

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
FRANKLIN COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANNEX
NOVEMBER 5, 2013
9:00 AM**

MINUTES

Commissioner's Present: Cheryl Sanders – Chairman, William Massey – Vice Chairman, Pinki Jackel, Noah Lockley, and Joseph Parrish

Others Present: Marcia M. Johnson – Clerk of Courts, Alan Pierce – Director of Administrative Services, Michael Shuler – County Attorney, Michael Morón – Deputy Clerk to the Board

Call to Order (9:02 AM)

Chairman Sanders called the meeting to order.

Prayer and Pledge (9:02 AM)

There was a Prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Minutes (9:03 AM)

Motion by Massey, seconded by Lockley, to approve the Minutes of the October 1st and 15th regular meetings; Motion carried 5-0.

Payment of County Bills (9:04 AM)

Commissioner Lockley inquired as to the reason for a payment to Captain David Long. Mr. Pierce explained that this payment was for some work done on the St. George Island fishing Pier project.

Commissioners Sanders and Jackel, and Mr. Pierce discussed why this item wasn't addressed during planning phase of this project.

Motion by Massey, seconded by Parrish, to approve payment of the bill list as presented; Motion carried 5-0.

Big Bend Hospice – Resolution (9:08 AM)

Sandi Hengle of Big Bend Hospice asked for board action to adopt a proclamation declaring November as Big Bend Hospice Month. Ms. Hengle invited the Board to some of the events hosted by Big Bend Hospice in November.

Board spoke in support of Hospice and the positive things they have done in the County.

Motion by Massey, seconded by Parrish, to adopt the Proclamation declaring November as Big Bend Hospice month; Motion carried 5-0.

Department Supervisor Report (9:10 AM)

Howard Nabors – Superintendent of Public Works
Mr. Nabors presented his report to the Board.

I would like approval to purchase the 2013 Hino Double Cab Dump Truck off of the City of Tallahassee Bid List. This was approved for the 2013 – 2014 Budget for use by the inmate squads. The last piece of equipment that was financed for the department was the loader and that was paid off last year. The best rate that has been found to date by the Finance Department is 3.90%.

I would like to request permission from the Board to use the principal and interest payment funds in the Road Department's budget and proceed with the purchase of this new truck subject to Attorney Shuler's review and approval of the financing agreement.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Massey, to approve the purchase of the 2013 Hino Double Cab dump truck using the principal and interest payment funds in the Road Department's budget contingent on Attorney Shuler's review and approval of the financing agreement; Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Nabors updated the Board on new employees that were hired, stated the amount of milled asphalt that has been hauled, and work done in Alligator Point.

Commissioner Jackel stated that the Hospital is asking for inmate labor to help with grounds keeping every quarter. Mr. Nabors said he would contact the hospital regarding this request.

Fonda Davis – Solid Waste Director

Mr. Davis presented this report to the Board.

MECHANIC POSITION:

FOR BOARD ACTION: *On October 31, 2013, Leonard Brannan retired from the Solid Waste Mechanic position. Jonathan Kelley has been filling in as the Mechanic at the Solid Waste*

Department since March 2013. Since Leonard has retired, I would like to request that the Board allow me to post a promotional vacancy to allow for in house transfers to permanently fill the Mechanic position. Jonathan has been doing a great job for the department and I would like to give him and any other interested employee the opportunity to apply for permanent placement in that position. In the proposed compensation plan presented by Lucy Turner - there was a probationary starting salary of \$30,450 listed for that position and a permanent base of \$32,052.

ACTION REQUESTED: Authorize the posting of a promotional vacancy for the Solid Waste Mechanic and the establishment of the starting salary.

Commissioner Jackel expressed her concern of the salary that was being offered for this mechanic position being the same as the Road Department's mechanic position. The Board and Mr. Davis discussed this matter further. Mr. Davis reminded the Board that each of the mechanics worked on separate size engines.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Jackel, to advertise this vacancy without including the salary; Motion carried 5-0.

Nikki Millender – Parks & Recreation

Mrs. Millender had no action items.

Commissioner Parrish and Mr. Pierce stated that the lights were on a D W Wilson late yesterday evening.

Millender stated that the timers have to be adjusted for daylight savings time.

Pam Brownell – Emergency Management Director

Mrs. Brownell presented the following items from her report.

Action Items:

- 1. The Florida Division of Emergency Management now requires that line item expenditures be separated by funding source, State, Federal, and Local. My approved budget will remain unchanged for this current fiscal year at \$196,286-I simply need to amend the expenditure line items to reflect the different funding sources. I request the Board to approve the line-Item Budget amendments for the 2013/2014 Fiscal Year.*

Motion by Parrish, seconded by Massey, to approve line item change as requested; Motion carried 5-0.

- 2. Joyce last working day will be Nov 21, so she is seeking authority to advertise for this position.*

Motion by Massey, seconded by Jackel, to advertise this position competitively, both in house and publicly; Motion carried 5-0.

Information Items:

1. *October 30, 2013 Franklin County Emergency Management met with The Management Experts to start the first planning session for the upcoming Wide Area Search exercise.*
2. *Emergency Management is hosting a SARC training (awareness small animal emergency sheltering course) November 9th, at the EOC starting at 8:00am.*
3. *Emergency Management is conducting a G300 training course for the agencies in the county that need this course to keep their agency and the county in National Incident Management System (NIMS) compliance. This is a requirement if you receive Federal grants. This training will be at the EOC on November 13-15, 2013 starting at 8:30am till 4:30pm.*

Commissioner Parrish and Mrs. Brownell discussed the G300 further. Commissioner Parrish asked if all department heads have been G300 trained and certified. Mrs. Brownell stated that since there has been a turnover of department heads additional training is needed.

Mr. David Walker – State Health Department Update (9:28 AM)

Mr. Walker updated the Board on new Health Department programs and grants in the County and introduced some of his co-workers who would be providing additional information.

Talitha Robinson explained the Healthy Eating program and Julie McKinney and Vanessa Edenfield discussed general health and school health programs.

Mr. Walker provided information on some of the outreach programs.

Mr. Pierce and Mr. Walker discussed the Health Department's Health Walk program.

Mr. Ray Brownsworth – Weem's CEO (9:38 AM)

Mr. Brownsworth discussed some of the items in his written report. He informed the Board of his upcoming meeting with USDA and stated that he would like to schedule a workshop with the Hospital Board and the Commissioners.

Mr. Brownsworth stated some of the items that Mr. Leadbetter, the CFO contractor, is working on.

Commissioner Massey asked when the vacancy, due to Mrs. Tammy Hardy resignation, on the Hospital Board would be filled.

Chairman Sanders explained that over the past years she has been unable to appoint someone to the Hospital Board because appointees of other Commissioners have been moving into her district, but would like the opportunity to recommend an appointment.

Commissioner Jackel stated that she will be appointing a member to fill her district's vacancy. She also stated that there is a concern expressed that one of a hospital board member attends the meetings via phone conference call.

The Board and Mr. Brownsworth discussed that matter further.

Commissioner Sanders recommended that a letter of appreciation is sent to Mrs. Tammy Hardy for her services on the Hospital Board.

Commissioner Lockley reminded the Board that Ms. Hardy has served on both the original and the current Hospital Boards.

Motion by Jackel, seconded by Massey, to send Mrs. Hardy a letter of appreciation for her services; Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Parrish suggested that the appointments to the Hospital Board are made after the workshop with the Hospital Board.

Dr. Pete Vergot – IFAS Update (9:52 AM)

Dr. Vergot of the Extension Office introduced the staff members that attended the meeting with him. He stated they will be assisting with managing the local IFAS office until a permanent Director is hired.

Commissioner Jackel asked that contact information for the office and staff is provided to the Board.

Motion by Jackel, seconded by Parrish, to send Bill Mahan a letter of appreciation for his years of service as the Director of the local Extension Office; Motion carried 5-0.

Recess (9:59 AM)

Chairman Sanders called for a recess.

Reconvene (10:10 AM)

Chairman Sanders reconvened the meeting.

Marcia Johnson – Clerk of Courts (10:10 AM)

Mrs. Johnson presented the following items for Board action.

*1-) I have 2 resolutions for adoption on unanticipated revenue as part of the end-of-the-year bookkeeping. This involves funds that weren't included in your initial budget last year because we didn't know at the time they would be received. Approval is needed to comply with Florida Statute 129. **The 1st resolution** deals with \$4,167 received from the State of Florida for E911 Maintenance. We put the funds into E911 fund account 163.47.525.4600, Maintenance. **The 2nd resolution** deals with grant revenues of \$4,479 from the Florida Dept. of State for library expenses. We put the funds into the Library account 137.37.571.5200, Operating Supplies.*

RESOLUTION
FRANKLIN COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Franklin County is a political subdivision of the State of Florida and subject to Florida Statutes Chapter 129 regarding preparation of budgets, and

WHEREAS, FS 129.06 provides for budget amendments for unanticipated revenues, and

WHEREAS, Franklin County has received unanticipated revenues in the amount of \$4,167.00 from the STATE OF FLORIDA for E911 Maintenance, and

WHEREAS, said revenue is needed to pay certain expenditures incurred in Fiscal Year 2011-2012, and

WHEREAS, FS 129.06(2)(d) provides for budget amendments in relation to receipts and expenditures of the nature that is received, and

WHEREAS, this section requires the Board of County Commission to spread on its minutes the expenditures for the purpose of:

163.47.525.4600 Maintenance \$4,167.00

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Franklin County Board of County Commissioners appropriates these unanticipated revenues in the amount of \$4,167.00 in the E911 FUND in order to comply with FS129(2)(d).

THIS RESOLUTION ADOPTED by the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners this 5th day of November 2013.

RESOLUTION
FRANKLIN COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Franklin County is a political subdivision of the State of Florida and subject to Florida Statutes Chapter 129 regarding preparation of budgets, and

WHEREAS, FS 129.06 provides for budget amendments for unanticipated revenues, and

WHEREAS, Franklin County has received unanticipated grant revenues in the amount of \$4,479.00 from the Florida Department of State for the payment of expenses relative to the library, and

WHEREAS, said revenue is needed to pay certain expenditures incurred in Fiscal Year 2012-2013 and

WHEREAS, FS 129.06(2)(d) provides for budget amendments in relation to receipts and expenditures of the nature that is received, and

WHEREAS, this section requires the Board of County Commission to spread on its minutes the expenditures for the purpose of:

137.37.571.5200 Operating Supplies \$4,479.00

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Franklin County Board of County Commissioners appropriates these unanticipated revenues in the amount of \$4,479.00 in the LIBRARY FUND in order to comply with FS129(2)(d).

Motion by Parrish, seconded by Massey, to approve both resolutions; Motion carried 5-0.

2-) I have some line-item budget amendments for approval for the 2012-2013 budget year.

#1 On August 21, 2012, the Board approved the emergency purchase of two new spray trucks for the Mosquito Control Dept. after the flooding from TS Debby. The trucks and spray attachments costs a total of \$51,959.50 and the invoices were paid in late October and early November of 2012 with funding provided by the reserve for contingency line item. We would increase 001.20.511.6401, Capital Outlay by \$51,959.50 and decrease 001.99.584.9600, Reserve for Contingency by \$51,959.50;

#2: The Tourist Development Council approved at their 09/04/13 meeting to compensate Allyn, Inc. up to \$8,800 for additional administrative hours worked in FY 2012/2013. A line item budget amendment is needed to move \$8,775.00 from Promotional Activities to Contractual Services within the TDC Budget. The overall budget of the TDC didn't increase; however, the budget amendment is necessary because a contract exists for administrative services. We would increase 130.33.552.3400, Contractual Services \$8,775.00 and decrease 130.33.552.4800, Promotional Activities \$8,775.00.

#3: On February 2, 2013, the Board approved the replacement of a \$37,179.00 knuckle boom attachment for the Solid Waste Dept. with funding provided by the reserve for contingency line. We would increase 001.40.534.6401, Capital Outlay by \$37,179.00 and decrease 001.99.584.9600, Reserve for Contingencies by \$37,179.00.

#4: On July 16, 2013, the Board approved increasing the library budget by \$15,000 to cover expenses incurred during the move to the new facility. We would increase 137.37.571.4400 Rentals and Leases by \$8,100, increase 137.37.571.4600, Repair and Maintenance by \$6,900, and decrease 137.99.584.9600, Reserve for Contingencies by \$15,000.

Action needed: Motion to approve the line item budget amendments for the 2012-2013 fiscal year as described above.

Commissioner Jackel asked if the budget amendments are from the last fiscal year's budget. Mrs. Johnson verified that they were.

Motion by Jackel, seconded by Massey, to approve all four budget amendments; Motion carried 5-0.

Allan Feifer, of the Concerned Citizens, asked if any unspent funds from other County Department or Constitutional Offices were returned to the Board.

Mrs. Johnson explained that the deadline to return the unspent funds is during mid November and she couldn't answer that question until after that time.

Alan Pierce – Director of Administrative Service (10:16 AM)

Mr. Pierce presented his report.

1- Board action to ask DOT for permission to close US 98 in Eastpoint for the Eastpoint Christmas Parade, on Dec. 13.

Motion by Jackel, seconded by Massey, requesting FDOT authority for permission to close the normal route on Highway US 98 in Eastpoint for the Eastpoint Christmas Parade on December 13, 2013; Motion carried 5-0.

2- Inform Board that Ms. Brownell has advertised for the Emergency Management Coordinator position. The applications must be submitted to the Planning Office by Nov. 8. My office will turn over the applications to Ms. Brownell for her review.

3- Inform Board that I provided a short narrative to Senator Montford's Ag Committee for inclusion in his hearing on the Apalachicola Bay that occurred last night, Monday, Nov. 4, in Tallahassee. Senator Montford asked each state agency with responsibilities in the Bay to describe to his committee what each agency was doing to bring the oyster industry back. In the narrative I sent in I described the many steps the Franklin County Commission has taken over the years to protect and enhance the oyster industry.

Chairman Sanders updated the Board on what was discussed at the Monday night's meeting. Commissioner Jackel commented on the meeting and recommended that the Board send Senator Montford a letter of thanks for representing the County. Chairman Sanders suggested sending the letter to Senator Montford and all of the committee members.

Motion by Jackel, seconded by Parrish, to send letter of thanks to Senator Montford and the other Ag Committee members; Motion carried 5-0.

4- Inform Board that FWC has made a request to the US Sec. of Commerce for Federal Fishery Disaster Assistance Funding as a result of the declaration of fishery failure for the oyster industry. The FWC request includes \$52M for the restoration of approximately 2400 acres of oyster harvesting areas in Apalachicola Bay. There is approximately 4100 acres of oyster harvesting area in the Bay so this request, if funded, would provide funds for shells and labor to put the shells out on about half the Bay. This would be a 4 year project.

5- Inform Board that Dept. of Economic Opportunity has released its report "Franklin County Long-term Economic Diversification Strategy." Pass out copies. There will be a workshop on Nov. 18, from 2-4:30, at the Reserve Bldg in Eastpoint to present the strategy. The public is invited.

6- Airport Committee update. The Airport Advisory Committee met on Monday, Nov. 4, and makes the following recommendations.

A) Recommends Randy Randolph lease the building that Randall Terry is vacating for the same terms that Mr. Terry had, which is \$500/month for a 10 year period, with a review of the terms of the lease every 5 years with a cap of 20% on any rental increase. Mr. Randolph is renting the hanger only; the county will retain the right to put county equipment in the structure that is attached to the side of the building. The Committee also recommends that Mr. Shuler

review the insurance requirements in Mr. Terry's lease as well as Mr. Randolph's regarding "premises liability insurance for the hanger" as Mr. Terry says he cannot get coverage as stated in the lease. Mr. Marks, Committee member, agreed the county's insurance requirements are outdated for a changing insurance industry. The Committee recommends Mr. Shuler get with Mr. Marks and work out the appropriate coverage.

Commissioner Jackel verified that Mr. Pierce was referring to the old hangar.

Motion by Parrish, seconded by Jackel, to approve the lease as recommended; Motion carried 5-0.

B) Recommends the Board award a bid to RAM Construction for the renovation of the hanger being rented by Mr. Randolph, with the cost of the renovations not to exceed the funds available, which is \$94,000, and the items to be improved are those building code issues identified by Mr. Robin Brinkley, County Building Official. If any funds remain, then the additional work will be items requested by Mr. Randolph and approved by the Airport Committee. As the Board may recall, bids were opened for a large renovation of the hanger and existing storage space so that the storage space would be turned into finished offices on the second floor. The low bid by RAM Construction was for some \$350,000, an amount well in excess of the funds available. RAM Construction is willing to do this lesser project. The main construction will be to build a firewall between the hangar space and the storage space as that is a requirement of the building code.

The Airport Committee recommends moving forward with this construction as plans and specs have already been drawn, the grant funds run out in June, and the county has been informed by DOT that we will be getting an unexpected grant of \$77,000 of which part of these funds will be to build a structure to put the county equipment under so we no longer need this large hanger to protect county equipment. By leasing this hanger to Mr. Randolph the airport revenue is now back to what the county budgeted for the airport.

Board discussed and clarified with Mr. Pierce which hangar was being referred to. During the Board discussion there was a concern raised about rebidding the project because of the changes to the project.

Motion by Parrish, seconded by Jackel, to reject all bids, change the scope of the project as recommended, and then rebid the project to include the plans that will be paid for by the \$77,000 grant; Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Pierce explained the additional plans that will be paid for by the \$77,000 further.

C) While there was no action, the Committee did review with Mr. Taylor Newman, Crystal Air, his accomplishments as November represents the completion of his first year in operation. Crystal Air has a 5 year lease as the FBO.

D) The Committee recommends that Mr. Randall Terry be added as a member of the Committee. Mr. Terry has become a very active member of the airport community so the Committee feels Mr. Terry would be a good addition. The Committee does not have a set number of seats so there is flexibility in the membership.

Motion by Parrish, seconded by Jackel, to accept the recommendation and appoint Mr. Terry to the Airport Advisory Committee; Motion carried 5-0.

7- Inform the Board that CW Roberts should have finished paving CC Land Road over the weekend.

Commissioner Parrish and Mr. Pierce discussed the starting date for the Bluff Road project. Clay Smallwood of Preble-Rish provided a timeline for the project.

Commissioner Lockley stated that he might need some work done in his district while C W Roberts is in the County.

Commissioner Sanders asked about the progress of the Oak Road project. Mr. Pierce and Clay Smallwood provided information on this project.

Commissioner Jackel stated some areas in her district that needs work.

8- Board action to extend the FCT Agreement to purchase land in Eastpoint. The Board may recall that last spring FCT informed the Board that additional funds had become available. The county had an unfunded request in to purchase the property known owned by Ms. Sandra Fields, the project had ranked high enough that FCT was willing to move forward with acquisition. Sometime in the summer the county asked for a modification to the acquisition to purchase not only Ms. Fields' property but also the property between Ms. Fields and the Eastpoint Pavilion. FCT agreed to the modification so that both properties would be considered for purchase. On a regular basis I get a phone call from the owners wanting to know when they are going to get an offer from FCT. As of Oct. 30, I received an email from FCT staff saying that the program has had "management turnover which has held up the approval forms for the offer but nothing has changed on the approval." FCT went on to say they hope to get the offer out ASAP.

Board action to extend the FCT Agreement until July 31, 2014. If we do not extend the current FCT Agreement runs out Jan. 31, 2014.

Motion by Jackel, seconded by Massey, to approve the requested agreement extension; Motion carried 5-0.

9- Chairman Sanders had asked me several meetings ago to investigate options to purchase the land currently owned by Capital City Bank that used to be "El's Court Motor Inn" just east of Carrabelle on US 98. Mr. Shuler has spoken to the Bank and I have spoken with Mr. Doug Hattaway, Trust for Public Lands. There are no current state land acquisition programs taking applications at this time, but TPL is working on a \$50M Florida Forever allocation with the upcoming legislative session. Mr. Hattaway also said TPL is spearheading a constitutional

amendment for dedicating funding for Florida Forever, and the website is floridawaterlandlegacy.org. As the Board may recall, TPL is a non-profit with the ability to purchase land that ultimately is purchased from them with state or federal funds, so TPL is a strong ally in any land acquisition program.

In the past, TPL was the agent for the purchase of the Indian Creek Park, which became county property, and TPL was the agent that bought the marina at 11 Mile (Schoelles property), and last week that property was transferred to the US Fish and Wildlife for management by St. Vincent.

Board and Pierce discussed this item further. Attorney Shuler updated the Board on his discussions with Capital City.

Mr. Pierce stated that he needed Board action to appoint Mr. David Walker to the Juvenile Justice Board.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Jackel, to appointment Mr. David Walker to the Juvenile Justice Board; Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Jackel updated the Board on old Eastpoint Highway Patrol building renovation project. She stated that Polaronis Construction estimated the rehab project to be about \$120,000 but there are changes that could be made to reduce the project to \$100,000. She stated some funding sources for the renovation and operation of the proposed center and museum.

Commissioner Lockley stated his concerns with starting another rehab project before finishing the Armory renovation project. He also expressed concerns with giving a county building to a private organization as a visitor's center.

Chairman Sanders stated that she thought all extra TDC funds was suppose to go to the renovations of the Armory as a county convention center and then to finish the Lombardi boat ramp.

Curt Blair, TDC administrator, explained what funding can be used to fund both the Armory renovation project and the Eastpoint visitor's center.

Board discussed this item further.

Commissioner Jackel reminded the Board that the visitor center's building on St. George Island is county owned.

Motion by Jackel, seconded by Massey, to approve bidding, awarding, and funding the Eastpoint visitor's center and museum renovation project up to \$100,000; Motion carried 3-2, Lockley and Parrish opposed.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Massey, directing TDC to complete the Armory renovation project during the current fiscal year; Motion carried 5-0.

T. Michael Shuler – County Attorney Report (11:09 AM)

Attorney Shuler stated that there are two opposing views to the ‘snagging’ issue for the Apalachicola River one by the RiverKeepers and the other by Mr. George Floyd and both are here to discuss this matter with the Board.

Dan Tonsmiere, representing the RiverKeepers, presented a PowerPoint to explain his view on the snagging issue, which is a more restrictive permit for the Army Corps of Engineers. At the end of his presentation he asked the Board to consider working with the Riverkeepers to create a more restrictive snagging request to the Corps.

George Floyd provided documentation regarding his view of the snagging project. He reviewed some of the information on the documents. He stated that the Riverkeepers do not want any snagging at all and their members are not qualified to make the claims and recommendations that are being made. He asked the Board to join in litigation requesting the Corp to do the snagging.

Attorney Shuler explained the procedure if the County decided to join in the litigation. Commissioner Jackel and Attorney Shuler discussed what litigation has been filed thus far and the status of that litigation. Attorney Shuler estimated that the cost should not exceed \$5000.

Commissioner Lockley stated that he is in favor of snagging.

Commissioner Parrish stated that water flow is very important to the seafood industry and if snagging will help, he is in favor of a wide snagging project and joining the litigation to allow the Corp to snag.

The Board spoke in favor of the snagging project.

Motion by Parrish, seconded by Lockley, in favor of joining the litigation to allow the Corp to snag the river; Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioners’ & Public Comments (11:55 AM)

Commissioner Jackel discussed a request received by the County to purchase a van for the disabled veteran. Mr. Pierce stated he will look into this request and contact the City of Apalachicola and the City of Carrabelle and ask for their participation.

Commissioner Jackel asked that Mrs. Erin Griffith of the Clerk’s Office check with Weems and see what type of hospital services and any health providers that are not covered by the County’s insurance group CHP.

Mrs. Johnson provided some information regarding this item.
Mr. Pierce discussed a response from CHP regarding a specific provider.

Chairman Sanders updated the Board on the latest BP restore meeting.

Allan Feifer, of APTA, stated what was discussed at the last meeting regarding trash and security on Alligator Point. He discussed a home invasion incident that occurred on Alligator Point. He mentioned a grant that was discussed with the Sheriff regarding security and discussed problems with garbage on Alligator Point.
Chairman Sanders commented on this issue.

Rev John Sink, representing the Land Grant system, expressed his concerns with Mr. Bill Mahan being reassigned to another county and how disappointed he was with the University of Florida decision to do this.

Jimmy Rickards spoke against the expansion of D W Wilson Park to include a soccer field because of how close the fields will be to his house. He asked that a buffer zone to include a tree buffer is built to stop the problems with lights and noise and asked the Board to consider another location for the soccer field.

Board discussed the possibility of a buffer zone in that location. Mr. Pierce explained that the expansion of the park and any possibility of a buffer zone will depend on funding.

Mr. Rickards suggested using the vacant football field at the old Apalachicola school.
Board explained that the field Mr. Rickards is referring to is the property of the City of Apalachicola.

Betty Sasnett, President of the Youth Soccer League, explained that there are over 103 children in the County's league and the current fields are considered inadequate so even home games has to be played in other counties. She stated that a buffer would be a good idea but adequate fields are needed because this sport is very important to the kids in the County. She mentioned the large volunteer effort that keeps this league going for the kids of the County, and stated that she and the coaches try to control the lights at the park. Mrs. Sasnett stated that there has been soccer practice at that location for the last 10 years and that the park was designed to include a soccer field but the funding was never there to finish the field.

The Board discussed what it would take to create a buffer.

Commissioner Parrish stated that he was in favor of the County's soccer program.

Mr. Pierce stated that the City might have a main water line in the same area where the Board was considering placing this buffer.

Commissioner Lockley asked Mr. Pierce to contact the City about adding a vegetative buffer to the area where that main line is.

The Board agreed with that recommendation and asked Mr. Pierce, after contacting the City, to bring some recommendation for the Board's consideration regarding this matter.

Adjourn (12:17 PM)

There being no further business Chairman Sanders adjourned the meeting.

Cheryl Sanders – Chairman FCBOCC

Attest:

Marcia M. Johnson – Clerk of Courts