

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
FRANKLIN COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANNEX
JUNE 20, 2006
5:00 P.M.
MINUTES**

Commissioners Present: Cheryl Sanders-Chairman, Bevin Putnal Vice-Chairman, Russell Crofton, Noah Lockley, and Jimmy Mosconis

Staff Present: Van Johnson - Solid Waste Department, Hubert Chipman - Road Department, Bill Mahan - County Extension Director, Mark Curenton – Assistant County Planner, Michael Shuler - County Attorney, Connie McKinley – Deputy Clerk

Call to Order

Chairman Sanders called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

Pledge and Prayer

There was a Prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting June 6, 2006

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Crofton, to approve the minutes for the June 6, 2006 Regular Meeting; Motion carried 5-0.

Payment of County Bills

Motion by Crofton, seconded by Lockley, to approve the payment of the County Bills as presented; Motion carried 5-0.

Department Supervisor Report

Hubert Chipman – Superintendent of Roads

Requested Board authorization to renew the contract with VMS for road maintenance in Eastpoint and Lanark Village.

Board discussed the Boat Ramp at Bloody Bluff Landing.

Motion by Putnal, seconded by Crofton, to authorize the Chairman’s signature on the VMS contract for road maintenance in Eastpoint and Lanark Village; Motion carried 5-0.

Van Johnson – Solid Waste Director

Discussed complaint letter from Mr. John Barber regarding private citizens and county employees salvaging at the Landfill and the issuing of permits to private citizens and an administrative memo to the county employees regarding salvaging at the Landfill.

Board discussed County’s liability with allowing any salvaging at the Landfill.

Motion by Mosconis, seconded by Crofton, for Mr. Johnson to confer with Attorney Shuler and return with a recommendation on this issue; Motion carried 5-0.

Dewitt Polous – Mosquito Spray Control

Discussed need to resume his search for an employee to fill the vacant position since the first hire did not work out.

Board directed Mr. Polous to confer with Attorney Shuler to address this matter.

Mr. Bill Mahan – County Extension Director

Reviewed his report.

Board reminded Mr. Mahan to send a letter to all agencies, state and federal that applies, requesting a new “Red Tide” test for Franklin County.

Ruth Williams – County Finance Officer

Requested approval for the following budget amendment:

The Tourist Development Council has requested that the budget be amended for the Tourist Development Tax Collections from FY 04/05. Those collections were brought forward into the current year as Reserve for Contingency. A copy of the Council’s letter of request is attached. The Following budget amendment is needed in order to accomplish this change.

Decrease	130.99.584.9600	Reserve for Contingency	\$553,859.00
Increase	130.33.552.3401	Other Contractual/Tourist Dev.	\$332,315.00
Increase	130.33.552.4800	Promotional Activities (Grant)	\$221,554.00

Motion by Putnal, seconded by Crofton, to authorize the requested Budget Amendment for the Tourist Development Tax Collections as presented by Mrs. Williams; Motion carried 5-0.

Curt Blair, of the TDC, commented on this issue.

Mrs. Williams discussed the maintenance contract for the Emergency 911 Dictaphone equipment.

Motion by Putnal, seconded by Lockley, to declare this matter an emergency allowing the County to waive the normal bidding procedure; Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Putnal, to accept the bid from Replay Systems of \$16,443 to provide maintenance for the County’s Emergency 911 system; Motion carried 5-0.

Curt Blair – Tourist Development Council

Discussed the proposed operation procedures of the Tourist Development Council

Attorney Shuler requested and the Board agreed to send a copy of the operation procedures to Lucy Turner for her review.

Mallory Horne – Settlement Offer – Wilson vs. Franklin County

Did not attend meeting.

Coach Hayes – Boys and Girls Club

Discussed letter for \$75,000 budget request

Department Supervisor Report (Continued)

Mark Curenton – Assistant County Planner

Gave the following report:

Item 1

Recognize Mr. Billy Moses for the years of service he has provided the county. Board action to approve Resolution of Appreciation.

Mr. Curenton read the Resolution.

Motion by Mosconis, seconded by Putnal, to approve the Resolution of Appreciation for Mr. Billy Moses years of service; Motion carried 5-0.

Open Bids – Runway Refurbish Project

Mr. Curenton opened the following Bid for the Airport Refurbish Runway project:

Poloronis Construction: \$482,962.00

Motion by Mosconis, seconded by Lockley, to forward the Bid to the County's Engineer and Airport Manager for their review and recommendation; Motion carried 5-0.

Mark Curenton Report (Continued)

Item 2

Board authorization to advertise for bids to build a hanger/office at the Apalachicola Airport. It will be funded by a 100% FDOT grant for \$636,000.00

Motion by Mosconis, seconded by Crofton, to authorize the advertisement for bids to construct a new Hanger office at the Apalachicola airport; Motion carried 5-0.

Item 3

Turtle Lighting- The Board has been supportive of the protection of nesting sea turtles through the adoption of an Ordinance in 1998 regulating lighting on Gulf of Mexico beaches. Up to this time, the Board has accomplished significant compliance with the ordinance through letters and personal contact of federal Fish and Wildlife personnel to problem areas, and the volunteers of STAR- Sea Turtles at Risk, Inc, a non-profit group started in Franklin County. There is one property owner, on St. George Island, whose

house contributed to the death of turtle hatchlings last year, and the preceeding year, and despite repeated attempts to bring the lighting into compliance, the property owner has refused.

The county needs to bring this serious violation into compliance. Since all else has failed the Board needs to follow through with legal enforcement of the ordinance which involves preparing, filing, and serving a complaint on the property owner. Board action to direct County Attorney to take proper action.

Motion by Mosconis, seconded by Crofton, to direct the County Attorney to take proper action regarding the turtle lighting matter; Motion carried 5-0.

Item 4

Alligator Point update- After consultation with DEP, FEMA, Preble-Rish, and Chairman Sanders, Alan recommends the Board direct Preble-Rish to proceed with three items:

A) Prepare bid documents and advertisement to rebuild that part of Alligator Point Road that was damaged by Hurricane Ivan, this is approximately 1200 feet of road between George Vause Road and Tom Roberts. The county will move forward with rebuilding that part of the road that is not being relocated.

B) Prepare bid documents and advertisement to repair the four sections of Alligator Point road that were damaged by Hurricane Dennis and are outside of the road section that is to be relocated. Alan had tried to get those repairs done as an emergency but FEMA is requiring bids. The four sections include the intersection of Chip Morrison and Alligator Point, a damaged section of Alligator Point Drive down toward the Marina, and sections of Alligator Point Drive up by Bald Point Road.

C) Prepare a DEP application to place emergency sand berms along approximately 800 feet of Alligator Point Drive. The location will coincide with that section of the road that is being rebuilt with Hurricane Ivan funds. Generally the berm will start several hundred feet west of Keith Sumners house and go west until the intersection of Tom Roberts Road and Alligator Drive. In the placement of the sand berms, the concrete debris and rebar will be removed. This is an effort to begin to clean up Alligator Point.

Motion by Mosconis, seconded by Crofton, to approve all three recommendations from Mr. Alan Pierce and presented by Mr. Curenton regarding Alligator Point; Motion carried 5-0.

Item 5

Board action to direct the Attorney to investigate the zoning violation of Mr. Johnny Sheridan, north of Carrabelle.

Motion by Crofton, seconded by Mosconis, to direct the County Attorney to investigate and report back to the Board, the zoning violations of Mr. Johnny Sheridan, located north of Carrabelle; Motion carried 4-0, Commissioner Putnal abstained.

Public Hearing – CDBG Projects

Debbie Belcher, the County's CDBG Consultant, informed the Board of the new grant cycle; discussed grants applied for by the municipalities in the County, changes to the grant procedure and available grants; stated that Citizen advisory board has to be appointed before July 5 meeting; requested scheduling of the final public hearing on July 18, 2006.

Motion by Mosconis, seconded by Crofton, to appoint the County's Planning and Zoning Board as the County's CDBG Citizen Advisory Board; Motion carried 5-0.

Workshop – Fair Housing

Mrs. Belcher conducted the Workshop and discussed the Fair Housing rules and regulations.

Planning and Zoning Report

Item 1

Meets all requirements according to the Dock Ordinance: to construct a Single Family Private Dock at 778 Mill Road, Carrabelle, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by GEA, Inc, agent for Jane Bledsoe, applicant.

Motion by Putnal, seconded by Crofton, to approve Item 1 of the Planning and Zoning Report; Motion carried 5-0.

Item 2

Meets all requirements according to the Dock Ordinance: to construct a Single Family Private Dock on Lot 2 Heron Bay Village, 2105 Blue Heron Trail, St. George Island, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by Charlie's Dock's, agent for Bill and Patti McCartney, applicant.

Motion by Crofton, seconded by Lockley, to approve Item 2 of the Planning and Zoning Report; Motion carried 5-0.

Item 3

Meets all requirements according to the Dock Ordinance: to construct a Single Family Private Dock on Lot 16 Bay Palm Village, 1415 Evodia Court, St. George Island, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by GEA, Inc, agent for Rick Klewein and Leonard and Pamela Moniz, applicants.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Crofton, to approve Item 3 of the Planning and Zoning Report; Motion carried 5-0.

Item 4

Meets all requirements according to the Dock Ordinance: to construct a Single Family Private Dock on Lot 14 Driftwood, 2732 U.S. Highway 98 East, Carrabelle, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by GEA, Inc, agent for Chester Krawczuk, applicant.

Motion by Putnal, seconded by Crofton, to approve Item 4 of the Planning and Zoning Report; Motion carried 5-0.

Item 5

Meets all requirements according to the Dock Ordinance: to construct a Multi-Family Private Dock on Lots 3A and 4A Doc's Seashores, 2130 & 2132 U.S. Highway 98 West, Carrabelle Beach, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by GEA, Inc, agent for Equity Trust Co, c/o Debbie Savoca, applicant.

Motion by Putnal, seconded by Crofton, to approve Item 5 of the Planning and Zoning Report; Motion carried 5-0.

Advisory Board of Adjustment Report

Item 1

Approve request from Lee Benoit, representing Daniel and Sharen Lawrence to construct an open deck 12 feet into the Critical Habitat Zone on Lots 68 and 69, Block C, Unit 3, St. James Island Park.

Motion by Mosconis, seconded by Putnal, to approve Item 1 of the Board of Adjustment Report; Motion carried 5-0.

Item 2

Approve request for a variance to construct a boardwalk and observation platform within the Critical Habitat Zone and Special Exception to cluster four lots on 4.05 acres as requested by Garlick Environmental Associates, Inc., agent for Dennett Rainey. Dan Garlick, agent for this project, commented.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Putnal, to approve Item 2 of the Board of Adjustment Report; Motion carried 5-0.

Ted Mosteller – Runway Refurbish Project

Recommended Poloronis Construction for the runway refurbishment project pending FAA and URS approval.

Motion by Mosconis, seconded by Lockley, to approve Mr. Mosteller's recommendation to award the runway refurbishment project to Poloronis Construction pending FAA and URS approval; Motion carried 5-0.

Mark Curenton Report (Continued)

Item 6

I have received requests for the renaming of two roads in Franklin County. The first is for renaming the portion of Beacon Street between Cape Street and Jonna Drive at

Carrabelle Beach to Cape Street. I have a petition from the residents along the street asking for this to change.

The second change requested is to name a road in the National Forest to the Randy L. Sapp Road. It would be the first road south of Fort Gadsden Creek on the east side of Highway 65. The National Forest office has indicated that they do not have any objections to this.

Motion by Putnal, seconded by Lockley, to authorize the request to rename the portion of Beacon Street between Cape Street and Jonna Drive; Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Mosconis, to authorize the request to rename the road in National Forest to the Randy L. Sapp Road; Motion carried 5-0.

Item 7

Board discussion of house heights.

Mr. Curenton discussed this item, specifically stating its effect on insurance premiums;

Steve Fling commented on the availability of fire trucks with ladders in the County;

Jim Cummins stated that he was in favor of the proposal but expressed some concerns;

Board discussed this item;

Attorney Shuler commented on this issue;

Board directed Mr. Curenton to discuss this issue with FEMA and return to the Board with a recommendation.

Board discussed including a grant writer and a code enforcement officer in the budget.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Putnal, to include a grant writer and a code enforcement officer in the next budget; Motion carried 5-0.

Michael Shuler – County Attorney

Discussed paper work regarding the proposed land swap with Mr. Leavins and recommended the agreement with the School Board for emergency evacuation; requested authorization for the Chairman's signature on an agreement with Croom's Inc. as the Community Transportation Coordinator.

Motion by Putnal, seconded by Lockley, authorizing the Chairman's signature on the agreement designating Croom's Inc. as the Community Transportation Coordinator with a maximum spending cap of \$25,000.00; Motion carried 5-0.

Attorney Shuler requested approval to advertise for the proposed new consolidated maintenance shop located on Highway 65 at the Landfill.

Motion by Putnal, seconded by Lockley, to authorize advertising for the consolidated maintenance shop located at the landfill; Motion carried 4-1, Mosconis voting Nay.

Attorney Shuler discussed and asked the Board for guidance regarding use in R-4 zoning;

Toni Taranto commented on this issue;

Motion by Mosconis, seconded by Lockley, to have the Planning and Zoning Board schedule workshops on this matter and report back to the Board; Motion carried 5-0.

Attorney Shuler discussed a petition from Mr. Steve Watkins regarding excess tax funds which will be discussed at a later meeting when Mr. Watkins is present; also discussed the Weems Hospital employee leasing contract, stating that there was a verbal agreement with the Florida Division of Retirement, and recommended the authorization of the Chairman signature on the contract.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Crofton, authorizing the Chairman's signature on the employee leasing company contract for the employees at Weems Memorial; Motion carried 5-0.

Attorney Shuler requested a public hearing for Mr. Randall Scott. Clayton, of Garlick Environmental Associates, discussed this request.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Crofton, to authorize a public hearing on this matter for Mr. Randall Scott.

Attorney Shuler updated the Board on the zoning matter in Eastpoint, the Hurricane debris removal contracts which are not ready for approval at this time, hunting on Little St. George Island, litigation with Alexis Marketing

Motion by Putnal, second by Crofton, authorizing Attorney Shuler to send a letter of objection to the attorney representing Alexis Marketing; Motion carried 5-0.

Ron Wolfe – Interim CEO – Weems Memorial

Discussed collections at Weems Memorial Hospital and gave a status update including new services that will be offered;

Attorney Shuler discussed invoices submitted by State Collection Service for payment;

Motion by Mosconis, seconded by Lockley, approving the discussed payment of \$9,986.81; Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner' Comments

Motion by Mosconis, seconded by Crofton, to authorize each Commissioner to sign the Tax Collector's Recapulation report; Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Crofton, to allow the Department of Family and Children to occupy space in the Health Department Building; Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Sanders updated the Board on the request by Mr. Gary Shiver to secure a location for FEMA trailers. After Commissioner Sanders investigated this matter it was discovered that the FEMA trailers require a bidding process.

Commissioner Mosconis discussed creating a “Heritage Museum” in Eastpoint.

Motion by Mosconis, seconded by Lockley, to have staff research the creation of a Heritage Museum in Eastpoint; Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Sanders discussed a park in Lanark Village.

Dick Waters, VP of APTA, discussed the options available for the beach re-nourishment project on Alligator Point and recommended Option 4. Distributed a packet of information to the Commissioners

Ann Maruszark, of Alligator Point, also commented on the Alligator Point beach re-nourishment project issue.

Monica Harris, St. Vincent Wildlife Refuge, informed the Board that their revenue sharing amount for this year is \$304,592.00.

Stuart White discussed the Eastpoint rezoning issue that Attorney Shuler discussed earlier in the meeting.

Attorney Shuler commented on this issue and again asked the Board for the opportunity to meet with Attorney Sanders who is Mr. White’s attorney.

The Board agreed.

Adjourn

Chairman Sanders adjourned the Regular Meeting at 7:51 PM

Cheryl Sanders, Chairman FCBCC

Attest:

Marcia M Johnson, Clerk of Courts