

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
EMERGENCY MEETING  
FRANKLIN COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANNEX  
JULY 23, 2009  
9:00 AM**

**MINUTES**

**Commissioners Present:** Joseph Parrish – Chairman, Bevin Putnal – Vice Chairman, Pinki Jackel, Cheryl Sanders, Noah Lockley

**Others Present:** Marcia Johnson – Clerk of Court, Alan Pierce – Director of Administrative Services, Michael Shuler – County Attorney, Linda Phillips – Finance Director, Erin Griffith – Assistant Finance Director, Michael Morón – Board Secretary

**Emergency Meeting 10:12 AM**

Chairman Parrish called for an Emergency meeting, after recessing the Budget Workshop, to allow Board discussion and action on two matters that Mrs. Pendleton, the Property Appraiser, presented during the Budget Workshop.

The first item was Board action acknowledging that the mailing of TRIM notices by the Property Appraiser's office is an expense of the Board of County Commissioners.

**Motion by Sanders, seconded by Lockley, authorizing the Chairman's signature on the letter that acknowledges that the mailing of the TRIM notices are an expense of the Board of County Commissioners; Motion carried 5-0.**

The second item was Board approval to authorize the Chairman's signature on a letter acknowledging and approving Mrs. Pendleton's budget line item transfer that increased the base salary of two employees in her department. Mrs. Pendleton explained that the salary increases were done after her budgets were approved by both the Board and the Department of Revenue, and even though it didn't require any additional funds from the Board, the Department of Revenue required a letter from the Board acknowledging and approving this salary increase.

Richard Harper, a St. George Island resident, stated that in his opinion the Property Appraiser was violating Florida Statute.

Commissioner Sanders recommended that the Board contact Attorney Shuler for an opinion on this matter.

The Board discussed this matter and agreed.

**Recess 10:17 AM**

Chairman Parrish called for a recess until Attorney Shuler could be present.

**Reconvene 10:33 AM**

Chairman Parrish reconvened the meeting.

The Board and Mrs. Pendleton explained the situation to Attorney Shuler. Commissioner Lockley was in favor of approving this request.

**Motion by Sanders, seconded by Putnal, to direct Attorney Shuler to research this matter and present a recommendation to the Board as soon as possible; Motion carried 4-1 Lockley opposed.**

**Recess 10:45 AM**

Chairman Parrish recessed the Special Meeting until Attorney Shuler returned with a recommendation on this matter.

**Reconvene 12:21 AM**

Chairman Parrish reconvened the Special Meeting.

Attorney Shuler stated that he had been in contact with the Department of Revenue (DOR) and it was explained to him that the action of the Property Appraiser was not a violation of Florida Statute but a policy violation of DOR procedures. Attorney Shuler also stated that if the Board signed the letter acknowledging and approving Mrs. Pendleton's action, DOR would be satisfied, but if the Board did not sign the letter DOR would not approve the \$800 increase for the two employees and Mrs. Pendleton would be forced to rescind those increases.

Commissioner Putnal asked Attorney Shuler for his recommendation.

Attorney Shuler recommended that the Board approve the increase, as the representative from DOR told him that the employees of the Property Appraiser's office was on the lower end of the pay scale.

Mrs. Pendleton discussed this matter with the Board further.

**Motion by Lockley, seconded by Putnal, authorizing the Chairman's signature on the letter authorizing the line item transfer for the \$800 increase for two employees; Motion carried 5-0.**

**Adjourn 12:36 PM**

Chairman Parrish adjourned the Emergency Meeting.

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Joseph Parrish – Chairman FCBCC

Attest:

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Marcia M Johnson – Clerk of Courts