

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
FRANKLIN COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANNEX
DECEMBER 3, 2013
9:00 AM**

Commissioners Present: Cheryl Sanders – Chairman, William Massey – Vice Chairman, Noah Lockley, Joseph Parrish, Pinki Jackel

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

Call to Order (9:01 AM)

Chairman Sanders called the Meeting to order.

Prayer and Pledge (9:01 AM)

There was a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Minutes (9:02 AM)

Motion by Massey, seconded by Lockley, to approve Minutes of the September 5 & 16, 2013 Budget Public Hearing Meetings and the November 19, 2013 Regular Meeting; Motion carried 5-0.

Payment of County Bills (9:03 AM)

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

Dixie Partington- Update – Capital City to Sea Loop Bike Trail (9:03 AM)

Ms. Partington was not in attendance.

Department Supervisor Report

Howard Nabors – Superintendent of Public Works (9:03 AM)

Mr. Nabors updated the Board on projects going on throughout the County.

Mr. Pierce and Mr. Nabors discussed a portion of Florida Avenue that isn't open but a request has been made to open it. Mr. Pierce will investigate further and discuss at a later date.

Fonda Davis – Solid Waste Director (9:06 AM)

Mr. Davis had no items for Board action.

Commissioner Jackel stated that the Solid Waste Department is doing a good job but asked that more attention is paid to trash along Highway 98 during the season.

Nikki Millender – Parks & Recreation (9:07 AM)

Mrs. Millender had no items for Board action.

Chairman Sanders asked that an estimate is done to create a bathroom at Classy Lowery Park. Commissioner Massey stated that inmate labor could be used to build the bathroom.

Pam Brownell – Emergency Management Director (9:08 AM)

Mrs. Brownell presented her report to the Board.

Action Items: Would like Board approval to hire the Office Admin/Special Needs coordinator job at the new hire pay rate of \$25,000. So when I start interviews for that position I can inform them what the starting pay rate will be.

Motion by Jackel, seconded by Massey, to authorize new hire pay rate of \$25,000; Motion carried 5-0.

Information Items:

- 1. Inform the Board that Mrs. Tress Reynolds Dameron will be the new Franklin County Emergency Management Coordinator. Mrs. Dameron is an Apalachicola graduate with an AA in General Studies and Vet Tech. Mrs. Dameron has all her ICS certifications and her Professional Development Certificate in order to be paid out of grant funds. The county already has an investment into Mrs. Dameron, in the past I have asked her to attend the State Animal Response Team planning session and training that our county agency could not attend at the time to represent the county. She has attended several training session and exercises and helped with planning for the animal needs in our county and the Humane Society. Mrs. Dameron helped write the protocol for the American Animal Hospital Association.*
- 2. The Management Experts conducted our second wide area search exercise planning session on November 26, 2013.*
- 3. The Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) was held for the county November 26, 2013 at the EOC, we had great participation.*

4. *Emergency Management will be attending the Region 2 meeting on December 5, 2013 at the Hamilton County EOC.*
5. *December 12, 2013 I will be attending the North Florida Regional Security Task Force meeting in Tallahassee.*

Debbie Belcher – Discussion – Potential CDBG Projects (9:10 AM)

Mrs. Belcher updated the Board on current and potential CDBG projects. She discussed the expansion of the water line project in the Bluff Road area. She reviewed a handout and discussed the demographic score used to award grants. She stated that the odds, in her opinion, of the County getting a neighborhood revitalization project funded this cycle are slim. She discussed some recommendations for improving the County's chances in getting funded for a project next cycle.

Mrs. Belcher explained that the grants she is recommending are only valid in unincorporated areas of the County so the Cities of Apalachicola and Carrabelle will have to apply for their own grants.

Mrs. Belcher described the different requirements for each of the different types of grants, especially the financial match that will be needed by the County.

The Board and Mrs. Belcher discussed how many projects are funded per year and what projects are ongoing at this time.

Chairman Sanders discussed the possibility of being able to help fund a hatchery project in the County.

Commissioner Lockley asked Mrs. Belcher to check on funding for a new hospital.

Motion by Jackel, seconded by Massey, to proceed with scheduling the CDBG Economic Development Project public hearings; Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Parrish and Mrs. Belcher discussed the income requirements and options for the CDBG Housing project.

Commissioner Lockley and Mrs. Belcher discussed the amount of SHIP funds that would be required for this project.

The Board and Mrs. Belcher discussed the details of this project further.

Commissioner Lockley stated that his only requirement would be to leave enough SHIP funds to help the residents of the Cities of Apalachicola and Carrabelle since they will be disqualified from receiving CDBG funds.

The Board and Mrs. Belcher discussed insurance and reimbursement requirements.

Motion by Jackel, seconded by Massey, to proceed with applying for the \$700,000 CDBG Housing application; Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Jackel asked Mrs. Belcher to send Staff any information on this housing program and asked that Mrs. Belcher moves forward with this application as quickly as possible.

Mrs. Belcher gave a tentative timeline for this application.
The Board and Mr. Pierce discussed forming the Citizen Advisory Task Force.
Rev. John Sink suggested using the Housing Board for the Citizen Advisory Task Force.

Motion by Jackel, seconded by Parrish, to use the County's Housing Board as the Citizen Advisory Task Force; Motion carried 5-0.

Rev. Sink stated that the maximum income for a family to qualify for the grant is \$37,400 for a household of 4.

Ray Brownsworth – Weem's Hospital Update (9:42 AM)

Mr. Brownsworth reviewed information, which was distributed to the Commissioners. He stated that the staff is supportive of the new medical records system at the Hospital. He discussed some changes in personnel.

Mr. Brownsworth reminded the Board of the openings on the Hospital Board and he invited the Commissioners to a social event on December 10, 2013 at 1:30 PM at the Hospital.

Motion by Massey, seconded by Jackel, to recommend Mrs. Ann Wilson as his district appointment on the hospital board; Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Parrish, to reappoint Robert Davis as his appointment to the hospital board; Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Lockley suggested inviting Mrs. Debbie Belcher to a Hospital Board meeting.

Marcia Johnson – Clerk of Courts (9:49 AM)

Mrs. Johnson had no action items for the Board.

Alan Pierce – Director of Administrative Service (9:49 AM)

Mr. Pierce presented his report to the Board.

1- On June 18, 2013 the FDOT announced that they were providing funds for the re-marking of Lake Morality Road, and the JPA has now arrived. While Lake Morality Road is a county road, the state is providing funds because of a fatality that occurred on the road, and because of the high percentage of DOC traffic using the road. The Board will advertise and open bids on this project in January or February. Board action to approve JPA to re-mark Lake Morality Road.

Motion by Parrish, seconded by Massey, to approve JPA to re-mark Lake Morality Road; Motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Sanders asked for an update on Bald Point and Oak Street Road projects which Mr. Pierce provided.

2- Provide Board with copy of 2013 Jail & Medical Inspection Report. The report is being provided to the Board by Sheriff Mock. There are no substantial deficiencies.

3- Board action to accept a donation by Ms. Florence Fowler of her lot on Bald Point, known as Penn Point Unit 7, Lot 32. I have inspected the lot with Ms. Fowler. Ms. Fowler is donating the lot as it is seaward of the state coastal control line and she is unable to get a permit from the state to stop the erosion on her lot so she would like to give it to the county rather than continue to pay taxes on a lot she cannot use.

Motion by Parrish, seconded by Lockley, to approve and send letter of thanks to Ms. Florence Fowler for the donation of her lot on Bald Point; Motion carried 5-0.

4- Board action to sign JPA for \$271,115 with DOT for the rehabilitation of pavement at the airport.

Motion by Parrish, seconded by Lockley, to approve JPA with DOT for the rehabilitation of pavement of the airport; Motion carried 5-0.

5- Inform the Board that in early 2014 DOT will be sending down another JPA for \$1.2M to build a new taxiway that will connect the county's undeveloped industrial park to the runway. This will make the industrial park have airport access and will make it more desirable for aviation related uses.

The Board spoke in favor of this item.

6- Inform the Board that the Florida State Association of Supervisor of Elections is holding a one day workshop in Orlando on Jan. 31 to bring all county Canvassing Board members up to speed on election law changes. While the workshop is not mandatory, it is encouraged. Chairman Sanders went to the workshop last year but she will be unable to be on the Canvassing Board this year as she will be a candidate.

Motion by Parrish, seconded by Massey, to appoint Commissioner Lockley to the Canvassing Board and approve travel expenses for Commissioner Lockley and Attorney Shuler to attend the workshop in Orlando; Motion carried 5-0.

7- Inform the Board that I spoke to Ms. Rhonda Skipper, Property Appraiser, regarding the agriculture exemption granted to the St. Joe Company, as was discussed at the last Board meeting. According to Ms. Skipper, since the St. Joe Company is selling the land the new owner will have to present evidence that they can also qualify for an exemption. An Ag exemption is not transferred with a sale. The terms for qualifying for an Ag exemption are set by the state.

Chairman Sanders asked Mr. Pierce to contact and update Mr. Nobles concerning this information.

8- Inform the Board that the county Finance Office has been notified that Congress has not authorized any PILT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) this year for the US Forest Service. This notification has come after the county budget has started, and in this year's budget the assumption was made that the county would receive the same amount of PILT funds as 2012, which was \$230,000. If Congress does not fund PILT then the county's revenue stream for this year will be short by \$230,000. Board action to contact our federal delegation and ask them to support PILT.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Parrish, to contact Federal Legislative Delegation and ask them to support PILT payments; Motion carried 5-0.

9- Board action to amend the SHIP Housing Plan to provide for a small amount of funds to help make delinquent mortgage payments current for seafood workers who can demonstrate that their income has been substantially reduced due to the Bay Fisheries Failure. The County SHIP Committee made this request to Florida Housing and it has been approved by Florida Housing, subject to the county commission approving. Dr. John Sink, SHIP Committee, is here to discuss the new strategy.

Rev. Sink stated that the maximum in this strategy will be \$60,000 with a maximum of \$2,000 per applicant.

The Board discussed the details of this funding and it how it will help the seafood workers.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Massey, to approve new strategy to help make delinquent mortgage payments for seafood workers; Motion carried 5-0.

10- Board action to appoint new Hospital Board members. Mr. Ray Brownsworth might have already covered this item.

This action was covered during Mr. Brownsworth's discussion.

11- Remind Board the Dec. 17th Board meeting will be in Carrabelle, starting at 10 AM.

Mr. Taylor Newman, of Crystal Air, gave a status update regarding FBO services at the Airport. He gave information on rentals, finances and aesthetics of the Airport.

Commissioner Jackel asked about a website for Crystal Air and the Airport, and stated that she is very disappointed that there isn't a website advertising and promoting the Airport.

Mr. Newman stated that there is a website through Crystal Air but will talk to his IT staff about better search capabilities.

Commissioner Jackel also recommended that Crystal Air joins both of the Chambers in the County. Mr. Newman said he would join the local Chambers and stated that he is looking for a local manager that would help with these types of situations.

Chairman Sanders and Mr. Newman asked about night flights at the Airport. Commissioner Parrish commented on this issue also.

Mr. Pierce asked Mr. Newman to prepare for the mowing and maintenance during the upcoming spring season.

T. Michael Shuler – County Attorney Report (10:12 AM)

Attorney Shuler provided copies of the proposed final contract for debris removal. He stated that there is a public hearing scheduled for January. Mrs. Brownell commented on this item.

Attorney Shuler handed out a diagram for the property owned by the County that is next to the Suwannee Swifty store. He stated that the Board needs to decide how much and the size of the property that the County will sell to the property owner, which houses her propane tank and air conditioning units. He gave his recommendation of which section of the property to sell.

Commissioner Massey stated what area he would like to sell.

Commissioner Jackel stated that she would like any fencing to be paid for from the sale of the property.

The Board discussed this item further.

Mr. Pierce suggested that the County sells enough property to allow for maintenance of the units. He explained how he came up with the amount.

Motion by Massey, seconded by Parrish, to approve sale at \$9,000 for the property in Eastpoint as described by Commissioner Massey; Motion carried 5-0.

Attorney Shuler asked for Board action to change the insurance amount on the lease for the Hangar to Mr. Randolph.

Commissioner Jackel and Mr. Pierce verified that Mr. Randolph recused himself from these votes as came up at the Airport Board.

Motion by Parrish, seconded by Lockley, to approve insurance amount amendment on the Hangar lease with Mr. Randolph; Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Jackel and Attorney Shuler discussed the issue regarding the Eastpoint property owners who were contacted about cleaning up their property.

Motion by Jackel, seconded by Massey, to enforce action on these property owners; Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioners' & Public Comments (10:24 AM)

Commissioner Lockley and Mr. Pierce discussed the flooding problems in the Courthouse when it rains.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Parrish, to have architect or engineer look at problems with flooding in Courthouse; Motion carried 5-0.

Adjourn (10:28 AM)

There being no further business, Chairman Sanders adjourned the Meeting.

Cheryl Sanders, Chairman – FCBOCC

Attest:

Marcia M. Johnson, Clerk of Courts