

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
COURTHOUSE ANNEX, COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
NOVEMBER 17, 2020
9:00 A.M.
MINUTES**

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

Others Present: Marcia M. Johnson-Clerk of Court, Michael Shuler-County Attorney, Michael Moron—County Coordinator, Lori P. Hines-Deputy Clerk to the Board.

Call to Order

A. Public Notice

*To comply with CDC and Government social distancing requirements, the general public will not be allowed in the commission meeting room for this meeting; therefore, this Board of County Commission regular meeting will be conducted via livestream and Zoom. **Those wanting to view the meeting can use the livestream link (<https://facebook.com/forgottencoasttv/>) or go to Forgotten Coast TV's Facebook Page. The livestream feed will promptly start 5 minutes before the meeting commences. You do not need a Facebook account to view Facebook live. Those wanting to participate during "Public Comments" should use the Zoom log-in/call-in information provided below. There is a link to a list of videos and Getting Started Resources on the main "Agenda and Minutes" webpage for those unfamiliar with Zoom. If you are experiencing any issues with the livestream or Zoom, call (850) 653-9783 extension 373 for assistance.***

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

- B. This meeting is being held via Zoom and all attendees are muted by default. To join via computer, use the link on the meeting date and time:

<https://zoom.us/j/94141222410>

If you do not have speakers or a microphone on your computer or prefer to call, you can dial in for audio. Call (301) 715-8592 or (312) 626- 6799 or (929) 205-6099 and enter ID 941 4122 2410#.

If you would like to speak during the public comment portion of the meeting, you have the following options:

Online - select the "raise your hand" icon.

Phone - press *9 to raise your hand, *6 to unmute to submit verbal comments.

Public engagement is important to us, and meeting remotely is still a new process. We appreciate everyone's understanding.

Chairman Lockley called the meeting to Order.

Prayer and Pledge

There was a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Swearing-In/Oath of Office Ceremony

County Judge J. Gordon Shuler administered the oath of office to Commissioner Jessica Ward, Commissioner Noah Lockley and Commissioner Ricky Jones.

Organizational Meeting

- C. The Board of County Commissioner will select a Chairman and Vice-Chairman. The Chairman may appoint Commissioners as Board representatives to agencies and organizations.

Mr. Moron thanked Commissioner Lockley for his service as Chairman. **On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to appoint Commissioner Jones as Chairman.** Chairman Jones and Commissioner Lockley exchanged seats. **On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Ward, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to appoint Commissioner Boldt as Vice-Chairman.**

Mr. Moron stated there are appointments needed to the Small County Coalition and Opportunity Florida. He said Commissioner Boldt serves on the Transportation for the Disadvantaged. Chairman Jones stated he would like to stay on the Tourist Development Council (TDC) so he could see some things to completion that they have already started. He said he would also like to continue to serve on the Apalachee Regional Planning Council (ARPC) because he is in the running to be Vice-Chairman for their Board this Thursday. Chairman Jones asked to put Commissioner Boldt and Commissioner Ward on the Small County Coalition. He reported Mr. Moron has been serving as the alternate and since being a part of that is a vote he would like to know if it has to be county staff or could be a third Commissioner. Chairman Jones stated the time of the Opportunity Florida meetings have been a conflict for him but he thinks the meetings are being held with zoom. He requested Commissioner Ward serve on Opportunity Florida. Mr. Moron said as he gets emails for appointments the Board can decide who will serve. **On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to appoint Commissioner Boldt and Commissioner Ward to the Small County Coalition and appoint Commissioner Ward to Opportunity Florida.**

Approval of Minutes

- D. November 3, 2020 Meeting Minutes for Approval

On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the minutes from the meeting held on November 3, 2020.

Payment of County Bills

On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Ward, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve payment of the county's bills.

Public Comments

Ms. Lorena Holley said her comments are in reference to Item #10 on Mr. Moron's report which is requesting the county become the applicant for a 2021 Fish and Wildlife Commission (FWC) artificial reef grant which would be due in March, 2021. She reported the grant would be for the development of an artificial reef in memory of her boyfriend Dr. Bart Carey who passed away on September 20, 2020 at the age of 49. She reported Dr. Carey was a pediatric dentist in Tallahassee as was his father Mr. Jim Carey. Ms. Holley said Dr. Carey loved fishing and being on the water and his father is a property owner in Franklin County and longtime resident of Carrabelle. Ms. Holley stated in lieu of flowers the family asked that donations be made to development of an artificial reef. She explained they worked with the Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) to develop the reef. She reported they already have a significant amount of matching funds to go towards the reef and they are working closely with Mr. Frank Gidus, CCA, on this project. She explained CCA has already worked on over 20 artificial reefs and has a great relationship with FWC. Ms. Holley stated Mr. Gidus is available if the county has any technical questions. She reported hopefully the grant application would be in the amount of \$60,000. She stated Mr. Moron provided information to the Board about the reef. Ms. Holley reported the deployment would be on the Carrabelle 10 Mile Reef which already has an active permit with the Corps of Engineers (COE). She said hopefully the deployment date will be this summer. Ms. Holley offered to answer any questions and said hopefully Mr. Gidus is also on the phone to answer questions. Commissioner Boldt said he has talked with Ms. Holley and this is a special admirable event for them to consider. **Commissioner Boldt made a motion to approve this request.** Mr. Moron said the Board does not take action under public comment so the motion will need to come up when this item is presented under his report later in the meeting. Ms. Holley thanked the Board for their consideration and said this is important to Dr. Carey's family and her. Commissioner Lockley said he is sorry for her loss and hopes this project works out well.

Sheriff's Department -- Ginger Coulter (Finance Director) – Request

E. Request

Mrs. Ginger Coulter and other Sheriff Department representatives will explain the new Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program: Florida Incident-Based Reporting System (FIBRS). The Florida Department of Law Enforcement is requiring all Sheriff

Departments to have this system in place by 2021. The Sheriff is requesting that the Board purchase this software. Financing options will be discussed.

The Board received a handout from Mrs. Coulter. Mrs. Coulter stated they are asking to amend the 2019/2020 budget by \$18,886. She explained the county has a communications funds that pays for the radio service and this year the Sheriff's Office collected enough revenue to pay for this item out of their fund instead of the communications fund. She reported Mrs. Linda Phillips, Finance Department, sent her invoices and she reimbursed the county so she would like to make a budget amendment. **Commissioner Lockley made a motion to approve amending the budget in the amount of \$18,886. Commissioner Ward seconded the motion.** Mr. Pierce pointed out the benefit to this amendment is it leaves more money in the communication fund which has a broader use and the money can be carried over. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

Mrs. Coulter reported the next request is on an emergency basis because the Federal Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) and FBI have passed down some mandates and requirements for CAD software which is a computerated dispatch. She stated this is the primary function for the Sheriff's Office, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), the fire departments and animal control and the software initially houses all the complaints that are called in. Mrs. Coulter said they also dispatch for the City of Apalachicola and the City of Carrabelle. She explained because of the new requirements the Sheriff's Department is out of compliance with the software. She stated they have looked at other software and Lt. James Ham and Captain Thomas Webb are both here to answer questions about the software. She reported they received bids and selected 2 companies and both offer financing. She said one bid meets more of their needs and will grow with the county. Mrs. Coulter explained this is a mandated requirement and must be in affect by January, 2021. She reported Mrs. Griffith talked with the vendor about financing and can speak on this matter. Mrs. Griffith stated she spoke with the vendor about financing and this bid is off of another government bid platform-HGAC Governmental Platform so it is contract pricing and they do not have to go out for bids. Mrs. Griffith stated the company is Southern Software and they can finance the software for 4 years with an annual payment of \$46,660 at 3.25%. She reported the county will not finance the support charges because it is more of an operational charge and will be paid from the Jail Maintenance Fund. She explained the Jail Maintenance Fund has \$100,000 budgeted so this will take up about half the budgeted funds for the next 4 years but this is a necessary expense. Commissioner Lockley stated this item is mandatory. Mr. Moron reported some of this is miscommunication because the Sheriff's Department sent emails but they were under the impression they could use 911 Funds to pay for the software and when they met with Mrs. Coulter and the team they found out they could not. He explained they also tried to pay for it with CARES Act funding but it was disqualified because it was necessary before the pandemic. Mrs. Coulter explained they tried other options and wrote a grant but it only covered \$10,000. Commissioner Lockley asked if all the surrounding counties are doing the same thing. Mrs. Coulter said each county can have their own software but they must all meet the new FDLE and FBI standards. She reported there was another software that was popular and a lot of agencies use it but it would have cost about \$500,000 so they could not afford it. **Commissioner Lockley**

made a motion to approve the purchase of this software from Southern Software.

Commissioner Boldt questioned if they are bundling the communications from state and local agencies. Mrs. Coulter answered no, their software is a stand along software that meets the requirements to transmit information to FDLE and the FBI. She stated the software they have now will not do that. Commissioner Parrish said this is an unfunded mandate that has been added to the taxpayers and is required by the state and federal government. He stated it is not something they want to do but something they are required to spend money for. Chairman Jones said on the handout it says the first payment is November, 2021 so the payment will be in the next budget year. Mrs. Griffith said the support payment will be paid this year in the amount of \$12,900. She stated next year the support will be added into the Sheriff's budget.

Commissioner Ward seconded the motion. Motion carried; 5-0.

Department Directors Report

Superintendent of Public Works – Howard Nabors

F. Road Department Board Report

Information Items

1. Detail of Work Performed and Material Hauled by District (see attached documents)

Mr. Nabors said they are still getting 2 inmates on each squad and hopefully they will get more in the future.

Mr. Moron read the following item from his report for the Board:

7. Syrup Branch & Trout Creek Bridge Repairs: Attached are inspection reports for New River Road over Syrup Branch (494099) and Mill Road over Trout Creek (494096), both in Tate's Hell Forest. Also attached are two proposals, \$50,375 (494099) and \$88,850 (494096) to repair both bridges, and based on the proposals, are in need of extensive repairs. As stated, both bridges are in Tate's Hell Forest and probably used by the State more than any home or property owners. Unless there are other uses that would justify using approximately \$140,000 of county funds to repair these bridges, is the Board interested in transferring ownership of these bridges to the State? Until that decision is made, should the Board direct Mr. Howard Nabors to close both bridges (roads)?
Request: Board discussion and direction.

Chairman Jones asked if the county has any obligation or say so in the closing of the bridges in Tate's Hell Forest. Mr. Moron said he believes at some point the county may have agreed to maintain the bridges for some reason and now they are asking the county to pay these costs but he does not know why. He explained he talked with Mr. Nabors and the roads are used for logging and camping on state property and fees are paid to the state for these activities. Commissioner Lockley asked if there are residents living in these areas. Mr. Nabors replied no, he does not think there is any private property in this area. He said the county has maintained

these bridges for years. Chairman Jones inquired if the county has the authority to shut down the bridges if they are not going to maintain them. Mr. Nabors explained they give them a certain amount of time (6 months to a year) to complete the work and if it is not done then the state will authorize them to close the bridges or they will close them for safety issues. Commissioner Boldt said the county has been maintaining Alligator Drive for 30 year after the state gave the road to the county. He reported they have been a good steward but now it is the state's turn to take over the maintenance of this impaired structure. He said they need to lobby the state to take over this structure. Commissioner Lockley asked who owns the bridges. Mr. Nabors stated the county has been maintaining the bridges for 40 years or more. Attorney Shuler explained it is before his time as County Attorney so they would need to look in the record for the agreements that were made and when they were made. Chairman Jones suggested they determine if the county owns the bridges and is responsible for the structures. Attorney Shuler recommended they direct staff to do an inquiry into the historical basis for the \$150,000 repair. **On motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to direct staff to do a historical basis for the cost of the repair.** Mr. Nabors informed the Board the Trout Creek Bridge will need more work later because all the timbers will need to be changed also. Commissioner Parrish stated log trucks are running over the bridge and the county is not getting any of the money but they want the county to be responsible for the cost of repairs. He said at a minimum this should be a shared cost. Mr. Nabors agreed they have camp sites and hunting and the state gets the money but the county is maintaining the bridges. Commissioner Parrish said they will run into problems if the bridges close because it will shut the hunters out of the areas. Mr. Nabors stated it would be later if the bridges close.

Chairman Jones said he would like to talk with Mr. Nabors later about South Bayshore and Avenue A. He explained there is a ridge between the pavement and they need to look at the area and maybe fill it in. Mr. Nabors stated the boat trailers cause the problem but they can address it.

Commissioner Boldt reported the intersection of Highway 98 and C.R. 30 has warning lights but has a chronic problem that always requires backfilling. He stated this is a FEMA project and they will ultimately resolve this issue but it needs some dirt now. Mr. Nabors said the rain washes out the area and they will fix it.

Solid Waste Director – Fonda Davis

G. Solid Waste Director Board Report

Information Items:

1. Right-of-way Debris/Recycle Material Hauled (See attached document)

Mr. Davis informed the Board the price for white goods is almost nothing. He said on the last pile they did not make any money but did not lose any money because of tipping fees.

Mr. Davis stated 2 of the 3 deer carcass containers have been placed out but they are still working on 1 of the containers.

Mr. Davis said he has been working with Mr. Pierce and Mrs. Brownell about getting Island View Park rebuilt but he is unfamiliar with the bidding process. He reported there is a webinar at 9:00 a.m. tomorrow and he will be on the call. He said he has been in contact with Mr. Jason Register, State Contractor, about this project. He explained he needs help not only for Island View Park but also all the other projects going on. Commissioner Lockley questioned why Mr. Davis is doing this work. Mr. Moron stated he and Mr. Pierce both have related items to discuss with the Board. Mr. Pierce said the webinar is on Thursday.

Mr. Pierce presented the following item from his report:

3. Inform the Board that the state has issued a time extension for 8 county Hurricane Michael projects till October, 2022, and one of them is PW 1152, Alligator Drive. I had sent a letter to FDEM yesterday asking for a time extension until Sept. 30, 2021, and then received a phone call from FDEM saying that this much longer time extension had already been granted. I do not expect the project to take that long, but the current deadline for permanent work to be completed is April 11, 2021, and no matter what happens with the bid process the project will not be completed by then.

The other county projects that have received a time extension until Oct. 1, 2022 are: C30A; St. George Island Fishing Pier; Island View Park; Ochlockonee Bridge fishing pier; Eastpoint Fishing Pier; Alligator Point Dune Walkovers; St. George Island Fishing Pier Road.

Ms. Brownell's office had made the request back on Feb. 21, 2020, but the FDEM contractor who called me said there was no indication the state sent her the letters notifying her of the extensions. I have received a set and have provided them for the Board file.

Mr. Pierce stated these 8 projects are complicated and he is trying to retire so there is a learning curve that needs to be going on. He reported the procurement process he will be involved in on Alligator Drive is the same one Mr. Davis will go through. He said he cannot tell the Board who should do the projects but there needs to be help on the design part which Dewberry could do and the project manager component that needs to be addressed. Mr. Pierce suggested one solution is for Mrs. Griffith to assist in this role. He explained the projects must have county oversight even if Dewberry is involved. Mr. Pierce stated Mrs. Brownell saw these are large construction projects and that is why they have extensions and he supports the extensions. Commissioner Parrish agreed with Commissioner Lockley that the department heads do not know this FEMA process and he questioned who should be doing this work. He said Mr. Pierce has been doing this but it is not Mr. Pierce's responsibility. He stated he appreciates what Mr. Pierce has done and he wants to know who is supposed to be doing this work because someone is not doing their job. Mr. Pierce explained he started doing this work when working as the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Director and since Mrs. Brownell did not have staff he continued to do the work. He reported he has some background in construction and at the time there were not as many projects so he continued to do the Alligator Point projects. Mr. Pierce said he has retired and should not continue to do these

projects. He reported Mrs. Brownell does not have a construction background and she is hesitant to become a project manager on construction projects but Mrs. Brownell can explain that to the Board. Mr. Pierce stated there are 8 projects now and someone needs to be in charge of the projects. Commissioner Parrish reported he can understand using an engineering firm for the design work but the engineering firm cannot be the FEMA representative so they must work in partnership with the county. He explained someone has to re-design Island View Park and someone has to walk them through the FEMA process and reimbursement process but Dewberry cannot do both items. Mr. Pierce agreed Dewberry cannot do the reimbursements as they do not have access to Florida PA and because that must be a county request. Commissioner Parrish stated they need to establish protocols on who is doing what tasks to move these projects forward. Mr. Moron explained he saw this void happening and talked individually with the Commissioners, the current Clerk and the Clerk elect about this issue. He said Mrs. Griffith is the best fit using her knowledge and experience and transferring what she does on the Clerk side over to the county and creating a position that would be like a County Budget Officer but it would have more duties. He reported they need a project manager on the county side to run the grants and FEMA projects. He stated if everyone agrees then at the next meeting he will present a job description and salary and then they would transfer Mrs. Griffith from the Clerk to the Board to fill this void. Commissioner Parrish asked how they get started and if they need to authorize Dewberry to move forward with the design of the projects. Mr. Pierce stated there is not a comprehensive approach but Dewberry has a contract and is doing the design package on the Eastpoint Bathroom Project because before the FEMA money was available the county had some money in the Bridge Maintenance Fund to do the work. He reported they are working on Alligator Point and he believes they signed a task order for C.R. 30A. Mr. Pierce reported Island View does not have a task order signed and he does not know the status of the other projects. He explained there has not been a comprehensive approach because there has not been a project manager to keep things moving. Mrs. Brownell stated she is the liaison between the county and FEMA so the project manager will have to oversee the project but the bills and receipts have to come back to her to process and she still oversees that portion just like she handles getting the money obligated. She said she does not know how to write the contracts but she knows the language that is needed to make the contracts FEMA compliant. Commissioner Parrish reported if they move forward with a grants writer/budget officer they will still need to work together and the paperwork must still go back through Mrs. Brownell. He explained they need to make sure they have protocols and procedures in place so everyone know what their job is on all of the different projects. Mr. Moron agreed and said they need one person to coordinate these things. Commissioner Parrish stated some of the projects are obligated but the county cannot put the money out on all the projects at the same time while they are waiting for reimbursement. Mr. Pierce said he talked about this with Mrs. Griffith several months ago and they are in a new fiscal year and some revenue is coming in. He explained he has managed the Alligator Point project and is looking for someone else to do this work. He stated Mrs. Brownell will still be responsible for the reimbursements and response to the projects. Commissioner Parrish said Mr. Pierce has been serving as project manager and if they go with the County Budget Office then those duties would be included in this position. He stated the person would be working with Mrs. Brownell, FEMA and also with

Dewberry. Mr. Pierce agreed that is correct. Mrs. Brownell said there is already a plan for Island View Park and they can use the scope of work that was written by FEMA to put the park back. She said some mitigation was done so there is a little change but they have the scope of work. Mr. Pierce reported the bid package must still be put together. Commissioner Lockley asked if FEMA will accept the changes. Mr. Pierce clarified the State of Florida designed the park and FEMA reviewed the plan and re-wrote the scope of work. He explained the Project Worksheet (PW) is obligated so the money is there to complete this work. Commissioner Lockley said once they get the work started he does not see why Mr. Davis should have to look at the work when the county has an inspector. He stated they also do not want to put too much work on Mrs. Griffith. Mr. Moron said they will hire someone to do the construction, engineering and inspection (CEI) and that will be part of the bid package. Mr. Pierce said reports must be filed every quarter and reimbursement requests must be done and the project manager will handle these duties. Mr. Moron explained she will also bring change orders to the Board. Commissioner Parrish stated some of the mitigation strategies related to Island View Park included not doing the pavers and changing the boardwalk so they can prevent future damage. He asked if there was some way to save the pavers and use them in some of the county parks. Mrs. Brownell reported the pavers are going back down at Island View. She stated it was not the plan and mitigation she wanted but they are going to place an overlay and then place the pavers back down and cement them together. Mrs. Brownell explained the county is taking up the pavers and will document their time as part of the county's 25% match. Commissioner Parrish questioned if the Parks & Recreation Department will re-install the pavers. Mrs. Brownell replied no, the contractor will place the pavers back down. Mr. Pierce reported about half of the pavers were not disturbed and the contractor could remove them if necessary. Mrs. Brownell stated the county has picked up all the lose pavers. Mr. Pierce said the contractor will do the rest. Mr. Moron questioned if they are paying for everything they want done to take the pavers up. Mrs. Brownell said the mitigation money is here. Mr. Pierce explained this is a large project and it is cost based so FEMA will pay the cost. Mrs. Brownell stated they will pay 75% of what the cost is. Chairman Jones inquired if they need to make a motion or just direct him to proceed. Mr. Moron stated he just wanted to make sure all the Board members are in favor of the plan. Commissioner Ward said this position will provide more continuity and will keep things more organized. Commissioner Lockley stated he does not have any problem with this plan. Commissioner Boldt asked if Mr. Moron will get a job description for Mrs. Griffith and that will provide the coordination for contracts, grants and budgeting. Mr. Moron answered yes. Commissioner Boldt said he strongly promoted Mrs. Griffith being present at the Board meetings and she is tuned into the county business and this is a natural step. Commissioner Parrish said he would like protocols and procedures established and written down so everyone knows their roles and responsibilities. He commented if there is a problem they will know who it is. Commissioner Lockley agreed and said everyone will be on the same page. Mr. Moron explained he talked with Mrs. Griffith about a dashboard for projects that shows the status of the project and who is funding the project so everyone can log in and see the information. He said there will be less emails because the information is available to everyone. Mr. Pierce stated he supports this concept. He explained he is paid out of professional services so those funds can be used to help pay for

this position. He reported the other role is for the county budget is to be in the hands of the County Commission and they can manage that on their terms in coordination with the Clerk's Office. Chairman Jones stated he supports this idea but he does not want it to affect the Clerk's budget at all. Mr. Moron said there are no plans to do that.

Emergency Management Director – Pam Brownell

Mrs. Brownell stated she does not have any action items. Commissioner Lockley asked about the other storm. Mrs. Brownell said it is going the other way and there are other waves but the dry air may steer the systems the same direction.

H. Emergency Management Board Report:

Information Items

1. EOC Staff started working Tropical Storm Eta 11/06/20.
2. EOC Staff will complete the IPAWS test for November on 11/23/20.
3. EOC Staff continues to work Hurricane Sally from 09/12/20 and continues to work with FDEM and FEMA.
4. EOC Staff continue to participate in the NOAA Tropical Weather Training.
5. EOC has submitted our New LMS Plan and corrections to the state and are awaiting approval.
6. EOC Staff along with our CERT Volunteers continue to distribute washable & reusable cloth mask throughout our community. We have partnered with the City of Carrabelle and City of Apalachicola Chamber of Commerce along with the St. George Island & Eastpoint Visitor Centers to assist with distribution to local businesses and residents. We will continue this effort as long as supplies are available.
7. EOC Staff are working diligently with DOH Staff regarding the COVID-19 virus. This includes hosting meetings with representatives from DOH, Sheriff's Dept. Weems, EMS, as needed. We also are assisting with Conference Calls, information distribution from DOH via Alert Franklin, Facebook and our EOC Website.
8. EOC Staff continue to participate in conference calls with State DEM, Region 2, DOH, FEMA, etc. regarding COVID 19. We also continue to update WebEOC with missions for PPE, Local State of Emergency, and SitReps.
9. EOC Staff continue to work on FEMA reimbursement claims from Hurricane Michael. (Please see attached report regarding Hurricane Michael Projects). 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. We are in contact with our PDMG regularly regarding these projects and will update the Board as soon as the State Review is completed. EOC Staff has also began the FEMA reimbursement claim process for COVID-19 and Hurricane Sally.
10. Attached is a copy of the DOH Dashboard regarding COVID-19 Cases in Franklin County as of 11/10/20 at 2:33 pm.

Extension Office Director – Erik Lovstrand

Mr. Lovstrand was not present.

I. Extension Board Report

Informational Items

General Extension Activities:

1. During this period, the Extension office assisted citizens on the topics of beetle damage, hedge plant disease, and in-home insect control.
2. Presented a webinar on the Apalachicola Bay oyster situation, as part of our Natural Resources Extension Team webinar series.
3. Extension Director participated in a 2-day annual CED NW District planning meeting via Zoom.
4. Hosted a Zoom meeting of the Overall Extension Advisory Committee.
5. Participated in annual natural resources extension program planning meeting via Zoom.

Sea Grant Extension:

6. Extension Director participated in a USDA Seafood Tariff Relief webinar. Species that are eligible for the program from our area could include flounders and tuna but specific stipulations must be met to qualify.

Family and Consumer Sciences:

7. Family Nutrition Program assistant, following school and UF Covid Phase III policies, is resuming a few in-person lessons in local schools.

Agriculture/Home Horticulture:

8. Conducted home visit to collect samples of diseased viburnum and sent to DDIS lab in Quincy. First samples sent were inconclusive but this disease seems to be appearing at multiple field sites in Apalachicola.
9. Made another coordinated release of citrus psyllid parasitoids. Doing this project along with Bay and Gulf Counties.

Library Director -- Whitney Roundtree

Mrs. Roundtree presented her action item, as follows:

J. Library Director Board Report

Action Items:

1. Requesting Board approval and signature for the completion of the State Aid to Libraries Grant Agreement between the State of Florida, Department of State and Franklin County Board of County Commissioners for and on behalf of Franklin County Public Library.

On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Ward, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the State Aid to Libraries Grant Agreement.

Information Items

2. Libraries will be closed November 26th -29th for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Events

3. Story Time (ages 1-6) will be held November 18th at 4:00 PM at the Carrabelle branch.
Story Time (ages 1-6) will be held November 25th at 4:00 PM at the Eastpoint Branch.

4. Writer's Forum with Dawn Radford will resume on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 1:00 PM at the Eastpoint branch.

Public Hearings -- CDBG 10:00 a.m. (ET)

Mrs. Belcher presented the following information:

L. CDBG Grant Application and Public Hearing

1. The Franklin County Board of County Commissioners is considering applying to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) for one or more Hurricane Michael Disaster Recovery Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) in the Infrastructure category. To obtain or review a draft of the CDBG applications, contact Mark Curenton, County Planner, at the Franklin County Planning and Building Office, 34 Forbes Street, Apalachicola, FL 32320, email markc@franklincountyflorida.com, phone 850-653-9783x160, during the hours of 8:30 a.m. – noon and 1:00 – 4:30 p.m. Written comments will be accepted by Mr. Curenton until the public hearing. The final application will be on file at that office on or before November 30, 2020, the submission deadline date. The grant applications contains the following components.

Alligator Point Project, Alligator Drive Area
\$9,600,000 Beach/dune construction for Alligator Point
\$ 700,000 Engineering
\$ 700,000 Administration
\$11,000,000 Total

St. George Island Dune Restoration Project
\$1,500,000 Dune construction
\$ 156,000 Engineering
\$ 144,000 Administration
\$1,800,000 Total

Proposed beach/dune restoration will address the CDBG national objective of Urgent Need. There will be no displacement of households or businesses as a result of this project.

The public hearing will be held during the November 17, 2020 Board meeting at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission meeting room, located at 34 Forbes Street, Apalachicola, FL 32320. The public hearing is being conducted in a handicapped accessible location. Any disabled or non-English speaking person wishing to attend the public hearing and requiring an interpreter or special accommodations should contact the County Clerk's Office, telephone 653-8861 (or call 711 for the Florida Relay Service for hearing impaired TTY/TDD) at least two business days prior to the meeting.

11/30/2020. The Board authorized the initiation of 2 project applications: beach renourishment/dune restoration on Alligator Point in the vicinity of Alligator Drive, and dune restoration on St. George Island. Neither application is likely to score well in the competition, as they do not serve a primarily low/moderate income beneficiary group, and they do not address the DEO priority infrastructure categories of stormwater, potable water, wastewater. However, they are eligible for funding if they make it through the competitive process.

Requested Action: Conduct public hearing on CDBG-DR application for Alligator Point beach renourishment and dune restoration,
Requested Action: Conduct public hearing on CDBG-DR applications for Saint George Island dune restoration.
Requested Action: Adopt Resolution authorizing submission of the grant applications.

Mrs. Belcher said she went back to a 2017 report that was provided by Mr. Pierce for about 6,000 ft. but they do not know if they will be able to do all the area based on cooperation with the property owners. She stated some of the area is county owned. Mrs. Belcher explained she increased the cost estimate that the engineer had prepared previously because the beach has eroded more and came up with a budget of \$11 million. Mr. Pierce reported in relation to Alligator Point the \$11 million application being used to applied for CDBG funds is the same application they are submitting for Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) funding. He explained this is the same 1.1 mile section of beach and the same design but they are trying to fund this project 2 different ways. He stated DEP requires the county to pay a 50% match and the Board previously agreed to use \$5 million of RESTORE funds for the match. Mr. Pierce reported they would create a beach and implement a Municipal Service Benefit Unit (MSBU) and assess the property owners to maintain this beach. Mr. Pierce said if they receive funding from CDBG it will save \$5 million in RESTORE funds because with CDBG funds there will be no obligation for the county. He stated the \$11 million is an increase in the original 1.1 mile beach they want to build or it could also add some dune restoration in other areas on Alligator Point but it depends on how the application comes out. He said they do not know where all the dune restoration would occur because they have not done an analysis on the public and private access. Chairman Jones inquired if this is the same project on St. George Island. Mr. Pierce agreed it is the same type of project. Mrs. Belcher verified the project on St. George Island is from 12th Street East to 12th Street West. Mr. Pierce agreed that is the area. Commissioner Boldt stated the 1.1 mile of beach renourishment protecting the road extends westward and could also serve as a secondary beach for the proposed 100 car parking lot at the old KOA campground property. Mr. Pierce explained if they receive CDBG funds they do not have to build a parking lot. He reported the CDBG money does not have an obligation for a public beach but the DEP money requires them to build a 100 car parking lot and a bathroom. Mrs. Belcher agreed that is correct. Commissioner Parrish said they may want to do the parking lot to provide parking and restrooms because of all the issues happening at Alligator Point and then people could use the beach in this area. Mr. Pierce stated the county would have more flexibility with the CDBG funding. Commissioner Boldt said he would like to keep that option open. Attorney Shuler reported Mr. Pierce mentioned a funding source in reference to the DEP money but the Board would need to consider a maintenance fund regardless of how this project is funded. Mr. Pierce agreed if they put in a beach they must have a maintenance fund. Commissioner Parrish said they must have this mechanism for maintenance in place to put the beach back because FEMA will only pay for 50%. He reported if they are awarded either funding before they proceed he would like to see a mechanism in place or they would be wasting tax dollars. Commissioner Parrish stated the beach will wash away and if there is an unnamed storm the county will not receive any money from FEMA so they must have this

system in place. Commissioner Lockley said the assessment will be for the people in that area. He stated he will not vote to charge the whole county for this matter. Commissioner Boldt felt like that is the spirit of the people at Alligator Point because they understand the value use of the project. Mr. Pierce reported the purpose of building the beach is to protect the road and the state will also help fund beach renourishment. Mrs. Belcher recommended they also mention there might be additional sources of revenue although the CDBG award amount could be reduced but it may help because this is an expensive project and they cannot show it meets low to moderate income benefit. She reported the only way she knows to count this is to show there is a county wide benefit because it is open to the public, there is county access and it enhances tourism. Mrs. Belcher explained they cannot say this is a low income neighborhood or any of the things that CDBG likes to see. She reported there is a road issue and she will include it in the application but the project may not get funded. Mrs. Belcher stated her idea is to have the dune restoration in the same area as the beach and the dunes would help maintain the beach. She reported in the application they will say they can come up with a final plan after the grant award is made because they would put engineering into the grant application as well. Mrs. Belcher explained these are thoughts on how to structure the Alligator Point application. She said the St. George Island dune restoration application is based on what the Board told her the area is from 12th Street East to 12th Street West. Mr. Pierce explained the structure of the dunes would be similar to the emergency beach berms in Mexico Beach. He stated this is a FEMA design and it has a certain slope and width and that is what they planned to build with the RESTORE money. Commissioner Lockley asked if they should include worldwide and not just county wide as people come here from all over the world. Mr. Pierce said the challenge is they do not know who is coming here and they are not of low and moderate income. He explained they are saying county wide because parts of the county are low to moderate income. Commissioner Parrish asked if anything is being done in front of the Plantation. Mr. Pierce answered no, because that is not public property. He stated it is the same on the east end. Chairman Jones asked for public comment. There were no public comments. **On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the Resolution.**

The meeting recessed at 10:26 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 10:38 a.m.

TDC Administrator – John Solomon – Report

Mr. Solomon did not have any action items but provided the following report:

K. TDC Administrator's Board Report:

Information Items:

1. Collections Report: August Collections were \$ 190,136.02 which is a 42% increase over August 2019. An increase of \$55,897.35. This is the highest amount ever collected by the Franklin County TDC in the month of August.

2. Occupancy Statistics: With September occupancy rates being above 20% higher than in 2019 the TDC expects to surpass last year's record collections numbers for the year. This with being closed for almost 2 months for rentals.

Mr. Solomon said this is good for the TDC budget and the county budget.

3. The Franklin County TDC is excited to announce the release in the next few days of the new Visit Florida's Forgotten Coast Mobile App. The Board approved the creation of the App back in September. The last 2 months has been spent building and tweaking the App. This is a major step forward in the promotion of Franklin County as a tourist destination.

Mr. Solomon demonstrated the app for the Board. He stated the app will be available on Apple tomorrow and on Google in 4 days. He explained the app also provides up to date beach conditions as well as weather conditions in the county. Mr. Solomon stated the items are geo located to where the person is on their phone. He explained all the items offered by this app. He offered to answer any questions. Commissioner Boldt questioned how the app is titled. Mr. Solomon replied Visit Florida's Forgotten Coast. Chairman Jones commented the app is a free download. He said this mobile app will be included in all their marketing and advertising. Mr. Solomon stated the app will help visitors and locals. He reported they can also track information when the app is downloaded they will know where the people are visiting from and what places they are visiting. Mr. Solomon explained this information can be used to enhance their advertising. He discussed the virtual passport and said as people visit sites they can submit photographs and as they are approved the person accrues points for those locations. He reported after they get more than 40 points they are entered into one of the giveaways at the end of the year to win a trip to visit Florida's Forgotten Coast or a dining experience on the Forgotten Coast. Mr. Solomon said this will allow them to get photographs to use for promotion and they will know which places people are frequenting. He reported it took 2 months to get the app designed. Chairman Jones stated a company has helped develop this app but it was built by the TDC Director. Everyone agreed this was a good job. Mr. Moron asked if the app has a way to notify people when the beach flags are red. Mr. Solomon said they have a way to push a message so that everyone that has the app will receive the message.

4. Visit Florida Flagler Awards: Commissioner Jones and I will be attending the Visit Florida Awards ceremony this Thursday. The Franklin County TDC has been recognized in three categories for awards. We do not know what place we finished but we do know the TDC has won three Flagler Awards this year.

Commissioner Lockley asked where this ceremony is held. Mr. Solomon answered Tampa. Chairman Jones reported these are state wide awards and he is proud of the county. Commissioner Ward congratulated TDC on these awards. Mr. Solomon said it was a big team effort.

Commissioner Parrish stated last year when the county approved the TDC budget there was \$63,000 in reserves. He said he would like to use some money out of the reserves to get the Buddy Ward Museum up and going. Commissioner Parrish reported then this location can be

added to the app. He explained people that visit like to know how people oyster and shrimp and they need to place the displays there because this is a maritime heritage display center. Commissioner Parrish stated the Board has approved money for security cameras and people have offered artifacts for the museum. Commissioner Parrish reported he would like the county to move forward and for this museum to be operational by spring. He said the area is not only for visitors but also for local people. Commissioner Parrish reported the building was dedicated and then COVID hit but now he would like to see them utilize the building.

Commissioner Parrish made a motion to utilize however much they need out of the TDC reserves to get the Buddy Ward Park up and running. Commissioner Lockley seconded the motion. Chairman Jones stated that is why TDC put this money in the budget so he is in favor of it. **Motion carried; 5-0.** Commissioner Parrish stated the app is an excellent tool for visitors and locals and Mr. Solomon did an excellent job. Commissioner Boldt agreed it is a bright happy showy app and uncommon. Mr. Solomon said they tried to theme the app around what the area is which is an open arms, friendly place. He stated the app company thought the app fit the county. Chairman Jones said he came up with the idea for the app when he was home with COVID.

Public Hearing - Zoning Request 10:30 a.m. (ET)

- Q. The Franklin County Board of County Commissioners proposes to adopt the following by ordinance: An Ordinance changing the Zoning on the following parcel of land in Franklin County:

A 1.86 +/- acre parcel lying in Section 34, Township 8 South, Range 8 West, Apalachicola, Franklin County, Florida, as shown on the attached map, to be changed from R-2 Single Family Mobile Home to R-4 Single Family Home Industry.

Mrs. Kelley presented a map of the property and said the applicants are Chris and Sierra Richards. She explained they are asking to place a cosmetology shop on this property. She reported the property is zoned R-2 and that does not allow for a cottage industry so they are requesting a change to R-4 Single Family Home Industry. Mrs. Kelley said she has not received any letters, phone calls or emails for or against the request. Chairman Jones asked for public comment. Ms. Georgette Colson said she is on the phone for their request. Mr. Moron stated their request has not come up yet so he will unmute her when the Board addresses their request. There was no additional public comment. **On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the Ordinance changing the zoning from R-2 Single Family Mobile Home to R-4 Single Family Home Industry.**

Mrs. Ham-Kelly read the following:

R. PUBLIC NOTICE

The Land Use and Re-Zoning Public Hearings that was scheduled for Jamey and Beverly Sapp for the 10 acres located at 2536 Highway 67 and the 6.08 acres located

at 2514 Highway 67, Carrabelle, Franklin County, Florida has been rescheduled to Tuesday, December 15, 2020 at 10:00 AM.

Mrs. Kelley said this was rescheduled to allow time for the outside counsel to go over the details.

Mr. Moron said there is not a Board of Adjustment report because they failed to meet due to lack of a quorum.

Planning and Zoning – Amy Ham-Kelly – Report

Mrs. Ham-Kelley presented the following report:

- N. CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST TO CONSTRUCT A SINGLE FAMILY PRIVATE DOCK LOCATED AT 1663 EAST GULF BEACH DRIVE, LOT 3, SHELL HARBOUR, ST. GEORGE ISLAND, FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA. THE DOCK WALKWAY WILL BE 120' X 4' AND HAVE AN 8' X 20' TERMINUS. THIS WILL BE CONTINGENT UPON ALL STATE AND FEDERAL PERMITS. REQUEST SUBMITTED BY LARRY JOE COLSON, AGENT FOR MARK AND LINDA MUSARACA, APPLICANTS. (PROPOSED HOUSE)
PZ RECOMMENDATION- UNANIMOUS VOTE TO APPROVE CONTINGENT UPON RECEIVING STATE AND FEDERAL PERMITS.
BOARD ACTION- TO APPROVE, TABLE OR DENY

Commissioner Boldt made a motion to approve this request contingent upon receiving state and federal permits. Commissioner Parrish seconded the motion. Chairman Jones asked for public comment. There was no public comment. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

- O. CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST FOR COMMERCIAL SITE PLAN APPROVAL FOR A MEDICAL CENTER TO BE LOCATED AT 104 HIGHWAY 98, EASTPOINT, FRANKLIN COUNTY, FLORIDA. (PARCEL IS LOCATED ON THE CORNER OF HIGHWAY 98 AND SOUTH BAYSHORE DRIVE) REQUEST SUBMITTED BY SCOTT RUTHERFORD, PE, SCR & ASSOCIATES, AGENT FOR BILLY SHULTZ, BAY AND 98, LLC, APPLICANT.
PZ RECOMMENDATION- UNANIMOUS VOTE TO APPROVE CONTINGENT UP MASTER STORM WATER PERMIT HAVING THE CAPACITY.
* ZONING IS C-2 COMMERCIAL BUSINESS: MEDICAL OFFICES ARE PERMITTED. * MEETS ALL SETBACK REQUIREMENTS. * MAX LOT COVERAGE IS 80% THE CLIENTS HAS 77% LOT COVERAGE.* REQUIRES 18 PARKING SPACES/42 HAVE BEEN PROVIDE. * WATER & SEWER IS AVAILABLE TO THE PROJECT, WILL BE PROVIDED ONCE IMPACT FEES ARE PAID. * NO FDOT DRIVEWAY CONNECTIONS ARE REQUIRED. * NOT IN A SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREA. * HEIGHT WILL BE NO GREATER THAN 35 FEET. * HAS AREA SHOWN FOR DUMPSTER COLLECTION. * MASTER STORMWATER POND SHOWN ON THE SOUTHEAST PROPERTY, CULVERTING SHOWN FOR RUNOFF TO BE STORED IN MASTER STORMWATER POND.
BOARD ACTION- TO APPROVE, TABLE OR DENY

Mrs. Ham-Kelly provided the site plan. **Commissioner Boldt made a motion to approve this request contingent upon the master stormwater permit having the capacity. Commissioner Lockley seconded the motion.** Chairman Jones asked for public comment. There was no public comment. **Motion carried; 5-0.**

- P. CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST TO ADJUST LOT LINES BETWEEN LOTS 26 AND 27, BLOCK D, LANARK BEACH, UNIT 1 TO MAKE LOT 27 MORE BUILDABLE. LOT 26 WILL HAVE THE SAME SQUARE FOOTAGE AS PREVIOUSLY. LOT 27 WILL BE LARGER THAN PREVIOUSLY WITH THE INCLUSION OF PART OF LOT 6, BLOCK D, LANARK BEACH, UNIT 1. THE DUKE ENERGY TRANSMISSION LINE EASEMENT RUNS THROUGH ALL OF THESE LOTS. REQUEST SUBMITTED BY LEONARD SKINNER, APPLICANT.

PZ RECOMMENDATION- UNANIMOUS VOTE TO APPROVE THIS REQUEST.

* THE APPLICANT WOULD LIKE TO ADJUST THE LOT LINES TO CREATE MORE BUILDABLE AREA FOR LOT 27. * LOT 26, BLOCK D WILL HAVE THE SAME SQUARE FOOT AS PREVIOUSLY, JUST RE-CONFIGURED. * LOT 6, BLOCK D WILL BE SMALLER BUT WILL REMAIN UN-BUILDABLE DUE TO THE DUKE ENERGY TRANSMISSION LINE EASEMENT. * SO THERE ARE THREE LOTS BEING RE-CONFIGURED SO THAT ATLEAST 2 WILL HAVE A BUILDABLE FOOTPRINT.

BOARD ACTION- TO APPROVE, TABLE OR DENY

Chairman Jones asked if they are sacrificing Lot 6 by redrawing the lines. Mrs. Ham-Kelly replied yes, because they were never able to build on it. She presented a map and explained the change. She said Lot 6 will remain unbuildable. Mrs. Ham-Kelly stated Lot 27 already has an address off of Arizona Street and that is where they will enter and exit the property. Commissioner Ward said this will not impact any other homeowners in the area. Mrs. Ham-Kelly confirmed it will just affect these 3 parcels. Commissioner Boldt questioned where the transmission lines are in the easement and if it is okay to build close to the lines. Mrs. Ham-Kelly reported there is already a mobile home on one of the lots. She described the easement area on the map. Chairman Jones asked for public comment. Mrs. Ham-Kelly stated she has not received any objections, phone calls or emails about this project. There were no public comments. **On motion by Commissioner Boldt, seconded by Commissioner Ward, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve this request.**

CDBG Administrator – Report (Deborah Belcher)

Mrs. Belcher stated the Eastpoint CDBG project is winding down. She presented the following report for the Board:

- M. CDBG Board Report

Action Items:

2. Three new applications for CDBG mobile home replacement were received from Eastpoint Wildfire zone property owners, and one former applicant confirmed her desire to proceed with home replacement. One of the homeowners, Daniel Walker, had a mobile

home on the property at the time of the fire, but had not installed septic tank, well or power. Due to cancer, he had to stop work, and has been assisted by his daughter on the adjacent property with power and use of plumbing. Walker will need CDBG funding not only for the mobile home replacement, but for the septic tank, well and power.

Requested Action: Approve homeowner applications for CDBG mobile home replacement:

- A. Bonnie Langley, 649 Ridge Road, Eastpoint,**
- B. Derek Henry, 638 Ridge Road, Eastpoint,**
- C. Edward and Frances Estes, 725 Ridge Road, Eastpoint,**
- D. .Daniel Walker, 782 Buck Road, Eastpoint.**

Mrs. Belcher stated Mr. Walker is living in a FEMA trailer but not a trailer like Franklin County residents received through fire relief. She said it is not completely installed and he has no septic tank or well and is using the plumbing facilities next door at his daughter's house. She reported the setup is not complete and that will affect the installation costs for the project. Mrs. Belcher requested approval of the 4 homeowner applications for the CDBG mobile home replacements. Chairman Jones asked if Mr. Walker's property has water and sewer available. Mrs. Belcher answered no. Chairman Jones said Eastpoint Water and Sewer has a well at the end of the road. **On motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the 4 homeowner applications for CDBG mobile home replacements.**

3. The County received 2 responses from mobile home dealers to the advertised CDBG bid package #4, request for mobile home replacement bids for Eastpoint Wildfire victims. The responders are Clayton Homes of Panama City and Ironwood Homes of Perry. Ironwood's pricing was significantly lower than Clayton's on comparable models. I discussed the proposals with each of the homeowners, and they all approved and requested funding for the Ironwood Homes of Perry proposals.

Requested Action: Approve CDBG funding for mobile home replacement for the following, to include the necessary CDBG mortgage costs and potential change orders up to \$400:

- A. Bonnie Langley, 649 Ridge Road, \$91,456.22,**
- B. Derek Henry, 638 Ridge Road, Eastpoint, \$86,615.62**
- C. Edward and Frances Estes, 725 Ridge Road, \$84,510.02,**
- D. Daniel Walker, 782 Buck Road, \$101,239.62, with authorization for the County Planner to approve additional funding if the septic and well prices are higher than estimated by Ironwood Homes of Perry.**

Mrs. Belcher stated they do not have the environmental clearance on Mr. Walker's property yet so approval must be subject to the environmental clearance from DEO. Chairman Jones questioned if this contingency can be part of the motion. Attorney Shuler answered yes. Mrs. Belcher read each request. The Board clarified the amount of the potential change orders. Mrs. Belcher asked to move the request for Mr. Walker to the next Board meeting and just approve the other 3 with mortgage costs, and potential change orders of up to \$400 per home. Commissioner Lockley asked what the houses are for. Mrs. Belcher explained these are mobile

home replacements and demolition of existing homes for the Eastpoint fire victims. **On motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve CDBG funding for mobile home replacement, the necessary CDBG mortgage costs and potential change orders up to \$400 for the first 3 applicants-Bonnie Langley, 649 Ridge Road, Derek Henry, 638 Ridge Road and Edward and Frances Estes 725 Ridge Road.**

Attorney Shuler stated during the last presentation on the public hearing for CDBG disaster relief at Alligator Point he thought Mrs. Belcher referenced including in the application a finding of a county wide benefit from potential beach renourishment. Mrs. Belcher answered yes and the reason is the CDBG application must define the beneficiaries of the services. She explained usually there is a defined area but for the beach with public access it is hard to define so the most appropriate way to state it in the application was just to say there was a county wide benefit. Attorney Shuler reported he only became aware of this during the public hearing and the finding of a county wide benefit becomes important on the other issue the Board was discussing which was the creation of a fund to maintain the beach. He explained the last time the Board addressed beach renourishment at Alligator Point was in 2006 or 2007 and the Board hired a group called Government Services Group and they did an analysis of the area that they thought would benefit by the beach renourishment which at the time was an 8 mile stretch of beach and not a 1.1 mile stretch. He pointed out the Board could change their policy position but if they move forward with this application with Mrs. Belcher they would be changing their prior policy which is county wide funding is not available for beach renourishment or the maintenance of that beach at Alligator Point. He expressed concern from a legal standpoint of the Board saying there is a county wide benefit from the beach renourishment at Alligator Point if the MSBU they are creating is not going to be county wide as well. Attorney Shuler said the Board is free to change their policy and the people at Alligator Point have always thought the maintenance should be funded on a county wide basis out of ad valorem and not with an MSBU. He commented if the county proceeds with the application with that finding it could create a problem later that was not foreseen. Attorney Shuler explained he did not want the Board to move forward without knowing the potential challenge that could occur to a MSBU that is not county wide if they get beach renourishment money either through DEP or CDBG DR Funds. Attorney Shuler said he hoped the deadline would be after the next Board meeting so he could meet with Mrs. Belcher and work through this issue but the application is due before the next Board meeting. Mr. Pierce asked if there is a way to revise the application because he has always said this 1.1 mile is not beach renourishment but road protection and they could also redefine the benefit. He said as written it represents a risk because they are saying to one group there is a county benefit but then only the residents of Alligator Point would pay the MSBU. Mrs. Belcher explained the way the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) and HUD define the benefit is the broadest category of who might use something and there is county frontage on this stretch which means the public could use part of the area but it does not mean the public would use all the area. She said they will clarify in the application that there is county property that will be included but there are other portions that are extensions of the land that have washed away. She stated Mr. Mark Curenton, County Planner, said they

may need to get into this issue if the grant is funded and whether the rebuilt beach is public property. Mr. Pierce stated if the beach is rebuilt with public money then it is public property. Mrs. Belcher said the issue of declaring this to be a public benefit is based solely on the fact that part of the beach to be addressed is owned by the county at this point. Attorney Shuler stated he did not understand that but the factual basis for his concern is the county around 2007 hired a professional company to provide the study which is legally necessary to create the MSBU that was proposed at the time. He explained at that time the company tried to encompass as much property within the MSBU unit to reduce the unit cost per parcel of land and they could not find any basis for it to be a county wide benefit unit. He went on to say at the time the beach was 8 miles and now it has been reduced to 1 mile so he does not see how there can be a factual basis for a county wide benefit. He stated a professional study group would have to answer this question. He stated he does not think there is a factual basis for there to be a county wide benefit for CDBG. Attorney Shuler expressed concern about the Board having inconsistent findings of fact because up until now the Board has said there is only a benefit to that geographical area of the county and now with this CDBG application they are saying there is some finding of a county wide benefit and there is not time to resolve this before the next Board meeting. Mrs. Belcher said she looked at the parcels and identified the owners and the county owns some of the land so on those parcels there is public benefit but not every parcel has public benefit. She explained the parcels that are owned by the county are available to the public to access the water and because of that it would meet the widest definition of who could benefit from this project. Attorney Shuler stated he does not understand that explanation. Commissioner Parrish asked if they can correct this matter by taking out the county wide benefit. Attorney Shuler answered yes. **Commissioner Parrish made a motion to remove county wide benefit from this application. Commissioner Lockley seconded the motion.** Mrs. Belcher said she does not know how to define the application now and it must be defined or they will throw out the application. Chairman Jones asked if they can just say public benefit. Mrs. Belcher answered no, they need to know based on the census data who the project benefits and what their low to moderate income percentages are. She stated she was going to use the Franklin County statistics overall to define the application. Mrs. Belcher said in the application they can say part of the property is county owned and open to the public. She explained this process and the definition that is used. Commissioner Parrish reported they cannot do this application with a county wide benefit and then have the MSBU only for the property owners at Alligator Point. He said he is not willing to accept that obligation and responsibility because he has always told the people at Alligator Point that he is willing to set aside \$4 million in RESTORE funds to create this beach but he would only vote for it if there was a mechanism to help put the beach back if it washes away. Commissioner Parrish stated he understands this is the way she has to do the application but if that has to be done then he feels like they should do away with the CDBG DR application because he is not going to obligate everyone in the county to pay for beach renourishment at Alligator Point when 98-99% of the people are not going to go there. He explained that is why he made the motion to remove county wide benefit because that could obligate the whole county. Mrs. Belcher and the Board discussed the assessment of the MSBU and county owned lands. Attorney Shuler questioned if there will be another round of CDBG DR funds later so they have time to discuss these issues.

Mrs. Belcher agreed there might be but they do not know for sure. Attorney Shuler recommended the Board rescind the application for CDBG DR funds for Alligator Point. He said there is a risk to the county if they take an inconsistent position. He stated he will work with Mrs. Belcher and Mr. Pierce to redefine the benefit in case there is a second round of funds. Attorney Shuler said he does not see how there is a county wide benefit for MSBU purposes. Chairman Jones asked if Commissioner Parrish and Commissioner Lockley withdrew their motion and second to take the county wide benefit wording out of the application.

Commissioner Parrish withdrew his motion. Commissioner Lockley withdrew his second.

Chairman Jones asked if that is just the Alligator Point application. Attorney Shuler agreed they are only referring to the application for Alligator Point. He suggested they rescind their action approving the CDBG DR application for Alligator Point temporarily so he, Mrs. Belcher and Mr. Pierce can examine the issue of what the appropriate benefit area should be but to proceed with the St. George Island CDBG DR application. **Commissioner Parrish made a motion to rescind the action approving the Resolution for the CDBG DR application for Alligator Point only. Commissioner Boldt seconded the motion.** Commissioner Boldt said they already have a backup application for this project. The Board agreed that is correct. Mrs. Belcher stated she will reword the Resolution appropriately. Chairman Jones agreed the Resolution should be reworded just to include St. George Island. Commissioner Parrish said they should work through these issues in case another round of funding becomes available so they can make a new application. **Motion carried; 5-0.** Mrs. Belcher stated she will submit the revised Resolution for signature.

RFP / RFQ / Bids Opening

- S. The Franklin County Board of County Commissioners will receive sealed bids from any qualified person, company or corporation interested in constructing: CR 67 WIDENING AND RESURFACING PROJECT FPID NO. 440644-1-34-01
Project is located in Franklin County, Florida and consists of approximately 6.08 miles of widening and resurfacing, striping, signs, minor drainage improvements, and grassing along CR 67 in Carrabelle, FL.

<u>Company</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Bid Amount</u>
Peavy & Son Construction Company	Havana, FL	\$3,303,911.89
CWR Contracting, Inc.	Tallahassee, FL	\$2,813,971.93
Capital Asphalt, Inc	Tallahassee, FL	\$3,482,872.40
Roberts and Roberts, Inc.	Tallahassee, FL	\$2,944,765.24

All bids had bid bonds. **On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to turn the bids over to the engineers for review and a recommendation.**

- T. The Franklin County Board of County Commissioners will receive sealed bids from any qualified person, company or corporation interested in constructing: CR 30A RESURFACING PROJECT FPID NO. 440621-2-34-01

Project is located in Franklin County, Florida and consists of approximately 1.55 miles of widening and resurfacing, striping, signs, minor drainage improvements, and grassing along CR 30A in Franklin County.

Mr. Pierce said there is no FEMA money on this project as it is just a resurfacing project. He explained there is still a shoulder embankment problem that he spoke about earlier and that is a separate project. Commissioner Parrish clarified this project is from the Gulf County/Franklin County line to 13 Mile. Mr. Pierce stated the project is 1.5 miles long.

<u>Company</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Bid Amount</u>
CWR Contracting, Inc.	Tallahassee, FL	\$1,208,994.56
Capital Asphalt, Inc.	Tallahassee, FL	No Bid
Roberts & Roberts, Inc.	Tallahassee, FL	\$1,079,392.36

Both bids had a bid bond. **On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to turn the bids over to the engineer for review and a recommendation.**

Mr. Moron said he will address Mrs. Lori Switzer's report during his report.

Clerk of Courts – Marcia M. Johnson – Report

Mrs. Griffith reported this is the last time they are able to approve budget Resolutions or amendments for the prior year budget. She explained budget resolutions incorporate unanticipated revenues into the prior year budgets and the budget amendments simple move budgeted funds from one line item to another line item. Mrs. Griffith provided the following report:

V. Clerk's Report to the Board 11-17-20:

Action Items

1. The 1st resolution is for \$16,551 in fees received from the Building Department/Planning & Zoning for operational expenses of the two departments.
2. The 2nd resolution is for \$305,000 in leasing proceeds and \$280,181 for the payoff of the prior rolling dump-truck when traded.

Mrs. Griffith read the Resolution for the Board. **On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to adopt the following Resolution:**

**RESOLUTION
FRANKLIN COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

WHEREAS, Franklin County is a political subdivision of the State of Florida and subject to Florida Statutes Chapter 129 regarding preparation of budgets, and

WHEREAS, FS 129.06 provides for budget amendments for unanticipated revenues, and

WHEREAS, the Franklin County Board of County Commission has received \$12,267.00 in unanticipated permit fees from building permits and other unanticipated planning and zoning fees in the amount of \$4,284.00 to use for expenses associated with the operations of the Franklin County Building Department and Planning/Zoning.

WHEREAS, said revenue is needed to pay certain expenditures incurred in Fiscal Year 2019-2020 and

WHEREAS, FS 129.06(2) (d) provides for budget amendments in relation to receipts and expenditures of the nature that is received, and

WHEREAS, this section requires the Board of County Commission to spread on its minutes the expenditures for the purpose of:

001.28.524.2300	Building Department – Health, Life, Dental	\$ 5,467.00
001.28.524.5100	Building Department – Office Supplies	\$ 3,780.00
001.28.524.5200	Building Department – Operating Supplies	\$ 3,020.00
001.25.515.4900	Planning and Zoning – Other Current Chgs	\$ 4,284.00

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Franklin County Board of County Commissioners appropriates these unanticipated revenues in the amount of \$16,551.00 in the GENERAL FUND in order to comply with FS129(2)(d).

THIS RESOLUTION ADOPTED by the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners this 17th day of NOVEMBER 2020.

Franklin County, Florida
Board of County Commissioners

s/Ricky Jones
Ricky Jones, Chairman

ATTEST:

s/Marcia M. Johnson
Marcia M. Johnson, Clerk of Court

Mrs. Griffith read the Resolution for the Board's consideration. **On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to adopt the Resolution, as follows:**

**RESOLUTION
FRANKLIN COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

WHEREAS, Franklin County is a political subdivision of the State of Florida and subject to Florida Statutes Chapter 129 regarding preparation of budgets, and

WHEREAS, FS 129.06 provides for budget amendments for unanticipated revenues, and

WHEREAS, as part of the revolving lease-purchase program for replacement dump trucks, Franklin County has received unanticipated installment loan proceeds in the amount of \$305,000 from Leasing 2, Inc., and unanticipated sales proceeds from the trade-in of the 2019 Mack Dump Trucks in the amount of \$280,181 from Capital Truck, and

WHEREAS, said revenue is needed to pay certain expenditures incurred in Fiscal Year 2019-2020 and

WHEREAS, FS 129.06(2)(d) provides for budget amendments in relation to receipts and expenditures of the nature that is received, and

WHEREAS, this section requires the Board of County Commission to spread on its minutes the expenditures for the purpose of:

140.41.541.6401	Road Department - Machinery & Equipment	\$305,000.00
140.41.541.7100	Road Department – Principal	\$280,181.00

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Franklin County Board of County Commissioners appropriates these unanticipated revenues in the amount of \$585,181.00 in the Road and Bridge Fund in order to comply with FS129(2)(d).

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Franklin County, Florida
Board of County Commissioners

s/Ricky Jones
Ricky Jones, Chairman

ATTEST:

s/Marcia M. Johnson
Marcia M. Johnson, Clerk of Court

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

Line Item Budget Amendment Requests:

(1). The budget amendment below is needed to adjust line items to cover additional expenses in the planning and zoning department that have shared expenditures with the Administrative Services Department:

DECREASE 001.21.512.5100	Administrative Services – Office Supplies	\$ 1,715.00
DECREASE 001.21.512.5200	Administrative Services – Operating Supp	\$ 1,150.00
DECREASE 001.21.512.4000	Administrative Services – Travel	\$ 1,381.00
DECREASE 001.21.512.4100	Administrative Services – Communications	\$ 1,071.00
DECREASE 001.21.512.1200	Administrative Services – Regular Salaries	\$ 5,297.00
INCREASE 001.25.515.1200	Planning & Zoning – Regular Salaries.	\$ 3,228.00
INCREASE 001.25.515.2200	Planning & Zoning – Retirement	\$ 3,076.00
INCREASE 001.25.515.4900	Planning & Zoning – Other Current Charges	\$ 4,310.00

On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the line item budget amendments.

(2). The budget amendment below is needed to adjust line items to move budgeted funds from Reserve for Contingencies – in 2019 the Humane Society’s funding was temporarily suspended due to an issue with an easement. The BCC moved those funds to reserve for contingency and once the issue was resolved, the funding was restored. The line item amendment below just formally ratifies that release.

DECREASE 001.99.584.9600	Reserve for Contingencies	\$ 36,278.00
INCREASE 001.52.564.8204	Health Services - Humane Society	\$ 36,278.00

On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the budget amendment.

(3). The budget amendment below is needed to move budgeted funds from the Tipping Fee capital outlay line item to the tipping fee repair and maintenance line item for repairs made to the incinerator.

DECREASE 304.40.534.6400	Tipping Fee – Capital Outlay	\$ 59,039.00
INCREASE 304.40.534.4600	Tipping Fee – Repair & Maintenance	\$ 59,039.00

On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the budget amendment.

Mrs. Griffith said while they were processing the county bills for coronavirus relief funds they are waiting for some supporting documents for light bills, utility payments and rent and they need permission to cut a manual check for those bills. **On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Ward, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize the Finance Department to cut a manual check for these bills.**

Commissioner Boldt stated they added money back into the Road Department budget by the sale of the machinery products addressed earlier in the meeting and that is remarkable.

Mr. Moron suggested the Board let Mr. Pierce present his report and then break for lunch and come back at 1:00 p.m. He stated at 1:00 p.m. he will present his report and then the Board will still be in time for the Executive Session at 1:30 p.m.

Special Projects Consultant – Alan Pierce – Report

Mr. Pierce read the following report for the Board:

W. Special Projects Coordinator Board Report

Action Item:

1. Board action to ratify a Resolution signed by the Chairman on Friday, Nov. 13, supporting the county's application for design funds from the FDEP Beach Management Program. I had advised the Board on September 15 that Mike Dombrowski would be drafting a resolution and would be getting it to Michael Moron. It has taken longer than I expected.

I also would like to remind the Board that this FDEP application is only for the design portion, which is \$200K. If FDEP approves funds for design then the county would apply in the 2022 Legislature for construction funds. If FDEP does not approve the design then the funding of a beach to protect 1.1 mile of Alligator Drive will not happen through the FDEP program. Board action to ratify the Resolution, and then I will describe the other path the county is seeking to protect the road.

Commissioner Parrish made a motion to ratify the Resolution. Commissioner Lockley seconded the motion. Mr. Pierce stated the application is only for \$200,000 for the design portion and if they get the design funds then they will apply next year for construction funds. He reported if they receive the construction funds then they can address the MSBU. Mr. Pierce reported last year they applied and did not get the funds but they will try again this year. **Motion carried; 5-0.** Mr. Pierce reported DEP changed the rules and now they favor cities that have projects with Corps of Engineer backing for true navigation. He said hopefully Representative Jason Shoaf can help but they will not know until May when the Legislature acts.

Information Items:

2. I understand from Ms. Debbie Belcher that she is completing an application for CDBG-DR funds for a beach project to protect Alligator Drive in the same location and manner as the FDEP Beach Management application. The difference in the applications is not the funds as both projects propose a construction cost of \$10M, and it is not a difference in dimensions as both projects propose to protect the same 1.1 mile of road that is most vulnerable to storm damage. The difference in applications is in the county's obligation. Under the FDEP program, the state would provide 50% of the construction costs and the county would have to provide 50% of the construction costs. So, the state would put up \$5M funded from the Legislature and the county would put up \$5M from its RESTORE funds. Under the CDBG program, the county would not have to put up any money; the CDBG program would provide all the funds. I have spoken to Ms. Belcher and I believe she was going to ask for \$11M in the event there are some cost over-runs.

The question I have for the Board is how the Board wants to proceed on maintaining the beach if we receive CDBG funds. The Board has said previously that if FDEP funds

the project the Board would create an assessment to help maintain the beach. Does the Board have the same opinion if CDBG funds the project?

And if the Board does have the same opinion, and if the county gets funded then the first step in determining an assessment is determining how large an area can be included in the assessment. The size of the area to be included in the assessment has a direct bearing on how much an individual would pay. In general, the question has been whether all property owners on the Point, which could be as many as 1000, could legally be included in an assessment, or whether just those property owners who need the road, which is less than 500, would be the assessment area. I give this advice now because if we get funded for the beach the county needs to get a legal opinion on the extent of the assessment area.

3. Inform the Board that the state has issued a time extension for 8 county Hurricane Michael projects till October, 2022, and one of them is PW 1152, Alligator Drive. I had sent a letter to FDEM yesterday asking for a time extension until Sept. 30, 2021, and then received a phone call from FDEM saying that this much longer time extension had already been granted. I do not expect the project to take that long, but the current deadline for permanent work to be completed is April 11, 2021, and no matter what happens with the bid process the project will not be completed by then.

The other county projects that have received a time extension until Oct. 1, 2022 are: C30A; St. George Island Fishing Pier; Island View Park; Ochlocknee Bridge fishing pier; Eastpoint Fishing Pier; Alligator Point Dune Walkovers; St. George Island Fishing Pier Road.

Ms. Brownell's office had made the request back on Feb. 21, 2020, but the FDEM contractor who called me said there was no indication the state sent her the letters notifying her of the extensions. I have received a set and have provided them for the Board file.

4. Status of Alligator Point Road repairs- as the Board is aware, we received a letter from Anderson Columbia saying they could not honor their original bid to repair Alligator Drive, but for \$130K increase in price they would still do the job. Based upon my desire not to have to re-bid I did recommend the Board accept this increased bid. At the last meeting I told the Board that I had sent a draft contract to FEMA for review and have not heard back. I have since been advised that Ms. Brownell has arranged for a FEMA procurement webinar on Thursday, Nov. 19. I am going to participate in this webinar because I am concerned with two items. Can the Board accept an increased bid from one vendor without allowing other vendors the same opportunity? And, I have a question about the required notification of minority businesses. There is a registry of minority business, and I cannot find where I sent the bid notice back in 2019 to the registry. To further compound the issue, the bid documents that Dewberry use requires a qualified applicant to be FDOT pre-qualified and I need to verify with FEMA whether such additional requirement is consistent with their procurement. The summary is that I might have to reverse my recommendation on re-bidding. I have discussed this situation with Clay Kennedy and Mr. Shuler. I certainly defer to the Board, but at this time I believe I should participate in the FEMA webinar on Thursday and then make a recommendation to the Board at the Dec. 1 BCC meeting.

Commissioner Parrish asked if Mr. Pierce will be here on December 1st. Mr. Pierce responded yes. He said he realizes now that he cannot find any evidence because at the time he was just trying to get a fixed price to give FEMA to get funding and not trying to address the

procurement issues. He reported they are trying to get some release because the money is available. Attorney Shuler clarified Anderson-Columbia has not proceeded with any work and incurred any cost as of today and they are on notice of a potential cancellation and rebidding of the project. Mr. Pierce stated that is what their representatives told Mr. Clay Kennedy, Dewberry. Commissioner Boldt said that will place \$130,000 back in his road fund. Mr. Pierce said that is possible. Commissioner Boldt stated he will wait until he has the official word. Mr. Pierce pointed out Anderson-Columbia has not signed any documents for the project.

The meeting recessed at 12:00 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 1:05 p.m.

County Coordinator – Michael Morón – Report

Mr. Moron read the following report:

U. SHIP Administrator's Request:

Action Item

I am requesting that the County Commissioners increase the Coronavirus Relief Funds limit to at least \$4,000 per applicant.

By my calculations we still have \$22,226.19 to spend. We have two more meetings. We are still receiving some applications but not like before and I have several applicants that I paid the \$2,500 max. but that did not catch them up on their rent. So I plan to go back and help those applicants further.

We have 82 applicants so far.

Total received:	\$175,000
Administrative	- \$ 15,909
Total applicant assistance	\$159,091
Total spent/encumbered	- \$136,864.81
Total left for assistance	\$22,226.19

Chairman Jones said he understood these funds could only be used if someone was behind in their bills but they cannot catch someone up. Mr. Moron said the people still have outstanding utilities so they can get them as close to current as possible. Commissioner Lockley asked how many people they have helped. Mr. Moron said there are 82 applicants and he presented the amount of funds spent and the amount of funds left for assistance. Commissioner Parrish asked if these funds must be spent by December 31st. Mr. Moron answered yes.

Commissioner Parrish questioned if they received additional funds. Mr. Moron replied that money is for a different program which is trailer replacement. He explained even though they did not get SHIP funds Mrs. Switzer is managing 2 other programs. **On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Ward, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to increase the coronavirus relief funds limit to at least \$4,000 per applicant.**

Mr. Moron presented his report as follows:

X. County Coordinator's Board Report

Action Items

1. CR 30A & CR 67 CEI Services: Negotiations with AECOM Technical Services, Inc. to provide the CEI services for the widening and resurfacing of CR 30A and CR 67 have concluded, and it is recommended that the County enter into agreements with them. The agreement for CR 30A would be for \$124,970.38 and the agreement for CR 67 would be for \$372,934.96. These costs will be covered by the FDOT grants for these projects.

Request: Board action to have the chairman sign these two contracts.

On motion by Commissioner Boldt, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the AECOM contracts and authorize the Chairman to sign the contracts.

2. Airport Master Plan Meeting: On Tuesday, October 27th AVCON hosted a public hearing via Zoom where the Airport Master plan development alternatives were presented, and public feedback was received. There was a good question and answer segment at the end of the presentation. There was one request to extend the public comment deadline beyond the December 2nd date to allow local interested parties to review the information. I asked John Collins (AVCON) to contact FAA and FDOT and ask if the 36-day public comment period was adequate, both agencies agreed that any extension to the comment period was not justified. Unless the Board thinks otherwise, the December 2nd deadline will stand, and AVCON will consider and incorporate into the Master Plan summary report any public comments and suggestions submitted by that date. The Master Plan summary report will be presented to the Board early next year for your review and approval.

Request: Board discussion and direction regarding the December 2nd public comment deadline.

Commissioner Parrish said based on this comments from FAA and FDOT he makes a recommendation that they stand by the December 2nd public comment deadline. **On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Lockley, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to stand by the December 2nd public comment deadline.** Mr. Moron stated the presentation will be placed on the county website for anyone to look at.

3. In-Person Public Attendance: In October, the Board directed staff to contact surrounding counties to find out what they were doing about in-person public attendance for BOCC meetings. Based on that research, all six counties are opened to the public for meetings with social distancing requirements, however, some require masks, temperature checks, and other regulations. With that in mind, here are some recommendations for re-opening your meetings for in-person public attendance:

- Start in-person attendance at your January 5, 2021 meeting
- Use the allowed seating locations as designated by the 2nd Circuit Court Trial Marshal, which is based on the Florida Supreme Court Chief Justice's order. Designate what seating will reserved for staff, for agenda presenters, and for the public.

- Require temperature checks before entering the meeting room.
- Require mask, unless you are speaking in front of a microphone. Removing your mask to speak allows for a clear understanding of what is being said for the official meeting minutes.
- Continue the use of Zoom and Live-stream. Applicants, presenters, public comments will be heard in-room and virtually via Zoom.
- If there is an overcrowding issue based on limited available seating, those wanting to comment during the Public Comments agenda item will be rotated with anyone waiting at an outside location to speak.
- The meeting room will be sanitized prior to and after each meeting. A hand sanitizing station will be located at the speaker podium for anyone that addresses the Board from that location.
- Planning and Zoning and Board of Adjustment meetings will be conducted via Zoom. Will the Board require in-person attendance starting in January?
Request: Board discussion and possible action on procedures for allowing in-person public attendance at meetings.

Mr. Moron said they must consider that the other boards are comprised of volunteers. He reported when they started back in person with these boards it was with the understanding that the meetings would be virtual. He explained some volunteers are hesitant about in person meetings for the Board of Adjustment and the Planning & Zoning Commission. Mr. Moron asked if the Board is okay with his recommendations. He stated they must also recognize that the numbers are up again. Commissioner Parrish reported everyone else is open and the Board meetings are not so they are being blasted for suppressing public comment but they are not because of zoom. Commissioner Parrish said he watched the news and the country had a million new COVID cases in the last week. He stated COVID is still going around the community. He reported if the Board feels like they need to open then he would like to go with all the recommendations to protect the Board, staff and the general public. He explained masks should be worn except when the person is speaking because it is hard to understand people when they have the mask on. Mr. Moron asked if the Board wants to base the January 5th date on any percentages at the time. He explained the court has an option if the percentages get too high to move trials but the county does not have this option. Commissioner Parrish stated some of the counties that are open have much larger rooms for their meetings. Chairman Jones said it is hard for the Board to base this on the numbers because that will always be arbitrary. He reported he understands the concern about people's health but if they are taking some of these actions then they are doing their best to mitigate it. He stated he received a call from Ms. Ginger Delegal, Florida Association of Counties (FAC), and they will provide some information at the end of the week about other counties but she said there are many different situations. Mr. Moron stated they sent a county manager post last night about this issue and they are receiving answers from other counties. The Board discussed people coming in and leaving the meeting to allow other people in the meeting. Mr. Moron said he would have to ask the bailiff to take care of these issues. Chairman Jones stated he is good with the recommendations but when they start having public hearings it needs to go along with what he has stated with the Planning & Zoning Commission and Board of Adjustment. He explained if they are going to have a public hearing especially on something that is controversial they cannot fill up the room or restrict the number of people in the room. He questioned if they are

planning to have any of the public hearings conducted on zoom. Mr. Moron agreed he would like to keep all public hearings via zoom but that is a question for Attorney Shuler because he does not know if that is legal. He expressed concern if there is a controversial issue there are only 17 seats in the Courtroom available and the Board may receive criticism based on their decision and the number of people present versus the number of people on zoom. Commissioner Parrish explained people can also show up early to secure all the seats for their supporters and the people against the issue would be on zoom or in the foyer complaining because they cannot attend the meeting. Commissioner Lockley questioned if they could move to the main Courthouse or Armory if necessary. Mr. Moron said there is no zoom access set up in the Armory. Commissioner Parrish explained all the sanitation stations must be moved also to comply with the recommendations. Commissioner Ward stated no matter how you look at the situation is a catch 22. She explained you want to allow people in the meetings and they should have a voice but they also need to be safe for everyone involved. Commissioner Ward explained she is all about having the community come back and be part of the process. She reported sometimes people have problems with zoom and she has also had this issue. She stated there are glitches with zoom and the public may feel suppressed because of those issues. Chairman Jones suggested at public hearings they could have the two parties in the room and the public can comment via zoom. Commissioner Parrish agreed that would be more equitable. Attorney Shuler said he talked with Mr. Moron but he does not have a final recommendation. He stated Commissioner Ward is right that there is not going to be a right answer but they must do the best they can under the circumstances. Attorney Shuler suggested the Board allow him to get with Mr. Moron and come up with a final recommendation for the Board to consider at the next meeting. Commissioner Boldt said the Board needs to be sensitive to the increase in cases. He stated these are significant numbers that have happened and even though there are other commissions open in other ways they have new up to date information the others did not have when they opened. Commissioner Boldt reported they need to be mindful of the public health and safety with the new surge. Commissioner Ward suggested the Board conduct a lottery for who can attend the public hearings and limit the number. Mr. Moron reminded the Board when staff is present at the meetings there are only about 10 seats left. He said there would need to be a natural progression of people coming in the room. Chairman Jones stated it is good they are waiting until January so they have time to work this out. Mr. Moron agreed he will take all this under consideration and discuss it with Attorney Shuler. Commissioner Lockley asked if they can have a meeting outside. Mr. Moron said they have to keep technology in mind if they plan to make any changes. Commissioner Parrish requested they put all this information on the county website so people know that the Board is working on this matter. He said if Mr. Moron presents some recommendation they can take action in December for what they are going to do in January. He explained in the meantime they need to let the public know they are considering opening the meetings back up to public participation. Mr. Moron stated he will also with the Board's permission open the matter up to public input. Chairman Jones said that would be great.

4. Planning & Zoning Appointment: Commissioner Boldt would like to appoint Ms. Kay McCord to the Planning and Zoning District 2 seat. Ms. McCord has talked to Ms.

Amy Kelly (Zoning Administrator) about her role as a Planning and Zoning member and attended the November 10th Planning and Zoning meeting as an observer.
Request: Board action to appoint Ms. Kay McCord to the Planning and Zoning District 2 seat.

On motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to appoint Ms. Kay McCord to the Planning & Zoning District 2 seat.

5. E Triple C Funding: Ms. Traci Buzbee (CARES Act Funding Consultant) recently received a Business grant application from Elder Care Community Council of Franklin County (E Triple C). After reviewing the application, Ms. Buzbee realized that E Triple C would qualify as a candidate for the \$10,000 food distribution grant for food pantries and distribution. Their application indicates that distribution of daily meals has increased from 10 to somewhere between 60 – 80. It would raise that line-item grant amount from \$40,000 to \$50,000. Your CARES Act Funding Oversight Committee recommends this action.
Request: Board action to award E Triple C a \$10,000 food pantry and distribution grant.

Mr. Moron said E Triple C works at the 6th Street Senior Center. He explained they either drop off meals or have a drive through for meals. He reported this is one of the few applications they have received that is complete and they qualify because their food and distribution have increased. **On motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the award of a \$10,000 food pantry and distribution grant to E Triple C as long as they use it for food only.**

6. High-Speed Internet Resolution: Staff received a request from Mr. Chris Doolin (Small County Coalition) to ask for Board adoption and the Chairman's signature on a Resolution supporting Affordable and Reliable High-Speed Internet throughout Florida. This Resolution will be presented to the Secretary of the Department of Economic Opportunity, Dane Eagle, during the Small County Coalition lunch or during another meeting scheduled for December 3rd in Jacksonville. A sample copy of the Resolution and the Small County Coalition Broadband Initiative document are attached to my report.
Request: Board action to adopt and authorize the Chairman's signature on the Resolution.

Commissioner Boldt made a motion to adopt the Resolution and authorize the Chairman to sign the Resolution. Commissioner Ward seconded the motion. Commissioner Boldt reported he had an in-depth discussion with Mr. Doolin on this issue and it is timely and up to date for what they are doing. Chairman Jones said this is needed. **Motion carried; 5-0.** Mr. Moron said he will make sure the Commissioners going to Jacksonville will have a separate copy to present since Commissioner Ward will be their representative on the Small County Coalition.

7. This item was addressed until the Road Department Report.

8. EP Christmas Parade: Mrs. Dottye Thornburg, event coordinator for the 2020 Eastpoint Christmas parade and celebration is requesting approval of the parade route. The parade line-up will start at 4:00 pm (ET), thirty minutes before the parade start time, on Friday, December 11th. The parade will begin on behind Webb seafood, at the corner of Power Drive and C A Gillespie Street, then turn left (East) onto Highway 98 and end at Fisherman's Choice (300 Highway 98).

Request: Board action to approve the Eastpoint 2020 Christmas parade route.

On motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the 2020 Eastpoint Christmas Parade route.

9. Tobacco Grant Letter of Support: Ms. Marquita Thompkins, Tobacco Prevention Specialist with the Department of Health, requested a letter of support from the County to retain grant funding for the County's tobacco prevention program. The letter was due on Friday of last week, so Chairman Lockley signed it that morning.

Request: Board action to ratify the Chairman's signature on the letter of support.

On motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to ratify the Chairman's signature on the letter of support.

10. Artificial Reef Grant: During Public Comments you should have heard from Ms. Lorena Holley and Frank Gidus (Coastal Conservation Association) regarding a request to have Franklin County apply for a grant from the FWC to construct an artificial reef on the Carrabelle 10 Mile Reef in the honor of Dr. Bart Carey.

Unfortunately, I do not have any additional information on this request besides the documentation attached to my report. Is the Board ready to proceed with this request based on the information provided or do you need additional information?

Request: Board discussion and direction.

Commissioner Boldt made a motion to proceed. He explained he also had a conversation with Ms. Holley about this matter. Commissioner Boldt stated the reef will be a benefit to honor someone and they will have a facility for fishing. Commissioner Parrish asked if there is a reef already there and what the proximity is to shrimping grounds. He reminded everyone when they wanted the Apalachicola reef Mr. Grayson Shephard came to his business and talked with the shrimp boat captains to make sure where the reef was being placed would not impact shrimping. Commissioner Parrish said Ms. Holley stated they already have a permit but he does not know if that permit is for the 10 Mile Reef. Mr. Moron said he will check into that. He questioned if there is already a reef there and if they are going to expand on it. Commissioner Parrish questioned why they would apply for a permit before coming to the Board with this request. He said he is not saying he is against it but he does not know and there is also no map showing the location. Commissioner Parrish said he needs more information before he supports this request. He explained when they applied for the Apalachicola reef Mr. Shepard and the 501.3© agreed to be responsible for the reporting requirements but those issues are not addressed in this request. Commissioner Parrish stated they need to look back on the

Apalachicola reef discussion and ask the same questions of this organization. He explained in his opinion there are a lot of questions that need to be asked before the Board makes a decision. Chairman Jones asked if the Board can direct Mr. Moron to find out the answers to these questions. Commissioner Parrish agreed they should follow the same protocol that they used for the Apalachicola reef. Mr. Moron asked the Board to send any questions to him in the next day or two and he will set up a meeting with Ms. Holley and get the questions answered. **Commissioner Boldt withdrew his motion. On motion by Commissioner Boldt, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to table this request until the next meeting.** Mr. Moron said he will include this on his report for the next meeting.

11. FAC Conference: Remind the Board that the Florida Association of Counties Legislative Conference is scheduled for December 2nd – 4th at the Hyatt Regency in Duval County. This is the final opportunity for the association members to meet and voice their opinion on the policies FAC lobbies during the legislative session.
Request: Board action to authorize travel and expenses for commissioners attending the conference.

On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize travel and expenses for the Commissioners that are attending the conference.

12. ARPC Municipal Representative: Mayor LaPaz has served as the County's Apalachee Regional Planning Council (ARPC) municipal representative for approximately four years. Usually, the Board rotates this seat between the City of Apalachicola and the City of Carrabelle every two years. Would the Board like me to reach out to the City of Apalachicola to find out if they would like to serve as the County's municipal representative?
Request: Board discussion and direction.

Commissioner Lockley said he would like for Mr. Moron to contact the City of Apalachicola. Chairman Jones agreed but said the City of Apalachicola was not interested last time. Commissioner Parrish said that is correct. He suggested the Board write a letter to the City of Apalachicola emphasizing that the City of Carrabelle has done this for 4 years and the Board would like someone from the City of Apalachicola to serve at least 2 years. Chairman Jones reported there is also a gubernatorial appointee vacancy on the ARPC and that is another process to go through to apply. He said if a Commissioner can find someone to serve they would apply through the Governor's Office. He was not sure how long this seat had been vacant. Chairman Jones pointed out the county can have 3 seats on that Board. Commissioner Boldt inquired if this vacancy is in the name of Franklin County. Chairman Jones replied yes, it is the same as it was when he applied for Eastpoint Water and Sewer and is in the Governor's Appointments Office.

13. Highway 98 Letter to FDOT: At your last meeting I was directed to send a letter to Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) regarding repairs to Highway 98 from Carrabelle to Eastpoint and both causeways between Eastpoint and Apalachicola.

After checking the FDOT's Five Year Work Program for Franklin County, a Highway 98 resurfacing project from Franklin St. in Eastpoint to the Carrabelle River Bridge is already in design and engineering phase. However, I did not see any projects that would resurface the causeways between Eastpoint and Apalachicola. Would the Board consider amending the previous motion so the letter request repairs to the causeways only so there isn't a mixed message sent to FDOT that would pause the Eastpoint to Carrabelle Highway 98 resurfacing project?

Request: Board discussion and direction.

Mr. Moron said this project is being fast tracked and he does not want to interfere with this project so they just need to request work on the causeways. Chairman Jones asked if the Board wrote a letter asking to expand the scope of the Eastpoint Project to include this area. Mr. Moron answered yes, he has a copy of the letter but it did not go very far. Commissioner Parrish said this is a federal highway and he would like to see this fixed. **On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Ward, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed write a letter to FDOT addressing repairs to the causeways.**

Information Items

14. FDOT TRIP & TA Grants: The Florida Department of Transportation informed Mr. Mark Curenton (County Planner) that the Transportation Alternative (TA) and the Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) grant cycles are now open. The TA grant funds non-motorized transportation such as sidewalks and multi-use trails. The TRIP grants have to be multi-county projects. I have included more detailed information from FDOT as an attachment so if you have any questions contact Mr. Curenton. The application deadline is Friday, February 26, 2021.

County Attorney – Michael Shuler – Report

Attorney Shuler said he does not have a report.

Commissioners' Comments

Commissioner Lockley said it is an honor to be back on the Board working with the other Commissioners and he wants to thank Districts 3 for re-electing him. He wished everyone in the county and especially District 3 a Happy Thanksgiving. Commissioner Ward agreed with Commissioner Lockley and said it is an honor and she looks forward to the next 4 years and thanks District 5 for electing her and trusting her. She congratulated Chairman Jones and Commissioner Lockley on their re-election. Commissioner Boldt said he sees this as a strong team approach. He said it is an honor and he welcomes Commissioner Ward to the Board. He pointed out how special their county staff is and how they have helped him and he knows they will help her. He stated also the constitutional officers and departments heads because it is a team approach that helps them work well with the county. Commissioner Boldt said he looks forward to mentoring Commissioner Ward as well. Commissioner Ward stated she looks forward to that and thanked Commissioner Boldt. Chairman Jones said it is an honor to represent the county and a great thing to be reelected. He reported there is work to do and he

found out during campaigning that he is not the solution but he is here to find the solutions. Chairman Jones said he concurs with what has been said and he feels like they have a good Board and they have done good work and will continue to do good work but they are going to find solutions to some of their problems and he does not believe they are going to continue to have the same problems.

Mr. Moron explained when they come back they will be on zoom for a few minutes and then pause that for the Executive Session and then open zoom back up when they go back into a public meeting.

The meeting was recessed at 1:45 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 1:55 p.m.

- Y. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to Section 286.011(8), Florida Statutes, the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners will meet in Executive Session at 34 Forbes Street, Apalachicola, Florida, on Tuesday, November 17, 2020, at 1:30 p.m. (ET), or as soon thereafter as the issue may be heard, to receive advice concerning the following pending litigation:

HLS Property Management – 41 Bayshore Drive, LLC v. Franklin County, Case No. 2017-CA-182, Franklin County Circuit Court.

County Attorney Thomas M. Shuler, County Land Use Attorney David Theriaque, County Commissioner Noah Lockley, Jr., County Commissioner Ricky Jones, County Commissioner Joseph “Smokey” Parrish, County Commissioner Bert Boldt, County Commissioner Jessica Ward, and County Coordinator Michael Moron will be attending the Executive Session.

The entire Executive Session will be transcribed by a certified court reporter and filed with the County Clerk. The transcript of the Executive Session will be made a part of the public record upon conclusion of the above-referenced litigation.

Chairman Jones stated this session of the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners is hereby convened as noticed by publication in a newspaper of general circulation, Apalachicola Times, on November 12, 2020. Mr. David Theriaque, Theriaque & Spain, stated pursuant to Section 286.011 (8), Florida Statutes, at this time, he would like to request that the Board adjourn to Executive Session so that he, the attorney of record for Franklin County, Florida, in

HLS Property Management – 41 West Bayshore, LLC v. Board of County Commissioners, Franklin County, Florida, Case Number #2017-CA-182, Franklin County Circuit Court

may receive the County Commission’s advice regarding the strategy to be used in this case and the type of expenses to be incurred.

He reported this entire session will be recorded by a court reporter and the transcript will be filed with the County Clerk and available to the public at the conclusion of the litigation

discussed today. He said in addition to the County Commissioners in attendance today, the following persons will attend this Executive Session:

Attorneys for the County: David A. Theriaque, Esquire
Theriaque & Spain
433 North Magnolia Drive
Tallahassee, Florida

Thomas M. Shuler
County Attorney

County Coordinator: Michael Moron

Mr. Theriaque said at this time will each County Commissioner in attendance please identify himself or herself for the record. Commissioner Boldt, Commissioner Lockley, Commissioner Jones, Commissioner Ward and Commissioner Parrish identified themselves for the record.

Mr. Theriaque stated at the conclusion of the Executive Session, the County Commission will reconvene the public hearing and the Chairman will end the session.

Chairman Jones said he estimates that this Executive Session will take approximately one (1) hour. He reported at this time the Board will recess the public portion of today's meeting and convene the Executive Session. Thank you.

Mr. Theriaque stated the time of recess is 1:57 p.m.

Executive Session

Chairman Jones reconvened the meeting at 2:40 p.m.

Mr. Theriaque explained the lapse in time for the break from the Executive Session to reconvening the regular meeting was due to a zoom issue. He stated based upon the discussion in the Executive Session he suggests the Board consider a motion to reject the settlement offer from the plaintiff to process the 2020 application for an RV park. **On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to reject the settlement offer from the plaintiff to process the 2020 application for an RV park.**

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:42 p.m.

Ricky Jones - Chairman

Attest:

Marcia M. Johnson - Clerk of Courts