

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 18, 2003**

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE: Cheryl Sanders, Chairman; Bevin Putnal, Jimmy Mosconis, Eddie Creamer and Clarence Williams, Commissioners; Kendall Wade, Clerk; Amelia Varnes, Deputy Clerk; Thomas M. Shuler, County Attorney.

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

(Tape 1-43) Commissioner Putnal made a **motion to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2003 meeting.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-50) Commissioner Putnal made a **motion to pay the County bills.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

HUBERT CHIPMAN-SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

(Tape 1-57) Mr. Chipman said he didn't have anything that he needed to discuss with the Board this morning. He stated he would like to ask the County Attorney the status on the situation with Automotive Industrial Service, Mr. Buck Henry, regarding the Heavy Duty Lift System for the Road Department and Ronnie Dean's, a Road Department employee, raise. Mr. Shuler replied he has checked into both of these issues. He stated regarding the price increase requested by Buck Henry for the lift system at the Road Department, he has drafted a letter to Mr. Henry. He said this is in response of their notification they are going to submit a price increase to the County for the lift system. He stated this price increase was not mentioned or discussed when the project was bid out in September 2002. He said has not determined if this company, Automotive Industrial Service, is entitled to increase the amount they originally bid for the lift system station project at the Road Department. He stated he is sending the letter to them to ask them to explain why the County is responsible for any price increase. He said he is still checking into the situation with Mr. Dean. He stated he would like to discuss this matter with Mr. Chipman after the meeting if he was available. He said he had been in contact with the County's Labor Attorney, Lucy Turner, regarding the Workmen's Compensation claim and how this would effect Mr. Dean and his raise. He stated Ms. Turner has given him directions on how to handle this situation.

(Tape 1-96) Commissioner Putnal said he had been contacted by an employee from VMS, Inc., FDOT's asset management contract holders, regarding the County providing inmate labor for them to use in the County. He said VMS, Inc. would like to use inmates, especially in Eastpoint. He stated VMS, Inc. wants help in keeping the ditches and sidewalks cleaned-up. He said they "do it in Carrabelle and they do it in Apalachicola, but they have employees that takes the inmates and does it". He stated "I think each city has got a group of inmates appointed to them and Eastpoint don't, I don't think, and I was wondering what we could do to assist them; I know a contractor has hired these folks to do the job." Kendall Wade, the Clerk, said the problem is a liability issue since VMS,

Inc. is a privately owned company. He stated these State of Florida, Department of Corrections Inmates, are to provide a service to the local governments such as the City of Apalachicola, the City of Carrabelle, and Franklin County. He said they do not and would not provide assistance to a private company. He explained VMS, Inc. was under contract with the State of Florida, Department of Transportation, for seven-years to do any type of maintenance work on the roadways, etc. of the State of Florida, not just Franklin County. He explained these areas Commissioner Putnal is talking about are State of Florida Department of Transportation right-of-ways. He said the County or the State has no responsibility to VMS, Inc. to provide any assistance to them since it was a private contract between the State of Florida and VMS, Inc., for the maintenance, etc. of State of Florida right-of-ways. Commissioner Putnal said maybe "Mr. Cook from the local Work Camp to go in and assist them with a group of inmates, he said they just asked him he didn't know what to tell them." Mr. Chipman informed Commissioner Putnal he would have to talk to Mr. Cook. Commissioner Putnal said "Alan, could you do that, could you ask Mr. Cook out at the Work Camp if he could assist VMS, Inc. with cleaning the sidewalks and the ditches in Eastpoint...I don't think they have enough labor too..." Mr. Pierce said he thought the Work Camp would probably cut County DOC inmates if the County asks for these inmates for a private group. Mr. Wade stated he along with Sergeant Cook, from the Franklin Work Camp, had discussed this matter with the Regional DOC Offices and the DOC Offices in Tallahassee. He said they were informed by the Regional and State DOC Office's they would have a problem with allowing these DOC State Inmates to assist private companies or corporations. Commissioner Putnal said "he was asked to do this and he didn't know what to tell them so I told them so I told them I would ask that question." Chairman Sanders said she thought the best thing to do would be to inform VMS, Inc. they were responsible for this work. Commissioner Creamer said they needed to be told "to do their job" and stated he knew for a fact this matter had been discussed with VMS, Inc. before when their representatives came to a Board Meeting about them not doing their job in the first place. Commissioner Mosconis said "Hubbie would close the gap in Eastpoint." Mr. Chipman said he has been trying to do this work until he found out this company was a privately owned company. He stated he knew DOC inmates could not be used for private enterprise purposes. Commissioner Putnal said the man's name who called him was an employee of VMS, Inc., Bobby Lolley. Commissioner Mosconis said he thought FDOT in Chipley should be made aware of this situation. Commissioner Creamer said VMS, Inc. has offered before to hire the County or subcontract with the County to do the ditch cleaning, etc. in Franklin County. He stated he would like to know what they had decided since it had been at least a year ago. Mr. Chipman said it might cost more to have the County do this work in the long run. He stated his department has more than they can handle right now doing just the County's work. Commissioner Mosconis suggested the Board send a letter to FDOT in Chipley a letter about this situation. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion to send a letter to FDOT in Chipley making them aware of this situation.** Commissioner Mosconis seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Commissioner Putnal said he wanted a letter sent to the office in Chipley telling them "the situation and see if they can solve it since it was really not our problem." Mr. Pierce asked Commissioner Putnal if he wanted him to check and see if VMS, Inc. wanted the County to take over these responsibilities for VMS, Inc. and if they

were willing to subcontract with the County? Commissioner Putnal said he wanted him to talk with Mr. Chipman to see what he thought. He said Mr. Chipman just said "it may not be worth it." Chairman Sanders said this had already been discussed a year or so ago and the County told the VMS, Inc. representatives they would be willing to consider a subcontract with them. She said nobody has ever responded to this proposal. Mr. Pierce said he did know there would be a lot of liability for the County especially since there were sidewalks on a lot of the FDOT right-of-way in Eastpoint.

VAN JOHNSON-SOLID WASTE DIRECTOR

(Tape 1-277) Mr. Johnson said he was presenting each Commissioner with an updated Compensatory Time Report as requested by the Board. He stated the Comp Time hours are coming down.

(Tape 1-280) He stated he would like for the Board to postpone the workshop scheduled for this afternoon at 1:00 p.m. to discuss Board Employee Raises. He said everyone seemed to have a conflict. He informed the Board he would like to reschedule the workshop for March 18, 2003 at 1:00 p.m. Commissioner Putnal said he would make a **motion to reschedule the Board Employee Raise Workshop for March 18, 2003 at 1:00 p.m.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-305) Mr. Wade said he had received a letter from the Franklin County Schools with a proposed Interagency Agreement between the Franklin County School Board, the Franklin County Commission, the City of Apalachicola and the City of Carrabelle City Commissions. He said the agreement was a working draft form for review and discussion. He said the Interagency Agreement was for tennis courts for Apalachicola and Carrabelle High Schools. He reported he did remember a discussion the Board had with Mr. Johnson at the January 21, 2003 meeting regarding the costs of building a 60' X 120' lighted tennis court at Vrooman Park in Eastpoint. He said the estimate Mr. Johnson had gotten was from American Tennis Courts, Inc. in the amount of \$35,410.00. He stated the reason Mr. Johnson had gotten the quote was because there had been \$10,000.00 appropriated from the FY 2002-2003 Parks and Recreation Budget. He said at the meeting in January the Board directed Mr. Johnson to wait until this year's budget to discuss the appropriation of any more funds to build this tennis court in Eastpoint. He asked the Board for direction as to what should be done about this proposal from Franklin County School Board. Commissioner Mosconis said the Road Department could do a lot of work and cut these costs down. Mr. Johnson agreed and said they could probably do some site prep. Commissioner Mosconis said then the County would just need to hire a contractor like C. W. Roberts Contracting, Inc. to do the asphalt work. Mr. Johnson informed the Board the price he quoted at the January 21, 2003 meeting did not include site prep. He said the price would be \$35,410.00 without the County doing any site prep. Commissioner Putnal suggested Mr. Johnson check with the City of Carrabelle since they were going to build several tennis courts there. Mr. Johnson replied he has already checked with them and the City of Carrabelle, like the County, is going to apply for a FRDAP Grant to pay for the tennis courts. He said they haven't even identified a vendor yet to do the project. He stated he has been informed they would let him know when the

City of Carrabelle begins this project. Mr. Wade stated the Franklin County School Board has approved and accepted this proposal. The Board did not give Mr. Wade any direction on the matter.

BILL MAHAN-COUNTY EXTENSION DIRECTOR

(Tape 1-396) Mr. Mahan said he had attached the Winter 2003 issue of Impact Magazine, which is published by UF-IFAS and highlights the teaching, research, and extension program activities throughout the State of Florida. He said this issue traces UF's roots back to 1853, when most of the State was uninhabited wilderness. He informed the Board this year UF would celebrate it's 150th year of progress in a yearlong celebration entitled "Honoring the Past, Shaping the Future."

(Tape 1-428) He said he would like to update the Board on the Oyster Post-Harvest Treatment Bus Tour Update. He stated the bus tour to look at post-harvest treatment plants in Louisiana is scheduled for March 4-6, 2003. He informed the Board the bus would leave March 4, 2003 at 1:00 p.m. from Apalachicola, site undecided yet, and return around noon on March 6, 2003. He said he is currently trying to get a final list of participants from the industry. He stated he is keeping two slots for County Commissioners who would like to go on the Bus Tour. He said he would need to know as soon as possible if any of the Board members would like to go so that he could let Victor Garrido, DACS, know. He asked if any of the Board members were intending to go they needed to let him know.

(Tape 1-482) He informed the Board he had received some additional information from Mark Berrigan, DEP, regarding the Apalachicola Bay Oyster Advisory/Liaison Committee. He explained Mr. Berrigan is still working on a Scope of Work for the committee, but he has provided some suggestions for the committee membership and operation. He said Mr. Berrigan suggested at a minimum the following membership; an at-large oyster harvester, Seafood Workers Association representative, Apalachicola Bay Oyster Dealer representatives (Apalachicola and Eastpoint), staff from DACS, DEP, FWCC, UF-IFAS, a County Commissioner, commercial shrimpers and recreational fisherman. He said Mr. Berrigan also felt it would be advantageous if the committee was structured in a way so that it was not regulated under the Florida Sunshine Regulations, therefore it would be an independent committee verses one established by the Commissioners. He said this would allow the committee to discuss various local issues in the course of daily activities, as opposed to limiting discussion to noticed public meetings. He stated the committee would act as a liaison between the oyster industry and the local and state agencies and would reflect the views and opinions of the Apalachicola Bay fishing community and Franklin County.

(Tape 1-546) He updated the Board on the boat ramp search throughout the County. He said, at the request Mason Bean, a realtor and resident of SGI, a meeting was held on SGI to discuss options for a boat ramp on the Island. He reported that during the meeting, which was attended by Mr. Bean, representatives of DEP, ANERR, and him several boat ramp options were discussed. He explained one acceptable option was to investigate putting a ramp at the seawall on the causeway at the end of the old SGI Bridge. He said

he had attached a photograph of the site to his report. After the discussion regarding the placement of boat ramps the Bob Allen property on the West side of Apalachicola was mentioned. Mr. Mahan said he knew the realtor was asking around \$340,000.00 for the property. He said the property consisted of two lots and was for sale.

(Tape 2-794) Mr. Mahan asked the Commissioners to please let him know as soon as they could if they planned to go on the bus tour he mentioned earlier.

(Tape 2-804) Mr. Pierce stated he had an item on his report that he would like to discuss while Mr. Mahan is still at the meeting. He said he needed Board direction on how to proceed with getting professional assistance to prepare a Florida Communities Trust (FCT) Grant application for the purpose of purchasing land on SGI for a boat ramp and Alligator Point for public purposes. He said the grant period would close some time in June. He informed the Board the ARPC has a staff person, Keith McCarron, who used to work at FCT and is willing to assist the County is preparing the grant application. He said the ARPC is will not bid on the job if the county is interested in seeking grant writers from the private sector. He stated the ARPC does not want to compete with private consultants. He said if the Board wanted to use private consultants then he and Mark Curenton, Assistant Planner, would recommend the Board advertise for Request for Qualifications, select the most qualified, and then negotiate with that firm for a price to write these grants. He said each FCT application could cost around \$5,000.00 so if the County wanted two of them submitted the cost would be \$10,000.00. He stated the County does not have any funds budgeted for this project. He said a qualified grant writer might know some way for the grant to pay for the application like it does in a CDBG application. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion authorizing Mr. Pierce to proceed with applying for these FCT Grants and authorizing him to request assistance from the ARPC.** Commissioner Creamer seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

LANARK VILLAGE WATER & SEWER DISTRICT BOARD

(Tape 1-955) Chairman Sanders said the next item on the agenda was the Board appointment to fill three seats on the Lanark Village Water and Sewer District Board for the term ending January 1, 2007. She said there were three applicants: James L. Lawlor, Sr., Michael S. Hughes, and Fred W. Hart. She stated one of the requirements for the applicants was that they own property in the LVW&SD. She said all three met this requirement. She said they also had to be registered to vote in Franklin County. She stated, with that said, she didn't have a problem with these three applicants. She said since there were three vacancies and only three applicants this would take care of itself. She stated this was the District she represented on the FCBCC. Commissioner Putnal asked if they were willing to serve on the LVW&SD. Chairman Sanders replied they were or they wouldn't have submitted a request for service on the Board. The County Attorney, Mr. Shuler, said he wanted to be sure all three individuals were qualified to serve in this position. After questioning Mr. Lawlor, Mr. Hughes, and Mr. Hart and being assured they all own property within the LVW&SD he stated he thought the men were qualified. Doug Gaidry, attorney for the City of Carrabelle, said he would like to address the Board at this time. Mr. Gaidry informed the Board the City of Carrabelle was

under contract with the new St. James Bay developers to provide water and sewer to their new project on the other side of Lanark Village. He explained this new expansion for the City of Carrabelle would travel through Lanark Village. He said if the LVW&SD Board decides or intends to disrupt this expansion by either asking FDOT to block the use of their FDOT right-of-ways or some other means then the City would be in a lot of trouble. He stated the City has millions of dollars invested in this project and if they are not allowed to get the pipe, etc. to St. James Bay then the City would be in trouble. He said this expansion would also keep the water and sewer rates down in Carrabelle. He stated this would also cause the City to be in breach of contract and might suffer the loss of millions of dollars. He said the estimate was six million dollars if the City is not allowed to perform on the contract it has with St. James Bay developers. Commissioner Mosconis said he didn't think this would be possible. Mr. Gaidry said he didn't know why or for what reason LVW&SD would try to stop the City from moving forward with this project. Mr. Lawlor said he would like to address this matter. He stated the new LVW&SD Board would be glad to meet with the City of Carrabelle representatives to see if everyone couldn't work together on this project. Mr. Gaidry stated the City could not even afford a delay in this project. Mr. Lawlor assured the Board of County Commissioners, Mr. Gaidry, the representatives from Baskerville-Donovan working on the City of Carrabelle Water and Sewer Expansion Project, and everyone in the audience the LVW&SD Board would try to cooperate with the expansion project. Mr. Gaidry said this project was also important because of the spray fields that would be installed on the property at St. James Bay. Commissioner Sanders said she didn't see how this issue would affect the issue of the Board appointing three people to fill the three vacancies on the LVW&SD Board. She stated she thought this would help the matter and not hurt the situation. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion appointing James J. Lawlor, Sr., Michael S. Hughes, and Fred W. Hart to the Lanark Village Water and Sewer District Board for the remainder of the unexpired term ending on January 1, 2007.** Commissioner Mosconis seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Bonnie Dietz, President of the Lanark Village Association, informed the Board the Lanark Village Association supported the appointment of these three individuals to the Lanark Village Water and Sewer District Board.

DORIS SHIVER GIBBS-SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

(Tape 1-1810) Ms. Gibbs said she wanted to make the Board aware of a new law that was approved by the Florida Legislature and an act passed by the U. S. Congress entitled "Help America Vote" Act. She explained this legislation addresses the American with Disabilities requirements as it applies to voting precincts. She said the ADA requires that polling places be made handicap accessible for voters by the year 2004. She informed the Board she had a thirty-one-page survey the Supervisor's throughout the State of Florida were required to complete and submit the Department of State by September, 2003. She stated each County would be required to have all of the polling places completely accessible by 2004 and if they weren't made accessible or if the polling places were not converted to meet ADA requirements then another polling place would have to be designated by the year 2006. She said the County could request a waiver if needed until 2006. She stated the precincts would have to be completely converted or changed by 2006 one-way or another. She said she is not referring to bathrooms, etc., but

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the polling places, as it affects the voter, would have to be changed to meet the ADA requirements. She said the wheel chair access to polling places would have to be addressed, such as if there is a ramp into the precinct, width of the doors, the direction the door or doors swing in and out, etc. She stated the County would also have to purchase a touch screen voting machine for anyone who is blind or has eye problems, etc. for each precinct. She said parking accessibility would be another issue to be addressed. She stated she is here today to request assistance from the Board. She said she needs assistance from the Building Department in inspecting these polling places to see exactly what needs to be done to meet the ADA requirements. She asked the Board to allow the Building Department or the County Engineer to complete a survey of each polling place in the County. She said then they could prepare the specifications or recommendations for changes to the Board. She stated the County would have to pay for these changes and new machines as well. She said this person could recommend how they can be changed or even if they can be retrofitted to meet all the requirements. She stated she wanted the Board to know they would have to incur these costs. She said she is trying to inform them of this requirement before the next budget year so the money can be budgeted. She stated this is why she needs to know the costs of making these polling places handicap accessible in everyway. She said this might include paving some parking lots, doors opening wider or in a different direction, etc. She stated she has sent letters to each of her representatives in charge of their specific polling places in Franklin County. She asked Commissioner Williams to especially consider the moving of Precinct 3, the Apalachicola Fire Station, since the County has totally outgrown the fire department building in Apalachicola. She said this precinct needed to be moved to another location in Precinct 3. She stated with all of the new ADA requirements then a suitable building should be considered. She asked Commissioner Williams to help her find another polling place for Precinct 3. Commissioner Williams replied he would try to assist Ms. Gibbs. She informed the Board the new touch screen voting machine, a DRE to meet the ADA requirements, would have to be placed at each polling place, was very large, took up a lot of space and had to be placed in a building where it would be wheelchair accessible. Ms. Gibbs said she wanted the Commissioners to know she is especially concerned and encouraged the Commissioners to think about a new polling place for Precinct 3, the Apalachicola Fire Department: Precinct 4, the National Guard Armory, since she didn't know what was going to happen with the Armory and Precinct 8, the American Legion Hall on the west side of Apalachicola, due to it being leased out. She stated she knew the County was very limited in Apalachicola for polling places and she informed the Board she is very open to suggestions since any new polling place would have to be part of the survey. She asked the Commissioners to let her know if they found any place suitable for this ADA change. Commissioner Mosconis asked if the room the Board holds meetings in, the building they were in this morning, would suffice for a voting place. Ms. Gibbs replied she had come to look at the Courthouse Annex Board/Court Room. She stated it probably could be rearranged to accommodate voting machines. She said it was already handicap accessible. Commissioner Putnal said he wanted to be sure an Engineering Technician was hired and hired soon so they could handle this type of request. Mr. Pierce replied he was advertising the vacancy right now and hoped to have one some time soon. Commissioner Mosconis instructed Mr. Pierce to have his new Building Official assist Ms. Gibbs. Mr. Pierce stated he would do that. He also stated the State of Florida

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Legislature has appropriated approximately \$160,000.00 for the Payment-In-Lieu of Taxes Program. He said the County has already submitted an application to receive this money. He explained the County should receive this money in June or July. He informed the Board this money could be spent for a variety of projects such as, putting a new roof on the jail; making these ADA changes, etc. Commissioner Putnal asked if he needed anything from the Board to "push" this request through the Legislature. Mr. Pierce replied the Board had already made a motion authorizing Mr. Curenton to submit this application for the Payment-In-Lieu of Taxes Program for Franklin County.

(Tape 1-2182) Chairman Sanders asked Ms. Gibbs if she had any input on the redistricting matter. She informed Ms. Gibbs the Commissioners were looking into the matter. Ms. Gibbs replied she hoped the Board did not wait until December to decide to pursue this matter. She said there would be an election in March, 2004 and her office would be required to send out new voter identification cards because of the Legislative District changes. She stated her office waited to send the new cards out until the Commissioners and the School Board decided if they wanted to place the redistricting question on the ballot. She cautioned the Commissioners to remember there was a strict time line regarding redistricting matters. She stated if the Board decides to consider redistricting this year then it has to be done soon so her office would have time to make all the precinct changes, etc. She said Mr. Curenton assisted her in downloading some maps and population information for Franklin County from the U. S. Census Bureau. She stated she has already entered this information into the computer in her office. She also encouraged the Commissioners to work with the School Board members to keep the same district lines. She said people become confused and it is difficult as well as expensive for the County to have the School Board District lines different from the Franklin County Commissioners District lines. Commissioner Mosconis said he spoke to the former County Attorney for Bay County, Ned Zimmerman, at a meeting the other night. He stated, with the Board's permission, he would invite Mr. Zimmerman over to a meeting to discuss this matter. He said Mr. Zimmerman told him he would be glad to come and help the Commissioners with this matter. The Board agreed to allow Commissioner Mosconis to ask Mr. Zimmerman to one of the next regularly scheduled Board Meetings. Mr. Wade informed the Board he had checked with the Washington County Clerk of Courts to see how much they spent on their redistricting process. He said Ms. Linda Cook, the Washington County Clerk, informed him they spent approximately \$70,000.00. He stated the School Board in Washington County would not participate in the redistricting project. Commissioner Mosconis said he would try to reach Mr. Zimmerman and invite him to one of the next scheduled Board Meetings. Commissioner Williams said the Clerk had given an estimated price for redistricting of \$70,000.00. He stated this cost reflected the cost to go from Single-Member Districts to At-Large District. He said in this case, Washington County, the Negroes in Washington County didn't do anything about it, but it would be different in Franklin County. He stated if "you try to change us that's a step back and we definitely going to fight it." Mr. Wade said he was just reporting the cost to the Board as they had asked him too. Commissioner Williams said "the costs were going to be more because they are not going to take a step back like that, you are putting that on our children from where we done come." He said "let's look at the record gentlemen and ladies." Commissioner Mosconis said he

respected what Commissioner Williams was saying, but the County needed to get somebody to tell us what the options are. He said there is a great disparity in his District and the other Commissioner's District. He stated he has been "pushing" the At-Large issue because that is how he was first elected. He said he thought most of the people in this County approved of At-Large voting. He informed the Board his District is twice as large as Commissioner Williams or any of the rest of the Commissioners. He stated he is representing 30% of the people in Franklin County and said both Commissioner Williams and Chairman Sanders together only represented 30%. Commissioner Mosconis said this is against the law, the laws of this State. Chairman Sanders asked Commissioner Williams if he had a problem with Commissioner Mosconis inviting Mr. Zimmerman to just come and talk to the Board. She stated this matter is eventually be decided by the people in Franklin County. Commissioner Williams said "we need to sit down and talk, but if you look at the record some Negroes got appointed when the Civil War was over, when they served their term you had not more Negroes in office until we went to Single-Member Districts...okay, everybody knows Chester Rhodes, the late Chester Rhodes, he was just a good-a-man as anybody and he couldn't win At-Large...look again, the late Ed Tolliver, former County Commissioner, served six-years on the City Commission, part of the time he was Mayor, when they had this re-voting over and he ran when it was At-Large and he got defeated, but they told him to run because in two years we going to Single-Member Districts and you'll have your name in the pot." He continued "he came back and served ten years now, it's not about Clarence Williams, I ain't fighting for Clarence Williams, but I'm fighting for them other Black Boys and Girls coming on behind Clarence Williams, now the Constitution says that every ten years we redistrict, I have no problem with that and I know that we going to be a minority when we redistrict, but I know that any individual running for office can do better in a Single-District than he can in a At-Large District and that's what we going to be fighting, anybody can come over and talk we need to go to the table and talk we don't need to be fighting among us, but I'm just telling you up front, if you try to go from At-Large, from Single-Member to At-Large, the Blacks in Franklin County going to fight." Chairman Sanders asked Commissioner Williams if the Commissioners go though all of these hurdles and it is decided the Commissioners could go ahead, petition the Federal Court for an order, then receive the order to allow At-Large Districts, would the Commissioners be willing to put this matter on a referendum ballot for the people in Franklin County to decide. She asked Commissioner Williams if the people voted for At-Large District Voting could he see this was the will of the people. Commissioner Williams said if the Courts send such an order to Franklin County then no one really would have a choice. He stated the only thing to do is depend on is the Bible and the verses in Matthew 18:18-20. Commissioner Mosconis said he wanted to say something. He stated Bay County had a larger number of White voters and they elected James McAllister, a Black man, to be Superintendent of Schools in Bay County "handily". Mr. McAllister won several elections over in Bay County. He stated all of the Counties are operating under the same Federal and State Laws and he knew Franklin County had to address this redistricting matter. Commissioner Putnal said "I know where all of ya'll are coming from and just to encourage Clarence, even if it was At-Large we got a Commissioner in Carrabelle who is Black and he won unanimously in Carrabelle." Chairman Sanders said he won overwhelmingly. Commissioner Putnal said "he is on the City Board and it was

everybody voting... it's not like it used to be I've said all along some of my best friends are Black." Commissioner Mosconis said, as a starting point, he would invite Mr. Zimmerman to a Board Meeting. He stated he didn't think the County would have to pay for Mr. Zimmerman to come to the Board Meeting. He said he would assume he would not want to be paid for coming to a meeting, he was not going to offer him any money for him to give the Commission a "little spill". Mr. Pierce said the district lines are the only things that really have to be addressed. He stated this is mostly a analysis of the population then the Commissioners and School Board getting together to agree on the lines. Commissioner Mosconis said he would invite Mr. Zimmerman to come to a meeting in the near future to try and help the Commissioners resolve some of these problems and questions. Chairman Sanders asked Commissioner Mosconis to please call the Board Secretary to schedule a time on the agenda.

TED MOSTELLER-APALACHICOLA AIRPORT COMMITTEE

(Tape 1-3022) Mr. Mosteller reported they had a very lengthy Apalachicola Airport Advisory Committee Meeting last night. He said he had several issues to ask the Board about. He explained he did receive the tractor ordered for use at the Airport. He asked for permission to send a letter to Joe Smith, FDOT Aviation Director, to accept this tractor from FDOT. He said the tractor has been fully funded by FDOT. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion authorizing Mr. Mosteller to send a letter to Joe Smith, FDOT Aviation Director, informing him the Apalachicola Airport Committee has received the tractor and accepts the tractor for use at the Apalachicola Airport.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-3050) He said the new T-Hangars at the Airport are completed. He stated there are a few modifications the Committee has agreed to make. He informed the Board he has asked Mr. Smith for approval for these modifications. He said they want to add some asphalt to the ramp area so the twin-engine aircraft won't have so much trouble getting into the hangars. He explained this would require a Change Order to the contract with Polaronis Construction. He informed the Board the money was already in the budget so no new funds would have to be allocated for the changes. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion authorizing Mr. Mosteller to request this Change Order from Mr. Smith and authorizing the Chairman to sign the Change Order when it is received for modifications to the new T-Hangars at the Airport-Polaronis Construction.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-3087) He informed the Board the next item concerned the "Air 21" money he mentioned to the Board at an earlier meeting. He said this CFAA Grant is for \$150,000.00. He stated he has submitted this grant, as authorized by the Board, and the grant has been approved. He said Mr. Smith has requested another letter asking FDOT to waive the matching funds for this grant. He stated the total amount of the project, for electronic signs and repainting the striping on Runway 13/31. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion authorizing Mr. Mosteller to send a letter to Mr. Smith requesting a waiver of matching funds for the CFAA Grant for the electronic signs and repainting of the striping on Runway 13/31 at the Apalachicola Airport.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-3141) He asked for permission to advertise for bids to complete this project he just mentioned, the repainting of the striping on Runway 13/31 and electronic signs for the runways at the Apalachicola Airport. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion authorizing Mr. Mosteller to advertise for bids to complete the project at the Apalachicola Airport-electronic signs for the runways and repainting of the striping on Runway 13/31.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-3170) He said it was time to, according to the FAA, for the Airport to advertise for engineering consultants. He stated this is required every five-years by the FAA. He explained this would be advertised in the Florida Register. Mr. Pierce said he thought the advertisement should be for letters of interest or qualification instead of an advertisement for bids. Mr. Mosteller agreed. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion authorizing Mr. Mosteller to advertise for letters of qualifications or interest from engineering consulting firms for any future projects at the Apalachicola Airport.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-3218) He stated he wanted to inform the Board the Advisory Committee did discuss the priority of the programs on the FDOT JPA's Program. He said they did prioritize the long list of programs or projects they intend to implement at the Apalachicola Airport in the near future.

(Tape 1-3245) Mr. Wade asked Mr. Mosteller to see Ruth Williams, the Finance Officer, before he left the Courthouse today. Mr. Mosteller agreed and said he would stop by to see her.

(Tape 1-3252) Mr. Pierce said he wanted to inform the Board he attended the Airport Advisory Committee Meeting last night to discuss the re-design of the Airport Road. He said he explained to the Committee that Preble-Rish Engineering, Inc. believed the road could be re-designed to bring the costs down to the funds available. He said Preble-Rish has met with C. W. Roberts Contracting, Inc. and the estimate they gave looks good at this point for having the road completed for the funds remaining, which is approximately \$700,000.00. He said the Board has already authorized a re-design of the road, URS Engineering, the engineers of record for the project, are still considered to be the engineers for the project. He said if the Board is going to use a different engineering firm and use a different design for the road then URS Engineering needs to be released from their position as engineers of record for the road. He asked the Board to formally release URS Engineering contingent on the submission of sealed plans from Preble-Rish Engineering, Inc. and a satisfactory cost estimate from C. W. Roberts Contracting, Inc. Commissioner Mosconis said he would make a **motion for the County to formally release URS Engineering as the engineers of record on the "Apalachicola Airport Access Road Project" contingent on the submission of sealed plans from Preble-Rish Engineering, Inc. and a satisfactory cost estimate from C. W. Roberts Contracting, Inc.** Commissioner Creamer seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-3330) Mr. Wade said while the Apalachicola Airport projects were being discussed he had a matter he needed to bring to the Board's attention this morning. He said the County has received a letter from Phoenix Aviation Managers, Inc., the current insurance carrier for the Apalachicola Airport, informing the County they would be charging \$5,000.00 for an Acts of Terrorism rider to be added to the policy. He stated if the Board does not want to purchase this additional coverage then the Board would have to direct the Chairman to sign the exclusion of terrorism form that was enclosed. He informed the Board there would not be sufficient funds in the Airport Budget to pay for the insurance. He said the County has until March 9, 2003 to make the election or chose to pay for the insurance or not. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion authorizing the Chairman's signature on the "Policyholder Disclosure Notice of Terrorism Insurance Coverage" form from Phoenix Aviation Managers, Inc. electing to exclude the "Acts of Terrorism" coverage on the Apalachicola Airport.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

JIM MCKNIGHT-MARTY THOMPSONS-DOCTORS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

(Tape 1-3408 Continued on Tape 2) Chairman Sanders introduced Jim McKnight, the administrator at Doctors Memorial Hospital in Perry, Florida, Marty Tompkins, EMS Director at the Hospital and Shannon Crum, Mr. McKnight's assistant. She asked Mr. McKnight to address the Board at this time. Mr. McKnight said he had good news for Franklin County. He said he was here today to discuss "Air Medic 1", which is Doctors Memorial Hospital's name for "Life Flight". He stated they would begin air ambulance May 1st. He said they went into the air ambulance business because of the great need in our area for an air ambulance. He informed the Board Jacksonville, Florida is the nearest Trauma One center in our area. He said he is here today to ask the Board to grant a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for CJ Critical Care Transportation Systems of Florida, a licensed rotor-winged Advanced Life Support provider in the State of Florida, to operate a rotor-winged aircraft within Franklin County. He said this would not be an exclusive COPCN and any other air ambulance could operate in Franklin County too. He stated they just wanted the ability to come to Franklin County and pick injured people up. He assured the Board they would work closely with the local EMS Service, EmergencyStat, and had already talked to them about procedure, etc. Mr. Tompkins informed the Board his group has inputted the mileage information in the computer and he said he knew some of the arrival times would change according to the head winds, rain, wind, etc. He said he would like to present the Board with some times he has arrived at for air ambulance to come from Taylor County, Perry, to Franklin County, which included lift-time. He stated the normal lift-time from the time a call is received from the time the aircraft is started is five-minutes. He explained these times included the lift-time. He said from Perry to Lanark Village-26 minute flight time; Carrabelle-28 minute flight-time; Eastpoint-30 minute flight time; SGI-33 minute flight time, and to Apalachicola-40 minute flight time. He stated to assist in decreasing the flight time they are asking the local EMS Service to contact them as soon as they receive a call where they anticipate the need for the air ambulance. He said they wouldn't mind if they had to turn around and go back if they are not needed, but they did want to know immediately if the EMS workers even think they need them. He said he wanted to point out to the Board this wouldn't cost the County anything since this air ambulance bills the individual or

their insurance. He stated the company would direct bill the patient for their services. Discussion continued. Mr. McKnight and Mr. Tompkins presented a lot of information to the Board. After discussion Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion authorizing the Chairman's signature on a "Emergency Medical Services Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity" to allow CJ Critical Care Transportation Systems of Florida, a licensed rotor-winged Advanced Life Support provider in the State of Florida to operate a rotor-wing aircraft within Franklin County to transport trauma and critically ill patients for delivery to a Trauma Center or appropriate acute care facility contingent on the County Attorney reviewing the document.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

ALAN PIERCE-DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

(Tape 2-363) Mr. Pierce said he wanted to inform the Board he did not write a letter to our Legislative Delegation regarding Emergency Room Doctors and the matter of Sovereign Immunity, because he was unsure as to what role the County was really going to take in this matter. Commissioner Mosconis said they had not scheduled a meeting as authorized at the last meeting either.

(Tape 2-396) Mr. Pierce said he would skip to Item 6 on his report this morning. He said Charlie Merrill the owner of the property near the property he is going to discuss is here this morning. He informed the Board GT Com has built a structure on County right-of-way at the intersection of Cape Street and Lighthouse Circle in Lighthouse Estates. He said GT Com has built the structure so close to the Lot 26 property line, Mr. Merrill's property, that it interferes with Mr. Merrill's ability to erect a fence. Mr. Pierce presented photographs of the structure to the Commissioners. He said it is a large structure and is right next to Mr. Merrill's property line. He stated the structure is in front of his property. He said if Mr. Merrill decides to put a fence up then GT COM would complain because it would cause some inability for them to get to their boxes. Commissioner Putnal said he went to speak to Mr. Merrill about the situation. He stated if GT COM would have just come to talk to him he would have given them an easement on some of his property to keep this structure from being right in front of his property. Mr. Pierce said the County does not have any restrictions on County right-of-way easements. Mr. Merrill stated GT COM wanted him to set his fence back so they could get access to their equipment. He said he was upset they put this structure right in the front of his property. Mr. Pierce again informed the Board there was no standard or policy implemented by the County to stop this kind of problem. He said the property owner can still build a fence. He said the County's Zoning Code reflects a utilities building can be placed in the County right-of-way to be used for gas, power, telephone, etc. He stated they do not need building permits to work within the County right-of-way. After discussion by the Board, the County Attorney, and Mr. Pierce Commissioner Putnal made a **motion directing the Mr. Pierce to send a letter to GT Com asking them to reconsider this matter and try to work with the property owner, Charlie Merrill.** Commissioner Creamer seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 2-747) Chairman Sanders asked Mr. Pierce to discuss the "Hidden Harbor" final plat. Mr. Pierce said he would be glad to since Debbie Holton, attorney for the

developers of "Hidden Harbor" needed to be in New Orleans this afternoon. He said he was asking the Board, as approved by the Planning and Zoning Commission, to approve the "Hidden Harbor" final plat contingent on the County Attorney reviewing the plat and the County Engineer verifying the road construction is complete. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion approving the "Hidden Harbor" final plat contingent on the County Attorney reviewing the plat and the County Engineer verifying the road construction is complete.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Chairman Sanders said the paving has been completed at the subdivision. She stated she thought they did a good job, but they would have to do some additional work done on the "swales" in the subdivision. Debbie Holton said she would like to thank the residents of Alligator Point and how they have worked with the developers. She stated APECO has also been cooperative with the developers. She said this had been a very good experience for all of them. She said she appreciated the way the Commissioners had worked with them as well.

(Tape 2-834) Mr. Pierce said he would go ahead and asked the Board to approve the sketch plat for a 10-lot subdivision known as "Shell Bay" located in Section 35, T7S, R5W, submitted by Gene Langston, agent for Chris Langston. He informed the Board all of the lots are one-acre, one hundred feet wide and access would be by a private easement. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion approving a sketch plat for a 10-lot subdivision know as "Shell Bay" for Gene Langston, agent for Chris Langston.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 2-898) Mr. Pierce said he wanted to inform the Board he had been unable to find the 1983 Resolution on the Challenger Space Shuttle disaster, but when he does find it a suitable resolution would be created about the Columbia Space Shuttle disaster.

(Tape 2-902) He presented the Board with a copy of the survey available at the Community Action Program Office in Apalachicola. He said Melba Page, CAP Office, would disseminate these forms and assist people with them. He stated the hope is that the Governor would authorize the release of funds to help the shrimpers. He said the survey is due by February 28th. He said there are some existing funds for anybody in financial trouble. He stated this would include any person that could prove their income had been reduced by any substantial amount.

(Tape 2-1235) He provided the Board with a copy of a letter from DCA informing the County their review of the "Summer Camp" Amendment would be completed around March 13, 2003.

(Tape 2-1240) He said he would like to discuss the roof at the Franklin County Jail. He said the Building Department contacted two roofing contractors with only one responding. He said the one that responded estimated the costs for repairing the roof around all of the roof vents was approximately \$31,000.00. He said a completely new rood was estimated to cost between \$70,000.00 and \$100,000.00. He stated it would be possible to repair the roof over the Sheriff's Office for approximately \$14,000.00, which is where the computers and office equipment is. He said that would leave the jail cells

with a leaking roof and inmate complaints. He recommended the Board direct the County Engineer to prepare some specifications and advertise for bids for a new roof over the whole building, while the Clerk, Chairman Sanders and the Sheriff try to pool resources. He said the Board would not have to accept any of the bids unless funds were made available. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion directing the County Engineer prepare specifications and advertise for bids for a new roof for the Franklin County Jail.** Commissioner Creamer seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 2-1287) He said Dan Keck, Baskerville-Donovan Engineers, Inc., was here to request the County's permission to use the Timber Island Road for the City of Carrabelle's sewer line being placed under the Carrabelle River. He said Mr. Keck submitted a letter from the City of Carrabelle requesting permission to allow Baskerville-Donovan Engineers, Inc. to place the sewer line on County right-of-way. After discussion Commissioner Putnal made a **motion authorizing Baskerville-Donovan Engineers, Inc. permission to use the County's right-of-way and County property for the purpose of installing sewer lines for the City of Carrabelle, which comes under the Carrabelle River contingent on approval of the agreement with the County Attorney and Mr. Pierce.** Commissioner Creamer seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 2-1437) He asked the Board if they had considered the letter sent to the County by DEP informing the County they are going to sell surplus property on Timber Island. He said he understood the land included approximately 2,500 feet of water front property. He said he needed to know if the County was interested in buying some of this land. He stated the County did not budget any money to purchase any land this year. The Commissioner's agreed the County was not interested in purchasing this property on Timber Island. He stated this land was going to be placed on the market for sale to the public if the County was not interested. Mr. Shuler informed the Board DEP had given the County a thirty-day period to consider purchasing this property. He said if the County is not interested it would probably be sold to the highest bidder. The Board took no action on this matter.

(Tape 2-1566) Mr. Pierce said he and Tim Turner, EOC Director, recommend the Board accept the \$25,000.00 Grant to create a Terrorist and Continuity of Operations Plan, and then to advertise for qualifications for those people interested in writing such a plan. He said the also recommend the Board accept the \$72,260.00 grant to update the Local Mitigation Strategy. He explained the first LMS was written by the ARPC. He suggested the Board check to see if they are interested in doing the update. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion accepting a \$25,000.00 grant to create a Terrorist and Continuity of Operations Plan, to advertise for qualifications for those people interested in writing such a plan and accepting a \$72,260.00 grant to update the Local Mitigation Strategy and authorizing Mr. Pierce and Mr. Wade to request ARPC's assistance on this matter.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Mr. Pierce informed the Board a local resident Linc Barnett of Alligator Point and President of the APTPA, had extensive professional service in the

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Terrorist and Continuity of Operations Plan and was interested in assisting the County, if not actually writing the plan.

(Tape 2-1617) He said he wanted to provide the Commissioners with a letter from the Director of Emergency Management (DEM) Director reminding the Chairman of the need to create an active LMS Working Group and to appoint a Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the group. He stated he has previously told DEM that Tim Turner would be the Chairman and he would be the Vice-Chairman of the group. He said if the Board would like to appoint or select another person to be Chairman and/or Vice-Chairman it would be alright with both he and Mr. Turner. The Board said they didn't have a problem with these appointments.

(Tape 2-1634) He informed the Board he was directed to schedule a public hearing for the Board to consider an "Ordinance Banning Glass Bottles on the Beaches of Franklin County" several months ago. He stated he has now scheduled the public hearing for March 18, 2003 at 10:00 a.m. and he informed the Board he would advertise the public hearing in the local newspaper as required.

(Tape 2-1652) He said in November, 2002 the Planning and Zoning Commission did not have a regular meeting for lack of a quorum and the County Commission directly dealt with two items, one was the final plat of St. James Bay, and the other was final plat for a large subdivision in Eastpoint. He stated the Board appointed two new members and the Commission had a special meeting on November 21, 2002 to take up a few items the Board had not dealt with. He said one of those items the Planning and Zoning Commission approved in their special meeting was a final plat for a five-lot subdivision known as "Mary's Beach" subdivision submitted by Freda White. He stated Ms. White was not ready to have the Board look at the subdivision in December, and he failed to discuss it in January. He asked the Board for action on approving the final plat of "Mary's Beach" subdivision as recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission contingent on the attorney reviewing the final plat. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion approving the Chairman's signature on the final plat of "Mary's Beach" subdivision submitted by Freda White as recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission contingent on the County Attorney reviewing the final plat.** Commissioner Mosconis seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 2-1737) He said the Planning and Zoning Commission met in regular session on February 11, 2003 and recommends the following action: Tabling a dock permit for William Mattice and Edgar Moore on Lot 9, BRE Subdivision, Alligator Point, until it can be determined that the adjoining property owners were notified by DEP. The agent Dan Garlick, Garlick Environmental is aware that the matter is going to be tabled. The Planning Office has not received this information so the recommendation remains the same. Approval for A. L. Buford to construct a single-family dock on Lot 1, Block L, Unit 2, Alligator Point. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion approving a single-family dock for A. L. Buford.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Approval for Jim Sineath to construct a boardwalk on Lot 4, Heron Bay Village, SGI. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion approving a**

boardwalk for Jim Sineath. Commissioner Mosconis seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Approval for David and Debbie Shapiro to construct a single-family dock on Lot 17, Indian Bay Village, SGI. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion approving a single-family dock for David and Debbie Shapiro.** Commissioner Mosconis seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Approval for Peter Block to construct a single-family dock on Lot 5, New River Run Subdivision on the New River. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion approving a single-family dock for Peter Block.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Approval for Ron E. Brower to construct a single-family dock on Lot 7, Osprey Village, SGI. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion approving a single-family dock for Ron E. Brower.** Commissioner Mosconis seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Approval for a public hearing to be schedule to consider a rezoning for lots 42, 43, 44, 45 and 46, Block 10 West, Unit 1, SGI from C-2 to C-4 submitted by Steve Watkins, attorney and agent for Jerry Johnston. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion authorizing Mr. Pierce to schedule a public hearing to consider a rezoning for lots 42, 43, 44, 45 and 46, Block 10 West, Unit 1, SGI from C-2 to C-4.** Commissioner Mosconis seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** The Commission asked another property owner to come back with a joint request for a rezoning some other land on the Island. The Commission discussed with him the need for consistency in applying certain rules, such as the 100-foot wide lot requirement. The Commission recognizes there are situations where it could be a hardship to require a lot be 100-feet wide at the road, such as on cul-de-sacs, and curves. The Commission recommended a standard procedure be developed so lots that don't meet the 100-foot requirement be addressed. I have agreed to send lots in a subdivision, which are not 100-feet wide, to the BOA so there is some determination of hardship on lots that do not meet the 100-foot wide requirement. Vicki Barnett, a member of Planning and Zoning Commission, said she thought they asked the Planning Department to come up with language so these matters would not have to be sent to BOA. Mr. Pierce replied he thought they wanted it sent to BOA. She asked him to derive some type of language so the BOA wouldn't be needed when addressing cul-de-sacs or curves so this issue wouldn't even come up month after month. Mr. Pierce said he would check the zoning code, but he would look into this matter. The Commission recommended approval of a subdivision known as "Palmetto Village" in Eastpoint in January, however, the final plat was not ready until now. Board action to accept the final plat contingent on the County Attorney reviewing the documents. Commissioner Creamer made a **motion approving the final plat of "Palmetto Village" contingent on the County Attorney reviewing the documents.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 2-2053) He said he has a copy of the amended contract between the County and St. Joe Company for the recreational complex in Carrabelle. He said the Board had already authorized the Chairman's signature on the contract, but there were some changes in the contract and he would present the amended contract to the Chairman for her signature.

(Tape 2-2095) He reminded the Board about the community forum tonight on the "Visioning Process" at 6:00 p.m. in the annex building. He said this is a sort of "kick-off" meeting for a series of public meetings, which are intended to develop public consensus on issues of concern. He stated while DCA and the County have an agreement to update the Comp Plan, and some of the issues discussed by the public would be brought to the County for inclusion in the Comp Plan. He said there might be other issues the public is concerned about that do not logically fit into the Comp Plan. He said the Board would also be presented with those issues and asked to address them in some fashion. He said the presentation of these issues to the Board would be six to eight months from now depending on how involved the public gets in some of the issues. He encouraged the Board to attend the meeting tonight to listen to what the public says to the paid moderator. He said there would not be an opportunity for the Board members to respond to what the public is saying tonight, but the public comments would be compiled by the paid moderator and presented to the Board at a later date. Bonnie Dietz, President of the LV Association, reminded Mr. Pierce the next scheduled public meeting regarding the "Visioning Process" would be held on March 18th in Lanark Village at Chillas Hall and would be hosted by the Lanark Village Association. Ms. Dietz thanked the Board for their continuing financial support in keeping the streetlights in Lanark Village.

KENDALL WADE-CLERK

(Tape 2-2310) He asked for a motion to approve the following Budget Amendment: Increase 180.88.559.3113 SHIP Admin 2001/2002 \$7,750.00; Increase 180.88.559.8208 Aid to Citizens 2001/2002 \$22,161.34; Decrease 180.88.559.8200 Aid to Citizens/Program Revenue \$29,911.34. He said there was actually more money remaining of the 2001/2002 SHIP Funds than originally anticipated and this is why these adjustments needed to be approved. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion approving the following Budget Amendment: Increase 180.88.559.3113 SHIP Admin 2001/2002 \$7,750.00; Increase 180.88.559.8208 Aid to Citizens 2001/2002 \$22,161.34; Decrease 180.88.559.8200 Aid to Citizens/Program Revenue \$29,911.34.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 2-2348) Mr. Wade reported he was requesting some estimates from a company in Jacksonville for sealing the Old Courthouse. He said he would include this approximate amount in the new budget requests because the last time the Old Courthouse was sealed was several years ago. He stated he thought it might cost around \$50,000.00, but he wasn't sure. He said he would try to include the estimated amount in the Courthouse Maintenance Budget for the next Fiscal Year.

THOMAS M. SHULER-COUNTY ATTORNEY

(Tape 2-2390) Mr. Shuler said he had a COPCN submitted by Mr. McKnight did have a typographical error on it. He stated the COPCN reflected Jefferson County not Franklin County. Mr. McKnight said he had the COPCN on a disk and could have it corrected and reprinted for the Chairman's signature.

(Tape 2-2402) Mr. Shuler stated Doris Pendleton, Property Appraiser, was present this morning and was sure she wanted to address the Sumatra Cemetery situation. Ms.

Pendleton said she was here today to see what the status was on the Sumatra Cemetery. She stated at the last meeting the Board directed the Mr. Shuler to check into the title search, etc. Mr. Shuler replied he has checked into the title search and it had been completed. He said he has located the search work and has spoken to the Liberty County Attorney. He stated she has not taken any action to pursue this matter. He asked the Board to direct him to file legal action to finalize the matter. Commissioner Putnal made a **motion directing Mr. Shuler to proceed with legal action if necessary to seek a "Declaratory Judgment" as recommended by Mr. Shuler.** Commissioner Creamer seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.** Commissioner Mosconis said he didn't know if he wanted the County to spend a lot of money on this matter. Mr. Shuler assured the Board he would check into the matter before he actually files any paperwork with the Court. Chairman Sanders instructed Mr. Shuler to have an opinion or recommendation at the next Board Meeting on March 4th.

(Tape 2-2707) Mr. Shuler updated the Board on several issues regarding the School Board and their lease with the DMV regarding the old Highway Patrol Station in Eastpoint; the Lewis claim filed by his attorney Randi Denker; the SGI lawsuit regarding the beach ends, etc.;

(Tape 2-2828) Mr. Shuler recommended the Board should adopt a policy to conduct an "Executive Session" when discussing actual litigation. He said this would allow him to talk and receive input from the Commissioners without the public or parties to the lawsuit hearing the "game plan". Commissioner Creamer said he would make a **motion adopting the "Executive Session" Policy when discussing litigation the County is involved in.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 2-2931) He said there are two avenues the Board can go down regarding the redistricting issues. He stated one is whether to go to an At-Large voting district or to address the issue of reapportionment. He said the County does need to move forward with the reapportionment issues and requested permission to send a letter to the Florida Association of Counties, Ms. Leigh Root. He stated according to Ms. Root there would be a grant available in the next budget year for these type projects. He said he does need to go ahead and get a letter requesting one of these grants now for next year's budget. Chairman Sanders said Mr. Pierce had already been in contact with Ms. Root and therefore she would recommend Mr. Pierce write the letter. Commissioner Mosconis made a **motion directing Mr. Pierce to send a letter to the Florida Association of Counties requesting a grant, from next year's budget, for assistance for Franklin County in their reapportionment project.** Commissioner Putnal seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 2-2994) He stated he has submitted his changes to agreement between Franklin County and the FSU Department of Urban and Regional Planning regarding the Comprehensive Plan Update and conducting the Visioning Workshops throughout the County to the attorney preparing the agreement. He stated he inserted a contingency in the agreement that states if the County did not receive the pledged funds from the

different organizations that pledged the funds the County would not be liable. He said the FSU attorney had a problem with that and they are still discussing this matter, but he feels the County would be contractually obligated to pay these funds in full.

(Tape 2-3028) He said he is working with Nick Yonclas, attorney for the owners of Lot 20 on SGI, regarding the lot that was platted as an acre and didn't meet the one-acre rule since it is not quite an acre.

(Tape 2-2086) Mr. Wade said he checked with the Labor Attorney, Lucy Turner, regarding the County Employee, Mark Wilson, who is on Workmen's Compensation right now. He said Ms. Turner informed him the County cannot do anything regarding Mr. Wilson; the County must receive a "Maximum Medical Improvement" information from the doctor treating Mr. Wilson. He informed the Board the County has not received this document yet, so he didn't think anyone could move forward with hiring a replacement for Mr. Wilson.

(Tape 2-3130) Mr. Shuler stated he is working with Mr. Chipman on the Lift System situation at the Road Department. He said he is still seeking information on the matter to determine if the County is responsible to pay the price difference the manufacturer is requesting.

MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR


(Tape 2-3175) Commissioner Creamer asked Mr. Pierce if he had heard anything from FDOT regarding the speed limit on the John Gorrie Bridge. Mr. Pierce replied he hadn't heard anything from FDOT. He said he had sent a letter and faxed a copy of the letter to FDOT office in Chipley. Commissioner Creamer asked Mr. Pierce to fax it to them again. Mr. Pierce explained he sent a letter for Commissioner Creamer asking FDOT to address the speed limit on the John Gorrie Bridge. Commissioner Creamer said the speed limit on the Bridge is 35 MPH and coming down and off the Bridge it changes and it causes a "speed trap". He said the speed limit should be 55 MPH and not 35 MPH. He stated coming down the Bridge should be 45 MPH not 35 MPH and coming off the Bridge should be 55 MPH and not 45 MPH. He reiterated he felt it was a "speed trap" that caused a lot of headaches. Commissioner Creamer said he would make a **motion authorizing the Chairman's signature on a letter to FDOT requesting these speed limit changes on the John Gorrie Bridge.** Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. All for. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(Tape 1-3241) Mr. Pierce again reminded the Board if they hired an Engineering Technician they would need a vehicle. He asked the Board what he should do. The Commissioners asked Mr. Pierce to check with the Road Department, Landfill, and the Sheriff's Department to see if he can find a vehicle. Commissioner Putnal said "if you will find me an Engineer I will ride him around." Commissioner Mosconis asked about this truck that "hangs around the Courthouse." Mr. Wade replied that was the truck belonging to Courthouse Maintenance. He said Mr. Moses uses the truck to go back and forth to Carrabelle, the Old Health Department in Apalachicola and to pick-up supplies. He stated Mr. Moses used the truck to haul material throughout the County as well. He

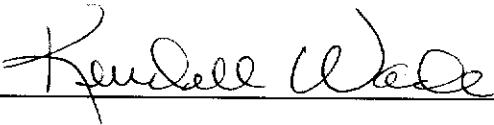
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said he didn't think the truck could be shared. Commissioner Mosconis instructed Mr. Pierce to check with the Road Department, etc. for a truck.

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD
THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED.**



CHERYL SANDERS, CHAIRMAN



KENDALL WADE, CLERK