

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 3, 2005
9:00 A.M.**

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE: Cheryl Sanders, Chairman; Bevin Putnal, Noah Lockley, Jr., Russell Crofton and Jimmy Mosconis, Commissioners; Alan Pierce, Director of Administrative Services; Thomas M. Shuler, County Attorney; and Amelia Varnes, Deputy Clerk.

9:00 A.M. Chairman Sanders called the meeting to order.

(Tape 1-) Commissioner Putnal made a **motion to approve the payment of the County bills.** Commissioner Crofton seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Crofton motion. Putnal seconded. **BILLS**

(Tape 1-64) Ken Moneghan, Craig McMillan, Pat Thomas, Jr., and Chuck Marks- Presentation of the FACT 15-year membership plaque. Program established for the Counties in Florida. Call if any questions. They appreciate your business.

HUBERT CHIPMAN-SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

(Tape 1-168) He informed the Board they cleared up the area in Eastpoint the Board had instructed him to do for the Eastpoint Water and Sewer District.

VAN JOHNSON-SOLID WASTE DIRECTOR

(Tape 1-196) Nothing to report this morning.

(Tape 1-203) Commissioner said the ballpark in Carrabelle stays flooded. Mr. Johnson said he worked with the City of Carrabelle with the pumping of the field. He stated it was hard to keep the water out of the field area.

(Tape 1-236) Chairman Sanders said the trash situation in her District and in other parts of the County has just gotten worse. She asked Mr. Johnson to check into what, if anything, could be done about it.

BILL MAHAN-COUNTY EXTENSION DIRECTOR

(Tape 1-309) Mr. Mahan updated the Board on the relocation of his Office from the Apalachicola Airport to the Armory. He said he hopes to have everything upacked and in operation soon.

(Tape 1-344) Butterfly Program

(Tape 1-349) Walton, Franklin and Holmes County will be camping June 6th thru 25th together at 4-H Camps.

(Tape 1-380) He presented a new Florida Sea Grant Brochure on the State's "Turtle Friendly Beach Program" to help educate people on how coastal development and recreational activities can disrupt sea turtle nesting activity.

(Tape 1-402) Commissioner Putnal asked him to stay on top of the fresh water in the Bay. He said he didn't want the people in Atlanta to open the flood-gates and dump too much fresh water into our Bay and ruin the oysters. He will check with the United States Corp of Engineers (USCOE) to see if they intend to open the floodgates.

(Tape 1-484) Commissioner Mosconis asked about the boat ramp situation. Alan Pierce, Director of Administrative Services, showed a map of all of the water access points in Franklin County. He said most of them would not be favorable to a boat ramp. Commissioner Mosconis instructed Mr. Pierce to get with Mr. Mahan and move this situation forward. Chairman Sanders suggested a letter be sent to Wetherall requesting the use of the old FSU Marine Lab as a County Boat Ramp-Picnic area, etc.

Commissioner Mosconis **made a motion directing Mr. Pierce send a letter to T. K. Weatherall, FSU, requesting use of the old FSU Marine Lab and the area directly across of the old FSU Marine Lab for a County Boat ramp, picnic area, etc.**

Commissioner Crofton seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Commissioner Crofton suggested using the Old Ferry Dock Boat Ramp in Eastpoint, too. The Board instructed Mr. Mahan to have some firm answers to the Board's questions about boat ramps in the County.

ALAN PIERCE-DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

(Tape 1-709) He presented the Board with a letter from DCA stating the Department will make a compliance determination of the Franklin County Comp Plan Update by May 26, 2005.

(Tape 1-715) He provided the Board with a letter sent to ARPC outlining several economic development projects the County would like assistance on.

(Tape 1-725) He made the following report to the Board regarding the Eastpoint Channel Dredging Project: 1.5 million dollars to USCOE Congressman Boyd-how can they use the money for any other project.

(Tape 1-948) He introduced Peter Green, a representative of URS Corporation, the airports managing engineering firm, to the Board. Mr. Green explained how his company has been assisting the airport with different projects. He said they are in the process of updating the airport map, which requires new surveys. He stated his company is working with the Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) and they are adamant about having a new property-boundary survey performed. He explained 95% of the funding would be provided by the FAA with the matching funds being provided by the State of Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). Crofton. Mosconis seconded.

(Tape 1-1183) Crab operation in residential area. Mr. Shuler will investigate. He said this was a compliant just recently filed. Will report at next meeting Mosconis Crofton seconded. Look in situation come back to board with recommendation.

(Tape 1-1235) He said Larry Witt, agent for Branch Mahaffey, had asked that an item from the last County Commission Meeting Agenda be removed from the Consent Agenda and discussed today. He said the issue involves a request to rezone property in Lanark on the south side on US Highway 98 from R-1 to R-1a. He stated the Planning and Zoning Department would recommend denial of this request. He said he also recommends denial since this area in the Coastal High Hazard Zone, and the existing zoning of R-1 is the appropriate zoning for this site. Mr. Witt and Mr. Mahaffey presented photographs and site plans for the project. He said they want to divide the current property, being discussed, so Mr. Mahaffey's son could build a house on it. He said there is water and sewer available to this new project. Harold Arnold, Lot 10 Gulf View Acres, who lives across the street from this house. He said he called to see what the price of the lot had been listed for. He said the person told him \$70,000.00. He is opposed to the rezoning. David Broody, a resident near the property, said he is very concerned about the environmental impact on this area. He too is opposed to the rezoning. David Hinton, a resident near the property, said he was concerned about the precedence the Board would be setting if this property owner is allowed to have his rezoning granted. He stated, as the project is now it would cause a lot of density problems. Mr. Mahaffey said he bought this property in 1998 and has been a full time resident of the County since then. He stated he thought since the property was going to be given to his son to build a house and he felt like there should be something in the Comp Plan to allow a person to give some of their property for a relative to build on. Mary Lawhon, realtor with Apalachee Bay Properties, said Mr. Mahaffey had taken this lot off the market but she just hadn't had time to go remove her real estate sign. William B. Rose, Gulf View Acres, said he was concerned about the ecological problems this extra house would cause. He is opposed to the rezoning. Joyce Napora, Gulf View Acres, said they are against the rezoning and she agreed with everyone who had already spoken against the rezoning of this property. Mr. Shuler, the County Attorney, recommended the Board deny this rezoning. Commissioner Crofton made a **motion to deny this rezoning request submitted by Larry Witt, agent for Branch Mahaffey, from R-1 to R-1a.** Harold Arnold stated there are two city blocks on the north side on US Highway 98 that you had to have a one-acre total lot to build where he wanted to build. He said he disagrees with the density or placing extra houses on this lot. Commissioner Mosconis seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-2000) He asked for permission to change the speed limit to 25 MPH on East Pine Crofton Mosconis seconded. s the e Street from Franklin Boulevard to the 5th Street on SGI.

Pine Street into Alligator Point Road 35 MPH US Highway 98 in the 2-mile area of Apalachicola reduced.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Mr. Pierce presented the following Land-Use change and Zoning change requests to the Board:

LAND-USE AND REZONING CHANGE REQUESTS

(Tape 1-2113) **PARCEL 1** A 9.98-acre parcel lying in Section 32, Township 6 South, Range 1 West, Alligator Point, changed from Agriculture to Residential. Commissioner Lockley made a **motion approving this land-use change from Agriculture to Residential.** Commissioner Crofton seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Then the Board had to consider a zoning change on the same property. Commissioner Crofton made a **motion approving this zoning change from A-2 Forestry Agriculture to R-1 Single Family Residential.** Commissioner Putnal seconded. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-2214) **PARCEL 2** A 10-acre parcel lying in Section 18, Township 8 South, Range 5 West, north of Highway 98 between Eastpoint and Carrabelle, changed from Rural Residential to Residential. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion approving this land-use change from Rural Residential to Residential.** Commissioner Crofton seconded. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Then the Board had to consider a zoning change on the same property. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion approving this zoning change from R-6 Rural Residential to R-1 Single Family Residential.** Commissioner Crofton seconded. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-2216) **PARCEL 3** A 10-acre parcel lying in Section 10, Township 8 South, Range 7 West lying on Blount's Bay north of Eastpoint, changed from Agriculture to Residential. Commissioner Lockley made a **motion approving this land-use change from Agriculture to Residential.** Commissioner Crofton seconded. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Then the Board had to consider a zoning change on the same property. Commissioner Lockley made a **motion approving this zoning change from A-2 Forestry Agriculture to R-3 Single Family Estate Residential.** Commissioner Crofton seconded. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-2516) **PARCEL 4** A 10-acre parcel lying in Section 10, Township 8 South, Range 7 West, lying on Blount's Bay north of Eastpoint from Agriculture to Residential. Commissioner Crofton made a **motion approving this land-use change from Agriculture to Residential.** Commissioner Lockley seconded. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Then the Board had to consider a zoning change on the same property. Commissioner Crofton made a **motion approving this zoning change from A-2 Forestry Agriculture to R-3 Single Family Estate Residential.** Commissioner Lockley seconded. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

ZONING CHANGE REQUESTS

(Tape 1-2560) **PARCEL 5** Lot 9, Gulf View Acres, east of Lanark Village, from R-1 Single Family Residential to R-1A Single Family Subdivision. Discussion was began by Harry Arnold who said he was going to give the Board the same argument he had done in the discussion earlier with Mr. Witt and Mr. Mahaffey's proposal. David Broddy spoke

again as to his opposition to this rezoning. He expressed his concern about water and sewer being provided to this property. David Hinton said he had a petition people in the area have signed showing they are opposed to this rezoning request. He said this property has always been sold in one-acre lots and doesn't feel like it should be changed. He stated he purchased two lots when he bought his first lot. He said he and his neighbors thought this was "Spot Zoning" no matter how you look at it. Mr. Pierce presented a Lanark Village Water and Sewer District (LVW&SD) request for Water and Sewer Availability dated and signed by one of the LVW&SD Commissioners. Jim Waddell, agent for the owners of this property, said he was here to try to alleviate some of these concerns. He said he wants to work with the County and the ability for Franklin County to grow. Discussion continued with most of the speakers expressing their opposition to this rezoning request. Mr. Pierce said the Planning and Zoning Commission had approved this request, but they do not hear any public comment such as was heard this morning. He stated the Commissioners have to make the final decision on this request. Chairman Sanders called for a vote on this matter. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion to deny this rezoning request.** Commissioner Crofton seconded. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 2-536) **PARCEL 6** A 43.52-acre parcel lying in Section 28, Township 8 South, Range 6 West, north of C. C. Land Road in Eastpoint, rezoned from R-4 Single Family Home Industry to R-1 Single Family Residential. Dan Garlick, agent for the owners of this property, appeared before the Board to answer any questions for them. The property is already zoned R-4 Single Family Home Industry. After no public comment Commissioner Putnal made a **motion approving the zoning change for this parcel of land.** Commissioner Crofton seconded. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 2-765) David Hinton asked the Board to consider a "moratorium" for land-use or zoning change request for the Gulf View Acres. Commissioner Mosconis said he didn't know if this could be done. He made a **motion directing the County Attorney and Mr. Pierce to check into this question and report back to the Board at the next meeting with their findings.** Commissioner Lockley seconded. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-804) Mr. Pierce said he did want Commissioner Crofton to know he, along with the County Attorney, is continuing to work on the parking problem on St. George Island.

CURT BLAIR-VP TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

(Tape 1-813 Curt Blair, Vice Chairman of the Tourist Development Council, appeared before the Board to update the Board on the progress the TDC is making. He informed the Board one of the TDC Board members has resigned. He said Skip Frink, the person representing the Carrabelle Chamber of Commerce on the TDC, has resigned. He said the Carrabelle Chamber of Commerce has submitted and recommended the appointment of Sheila House as his replacement on the TDC. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion appointing Sheila Houser to the Tourist Development Council to replace Skip Frink.** Commissioner Crofton seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

JOHN GORE

(Tape 1-972) Mr. Pierce introduced John Gore to the Board and audience. Mr. Gore informed the Board he was here to present the finalized Franklin County Comprehensive Plan-Economic Element for consideration. He encouraged the Board to read and study this document. Mr. Pierce said the Board would need to schedule a date for Mr. Gore to come and discuss this further with the Commissioners. He recommended the Board conduct an informal discussion at the May 17th or June 7th. The Board instructed Mr. Pierce to include this discussion or subject in his report on May 17th. Commissioner Crofton asked about the Health Element in the Comp Plan. Mr. Pierce said Dr. Marsh is on the next meeting agenda to discuss this element. Commissioner Putnal said a Bill Hunter was interested in the health element too. Mr. Pierce said affordable housing is another issue needed for the comp plan. Mr. Pierce reviewed several other issues relating to the Comp Plan.

(Tape 2-1810) Commissioner Lockley and Commissioner Mosconis expressed their concerns about jobs in Franklin County. Mr. Pierce said the airport should provide some jobs if industry does come into the area. Chairman Sanders said the Board should ask a consultant to help promote the Industrial Park at the airport. She stated a consultant called her the other day about this very thing. She said she would try to call this person back to invite him to a Board meeting. Commissioner Lockley made a **motion to invite a consultant to one of the next Board meetings.** Jeannie McMillan, a business owner on SGI, said the commercial businesses should come up with some ideals to help bring business into the County. She said tax incentives, etc. should be considered. Mr. Pierce said he would call the Chamber of Commerce Offices to see exactly what they are doing to remedy these situations. Commissioner Mosconis said he would like for the Directors of the Chambers come to a Board meeting to answer some questions about incentives they might be willing to furnish businesses so they would want to create jobs in Franklin County. Realtors facts figures last 5 years % rentals see what facts are Mosconsi seconded.

(Tape 2-2485) Commissioner Mosconis said he wants a zero based line item budget process. Commissioner Mosconis wants line item zero based budget request. Crofton seconded. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

THOMAS M. SHULER-COUNTY ATTORNEY

(Tape 2-2558) Deeds authorize chairman on these two deeds Pendleton and Hill. Commissioner Lockley Crofton seconded. Mosconis did not vote.

(Tape 2-2587) Utility companies SGI buried to close to the road. Letter sent out.

(Tape 2-2640) Club Court 60' by 50' corridor access to three land locked property. His garage sits partly off of his property.

(Tape 2-2657) Enforcement Board. Special Master to hear complaints or an Enforcement Board. Special Master or a Board. The Commission's discretion. Chapter 162 FS. Mr. Pierce suggested a citizen's enforcement board. Mr. Shuler agreed.

Chairman Sanders asked Mr. Shuler to stop his report at this time so she could move to the next agendaed item scheduled for 11:30 a.m.

SKIP CHORMICLE-EMERGYSTAT, INC.

(Tape 2-2831) Chairman Sanders informed Mr. Chormicle as to why he was asked to the meeting this mronign. She said the emergency room doctors complained about not having ambulances to move patients and another complaint from a citizen who was not taken to Tallahassee as requested. Mr. Chormicle said the company has had staffing problems and the company has increased the pay of a paramedic and EMT's by \$2.00 for \$11.50 hour-Paramedic \$7.50 hour-EMT. He asked the County to resolve the contract issue. Mr. Donovan will be here on the 17th to discuss the contract issue. Mr. Chormicle said requiring one ambulance to remain in the County at all times should still remain the same. Mr. Shuler said he received an e-mail from Mike Lake assuring the Board all of the payments are current between DasSee and EmergyStat, Inc. Chairman Sanders said Emergystat is using Franklin County ambulance and asked why is there a problem with the ambulances being in Franklin County. 4 ambulances on premises that are certified. 1 of the older ambulances is not in that good of a shape. Margaret Mathes, a Carrabelle resident, said the ambulance refused to take her to Tallahassee when she fell and broke her hip. Mr. Chormicle stated the staff offered to take her to Weem's Memorial. Ms. Mathes said getting to Tallahassee was the quickest way for her to get treatment. Junior Mathes, her husband, asked Mr. Chormicle why he couldn't take her to Wakulla County and put her on another ambulance in that County. Mr. Mathes asked why we had a company in Alabama running our ambulance service. Chairman Sanders said on the day Ms. Mathes broke her hip, she called her and was told that the ambulance staff would not take her to Tallahassee. She stated this is not fair to the citizens of Franklin County. She said if Emergystat cannot staff the ambulances then there is no reason to have a lot of new ambulances. Chairman Sanders said she was appalled that Emergystat didn't do a better job taking care of our people in Franklin County. Ms. Mathes said she cannot understand why she wasn't taken to Tallahassee. Mr. Chormicle said if there are only two ambulances in the County and someone requests to go to Tallahassee and the other ambulance gets a call then it would leave the County without any ambulance coverage. Chairman Sanders asked Mr. Chormicle to met with the Emergency Room doctors at Weem's to help alleviate some of their concerns they expressed at the last board meeting. Mr. Putnal said he would try to remember to address this during the budget process.

MR. SHULER-CONTINUED

(Tape 1-178) Code Enforcement Officer discussion with Mr. Shuler. He recommended establishment of a Code Enforcement Board. He said this would need to be an independent board to handle code enforcement matters. He asked the Board if they wanted to direct him to draft an ordinance to consider at the next meeting. Commissioner Mosconis instructed Mr. Shuler and Mr. Pierce

(Tape 2-238) Dr. Mullis Lawsuit proposed settlement. BOA policy application. Any time there is an encroachment into the 50-foot critical habitat zone his septic tank drainfield is setting in the 1,000 foot print policy into the 75 foot 2,500 square foot print

on two lots. Larry Taylor, Architect representative for Dr. Mullis, last September denied variance setback for aerobic system. From 25 feet to 10 feet reduced. Guidance from the Board to approach the BOA for approval. Commissioner Mosconis said he would go ahead and support this settlement. Motion to accept settlement. Mosconis Lockley seconded all for.

(Tape 2-550) Chairman Sanders about Mediacom complaints. Channel 6 out of Tallahassee. Send a letter to mediacom about complaints. Instructed Mr. Shuler to send a letter to them about the complaints regarding Channel 6. Ask come to next meeting Mosconis. Putnal seconded. All for.

(Tape 2-631) Chairman Sanders said she had heard of some new FWC quota permits-on line only Letter to FWC executive director and the commissioners opposed to the new quota rule. Mr. Pierce will write the letter.

(Tape 2-723) Lockley and Sanders FAC Putnal motion. Crofton seconded. Travel expenses.

(Tape 2-766) Jackie Etheridge wants to be at may 17th meeting 5:00 p.m. to discuss the Code Enforcement issues.