

**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
COURTHOUSE ANNEX, COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
AUGUST 20, 2024
9:00 AM
MINUTES**

Commissioners Present: Ricky Jones-Chairman, Jessica Ward-Vice-Chairman, Cheryl Sanders, and Anthony Croom, Jr.

Commissioners Absent: Ottice Amison

Others Present: Michele Maxwell-Clerk of Court, Michael Shuler-County Attorney, Michael Moron-County Coordinator, Erin Griffith-Fiscal Manager/Grants Coordinator and Jessica Gay-Clerk to the Board

Call to Order

Chairman Jones called the meeting to order.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Jones led the Board in prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes and Payment of County Bills

- 1. County Bill List for Payment**
- 2. Approval of Minutes**

On a motion by Commissioner Sanders, seconded by Commissioner Croom, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board approved the FCBCC Regular Meeting Minutes from 7/16/2024 and 7/2/2024 and the Payment of County Bills. Commissioner Croom inquired about the check to Bozard Ford Lincoln if this was for a new vehicle or maintenance. Chairman Jones noted that it is probably for a new vehicle. Mr. Moron said he will get with the department and let him know after the meeting. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Public Comments

Ms. Jo Ellen Pearman wondering if any progress has been made on the fire hydrant department. Believed there is money left in the budget for public safety. Thought that may could be used. Chairman Jones noted that other than talking to them about an estimate, he is not sure. Mrs. Griffith is not here at this time, but we can follow up with her and get you an answer.

Mr. Richard Brackin starting a recycling service for St. George Island. He wanted to start a recycling service for business and residential homes. Mainly targeting the vacation homes. Will have scattered locations of free bins. Mr. Moron noted that he included the hand outs in the agenda packet. He asked Mr. Brackin to provide him with contact information and the Board can follow up with him individually.

Department Directors Reports

3. Fonda Davis – Solid Waste Director

Litter Ordinance- Mr. Davis noted that we may need to make some changes. Issues come up with some debris being piled up on the side of the road. The property owner said they misunderstood the ordinance. Commissioner Ward said she asked Mr. Davis to be here today. An individual was clearing an acre and was piling their debris on the side of the road and expecting the county to pick it up. In the ordinance it does not provide for anything for clearing removal. It was never intended for an individual clearing off their property. Maybe we need to add the debris pick up and what the county provides. She noted that the Waste department website, list what debris is. We need to update that to reflect what the county's responsibility is. My recommendation is the increase the penalties and enforcement. Make some changes on that. I think Mr. Davis agrees with that. Think this resident misinterpreted the ordinance. Just want people to understand this whole thing taking things to the landfill because we are going to have to close the landfill. What is considered the services the county provides with the litter services. Chairman Jones said he agrees. He went back and reread. I do not think the intent of what the board had back then had anything to do with clearing lots. Chairman Jones noted that on Mondays we still allow for tree trimmings to be brought in free of charge. Commissioner Sanders said a few years back Lanark had some issues with that. Noted that the contractors need to charge to haul off the debris. **Commissioner Ward made a motion to schedule a public hearing on the 2016-06 litter ordinance. Seconded by Commissioner Croom. Commissioner Croom noted that he was in Mr. Davis' presence when he was blessed out last Monday. Definitely think its something that needs to be addressed. Motion carried 4-0.**

4. Jennifer Daniels – Emergency Management Director

Action Items:

Request the Boards approval to award the contract for Debris Monitoring RFP EM2024-001 to the following contractors: 1. Debris Tech 2. Tetra Tech 3. True North

On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Sanders, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board approved awarding the contract for Debris Monitoring RFP EM2024-001 to the following contractors: 1. Debris Tech 2. Tetra Tech 3. True North. Motion carried 4-0.

Request the Boards approval to award the contract for Debris Removal RFP EM2024-002 to the following contractors: 1. CERES 2. Crowder Gulf 3. Phillips & Jordan

On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Sanders, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board approved awarding the contract for Debris Removal RFP EM2024-002 to the following contractors: 1. CERES 2. Crowder Gulf 3. Phillips & Jordan. Motion carried 4-0.

The Board moved to Mr. Moron's report at this time.

1. **Michael Morón – County Coordinator** Discussion/Action Item: Alliant Contract Notification

- As the Board is aware, the contract with Alliant Management Services for Weems Memorial Hospital will expire at the end of October.
- Commissioners asked that I add this to my report for discussion with the intention of notifying Alliant that the County would like to negotiate a contract extension.
- Board discussion and action regarding a contract extension.

Chairman Jones inquired about the expiration of the contract. Mr. Moron and Attorney Shuler confirmed it would expire at the end of October. Commissioner Croom asked if we believed the consultant issues would be ironed out in six months. Chairman Jones noted that in the event it does not, we can extend another six months. Attorney Shuler explained the terms of the contract set to expire in October. Commissioner Croom noted that there is a big perception out there that the Board is against the hospital. I do not believe that is the case we just have to be mindful. Chairman Jones noted that he does see what you are saying, however with saying the board getting out of the hospital business, that means that the county has no business running it. It is not saying we want to close the hospital. If the Board wanted to close the hospital, I think it would have already been closed. Commissioner Croom noted that stability is scaring off good employees. Chairman Jones noted that these discussions are to try and give more stability. Commissioner Croom noted that our delivery could be a little better. Commissioner Sanders noted that you have people who want to stir the pot. Commissioner Sanders noted that at one time, we pumped over a million in it, that came from funds allocated to Alligator Point. Commissioner Sanders said she is looking for the consultant to come in and tell us if this hospital is self-sustaining. Commissioner Ward noted that she is a healthcare professional, but she has no idea how to run a hospital. Realize how important time is during an emergency, and that it is why we need Weems. I do agree, my intent for us getting out of the hospital business, we do not know anything about running a hospital, financially, etc. We need to get the right people in place to guide us in the way we need to go. There is no way I could ever say in my good conscience that we close Weems. Commissioner Sanders noted that is why Carrabelle Weems Clinic is so important to me. That is what serves the eastern side of the county. The hospital is important, but the two clinics are also important. They are all serving as a purpose for the people. Commissioner Ward noted that you cannot run a hospital or office, without staff. We have people who have worked there for many years and need to make sure they have what they need to run the hospital. Chairman Jones said the primary method of delivery takes dollars. We can have someone break down dollars and cents, so we can do the best by our community. This is just one section. I am excited that we are moving forward. All of these discussions are what we think the best way to move forward. Commissioner Croom noted that is intent was to clear perception. As a new commissioner, I am playing catch up. Mr. Moron noted that the easiest answer to anyone saying the commission want to close the hospital, we could use those funds throughout the county. However, that is what the board chooses to use it for. Chairman Jones asked if the Board would agree to a six-month extension. Commissioner Ward asked if Commissioner Amison was on the call. Mr. Moron noted that he is not. However, he had a discussion with him over the weekend, and he is agreeable to a six-month extension. **Commissioner Ward made a motion to negotiate a six-month contract extension with Alliant, seconded by Commissioner Sanders. Motion carried 4-0.**

2. Informational Item: Opportunity Florida Board Meeting
 - The next Opportunity Florida Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 28.
 - Mr. Mike Muller is on the OF meeting agenda to speak on the Job Growth Grant and the possibilities of funding airport hangars and runway extensions with this grant.
 - Commissioner Ward is the County's appointee to OF; however, Commissioner Amison is planning to attend the meeting to hear the discussion on the JGG and possible airport funding opportunities.
 - Mr. Roy Baker (OF) is aware that both Commissioners will attend. He recommends that I post a local notice stating that both Commissioners will be attending.

3. Informational Item: Cloudpermit Applications
 - TownCloud is the County's agenda management vendor.
 - I was recently made aware of permitting, licensing, planning, and zoning, code enforcement, and inspection services provided by this vendor, under the Cloudpermit name.
 - Knowing the Board's intention to move forward on a RV/Camper Ordinance, code enforcement, and business licensing, Mrs. Cortni Bankston and I have met with the vendor to discuss the county's needs.
 - I plan on engaging Cloudpermit for their code enforcement and business. If you would like, I can setup a demo viewing of those cloud applications.

4. Informational Item: Scanning Old Board Files
 - InStream, the vendor that scanned the archived Building Department files, will start the process of scanning the archived board files. This will put all the archived paper board files in the cloud for easier access and all for the destruction of the paper files.
 - In addition, I am in discussions with InStream to scan all county ordinances in their original format, and then create a public portal that would allow for a text search of these scanned ordinances. It would be similar to the county's minutes search feature.

5. Informational Item: Rural Counties Day Registration
 - Rural Counties Day event is scheduled for March 19th and 20th.
 - The Legislative Networking Reception is on the 19th from 6pm to 8pm at the Dunlap Champions Club West at Doak Campbell Stadium. If you are planning on attending let Mrs. Cortni Bankston know as soon as possible so she can register, you.
 - The Capital Courtyard Event on the 20th from 10am – 2pm. Mrs. Bankston will reserve our booth space this week, and like last year, Mr. John Solomon will manage Franklin County's booth at this event.
 - Let me know if you have any questions.

6. Informational Item: TAC Submissions
 - Mr. John Berry serves as the County’s representative on the Regional Rural Transportation Plan (RRTP) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC).
 - Mr. Berry’s submission to the TAC, on behalf of Franklin County, is attached.
 - Contact Mr. Berry if you have any questions.

7. Informational Item: Downtown Carrabelle – Historic District
 - Attached to my report is a letter from Florida Department of State notifying the County that the National Park Service officially listed Downtown Carrabelle Historic District in the National Register of Historic Places on July 11, 2024.
 - I verified that the City of Carrabelle received the same notification.

8. Informational Item: Next Meeting Date
 - Your next regular meeting date is scheduled on Tuesday, September 3, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. (ET). Your first budget Public Hearing will be on that same day at 5:15 p.m. (ET).

9. Informational Item: S.R. 30 (U.S. 98) Trail Hybrid Public Meeting
 - Florida Department of Transportation scheduled a hybrid public meeting for a proposed 20.5 miles Multi-Use Trail project along State Road 30 (U.S. 98).
 - This meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 12, 2024, from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Summer Camp Beach Event Meeting Room located at 108 Sea Pine Drive, St. Teresa, FL. 32558.
 - Attached is a flyer with additional information.

Commissioner Ward noted that she has complained about not being able to find ordinances on Municode. The Board discussed Municode and researching additional options on the platform that may be available.

Planning and Zoning Adjustment Board Report

5. Critical Shoreline Applications

a. 1569 ALLIGATOR DRIVE

A consideration of a request to construct a 956 sq ft single family dock consisting of two covered 12' x 12' boat slips, a 10'x16' terminus and a new 78' x 4' access walkway alongside 196 sq ft of existing overwater impacts within Alligator Harbor, Alligator Point, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by Garlick Environmental Associates, agent for William McMillan, applicant.

b. 1743 E GULF BEACH DRIVE

A consideration of a request to construct a 762 square foot single family residential dock consisting of a 4'x74' boardwalk across tidal wetlands, a 4'x78' access dock and a 10'x16' terminal platform. Request submitted by Garlick Environmental Associates, agent, for Enrique Fernandez, applicant.

c. 1633 ALLIGATOR DRIVE

A consideration of a request to construct a 1,186 square foot dock with a 10'x16' platform and two

uncovered boat lifts. Request submitted by Kim Lee/Brandon Poole, applicants.

d. 1589 ALLIGATOR DRIVE

A consideration of a request to construct a 1,745 square foot single family dock consisting of a 4'x300' access dock, a 10'x8' terminal platform, an 18'x15' covered boat lift and a 15'x13' covered boat lift. Request submitted by Scruggs Construction LLC, agent for Robert Hamlin, applicant.

e. 1115 E GULF BEACH DRIVE

In consideration of a request to construct a 315'x4' boardwalk with handrails attached to a 490'x4' access pier with handrails, a 10'x16' terminal platform and two 12'x14' uncovered boat lifts. Request submitted by Garlick Environmental Associates, agents for Daniel Ty Jackson, applicant.

Mr. Patterson noted that he needed direction from the board regarding power for vacant lots for docks. We normally do not give approval for lift with vacant lots. Commissioner Ward noted that the property owner asks for lift with power, then the county has to approve the power pole. Historically, the building department has issued power for docks. We have not been doing this in about a year according to the Board's opinion on docks. Commissioner Ward said as long as you are in control of it, and no one is getting power without you approving it, I am okay with it. Commissioner Ward noted that she was confused with the process. Because the county has given power but times when Duke gave power. Mr. Moron noted that there was an office outside of Wakulla where they were giving power without inspections. Chairman Jones noted that whenever we do something with RVs a lot of this will go away. Chairman Jones asked if the ones before the Board all had primary structures. Commissioner Ward noted that they do.

On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Sanders and Commissioner Croom, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board approved the Critical Shoreline Applications as listed above. Motion carried 4-0.

6. Commercial Site Plan Applications

a. 2118 HIGHWAY 98

A consideration of a request to construct an 850 square foot beach cottage, tiki hut, and four RV/boat parking slips, Carrabelle, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by Eddie Golson, owner/applicant.

Commissioner Sanders noted that her vote is going to continue to be no on this. She noted that this is a bad area. The area they are placing the slips on is only about 25 feet away from the water. Commissioner Ward inquired about the square footage and asked in the C3 zoning the square footage was addressed. She noted that it is not a cottage industry zoning. Chairman Jones noted that the size of the structure is based on the ratio calculation. That is why commercial is a little different. Commissioner Sanders noted that she has seen people die on that curve. It is just a bad area even before when nothing was on that property. Chairman Jones asked if the Board wanted to table, to get an answer to Commissioner Ward's question answered. Commissioner Sanders noted that we can table it.

On a motion by Commissioner Croom, seconded by Commissioner Ward, and by a unanimous

vote of the Board present, the Board tabled the Commercial Site Plan Application for 2118 Highway 98, in order for staff and Attorney Shuler to get clarification for the Board. Motion carried 4-0.

b. 43 ISLAND DRIVE

A consideration of a request to construct a 2,016 sf one story open pole barn. Request submitted by GeoFLora, agent for Jason White Construction, applicant.

On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Sanders and Commissioner Croom, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board approved the Commercial Site Plan Application for 43 Island Drive. Motion carried 4-0.

7. Final Plat Approval

a. TWIN LAKES ESTATES

A consideration of final plat approval to reconfigure 21 lots for single family residential lots north of Twin Lakes Rd, Eastpoint, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by Kimberly L. Johnson, agent for Watkins Properties, LLC., applicant.

On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Sanders, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board approved the Final Plat Approval for Twin Lakes Estates. Motion carried 4-0.

8. Lot Reconfiguration

a. 114 INDIANA STREET

A consideration of a request to reconfigure Lots 16, 21 & 22, Block P, Lanark Village Beach Subdivision Unit 1. Lots 21 & 22 will need to be shortened by 20' in order to have room between the pool (located on Lot 16) and the property line. Pool borders existing property line now. In order to keep Lot 21 as a buildable lot equal square footage will need to be transferred between Lots 16 and 21 as shown on boundary survey. Request submitted by William S & Pamela A Brown, applicants. The Board discussed the proposed reconfiguration with questions regarding the size of the proposed lots and whether they would be buildable. It was noted that the reconfiguration was a recommended solution from the former planner Mr. Curenton. Attorney Shuler noted that he could speak with the new planner and bring back a recommendation to the Board if that is the desire of the Board. **On a motion by Commissioner Sanders to table and have Attorney Shuler work with the current planner to bring back a recommendation to the Board, seconded by Commissioner Ward.** Mr. Brown spoke to the Board via Zoom. Our intent mainly is to get two lots where we can put two houses on them. He noted that Mark suggested to do the pie shape cut to give us enough room to do two houses on the two lots. **Motion carried 4-0.**

County Staff & Attorney Reports

9. Erin Griffith – Fiscal Manager/Grants Coordinator

1. BOARD ACTION: RESTORE SGI STORM WATER NOTICE OF AWARD

The county has finally received the notice of award for the \$4,144,465.13 in federal construction

funding for the RESTORE SGI Storm Water Project. During the design phase, the extensive permitting process was slowed by the ownership transfer request for the retention ponds at the center of the island, which took coordination from FDOT and the development of a joint use pond agreement whereas the county and FDOT are both allowed to utilize the existing ponds for drainage. The design and permitting was finalized in August of last year and since then, the construction funding application has moved slowly through an extensive federal review process.

The storm water project will install approximately 1,489 linear feet of 18” piping and 3,186 linear feet of 24” piping, includes 3,270 square yards of asphalt patching and resurfacing, sod improvements, and other required piping/restoration activities to complete the overall objectives of improving the storm water drainage for the commercial district of St. George Island (3rd Street East to 3rd Street West). Exhibits are pasted below with the piping plan for the east and west areas.

A. Board action to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the notice of award from the US Treasury for the RESTORE SGI Storm Water Project.

B. As the construction funds are now available, Board action to advertise first for the CEI (construction engineering and inspection) followed by the construction bids for the RESTORE SGI Storm Water Project.

On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Sanders, to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the notice of award from the US Treasury for the RESTORE SGI Storm Water Project and to authorize advertisement first for the CEI (construction engineering and inspection) followed by the construction bids for the RESTORE SGI Storm Water Project. Commissioner Ward said this has been a project near and dear to Chairman Jones. Chairman Jones noted that this project started five years ago. Commissioner Ward thanked the Chairman for working on this project with Erin and staff. **Motion carried 4-0.**

2. BOARD ACTION: CR67 PHASE II NO COST TIME-EXTENSION CHANGE ORDER – ROBERTS & ROBERTS

Engineers have submitted the attached no-cost time extension for the CR67 Phase II Project which paves approximately 2.00 miles of CR67 from the Crooked Creek Bridge to SFR166. The time extension will grant an additional 30 days for construction and will include project closeout for contractor Roberts and Roberts.

Board action to approve and authorize the chairman to sign the attached change order #2 for CR67 Phase II.

On a motion by Commissioner Sanders, seconded by Commissioner Ward, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board approved and authorized the Chairman to sign the attached change order #2 for CR67 Phase II. Commissioner Sanders asked if they are going to need the 30 days now that they have paved and striped over the weekend. Mrs. Griffith noted that they will. Commissioner Sanders asked her to follow up on the sod. She noted that Phase 4 is still held up in the permitting office. **Motion carried 4-0.**

3. BOARD ACTION: SHERIFF'S EMERGENCY REPAIR REQUEST JAIL SECURITY FENCE

At the last meeting, the Board approved up to \$25,000 for the direct purchase of fencing materials once three written quotes were received for the emergency repair of the jail's security fence. However, the Sheriff's Department, as they will utilize inmate labor to construct the fence, is unable to get quotes from other fencing contractors for the direct purchase of chain link and post materials.

Board action to approve the attached \$19,579.78 estimate from Signet Fencing as a sole source supplier for the Sheriff's Department as they will use in house labor for the security fencing installation.

On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Sanders, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board approved the attached \$19,579.78 estimate from Signet Fencing as a sole source supplier for the Sheriff's Department as they will use in house labor for the security fencing installation. Commissioner Croom noted that the issue he had was we are using inmate labor to install fencing for security. **Motion carried 4-0.**

4. BOARD ACTION: PROPERTY APPRAISER CAPITAL OUTLAY REQUEST

At the budget workshop it was noted that the property appraiser's office was going to request funding from their budgeted line item in the capital outlay fund for computer upgrades and new workstations. The estimate for the computer upgrades totals \$8,681.40 from vender Newegg and the estimate for the (3) workstations total \$14,929 based upon state contract pricing from Executive Officer Furniture.

Board action to approve the attached quotes for the Property Appraiser's Office to be paid by the Property Appraiser's funds in the Capital Outlay Budget.

On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Sanders, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board approved the attached quotes for the Property Appraiser's Office to be paid by the Property Appraiser's funds in the Capital Outlay Budget. Commissioner Ward confirmed with Erin that this was included in their budget request. **Motion carried 4-0.**

5. BOARD ACTION: ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS – TDC SPORTS ARENA IMPROVEMENTS

As the county is working towards trying to attract sports tournaments in next fiscal year as part of a concerted effort to encourage sports tourism through the provision of sporting events for families, it is time to begin working on the bid packages and cost estimates for the phase I improvements at the two county sports arenas: DW Wilson Park in Apalachicola and Kendrick Park in Carrabelle. Some of the proposed enhancements include -

D.W. Wilson Park

Batting Cage
Fencing Upgrade/Replacement
Wind Screens for Fencing
Bleacher Improvements
Pickleball Courts
Handicapped Parking and Entrance Improvement
Information and Sponsorship Panel

Kendrick Park

Batting Cage
Football Field Press Box
Restroom Improvements
Bleacher Improvements
Pickleball Courts
Basketball Court Upgrades
Wind Screens for Fencing
Information and Sponsorship Panel

Board action to move forward with enhancements noted above which would include requesting construction bid task orders from the county engineers for the pickleball courts, gathering estimates for repairs and replacements, and advertisement for bids for improvements estimated to exceed \$25,000 (fencing, batting cages).

Commissioner Ward said we did a lot of upgrades at Vrooman. The reason we cannot do this type of upgrades at other parks, was because they were not big enough. Is lighting going to be included? Mrs. Griffith noted that to do the lighting for that park would be about \$750k. **On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Croom, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board approved moving forward with enhancements noted above which would include requesting construction bid task orders from the county engineers for the pickleball courts, gathering estimates for repairs and replacements, and advertisement for bids for improvements estimated to exceed \$25,000 (fencing, batting cages).** Commissioner Croom asked Commissioner Sanders about the football field press box is located. Commissioner Sanders noted that last year they had to climb a ladder to get to the press box. The field is a part of the park. Commissioner Sanders inquired about lighting for ozone fields. Mrs. Griffith noted that we will probably need to look into that. **Motion carried 4-0.**

5. BOARD INFORMATION: PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION AIRPORT RUNWAY EXTENSION

In May, Florida Commerce Secretary Alex Kelly and his leadership team visited the Apalachicola Franklin County Regional Airport as part of a tour hosted by Florida's Great Northwest. At that meeting, concepts for improvement and development were discussed and one of which was the possibility of an 1,100-foot runway extension which could allow for commercial regional commuter flights and/or allow the airport to serve as the base of operations for an aircraft recycling

operation. The Department of Commerce team discussed a funding opportunity for a community planning and technical assistance grant which was quickly coming to close the very next day. To meet the deadline, Franklin County submitted the attached letter requesting \$75,000 in funding assistance to develop a comprehensive planning report which would identify wetlands area and the potential impacts to wildlife, estimate the costs for land acquisition and construction, and provide a preliminary extension design concept. On August 16th, Franklin County received the attached funding notification form the Florida Department of Commerce. Once a grant award agreement is fully executed, the county can move forward with the planning project.

6. BOARD INFORMATION: CLOSURE OF OLD FERRY DOCK BOAT RAMP FOR CONSTRUCTION

Construction will begin at the Old Ferry Dock Boat Ramp on September 9th and the ramp will be closed starting that day through estimated completion in January. A notice has been posted on the county's website and has also been shared with Oyster Radio in an effort to make the public aware of the upcoming closure.

7. BOARD INFORMATION: LATE ADD – TAX COLLECTOR BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR CURRENT FISCAL YEAR

Effective July 1st, the legislature approved a salary increase for both the tax collector and the sheriff –salary increases usually take effect on October 1st for elected officials, however, the legislature did make the increase for those two offices effective July 1st. As the tax collector's office does not currently have the funds included in their current budget nor the ability to pull from other line items to be able to fund the \$11,104 total cost of the increase for the quarter, the BOCC will have to follow the formal procedure outlined in statute to increase the budget of a constitutional office mid-year, which includes advertising a public hearing, likely we will add this public hearing after the final budget hearing for the amendment (date/time/advertisement will be finalized at the next meeting). The tax collector does have interest earnings available to cover the cost of the additional expense.

Chairman Jones asked if we had already given a notice to proceed on Hickory Dip Road in Eastpoint. Erin noted that we just received an approval from FDOT for issuing the notice of award to Pigott. We have sent the contract over to them, but we have not issued a notice to proceed yet. Chairman Jones inquired about the pickleball court on St. George Island. Mrs. Griffith noted that they are almost done with bid specifications. She noted that she was supposed to meet with the concrete contractor this morning to complete the slab under the picnic pavilion but was not able to. She noted that hopefully the picnic pavilion will be complete in the next few weeks. Chairman Jones that is why the orange netting is still there.

10. Michael Morón – County Coordinator Discussion/Action Item: Alliant Contract Notification

- As the Board is aware, the contract with Alliant Management Services for Weems Memorial Hospital will expire at the end of October.
- Commissioners asked that I add this to my report for discussion with the intention of notifying Alliant that the County would like to negotiate a contract extension.
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Item addressed earlier in the meeting.

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15. Informational Item: TAC Submissions

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16. Informational Item: Downtown Carrabelle – Historic District

- Attached to my report is a letter from Florida Department of State notifying the County that the National Park Service officially listed Downtown Carrabelle Historic District in the National Register of Historic Places on July 11, 2024.
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17. Informational Item: Next Meeting Date

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18. ***Informational Item: S.R. 30 (U.S. 98) Trail Hybrid Public Meeting

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- Attached is a flyer with additional information.

10. Michael Shuler – County Attorney

Action Item

1. Request to Conduct Public Hearing to Consider Amendments to the Franklin County Flood Ordinance

Mrs. Angela Lolley has informed me that amendments to the Franklin County Flood Control Ordinance are required. She and the consultant, Rebecca Quinn, are working on the draft of the ordinance. If the Board authorizes the public hearing, I plan to present the ordinance for the Board's consideration on September 17, 2024. Board Action Requested: Board authorization to conduct a public hearing to consider amending the Franklin County Flood Control Ordinance.

On a motion by Commissioner Ward, seconded by Commissioner Sanders and Commissioner Croom, and by a unanimous vote of the Board present, the Board authorized a public hearing to consider amending the Franklin County Flood Control Ordinance. Motion carried 4-0.

Chairman Jones noted that it seems Barnacle is trying to work with us to amend contract. Do you think we are close to a contract with Baker-Tilley? Attorney Shuler noted that following changes: attorney fees each party pays their own, 5% administrative fees, they have proposed a 2.5%, unlimited travel and expenses, there was no stated cap or process or procedure. I think we are making progress. The biggest was the unlimited indemnification, they wanted the county to pay all

of their fees. They have agreed to a maximum cap of \$35,000. Reach that cap we will come back and renegotiate. Feel like they are working with us in good faith. We expect to have both of those contracts back at the next meeting. Commissioner Sanders said I think you informed the commissioners that we had an issue with Lanark fire chiefs. Shuler intend on following up, no reason to believe it has not been resolved. Commissioner Sanders noted that the contract for VF, in the future would like the board to consider for one for all the fire districts. I would like to do in a fashion to start contracts like October 1st. That way we know what their obligations are and what the county's is. Attorney Shuler noted that the Lanark contract is such that he can amend for any of the fire districts. Commissioner Ward thanked staff at the annex office for the time that they gave her and for their input and questions.

Information Items

2. Planned Urban Development Ordinance Workshop

The first workshop on a possible PUD evaluation and enabling ordinance will be held by the Planning and Zoning Board of Adjustment advisory board on September 10, 2024.

3. Barnacle Parking Enforcement ("BFE") Contract

On Monday, August 19, 2024, I had a phone conference with the attorney for BFE. BFE has agreed to remove the attorney fee provisions, but they wanted to retain the unlimited indemnification. At my request, their attorney will discuss with her client a mutual limitation of liability with a stated cap instead of an unlimited indemnification. I have left it to them to suggest the amount of the cap and will negotiate further depending on their offer.

4. Baker-Tilly Contract In Re: Weems Hospital

On Monday, August 19, 2024, at 2:00 p.m., Mr. Moron and I have a phone conference with James Raley, one of the owners of Baker-Tilly, and their attorney, to discuss the remaining issues of concern in their proposed contract.

Commissioners' Comments

There were no additional Commissioner comments.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Ricky Jones – Chairman

Attest:

Michele Maxwell – Clerk of Courts

The audio is available upon request. Please e-mail jgay@franklinclerk.com, call 850-653-8861 to speak with the Administrative Assistant, or submit a request in writing to obtain audio of this meeting.