

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
FRANKLIN COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANNEX  
JULY 7, 2015  
9:00 AM**

**MINUTES**

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

**Others Present:** Alan Pierce – Director of Administrative Services, Michael Shuler – County Attorney, Michael Morón – County Coordinator, Marcia Johnson, Clerk of Court, Lauren Luberto – Deputy Clerk to the Board

**Call to Order: (9:02)**

Chairman Massey called the meeting to order.

**Prayer and Pledge**

There was a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of the Minutes**

Motion by Commissioner Lockley to approve the minutes from the May 5, 2015 and June 15, 2015 meetings. Seconded by Commissioner Parrish. Motion carried 5-0.

**Payment of County Bills**

Motion by Commissioner Sanders to approve payment of the county bills. Seconded by Commissioner Lockley. Motion carried 5-0.

**Jimmy Harris – Tax Collector – Recapulation Report**

Mr. Harris gave the recapulation of the tax roll for last year. Taxes levied for the year totaled \$23,865,968.16 and was distributed as follows:

- School Board received \$9,745,900.32
- Board of County Commissioners (General Fund and Fine and Forfeiture) received \$10,213,853.01
- City of Carrabelle received \$844,558.49
- City of Apalachicola received \$1,149,983.35
- Northwest Florida Water Management district received \$62,159.84
- Dog Island received \$83,661.74
- Eastpoint Water Management District received \$125,651.10
- Alligator Point received \$262,682.53

The Tax Sale collected 865,844.00 of which the county received approximately \$95,000.00.

**Maddix Paul – Resolution of Recognition**

***RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION***

***WHEREAS, Maddix Paul, of Apalachicola, born October 3, 2008, whose parents are Emily Adams and Zachary Paul, and***

***WHEREAS, Maddix Paul is six years of age, a first grader in the Apalachicola Bay Charter School, and a third year Dixie Youth League Baseball player, and***

***WHEREAS, Maddix Paul, of the Warriors Team, while playing ball at the Donnie Wilson Sports Complex west of Apalachicola, discovered a black plastic bag containing 19 packs of 305 brand cigars hidden on the outskirts of the playing field, and***

***WHEREAS, Maddix Paul, having the maturity and wisdom to discern that finding the cigars was a serious matter, immediately reported his findings to Franklin County Work Squad Lt. Eddie Moses, who was coaching another team on the field.***

***WHEREAS, Maddix Paul's actions resulted in finding a total of 127 packs of cigars hidden around the field of play and further prevented the illegal cigars from being introduced into the Franklin Correctional Institute and being sold on the black market, and***

***WHEREAS, Maddix Paul exhibited good moral character, bravery and confidence; setting an example to his peers and fellow players,***

***THEREFORE, THIS RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION IS PRESENTED TO MADDIX PAUL and is adopted by THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSION on this 7<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2015.***

\_\_\_\_\_  
*William Massey, Chairman*

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Marcia M. Johnson, Clerk*

**Motion by Commissioner Sanders to approve the Resolution. Seconded by Commissioner Jackel.  
Motion carried 5-0.**

**Ralph Roberson – Present County Financial Statement**

Mr. Roberson presented the Board with the 2014 fiscal year financial audit report which included the Board of County Commissioners, constitutional officers and the hospital. The constitutional officers were all in line with the basic findings in regards to internal control and lack of segregation of duties, which is typical for smaller offices where you do not have personnel available to provide total segregation.

Mr. Roberson noted a few items of significance. Regarding the hospital, under "Subsequent Event"

Medicare deducted \$385,949 because of bad debt documentation that was not completed. That is being corrected and re-submitted by the hospital. It is believed this money will be recouped. Another issue under "Contingent Liabilities" is the potential for action regarding the accounting software. This occurred after year-end and the firm is unable to determine the impact, if any.

The other significant finding was in regards to the Clerk of Courts. Internal Control of Fines Assigned to Contractor for Collection (Finding #2014-003, Page 24). Mr. Roberson stated "Not all fines collected by the contractor were submitted to the Clerk of the Courts. The shortage of submission was not reported by the contractor and was not detected in a timely matter. The accurate collection of court fines assigned to contractor is dependent upon adequate internal controls by the collecting contractor and proper monitoring by the Clerk of Court. The Clerk should maintain a ledger of all amounts assigned to contractor for collection and the ledger should be reconciled on a timely basis with the amounts remitted by the contractor and the original amounts levied by the court. In the event the collections are not made timely, the clerk should proceed with all legal means to collect the amount due from the defendant. Any deviation from the initial findings by the court should be evidenced by the judge's approval." Mr. Roberson went on to say that contracts for collections should be reviewed by the Board of County Commissioners and requirements of adequate reporting and reconciliation of collection activity to the Clerk should be included. He recommended that contractors be required to provide a copy of their annual independent audit report for a service organization, fidelity bond and proof of adequate liability insurance. Mr. Roberson stated the Clerk's response to these findings was "we have put in place procedures for the proper and efficient monitoring of court fine collections. The Clerk's office will begin collecting all court costs, fines and fees assessed by the court instead of the contractor to insure that all county funds are accounted for."

Commissioner Jackel had several questions for Mr. Roberson. She, in reference to a theft that occurred within the county probation office, inquired about the number of files audited in the Clerk's office, and Mr. Roberson responded they examined 100% of the files over the years 2009 through 2013. She then inquired if he performed a financial audit and not an operational audit, and he responded that his total of \$210,957 was slightly different from the State Attorney's total and that theirs was an amount of \$122,778 that would have went to various county pots which were booked on the records as deferred revenue. Commissioner Jackel then referred to page 74 of the Franklin County, Florida Annual Financial Report, Schedule of Findings and Responses. She stated that the auditor put a check-mark for yes under the item for internal control over financial reporting; material weakness (es) identified and asked if this is operational deficiencies. She continued by making a reference to page 75, Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs marked \$300,000. Mr. Roberson replied that these procedures all fall under operational and these pages referred to grant funds of the County. Commissioner Jackel went on to question why yes was marked on page 75 as to auditee being qualified as a low-risk auditee, and Mr. Roberson stated that, in the functions of government, the risk of material loss is considered low and that this is a standard comment for governmental agencies. Commissioner Jackel spoke about material weaknesses and asked how Mr. Roberson would characterize the Clerk's role with the stolen monies and how the Board could justify a material weakness of that size to the public. Mr. Roberson replied that there were three responsibility points: one was with the contract negotiated by the Board in that it should have been designed with internal control for reconciliation of the funds; two was with the contractor who collected the money and it was their employee who committed the theft; and three was with the

clerk's office who didn't monitor and reconcile receipts back to the source or didn't recognize that the money wasn't being received. Commissioner Jackel inquired if Mr. Roberson had spoken to Mr. Richard Stewart, the contractor for the Probation Company, and Mr. Roberson advised her he had no authority to audit the contractor. She went on to mention comments from the audit regarding internal controls and lack of segregation of duties and that the costs of employing more people outweighs the benefit and asked if he agreed with that. Mr. Roberson said you will find this comment in most audits unless there are a high number of employees. He also stated in this case, there was some segregation since there was an outside contractor, and there was a failure all along the system. He stated the Clerk's office has put things into place, and the County should be more diligent with its contract negotiations and contractors, and it had been a learning experience. Commissioner Jackel recommended the Board go out for an operational audit to be done by the Auditor General based on page 74 of the audit. She stated it's a good idea for any business to look at controls, and motioned to request a free audit from the Auditor General through our legislative delegation. The motion died for lack of a second. Mr. Roberson informed the Board that his report goes to the Auditor General for review as all audits do, they are subject to peer review, and if the Auditor General finds any deficiencies, it will be reported back to the Board. Mr. Alan Feifer, Concerned Citizens of Franklin County, took the floor and expressed his disappointment in the Board not seeking an outside audit.

Mrs. Marcia Johnson spoke up to notify the Board she was present to answer any questions the Board may have in regards to the audit.

Alex Quintana notified the Board Congresswoman Graham's office hours have moved from Eastpoint to the Courthouse.

Mr. Pierce notified the Board at 10:00 a.m. he has to step out of the meeting to participate in a conference call regarding the BP Settlement. Commissioner Jackel asked if the board was moving forward with trying to contract with Dewberry. Mr. Pierce replied yes, they are moving forward.

### **Department Supervisor Report**

#### **Howard Nabors – Superintendent of Public Works**

Mr. Nabors and Commissioner Massey discussed a new CAT machine for cutting grass. The Board discussed option of possibly renting the machine for a few months. Commissioner Sanders recommended auctioning machines that are not being used.

Commissioner Jackel and Commissioner Lockley informed Mr. Nabors they were receiving calls regarding mosquitoes.

#### **Fonda Davis – Solid Waste Director**

Mr. Davis did not have a report. Commissioner Massey asked if Kendrick Park can be used for children's soccer practice. He asked Mr. Davis to get the small, medium and tall size soccer nets. Commissioner Sanders asked if Mr. Davis received the soil samples back. Mr. Davis replied that he met with Mr. Lester Harrison and was told the results of the samples showed it would take a lot of work to grow grass. Commissioner Sanders stated they have a grant to take care of this issue and it needs to be done. Board discussed other options to get rid of the sand spurs in the fields.

**Michael Moron addressed item number 5 on Alan's Report.**

5- Inform the Board that the Leave No Trace implementation is moving along. There have been some issues but many people are voluntarily complying with the requirement to remove personal belongings from the beach at night. A great deal of credit goes to Fonda Davis and his staff, and to the rental agencies that have been vigilant in reminding their tenants of the county's ordinance

Mr. Pierce commented that he was impressed with Mr. Davis' enforcement of the Leave No Trace ordinance and he has received several positive emails stating the same. Mr. Davis thanked the Board and commented that the credit for a job well done needs to go to his employees. He also reminded the Board at this time that he had asked for increases for employees earlier in the year and he would like the Board to keep that in mind as we approach the budget workshops.

Commissioner Jackel asked about part-time summer help and how many part-time employees Mr. Davis had employed at the time. Mr. Davis stated he had two seasonal part-time employees that are paid out of Solid Waste's budget.

Public comment from Dr. William Satterfield of Alligator Point, informing the Board of a certain type of pre-emergent chemical that can be applied to the fields to help rid the sand spurs from Kendrick Park. He further discussed the process and time of year this should be completed for optimal results.

Commissioner Lockley asked if having an inmate crew remove the sand spurs was an option. The Board believed that option would be too labor intensive.

**Pam Brownell- Emergency Management Director**

Mrs. Brownell apologized to the Board for not attending last meeting. She was absent due to a doctor's appointment.

**Action Items:**

Requesting Board to open RFP's for Debris Removal Services. Mrs. Brownell asked the Board for approval to form a committee of her staff and Michael Moron to open the packages and score at her office. Motion by Commissioner Lockley, seconded by Commissioner Parrish. Commissioner Jackel asked Attorney Shuler if the RFP's needed to be opened in a public setting since that is how it has always been done by the Board in the past. Attorney Shuler responded it is up to the Board to decide. Commissioner Parrish rescinded his second and Commissioner Lockley rescinded his motion. Michael Moron and Attorney Shuler opened the packages containing the RFP's and Mrs. Brownell read the names of the contractors to the board:

1. DRC Emergency Services, LLC
2. Crowder Gulf Joint Venture, Inc.
3. Phillips and Jordan, Inc.
4. Bergeron Emergency Services, Inc.
5. Ceres Environmental Services, Inc.
6. Ashbritt Environmental, Inc.

**Mrs. Brownell asked the board for permission to score the contractors with her staff and Michael Moron and then return to the board with the results. Motion by Commissioner Jackel to turn the RFP's over to Mrs. Brownell's committee for scoring. Seconded by Commissioner Sanders. Motion carried 5-0.**

Information Items:

Emergency Management held a G300 Intermediate Incident Command System for Expanding Incidents on June 16-18 from 8:30am – 4:30pm. Attendance for the class was very good.

EOC staff was staffed at the following location around the county issuing Re-Entry Tags:

Franklin County Courthouse Carrabelle Annex on June 15-16,

Eastpoint office of the Franklin County Visitors Center on June 22-23,

Franklin County Courthouse in Apalachicola Annex building.

Tags were issued at the Civic Club Meeting on St. George Island on May 21<sup>st</sup>.

We will be continually planning other Re-Entry tag outreach sites throughout the

**Erik Lovestrاند- Extension Agent**

Mr. Lovestrاند thanked the Board for their role in legislative funding of \$250,000.00 that was secured for the Extension office this year.

Mr. Lovestrاند also addressed item #7 of Mr. Pierce's report regarding him being present at budget workshop. Originally Mr. Lovestrاند didn't think he was going to be present at the workshop meeting but there has been a change in his schedule and it now appears that he may be in attendance. Mr. Moron asked the Board if they were opposed to Mr. Lovestrاند and Ms. Birchwell not being present at the workshop. The board did not seem to mind if they weren't present.

Moron addressed item #1 of Mr. Pierce's report.

1- Update on results of this year's legislature. The budget process is finally over. Franklin County will be receiving \$250K for a new extension office in the former DEP building at Scipio Creek. Because the Univ. of Florida will ultimately own the building, and because the Univ. is putting up \$250K of its money for a total renovation cost of \$500K, it is Alan's recommendation that the Board signs an agreement with the Univ. and let them handle the renovation project. The renovation project does include fixing the road and parking lot leading into the area. At this time we do not know which state agency will be contacting the county regarding the legislative \$250K but there will be an agreement between the state and the county, and then the county would sign a sub-grant agreement with UF to allow them to administer the grant. Board action to direct staff to get with UF staff to develop an agreement to be reviewed by county attorney and then approved by the Board. **Motion by Commissioner Parrish. Seconded by Commissioner Lockley. Motion carried 5-0.**

Commissioner Lockley asked Mr. Lovestrاند to try to work with local contractors for the project.

**RECESS**

Chairman Massey called for a recess.

**RECONVENE:**

Chairman Massey reconvened the meeting.

**Mike Cooper- Weem's CEO**

John Graham, Weems CFO, spoke to the Board regarding the financial status of the hospital and explained the \$385K Medicare funds that were mentioned in the Roberson audit. He also updated the Board on the current status of the accounts receivables and the income statement for the hospital. Commissioner Jackel asked when the Healthcare Trust Fund would be repaid. Mr. Graham stated the hospital has paid back half already. Commissioner Sanders asked about the line item "due to TMH" on financial statement. Mr. Graham explained. Commissioner Sanders also asked Mr. Graham if he could recall what the contract with TMH says as far as how much they charge Weem's and what services are they providing. Mr. Graham replied TMH is charging them for direct payroll and insurance benefits. Commissioner Sanders asked Mr. Cooper what insurance does he have through TMH. Mr. Cooper replied he has Blue Cross Blue Shield. Mr. Graham predicted next month being a better month due to having settlement from Medicare. Commissioner Jackel asked Mr. Graham about a recent new hire in the hospital's finance department and what his salary was. Mr. Graham replied the salary was \$70K. She then asked how much it cost the hospital to switch insurance carriers from Capital Health Plan to Blue Cross. Mr. Cooper replied the cost was roughly \$65K. Commissioner Jackel asked how can the hospital justify spending \$160K of unbudgeted monies when there is only four days of cash reserve on hand? Mr. Graham explained for many years in the past the revenue cycle has been outsourced to several different companies. The new hire is a position that will pay for itself by not having to outsource. Commissioner Parrish commented that he would like to see returns on the expenditures that the hospital is making. Commissioner Sanders added that she would like to see the hospital do the very best they can to service the medical needs of the public. Commissioner Lockley asked if Mr. Graham expected to have more positions created. Mr. Graham responded if it was cost beneficial that there is a possibility.

Mr. Cooper spoke to the Board and stated from a financial standpoint the hospital will end its fiscal year in a positive position. He reassured the Board that the hospital is running fairly well but there are things that need to be approved upon at this point. He also commented on the Low Income Pool funds. Mr. Cooper informed the Board the new IT implementation is going well and explained the conversion process. Mr. Cooper forewarned the board effective October 1, the federal government will begin using new billing system and this could cause a major cash flow issue on November and December's financial statements. Commissioner Parrish asked if the current coding company was prepared for the new billing system. Mr. Cooper explained there isn't any software that has been tested so it's unknown at this time. Mr. Cooper updated the Board on the recruitment status of a new physician. Commissioner Sanders asked Mr. Cooper to contact Dr. Charbonneau to see if he was willing to return to Weems.

**Motion by Commissioner Sanders to have Mr. Cooper, Mr. Graham, Mr. Moron and a member of the hospital board schedule a meeting with Dr. Charbonneau to see if he would be willing to return to the county as a primary physician. Commissioner Jackel seconded and asked for discussion. Board and Cooper discussed Dr. Charbonneau returning. Motion carried 5-0.**

Mr. Cooper asked if the EMS discussion can be tabled until a future date. The Board discussed ambulance service in the county and issue with a complaint of an ambulance not showing up to call.

### **Open Qualifications – Design of CR67/Tallahassee Street Sidewalk Project**

Mr. Pierce, Mr. Moron and Attorney Shuler opened qualification packages and read them to the Board. Commissioner Sanders asked if the sidewalk was on the east or west side of street. Mr. Pierce was uncertain but believed it was on the west side.

1. Volkert, Inc.
2. Hydra Engineering & Construction, LLC
3. Genesis Group
4. David H. Melvin, Inc.
5. Preble Rish Consulting
6. Innovia Consulting

**Motion by Jackel to turn RFQ's over to Mr. Moron and Mr. Pierce to have them make a recommendation on project. Seconded by Commissioner Sanders. Motion carried 5-0.**

### **Open Bids – Airport Pavement Rehabilitation Project**

Mr. Pierce and Mr. Moron opened bids and read to the Board.

1. Cathey Construction, Mexico Beach submitted bid for \$1,917,303.00
2. Poloronis Construction, submitted a bid for \$1,168,669.69

John Collins, AVCON representative spoke to the Board regarding the bid process and project.

**Motion by Commissioner Lockley to have a committee review the bids and make a recommendation to the Board. Seconded by Commissioner Sanders. Motion carried 5-0.**

### **Kim Bodine – CareerSource Gulf Coast – Update**

Deb Blair spoke to the board regarding the CareerSource Gulf Coast budget. Ms. Blair asked for approval of their budget and permission to request an ITA waiver. **Motion by Commissioner Parrish. Seconded by Commissioner Lockley to approve budget and waiver request. Motion carried 5-0.**

Ms. Bodine requested board approval for application of initial local workforce area designation and continued charter of the existing regional Workforce board. **Motion by Commissioner Parrish. Seconded by Commissioner Sanders. Motion carried 5-0.**

Mrs. Bodine updated the board on the shelling program. The Board discussed sources for additional funding of the shelling program.

### **Marcia Johnson – Clerk of Courts**

Mrs. Johnson did not have a report but regarding the Roberson audit she asked the Board if they will take into consideration the recommendations of the auditor as well as her response



recommendations which were that the probation services contractor be required to provide a copy of their annual independent audit report, proof of a fidelity bond and liability insurance. She asked the Board to direct the county attorney to work with the contractor on including those items. Attorney Shuler replied that he believed the format and content of the contract was already sufficient, however, there was more of an issue with contract administration and we do not have the staff to administer the details. He went on to say that he will assist the clerk and the auditor and if there is some deficiency in the content of the contract he will work to make it more consistent with what the auditor is recommending.

**Alan Pierce – Director of Administrative Service**

Mr. Pierce reported on a conference call he took during the meeting concerning the RESTORE ACT Settlement. A global settlement is proposed for all parties and all parts of the BP litigation. The amount going into the RESTORE fund is some 5.5Billion, which will be divided among the five states and various counties. Then another 4 Billion has been set aside for economic losses by the states, and for Florida \$1.5Billion is going into something created by the Legislature called the Triumph Gulf Coast Fund. This will be a competitive fund where groups will make application for the projects that create jobs.

**Mr. Moron gave the following report:**

1- Update on results of this year's legislature. The budget process is finally over. Franklin County will be receiving \$250K for a new extension office in the former DEP building at Scipio Creek. Because the Univ. of Florida will ultimately own the building, and because the Univ. is putting up \$250K of its money for a total renovation cost of \$500K, it is Alan's recommendation that the Board signs an agreement with the Univ. and let them handle the renovation project. The renovation project does include fixing the road and parking lot leading into the area. At this time we do not know which state agency will be contacting the county regarding the legislative \$250K but there will be an agreement between the state and the county, and then the county would sign a sub-grant agreement with UF to allow them to administer the grant. Board action to direct staff to get with UF staff to develop an agreement to be reviewed by county attorney and then approved by the Board.

**This item was addressed earlier in meeting.**

2- Inform the Board that the request to waive the \$100 harvester fee for individuals over 65 was not passed. Senator Montford's office said they will try again next year. The bill that the waiver was attached to did not get out of committee, and this was true of many bills because of the chaotic end to the session.

3- Inform the Board that next year's legislative session will start in January, which is earlier than usual. It is expected that the county's legislative delegation hearing will take place in November or December.

**Motion by Commissioner Sanders to send staff and commissioners to Florida Association of Counties meeting August 26-28 in St. Petersburg. Seconded by Commissioner Parrish. Motion carried 5-0.**

4- Inform the Board that Transfield did win the bid for another 7 year contract with FDOT to management the state highway system in Franklin, Gulf, Liberty, Jefferson, and Wakulla counties. The FDOT will be bringing permits for access to the state highway system back in house.

5- Inform the Board that the Leave No Trace implementation is moving along. There have been some issues but many people are voluntarily complying with the requirement to remove personal belongings from the beach at night. A great deal of credit goes to Fonda Davis and his staff, and to the rental agencies that have been vigilant in reminding their tenants of the county's ordinance.

**This item was addressed earlier in the meeting.**

6- At the June 16 Board meeting, the Board re-appointed Ms. Betty Crooms to the Workforce Board. In the letter requesting Ms. Crooms's re-appointment was also a request to appoint another Franklin County resident to fill a private sector seat. Board discussion about who else might be interested in serving on the Workforce Board.

**This item was addressed earlier in the meeting.**

7- Inform the Board that two county budgets that show no increases in the coming year will not have their department heads at the July 23 workshop. Ms. Birchwell, Library Director, and Mr. Erik Lovestrang, Extension Office, both had made prior commitments before the Board announced the date of the budget workshops. Both budgets will have representation at the budget workshop but each Director will be telling the Board about their respective budgets in their reports at the July 21 Board meeting. While the Board cannot act on the budget requests on July 21, the members could ask questions with the understanding the budget will still be presented and discussed at the July 23 budget workshop. The county Finance Office is aware of this and has no objections.

**This item was addressed earlier in the meeting.**

8- Board action to hold joint Hosp. Board/county commission workshop on Aug. 18 at a time in the afternoon suitable to the Board. The Hosp. Board has agreed to this date. Commissioner Jackel asked if the meeting could be held in the evening and the board discussed.

**Motion by Commissioner Lockley. Seconded by Commissioner Parrish to set meeting for 1:30 pm. Motion carried 5-0.**

9- Board action to allow me to join the Florida Association of County Managers with an annual fee of \$100.

**Motion by Commissioner Sanders. Seconded by Commissioner Parrish. Motion carried 5-0.**

10- Inform the Board that the Chapman Roof repairs did not require the expenditure of any of the \$50K the Board had set aside in case more of the roof decking needed to be replaced. The project is coming in on budget.

11- Board action to approve a contract with DHR (Birkshire Johnstone, LLC) for \$862,550 for renovations to the Armory. The Board had allocated a total of \$885,000 for the project (\$535K in TDC funds, and \$350K in Historic Preservation funds). Emo Architects recommends the Board create a contingency fund in the event there is additional work to be done. It is staff recommendation to re-allocate \$26,000 of the \$50,000 in contingency funds that had been set aside for the Chapman Roof and now hold it for the Armory project. These funds would only be spent through a change order the Board would approve, but in a large construction project there are sometimes unexpected problems. The other \$24,000 will return to the Board's Reserve Fund.

**Motion by Commissioner Lockley, Seconded by Commissioner Sanders. Attorney Shuler commented that he has not yet had time to review the contract and asked if the board will approve the contract contingent on attorney's review. Commissioner Lockley amended his motion and Commissioner Sanders amended her second to reflect Attorney Shuler's comment. Motion carried 5-0.**

**Motion by Commissioner Jackel to re-allocate the \$25,000 in professional services that was previously designated as the economic development grant match to serve as the contingency amount if needed for the armory project. Seconded by Commissioner Parrish. Motion carried 5-0.**

12- Board action to remove the public bathroom from the NRDA project at Indian Creek if necessary. The state will be managing all of the NRDA projects and they are working on the scope of work at this time to make all of the projects fit within the budget. The initial project for Indian Creek had improvements to the boat ramp, parking, and a public bathroom. Since DEP will be letting out NRDA projects in groups it is unknown when bids will be advertised but Alan suspects it is still months away. The priorities at Indian Creek would be Boat Ramp improvements and parking.

**Motion by Commissioner Jackel. Seconded by Commissioner Sanders. Motion carried 5-0.**

13- Inform the Board that county building starts have been rising. There are 51 houses under construction around the county.

14- Board action to allow the Planning Office to utilize the current pool of applicants to fill the vacancy created by Ms. Sherry O'Neal accepting a job back at Centennial Bank. The current pool of applicants is less than 6 months old and Ms. O'Neal will be returning to the Bank on July 13.

**Motion by Commissioner Lockley. Seconded by Commissioner Sanders. Motion carried 5-0.**

15- Inform the Board that the Chairman did sign the sub-grant agreement with DEP for the purchase of the El's Court property. At some point in the next 30 days or so The Trust for Public Land (TPL) will buy the land from the current owner, and then the county will buy the land from TPL. As the grant stipulated, the county will be working cooperatively with the state to reforest the property with coastal oak trees so the property will remain in an open, undeveloped state. The main use of the property is for passive recreation and water access.

Attorney Shuler and Mr. Pierce further updated the board on the status of the transaction.

16- Board action to sign supplemental JPA with DOT for \$1.2M to build a new commercial access road that will provide access to the industrial park at the airport. As the Board may recall, there has been a future industrial park on the east side of the airport property for a long time, but that industrial park has never had any infrastructure available, and has had other site development issues, so the Airport Advisory Committee and the Board agreed to move the industrial park to location that has better access to infrastructure. This supplemental JPA will provide the funds to open this industrial park up for development.

**Motion by Commissioner Parrish. Seconded by Commissioner Lockley. Motion carried 5-0.**

17- Board direction on continuation of reduced rent for Crystal Air. Crystal Air is current in its payments, and is requesting another six month extension of reduced rent, effective June through December, 2015. Mr. Jason Puckett, Airport Manager, is here to discuss the situation. If the airport does not increase revenue by Sept. 2016, then in the budget year starting Oct. 2016 the county will have to put money into the airport fund. The airport has a year to find a way to increase revenue by about \$30K in order to continue to be self-sufficient. Crystal Air's rent used to be \$5K per month and has been reduced to \$2.5K per month, with 3 cents a gallon on fuel sales. Crystal Air also gave up control of the corporate hanger but the county has not been able to find a tenant either. If the hanger was rented that could make up the shortfall.

Jason Puckett spoke to the Board regarding issues that would support the airport's self sufficiency. He recommended to continue Crystal Air's reduced rent but at a new amount of \$3500 per month for 6 months and do away with the 3 cent gas sales. **Motion by Commissioner Parrish to approve the recommendation. Seconded by Commissioner Jackel. Motion carried 5-0.**

Mr. Puckett went on to say that he was provided with the Florida Department of Transportation economic impact study for the airport and according to the study the airport brings in an excess of \$5Million per year to Franklin County. Mr. Puckett believed that number might be slightly inflated however the airport is a destination airport and there is a ton of revenue that is generated from it.

18- Inform the Board that Duke Energy has sent out notices to customers in the Apalachicola area that there might be some power interruptions in the coming weeks as Duke Energy is doing scheduled maintenance. The outages should be short in nature and will occur during normal working hours.

19- Inform the Board the Governor's budget did include the standard \$350K for SHIP programs for the coming year. In accordance with state policy that has been in place for the last 2 years, 20% of the funds have to be used on Special Needs applicants.

As a local action, the Board has reserved \$60,000 out of each year's SHIP funds in the event there is a local disaster event. In 2015, there was no local disaster event so Ms. Lori Switzer would like Board approval to redirect the \$60,000 to the standard SHIP programs of Down Payment Assistance, Emergency Repair, and Rehabilitation. Ms. Switzer is not able to stockpile SHIP funds so the Board needs to re-allocate the funds or they will be returned to the state. Ms. Switzer will

reserve \$60,000 out of this year's funds in the event of a local disaster. Board action to re-allocate last year's disaster funds to the standard SHIP programs.

**Motion by Commissioner Parrish. Seconded by Commissioner Lockley. Motion carried 5-0.**

Mr. Pierce gave the following report:

1- As the Board discussed at a previous meeting, the Wakulla County Senior Citizen Center has been asked by the Area Council on Aging to provide all of the Meals on Wheels for Franklin County instead of having the funds shared between Gulf and Wakulla Senior Centers. All the parties have agreed to this arrangement so in the budget process, Wakulla County will be getting \$16,415 for Meals on Wheels, and Gulf County will stop being funded. Mr. Langston, Wakulla Sr. Citizen Director, approached me about providing additional services for the seniors in Franklin County. If an agreement can be reached there could be some shifts in funding between the senior centers but there would be no increase in funding. If something is to be worked out the details will be developed prior to the final county budget hearings.

2- As the Board is aware, I will be out of the county for the next 2 meetings. The transition to Mr. Moron is going well so when I return in August I will start working part-time. I propose that I not take a lump sum payment of accrued leave on Oct. 1 but that I use up my accrued leave in twice monthly checks until it runs out. I will do this starting before Oct. 1 to lessen the impact on the Board. As there are going to be some issues that come up infrequently over the next few months I will then be available if the Board or Michael needs me to assist with something. I would clock in for the time I was in the office.

#### **T. Michael Shuler – County Attorney Report**

1. Demetrice Cummings V. Franklin County

**Action Requested:** Authority to settle this matter in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00 as stated herein and execute the settlement agreement. Other action as determined by the Board. **Motion by**

**Commissioner Parrish to settle the lawsuit as recommended by Attorney Shuler. Seconded by Commissioner Lockley. Motion carried 5-0.**

2. Franklin County vs. Orion Marine Construction Company

**Action Requested:** Authority to reject the settlement offer of \$150,000.00 and to make a counter offer of \$1,000,000.00. He also asked for the authority to hire Dr. Branscome as an expert witness in Meteorology not to exceed \$3,000.00 without prior board approval. Other action as determined by the Board.

**Motion by Commissioner Jackel to reject settlement offer and make counter offer and to hire Dr. Branscome as an expert witness. Seconded by Commissioner Sanders. Motion carried 5-0.**

3. Gramercy Plantation in re: Land Sale of sprayfield/conservation lands.

Based on Attorney Shuler's review, it his preliminary opinion that the sale of the subject 15 acre Sprayfield is a violation of the Amended Development Order dated March 9, 2000. He did not recommend the Board take any action at this as to allow the parties additional time to discuss a possible voluntary resolution if the developer of Gramercy Plantation dedicates an equivalent parcel for Conservation to replace the Sprayfield area sold last year. A further amendment to the development order will be necessary to resolve this matter.

4. CSS Technology Contract for Billing and Electronic Medical Records.

**Action Requested:** Authority to settle the CSS contract termination for an amount not exceeding \$50,000.00 and authorization for the execution of the software agreements for continued use of the ambulatory system.

**Motion by Commissioner Lockley. Seconded by Commissioner Parrish. Motion carried 5-0.**

Commissioner Sanders asked about CSS Technology keeping ambulatory services in the clinics and Attorney Shuler explained.

5. Sands North Development n/k/a Bungalows by the Bay

Attorney Shuler presented a letter from the attorney for the HOA requesting the county's official position regarding the uses allowed by the county on the property.

**Motion by Commissioner Sanders to have Attorney Shuler address the matter with the HOA. Seconded by Commissioner Parrish. Motion carried 5-0.**

**Commissioners' & Public Comments**

There were no commissioner or public comments.

**Meeting was adjourned at 12:09 p.m.**

There being no further items for discussion or action, Chairman Massey adjourned the meeting.

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William Massey - Chairman

Attest:

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Marcia M. Johnson - Clerk of Courts