approve vinyl sheetpile in this area. Commissioner Parrish stated land supports vinyl sheetpile and there is no land in this area. Mr. Pierce reported they sent an email with a copy of the plans. Commissioner Boldt asked if they need to have Senator Marco Rubio and Senator Rick Scott lobby for the county. Mr. Pierce said this is still with FEMA staff but they can call anyone they want to. Chairman Lockley reported they claim to be worried

about money but they spend money on the road and do nothing to protect it. Mr. Pierce said if this vinyl sheetpile is put in it will fail.

Mr. Pierce provided the following item from Mr. Moron's report:

19. MYP: Inform the Board that the U. S. Department of Treasury has accepted the county's Multiyear Plan (MYP) which includes funding for two studies, a stormwater design study and a dune restoration study. Mr. Alan Pierce and Langton Consultants are now completing some other Treasury requirements with the goal of getting advertisements out for design firms for both projects. Because this is a federal money the county must advertise for consultants for these projects.

Mr. Pierce stated they are beginning the process.

The meeting was recessed at 10:05 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 10:15 a.m.

Department Directors Report

Superintendent of Public Works – Howard Nabors

3. Report
Action Items:
None
Information Items:
Work Performed & Material Hauled by District Report (Agenda Packet)

Mr. Nabors said they are grading roads and cutting out right-of-ways. He stated complaints have been received about limbs in ditches and they are cleaning the ditches.

Mr. Nabors brought into discussion a pine tree in Lanark Village that is on the county right-of-way and the roots are lifting up the sidewalk. He explained the person who lives near this area is worried the roots will impact the foundation of his house. Mr. Nabors requested direction from the Board before he contacts someone about cutting the tree. Commissioner Boldt asked Mr. Nabors to evaluate this situation. Mr. Nabors agreed to review the area.

Mr. Nabors said he has received more complaints about approximately 20 pine trees that are rotten and leaning on state property along Highway 98. He stated people are afraid the trees are going to fall in the road or on a car. Mr. Moron said they will call Ferrovial and let them know. Commissioner Parrish reported there are also some to the west from Buddy Ward Park to Tilton Road on Highway 98. Mr. Nabors agreed they are also dead and leaning. Commissioner Parrish was not sure if the trees are on St. Joe property or the state right-of-way. He said he talked with Mr. Danny Collins, Duke Energy, about taking trees down around the distribution lines. He reported there have been ongoing issues since Hurricane Michael and people have been killed when trees fell on them while they were driving.

He asked that they evaluate the trees. Mr. Nabors stated the trees will fall on calm days and he is concerned because hurricane season is coming up. Commissioner Parrish agreed they need to let the state know about this trees. Commissioner Massey said there is also a tree west of the lighthouse on Highway 98 and he has called several times. Chairman Lockley stated they need to check the whole county. Mr. Nabors reported the trees that are dead on the right-of-way need to be cut because it is a big safety issue. **Commissioner Parrish made a motion to notify the state of the situation with the trees. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.** Commissioner Boldt asked if they would amend the motion to make sure they ask the state to be conscious of the debris piles along Highway 98. He explained in Lanark Village some private property owners are cleaning the debris piles after the long wait. **Commissioner Parrish amended the motion to include notifying the state about the debris piles along Highway 98. Commissioner Jones amended the second. Motion carried; 5-0.**

Mr. Nabors said he will look at the spoil site and get started on the work.

Commissioner Jones said he talked with Mr. Nabors today about addressing with some special assistance the problem with the road on West Bayshore Street on the Island in front of the blue store. He explained the pavement has been bad for a long time and he wanted to pave the area but there was hindrances to that because of how wide the right-of-way is going through there. Commissioner Jones stated they need to look at it and he will be getting together some figures to bring back and address part of the road with funds from the road maintenance fund. Mr. Nabors said they patched the road but the road has deteriorated and the cost for materials every time they patch the road is \$300. Chairman Lockley questioned when the next paving project is. Mrs. Griffith reported the road paving program only has \$300,000 for each Commissioner so there is not enough for a paving program yet. Commissioner Parrish asked if this road could be addressed by taking some road paving funds from Commissioner Jones' district and have Roberts & Roberts pave it when they are addressing the access road at the airport. He said they are in town and maybe can get this done by March or April before the spring season and save the mobilization charge. Commissioner Jones agreed he would be good with that suggestion. **Commissioner Jones made a motion to contact Roberts & Roberts and add this item to the work they are going to do when they are here. Commissioner Parrish seconded the motion.** Commissioner Parrish reported the airport project should start in the next 20 days. Mr. Pierce said they are working on it because they have already contacted the landfill about the tipping fees. He stated the contract time is 6 months. Chairman Lockley stated if anyone else that has a road that is a public safety issue they could also do this. Commissioner Boldt asked if they have enough to do this in the fund. Chairman Lockley said Mrs. Griffith stated they have about \$300,000 apiece. Commissioner Massey reported Mrs. Griffith told him it was about \$330,000. Mrs. Griffith agreed it is around that amount. Commissioner Parrish said \$300,000 is not a lot per district. He stated addressing this road while the contractor is in town will save money and it is the thing to do. Chairman Lockley agreed they do not want someone to get hurt. **Motion carried; 5-0.** Commissioner Jones asked Mr. Nabors to keep this area filled until the contractors get there. Mr. Nabors stated they will work on it tomorrow.

Solid Waste Director – Fonda Davis

4. Report
Action Items:

None

Information Items:

Right-of-Way Debris Pickup/Recycle Material Hauled (Agenda Packet)

Attached Recycling Purchase Order (Agenda Packet)

Mr. Davis provided an update from the Parks & Recreation Department. He reported the tennis court on St. George Island will be under repair starting on February 15th.

Mr. Davis stated the age of the vehicles in the Parks & Recreation Department are from 2001 to 2009. He said there are 5 vehicles and some were vandalized a few months ago. He explained when the vehicles came back from being repaired they are not right and it is a safety issue as the steering column is locking up. He stated it is in the shop now and they are saying they do not make the parts anymore. Mr. Davis said they are still searching but he would like the Board to consider purchasing more trucks. Chairman Lockley asked if there is money in his budget. Mr. Davis answered no. Chairman Lockley questioned if there is any FEMA money coming in to help with the trucks. Mr. Davis reported they may not have FEMA money to spend on the trucks. Chairman Lockley stated no one needs to be driving the trucks. Mr. Davis agreed that is correct. He informed the Board they use a regular standard size pickup truck to haul equipment. Commissioner Boldt asked about leasing. Mrs. Griffith stated leasing works well for large pieces of equipment but not for the type of trucks used by Solid Waste. She explained sometimes a lease to own situation works well for this type of truck because they are in use for a long time even after the payoff occurs. She suggested during the budget process the Board think about using the capital outlay installment purchase program for these trucks. She reported another source that could be used is the equipment funds from FEMA but she does not know how much they will be yet. Commissioner Parrish stated this is a big budget expense when they need 4-5 trucks at once. He suggested Mr. Davis get some numbers together so when the money comes in they will be prepared to move. Mr. Davis agreed he could provide this information. Mr. Moron said the Sheriff's bid list is a good place to look. Commissioner Jones referenced the information Mr. Davis provided about the incinerator and asked if they want to bring it up at the next meeting. Mr. Davis agreed he was providing it for the Board to review and they will discuss it at the next meeting. Commissioner Jones asked Mr. Moron to make sure this is in the next agenda package. Mr. Moron stated Mr. Davis needs to add this to his report for the next meeting.

Clerk Johnson stated Mrs. Griffith has an item to bring up while Mr. Davis is present. Mrs. Griffith said the county received an Amendment to the Consolidated Solid Waste Grant from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). She stated the Amendment increases the grant award by \$5,172.70. She explained this increase will help to offset the fuel expenses this year. **On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the Consolidated Solid Waste Grant Amendment and authorize Chairman Lockley to sign the Amendment.**

Mr. Davis stated the recycling bins are also in bad shape. He reported they have been repairing these bins and bringing them back to code. Commissioner Jones asked how many recycling bins they have. Mr. Davis responded at least 30. Chairman Lockley asked what they cost a piece. Mr. Davis replied a new one cost \$7,000-10,000. He explained it runs close to repair them because they are putting heavy gauge steel. Commissioner Parrish stated they are talking about \$300,000 to replace these items. Mr.

Davis said about half of them are in bad shape. Commissioner Boldt asked if they can extend the life of the recycling bins if they start progressing them into mobile recycling bins where they have control over what goes in and out. He suggested testing 2-3 units and exchanging some of the money for mobile units. Mr. Davis answered yes, they can go to mobile units but the recycling trucks are old and they are constantly putting out money on repairs. He explained they can buy pickups trucks for half of the price of recycling trucks. He reported they can buy several mobile units for the price of 3 roll-off bins so it is a tremendous savings going to mobile units. Commissioner Boldt asked if anyone has any history with mobile recycling and what the success might be in the county. Commissioner Jones said he does not think they have ever had mobile units. Commissioner Parrish asked if the units will be dropped off in the morning and then picked up in the evening. Mr. Davis stated they could do that or find a location where someone volunteers to put the unit out and pull the unit in at night and then the county would dump the unit when it is full. Chairman Lockley said they would need to be partnered with someone. Mr. Davis replied yes. Commissioner Parrish questioned who will have structures large enough to house these units in at night and be able to roll them in and out. Commissioner Parrish stated the issue with recycling is people not respecting what the dumpster is there for. He reported people leave carcasses on the ground instead of putting them in the dumpsters and then wild animals are feeding on them right across from the ball park where the kids are playing. He commented it would take a lot of money to put cameras on all these sites to monitor activity. Commissioner Boldt said supervised mobile recycling provides a pure product. **Commissioner Boldt made a motion to try 4 mobile recycling units and a schedule for where they will be deployed.** Chairman Lockley stated they need to partner with someone first. Commissioner Boldt explained if there is no money in this budget then they can plan for the next budget cycle and talk with the public so they have good planning. Mr. Davis agreed there is no money in this budget. Commissioner Massey said they must find someone to pull these units in and out each day. Commissioner Parrish asked how much a single unit costs. Mr. Davis responded \$10,000. Mr. Moron suggested Mr. Davis get together the information about the items and partnerships and bring it back to the Board so they have more information before they make a decision. Commissioner Parrish agreed he does not want to be obligated for anything when they do not know the cost or where the money is coming from. Mr. Davis agreed to get this information together. **Commissioner Boldt rescinded his motion.**

Commissioner Boldt asked about the incinerator proposal Mr. Davis presented and if they will address it at the next meeting. Mr. Davis agreed they will address the proposal at the next meeting.

Emergency Management Director – Pam Brownell

Mr. Moron stated the entire Emergency Management Department staff is attending an Emergency Management conference.

5. Report

Action Items:

None

Information Item:

EOC Staff worked on updating the LMS (local mitigation strategy).

EOC will be hosted a HMGP Training along with the State on 01/22/20 from 1:00-4:00 PM
EOC staff will be attended EM Day at the Capitol in Tallahassee on 01/29/20

FCEM Staff is attending FEPA Conference and Training in Daytona on February 3-7 where
Tress Dameron will be pinned with her FPEM Certification.

FCEM Staff continues to work on FEMA reimbursement claims from Hurricane Michael. This
includes working with FEMA staff regarding mitigation of damaged parks, roads,
etc. Mitigation takes some time but EOC Staff continue to work diligently with FEMA Staff on
the most beneficial repairs for Franklin County.

FCEM continues to work on the PA projects with FEMA. Project List is attached (agenda
packet)

Commissioner Jones said he is glad they did the chart the way they did with the locations and asked
Mr. Moron to thank Mrs. Brownell.

Extension Office Director – Erik Lovestrand

Mr. Lovestrand reported the county had a good showing of youth at the 4-H Day at the Legislature. He
stated they met with Representative Jason Shoaf and viewed him presenting bills at the Legislative
session. He said it was good for the youth to engage and see how the state government works. Mr.
Lovestrand stated they will be sending youth to teen retreat next. He explained they have active clubs
and things are going on with 4-H.

Mr. Lovestrand announced Friday is the Tropicana public speaking competition event and it will be
taking place at their new location at Mill Pond. He stated the students have competed at the school
level and the top 3 positions from each of the 2grade levels from all three schools will be there
speaking and their parents and the public can watch. He said the speaking will begin at 10:00 a.m. and
the address of their building is 261 Dr. Frederick S. Humphries Street. He explained their office is still
not open to the public and they are still working on internet and phone connections so they can get
ready to open.

6. Report

Action Items:

None

Information Items:

General Extension Activities:

- Assisted local citizens during field visits by providing information about citrus issues, soil tests, palm tree issues, and more.
- Extension staff has moved to the new facility and is still in the process of sorting and arranging, cleaning up around the outside of the building, and working on establishing telephone and internet.

Sea Grant Extension:

- Participated at the Panama City Oyster Bash with an educational exhibit for Florida Sea Grant.
- A new grant proposal related to marine debris associated with Hurricane Michael is being

submitted through our Bay County Extension program. There are several “targets” that will be included in Gulf and Franklin County as well. Funding is through the NFWF program.

4-H Youth Development:

- Hosted the homeschool competition for the Tropicana Public Speaking contest so youth could be qualified to speak at the County-level competition on Feb 7.
- 9 youth and 6 chaperones participated in this year’s 4-H Day at the Capitol. A meeting was planned with Representative Jason Shoaf and youth were able to spend time in the State House Chambers to learn more about the legislative process.

Family Consumer Sciences:

- Family Nutrition Program (FNP) Assistant conducting programs in local schools.

Agriculture/Horticulture:

- Master Gardener course in Franklin County has started and will run from Jan 15 – Apr 30. These take place at the Eastpoint branch of the library.

University of Florida’s Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences

Franklin County Educational Team

Erik Lovestrand, County Extension Director/Sea Grant Regional Specialized Agent

Michelle Huber, Office Manager/Program Assistant, Franklin County

Kayle Mears, Family Nutrition Program Assistant

Samantha Kennedy, Wakulla County Family and Consumer Sciences

Rachel Pienta, Ph.D., Wakulla County 4-H Youth Development

Scott Jackson, Sea Grant/Agriculture/Technology, Regional Specialized Agent Bay County

Melanie G. Taylor, Gulf County 4-H/Family and Consumer Sciences

Ray Bodrey, Gulf County CED/Agriculture/Horticulture/Sea Grant

Heather Kent, 4-H Regional Specialized Agent

Les Harrison, Wakulla County CED/Agriculture/Small Farms/Horticulture

John Wells, Northwest Extension District Information Technology Expert

Pete Vergot III, Ph.D., Northwest District Extension Director

Mr. Pierce stated he called U.S. Senator Rick Scott’s office and talked with Ms. Sierra Anderson about Alligator Point Road. He said she suggested they give FEMA a week to respond before the senators get involved.

Library Assistant Supervisor – Whitney Roundtree

Ms. Roundtree introduced herself to the Board and said she has been a Library Assistant at the Franklin County Public Library for 3 years. She assured the Board the library is doing well, the usage is up and the calendar is packed with events for all ages. Ms. Roundtree highlighted some of the events going on at the library and said event calendars are available at each branch. Ms. Roundtree stated staff is working hard and is dedicated to bringing events to Franklin County. Chairman Lockley asked about music at the library. Mrs. Roundtree stated they have a Music as a Second Language which is a 20 week program. She said they partner with Rock by the Sea and they provide the instruments. Ms. Roundtree stated they also work with the Friends of the Franklin County Library to pay the teachers so there is no cost to the students. She explained the music covered under this program and said if the participants complete the program they are allowed to keep the musical instruments. Commissioner Jones thanked Ms. Roundtree for the information. He said the library also provided a place for the Eastpoint Civic Association to meet with someone and he thanked her for allowing them to use the facility. He explained they are a small area and he appreciates this assistance.

7. Report

Action Items:

None

Information Items:

Community Awareness / Resources:

Master Gardener Program – Classes began January 14th at the Eastpoint Branch. Since 1979, the Florida Master Gardener Program has provided gardeners with extensive education in home horticultural principles. Participants who complete the program are certified as Master Gardeners by the University of Florida Extension Service. Demo gardens and seed check-outs programs are available at both branches.

Monthly Gardening Programs- Class for this year, with Les Harrison will begin February 11th in Carrabelle at 1:30 and will be held in Eastpoint, February 18th at 1:30 with the topic of, Container Gardening.

Winter Computer Classes – Instructor lead classes taught by Pam Tullous begin January 29th. Topics include Windows 10, Facebook, Google Docs, Google Sheets, and Overdrive/Libby applications. All programs are free and open to the public. Computer classes will be taught at both Eastpoint and Carrabelle branches on Thursdays. Eastpoint classes will be held from 10-11 AM and Carrabelle classes from 2-3 PM.

Basics of Better Living Programs- Monthly program with Samantha Kennedy from the UF/IFAS Extension Office. February topic will be “Declutter your Life” available at the Carrabelle Branch, Friday February 7th at 1:30 and the Eastpoint Branch, Friday February 21st at 1:30.

Winter Quilting Group – Meets February 19th at 10 AM at the Eastpoint Branch. The Library welcomes anyone who enjoys quilting and wants to meet with other local and winter residents to learn and share techniques.

Free AARP Tax Aide – January 30 – April 9, alternating Thursday’s 10-2 beginning with Carrabelle on January 30. Registration is necessary at your selected branch. Paperwork is to be completed prior to the scheduled appointment and can be picked up at either branch location.

Music as a Second Language- 2020 classes began January 7th. This year we were able to provide music lessons to 19 students at 3 locations including the Eastpoint Branch, Carrabelle Branch and Cat Pointe Music in Eastpoint. Recital date TBA.

Memoir Writing Workshop with Marisella Veiga- Marisella Veiga's writing- fiction, nonfiction, and poetry- has appeared in numerous literary and commercial publications. She will be offering at workshop on the art of memoir writing at both branches this February. She will be at the Eastpoint Branch February 18th and the Carrabelle Branch February 19th, beginning at 10:30 AM.

Zumba Classes with Christine Bass- Instructor lead Zumba classes began in January at the Carrabelle Branch and have been well attended. Zumba meets Mondays and Wednesday at 10:00 AM at the Carrabelle Branch.

WILD Staff Development- Franklin County Libraries will be closed Monday, February 10th for WILD staff development day at the Wakulla Library.

Adult & Children's Monthly Calendar of Events:

Carrabelle: Zumba, Mondays and Wednesdays at 10:00

Carrabelle: STEAM (ages 8-14) weekly, Thursdays at 4:00

Carrabelle: STEAM (ages 5-7) 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 4:00

Carrabelle: Lego Club, first Tuesday at 4:00

Carrabelle: Coloring for Adults, first and third Thursdays at 10:30

Carrabelle: Yoga: Instructional, Monday's at 4:00, Video – Tuesday, Wednesday, & Friday at 4:00

Carrabelle: Writer's Forum, last Friday of the month at 2:00

Eastpoint: Teen Book Club, monthly for grades 6 – 12, monthly 1st Wednesdays at 4:00

Eastpoint: STEAM (ages 5-7) 1st and 3rd Mondays at 4:00

Eastpoint: STEAM (ages 8-12) 2nd and 4th Mondays 4:00

Eastpoint: Story Time (ages 1-6) 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 10:30

Eastpoint: Anime Club (ages 5th – 12th grade) – Monthly, 2nd Wednesdays at 4:00

Eastpoint Book Chat: Monthly, 1st Tuesday at 1:30 (next meeting February 4, 2020)

Eastpoint Yin Yoga: Tuesdays at 3:30, Monthly 1st & 3rd Friday's at 11:00

Eastpoint Writer's Forum: Monthly, 3rd Wednesday's at 1:00 (next meeting, January 16)

Mr. Moron read the following item from his report:

10. Library Staff: At your last meeting the Board agreed to temporarily change the status of Mrs. Whitney Roundtree to the library assistant supervisor. Mrs. Roundtree has been doing a very good job in her new role, however that change left a gap in staff coverage at both branches. Both branches are about to face their spring busy season with the "snowbirds" and many programs like Music as a Second Language and others listed on her report. To provide adequate coverage at both branches, I would like the Board to consider authorizing a temporary part-time position that would last from three to six months. This would allow Mrs. Roundtree to manage both branches and not have to spend too much time "filling in" when a staff is needed. I have discussed this request with Finance and funding is available.

Request: Board action to authorize a Library Assistant temporary part-time worker for up to six months.

Commissioner Parrish clarified the funding is available in their budget. Mr. Moron responded yes. **On motion by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the**

Board present, it was agreed to authorize a Library Assistant temporary part-time worker for up to six months and to approve advertising for the position.

ARPC – Josh Adams – Franklin-98 Project Update

Mr. Adams reported this presentation corresponds with a public meeting at the Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve (ANERR) tonight at 6:00 p.m. He encouraged the Board to ask questions as they go through the presentation. He explained they have been working with Mr. Rick Harter, Ecology & Environment, Inc., and he is also present to answer questions. Commissioner Jones asked how many public or intergovernmental meetings they have had. Mr. Adams stated there have been 5 public meetings already and tonight will be the 6th one. He reported they have had 3 interagency meetings. He said the last one will be in late March or early April. Mr. Adams gave a slide presentation for the Franklin 98 Project. He said in addition to the advertised public meetings they have met with local groups such as the Eastpoint Civic Association to keep community members up to date. He provided a map of their focus area. Mr. Adams said the area is 12 miles long and they have reached out to approximately 350 property owners. He explained this project in detail. Mr. Adams reported they are still in the outreach phase of this project. Chairman Lockley questioned if a project similar to this one would help at Alligator Point. Mr. Adams said the county submitted a request for funding to do a study and alternatives analysis at Alligator Point and ARPC is going to work on that study but that is a different type of environment for these species. He stated if they look at dune restoration and upland plants it may work in that area. Chairman Lockley explained he was asking because they do not have anything in that area. Mr. Adams said on the Franklin 98 Project currently all the funding is coming from a Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) grant. He explained they are holding stakeholder engagement meetings and the meetings have been well attended. Mr. Adams stated they have done a background investigation study and are looking at the best publicly available data on where the road is frequently washing out. He reported they are looking at the existing sea grass beds because they do not want to negatively impact any of those. Mr. Adams said that will also feed into the suitability analysis and engineering. He presented an example of a pallet they are using for a pallet experiment. He explained they are establishing a reef with different types of items and this is 1 of them and the other product is used oyster shell, limerock or granite. Mr. Adams said they have some test plots that were installed over the last few weeks to see what sort of organisms will grow on them and that will be the establishment of the hard bottom breakwater. He explained these plots are placed close to shore and the public will notice some milk crates and those hold the loose shell or rock in place. He reported these are considered intertidal because they are exposed at low tide. Mr. Adams reported they also have some plots further out and they are considered subtidal and are barely above the water level. He stated they are also testing two different configurations and have more densely populated oyster catch material and more sparsely spaced ones. Mr. Adams said they have applied for 2 different grant opportunities with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and they hope to hear back from them in late March or early April. He explained these grants would take them through design, construction and implementation of the project which would take about 3 ½ years. Mr. Adams stated they will not cover the entire 12 miles but will do it where it makes sense and where they have had good public feedback. He reported 1 of the goals included in the NFWF application was establishment of 30 acres of hard bottom and 20 acres of French marsh. Chairman Lockley asked if this will catch oysters. Mr. Adams replied yes, it will catch oyster spat and began to form. Chairman

Lockley inquired what will happen if the area is polluted and people eat the oysters. Mr. Adams stated they have looked into this and maybe will have some institutional controls like no harvest zones and he thinks these areas may already be no harvest zones. Mr. Harter explained some of the areas are out of harvesting areas now. He said other areas that are in approved harvesting areas are not currently harvested because it is sand bottom and there is nothing there. He reported the Florida Wildlife Commission (FWC) is doing a similar project in St. Andrews/West Bay and The Nature Conservancy is doing a project in Pensacola Bay. He said in both of these area they created a no harvest area for the purpose of restoration. Mr. Harter stated hopefully by creating these reefs they will create some sanctuary reefs that will provide additional larvae to help populate the reefs that are harvested. Chairman Lockley questioned if they will have signage on these areas so people will not bother them. Mr. Harter answered yes to educate people. Commissioner Boldt asked if they have identified with the Department of Transportation (DOT) the chronic areas of erosion that occur in the 12 mile stretch relative to the road damage and are they prioritizing those locations. Mr. Adams said they know the areas from speaking with DOT but they also know the areas that have articulated concrete are the most erosive areas and that is why the block is in place. He explained one of the goals is to have reefs and marsh in a variety of locations so they get a good mix of habitat because it is better for the ecology. Mr. Adams presented a map showing where they would like to see these items. He said in the area near the Franklin County School one of the suggestions was to have a program including the school children and have them learn about the project. He explained they would also leave some land open for other activities such as cast netting and floundering. Mr. Adams stated they will have two more meetings. He said they identified the NFWF grant applications and submitted those and are continuing to look for other funding sources. He reported they will continue to be good stewards in the community and let everyone know where this project may go. Mr. Adams stated last week they meet with the liaison for Senator Bill Montford and Representative Shoaf to provide an update on this project. Chairman Lockley said this is a good idea but they must have signage. Commissioner Boldt asked if they have enough money to see this project through to completion. Mr. Adams stated that is the way it is structured and if the NFWF grants are approved and awarded that will allow them to design, construct, and monitor the project. Commissioner Jones asked if the applications have already been processed and sent to NFWF. Mr. Adams answered yes, they were processed a few weeks before and the week after Thanksgiving. Mr. Harter commented the grant applications are pending approval but they have not said they will fund the project. He pointed out they did say that they really liked the project and asked for the next step which is a full proposal and that is a good indication. Commissioner Boldt said if they need anything to affirm the project the Board will assist them. Mr. Harter stated they mentioned the materials that are being put out for a test plots and he wanted to issue a special thanks to the GulfCorp and EDCorp who are working with Franklin's Promise Coalition to help put the materials out. He explained they are also evaluating and collecting data for these areas.

The meeting recessed at 11:10 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 11:22 a.m.

CareerSource Gulf Coast – Kim Bodine – Request

Ms. Bodine presented the following request:

8. Request

CareerSource Gulf Coast is required under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and by CareerSource Florida to submit a new Local Workforce Services Plan for the years 2020-2024. The CareerSource Gulf Coast Board has also approved modifications to our by-laws and requests the approval of the new bylaws by the Franklin County Board (FCBOCC) of County Commissioners. Each of the documents (WIOA Four Year Plan and CSGC bylaws) require the approval of the FCBOCC, with a signature by the chairman or whomever the FCBOCC designates as the signatory authority. All documents are attached (agenda packet) for review and **board approval**.

Ms. Bodine said this is a comprehensive review of how they operate and there should not be any surprises in the plan. She reported they have a comprehensive center in Panama City and affiliate centers in Port St. Joe and Franklin County. Mrs. Bodine said they feel like it is important to have a presence in every county they are in and they have been lucky to be able to afford to do that with the support of the municipalities and their partners across the region. She reminded the Board that attached to the plan is the local elected official agreement and said the agreements are signed periodically. She said the last time they were signed may have been in 2015 or 2016. Ms. Bodine reported the most important thing the Board needs to know is that as the Board of County Commissioners they are the grant recipient and have liability for the funds they use and they cannot designate that liability to anyone else. She explained if they do something with the funds they are not supposed to and the federal government comes in and says the costs are disallowed then the counties are responsible for the cost. Ms. Bodine stated they have never had a disallowed cost in this area but sometimes people do something they should not or people have a misunderstanding. She said they will do their best to never have any disallowed cost. Ms. Bodine stated they are 1 of 24 workforce regions across the state and they feel like their regions should reflect the local economy and people they are representing. Ms. Bodine stated the bylaws are in the plan and if they approve the plan the bylaws will also be approved. She explained the significant change to the bylaws is they added that within 10 days they will notify the Board when there are vacant seats. She reported two other significant changes are they wanted the Board to make sure they are comfortable that when they appoint people to the Workforce Board that member understands that they serve at the Board's pleasure and if they are not acting appropriately the Board has the authority to remove them. Ms. Bodine stated there are also some laws being considered in the Legislature and she believes there will be language so that local elected officials can remove an executive director of a Workforce Board. She explained the Governor can remove an Executive Director or CEO of a Workforce Board for cause but it does not designate that a local official can take this action. Ms. Bodine said she thinks this language will pass and she thinks they should have this authority. She reported that language is in the bylaws. Ms. Bodine explained a majority of the Commissioners in Bay County, Franklin County and Gulf County could remove someone from this position. She offered to answer any questions about the plan. Commissioner Parrish referenced the initial terms of Board members and asked about the initials CBO. Ms. Parrish said it stands for a community based organization. Commissioner Jones asked if the Board has people in different positions on the Workforce Board. Ms. Bodine answered yes and recognized Mr. Ted Mostellar and said he has served on the Board for many years. She reported Ms. Betty Croom is another member but there is a private sector vacancy that has been difficult to fill. She said federal law requires that a business or trade organization makes recommendations to the County Commission.

She explained in Bay County and Gulf County these recommendations often come from the Economic Development Alliance. She said they can also come from the Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Bodine reported sometimes the county appoints who they want and because they are the elected officials they would not disagree if they submitted the name of a person. Ms. Bodine reported the Workforce Board meets every other month and even though they have two different time zones they try to make it as easy as possible to meet. She explained they pay mileage for the Board members that travel to the meetings in Panama City and they have a video teleconference of the meetings from the Gulf/Franklin Center in Gulf County. She explained they can either attend or call in. **Commissioner Parrish made a motion to approve the Local Workforce Services Plan for the years 2020-2024 and the changes to the bylaws. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Commissioner Parrish amended the motion to include directing staff to advertise for the other position they are missing on this board from the private sector. Commissioner Jones amended his second. Motion carried; 5-0.**

CDBG Administrator – Deborah Belcher – Report

Mrs. Belcher provided the following report:

9. Report

Current activities: continuing to take and process applications for CDBG housing assistance; taking calls from individuals who are not eligible for assistance; working on site-specific environmental reviews to submit to DEO for clearance; assisting Shelby and Colby Nowling with their new modular home at 275 Smith Street which is now ordered; assisting individuals who do not currently have title to property but might become eligible for CDBG assistance; ongoing administrative and fair housing tasks; and confirming bids for mobile homes.

Annie R. and William Banks, 638 Ridge Road, have signed the purchase contract for their new mobile home, as well as the CDBG mortgage. Ironwood Homes of Perry has ordered the home, which is expected to arrive in February, 2020. Colby and Shelby Nowling are awaiting the delivery of their new modular home, which will be located at 275 Smith Street.

Bid Approval:

At the January 21, 2020 meeting, the Board approved the application for mobile home replacement for Paul J. Sanders, subject to environmental clearance and final arrangements for the relocation of the donated mobile home for his son, Paul Z. Sanders. We have now received DEO environmental clearance, and the Board approved non-CDBG funding for Paul Z. Sanders' mobile home setup. Anticipating potential CDBG funding, Paul J. Sanders' replacement mobile home was included in the second CDBG mobile home bid package. We received bids from 3 vendors. Titan Factory Direct/Champion Homes submitted a bid that is considerably higher than the other 2 vendors. Sanders selected a home priced under the County's normal \$75,000 limit.

Requested Action: Approve CDBG funding for Paul the contract and CDBG mortgage recording.

Mrs. Belcher reported the cost of the trailer is \$74,308.69 which is less than the \$75,000 limit. She said this is not the lowest price model. She explained they received a range of proposals and some were better quality than others. Mrs. Belcher said she did a listing of each of the models proposed and the features based on the specifications the vendors provided so they could see the quality differences between the models. She explained she pointed out pros and cons and Mr. Sanders made a selection of his choice. Mrs. Belcher recommended the Board approve funding for the purchase price of

\$74,308.69 plus additional funds for the documentary stamps and recording fees. **On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the purchase in the amount of \$74,308.69 plus additional funds for documentary stamps and recording fees.** Chairman Lockley asked if they will go over \$75,000 with the documentary stamp fees. Mrs. Belcher answered no, because those fees are not included in the \$75,000. Chairman Lockley asked what they get in the trailer. Mrs. Belcher answered the refrigerator and range. She reported a washer and dryer is not included and these items are based on the federal regulations. She provided the energy efficient requirements. Mrs. Belcher reported they upgrade things that are the most important for durability. Chairman Lockley inquired if the trailers have heat, air condition and a hot water heater. Mrs. Belcher answered yes. She stated these are 3 bedroom, 2 bath homes except for 1 that was a 2 bedroom, 2 bath. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

Commissioner Massey asked when Mr. Jason Millender will get his trailer. Mrs. Belcher reported the replacement home for William and Annie Banks is expected this month so when it arrives and they do the set up then they will move their trailer to Mr. Millender. Commissioner Massey stated Mr. Millender is set and ready. Mrs. Belcher commented they are aware of the urgency.

Chairman Lockley asked about Mr. Devin Creamer. Mrs. Belcher stated she and Ms. Angela Webster, Capital Area Community Action Agency, are going to visit the Creamers today.

Mrs. Belcher reported she is working on contracts for Ms. Kathy Hill and Ms. Mary Thomas. She said their trailers were not in the bid package because they need to get specifics for those locations. She stated hopefully it will be worked out for the next Board meeting.

Commissioner Jones asked about Mr. Dennis Reiner and if they could report at the next meeting. Mrs. Belcher said he is not eligible for CDBG but they had some communication with him.

Clerk of Courts – Marcia M. Johnson – Report

Clerk Johnson said she had no other report other than what Mrs. Griffith presented earlier in the meeting.

County Coordinator – Michael Morón – Report

Mr. Moron read the following report:

Action Items

10. This item was addressed earlier in the meeting.

Chairman Lockley asked if they will need to advertise. Mr. Moron answered yes but said there is a pool of applicants for part-time that they already used so they can either pull from that pool or re-advertise. Commissioner Jones said he would like to re-advertise. Chairman Lockley agreed it is better to re-advertise.

11. Timber Island Contract: At your January 7th meeting the Board was notified that the County received the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) signed agreement for the work on Timber Island Road. The \$800,000 project includes repaving Timber Island Road from Highway 98 to the Carrabelle River and building guardrails on the Timber Island Bridge. The Board authorized staff to start negotiations with Dewberry Engineers, the county's engineering firm, about the design improvements for this project. County staff and Dewberry agreed to a Scope of Work for \$65,579.21 therefore Dewberry submitted a contract for the Board's approval.

Request: Board action to authorize the Chairman's signature on Dewberry's contract for the Timber Island Road project design improvements.

On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize the Chairman's signature on Dewberry's contract for the Timber Island Road project design improvements.

12. TA Sidewalk Project: At a previous meeting Commissioner Parrish asked staff to research the possibility of re-applying for the Florida Department of Transportation's Transportation Alternatives (TA) funding program for a sidewalk on Highway 98 from Prado Street to the Ace Hardware Driveway in Apalachicola. Attached (agenda packet) to my report is the Resolution that is required as part of the application.

Request: Board action to authorize the submittal of the application and the Chairman's signature on the Resolution for the Transportation Alternatives funding program for a sidewalk in Apalachicola.

On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize the submittal of the application and the Chairman's signature on the Resolution for the Transportation Alternatives funding program for a sidewalk in Apalachicola. Mr. Moron stated Mr. Mark Curenton, County Planner, and Ms. Cortni Bankston, Licensing and Permitting Specialist, are at another DOT meeting today and they are working on getting Ms. Bankston Local Agency Planning (LAP) certified to do DOT projects in the county. He said he would like the cities to also consider getting someone certified.

13. Texas A & M Meeting: On Wednesday January 22nd I met with the Texas A & M representatives that were here to do a Weems site visit as part of the Technical Assistance Program. It was a very informative conversation as they explained what they have experienced nationally with healthcare in rural areas and I provided some history on Weems from the Board's perspective. We discussed in more detail what type of outcome the county could expect from their visits and analysis of the data they were collecting. They agreed to review each of the healthcare proposals that is under consideration by the county then send a report back to the county weighing in the 'pros and cons' of each proposal. The Texas A & M representatives would like a list of the Board's top three healthcare goals to consider while reviewing the proposals. I have summarized, based on past Board discussions, what I consider to be the top three healthcare goals:
 - Access points for healthcare needs throughout the county;
 - A sustainable business model;
 - And the ability to grow and expand additional healthcare services based on the community's needs

The Texas A & M representatives would like this list as soon as possible so they can provide that report to you as quickly as possible.

Request: Board discussion/action on healthcare goals.

Mr. Moron asked how they would like to change this list. **On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the list.**

14. Weems Grants: Weems has received two reimbursable grants through Big Bend Health Care Coalition. The first grant is for \$8000 and will be used to purchase simulation equipment for train EMS staff and the other grant is for \$10,000 to purchase equipment to setup a coordination and evaluation center at Weems that will be used during simulations and disaster situations. The Weems Board of Directors is asking that you approve these grants and allow the initial expenditures to be made from the health care trust fund with the reimbursements going directly back into the trust fund. Ms. Nikol Tschaepe, Plant Operation Director, is here to answer any questions you have relating to these grants. These grants do not require any match.

Request: Board action to authorize receipt of the grants, purchase of the equipment from the health care trust funds and direct all grant reimbursements back into the health care trust fund.

Commissioner Parrish asked about the reimbursement timetable. Ms. Tschaepe answered 30 days. **On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize receipt of the grants, purchase of the equipment from the Health Care Trust Fund (HCTF) and direct all grant reimbursements back into the HCTF.**

15. Weems FDEM: As the Board is aware Weems Memorial Hospital reported that operations suffered some \$1.1 million in revenue loss due to Hurricane Michael. Mr. Alan Pierce has reported in past meetings that the Florida Department of Emergency Management (FDEM) has approved reimbursing Weems about \$226,000 of the \$1.1 million, which should be transmitted to the county later this month. To date, Weems has carried that loss and along with any revenue loss due to the new roof installation but has not received any advances from the health care trust fund for operation or payroll. With an upcoming payroll and the timing of the funds from FDEM, Weems requests that the Board authorize a \$150,000 advance of the \$226,000 FDEM funds. When the funds are received later this month, the County will transfer the \$150,000 back to the health care trust fund and forward the remaining \$76,000 to Weems.

Request: Board action to authorize a \$150,000 advance to Weems, as part of a special check run by the Finance Department, that will be repaid upon the receipt of the \$266,000 allocation from FDEM.

On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize a \$150,000 advance to Weems Memorial Hospital as part of a special check run by the Finance Department, that will be repaid upon receipt of the \$266,000 allocation from FDEM. He explained the CEO would have presented these items but he is attending a conference on health care. Mr. Moron stated some things were said earlier about the

financials and the audit of the hospital should be completed soon and the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) that is preparing it will present it to the Board. He explained if the Board has any questions they can ask the auditor at that time.

Mr. Moron reminded the Board of the special meeting tomorrow. He stated Mr. Mark O'Bryant, Tallahassee Memorial Hospital (TMH), and Mr. Jim Coleman, Alliant, will appear and describe what TMH's role is in the proposal and answer questions from the Board. He reported the Weems Memorial Hospital Interim CEO and Hospital Board Chairman will represent the Hospital Board to ask any questions. He stated the meeting starts at 10:00 a.m.

Commissioner Massey presented a flyer titled Bears Are Our Neighbors Too. He requested the realtors place the flyers in rental houses on Alligator Point so they know what to do with their garbage. Commissioner Massey said anyone that rents needs to place these flyers in their houses.

Commissioner Boldt said in relation to the opportunity tomorrow to hear from Mr. O'Bryant there has been talk about the County Commission and the Hospital Board delaying this decision but the most valuable asset in the county is the health of the people. He explained this Board has a duty and responsibility to be prudent buyers of health care. He said he supports the Hospital Board in gathering as much information as possible. He stated they never issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for management services so they have the opportunity ask for services and get as much information as possible. He explained Mr. O'Bryant is coming to add to the options they are considering and that is a good thing. Commissioner Boldt stated the citizens need to know they have traction and are moving on the complete deliberate review of the health care system in the entire county. Chairman Lockley stated they gave Sacred Heart the same opportunity to appear but they do not have any difference in their proposal.

16. This item was addressed at the beginning of the meeting.
17. SHIP Bid Policy: Your current SHIP policy is to rotate bids, rather than advertise, for SHIP repairs and rehabilitation projects. This policy was in place due to the limited number of contractors that were participating in the SHIP program. Since then the list of participating contractors has grown to six, and in an effort to assist as many clients as possible with the available funding, Mrs. Lori Switzer-Mills, your SHIP administrator, would like the Board to authorize a change to that policy to advertise for bids. This policy change would apply to both the Hurricane Housing Recovery Program and the SHIP Rehabilitation Repair program. She would like to Board to exclude the Emergency Repair program from this bid requirement, so that those simple repairs could be addressed quickly.

Request: Board action to authorize the SHIP Administrator's request to change the current policy to advertise for bids on all HHRP and Rehabilitation repair projects.

Mr. Moron said they have more contractors now and want to advertise to get the best price. **On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize the SHIP Administrator's request to change the current policy to advertise for bids on all HHRP and Rehabilitation repair projects.** Commissioner Jones asked Mr. Moron to get together some information on what it would take to move SHIP's inspections

to the Planning & Building Office. Mr. Moron said he will provide this information at the next meeting. Commissioner Parrish asked who is currently doing the inspections. Mr. Moron stated he thinks a retired contractor does it for the SHIP program. Commissioner Parrish questioned if there is a mechanism for the Building Inspector to be paid for these inspections. Mr. Moron answered yes, but he will have to check if it is from the administration funds or the program funds. Commissioner Massey said it is paid from the program funds. Commissioner Parrish said this would help with funding that office. Commissioner Massey reported they also get a better inspection. Commissioner Jones agreed that is what he is after. Commissioner Massey stated there have been some difficulties in getting these things worked out. Mr. Moron stated he will bring this item back at the next meeting. Chairman Lockley discussed a situation with a person in his district that needed assistance from SHIP. Mr. Moron agreed to talk with him about this situation and have Mrs. Switzer-Mills investigate.

Information Items

18. Census Donation: At your last meeting, Mrs. Pat O'Connell introduced Mr. Lloyd Childree, Waste Pro's Municipal Marketing/Director of Government Affairs, to the Board and explained that Mr. Childree, on behalf of Waste Pro, made a donation to the County's Census Complete Count Committee (CCC). What Mrs. O'Connell did not state is that Waste Pro donated \$2000 to the CCC to assist with advertising, banners, posters, etc. to assist the committee with promoting the "Be Counted" message to every resident of Franklin County. On behalf of the Board I would like to thank Waste Pro, and especially Mr. Childree, for that large donation to this very important cause.

Mr. Moron presented the Census 2020 signs. He stated Mrs. O'Connell informed him that Dewberry has committed \$500 and so has Mr. Dan Garlick. Mr. Moron said Mr. David Adlerstein, The Apalachicola Times, kindly writes an article every week because they need to keep the census front and center so people know how important it is. He explained Mrs. O'Connell will present a complete list of people that are helping with the census so the Board can thank them. Chairman Lockley reported Mrs. O'Connell is doing a good job.

19. Mr. Pierce presented this item earlier in the meeting.

County Attorney – Michael Shuler – Report

Attorney Shuler requested the Board authorize him to utilize Mr. David Theriaque, outside counsel on land use planning matters, on the 2 lawsuits filed by Mr. Cortopassi and also to work with Mr. Theriaque to bring back a proposal to create a new process on how they can handle future requests for land use changes, rezoning changes, requests for variances and requests for special exceptions. He reported as part of representing the county in this lawsuit with Mr. Cortopassi it came to his attention that in the 2019 Legislative session the Legislature made an important change in the law creating a new provision for awarding attorney fees to prevailing parties. He explained in his reading of the statute there is a way to avoid the prevailing party's lawsuit provision but they would need to bring back to the Board a procedure to consider using a special master to hear future matters involving land use changes, rezoning changes, variances and special exceptions. **Commissioner Massey made a motion to authorize Attorney Shuler to contact Mr. Theriaque and bring him in on these issues. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.** Attorney Shuler explained this matter will have no impact

on the Mr. Cortopassi's lawsuits but the circuit court case would potentially involve a claim for prevailing party fees but he is thinking more about matters in the future. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

Attorney Shuler said at the last Board meeting he brought back to the Board the discussion on their approval of the existing legal description for the fenced in area at the Bay City Work Camp and their consideration of the additional acreage outside the fenced area requested by the Sheriff. He explained the discussion went into an issue of greater importance to the Board which was for him to have a discussion with the Sheriff that there would be no use of county employees or county equipment on the site and no subletting of the property. Attorney Shuler reported he had that discussion with the Sheriff and he provided this as an information item on his report. He stated he is not asking for action but wanted to inform the Board that the Sheriff had no issues except for one because he has a Sheriff's work crew that provides services to all 501.3c non-profit corporations and they would have paid county staff supervising them. Attorney Shuler stated could be seen as contrary to the instruction from the Board so he will bring this up at a future meeting for the Board to provide direction on how to proceed.

Attorney Shuler said he is skipping Item #3 which is in Commissioner Boldt's district and they can address it if he would like to. He addressed Item #4 which concerns the St. George Island Overlay District and the future public hearing the first meeting in March. He stated one of the material issues for discussion at the last public hearing was the Board's insightful questions about how many lots were affected by the C-4 residential zoning category within the overlay district. He reported his understanding was mistaken in thinking there were less than 70 C-4 residential structures within the overlay district and the same number of vacant C-4 lots. Attorney Shuler said he went back after the last meeting and made 2 counts of the C-4 lots within the overlay district. He reported his first count was 290 total C-4 zoned lots including the 70 that were built and his second count was 289. He reported the number is much larger than he believed and that he had been representing to the Board and the public and he wants to take this opportunity to correct this factual mistake.

Chairman Lockley questioned if the Sheriff is supposed to do the things they included at the Bay City Work Camp. Attorney Shuler explained the Board in concept agreed to convey the land as opposed to leasing the land based on his recommendation that they not retain ownership because they would be potentially subject to claims as a landowner. He stated the total amount of restrictions and limitations has not been finalized. He reported they are free to add a clarifying comment that the Board does not want there to be any county employees or county equipment on the property while they are working for the county. He advised the Board they have not lost control of that decision at that point. Chairman Lockley stated they have already done that. Attorney Shuler said he thought this was written up clear enough that the county would not provide any ad valorem support for this project but after the Board's comments he thought it needed to be clarified further so he went back and clarified the written document to reflect the Board's comments at the last meeting. Attorney Shuler said the Sheriff is fine with this except for the Sheriff's work crews being there. He explained having work crews out there that are supervised with paid county employees would be in violation of the Board's instructions. Commissioner Parrish agreed. Attorney Shuler stated he is informing the Board and will come back and ask for further directions. Chairman Lockley said they must have someone to watch the work crews. Commissioner Parrish reported this leads to one being allowed there then they all are

there. He asked if this is something for the Board to think about. Attorney Shuler agreed he is not asking for action but thought it was an important enough issue to bring back to the Board publicly because they had asked that question at the last meeting. He said the Sheriff has no problem with the restriction but he wanted to disclose to the Board like he does with other non-profits he intends to use his Sheriff's Department work crew. Commissioner Parrish asked why the people participating in the program cannot provide some of these services. Chairman Lockley agreed they can work. Commissioner Massey said he thought that is what it was for.

Commissioners' Comments

Commissioner Boldt said they had a good legislative day.

Adjournment

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

Noah Lockley - Chairman

Attest:

Marcia M. Johnson - Clerk of Courts