

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
FRANKLIN COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANNEX  
APRIL 6, 2010  
9:00 AM**

**MINUTES**

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

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

**Call to Order (9:03 AM)**

Chairman Parrish called the meeting to order.

**Prayer and Pledge (9:03 AM)**

There was a Prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Payment of County Bills (9:04 AM)**

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

**Approval of Minutes – March 16, 2010 Regular Meeting (9:05 AM)**

**Motion by Putnal, seconded by Lockley, to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2010 regular meeting; Motion carried 5-0.**

**Sheriff Skip Shiver (9:05 AM)**

Sheriff Shiver addressed the Board and asked that everyone keep Sgt. Wayne Nash of the Sheriff's Office and his family in their prayers and thoughts as he is being deployed to Afghanistan. He also invited everyone to a luncheon at the Sheriff's Office today for Sgt. Nash.

Sheriff Shiver presented a plaque to the Board from the Emerald Coast Warriors in appreciation of their outstanding support of Emerald Warrior 10. He said the group said it was some of the best training they have ever had.

Mr. Pierce said this group organized this military training exercise and said they would like to come back.

Chairman Parrish accepted the plaque on behalf of Board and said receiving it was an honor. He also said he appreciated the community's patience with the noise during the training exercises.

### **James Harris – Tax Collector (9:09 AM)**

Mr. Harris informed the Board that 81% of the Tax Roll had been collected, which was the same as last year. He recommended that the Board advertise the May 28, 2010 Tax Sale in the Panama City News Herald at a cost of \$712.80 and Tallahassee Democrat at a cost of \$709.50. Mr. Harris mentioned that one of the prior major bidders, who normally buys around \$250,000 worth of certificates, would not be bidding this year and encouraged the Board to start considering setting aside at least \$250,000 in reserve for unsold certificates for future years. He said the County might have to hold these certificates until they are redeemed, which would cause the County a shortfall in the budget.

Commissioner Jackel and Mr. Harris discussed the amount of unsold certificates last year.

Mr. Harris discussed the County applying for tax deeds on unpaid certificates and wanted the Board to be aware that if they apply for tax deeds they are forcing the property owner to either pay their taxes or have their property sold on the Courthouse steps. He said he does everything in his power to notify property owners of a pending tax deed application to help them avoid losing their property.

Mr. Harris said the Tax Roll would be advertised for three weeks in the local newspaper Chronicle.

**Motion by Lockley, seconded by Jackel, to advertise the May 28, 2010 Tax Sale in the Panama City News Herald and the Tallahassee Democrat newspapers; Motion carried 5-0.**

### **Department Supervisor Report**

#### **Hubert Chipman – Superintendent of Public Work (9:15 AM)**

Mr. Chipman requested additional milled asphalt for road repairs throughout the County.

Mr. Chipman stated that the price of crushed shells has increased from \$19.50 to \$30.00 per ton. He said it is good stuff and people ask for it all of the time.

Commissioner Lockley asked Mr. Chipman to apply some milled asphalt to the parking lot at the Hospital.

Commissioner Putnal suggested telling FDOT that the County is interested in getting any milled asphalt that is available but Mr. Pierce said they won't do that, they only give milled asphalt for immediate needs.

Commissioner Putnal asked Mr. Chipman to be sure Old Ferry Dock Road is repaired.

**Motion by Sanders, seconded by Putnal, to direct Mr. Chipman and Mr. Pierce to create a list of roads in need of immediate repairs and request milled asphalt from FDOT; Motion carried 5-0.**

Commissioner Sanders asked that Dewitt Polous, Director of Mosquito Control, is contacted about starting mosquito control in the County. She said she was concerned about the heavy rains causing problems with mosquitoes.

The Board and Mr. Chipman discussed filling the vacant position at the Road Dept.

**Van Johnson – Solid Waste Director (9:21 AM)**

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

Commissioner Jackel discussed an email she received regarding issues with the trash condition of the bathrooms and public parking area at the Lighthouse on St. George Island. She said Mr. Johnson is short on employees and believed the Board needed to help with a solution that would allow assistance for Mr. Johnson and his Parks and Recreation Department.

Mr. Pierce discussed two new programs that will begin soon. He said the County will be picking up five new Gulf Coast Workforce employees, three of which were from the litter control program. He said these employees would have to be trained and should be employed fairly quickly. Mr. Pierce said the Gulf Coast Workforce Board is seeking stimulus funds to employ up to fifty more people in Franklin County and will have 95% of the cost for the employees. He said a meeting was going to be held this Thursday, April 8th at 10:00 AM at the Annex. He said he will be requesting five employees for Franklin County and it would be at the Board's discretion as to which departments the employees are placed.

Commissioner Lockley and Mr. Johnson discussed filling the vacant position at the Parks & Recreation Dept.

Mr. Johnson asked that the employees be able to work on the weekends.

Commissioner Jackel asked who was in charge of accepting applications and doing the hiring.

Mr. Pierce said he believed you have to be eligible to receive the Workforce requirements, which he explained, to the best of his knowledge.

There was further discussion on this matter.

**Alan Pierce – Report Item #8 (9:31 AM)**

*8- Inform Board that the GulfCoast Workforce Board is holding a workshop here in the Annex this Thursday, April 8, from 10 to 12 PM, for any private or public employer who wants to learn more about the possibility of increasing their workforce through a temporary program where the Workforce would reimburse for up to 95% of an employee's salary and benefits for a six month period. Attendance is mandatory and I will attend for the county. (It is my observation*

*this program has been developed because the first concept of Stimulus in the shovel-ready projects did not create jobs so the federal government is trying something else). Ms. Sheila Howser, Workforce member, may want to add a few words.*

*At this time the Workforce Board is reserving 5 positions for the county commission if the county is interested in creating 5 temporary full-time positions in its workforce. (These are 5 more in addition to the 3 we are currently trying to fill for Parks and Rec. The first 3 do not have a cost share). Each position would cost the county approximately \$3000 over a six month time, so five positions would cost \$7,500 over a six month time. The county has one vacancy in Parks and Rec, and one in the Road Dept. so there is current money for salaries that could be used to provide the county share. Board direction.*

Commissioner Jackel and Mr. Pierce discussed the number of employees reserved for the County and the placement of the other 45 possible employees.

Commissioner Jackel said Leon County was in the second phase of this program and said she hoped Franklin County has as much success.

**Motion by Lockley, seconded by Jackel, to approve 5 positions at a cost of \$7,500 and to direct Mr. Pierce to attend the Gulf Coast Workforce meeting on April 8, 2010; Motion carried 5-0.**

Commissioner Sanders said she had attended the Lanark Village Association meeting and they were happy with the installation of the Litter Control Containers in but they seemed to be high. Mr. Johnson said there were some lower containers that could be placed there.

Chairman Parrish commended Mr. Johnson and his staff for the great job they did with the Dixie Youth League Day of Ball at Vrooman Park in Eastpoint. He also thanked Mr. Johnson for maintaining all of the fields in the County.

Jay Abbott, St. George Island, thanked Mr. Johnson for the beach cleanup on St. George Island.

**Dan Rothwell – County Engineer (9:39 AM)**

Mr. Rothwell had no items for Board action but presented the following informational items.

1. *Ochlockonee Bay Boat Ramp:*  
*Staff has approved contractor invoice #1 for \$86,904.00 with a balance to finish including retainage of \$267,919.00.*

2. *Brownsville Rd Drainage Project:*  
*Survey has been complete at a value of \$1,500.00 and design plans are at 60% for a value of \$6,000.00.*

*3. Alligator Dr Crosswalks:*

*Three cross walks have been placed on Alligator Dr and the signage will be completed when the signs ordered are received.*

*4. 2010 County Paving Project:*

*C. W. Roberts is to be back in Franklin County working in Alligator Point the first week and then will be moving to Apalachicola for the upcoming weeks.*

Commissioner Sanders inquired about the completion date on the Ochlockonee Bay Boat ramp and Jack Husband, of Bailey Bishop and Lane, gave an update on the project and said the completion date is July 8<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Sanders and Mr. Rothwell discussed signage at the crosswalks on Alligator Point.

Commissioner Jackel asked Mr. Rothwell to have FDOT clip shoulders on Franklin Blvd. going North and South.

**Pam Brownell – Emergency Management Director (9:43 AM)**

Mrs. Brownell presented the following informational items from her report.

- *The Franklin County Emergency Management Office is hosting a “Meet the Media” Day scheduled for April 09, 2010 at 11:00am ET for the surrounding media, different county agencies, and Public Information officer’s to meet and exchange information before the Hurricane season arrives.*
- *The Franklin County Emergency Management Office and our consultant, Management Experts, have been working with the Franklin County School and the Sheriff’s office to conduct two exercises in April. The first will be a table-top exercise on April 13, 2010 and the second will be a full scale functional exercise to be held later in the month.*
- *We still have 3 commissioners who need to come out to the office and have their ID badges made. Please contact Mike Rundel at your earliest convenience before Hurricane season begins.*

Mrs. Brownell reminded the Board that June 1st is the beginning of Hurricane Season.

Commissioner Jackel discussed complaints about St. George Island’s re-entry permit process on Emergency Management’s website and asked Mrs. Brownell to clarify the reason for this process.

Mrs. Brownell said the State requires a re-entry plan but that Franklin County had come up with this plan by looking at other counties' plans. She said a picture is requested only for the property owners' convenience for insurance purposes but is not required for re-entry purposes. Mrs. Brownell discussed the re-entry plan further and the requirements for proof of residency. She said everyone needs a re-entry permit to get back in the County after a storm and they are working on the best possible plan to make sure it is done efficiently.

Commissioner Jackel was concerned about the need for educating citizens in other outlets other than the internet, regarding the re-entry program.

Mrs. Brownell said it was pushed out via all available media outlets when it first started several weeks ago. She also said the EOC will be doing outreach programs in the community helping people get these permits.

The Board and Mrs. Brownell discussed several different re-entry scenarios and mass mailings for the re-entry plan.

#### **Bill Mahan – County Extension Office Director (9:58 AM)**

Mr. Mahan had no items for Board action but discussed the following items.

- *FDA is pushing forward on raw oyster ban – Despite reports to the contrary, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration is aggressively pushing ahead with plans to ban the sale of traditional, raw Gulf Coast oysters, essentially ignoring the concerns of tens of thousands of consumers, restaurant owners and seafood workers who spoke out against the plan last fall. Please see attached press release.*
- *FDA may expand planned summer raw oyster ban to all shellfish nationwide – The U.S. Food and Drug Administration is looking at extending its plan requiring post-harvest processing on raw oysters to include all raw shellfish from the East and West coasts, according to Save Our Shellfish. Please see attached story by SeafoodSource.Com.*
- *Invasive Exotic Plant Workshops - The Franklin County Extension Program has teamed up with the Apalachicola Invasive Working Group, the Nature Conservancy and assorted state & federal agencies to schedule a series of Invasive Exotic Plant Workshops. Workshops are scheduled for Gulf, Jackson, Liberty and Franklin Counties. The Franklin County Workshop will be on April 20<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 – 8:00 PM at the Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve.*
- *Oyster School – This year's Oyster School is scheduled for April 28 – 29. The Franklin County Tourist Development Council is again providing some financial support for the School though it's Seafood Marketing Funds. Companies sending representatives to this year's school include: Darden Restaurants, Disney, Outback, Southern Restaurant Group, Central Seafood, LA Foods and Beaver Street Seafood. We also hope to get a few local chefs to attend. Please note, Commissioners are invited to the ever popular hands-on Sensory Evaluation of Local Seafood Session at 5:00 pm April 28<sup>th</sup> at 13-Mile.*

- *Florida's ENERGYSTAR Appliance Rebate Programs - The State of Florida will implement a mail-in rebate program to help residents replace older, inefficient appliances with ENERGY STAR® qualified appliances. The program is tentatively scheduled to begin on April 16, 2010 and end on April 25, 2010 and is timed to coincide with Florida's Earth Day Activities.*

*While customers are encouraged to replace more than one appliance, they may only receive rebates on the purchase of one of each type of ENERGY STAR appliance per address. In addition to the rebate for purchasing the ENERGY STAR appliance, consumers will also receive an additional \$75 if they provide evidence of having recycled the old appliance. That evidence may consist of a statement on the retailer receipt indicating pick-up of the old appliance or a receipt from the local public or private landfill of delivery of the old appliance.*

*For additional information, contact: The [Florida Energy & Climate Commission](#) . Total program funding: \$17,585,000. The program's information is subject to change. Rebates will be offered for a limited time only. Before purchasing a product, check with your program sponsor to ensure rebates are available, and to confirm product eligibility and program requirements. Products purchased must meet efficiency criteria as established by the state. NOTE: In a recent press release about this program, it is believed that this program's budget will be spent in less than one day. (Discussed)*

### **Jay Abbott – 911 Meeting – Update (10:01 AM)**

Jay Abbott, Chief of the St. George Island Volunteer Fire Department, distributed copies of the Minutes from the 911 Franklin County Communications Group Meeting.

Mr. Abbott discussed items in the Minutes, including fire inspections of local hotels, Progress Energy's presence in the County over the next few years and Fairpoint's upgrade to the County's 911 System, and said he wanted to address the EMS issue with the Board at a later time.

Commissioners Putnal commented on the EMS portion of the Minutes, especially the 'patient preference' issue. He believed this was going to cause the Commission a lot of problems down the road.

Commissioner Sanders said the Board had worked hard to get 'patient preference' and believed the Board needed to reiterate their stand on this issue.

Mr. Abbott said this is part of what he asked to address at the next meeting because they are trying to get this changed but it is going to take an extra ambulance in the County.

Chairman Parrish discussed the location of ambulances and out of County transport to Panama City and Tallahassee.

The Board discussed the possible need for an additional ambulance in the County, especially when one is out on a transport and the function of the spare ambulance used on St. George Island 10 weekends during the summer months.

Mr. Abbott asked that Attorney Shuler attend the next 911 Communications meeting to have some legal issues answered.

**Motion by Sanders, seconded by Putnal, to direct Attorney Shuler to attend the next 911 Communications Meeting; Motion carried 5-0.**

Mr. Abbott discussed the need to update the County's Campfire Ordinance and discussed recent problems with campfires on St. George Island Beaches. He said enforcement of the current Ordinance was the main issue.

Attorney Shuler recommended that the Board not comment on this matter because of current litigation concerning an illegal and improper fire on St. George Island. He requested that the Board give him direction and approval to meet with Mr. Abbott concerning the Ordinance. Commissioner Putnal asked that Attorney Shuler consider the need for "warming fires" in certain parts of the County.

**Motion by Sanders, seconded by Lockley, to direct Attorney Shuler to meet with Mr. Abbott regarding updating the Campfire Ordinance; Motion carried 5-0.**

**Recess (10:26 AM)**

Chairman Parrish called for a recess.

**Reconvene (10:41 AM)**

Chairman Parrish reconvened the meeting.

**Cherry Rankin – Boys and Girls Club – Update (10:41 AM)**

Buddy Streit, President of Boys and Girls Club of the Big Bend, updated the Board with information that the Boys & Girls Club is no longer in operation in Franklin and Jefferson Counties and is now an after school program that has been taken over by the local school districts. He said most of the Boys & Girls Club Staff, including Cherry Rankin, had been transferred to the school district.

Mr. Streit explained the grants and funding for the after school program and the difference between a private organization and the school district running the program. He said they just aren't able sustain the cost of running all of the Boys & Girls Clubs but hoped they would be able to come back at some point.

There was further discussion on this matter.

Chairman Parrish thanked Mr. Streit for appearing before the Board.

**Marcia M. Johnson – Clerk of Courts – Report (10:47 AM)**

Mrs. Johnson had no items for Board action.



1-For information, the balance in the Hospital's operating account for the month ending February 2010 is \$290,293.46. The balance in the hospital's capital fund to-date is \$1,325,670.99.

Commissioner Putnal and Mrs. Johnson discussed using the operating fund for the ambulance service. Mr. Pierce explained that the hospital gets a subsidy from the County Commission but it has to run as a business so if the cost of the ambulance service increases then the hospital has to come to the Board to fund it.

Commissioner Sanders asked Mrs. Johnson to submit a comparative report for the operations of the hospital from last year to this year at the next meeting. Mr. Pierce said that from what he understood from the last Hospital Board Meeting there had been no decrease in emergency services at the Hospital.

Mr. Pierce said the Hospital was down in revenue this past year because it wasn't a particularly bad flu season.

The Board discussed that there is no difference in services offered by Weems versus Sacred Heart and also the benefits to the County that the Urgent Care Center in Carrabelle will provide.

**Alan Pierce – Director of Administrative Services – Report (10:53 AM)**

Mr. Pierce presented his report to the Board.

*1- Board action to approve a Resolution recognizing April 11-18, 2010 as Juvenile Justice Children's Week. The Resolution was requested by Ms. Eileen Annie.*

**Motion by Sanders, seconded by Jackel, to approve Resolution recognizing April 11 – 18, 2010 as Juvenile Justice Children's Week; Motion carried 5-0.**

*2- Inform the Board that the county EMS (ambulance service) received a grant of \$5,166. This is known as the "baby EMS" grant and the county has received them in the past. The grant will be used to improve equipment and supplies for the ambulance service.*

*3- Provide Board with copy of executed Maintenance Agreement for the DOT sidewalk project on Oak St. in Lanark and provide the Board a copy of the project specifications for the file.*

*4- Inform the Board that the Governor did respond to the Board's letter about supporting public libraries, and at this time the Legislature has increased it's funding for libraries. The final funding will not be known until the end of the session.*

*5- Inform the Board that I have a copy of the Apalachicola Bay Management Plan and Michael Moron has installed it on the county web site.*

6- *Inform the Board that Mark Curenton is going to participate in the review of the Box R Ranch Land Management Plan. Direction from Board on whether to request FWC consider allowing a rifle range to be built at Box R Ranch.*

Chairman Parrish commented on building a rifle range and would like to have it named after Officer Fred Babb, who was killed in the line of duty in Franklin County. The Board discussed this matter further.

**Motion by Lockley, seconded by Sanders, send request to FWC to allow a rifle range to be built at the Box R Ranch and also name it in memoriam of Officer Fred Babb, who was killed in the line of duty; Motion carried 5-0.**

7- *Provide Board with copies of letter to FEMA regarding the paving of Alligator Point Road with DOT funds.*

8- *Inform Board that the GulfCoast Workforce Board is holding a workshop here in the Annex this Thursday, April 8, from 10 to 12 PM, for any private or public employer who wants to learn more about the possibility of increasing their workforce through a temporary program where the Workforce would reimburse for up to 95% of an employee's salary and benefits for a six month period. Attendance is mandatory and I will attend for the county. (It is my observation this program has been developed because the first concept of Stimulus in the shovel ready projects did not create jobs so the federal government is trying something else). Ms. Sheila Howser, Workforce member, may want to add a few words.*

*At this time the Workforce Board is reserving 5 positions for the county commission if the county is interested in creating 5 temporary full-time positions in its workforce. (These are 5 more in addition to the 3 we are currently trying to fill for Parks and Rec. The first 3 do not have a cost share). Each position would cost the county approximately \$3000 over a six month time, so five positions would cost \$15,000 over a six month time. The county has one vacancy in Parks and Rec, and one in the Road Dept. so there is current money for salaries that could be used to provide the county share. Board direction.*

This item was discussed earlier in the meeting.

9- *Update on DOT issues.*

A. *Provide Board with copy of DOT response to letter about the condition of US 98. It is a 2 page letter but the summary is DOT is not going to do anything about resurfacing US 98 at this time, but they agree the striping is not accurate and that will get changed.*

B. *DOT response on the letter about the trees was in the form of an email. They are doing an inventory of the trees along US 98 and SR 65.*

C. *Sidewalks. In a long conversation with Mr. Ralph Yoder, DOT, this is where the county's known sidewalk projects stand. At this point DOT is pooling all the leftover Stimulus money in the District for a re-allocation.*

Commissioner Jackel said she isn't giving up on the issue of the condition of Highway 98.

*1) In Apalachicola, Avenue M and Martin Luther King sidewalk projects are being reviewed by DOT for funding as traffic safety projects.*

*2) The following projects need to be ranked by the Board in priority because all of these projects will be submitted for Enhancement projects. The projects are: Carrabelle Bridge to Carrabelle Beach on US 98;*

*In Eastpoint, North Bayshore to St. George Island Bridge*

*On Alligator Point, from the welcome sign to the end of the Point*

*(A project on Bald Point is not feasible at this time because the re-orientation of the Bald Point State Park entrance is not complete).*

Commissioner Jackel asked about the timeline on prioritizing these projects and was told the deadline was June 1, 2010.

Commissioner Putnal commented on problems with the Carrabelle Bridge to Carrabelle Beach project due to a beaver dam at the bridge.

*10- Update on 911 meeting issues. There was a 911 meeting March 31 attended by the Chairman, myself, Pam Brownell, and Mike Rundel from the county. Fire Chief Jay Abbott ran the meeting. Other attendees were from Alligator Point VFD, Lanark Village VFD, Franklin County SO, Progress Energy, State Fire Marshall Office, and Fairpoint Communications.*

*A) Fire Chief Jay Abbott requested the Fire Marshall Office give an update on requirements for Fire Safety inspections. The issue was raised because the Division of Hotels and Motels has announced they will no longer be performing fire safety inspections on hotels and motels. There was a discussion about the county assuming this responsibility. The Chairman said he thought there were other ways to deal with this rather than adding another requirement on local government. I will provide the County Attorney the citation the state Fire Marshall's Office provided, which is Chapter 633.081, F.S.*

*B) 911 Committee heard a summary for what happened at the Ambulance meeting that had occurred the day before with the Chairman, Mr. Colvert, Weems EMS Director, me, Jay Abbott, and Steve Fling. Jay and Steve are interested in expanding the ambulance service to have 3 ambulances available full time. There was a discussion about whether it should be a BLS or an ALS staff. The central issue is about how to fund the personnel necessary. Mr. Colvert will research the costs and schedule another meeting of the committee.*

*C) There was an update on the WIN Notification system the Sheriff's Office is installing. There have been two test drills using different parts of the county and they are now making improvements to the notification system.*

*D) Pat McWhinnie, 911 Coordinator, did announce that joint application of Franklin, Calhoun, and Gulf counties for the 911 replacement grant was funded. The total to be spent in the 3 counties is \$411,000. The grant is intended to replace the outdated 911 system currently used at each dispatch station and maintained by Fairpoint. The grant papers will arrive in May.*

**Motion by Jackel, seconded by Sanders, to direct County Staff to communicate with the Property Appraiser's Office to check on the status of the GIS mapping system and report back to the Board; Motion carried 5-0.**

Commissioner Jackel discussed an email that she and Mr. Pierce received regarding a complaint about the removal of the rocks on the Right of Way on St. George Island. She said that FDOT required that those rocks be removed before they could begin new construction and bidding on the turn around. She explained that the County didn't want to move the rocks because of damage to the trucks and Mr. Pierce said that VMS had taken some but they didn't want to move much of it either because of the wear on their vehicles. Commissioner Jackel said that they were able to find someone, free of charge, to move the rocks and relocated them to different locations throughout the County. She said the sender of the email believed that Mr. Pierce had acted improperly or unethically but the Commissioner said that he did not. She also said the sender could not be verified but she did want this issue to be on the record.

Commissioner Lockley inquired about the process to pursue other insurance coverage for county employees. Mr. Pierce advised the Board he thought Blue Cross/Blue Shield had agreed to a rate-hold this year. Clerk, Marcia Johnson, reported her office had been looking at this issue and had received quotes from several insurance companies. She stated that she felt like Blue Cross Blue Shield would agree to a rate hold again for the upcoming fiscal year, and that their rate quoted was lower than the rate of United Health Care Insurance. Clerk Johnson went on to say that although Vista Insurance's quote was lower than Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Vista has no network in Bay County. She felt the Board shouldn't consider them due to that factor because it wouldn't be feasible to expect county employees to switch health care providers from those utilized in Bay County.

Mrs. Johnson said it was her recommendation that the Board remain with Blue Cross/Blue Shield in light of the facts presented, and she further stated she didn't think it would be fair to county employees who are not expected to receive cost-of-living increases to receive reduced health benefits. The Board didn't disagree.

Commissioner Sanders discussed the incorrect addresses that are on the U.S Census Bureau surveys that are being sent out and stressed the importance of correcting these errors with the Census Bureau. She wanted to be sure this was corrected because of the importance of everyone being counted.

Commissioner Sanders would like to have GreenSteel come to the next meeting and update the Board on where they stand on their Haiti Project.

**T. Michael Shuler- County Attorney- Report (11:15 AM)**

Attorney Shuler presented his report to the Board.

*1. Olivier Monod/101 Franklin Boulevard, LLC*

You will recall that Franklin County recently approved a development for Mr. Monod's company on St. George Island, Florida. That development requires a waste water treatment system. On behalf of the company, Mr. Monod has requested permission to place a wastewater transmission line underneath 1st Street East, St. George Island.

He will not be allowed to cut the pavement and will be completely responsible for the transmission line. The County has reserved the right to revoke its permission if a future board deems such revocation to be in the public's interest. Mr. Monod's company has agreed to all the County's conditions.

Commissioner Jackel has reviewed and approved his request. I also recommend approval.

A copy of the revocable license agreement is attached and is similar to the prior license given by the County to Eddy Teach's Raw Bar, also on St. George Island, Florida

**BOARD ACTION:** I request a motion authorizing the Chairman to execute the revocable license.

**Motion by Jackel, seconded by Putnal, to approve authorization for Chairman Parrish to execute the revocable license agreement; Motion carried 5-0.**

**2. Wells Fargo Bank vs. CitiFinancial et al. (Case No. 07-487-CA)**

The County has been sued over another fire tax lien. This property is located in Apalachicola, Florida. The amount owed is about \$169,000.00.

Board Action: I request board approval to accept service of process and, if my investigation so warrants, allow a default to be entered against the county. In the event of default, the county will not collect its fire tax now, but will against future owners of the property.

**3. New York Mellon Bank vs. H. Thompson et al. (Case 10-144-CA)**

The County has been sued over another fire tax lien. This property is located in Apalachicola, Florida. The amount owed is about \$195,000.00.

Board Action: I request board approval to accept service of process and, if my investigation so warrants, allow a default to be entered against the county. In the event of default, the county will not collect its fire tax now, but will against future owners of the property.

**4. GreenTree Servicing, LLC vs. B. Pilkington et al. (Case No. 10-112CA)**

The County has been sued over another fire tax lien. This property is located in Eastpoint, Florida. The debt is about \$66,000.00.

Board Action: I request board approval to accept service of process and, if my investigation so warrants, allow a default to be entered against the county. In the event of default, the county will not collect its fire tax now, but will against future owners of the property.

**5. Auto Owners and Franklin County vs. L. Siprell (Case No. 96-39-CC)**

*This is a case in which the County appears to have been named as a result of a car crash involving a county vehicle more than 14 years ago. The insurance company is believed to have paid the county. It also appears that the county therefore has no real issue at stake in the litigation, which then will be between the insurance company and the defendant.*

*Board Action: I request approval from the Board to represent its interests in Court. If my investigation confirms these facts, I will inform the Court that the County has no interest in this matter.*

**Motion by Sanders, seconded by Putnal, to accept service of process and if Attorney Shuler's investigation so warrants to allow a default judgment to be entered against the County on Items 2 - 5; Motion carried 5-0.**

*6. Eastpoint and St. George Island Fishing Piers*

*I have been asked by members of the public whether the Board is interested in auctioning off or otherwise selling the old copper wire attached to the fishing piers.*

*Board Action: Board permission to look into this request to make sure that it does not damage or otherwise interfere with the use of the two piers and report back to the board.*

**Motion by Lockley, seconded by Putnal, to authorize Attorney Shuler to investigate the request to have the Board auction off or sell the old copper wire attached to the fishing piers; Motion carried 5-0.**

*7. Auburn University Urban Forest Research Request*

*Heather Enloe, a graduate student at Auburn University has requested permission to conduct a five year urban study of the wooded area around the new Weems Urgent Care Facility in Carrabelle. A copy of her request is attached.*

*Board Action: I request board permission to negotiate this matter with Ms. Enloe to ensure that it does not interfere with the construction of the facility and report back to the board.*

The Board discussed this matter and wanted more information on this request.

**Motion by Jackel to deny request; Motion failed due to the lack of a second.**

**Motion by Putnal, seconded by Lockley, to table this item until the Board can get more information; Motion carried 4-1, Jackel opposed.**

*8. Apalachicola Times Bid Challenge*

*The Apalachicola Times has filed a bid challenge to Franklin County's award to the Chronicle of the publication of the 2009 delinquent tax rolls.*

*Board Action: I request board approval to schedule a bid protest hearing.*

**Motion by Sanders, seconded by Jackel, to schedule a bid protest hearing at the next Board Meeting on April 20, 2010 @ 1:30 PM; Motion carried 5-0.**

*Non-Action Items*

*9. Proposed Ordinance establishing a private road and driveway maintenance policy is attached for your review.*

*Board Action: None requested.*

**Commissioners' & Public Comments (11:32 AM)**

There were no Commissioner & Public Comments.

**Adjourn (11:32 AM)**

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

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Joseph Parrish – Chairman FCBCC

Attest:

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Marcia M. Johnson – Clerk of Courts