

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD  
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
FRANKLIN COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANNEX  
July 5, 2006  
9:00 AM**

**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, Marcia Johnson - Clerk of Courts, Alan Pierce - Director of Administrative Services, Michael Schuler - County Attorney, Michael Moron - Board Secretary

**Call to Order**

Chairman Sanders called the Regular meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

**Pledge and Prayer**

There was a Prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes**

**Motion by Lockley, seconded by Crofton, to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2006 Regular Meeting; Motion carried 5-0.**

**Payment of County Bills**

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

**Department Supervisor Report**

**Hubert Chipman - Superintendent of Public Works**

No items to report

**Van Johnson - Solid Waste Director**

Discussed posting of signs at county-operated boat ramps; Dixie youth all-star team update;

**Jim Waddell** discussed planning the design of a concession stand/restroom building that would service all five ball fields at the Will S Kendrick Sports Complex;

**Mr. Johnson** presented a check for Phase II of the Will S Kendrick Sports Complex.

**Motion by Mosconis, seconded by Lockley to allow the Florida Museum of Natural History in conjunction with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission to post**

**educational signage concerning the smalltooth sawfish at county-operated boat ramps; Motion carried 5-0.**

**Dewitt Polous - Mosquito Control**

Requested authorization for a budget amendment and a budget resolution for the purchase of a sprayer unit;

**Mrs. Johnson**, Clerk of Courts, commented on each of these items.

The requested line item budget amendment is as follows:

INCREASE	142.42.562.6400	MACHINERY & EQUIP	\$1,771.00
DECREASE	142.42.562.1200	REGULAR SALARY	\$1,539.00
DECREASE	142.42.562.2100	FICA TAX	\$ 118.00
DECREASE	142.42.562.2200	RETIREMENT	\$ 114.00

**Motion by Mosconis, seconded by Crofton, to approve the requested line item budget amendment; Motion carried 5-0.**

The requested Resolution is 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, Franklin County has received unanticipated revenues in the amount of \$1,000.00 from the SOUTH WALTON COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT for the sale of surplus equipment, and

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

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

142.42.562.6400	Machinery & Equipment	\$1,000.00
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NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Franklin County Board of County Commissioners appropriates these unanticipated revenues in the amount of \$1,000.00 in the MOSQUITO CONTROL FUND in order to comply with FL 129(2)(d).

THIS RESOLUTION ADOPTED by the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners this 5<sup>th</sup> day of JULY 2006.

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHERYL SANDERS, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
MARCIA M. JOHNSON, CLERK

**Motion by Lockley, seconded by Mosconis, to authorize the Chairman's signature on the requested Resolution. Motion carried 5-0.**

**St. George Island Lighthouse Committee - Letter of Support**

Dennis Barnell discussed proposed location for new lighthouse on St. George Island and requested letter of support.

**Motion by Putnal, seconded by Crofton, to send Florida Department Of Transportation a letter of support for the proposed location, on Franklin Blvd, of the lighthouse on St. George Island; Motion carried 5-0.**

**Bill Mahan - County Extension Director**

Reviewed his report discussing a red tide workshop date, a fishery update, and new rules about measuring the total length of saltwater fish, and draft letters of support for new red tide testing methods.

**Department Supervisor Report (Continued)**

**Marcia Johnson - Clerk of Court**

Discussed a letter from the Franklin County Senior Citizen Center regarding SHIP administrative funds owed to them;

Discussed grant writer and code enforcement positions; **Board** decided not to include these positions in the Budget but will add the positions if funds are available;

Weems Hospital account balance update; **Mr. Pierce** discussed receiving the second draw of \$300,000 from the initial OTTED loan; **Attorney Shuler** discussed Medicare billing;

Discussed health insurance for employees at the hospital; gave cost if County was to consider doing away with employee leasing company, making Weem's employees

County employees; **Attorney Shuler** commented on this issue; **Board** discussed this issue;

**Board** discussed electrical and HVAC problems at the hospital.

**Motion by Mosconis to seek options to allow health insurance for the employees at the hospital; motion was withdrawn.**

**Alan Pierce - Director of Administrative Services**

**Item 03**

Board action to waive the Board bid policy and award C.W. Roberts a contract for \$110,000 for the purchase and placement of milled asphalt at Abercrombie Boat Landing. C.W. Roberts is the only contractor with milled asphalt in the area that can be obtained within the time line of the grant. The money is coming out of the Bluff Road Boat Ramp grant. Board action.

**Motion by Crofton, seconded by Lockley to waive the bid policy and award C.W. Roberts a contract for \$110,000.00 for the purchase and placement of milled asphalt at Abercrombie Boat Landing; Motion carried 5-0.**

**Commissioner Mosconis left the meeting at 9:50am.**

**Item 01**

Board action for Chairman to sign FRDAP grant for \$200,000 for additional work at Kendrick Recreational Complex in Carrabelle.

**Motion by Putnal, seconded by Crofton, to authorize the Chairman's signature on the FRDAP grant of \$200,000.00 for Kendrick Recreational Complex in Carrabelle; Motion carried 4-0.**

**Item 02**

Inform the Board that Mr. Dan Rothwell, County Engineer, expects to start work July 17. He has bought a house in Franklin County, and is in the process of moving.

**Item 04**

Provide Board copies of notice on bid openings for Alligator Point. The bids will be opened on Aug 1.

**Item 05**

Inform the Board that FEMA has finally authorized emergency sand berms on a section of Alligator Point, but they have established pre-construction conditions that must be reviewed. I have sent the conditions to Preble-Rish for evaluation. One of the conditions involves a survey of the site for the presence of nesting piping plover habitat. Give Board copy of FEMA conditions.

**Item 06**

Board action to direct Planning Office to write a letter to DOT regarding future funding for a bike path on North Bayshore Drive from Sportsman's Lodge to the Estuarine Research Reserve building.

**Motion by Lockley, seconded by Crofton, to direct staff to write a letter to DOT regarding funding for a bike path on North Bayshore Drive; Motion carried 4-0.**

**Item 07**

Inform Board that Rep. Boyd has announced that his next Healthcare Council meeting will take place on Aug 1, from 10 to 3. I have called Mr. Bobby Pickels and said that is a county commission meeting day, and I suspect it is for many other counties also. I have asked Mr. Pickels if he wants to reschedule, and I am waiting a response. Provide Board copy of Boyd's letter.

**Item 09**

Mr. Dave McLain is here to report on his trip to North Carolina on behalf of the Seafood Industry Task Force.

**Mr. Dave McClain** reported on visits made to two separate seafood industrial parks in North Carolina and Virginia. The information gathered will be utilized by the Seafood Task Force when making future recommendations to the Board. **Mr. McLain** reviewed a power point presentation.

**Item 08**

Inform Board that the Board appointed committee of Mark Curenton, Erin Griffin, and Michael Moron, reviewed applications for CDBG grant writer and CDBG grant administrator. The Committee ranked Ms. Belcher first and recommends the Board direct myself and Mr. Shuler to review a proposed contract and make a recommendation to the Board. Ms. Belcher was the only applicant, and the fees associated with her work are set by the CDBG program so there is not a lot of negotiation. Board action.

Secondly, Ms. Debbie Belcher is here to seek direction from Board on CDBG projects.

**Motion by Lockley, seconded by Crofton, to approve recommendation to hire Ms Belcher as the County's CDBG consultant; Motion carried 4-0.**

**Ms Belcher** discussed CDBG grants; recommended Eastpoint as the primary project to submit and Lanark Water and Sewer as the secondary project for submittal;

**Board** discussed paving roads and accepting certain private roads as County roads so a CDBG grant could possibly assist with paving those roads;

**Board** directed staff to review all unpaved roads and all unpaved privately owned roads to review at the next meeting;

**Commissioner Sanders** acknowledged that Lighthouse Estate roads need paving, but this issue should be looked at County wide;

Attorney Shuler and Mr. Pierce commented on this issue.

**Motion by Putnal, seconded by Lockley to county take over roads at lighthouse estates; Motion failed 2-2, Sanders and Crofton voting Nay.**

**Item 10**

At the direction of the Board over the past few months, the county Planning Office and Preble-Rish Engineers have submitted grant applications to DOT for two projects. One, widening and resurfacing of CR 67 from Carrabelle to Liberty County on a 50-50 match program under the DOT County Incentive Program. The engineer's estimated cost of the project is \$2.8 million so the county match is \$1.4 million. The county has requested the match requirement be waived, and if it is the project will be scaled to meet the state funds available.

The second project is the widening and resurfacing Alligator Point Road from US 98 to the end of the pavement on the Point, on a 75-25 match under a DOT Small County Outreach Program. The engineer's estimated cost for that project is \$4.8 Million, with the county share at \$1.2 M.

The DOT then announced that small counties could submit a second Small County Outreach Grant. In order to minimize the amount of county money allocated towards these large projects, Preble-Rish recommended the Board re-submit CR 67 for funding under the Small County program, so that the match would drop from 50% county funds to 25% county funds. The county did re-submit for CR 67, but then DOT disallowed changing grant programs after the application has been submitted. This is not a great loss as the Engineer's can re-design the project so it is completed with the state share only, but that might mean that the road is not widened. To protect the Board's options, the Board should set aside the county match in the upcoming budget year. Board action to sign the CR 67 grant with DOT, and to direct the Clerk to set aside money in next's budget for the county's match requirements. If the match is not needed, the money would then be available for general road paving.

When the Alligator Point grant is awarded by DOT, the Board will be faced with making the same decision, which will be to sign the DOT grant and budget the county's share, and if the money is not used on the project the money will be available for general road paving around the county. The county did set aside \$1 Million dollars for Alligator Point this year but the funds were diverted to subsidize the Hospital. However, if the DOT grant is awarded it will turn out to be a much bigger project for essentially the same amount of county funds that had been set aside.

**Mel Kelly**, Mayor of Carrabelle, appealed to the Board to continue with the CR 67 project as first proposed;

**Mr. Pierce** gave status of Lake Morality and C 30;

**Board** discussed new road paving project.

**Motion by Putnal, seconded by Crofton, to sign the CR-67 grant and set aside match funds of \$1.2 million for Alligator Point and \$1.4 million for CR-67 in the next budget; Motion carried 4-0.**

**Motion by Lockley, seconded by Crofton, to use money earmarked from the State, based on HB 293 Fiscally Constraint Counties, for new paving project; Motion carried 4-0.**

**Item 11**

Inform Board that the Legislature provided two funding sources for the Alligator Point Beach re-nourishment project.

One, DEP recommended funding for the standard 50-50 matching program called Florida Beach Management Funding Assistance Program. There are now enough funds in that program for the state to match whatever level of funding the county wishes to put up for Alligator Point Beach renourishment.

Two, in a special appropriation specifically for Alligator Point, the Legislature has provided \$1 Million dollars “to expedite the implementation of the proposed beach restoration project....These funds were a special appropriation that, unlike our regular program funding, requires no local match” (DEP notification letter).

Mike Dombrowski is currently working on the design and permitting for a beach restoration project that would cover the maximum area recognized by DEP as being a project. This is under contract with funds already made available by DEP. This is known locally as Option #4, and it is approximately a 16,000 feet of beachfront. I have spoken to Mr. Dombrowski and if the Board at a later date decides to shrink the project down because it does not have its matching funds, Mr. Dombrowski says it is always easier cut a project down as opposed to increase it.

**Item 12**

Inform the Board that the consultant for GSG, Government Services Group, Ms. Camille Tharpe, who discussed providing a funding analysis for the Alligator Point Beach Renourishment project has submitted a proposal. The proposal, at a cost of \$15,000 which could be paid for out of the Bald Point Trust Fund, will analyze funding alternatives of MSBU, MSTU, and TIF –Tax Increment Financing.

As the Board may recall, the proposal to hire this consultant was well received and supported by APTA at the June 6 commission meeting. This consultant came recommended by the FAC, and is used by Small County Technical Assistance Program when they are providing this service. The Chairman is seeking a subsidy from the Small County Technical Assistance to pay for part of this consultant. Board action to hire GSG and pay for it out of the Bald Point Trust Fund whatever portion the Small County Technical Assistance does not pay for.

**Motion by Crofton, seconded by Putnal to hire GSG and pay for their services, which is not paid for by Small County Technical Assistance, out of Bald Point Trust Fund; Motion carried 4-0.**

**Item 13**

Inform Board that APTA took a poll of its members at a June meeting and the APTA executive meeting recommends the county commission move forward with Option #4 for beach renourishment. The county has received comments from Alligator Point residents

who do not support Option #4. At this time, the Board does not need to act on any option, and should probably wait until the funding analysis is completed by GSG. GSG has a timetable for delivering the final product in September.

#### **Item 14**

Inform Board that I was asked to attend a meeting with DEP Secretary Castille on Thursday, June 31 to discuss the South Shoal project. Present at the meeting was the Secretary, Mr. Mike Sole, Chief of Staff, other senior DEP staff people, and several representatives from South Shoal and their financial backers. The issue of concern was the failure of South Shoal to receive a DEP permit for construction of infrastructure seaward of the CCCL Line. Without the DEP permit, the development is stalled.

As Sec. Castille explained, DEP believes that the county built revetment does not currently meet DEP standards for stopping erosion, so therefore DEP is imposing a large setback on the South Shoal front lots. South Shoal was presented with two options: either apply for and receive a DEP permit with restrictions and limitations on the location of development on some of the front lots, or somebody rebuild the revetment so that it meets DEP standards for stopping erosion and then DEP would lift the restrictions on the front lots.

The situation is extremely complicated. South Shoal is interested in maintaining the revetment, but the revetment was built by the county, and is on county property, and at this time the county would have to be the applicant for any repairs to the revetment. The county is interested in relocating the road, and not in rebuilding the revetment. FEMA is interested and supports the relocation of the road. South Shoal still owns a section of the right-of-way that the county needs in order to relocate the road. The county and South Shoal both want to avoid a condemnation proceeding for the needed right-of-way. South Shoal needs county cooperation on the revetment and the county needs South Shoal cooperation on the road relocation.

After a two hour discussion, with not all issues fully debated, the meeting concluded with this as my understanding of what would happen next:

South Shoal will contemplate revising its CCCL permit so that it will place restrictions on development on some of the lots consistent with DEP policies, which will allow it to begin construction, and South Shoal will consult with Mike Dombrowski on the costs associated with repairing the existing revetment to bring it up to DEP standards. When the costs are known, South Shoal will determine whether they will ask the county to submit a DEP permit for repairs to the revetment that South Shoal will fund. If the costs are too high, South Shoal and the county will have to negotiate some settlement on the issues of road relocation and revetment repair.

Unfortunately, beach renourishment does not provide the same reduction of DEP setbacks as rebuilding the revetment, so by state rules, the developer is forced to consider rebuilding the revetment first over beach renourishment.

**Mr. Pierce** read a letter from Steve Fling regarding this matter; **Board** expressed it's displeasure of the rock revetment versus relocating the road; **Ken Osborne**, of APTA, commented on this issue.



**Item 15**

Provide Board with copy of letter I have submitted to DCA regarding the EAR update. Even though the County is still in litigation over its comp plan, there is a statutory deadline for the county to complete an Evaluation and Appraisal Report of its comp plan. The Plan is not yet effective, yet we are having to evaluate it.

**T. Michael Shuler - County Attorney**

Stated that animal control ordinance public hearing will be during the first meeting in August;

Did not recommend private salvaging at the landfill due to liability; **Board** discussed liability and protection if private salvaging is allowed;

**Motion by Crofton not to allow private salvaging at the County Landfill due to liability; Motion failed due to a lack of second.**

Attorney Shuler discussed the Tourist Development Council procedure handbook, the matter involving the vacant position in the Mosquito Control Department, the enforcement of lighting control for turtles over in St. George Island, hunting on Little St. George Island matter, the Stuart White zoning issue with Attorney Sanders, the agreement with Forgotten Coast TV and the County's Government Channel, and requested a public hearing for a road abandonment, requested by Jimmy and Michele Maxwell, and gave an update on the Johnny Sheridan zoning issue in Carrabelle.

**Toni Taranto** commented on her zoning issue that was sent to Planning and Zoning meeting on July 11, 2006;

**Motion by Lockley, seconded by Putnal, to schedule a public hearing for a road abandonment for Jimmy Maxwell; Motion carried 4-0.**

**Commissioner's Comments**

**Barbara Rohrs**, of Lanark Water and Sewer Board, commented on the CDBG grant, and maintenance issues some of which are DEP concerns at Lanark Water and Sewer;

**Commissioner Sanders** asked Mayor Kelly about repaving the roads at 3 rivers; **Mayor Kelly** responded.

**Toni Taranto** again commented on the zoning problems at Bay City Roads and asked for a halt on permits from the Planning and Building office for commercial rental homes at this location; **Attorney Shuler** advised the Board against this action; **Board** discussed this issue.

**Board** discussed sending Commissioner Lockley to the NACO conference in Chicago in August.

**Board** discussed NACO prescription program.

**Motion by Putnal, seconded by Crofton, to authorize Commissioner Lockley to attend NACO conference in Chicago in August and pay for his travel expenses; Motion carried 4-0.**

**Adjourn**

Chairman Sanders adjourned the Regular Meeting at 11:32 am.

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Cheryl Sanders, Chairman FCBCC

Attest:

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Marcia Johnson, Clerk of Courts