

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
FRANKLIN COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANNEX  
FEBRUARY 16, 2010  
9:00 AM**

**MINUTES**

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

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

**Call to Order (9:00 AM)**

Chairman Parrish called the meeting to order.

**Prayer and Pledge (9:00 AM)**

A Prayer was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes: January 29, 2010 Special Meeting & February 2, 2010 Regular Meeting (9:01 AM)**

**Motion by Sanders, seconded by Lockley, to approve the January 29, 2010 Special Meeting & the February 2, 2010 Regular Meeting; Motion carried 5-0.**

**Payment of County Bills (9:01 AM)**

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

**Kevin Ward – Introduce replacement at Boys & Girls Club (9:02 AM)**

Mr. Ward informed the Board that he is resigning from the Boys & Girls Club and introduced Ms Cherry Rankin as his replacement. Ms. Rankin told the Board she will be keeping them up to date on different activities going on with the Boys & Girls Club and she welcomes the Board's input. She said the hours of operation are from 3:00 PM to 6:30 PM in Carrabelle at the old

Carrabelle High School, in Apalachicola at the old Charter School, and also from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM at the Franklin County School in Eastpoint.

Commissioner Sanders stated her appreciation for the services provided by the Boys and Girls Club in the County.

**Kathryn Ingersol – Request for 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in April to be named “Tonya’s Hope Day” (9:04 AM)**

Ms. Ingersol, chairperson for Tonya’s Hope, introduced herself and Zonie Frugé, Tonya Bridges’ mother. Ms. Ingersol gave some background information on how the American Legion Post 82 in Lanark Village got involved in helping Tonya while she was ill from cancer. She said with Tonya’s blessing “Tonya’s Hope” was formed to help others in the community who are in need of financial assistance while facing hardships, due to the diagnosis of this illness, by holding fundraisers and a community yard sale the first weekend of April. Ms. Ingersol said the foundation initially benefited the citizens of Lanark Village but it has now spread to Carrabelle and she hopes to see it include the entire County. She said the benefit will be on April 3, 2010 beginning at 9:00 AM and this year, to kick off the benefit, the foundation is raffling a Carnival Cruise trip. She said there are activities planned for the entire day and applications for the benefit may be picked up at the American Legion Post 82.

Ms. Ingersol, on behalf of “Tonya’s Hope”, asked that the Board declare April 3, 2010 “Tonya’s Hope Day”.

Commissioner Sanders commended the “Tonya’s Hope” foundation for the help they provide to the citizens of Franklin County.

Chairman Parrish thanked the foundation for their services to the community.

**Motion by Sanders, seconded by Jackel, to declare April 3, 2010 as “Tonya’s Hope Day” and to have a Resolution stating the same; Motion carried 5-0.**

**Presentation of 2009 Emergency Management Plaques, presented by Pam Brownell (9:09 AM)**

Mrs. Brownell presented plaques to the following organizations:

Apalachicola Volunteer Fire Department for extra services provided to the community.

Eastpoint Church of God for opening a cold weather shelter, providing food, volunteering time and materials to paint and installing carpet for a citizen. Also a blanket and heater drive created by Sissy Smith.

Commissioner Jackel thanked both agencies for their services.

**Motion by Lockley, seconded by Jackel, to allow the Eastpoint Church of God youth to use the Chapman Elementary stage for a production for the oystermen; Motion carried 5-0.**

**Curt Blair – Hospital Board – Recommendation for Pre-construction Service Fees on Carrabelle Urgent Care Clinic (9:12 AM)**

Curt Blair, Hospital Board Vice Chairman, explained the need for Board action to approve pre-construction service fees for the Carrabelle Urgent Care Clinic. He said there is some extra work on the part of AJAX to be sure that all of the bases are covered for the project so they have requested that they receive an advance in the amount of \$16,000 for the construction project, which would be an advance on the maximum price previously agreed upon.

The Board discussed the need for the pre-construction service fees and when construction might begin.

**Motion by Lockley, seconded by Sanders, to approve payment to AJAX Construction the requested advance of service fees in the amount of \$16,000; Motion carried 5-0.**

Commissioner Jackel and Jay Smith, of AJAX, discussed the first meeting held with contractors regarding this project. Their discussion included deadlines to pre-qualify, local participation of contractors, a local contact number and the need to pre-qualify in order to bid on project. The deadline to pre-qualify for this project is March 1, 2010.

Commissioner Lockley and Mr. Smith discussed the importance of submitting paperwork on time and to call AJAX with any questions concerning the process.

Mr. Pierce verified that bids would be opened at the AJAX office and not at a FCBCC meeting, with the results being presented to the Board.

Attorney Shuler and Mr. Smith discussed when the Board would be notified of GMP once the bids were opened. Mr. Smith said it would take AJAX 7 days to go through the paperwork and report to the Board.

Mr. Smith stated that information on the bids would be made public.

Commissioner Sanders and Mr. Smith discussed the need for AJAX and the County to work together on this project.

**James Harris – Tax Collector – Update (9:28 AM)**

Mr. Harris updated the Board on tax collections. He said it is time to advertise for the delinquent personal property tax roll, two newspapers have requested advertising and he requested that the Board approve an RFP for a flat rate per parcel, which would save some of the advertising cost absorbed by the taxpayer.

The Board discussed this matter further.

Attorney Shuler and Chairman Parrish discussed a possible problem with the timeline and qualifications for both of the newspapers to advertise.

Mr. Harris said he needed to know the cost of advertising before he could send out his second notices, which he normally sends out on March 15<sup>th</sup>, but he said that date isn't set in stone.

Commissioner Jackel asked about a flat rate for the combined parcels and Mr. Harris said it had to be determined before he sends out his second notices and advertising fees had to be per parcel or per line.

Commissioner Lockley and Mr. Harris discussed splitting advertising between both local newspapers.

Mr. Harris discussed a need for a reduction on the advertising rate because Franklin County pays one of the highest rates than any other counties in the State.

Attorney Shuler suggested "piggy backing" off recent bid amount as an option.

Attorney Shuler and Commissioner Jackel discussed the need to qualify both newspapers and if only one is qualified, the Board would ask the newspaper to go with the previously determined price quoted for County advertisement business.

The Board discussed this matter further.

**Motion by Lockley, seconded by Sanders, to approve advertising for an RFP for a flat rate per parcel advertisement fee; Motion carried 5-0.**

**Motion by Jackel that in the event that only one newspaper is qualified to advertise, to direct Attorney Shuler to ask the qualified newspaper to accept advertising price at the previously agreed upon County advertising rate; Motion failed due to a lack of a second.**

#### **Department Supervisors Report**

##### **Hubert Chipman – Superintendent of Public Works (9:39 AM)**

Mr. Chipman explained that the Road Dept. is overwhelmed with recent calls requesting driveway repairs so it is taking longer to get to some of the problems with the roads throughout the County. He updated the Board on some of the ongoing projects with the Road Dept. The Board discussed the problems the rain has caused throughout the County.

The Board and Mr. Chipman discussed problems caused by beaver dams throughout the County.

Mr. Pierce and Mr. Mahan commented on this problem and said there were permits the Road Dept. could obtain from FWC in order to eliminate the beavers.

Commissioner Lockley suggested having inmate labor crews be assigned to keep ditches in each district cleaned and maintained to eliminate this problem.

Commissioner Sanders discussed the importance of mosquito control assisting with monitoring the ditches.

**Motion by Lockley, seconded by Jackel, to request that the Dept. of Corrections allow inmate labor crews to assist the Road Dept. with keeping the ditches cleared in each district in the County; Motion carried 5-0.**

##### **Van Johnson – Solid Waste Director (9:48 AM)**

Mr. Johnson had no items for Board action and/or approval.

**Open bids – Lights at DW Wilson Park (9:50 AM)**

Mr. Pierce opened and read the bids:

Aaron's Electric - \$28,275.00

Alternative Electric - \$27,647.00

**Motion by Sanders, seconded by Putnal, to forward bids to Mr. Johnson for a recommendation; Motion carried 5-0.**

Commissioner Lockley and Mr. Johnson discussed the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual African American Festival being held in Apalachicola on February 20, 2010. There will be a parade and a ribbon cutting ceremony followed by food and festivities.

**Mr. Pierce presented the following item from his report.**

7- At a previous meeting the Board discussed filling a vacancy in the Parks and Rec Department. I had discussed the possibility with the Board of utilizing 3 temporary full time maintenance workers funded through the Gulf Coast Work Force Board. While those 3 positions are still coming, it has taken longer than I expected and spring and the need to get the baseball fields in order is upon us. The Board, on Jan. 9, made a motion to allow Parks and Rec to advertise the position with a starting salary of \$20,000. Upon review of the last hires in Parks and Rec, Solid Waste, and Road Dept., the base starting salary has been \$21,200. Board action to recognize the base starting salary in those departments is \$21,200 and to continue with the advertising for the position.

Commissioner Lockley asked about the Work Force positions and Mr. Pierce explained that the Gulf Coast Workforce was doing the qualification process for potential employees and would forward the information to himself or Mr. Johnson so that they could interview and select employees. Mr. Pierce said the positions will be temporary full time positions that will last for a period of six months with a salary of \$10 per hour.

**Motion by Lockley, seconded by Putnal, to approve a starting salary of \$21,200 for the vacant Park and Recreation Dept. position; Motion carried 5-0.**

**Dan Rothwell – County Engineer (9:56 AM)**

**1. BOARD ACTION: Apalachicola Airport Hangar**

*Staff desires Board approval to pay construction invoice #3 for \$37,655.10 with balance to finish including retainage is \$795,172.50.*

**Motion by Lockley, seconded by Jackel, to approve payment of construction invoice #3 in the amount of \$37,655.10 for the Apalachicola Airport Hangar; Motion carried 5-0.**

**2. East Gorrie Drive Drainage Work:**

*New gutters are complete and resurfacing should be complete this week.*

**3. 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Apalachicola Drainage:**

*Staff has met with the residents at the Commissioner's request and staff believes a topographic survey will indicated what the best drainage system repair should be.*

**4. Sas Road Drainage:**

*Staff will survey and make recommendations for a solution of an existing drainage challenge.*

**5. Parking Recommendation for Dr. Miniatt's Office:**

*Staff believes that the lot should be made 12' deeper east into the lot toward the building and extended north toward the hospital entrance which will allow an off street lane in the lot to allow safe merging with existing traffic flow.*

Chairman Parrish and Mr. Rothwell discussed having Board action on this item at an upcoming meeting before C.W. Roberts has completed the paving project in Apalachicola.

Mr. Rothwell updated the Board with information that C.W. Roberts is going to move the road paving project to Apalachicola once they have completed paving on St. George Island.

Mr. Rothwell and the Board discussed the ABC School parking lot project.

**Motion by Lockley, seconded by Sanders, to direct Mr. Rothwell to ask the Franklin County School Board to pay for the paving of the ABC School parking lot; Motion carried 5-0.**

Commissioner Putnal asked Mr. Rothwell to look into possible pavement issues with roads crossing over the newly paved Avenue A in Eastpoint.

Commissioner Sanders mentioned the speed limits and crosswalks in Alligator Point. She asked Mr. Rothwell to look into traffic calming devices also and there is a contractor who is willing to install them with no cost to the County.

**Motion by Sanders, seconded by Jackel, to direct Mr. Rothwell to look into traffic calming devices that are being used in Leon County for possible use in Alligator Point, as soon as possible; Motion carried 5-0.**

Commissioner Jackel spoke about repaving Highway 98 between Eastpoint and Carrabelle. She said it has been designated as part of the scenic route, it is a main thoroughfare and it is the escape route for the County. She believed if any road in the State of Florida deserved repaving it was this stretch of highway. She said complaints had been made to DOT about this with no results.

Mr. Pierce suggested contacting Legislative Delegation concerning this matter. The Board discussed this matter further.

Commissioner Sanders suggested contacting NWFTA (North West Florida Transportation Authority) also.

**Motion by Jackel, seconded by Lockley, to contact Legislative Delegation and the NWFTA on about repaving and making repairs to a section of Highway 98 between Eastpoint and Carrabelle; Motion carried 5-0.**

**Pam Brownell – Emergency Management (10:07 AM)**

Mrs. Brownell had no items for Board action and/or discussion.

*Action Items: None*

*Information Items:*

1. *Catholic Charities helped 27 families in Franklin County in response to the economic crisis we are now experiencing.*
2. *The Salvation Army is now in the process of reviewing the Assessment Forms that were faxed for the Seafood Workers Association. They will be contacting individuals next week for interviews.*
3. *Second Harvest gave out 500 food packages at the Seafood Workers Association Meeting last week.*

Mrs. Brownell said the Salvation Army is conducting interviews today, February 2, 2010 at the EOC office in Apalachicola.

Commissioner Putnal stated the need for immediate action to assist the seafood workers and the need to change the management plan.

The Board and Mr. Pierce discussed the response from State agencies and their displeasure with FWC's actions regarding the Bay.

Commissioner Sanders thanked Mrs. Brownell for communicating well with the Commissioners.

Mrs. Brownell discussed the good relationship with the non-profit organizations in the County that allows her to keep the Board and the County updated.

Joe Taylor, Franklin's Promise/Bay Aid Franklin, updated the Board on donations received for BayAid. He said it isn't the numbers they would like to see and said people could donate by credit card or paypal at their website, [www.bayaidfranklin.com](http://www.bayaidfranklin.com).

Commissioner Putnal and Mrs. Brownell discussed the need for seafood workers to apply for unemployment so the State would have statistics to authorize an Economic Disaster declaration.

Commissioner Putnal also suggested creating a long term plan to create a “rainy day” funding source for the seafood workers, once the economy straightens out.

**Van Johnson – Solid Waste Director (10:18 AM)**

**Motion by Sanders, seconded by Lockley, to confirm Mr. Johnson’s recommendation to accept the low bid of Alternative Electric for the D. W. Wilson lighting project; Motion carried 5-0.**

Chairman Parrish asked Mr. Johnson to have this project expedited.

**Bill Mahan – Extension Office Director (10:19 AM)**

Mr. Mahan had no items for Board action and/or approval.

*Franklin - UF IFAS Updates:*

*Bay Management Plan – As requested by the Board, I placed in your mailboxes a copy of the FDACS Apalachicola Bay Harvesting Area Boundaries and Management Plan, Oyster Harvest Rules and the closing criteria. In addition, I emailed these documents to you.*

*Next FWC Meeting – The FWC will convene its next meeting at the Franklin County Courthouse in Apalachicola Feb. 17-18. The meeting will come to order at 8:30 a.m. both days, with numerous high-profile issues dominating the agenda.*

*New Proposed “Summer” Oyster Harvesting Times – The new Summer (May – October) Oyster Harvesting times for harvesters using no refrigeration/cooling are: May – 6:45 AM to 11:30 AM; June – 6:30 AM to 11:15 AM; July – 6:45 AM to 11:30 AM; August – 7:00 AM to 11:45 AM; September 7:15 AM to 12:00 PM; and October – 7:30 AM to 12:15 PM. These harvest times will require processor cool-down times to be reduced from 8-hours to 6-hours to reach the illness reduction goal due to the higher air temperatures during the harvest period.*

The Board discussed this matter further.

**Recess (10:22 AM)**

Chairman Parrish called for a recess.

**Reconvene (10:35 AM)**

Chairman Parrish reconvened the meeting.



**Presentation of funding request to Congressman Boyd (10:35 AM)**

Steve Otwell, University of Florida, Kevin Begos, Seafood Task Force and Taunya James, Franklin County Seafood Workers Association, who have formed a partnership together, addressed the Board and discussed the Partnership Request. Mr. Otwell said they are seeking the support of the Commissioners in advancing a joint request for special Federal research and education funds to address the prevailing mandates for oyster product safety and the necessary measures for sustainable resource. He said the request will be directed through Congressman Allen Boyd and his staff, with the expectations that the funds would be directed through the established funding routes at the University of Florida with subcontracts going to the Seafood Task Force and the Franklin County Seafood Workers Association. He said these funds would be used for salaries, supplies, equipment and related travel to maintain the commerce of a safe reputable employment and the associated employment in community values. Mr. Otwell said, if successful, these funds would probably not be available until the fall of 2010. He asked the Board for their recognition and support by ranking this as the number one request for Federal Support for Franklin County in 2010. Mr. Otwell said the tentative request is for \$800,000 with a full expectation that will be cut.

Commissioner Jackel asked if any of the funds would be earmarked for the seafood workers to have refrigeration on their boats and Mr. Otwell said the funds will not be itemized until June of 2010.

Commissioner Lockley, Mr. Otwell and Mr. Begos discussed how the funds would be split between salary and equipment purchase.

Commissioner Jackel and Mr. Otwell discussed the duration of the grant and possible cuts in grant funding.

Commissioner Putnal was in support of this project, especially of its long term benefits and the need for the seafood workers to be able to help themselves.

Commissioner Jackel asked if there would be any other requests made to Congressman Boyd and Mr. Pierce stated that this would be the best time to make any requests.

**Motion by Putnal, seconded by Lockley, to support and rank this Partnership Request project as the County's number one request to Congressman Boyd for Federal funding; Motion carried 5-0.**

Commissioners Jackel and Sanders discussed the need to dredge the Eastpoint Channel and wanted to make this the number two priority and funding request. Commissioner Sanders wanted to be sure that the County received funding and that the funding stayed with it.

**Motion by Jackel, seconded by Putnal, to rank the dredging of the Eastpoint Channel as the number two request to Congressman Boyd for Federal funding; Motion carried 5-0.**

Chairman Parrish said he agreed with his fellow Commissioners because the Eastpoint Channel is in terrible shape.

Commissioner Lockley wanted a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) in Carrabelle.

**Motion by Lockley, seconded by Jackel, to rank the Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) in Carrabelle as the number 3 request to Congressman Boyd's for Federal funding; Motion carried 5-0.**

The Board thanked Mr. Otwell, Mr. Begos and Ms. James for attending the meeting.

**Presentation – City of Tallahassee – Lake Talquin Dam Improvements (10:51 AM)**

Commissioner Sanders provided some background information on this item, stating that the County has had some extreme flooding in the past two years and last April Franklin, Wakulla and Liberty Counties had come together to try to get answers as to why the Apalachicola River is flooding.

Rob McGarrah, Manager of Power Generation for the City of Tallahassee's Electric Utility, Kevin Wales, General Manager for the City of Tallahassee's Electric Utility, and Gordon King, Plant Manager for Corn Hydro Electric Facility, were in attendance with a presentation for the Board.

Mr. McGarrah gave some background and explained operations of the Corn Hydro Electric Facility. He said the water that feeds Lake Talquin comes from the 1,720 square mile drainage basin that stretches up into South Georgia. He explained how the fuse plugs and spillways operate and what would happen in the event of extreme flooding. He said if there is ever water going across the Earthen Emergency Spillway it will start eroding away and once that happens there will be an uncontrolled release of water. He said it wouldn't be a gradual event, it would happen quickly and it would be a wave of water coming down the River with no way to stop it. He said the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) told them they had to come up with a way to avoid this from happening and after working with FERC and the engineering firm they centered on a new concrete OG Spillway, which would replace the Earthen Emergency Spillway. Mr. McGarrah explained further how the new OG Spillway would work, the cost of the project and also the need to construct it outside of hurricane season. He said there have been concerns raised about a species of mussels and a Bald Eagle's nest in the area, which might be affected by the construction of the spillway but they didn't believe this would affect either species but would be monitoring the situation during construction activities.

Mr. McGarrah said they are in the process of finalizing permitting with the Water Management District and DEP and expected to begin construction in 2010 and complete the project by June 2011. He said there will not be any impacts downstream during the installation of the concrete spillway.

Commissioner Putnal asked if it was a possibility that Talquin Electric could increase the amount of electricity that would allow the expansion of electrical services to Franklin County and Mr. McGarrah said the City of Tallahassee has looked into the possibility of expanding services but the Dam doesn't generate enough electricity to make that possible.

Commissioner Lockley asked how Talquin Electric rates compare to Progress Energy and Mr. McGarrah said their rates are the same or slightly higher.

Commissioner Sanders asked if this project was Federally mandated and was it an unfunded mandate. Mr. McGarrah said it was paid solely by the rate payers and it was a condition of the operating license to maintain the safety and stability of the facility.

Commissioner Sanders and Mr. McGarrah discussed the releasing of water downstream once the lake is full.

Mr. McGarrah discussed the requirements of the lease agreement between the State and the City of Tallahassee and how it affects the release of excess waters and the impact on the residents along the Lake and also the instructional integrity of the Dam.

Commissioner Sanders stated that last March there was too much water released from the Lake that negatively affected the residents of Franklin County. Mr. McGarrah explained that had the gates been closed during this event, because of the rain north of the dam, the dam would have failed and much more water would have been released, which would have hurt the County much more drastically.

Commissioner Lockley and Mr. McGarrah discussed the City of Tallahassee's responsibility and liability for residents whose homes are destroyed because of water being released from the Dam.

Commissioner Jackel and Mr. McGarrah discussed who sets the criteria and monitors and regulates the water released from the Dam.

The Board and Mr. McGarrah discussed how the released waters affect Franklin County and the reason for the water being released at certain times. Mr. McGarrah said in the event that the waters will be released, emails, along with other avenues of notification are sent out to the EOC departments in the areas which might be affected.

Commissioner Sanders made additional comments concerning river gauges and damaged homes. She said it seemed as though there were water wars on both sides of Franklin County. Paul Renard, lives on Crooked River, said he had not heard Talquin Electric speak about anything that would positively affect the residents who live downstream. He said all he has heard them speak about is the integrity of the Dam. He believed there needed to be more attention paid to river gauges and he didn't believe that the EOC was able to give their input concerning the release of water.

Roy McCleod, Franklin County Resident, questioned the representatives on how much revenue this Dam produces for the City of Tallahassee. He said he didn't have a problem with them putting up a new structure at the Dam but he did have a problem with them not having electronic gauges installed on the affected rivers.

Commissioner Lockley wanted to contact Federal Legislative Delegation to have some type of gauges installed, which will notify residents who might be affected, of the release of water.

Commissioner Putnal and Mr. Renard discussed what systems could be used to notify the residents and prevent flooding downstream and also whose responsibility it is to notify residents of the rising water level.

Chairman Parrish discussed the new WIN system that will be instituted by the Sheriff's Department, which could send notifications to the residents along the rivers.

Commissioner Lockley believed that the Federal Government should mandate that Talquin Electric have some type of notification process in the event they need to release excessive amounts of water.

**Motion by Lockley, seconded by Sanders, to send a letter to Federal Legislative Delegation to institute some type of gauges or instruments and notification system that would notify residents downstream of the Lake Talquin Dam when large water amounts will be released; Motion carried 5-0.**

Commissioner Sanders said because there has been no solution given for this situation, she has proposed a Resolution of Support.

Mr. Pierce read the Resolution of Support, which opposes Northwest Florida Water Management District issuing any permits to the City of Tallahassee for the reconstruction of the Corn Hydro Flow Dam because of the hazardous conditions which might be created by this project.

**Motion by Sanders, seconded by Lockley, to authorize the Resolution of Support; Motion carried 5-0.**

Chairman Parrish thanked the representatives for attending the meeting and their presentation.

**Open bids – Litter Collection on Apalachicola/Eastpoint Bridge and St. George Island (11:45 AM)**

Mr. Pierce opened and read the bids.

RJP Construction Services - \$61,243.00 - 3 times per week; the timeline would be 3/1 – 9/30  
Captain David's Lawn Maintenance - \$32,860.00 – 3 times per week; the timeline would be 3/1 – 9/30

**Motion by Jackel, seconded by Lockley, to turn bids over to County Staff to review and give recommendation by the end of the meeting; Motion carried 5-0.**

The Board discussed the State's role in the clean-up of these roads, the County having to pay for these services and asking the State for reimbursement.

Fred Ryan, Green Leaf Systems, stated that there is equipment that the County could purchase and use County labor to do this job and he thought that these bids were too high.

Mr. Pierce said Mr. Ryan's system would not work on the bridges.

**Open Proposals – Compensation and Job Classification Study (11:57 AM)**

Mr. Pierce opened, read the bids and suggested that a committee review these RFP's.

Quest Management Consultants, Greenville, Florida - Not to exceed \$11,000.00  
Evergreen Solutions, Tallahassee, Florida - Not to exceed \$15,000.00  
Codie & Associates, Cocoa Beach, Florida - Not to exceed \$6,500.00 plus expenses  
Statowski, Apalachicola, Florida - Not to exceed \$13,500  
The Board discussed whether or not they wanted to move forward with this project.

**Motion by Sanders, seconded by Jackel, to form a committee of Alan Pierce, Marcia Johnson, and Linda Phillips to review this information and forward a recommendation to the Board; Motion carried 5-0.**

**Advisory Board of Adjustment – Report (12:05 PM)**

Mr. Pierce presented the request.

*1. Approve a request for a variance to construct a house one foot above the 9 ft. maximum height limit above grade on property described as Lot 6, Block N of an unrecorded subdivision at St. Teresa, further described as 3978 St. Teresa Avenue. Request submitted by Glen Jager, agent for John and Brianne Smith, owners. The overall height will be under the county's maximum height limit.*

**Motion by Sanders, seconded by Lockley, to approve a request for a variance to construct a house one foot above the maximum height limit below the house; Motion carried 5-0.**

**Planning & Zoning Commission – Report (12:06 PM)**

Mr. Pierce presented the request.

**CRITICAL SHORELINE APPLICATIONS:**

*1. Approve (Unanimous) Consideration of a request to construct a single family Private Dock located on Lot 27, Block B, Magnolia Bluff, 289 Magnolia Bay Drive, Eastpoint, Franklin County, Florida. This dock walkway will be 85' x 4' and have an 8' x 20' platform and meets all state, federal and local requirements. Request submitted by Docks 4 Less, agent for Pandora and/or Ryan Schlitt, applicant.*

**Motion by Jackel, seconded by Putnal, to approve construction of a single family private dock on Lot 27 Block B Magnolia Bluff; Motion carried 5-0.**

**LOT RECONFIGURATION:**

*2. Approve (Unanimous) Consideration of a request to re-configure the lot lines of Lot 72 and 73, Holiday Beach, Unit 1, 76 Fiesta Drive, Alligator Point, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by Tom Edwards, applicant.*

**ALLIGATOR POINT FIRE STATION:**

3. Approve (Unanimous- John Murphy stepped down due to conflict of interest. He is a member of the Alligator Point Fire Department) Consideration of a request to allow the use of a Fire Station to be under the "Principal Uses" in the A-2 Forestry Agriculture Zoning Regulations.

**Motion by Sanders, seconded by Lockley, to approve reconfiguration of Lots 72 & 73 Holiday Beach and to approve the request to put the Alligator Point Fire Dept. under "Principal Uses" in the A-2 Forestry Agriculture Zoning Regulations; Motion carried 5-0.**

**Marcia M. Johnson – Clerk of Courts – Report (12:07 PM)**

Mrs. Johnson was attending an important Clerk conference in Tallahassee and had no report for the Board.

**Alan Pierce – Director of Administrative Services – Report (12:07 PM)**

Mr. Pierce presented his report to the Board.

1- Inform the Board that the Dept. of Community Affairs has notified the county that it has found the recent comprehensive plan amendments to be In Compliance. The Notice will be published in the paper on Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>. The St. Joe Company, or any interested party, will have 21 days to file an appeal with the Division of Administrative Hearing over DCA's finding. There is a longer timeline if St. Joe wants to file a Bert Harris claim.

2- At a previous Board meeting, the Board requested the Health Dept. amend their fee schedule to delete a \$20 Lab Collection fee. The Health Dept. has done so, and the Board needs to accept the Health Dept. amended fee schedule by motion. Board action.

**Motion by Putnal, seconded by Lockley, to accept the Health Dept.'s amended fee schedule; Motion carried 5-0.**

3- Inform the Board that the Escambia County Housing Authority, of which Franklin County is a member, has notified the county that it has funds available to help first time home buyers with Down Payment Assistance Funds, and a 4.79% interest rate on mortgages which they say is the lowest in the state.

**Motion by Lockley, seconded by Jackel, to inform the SHIP program and Franklin Housing Board of the availability of these funds; Motion carried 5-0.**

4- Inform the Board that Governance has submitted an Energy Efficiency and Conservation grant for Stimulus funding. It is a \$500,000 grant request that has three parts- an energy audit and retrofit of windows for the Courthouse; an energy audit and retrofit of the Carrabelle City Hall complex, and a proposal to install 25KW worth of solar panels on the courthouse annex to generate electricity. While there were other needs the county was capped at submitting one

*\$500,000 grant. The county would have been capped at \$250,000, but by making it a joint application with another jurisdiction the cap was raised to \$500,000.*

*Governance is also working with the Alligator Point Fire Department in submitting a grant to help pay for a new fire station.*

*At some point in February, the USDOT will announce the award of TIGER grants and Governance applied on behalf of the county for a \$2.5M grant to fix the Alligator Point Road. The County has been seeking multiple solutions to the road in the hope that at least one will work out.*

*5- The City of Apalachicola has applied to the USDA for funding to build a new fire station. The City is pledging part of its fire tax revenues for the payment. Since the county receives the payments and then in turn transfers the apportioned fire MSBU to the different fire departments, the USDA wants assurance that the city and the county have an agreement to do this. The City and the County had an agreement in 1995 but it expired in 2001 and was never renewed. This new agreement is valid till 2015 and then renews automatically, which is the language USDA wants. The County Attorney has required the Agreement also say that it can be terminated by either party upon 60 days notice. The Agreement does not bind the county to remit any specific amount but only that the city will receive its share of MSBU revenues for property west of Apalachicola which is what it has been receiving all along. Board action to approve Agreement.*

**Motion by Putnal, seconded by Sanders, to approve renewal of the MSBU agreement between the City of Apalachicola and the County; Motion carried 5-0.**

*6- Board action to sign a \$100,000 grant with Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) for a re-shelling program. DACS would provide the shell in addition to the funds to pay the seafood workers to move the shell to the bars. The Seafood Task Force and Seafood Workers should be here to discuss their joint role in this project, but the idea is for the county to receive the funds and then the county would sub out the administration and implementation of the program to these other groups. Board action after hearing from other groups.*

**Motion by Lockley, seconded by Sanders, to approve signing a \$100,000 grant with DACS for a re-shelling program; Motion carried 5-0.**

*7- At a previous meeting the Board discussed filling a vacancy in the Parks and Rec Department. I had discussed the possibility with the Board of utilizing 3 temporary full time maintenance workers funded through the Gulf Coast Work Force Board. While those 3 positions are still coming, it has taken longer than I expected and spring and the need to get the baseball fields in order is upon us. The Board, on Jan. 9, made a motion to allow Parks and Rec to advertise the position with a starting salary of \$20,000. Upon review of the last hires in Parks and Rec, Solid Waste, and Road Dept., the base starting salary has been \$21,200. Board action to recognize the base starting salary in those departments is \$21,200 and to continue with the advertising for the position.*

This item was discussed earlier in the meeting.

*8- Airport Update-*

*A) At the last meeting the Board tabled an award of bids for two projects pending further review by the consulting engineers. That review has been complete and the airport engineers are here to make a recommendation.*

*B) Mr. Dan Garlick turned in a letter to Mr. Ted Mosteller, Airport Manager, dated Jan. 21, informing him that he is vacating his lease at the airport. Mr. Garlick signed a multi-year lease for a hanger and approximately 3000 sq. ft. of office space. In his letter Mr. Garlick has offered to continue to pay for the use of the hanger only at \$750 per month, or restructure his overall lease payments.*

*Mr. Garlick's current lease payment is \$2570.83 plus taxes. The Airport Advisory Committee prefers to have the building occupied and recommends Mr. Garlick's lease is reduced by 40% to \$1542.50 plus appropriate taxes for one year and then re-evaluate. The Committee also recommends the Board look for someone willing to lease the hanger at the original price and if some tenant is found that Mr. Garlick be given the right of first refusal.*

Item A:

*Ralph Rish, AVCON, said for the Stormwater Improvement Project Phase I at the Apalachicola Regional Airport, AVCON recommended that the Board disqualify the low bidder of Sikes Concrete, Inc. in the amount of \$396,706.56 for various reasons, including but not limited to, omissions in their bid package and recommended that the Board award the bid to the lowest responsive bidder, which is GAC Contracting, in the amount of \$410,618.16*

**Motion by Sanders, seconded by Lockley, to approve AVCON's recommendation of awarding bid to GAC Contracting in the amount of \$410,618.16 for the Storm Water Improvement Project Phase I at the Apalachicola Airport; Motion carried 5-0.**

Ralph Rish, AVCON, said for the Utility System Expansion at the Apalachicola Regional Airport, AVCON recommended that the Board disqualify the low bidder of Sikes Concrete, Inc. in the amount of \$109,737.74 for various reasons, including but not limited to, omissions in their bid package and recommended that the Board award the bid to the lowest responsive bidder, which is GAC Contracting, in the \$113,080.80.

**Motion by Lockley, seconded by Sanders, to approve AVCON's recommendation of awarding bid to GAC Contracting in the amount of \$113,080.80 for the Utility System Expansion Project at the Apalachicola Regional Airport; Motion carried 5-0.**

Item B:

**Motion by Lockley, seconded by Jackel, to accept the Airport Advisory Committees recommendation to reduce Mr. Garlick's lease by 40% to \$1542.50 plus appropriate taxes for**



**one year and then re-evaluate and also look for someone willing to lease the hanger at the original price and if some tenant is found that Mr. Garlick be given the right of first refusal; Motion carried 5-0.**

*9- Yesterday the Board was notified that the Coast Guard is re-evaluating Carrabelle as the homeport for the Cutter SEAHAWK. The Coast Guard is considering relocating the Cutter to either the Coast Guard Station in Panama City or the Naval Air Station in Pensacola. Board action to object to the relocation with copies to our federal legislators.*

**Motion by Sanders, seconded by Putnal, to send a letter to Federal Legislative Delegation objecting the relocation of the Cutter Seahawk and to send a copy of the letter to the City of Carrabelle; Motion carried 5-0.**

Commissioner Jackel asked Mr. Pierce to read a statement from the Property Appraiser's Office for the general public with information regarding a Senior's Exemption along with the Homestead Exemption.

**Michael Shuler – County Attorney – Report (12:20 PM)**

Attorney Shuler had no report for the Board.

**Commissioners and Public Comments (12:21 PM)**

Commissioner Jackel stated that she had not received any response from Bobby Pickels of Progress Energy regarding Progress Energy's offer to work with residents of Franklin County and their utility bills.

**Motion by Jackel, seconded by Lockley, to approve Board attendance at Legislative Day for the Florida Association of Counties on March 25 – 26, 2010, to include travel expenses and registration fees; Motion carried 5-0.**

Commissioner Lockley mentioned a house in Lanark Village that was deeded to the County once the owner was deceased. He said the house needs renovation and wanted to know if this can be done with SHIP funds.

**Motion by Lockley, seconded by Sanders, to direct Attorney Shuler to research the County's options regarding this house; Motion carried 5-0.**

The Board discussed different options on what to do with this house.

Mr. Pierce recommended awarding the bid for litter control on Apalachicola/Eastpoint Bridge & St. George Island Bridge to the low bidder, Captain David's Lawn Maintenance, contingent upon the County's Insurance policy.

**Motion by Sanders, seconded by Jackel, to approve recommendation and award the bid to Captain David's Lawn Maintenance, contingent upon the County's Insurance Policy making sure that the insurance he is proposing with the County's requirements, for litter control on Apalachicola/Eastpoint Bridge & St. George Island Bridge; Motion carried 5-0.**

Commissioner Putnal discussed the need to change management plans when they are causing problems.

Commissioner Sanders ask Mr. Pierce to forward the Resolution of Support to the Northwest Florida Water Management District (NFWFMD), Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Mike Sole at the Department of Environmental Protection, Federal and State Legislative Delegations and the Governor.

Commissioner Sanders said she would like to attend and represent the County at the NFWFMD meeting on February 25, 2010 to let them know about this Resolution of Support.

**Motion by Jackel, seconded by Putnal, to have Commissioner Sanders attend and represent Franklin County at the Northwest Florida Water Management District Meeting on February 25, 2010; Motion carried 5-0.**

Chairman Parrish said due to a scheduling conflict, he will not be able to attend Congressman Boyd's Health Council Meeting on February 19<sup>th</sup> but Chuck Colvert will attend and represent Franklin County.

Maria Williams, NWR Bear Management, distributed information regarding bears in the County and discussed retrofitted garbage cans. She suggested that Waste Service Providers be required to provide bear proof garbage cans as a "free of charge" option to County residents. Ms. Williams suggested that the County promote tourism with the possibility of sighting black bears. She said that "playing dead" does not keep a black bear from attacking humans. She also said that litter causes the bears to come to the roads and causes problems. Commissioner Putnal discussed his experience with bears.

Mr. Sikes, of Sikes Concrete, Inc., discussed his bid being disqualified by Mr. Lewis of AVCON. He believed that his company was still qualified because of a motion made by the Board. He said that all of his references were good and he didn't understand why he had been disqualified.

Attorney Shuler told Mr. Sikes that the Board considered but did not actually pass a motion waiving the failure to provide the documents at the original time the bids were submitted.

**Adjourn (12:44 PM)**

There being no further business, Chairman Parrish adjourned the meeting.

---

Joseph Parrish – Chairman FCBCC

Attest:

---

Marcia M. Johnson – Clerk of Courts