

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
FRANKLIN COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANNEX
DECEMBER 19, 2006
5:00 PM**

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Russell Crofton – Chairman, Noah Lockley Jr. – Vice Chairman, Cheryl Sanders, Joseph Parrish, Bevin Putnal

Staff Present: Hubert Chipman – Superintendent of Roads, Fonda Davis – Solid Waste Department, Dan Rothwell – County Engineer, Bill Mahan – County Extension Director, Marcia Johnson – Clerk of Courts, Alan Pierce – Director of Administrative Services, Michael Shuler – County Attorney, Michael Morón – Board Secretary

Call to Order

Chairman Crofton called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM

Prayer and Pledge

There was a Prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes

Regular Meeting: December 6, 2006

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Putnal, to approve the Minutes of the December 6, 2006 Regular Meeting; Motion carried 5-0.

Payment of County Bills

Motion by Putnal, seconded by Lockley, to approve payment of the County's bill as presented; Motion carried 5-0.

Moment of Silence

There was a moment of silence in honor of the passing of Mr. Tom Hoffer, owner of the Franklin Chronicle, and Mr. Dick Plessinger, owner of WOYS.

Presentation of Award

(Item 1 on Alan Pierce report)

Mr. Pierce read and presented a Resolution of Appreciation to Ms. Eileen Annie Ball, who is retiring, for her years of service as the Franklin County Library Director.

Commissioner Sanders commended Ms. Ball on her years of service.

Department Supervisor Report

Hubert Chipman – Superintendent of Public Works

Mr. Chipman reviewed his report discussing roads patched in Carrabelle and work done on the new truck route in Carrabelle.

Commissioner Putnal asked Mr. Chipman to get with Mayor Kelly of Carrabelle regarding an expansion project at Tillie Miller Park.

Commissioner Sanders and Mr. Chipman discussed the filling of a vacant position.

Van Johnson – Solid Waste Director

Fonda Davis submitted the holiday schedule for his department.

Commissioner Sanders and Mr. Davis discussed the possibility of Waste Management leaving Franklin County as they recently did Wakulla County; Mr. Davis will contact Waste Management and report back to the Board at the next meeting.

Dan Rothwell – County Engineer

Mr. Rothwell presented the following items for discussion and/or approval:

Item 1 - Elevation survey for proposed Vehicle Maintenance Shop:
Topographic survey is 100% finished and drawings may be made.

Item 2 - St. George Island Beach Restoration & Dune Walkovers:
The drawings and Bill of Materials will be forwarded to club member, this week for review for each walkover.

Item 3 - Apalachicola Airport Runway 13-31 Slab Replacement:
The runway slabs for runaway 13-31 are all removed, dowel installation and concrete placement will begin after January 2, 2007.

Item 4 - East Point SR98 Stormwater Treatment Baffle Boxes:
The North West Florida Water Management District has preliminary plans prepared and we have met with Florida Department of Transportation for preliminary plans review on 12/18/2006.

Item 5 - Carrabelle Sports Complex:
We have been working with Franklin/UF-IFAS Extension Program, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Florida State Labs and the Solid Waste Department to get the proper formulation and thickness to apply sludge-compost to enrich sand as a soil amendment prior to grassing the fields.

Commissioner Putnal and Mr. Rothwell discussed the removal of soil and the leveling of the property at the airport; Mr. Pierce also commented on this matter.

Bid Opening: Airport Equipment (5:19 PM)

Motion by Sanders, seconded by Lockley, to waive the advertised deadline and accept the Mid American Engine bid that arrived after the deadline; Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Pierce opened and read the bids.

AirCenters of Florida – bid on generator \$22,030.00, bid on automatic transfer switch \$3075.00

Beard Equipment – bid on loader/backhoe \$34,460.00, bid on mower \$12,284.25

Contractors Depot – bid on generator \$37,960.93

Diesel Service and Supplies – bid on generator \$18,000, bid on base gas tank \$3,375.00, bid on transfer switch \$3,100.00

Flint Equipment – bid on loader/backhoe \$34,300.00, bid on three point hitch kit \$675.00, bid on mower \$13,573.42, bid on generator \$31,540.25, bid on transfer switch \$2,248.75, bid on 75kw upgrade for the generator \$31,170.00

GC Iron – bid on lift \$78,539.25, bid on 4x4 upgrade \$6,752.13

Green South – bid on lift \$88,500.00, bid on loader/backhoe \$31,840.00, bid on mower \$11,475.00

Rental Inc – bid on lift \$77,500.00, bid on 4x4 upgrade \$7,000.00, bid on front end loader \$28,500.00

Rental Service Court – bid on lift \$94,200.00, bid on tire upgrade \$4,500.00

United Rentals of Dothan, Alabama – bid on lift \$89,325.00, bid on lift \$92,710.45, bid on lift \$83,605.00

United Rentals of Panama City, Florida – bid on lift \$77,950.00, bid on loader \$28,500.00, bid on mower \$12,290.00, bid on 55kw generator \$16,495.00, bid on trailer upgrade \$1,500.00, bid on 80kw generator \$19,200.00, bid on trailer \$1,798.00

Midamerican – bid on 60kw generator \$24,827.00, bid on 100kw generator \$27,750.00, bid on 80kw generator \$28,106.00, bid on transfer switch \$3,300.00, bid on amp upgrade \$2,600.00

Motion by Sanders, seconded by Putnal, to forward the bids to the airport committee for review and to have the committee make a recommendation to the Board at the second meeting in January 2007; Motion carried 5-0.

Department Supervisor Report (Continued)

Bill Mahan – County Extension Director

Mr. Mahan presented the following items for discussion and/or approval:

Item 1 – (also Item 2 on Alan Pierce’s report) Board action on public comments to be sent to the USACOE regarding freshwater flows.

Mr. Pierce stated that, with the assistance of the Riverkeepers, a letter was drafted to send to the US Army Corp of Engineers.

Dan Tonsmire, of the Apalachicola River Keepers, discussed the need to send this letter as soon as possible.

Commissioner Putnal asked Mr. Tonsmire to check on chemicals that will be used upriver to kill weeds and its possible effect on the local waters.

Motion by Sanders, seconded by Putnal, to approve the wording of the letter and direct Mr. Pierce send the letter as presented to the US Army Corp of Engineers regarding freshwater flows; Motion carried 5-0.

Item 2 - Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Committee Updates: The ISSC’s 2007 Biennial Meeting will be in Albuquerque, New Mexico in August.

The ISSC & U.S. Food & Drug Administration will be holding a meeting hosted by the Franklin Seafood Industry Taskforce to discuss *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* and control issues with the oyster industry on January 16, 2007 - from 3:00 – 6:00 PM in the 3rd floor Courtroom. The ISSC/FDA is also holding regional *Vp* meetings in Texas on January 17th, Louisiana on January 24th, and in Maryland on January 26th.

Item 3 - Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council Updates: On December 7th, NOAA Law Enforcement sent out a new Red Snapper Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Help Desk toll-free number for stakeholders and dealers who have questions about the online reporting system. The correct number is 866-425-7627. A previous announcement had an incorrect phone number.

The GMFMC’s Ad hoc Grouper IFQ Advisory Panel will meet in Tampa, FL on January 9, 2007 to continue discussions regarding the scope and general configuration of an IFQ program for the Gulf of Mexico commercial grouper fishery.

The GMFMC’s Ad Hoc Shrimp Effort Management Advisory Panel will meet on January 8th & 9th, 2007 in Houston, TX to hear brief presentations on current levels of shrimping efforts and the levels of effort that could optimize yield from the shrimp fishery.

Item 4 - FL Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission Update: On December 7th the FWC announced that its stock assessment of spotted seatrout indicates that the management goal is being exceeded in all four geographical areas of the state. However, the FWC will carefully monitor to monitor increasing fishing effort targeting this fish. The next assessment for spotted seatrout is due in 2009.

Barbara Rohrs: Lanark Water & Sewer Board Update (5:51 PM)

Ms Rohrs distributed and discussed a report regarding the current actions of the Lanark Water and Sewer Board.

Commissioner Sanders asked if Lanark Water and Sewer started negotiations for a merger of the water and sewer districts with the City of Carrabelle; Ms Rohrs stated that a letter was sent to the Mayor of Carrabelle and Lanark Water and Sewer Board's attorney did make contact with the City of Carrabelle's attorney but actual talks won't start until after the holidays.

Commissioner Sanders asked Attorney Shuler to make a recommendation on the Commission exercising its option as an Ex-officio member of the Lanark Water and Sewer Board; Attorney Shuler recommended that the Commission take no action at this time.

Commissioner Crofton inquired about the filling of the seat that will be vacant after Commissioner Courage's term ends at the end of the year; Attorney Shuler stated that the Commission needs to authorize a special election to fill the vacant seat.

Commissioner Putnal asked if the number of seats on the Lanark Water and Sewer Board can be increased at this time; Attorney Shuler did not think it could be done without State Legislature action but would research the matter further.

Motion by Sanders, seconded by Putnal to authorize a special election to fill the vacant seat on Lanark Water and Sewer Board; Motion carried 5-0.

Bill Snyder, a resident of Lanark, disagreed that the Lanark Water and Sewer District is running as smoothly as stated by Ms. Rohrs. Mr. Snyder also discussed the possible process and the need to increase the Board to five members from three members.

Commissioner Sanders asked Mayor Kelly, of Carrabelle, if the City of Carrabelle was contacted by Lanark Water and Sewer to discuss a possible merger; Mayor Kelly said Attorney Armstrong of the Lanark Water and Sewer Board "informally" met with Mr. McGinness of the City of Carrabelle.

Commissioner Sander and Attorney Shuler discussed the procedure to disband the Lanark Water and Sewer Board and the responsibility of the Commission after the Board is disbanded.

Motion by Sanders, seconded by Parrish, directing Attorney Shuler to inform the Commission of the procedure to disband the Lanark Water and Sewer Board, the role of the County Commission if this is done, and the possibility of increasing the Lanark Board from 3 to 5 members; Motion carried 5-0.

Don Lively, of Lanark Village, commended Mr. Ray Courage for his services as a Commissioner on the Lanark Water and Sewer Board.

Motion by Sanders, seconded by Putnal, directing staff to send a letter of appreciation to Mr. Ray Courage for services as a Commissioner on the Lanark Water and Sewer Board; Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. David Kight submitted a letter from Ms Pauline Sullivan that she asked to be entered into the Board Meeting file.

Public Hearing(6:12 PM):

Resolution to Establish Special Assessment for Alligator Point

Mr. Pierce discussed the options of the Alligator Point renourishment project.

Ms. Camile Tharpe, of Government Services Group, submitted and reviewed a presentation which discussed the funding options of the renourishment project.

Mike Dombroski, of MRD Associates, discussed the time line, cost, and effects of a beach renourishment project.

Chairman Crofton opened the floor for public comment.

Ken Osborne, president of Alligator Point Taxing Association (APTA), stated that after a mail out voting and a show of hands at a recent APTA meeting a majority of the residents of Alligator Point was in favor of moving forward with the beach renourishment project.

Mr. Osborne asked the Commission to consider the option of incremental taxing and explained how it works

Commissioner Sanders asked which of the taxing options did APTA prefer; Mr. Osborne stated that none was preferred because it wasn't presented to the residents in that manner.

Motion by Sanders, seconded by Putnal, to authorize the Resolution to establish the Special Assessment for Alligator Point; Motion carried 5-0.

Public Hearing(6:45 PM):

Ordinance to Establish Alligator Point Beach Renourishment MSTU for Portion of or Entire Alligator Point Community

Chairman Crofton opened the floor for public comment.

Jim Cummings asked for clarification of the Ordinance; Attorney Shuler responded to Mr. Cummings inquiry.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Putnal, to adopt an Ordinance to establish an MSTU for the Alligator Point beach renourishment project for the entire Alligator Point community; Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Putnal, seconded by Lockley, to adopt an Ordinance to establish an MSTU for the Alligator Point beach renourishment project for a described portion of the Alligator Point community; Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Sanders asked Mr. Pierce to explore increment tax option as discussed by Mr. Osborne and report back to the Board on this item.
Board discussed the possible role of the States in this project

Motion by Putnal, seconded by Sanders, directing staff to send a letter to all of the Delegates asking for funding assistance from the State with this project; Motion carried 5-0.

Public Hearing (6:53 PM):

Comp Plan Amendments

Mr. Pierce stated that the reason for this Public Hearing is to consider adopting the remedial changes to bring the Comp Plan into compliance. Mr. Pierce gave some history discussing the challenge that was filed, the ruling by judge, and intentions of the County to comply with the Judge's and administrative order. Mr. Pierce stated that the Department of Community Affairs found the remedial amendments to be in compliance with administrative order and if the Commission approves remedial amendment the Comp Plan will be in compliance. Mr. Pierce also stated that the new coastal high hazard map complied with state law and it is not illegal to develop in coastal high hazard areas but State and County rules must be adhered to.

Board discussed the need for the Cities of Apalachicola and Carrabelle to also comply with this rule within the near future

Mr. Bob Allen stated his concern of the manner in which parts of Eastpoint were indicated on the coastal map; Mr. Pierce responded to Mr. Allen's concerns.

Chairman Crofton opened the floor for public comment.

Marie Marshall asked why some material was redlined/strikeout; Mr. Pierce stated that the State instructed staff to strikeout that info and replace with new rule; Ms Marshall discussed the contradiction between recognizing of Highway 98 as a scenic route but FDOT's grant to relocate the same highway; Commissioner Sanders responded to Mrs. Marshall comments.

Dan Tonsmire, Apalachicola Riverkeepers, stated the changes to the Comp Plan were more of a community cooperative effort now than when it first started, recommended that the Commission defer the amendments at this time, allow more public input, and deny any development until the comp plan is approved. The Commission, Attorney Shuler, and Mr. Pierce discussed the need to meet the deadline to satisfy court and administrative order.

Mr. Tonsmire stated the Commission should make development changes to the Comp Plan along with the remedial changes as requested by the Administrative order.

Bob Allen clarified some of his comments made earlier relating to the coastal map and its effects on Eastpoint.

Tom Adams, a St. George Island resident, expressed his concerns of the Commission rushing to pass the ordinance without reviewing the situation in total.

Pat Floyd, an attorney, stated that the Commission should not take the Administrative order lightly and should respond as soon as possible.

Gathana Parmenas, City of Carrabelle Commissioner, agreed with Mr. Adams comments and expressed her concerns of development in the high hazard area

Billy Buzzett, of the St. Joe Company, stated that the Coastal High Hazard map was legal and followed the wishes of the Administrative order. Mr. Buzzett also spoke on the many efforts of the St. Joe Company working with Franklin County including providing water access, public land, and affordable housing.

Roger Bybee, a resident of City of Carrabelle, commented on the history of the Comp Plan, including the legal challenge and the Coastal High Hazard "SLOSH" map and recommended deferring the amendments until some of the other issue could be addressed and included in the amendments.

Ann Maruszak asked the Board to consider the citizens comments before adopting the amendments.

Dennett Rainey, a resident of St. Teresa Beach, stated that the Comp Plan and St. Joe Company will directly affect all of the landowners in St. Teresa. Mr. Rainey asked Mr. Pierce to explain exactly what he was asking the Commission to approve; Mr. Pierce explained that he only wanted to satisfy the Administrative Order with this amendment. Attorney Shuler, Pierce, and the Commission discussed this matter further. Mr. Rainey recommended that the Commission adopt the amendments and move forward with the other suggestions and concerns raised this evening.

Gene Langston, a property owner in Franklin County, recommended the Board approve this adoption so small land owners can proceed with their projects and address the other items at a later date

Don MacLean asked the Commission not to forget the Cultural Heritage item of the Comp Plan.

Bob Allen commented on protecting the "seafood nursery" in Eastpoint.

Don Ashley, Franklin County property owner, stated that his only reason for legally challenging the Comp Plan was to offer the citizens of Franklin County another chance to have input with the Comp Plan amendments. Mr Ashley asked if Policies 11.12 and 11.13 were addressed with the amendments; Attorney Shuler stated that they were. Mr Ashley disagreed with Attorney Shuler and further explained his point of view and distributed a document in support of his view.

Attorney Shuler commented on statements made by Mr. Ashley and others including the discussion of Policies 11.12 and 11.13 in the Comp Plan and recommended that the Commission adopt the amendments for transmittal.

Board discussion continued.

Phil Callandra and Dan Rozier, members of the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC), discussed some of the current actions of the CAC and their role with improving the Comp Plan and asked about the consequences of adopting or not adopting the amendments including language for affordable housing; Attorney Shuler responded to their concerns.

Billy Dalton, commercial fisherman, commented on the possible negative effects of constant development on the Bay and the fishing industry.

Commissioner Putnal asked if the St. Joe Company would have to come back before the Board before they can proceed with any of their developments; Mr. Pierce stated that St. Joe Company needed Commission approval before they could proceed with their projects.

Motion by Putnal, seconded by Sanders, to adopt the remedial Comp Plan amendments as recommended by staff and forward to the State for their approval; Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Kelly, of Carrabelle, stated how proud she was of the City of Carrabelle's Comp Plan and their efforts to get it passed by the State as soon as possible.

Recess

Chairman Crofton recessed the meeting until 8:40 PM

Public Hearing (8:40PM):

Approval of the Abandonment or Vacating and the Approval of the Final Replats of Rivercrest Phase I and II

Attorney Pat Floyd discussed this request. Mr. Pierce also commented on this request and recommended approval.

Commissioner Parrish asked about the amount of lots both of the phases covered; Attorney Floyd responded explaining the amounts of lots in each phase. Attorney Shuler also commented and recommended approval.

Chairman Crofton opened the floor for public comment; there were no comments

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Parrish, to approve this request contingent upon Attorney's Shuler review of the final plat; Motion carried 5-0.

Planning and Zoning Report (Attached to Agenda)

SKETCH PLAT APPROVAL:fcbc

Item 1- **Approved by P&Z:** (unanimous) Consideration of a request for Sketch Plat approval of a six (6) lot subdivision named "The Bluffs at St. Teresa" on a 6.84 acre parcel lying in Section 28, Township 6 South, Range 2 West, St. Teresa, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by GEA, Inc, agent for Dennett Rainey, applicant.

Motion by Sanders, seconded by Putnal, to approve Item 1; Motion carried 5-0.

FINAL PLAT APPROVAL:

Item 2- **Approved by P&Z:** Consideration of a request for Final Plat approval of a four (4) lot subdivision named "The Palms at St. Teresa" a 6.76 acre parcel lying in Section 28, Township 6 South, Range 2 West, St. Teresa, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by GEA, Inc, agent for Dennett Rainey, applicant

Motion by Sanders, seconded by Lockley, to approve Item 2; Motion carried 5-0.

Advisory Board of Adjustment Report (Attached to Agenda)

Item 1- **Approved by BOA:** a request for a variance to construct a single family dwelling 15 feet into the front property line setback on both Gulf Shore Boulevard and Dunes Boulevard, and 20 feet into the Critical Habitat Zone on property described as Lot 97, Block 10, Southern Dunes Subdivision, Alligator Point, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by Florida Environmental & Land Services, Inc., agent for Mary Ann Tatum, owner.

Motion by Sanders, seconded by Putnal, to approve Item 1 contingent on the lot being at least 1000 sq ft.; Motion carried 5-0.

Item 2 – **Approved by BOA** a request for a special exception to allow a restaurant as a tourist oriented commercial facility in a C-1 District for property described as lying in Section 32, Township 8 South, Range 6 West, further described as 500 Highway 98, Eastpoint, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by Michael Keller, agent for That Place on 98.

Motion by Sanders, seconded by Putnal, to approve Item 2; Motion carried 5-0.

Item 3 – **Approved by BOA:** a request for a variance to construct stairs one foot into the Critical Habitat Zone on property described as Lot 8, Block V, Unit One, Lanark Beach Subdivision, 2230 US Highway 98, Lanark Beach, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by Ulrich Construction, agent for Curtis and Cheri Barineau, owners.

Motion by Sanders, seconded by Lockley, to approve Item 3; Motion carried 5-0.

Item 4 – **Approved by BOA:** a request for a variance to construct a vertical retaining wall behind an existing rock revetment within the Critical Habitat Zone on property described as Lot 3 and 4, Block 56, Unit 5, St. George Island, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by Helen Pitts Hankins, owner.

Motion by Sanders, seconded by Parrish, to table Item 4 until the 2nd meeting in January, and more information is provided; Motion carried 5-0.

Item 5 – **Approved by BOA:** a request for a variance to construct a single family house 15 feet into the front setback line off of Alligator Drive on property described as Lot 5, Block C, Unit One, Peninsular Point, Alligator Point, further described as 1265 Alligator Drive. Request submitted by Jim and Betty Cummings, owners.
Mr. Jim Cummings commented on this request

Motion by Sanders, seconded by Putnal, to approve Item 5; Motion carried 5-0.

Department Supervisor Report (Continued)

Marcia Johnson – Clerk of Courts

Mrs. Johnson submitted this item for discussion and/or approval.

Item 1 – Audit report and comments on revolving loan.

Board discussed this matter

Motion by Sanders, seconded by Lockley, to direct Attorney Shuler to investigate the auditor's comments regarding the revolving loan fund and report back to the Board with options; Motion carried 5-0.

Item 2 – Hospital Account Report

Commissioner Lockley asked what funds were received this month; Mrs. Johnson, Attorney Shuler, Mr. Pierce, and the Commission discussed this matter.

Item 3 – Commissioner Salaries

Starting January 2007 Commissioners will receive checks twice a month instead of monthly.

Item 4 – Sheriff Grant

Motion by Sanders, seconded by Lockley, to authorize the Chairman's signature on the requested grant for the Sheriff's Department; Motion carried 5-0.

Alan Pierce – Director of Administrative Services

Item 1- Resolution of Appreciation for Eileen Annie Ball

Previously addressed

Item 2- Board action on public comments to be sent to the USACOE regarding freshwater flows.

Previously addressed

Item 3- Hospital Board update on Hospital issues and ambulance.

Hospital Board will report to the Commission at the next meeting. Commissioner Sanders stated that the County was without full ambulance service on Sunday; Board discussed this matter. Ms. Johnson asked about Blackhawk payment in January.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Putnal, to decrease the payment to Blackhawk, for services provided to Weems Hospital, to \$12,500 starting January 2007; Motion carried 5-0.

Board and Attorney Shuler discussed possible end date for Blackhawk services.

Mayor Kelly, Carrabelle, discussed Mr. Colvert's, interim CEO of Weems Hospital, visit to the Carrabelle Commission meeting and the announcement of additional services in Carrabelle

Item 4- Board action to sign FWC grant for the St. George Island Boat Ramp.

Motion by Sanders, seconded by Putnal, to authorize the Chairman's signature on the grant for the St. George Island boat ramp; Motion carried 5-0.

Item 5- Provide Board with copy of letter from Senator Martinez regarding future Eastpoint Post Office. The US Post Office is no longer interested in building a new post office in Eastpoint.

Item 6- Provide Board with copy of USACOE letter regarding future maintenance dredging of Sikes Cut. The COE is being required to monitor sea turtle nesting habitat when it does the next dredging of the Cut.

Item 7- Provide Board with copy of semi-annual monitoring report of St. James Bay DRI.

Item 8- Provide Board with copy of grant St. George Island Lighthouse submitted to state to help pay for rebuilding lighthouse. The grant is asking for \$50,000, and the county is not required to put up any matching cash. If the grant is awarded the county will need to work out a permanent lease with the lighthouse/DEP for re-construction of the lighthouse on county property.

Item 9- Provide Board with copy of letter from Gulf County Economic Development Council and my response. Gulf County is attempting to develop a Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) Zone in Gulf County and Franklin County and I volunteered to be the point of contact for the project.

Item 10- Board action on change orders on Lake Morality Road and C-30A. Both change orders result in a reduction in costs. The cost savings came as a result of the county road department doing additional work instead of paying C.W. Roberts and of a reduction in the cost of asphalt from what had been the bid price. Board action to approve the change orders will result in a savings of approximately \$750,000. This money was budgeted because the Board had to have money for the entire project in the event it cost the bid price. With the approval of the change orders, the Board now has approximately \$750,000 to apply toward a new paving program. That is not enough money by itself for a road paving program, but it is a start. There may be additional funds generated by savings on CR 67 and Alligator Point if those projects also come in under bid.

Board action to approve change orders.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Sanders, to approve the change orders for the Lake Morality Road and C-30A project; Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Sanders, to direct Mr. Rothwell to finalize a list of roads for a paving project; Motion carried 5-0.

Item 11- Board action to approve Affordable Housing proposal submitted in conjunction with the St. Joe Company. The proposal, if approved, will be the first step in actually getting land and funds to build some affordable housing in the county. It is a competitive proposal, which means we are competing with all the other applicants across the state.

This proposal is an important first step in moving from words on paper to houses on the ground. Deadline for award is Jan. 26, and if Franklin County is awarded we then enter into a contract with the state.

Motion by Sanders, seconded by Lockley, to authorize the Chairman's signature on the Affordable Housing proposal submitted in conjunction with the St. Joe Company; Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Parrish commented on this item. The Commission, Attorney Shuler, and Mr. Pierce, discussed another possible affordable housing project with the St. Joe Company.

Mayor Kelly discussed both the current and future project with St. Joe Company and the Cutter Ridge affordable housing project that was never completed; Mr. Pierce explained why the Cutter Ridge project was never completed.

Item 12- Inform Board that the Northwest Florida Water Management District is holding a workshop on Jan.4 at the Gulf County Commission meeting room regarding the Regional Water Supply that they are currently developing. We are trying to get the workshop moved to Franklin County as it has greater impact here. Also, the Board still does not have a contract with OTTED for the feasibility study so the committee ranking the qualifications has not met. We have sent letters out to the applicants stating the Board would not receive a recommendation from the committee until February.

Item 13- Board discussion on funding requests:

A) Congressional- Rep. Allen Boyd's office responded to the questions raised at the last meeting. The requests are due by Jan. 1. Any requests for hospital funding should go through Boyd's regional health care committee. Any requests for land acquisition for the seafood industry can be submitted, but it needs to be tied to creating or maintaining jobs. Because they recommend the Board submit no more than 5 items I recommend the following revised list:

1. Renewed appropriation for the Eastpoint Breakwater
2. Funding for an improved road to the consolidated school from SR 65.
3. Funding for land acquisition for maintaining a working water front.
4. Funding to extend sewer and water lines in areas currently served by septic tanks.
5. Funding for a community center at Kendrick Park.

Motion by Sanders, seconded by Putnal, to approve the list for funding request as presented; Motion carried 5-0.

Board discussed seeking funding to repair and improve the hospital.

B) State Funding requests- These funding requests are due by Jan 5, and can be finalized at the Jan 2nd Board meeting. The requests are submitted on forms called CBIRS- Community Budget Issue Request System. I have spoken to Rep. Kendrick and he supports the following as a start, but additional ones could be added:

1. Request that DOT move the funding of the St. George Island Bike Path up to this year.
2. Support the funding of all FRDAP applications the county has pending. Each county can have up to 3 FRDAP grants open. Franklin County submitted its 3rd one back in August for a handicap playground at Kendrick Park. If one of the other FRDAP grants can be closed out this spring the county can submit another one in August.
3. Funding for a Buck O'Neal commemorative statue and signage at Kendrick Park.
4. Funding to install security devices in the courthouse.

Board will discuss these requests at the January 2, 2007 meeting.

Item 14- Inform Board that VMS called and they will work with DOT to put a Lake Morality truck route sign up on US 98.

Item 15- Board discussion of policy on waiving tipping fees. At the last Board meeting, the Board determined that Mr. Tim Edwards had a hardship regarding the payment of tipping fees for a house the City of Carrabelle condemned. The Clerk's Office has informed me that Mr. Edwards paid the tipping fees in the prior fiscal year, three months before he came before the Board and asked that the fees be waived.

The Board is empowered to create any policy it thinks is fair, but the motion by the Board was to waive the fee as if it had not been paid. There was no discussion about reimbursement for fees paid in a prior fiscal year.

If the Board chooses to reimburse Mr. Edwards there needs to be a fair and logical policy created because when the Board waives tipping fees it is reducing the income to the landfill, and the landfill budget anticipates receiving tipping fees.

Board direction.

Mayor Kelly stated that Mr. Edwards did not follow the procedures of the City of Carrabelle's for demolition, but if he had, a tipping fee would not have been incurred. Board discussed this matter further.

Motion by Sanders, seconded by Putnal, to table this item until January 2, 2007 meeting when Mr. Johnson would be available to comment on this matter; Motion carried 5-0.

Item 16- Board action to sign \$70,000 CDBG grant for planning and engineering for sewer extensions in Eastpoint. This will set us up for construction money for the next CDBG cycle.

Motion by Sanders, seconded by Lockley, to authorize the Chairman's signature on the CDBG grant; Motion carried 5-0.

Item 17- Letter from School Board to support Wired Grant Application

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Sanders, to authorize the Chairman's signature on a letter supporting the Wired Grant Application for the Franklin County School Board; Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Kelly asked the location of the NFWMD meeting; Mr. Pierce stated that the meeting was on January 4, 2007 at the Annex meeting room.

T. Michael Shuler – County Attorney

Attorney Shuler did not submit any items for discussion and/or approval.

Commissioners' & Public Comments

Chairman Crofton asked the Board to appoint Commissioner Lockley to the Tourist Development Council (TDC) as his designee.

Motion by Putnal, seconded by Parrish, to appoint Commissioner Lockley to TDC as his designee; Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Sanders stated that the North West Florida Transportation Authority will meet at 10am on Thursday, December 21, 2006 in the Annex.

Commissioner Putnal asked the Commission to listen to Citizen Advisory Committee's concerns and comments relating to the Comp Plan

Lyn Wintons, the Community Band Director, distributed and discussed a letter regarding current actions of the Community Band and asked for a clarification on how to proceed in the future relating to invoicing for services and expenses.

Commissioner Sanders stated some of the Board's concerns with the submitted invoice including the amount billed for salaries were over the monthly amount on the budget request.

Mrs. Johnson explained her concerns of the invoice, including monies requested by Mrs. Wintons for her services, which were originally stated on the budget request as voluntary. Mrs. Johnson also explained that the Board never voided the original request made by Mrs. Wintons, the funds were diverted to the Parks and Recreation Department, as recommended by Attorney Shuler, to avoid the church and state issue.

Commissioner Parrish stated that there are many other coaches and programs that run through the Park and Recreation Department that are not compensated in any manner for their time or services.

Ms Wintons stated that Mr. Van Johnson, Director of the Parks and Recreation Department, approached her and asked her to submit an invoice for her services in administering the County Community Band.

Mrs. Johnson stated that as the County's Clerk, it is her responsibility to question any or all invoices that are submitted for payment, and also discussed the problems she had with getting the County's band equipment inventoried. The Board discussed this matter further.

Motion by Sanders, seconded by Putnal, for Mr. Pierce to get with Park and Recreation staff to make sure that all of the County's band equipment is inventoried; Motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Crofton asked Mrs. Wintons if she was going to volunteer her services as the County's Community Band leader; Ms. Wintons stated that she would volunteer her time but needed clarification on invoicing the County.

Adjourn

Chairman Crofton adjourned the meeting at 10:16 PM.

G. Russell Crofton, Chairman FCBCC

Attest:

Marcia M. Johnson, Clerk of Courts