

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
EMERGENCY MEETING
FRANKLIN COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANNEX
JANUARY 22, 2008
11:00 AM**

MINUTES

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

Commissioners Absent: Joseph Parrish - Vice Chairman (representing the County in Washington D.C.)

Others Present: Alan Pierce – Director of Administrative Services, T. Michael Shuler – County Attorney, Michael Morón – Board Secretary

Call to Order (11:00 AM)

Chairman Lockley called the Emergency Meeting to order at 11:00 AM.

Discussion Lanark Village Water and Sewer District (11:04 AM)

The board present unanimously declared that an emergency existed. Commissioner Sanders and Attorney Shuler discussed the need for the Emergency Meeting stating that at the Lanark Village Water and Sewer District (LVWSD) meeting held last night, the Chairman of the District stated that there was not a quorum to vote on the transfer of assets and liabilities to the City of Carrabelle because one of the Board members, Mrs. Sharon Thoman, resigned. Commissioner Sanders stated that this has put a strain on the negotiations between the LVWSD and the City of Carrabelle, and after verifying with Attorney Shuler that an emergency meeting of the County Commission to appoint someone to complete the term of Sharon Thoman is an option, recommends that the Board of County Commissioners appoint former LVWSD Board member, Mr. Ray Courage, to the LVWSD and inform Mr. Brian Armstrong, the LVWSD's attorney, of the Commissions' actions. Attorney Shuler further explained that the facts supporting the board's declaration of the emergency include the LVWSD's rescheduling from January 21, 2008 to February 4, 2008, the meeting to decide whether LVWSD should merge with Carrabelle, that the City of Carrabelle has stated that the grants funding the merger will not be available after March 1, 2008, and the City of Carrabelle will have no interest in discussing merger following the loss of the grant funds, and the need to avoid any further breakdown in the negotiations with the City of Carrabelle. Attorney Shuler also stated that the Board of County Commissioners has the authority to appoint a Commissioner to the LVWSD Board to replace Mrs. Sharon Thoman and complete her term.

Commissioner Crofton stated that the LVWSD meeting regarding the transfer of assets and liabilities was continued to Feb 4, 2008.

Barbara Rohrs, Chairman of the LVWSD Board, was opposed to appointing Mr. Courage to the Board

because she thought he was biased towards dissolving the LVWSD and asked the Board to appoint a more unbiased candidate.

Commissioner Sanders addressed Mrs. Rohrs concerns.

Attorney Yonclas, representing the Concerned Citizens of Lanark Village (CCLV), does not oppose the appointment of Mr. Courage and wished him well, but stated that the CCLV also supported Mr. Bill Rose and an alternative appointee.

Board and Attorney Shuler discussed an alternate appointee in case Mr. Courage declined the appointment.

Attorney Shuler stated that a quorum is designated as a simple majority of the Board.

Motion by Sanders, seconded by Crofton, to appoint Raymond Courage to fill the seat on the Lanark Village Water and Sewer District (LVWSD) Board left vacant by Sharon Thoman's resignation; if Mr. Courage declines, appoint Mr. Bill Rose, and inform Attorney Brian Armstrong, who represents the LVWSD, of this action; Motion carried 4-0.

Adjourn 11:20 AM

There being no further business Chairman Lockley adjourned the Emergency Meeting.

Noah Lockley Jr., Chairman FCBCC

Attest:

Marcia M. Johnson, Clerk of Courts