

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
FRANKLIN COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANNEX
AUGUST 19, 2014
9:00 AM**

MINUTES

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

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 (9:00 AM)

Chairman Sanders called the Meeting to order.

Prayer and Pledge (9:00 AM)

There was a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes (9:01 AM)

Motion by Massey, seconded by Parrish, to approve the Minutes of the August 5, 2014 Regular Meeting, adding basketball court project costs into youth league fields discussion; Motion carried 5-0.

Payment of County Bills (9:02 AM)

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

Planning & Zoning Consent Agenda (9:03 AM)

Mr. Pierce presented the items.

FINAL PLAT APPROVAL:

- 1- *P&Z RECOMMENDED APPROVAL (UNANIMOUS) Consideration of a request for a Final Plat approval of "Pine View Cove 2" to plat 3 lots containing more than an acre each. This Re-Plat would replace an existing 4 lot subdivision known as "Pine View Cove" a 4.27 acre parcel lying in Section 35, Township 7 South, Range 5 West, address of 2016 Highway 98, Carrabelle, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by Thurman Roddenberry of Roddenberry & Associates, agent for Willis Timber Limited Partnership (Benjamin C. Willis, Jr.), applicant.*

Motion by Massey, seconded by Parrish, to approve a request for a Final Plat approval of "Pine View Cove 2" to plat 3 lots containing more than an acre each; Motion carried 5-0.

SPECIAL EXCEPTION:

- 2- *P&Z RECOMMENDED APPROVAL (UNANIMOUS) Consideration of a request for a Special Exception to construct a 260 foot self supporting telecommunication tower on property lying in Section 23, Township 8 South, Range 6 West, 1250 Highway 98, Eastpoint, Franklin County, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by James Johnston with Shutts & Bowen, LLP, agent for the Franklin County School Board, applicant.*

The Board discussed the ability to co-locate.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Massey, to approve request for a Special Exception to construct a 260 foot self supporting telecommunication tower on property lying in Section 23, Township 8 South, Range 6 West, 1250 Highway 98, Eastpoint; Motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Sanders recognized the new Weems Hospital CEO, Mr. Mike Cooper.
Mr. Cooper had a short discussion with the Board.

Department Supervisors Report

Howard Nabors –Superintendent of Public Works (9:07 AM)

Mr. Nabors had no action items.

Mr. Nabors stated that Tommy Sadler is back at work.

Commissioner Parrish commended Mr. Nabors on work done by the Road Department west of Apalachicola.

Chairman Sanders and Commissioner Massey also complimented the Road Department on work done in their districts.

Fonda Davis– Solid Waste Director (9:08 AM)

Mr. Davis had no action items.

Nikki Millender- Parks & Recreation (9:09 AM)

Mrs. Millender had no items.

Mrs. Millender updated the Board on little league football and cheerleader sign-ups. The Board and Mrs. Millender discussed this matter further.

Mr. Pierce updated the Board on the soccer field and basketball court projects at D. W. Wilson Park in Apalachicola. He mentioned FRDAP as a possible funding option in the future.

Dewitt Polous- Mosquito Control (9:11 AM)

Mr. Polous asked the Board to consider an increase in salary for Virginia Messer, an employee at the Road Department, as she provides administrative assistant duties for him at the Mosquito Control Dept.

Commissioner Jackel discussed a list of items regarding changes to the budget, which included a \$1,000 increase for Virginia Messer, a \$2,500 increase to Nikki Millender, and a \$500 bonus for all County employees.

The Board and Mr. Polous discussed Scott Tucker's pay and job description. They also discussed Mr. Tucker supervising inmates and whether he should receive that pay adjustment.

Commissioner Jackel stated that these increases will not affect the proposed millage rate.

The Board discussed this matter further.

Commissioner Parrish stated that he isn't opposed to the \$500 increase for all County employees but he is opposed to the individual pay adjustments.

Commissioner Lockley stated that he also objects to the individual pay adjustments.

Mrs. Millender discussed her proposed increase.

The Board and Mrs. Johnson discussed this matter further.

Motion by Jackel, seconded by Massey, to approve salary increase of \$1,000 for Virginia Messer, \$2,500 for Nikki Millender, & \$500 one-time allocation for all County employees; Motion carried 3-2, Lockley and Parrish opposed.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Massey, to approve a \$1,500 pay adjustment for Clerk's Finance Office employees, Clerk's Administrative Assistant/Deputy Clerk to the Board and County Administrator; Motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Jackel, based on a conversation with the Tax Collector, discussed the possibility of moving the Carrabelle Courthouse Annex from its current location to the old Carrabelle High School location that currently houses City Hall and other offices.

Chairman Sanders suggested if the Carrabelle Annex moves from the current location, moving the Parks and Recreation Department into that building and erecting a new fence for security purposes at that location.

Board discussed further.

Motion by Jackel, seconded by Massey, directing staff to start the process of looking for space and provide figures for moving the Carrabelle Courthouse Annex to the old Carrabelle High School (City of Carrabelle Municipal Complex) and also provide an estimate for a new fence at the proposed Parks and Recreation Department location; Motion carried 5-0.

Pam Brownell- Emergency Management (9:38 AM)

Mrs. Brownell had no action items.

Action Items:

None

Mr. Pierce discussed awarding of bid for the retrofit on the EOC building to Garrison Design and Construction.

Motion by Parrish, seconded by Massey, to approve awarding bid to Garrison Design and Construction, for the retrofit on the EOC building; Motion carried 5-0.

Information Items:

- 1. Pam, Tress, and Jenni participated in the Franklin County Promise Coalition Exercise on 08/11/14 at Franklin County School.*
- 2. Pam Brownell met with Chad Gunter with One Source Solutions regarding Fuel Quality for our backup generator.*
- 3. Pam Brownell and Jennifer Daniels met with Jessie Hayes with Dept. of Health regarding Special Needs criteria and new brochure.*

Erik Lovestrund- Extension Agent (9:39 AM)

Mr. Lovestrund was unable to attend the meeting due to another engagement.

Anne Birchwell – Library Director (9:40 AM)

Ms. Birchwell presented her report to the Board. She discussed an upcoming meeting at the library with Senator Marco Rubio's staff and the many issues that will be discussed at that meeting.

Ms. Birchwell discussed a new partnership program with local restaurants called 'A Bite for a Book'.

Ms. Birchwell asked for Board action to authorize the Chairman's signature on a State Aid Library grant application.

Attorney Shuler reviewed and recommended the Chairman's signature on the library grant application.

Motion by Jackel, seconded by Massey, to approve Chairman's signature on the State Aid Library grant; Motion carried 5-0.

Shannon Hartsfield – Update of Federal Fisheries Disaster Shelling Program (9:45 AM)

Mr. Pierce presented this item from his report.

3- Provide the Board with background on the Federal Fishery Disaster shelling program. Mr. Shannon Hartsfield is on the agenda to provide an update on the application process for those seeking to participate in the shelling program. Mr. Hartsfield might have already provided this information. The program could start in late September. The federal funds available, which are approximately \$2.8M for the re-shelling by boat is supposed to be used over a 3 year period, and the purchase of shell material will have to come out of the \$2.8M. The re-shelling program will include work on some of the winter bars but there will still be winter bars open for harvesting.

The Board and Shannon Hartsfield discussed the re-shelling program further.

Commissioner Parrish asked that Mr. Hartsfield send the information to the County so it can be added to the County's website. He also asked that it be advertised in the local newspaper.

Commissioner Lockley and Mr. Hartsfield discussed what assistance is available to oyster shuckers and those who process shrimp for the shrimp houses.

Commissioner Jackel asked if the drug tests that are part of the application process can be conducted at Weems. Mr. Hartsfield said he would look into that.

Recess (10:04 AM)

Chairman Sanders called for a recess.

Reconvene (10:18 AM)

Chairman Sanders reconvened the meeting.

Keith McCarron – ARPC – Discussion of DOT 5 Year Plan (10:18 AM)

Mr. McCarron reviewed the DOT 5 year plan. He discussed prioritizing projects and the start dates of some of the Highway 98 projects. He also explained how the projects are ranked.

Commissioner Jackel commented on the condition of Highway 98 between Eastpoint and Carrabelle and expressed concerns of the project not being a priority on the plan, especially for the safety of the residents that use that road.

Chairman Sanders expressed her concerns regarding the problems with Highway 98. She stated that the worse area is from the County's School to Yent's Bayou.

Mr. McCarron stated that he will discuss this matter with the state engineer and ask for a response giving an idea of when this project might be started.

Commissioner Lockley and other Board members expressed their concerns with the condition of this road due to safety issues but also because it is an evacuation route for County residents.

Commissioner Jackel asked why there were no projects for Franklin County in 2017 and 2018. Mr. McCarron wasn't sure but attempted to explain some of the causes.

Mr. McCarron discussed the SCRAP and the SCOP programs and stated that the County wasn't eligible for SCRAP because of the lack of a local gas tax, but didn't advise going after that program because of low funding.

Mr. McCarron discussed SCOP funding for the Cities of Apalachicola and Carrabelle.

Chairman Sanders and Mr. Pierce discussed this further.

Mr. McCarron discussed the trail programs throughout the County.

Commissioner Lockley asked about the possibility of a four lane highway for Highway 65 or 67. Mr. McCarron responded.

Chairman Sanders commented on this matter.

Advisory Board of Adjustment Consent Agenda (10:43 AM)

Mr. Pierce presented the items to the Board.

1. Approved (ABOA) - a request for a variance to construct a seawall and rip rap revetment within the Critical Habitat Zone on property described as 1527 East Gulf Beach Drive, Lot 6, Tract 50, East End, St. George Island, Franklin County, Florida, as submitted by Garlick Environmental Associates, Inc., agent for Bruce Grady, owner.

*2. Approved (ABOA) - the administrative decision to **deny** a building permit for construction of a single family dwelling and to disconnect electric service to this lot. This property is described as 696 East Bayshore Drive, Lot 13, Block 35, Unit 4, St. George Island, Franklin County, Florida. Appeal submitted by John Clark and Diane Wyatt, owners.*

Mr. Pierce asked that this item is tabled until a later date.

3. Approved (ABOA) - a request for a Special Exception to construct a telecommunication tower and a height variance to construct the 260 self-supporting tower on property described as lying in Section 23-08S-06W-0000-0010-0010, 1250 US Highway 98, Eastpoint, Franklin County,

Florida. Request submitted by James Johnston with Shutts & Bowen, LLP, agent for the Franklin County School Board.

This item was addressed earlier in the Meeting.

4. *Approved (ABOA) - a request for a variance to extend an existing rock revetment to the east within the Critical Habitat Zone on property described as 2043 Turpentine Trail, Lot 17, Bay Cove Village, St. George Island, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by Garlick Environmental Associates, Inc., agent for Danny & Patricia Hayes, owners. **It was noted this was not an extension but a rock revetment to work with a breakwater.***

5. *Approved (ABOA) - a request for a variance to construct a seawall and rip rap revetment within the Critical Habitat Zone on property described as 1529 East Gulf Beach Drive, Lot 7, Tract 50, East End, St. George Island, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by Garlick Environmental Associates, Inc., agent for Erik Lawrence Johnson, owner.*

Motion by Jackel, seconded by Massey, to approve Items 1, 4, & 5; Motion carried 5-0.

Marcia M. Johnson – Clerk of Courts – Report (10:44 AM)

Mrs. Johnson had no report.

Alan Pierce – Director of Administrative Services – Report (10:45 AM)

Mr. Pierce presented his report to the Board.

1- Inform the Board that the US Treasury released the Interim Final Rules related to the RESTORE Act on August 15. These rules still have to be published for 30 days and then there is a 60 day period after that before they become final. While it is expected that these Interim Final Rules will not change substantially, I believe the publication allows still one more opportunity for some changes to be made. The Interim Final Rules are 97 pages long and have been provided to the commissioners electronically. Ms. Sarah Bleakley, General Counsel to the Gulf Consortium, is reviewing the rules and will be providing her analysis to the Consortium, of which Franklin County is a member.

The US Treasury had announced training related to the new rules and the procedure for applying for funds, but that training was cancelled last month and has not yet been re-scheduled.

Chairman Sanders commented on a recent Consortium meeting she attended in Pensacola.

2- Inform the Board that the county's CDGB housing rehabilitation project did not get funded. Ms. Debbie Belcher was the grant writer. Another funding cycle will be open in 2015. Ms. Belcher will appear before the Board soon to discuss this application as well as what options the Board might consider in 2015.

Ms. Belcher distributed information, which was the same information as last year. She explained that there was nothing wrong with the application but discussed why the County didn't receive points on certain items. She didn't know the cycle for this year because they were re-writing some rules and recommended re-applying for this project. Chairman Sanders asked about the number of points the County received on this project.

Commissioner Jackel asked for an update on recent or current CDBG grants. Ms. Belcher stated that there is nothing in the works right now and stated what grant applications were available for the County. She stated that there will be a need to appoint new members for the citizen advisory board task force because of different requirements this year and discussed the requirements for members of the advisory board.

Commissioner Parrish and Ms. Belcher discussed a project to provide water at the Southland development area.

Commissioner Lockley and Ms. Belcher discussed whether or not the Cities applying for grants will compete with the County.

Ms. Belcher discussed further re-applying for the Housing grant. She stated that it is relatively easy to get the match because of using SHIP funds. Commissioner Parrish expressed concerns of the income limit requirements for this project. Ms. Belcher explained how the limits are assessed.

Commissioner Lockley and Ms. Belcher discussed using minority contractors in order to acquire additional points and whether they have to be within the County.

3- Provide the Board with background on the Federal Fishery Disaster shelling program. Mr. Shannon Hartsfield is on the agenda to provide an update on the application process for those seeking to participate in the shelling program. Mr. Hartsfield might have already provided this information. The program could start in late September. The federal funds available, which are approximately \$2.8M for the re-shelling by boat is supposed to be used over a 3 year period, and the purchase of shell material will have to come out of the \$2.8M. The re-shelling program will include work on some of the winter bars but there will still be winter bars open for harvesting.

4- Board direction on proposed modification to Crystal Air lease at airport. The current lease requires Crystal Air to pay \$5000 per month, and in return Crystal Air has control of all the T-hangers, the main FBO hanger, and the corporate hanger. I have spoken with Mr. Ted Mosteller and the consensus of the Airport Advisory Committee is that they would like to get the corporate hanger back. The corporate hanger is a 10,000 square foot hanger with 1500 square feet of office space. At this point, Crystal Air is not regularly utilizing the hanger, but on occasion does receive some rent if a large plane stays in the hanger overnight. Crystal Air would also like to see a reduction in their lease payments.

As Airport Manager, my recommendation is to reduce Crystal Air's monthly lease to \$2500 a month effective June 1, and modify the lease to allow Franklin County to give Crystal Air 10 days notice on vacating the corporate hanger in the event Franklin County has a use for it. Until the county gives Crystal Air notice, the corporate hanger will continue to be in their lease and they will continue to pay the utilities for the building. But effective June 1, the county will receive ½ the gross proceeds of rent from the corporate hanger plus the \$2500 a month base lease.

If the corporate hanger can be leased out, the use of that one building alone could generate \$3K to \$5K monthly.

Board direction.

Commissioner Jackel and Mr. Pierce discussed the county sharing in the profits from the gas sold at the Airport. She expressed concerns with the operation of the FBO. Commissioner Lockley stated that he didn't have any confidence in the FBO. He stated that Mr. Newman isn't here enough to run the FBO successfully. Commissioner Jackel expressed concerns with AVCON, the Airport engineering firm. She was opposed to reducing the lease, especially without gas profit sharing. Chairman Sanders commented on this matter. The Board discussed Airport operations and the status of the current FBO.

Motion by Lockley, seconded by Jackel, to not take the recommendation as presented by Mr. Pierce and consider starting the process to get a new engineer; Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Pierce stated that parking is becoming a problem at the Courthouse so he is going to designate parking spaces with signage. Mrs. Johnson mentioned the resolution that has been adopted by the Board concerning employee parking. She also stated that a local business is using the Courthouse parking area, which is causing parking issues for Courthouse visitors. Commissioner Parrish stated there is a parking problem for the County Judge also. Attorney Shuler stated that he will get with Mr. Pierce to seek a resolution to this problem.

Chairman Sanders and Mr. Pierce discussed the progress on the audit for the Senior Citizen's Center.

Michael Shuler – County Attorney – Report (11:17 AM)

Attorney Shuler had no items.

Chairman Sanders and Attorney Shuler discussed the progress on a parking ordinance for Alligator Point.

Commissioners and Public Comments (11:18 AM)

Commissioner Lockley stated that he is serving on the canvassing board asked Mr. Pierce to check on the requirements.

Adjourn (11:19 AM)

Chairman Sanders adjourned the Meeting.

Cheryl Sanders, Chairman – FCBOCC

Attest:

Marcia M. Johnson, Clerk of Courts