### FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING COURTHOUSE ANNEX, COMMISSION MEETING ROOM AUGUST 4, 2020 9:00 AM MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Noah Lockley – Chairman, Ricky Jones-Vice-Chairman, Joseph Parrish, William Massey, Bert B. Boldt, II

Others Present: Marcia M. Johnson-Clerk of Court, Erin Griffith-Assistant Finance Director, Michael Moron-County Coordinator, Michael Shuler – County Attorney, Lori P. Hines-Deputy Clerk to the Board.

#### **Call to Order**

#### A. Public Notice

To comply with CDC and Government social distancing requirements, the general public will not be allowed in the commission meeting room for this meeting; therefore, this Board of County Commission regular meeting will be conducted via livestream and conference call. Those wanting to view the meeting can use the livestream link (https://www.youtube.com/user/SGIBeachLife) or go to Forgotten Coast TV's YouTube Page. The livestream feed will promptly start 5 minutes before the meeting commences. Those wanting to participate during "Public Comments" on the agenda should use the teleconference system by dialing 1-844-844-0014 and when prompted enter 540166#. Once the "Public Comments" agenda item is completed, the conference call will be disconnected.

Any person who wishes to appeal a decision made by the Franklin County Board of County Commissioners, with respect to any matter considered at the meeting, must have a record of the proceedings. He or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made.

Chairman Lockley called the meeting to Order.

#### **Prayer and Pledge**

Commissioner Jones said a prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

- B. July 7, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes
- C. July 7, 2020 Workshop Minutes

On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the minutes from the meetings held on July 7, 2020.

#### **Payment of County Bills**

D. Bill Lists for Payment

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> 7/21/2020 8/4/2020

On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve payment of the County's bills.

#### Department of Health – Sarah Hinds (Administrator) - Update

Mr. Moron stated Ms. Hinds is on the telephone because the numbers for COVID-19 are up. Ms. Hinds reported for the past 11 days the state positivity rate has been around 11% and hopefully they will start to see some stabilization. She said as of yesterday Franklin County had 158 cases with 23 of the cases being inmates. Ms. Hines explained there will be more inmate counts to add to the total and they expect to see a jump this week in the overall case numbers. She stated they have cases in household settings and exposure in workplaces, businesses, and at funeral gatherings. She said some health care workers have also tested positive. Ms. Hinds reported they are seeing community spread in Franklin County. She said they are trying to explain the data in the community briefings so the community can understand what is happening. She reported the floridahealth.gov page provides a lot of information and they are trying to provide the community with the best behind the scene look at the numbers such as the number of inmate cases. Ms. Hinds stated they provide local briefings on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. She reported to receive this information they can text franklincv19 to 888777 and the briefings will come to their cell phone in the form of a text message. She stated the positivity rating for Franklin County is 5%. Ms. Hinds explained they do not want the positivity rate to go higher and they have shared the positivity benchmark so they can help understand the trends. She reported the state monitors the positivity rate to determine if the county is healthy enough to move forward with the reopening phases. She stated in addition to medical capacity and in addition to the medical capacity and hospital capacity and downward trends they also look at positivity and how many are positive each week in the community. Ms. Hinds reported on Friday they will share 2 weeks of positivity data available in Franklin County and Gulf County. She stated the governor monitors this information daily but they look at it locally on a weekly level. Ms. Hinds said the positivity rating went from 6% to 5% and they have some decreased testing due to statewide closings due to the storm last week. She pointed out they did not stop any testing at their locations. She reported Pancare is planning to stop their rapid testing in the community and this decision was made to prepare for rapid testing on school grounds. She explained they will be working with Pancare on this effort. Ms. Hinds reported they continue to test for COVID-19 at the Health Department and Weems Memorial Hospital is also providing testing. She explained people should not come here from another county just to get tested because the Health Department is trying to use the appointment slots for Franklin County residents. She stated visitors should get tested before they leave home and wait for those results. She reported if they are in close contact with someone waiting for test results they should stay in place until they receive a negative result before traveling here. Ms. Hinds explained if they are worried about an exposure that happened during their stay here then it is fine to test here. She stated they try to prioritize testing for people with symptoms. She explained symptoms can take from 2-14 days to occur. Ms. Hinds reported Mrs. Emerald Larkin, RN, is present on the phone also and they have seen patients becoming infected from 7-12 days after exposure to a positive case. She stated if a person does not have symptoms they can quarantine for 14 days. She explained the goal is to stop the spread of the virus. Ms. Hinds stated they are working closely with the Tourist Development Council (TDC) and Chamber of Commerce on a business campaign to promote businesses that are stepping up to

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protect employees and customers during the pandemic. She reported when this campaign is finalized they will present it at the next Board meeting. Commissioner Boldt stated he appreciates the best health practices and said it provides an overview of how they care in Franklin County. He said he is pleased to see the continuity of care that they are doing throughout the county in honoring state and federal guidelines. Ms. Hinds stated she appreciates the leadership of the Board to help protect the health and safety of all residents.

#### **Public Comments**

This is an opportunity for the public to comment on agenda or non-agenda items. When you are recognized to be heard by the Chairman, please sign the speaker's log and adhere to the time limit. An individual will be allowed to speak for three minutes whereas a designated representative of a group or faction will be allowed to speak for five minutes.

Mr. Mike O'Connell, former president of the St. George Island Civic Club, stated Mr. Jim Morris, current President of the St. George Island Civic Club, was unavailable today so he asked him to represent the club. Mr. O'Connell reported today there are 2 significate issues on the agenda for St. George Island that will affect the island in a positive manner. He explained there is a RESTORE funded project that directs an engineering firm to design a remedy for stormwater problems that have been present for years. Mr. O'Connell said flooding is a serious issue for the visitors and businesses and this design will allow them to address their paving and parking issues in the coming years. He reported the second item is the opening of bids for construction of a new bathroom on the island. He stated they are very excited about this project and it will be a wonderful addition to Lighthouse Park and the island. Mr. O'Connell reported these 2 agenda items represent the next chapter in their 2020-2025 vision for St. George Island and primarily the business district. He stated the Civic Club will provide any assistance the county needs in the upcoming years. Mr. O'Connell said the St. George Island Civic Club would like to thank the Board for paving Bayshore Drive from Franklin Blvd. to 1<sup>st</sup> Street. He reported the business owners are very excited about this work. He thanked the Board for everything they do for them.

Ms. Candace Millender, a resident of Buck Road in Eastpoint, stated she has appeared before the Board before and would like the county to take over Buck Road. She reported they have been fighting for this for over 10 years and they pay county taxes every year and receive no services from the county. She explained all water runoff from Ridge Road washes their road out and the ditch ends in her yard and has nowhere to flow. Ms. Millender said there could be a solution if the water department that has the end acre with a well would dig a ditch through their property and let the water flow to Bear Creek. She explained all the water from Ridge Road flows through a trench made during the fire. She stated all the tree tops were trimmed and left in the ditches and were never cleaned up after the fire or the hurricane. She said the culvert at the end of the road is grown up and in the county right-of-way. Ms. Millender stated she has called several times to have that fixed and the right-of-way filled in so they are not falling down a drop to the road. She explained this has never been done but a little dirt was shoveled to one side of the road. Ms. Millender said 3 roads in Commissioner Jones' district have been paved in a week so the county has funds to fix roads. She said 2 of the roads that were paved were dirt roads. Ms. Millender reported she would like her road to be taken over by the county because it was deeded to all the residents by the previous owner. She explained they are not creating a homeowners association and the county has access to the road and can fix it. She stated she has never asked for this road to be paved but asked for it to be drivable.

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Chairman Lockley said Buck Road is a private road and the county does not work on private roads. He reported the water district is separate from the county so she would need to contact them.

#### **Department Directors Report**

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

Mr. Nabors reported 3 temporary employees have left and 2 employees retired so his department is down 5 people and has no inmate assistance. He said they are doing the best they can with grass cutting, ditch cleaning and road work. He presented his action item for the Board, as follows:

#### E. Road Department Board Report

#### **Action Items**

1. Mr. Robert Lolley's last day was Thursday, July 30, 2020. Mr. Lolley worked for Franklin County for 7.5 years as an Inmate Supervisor and reached the age for retirement. Action: Asking for Board for approval to advertise for an Inmate Supervisor Position simultaneously in house and to the public with a starting salary of \$25, 000.

Commissioner Parrish made a motion to approve advertising for an Inmate Supervisor Position simultaneously in house and to the public with a starting salary of \$25,000. Commissioner Boldt seconded the motion. Chairman Lockley asked if his department is down 2 employees. Mr. Nabors answered yes and have advertised for the other position. He reported 1 application has been turned in for the first position. Commissioner Massey asked Mr. Nabors to look at the ditch on Buck Street and fix the drop off. Mr. Nabors said they have looked at this and fixed it but it may have washed out from the rain. He agreed to check this area. Commissioner Massey stated they need to do something because school is going to start and the school bus cannot go down this road and turn around. He explained in the past the county has done a temporary fix and they need to do it again. Commissioner Massey said in relation to grass cutting their mowers have a lot of hours and if they break down the county will be in trouble. He asked if there is FEMA money available to replace one of the tractors for grass cutting. Mrs. Griffith reported the money is in next year's budget so starting October 1<sup>st</sup> this money is in the Capital Outlay Fund. Mr. Nabors stated he has talked with Mrs. Griffith because 1 of the grass tractors is 16 years old and the other 1 is 8 years old. Commissioner Massey expressed concern that if this equipment is not working they will have no way to mow the grass. Commissioner Boldt asked if they can make it until October. Mr. Nabors answered yes. He explained the time involved with getting parts for repairs during the pandemic. Mr. Nabors said they need a low boy to haul equipment and the motor grader should be close to being paid off. Mrs. Griffith reported once the motor grader is paid off then Mr. Nabors will have the payment funds to purchase the low boy. Mr. Nabors explained the low boy hauls equipment for multiple county departments. He stated the Road Department is the only department that has trucks to haul equipment with. Commissioner Boldt questioned if they can lease this equipment. Mr. Nabors stated yes, it would cost \$8,000 a year. He said the low boy truck will cost \$170,000 and the trailer will cost \$47,300. Commissioner Boldt asked if this money is in the budget. Mrs. Griffith stated once the motor grader is paid off the funds will be available the upcoming year. Mr. Moron explained there is a balance between leasing and purchasing equipment. Commissioner Boldt said Mrs. Griffith has explained how sometimes leasing will extend

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their budget and give more budget flexibility. The Board discussed the situation with leasing the dump trucks. Commissioner Jones stated the county would have to intend to have the low boy truck for 25 years for the lease to pay off. Mrs. Griffith questioned if this truck is an option with Capital Truck. Mr. Nabors answered yes for \$8,000 a year. Mrs. Griffith said they would have to pay for the low boy trailer. Mr. Nabors stated he thinks the trailer would come with the truck and then they would get a new one every year. Mrs. Griffith said that would be a great deal. Mr. Nabors agreed to re-check this offer. Commissioner Boldt stated this is responsibly spending the public's money. Mr. Moron explained if they know they are going to lease the equipment then they can budget those funds every year. Mrs. Griffith said the payment funds are already in the budget. Commissioner Massey asked how long they have had the current low boy. Mr. Nabors estimated 20 years and it was used when the county purchased it. Commissioner Boldt asked if the county gets favor in leasing rates. Mrs. Griffith answered yes and said the county gets a break from Capital Truck because they do not pay federal excise tax which is a benefit to the company and the county. She explained the county owns the trucks for 15 months and then the trucks are turned back in and the company markets the trucks to private entities. Chairman Lockley asked if the price is the same. Mrs. Griffith stated the price stayed the same and the prior lease was for 13 months and the new lease was for 15 months. Mr. Nabors asked if they can get the grass tractor on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Mrs. Griffith answered yes, the funds are in the Capital Outlay Fund and will not affect ad valorem proceeds this year. Motion carried; 5-0. Chairman Lockley stated they will get the grass tractor and check on the low boy. Mrs. Griffith reported these items are in next year's budget and they have to pay off the motor grader. Mr. Nabors stated if they have any extra money this year or next year he needs 2 more F-150 trucks which will cost approximately \$30,000. He explained some of the trucks they are driving are old trucks that were given to them by the Mosquito Control Department. Chairman Lockley asked Mrs. Griffith to look into this matter and let the Board know what they can get. Mrs. Griffith agreed to check into this matter and also to get a quote from Capital Truck on the lease for the low boy. Mr. Moron stated this should have been addressed at the budget workshop. Mr. Nabors said they normally do talk about these items at the budget workshop but they were in a hurry and did not want too many people in the room. Chairman Lockley reported they made a mistake and should have asked about his equipment. Commissioner Massey stated they have FEMA money to take care of one of these items.

Attorney Shuler inquired if Mr. Nabors has heard from anyone from Deseret Ranches in relation to 8 Mile Road and 10 Mile Road. Mr. Nabors reported the posted signs are gone but the posts are still there. Attorney Shuler stated he and Mr. Moron met with Deseret Ranches representatives last week and they will remove the no trespassing signs from the road and relocate them to the edge of the forest so people will stay out of the private forest. Attorney Shuler thanked Mr. Nabors for confirming this has been done. Mr. Nabors questioned if they are going to remove the poles because they are close to the road and are a safety issue. Attorney Shuler advised Mr. Nabors to pull the poles up and set them on the side of the road in their woods. Mr. Nabors agreed to take care of the poles.

Mr. Moron read the following item from his report:

5. Highway 67 Striping Project: The Road Department has received numerous complaints of the lack of visible striping on Highway 67 while driving at night, especially when it is raining. Since Roberts and Roberts are in the County working on the Airport road project and the Board waived the County's bid policy to save on mobilization costs, we asked Roberts and Roberts for a proposal to stripe Highway 67. This striping will start at Crooked River Bridge (that where the FDOT paving

project will end) and end at the County line. Roberts and Roberts provided quotes for the use of striping with paint or thermoplastic. I recommend using paint, as it is less expensive and FDOT has a future project to pave north of Crooked River Bridge.

Request: Board action to authorize Roberts and Roberts to stripe CR67 from Crooked River to the County line with paint for a total of \$17,187.00.

Mr. Nabors said they have received complaints for 5-6 years but he did not know if in the future they were going to pave this road all the way to the end. He stated there is no striping on this road. Commissioner Parrish asked if this is a county road. Mr. Moron answered yes, Highway 65 is a state road but Highway 67 is a county road. Chairman Lockley guestioned which option is better. Mr. Moron explained the thermoplastic lasts longer but will cost almost \$60,000 more than painting. He said if DOT does have another project later it would pave over what the county has done. Chairman Lockley asked if DOT is coming back with another project. Mr. Moron answered yes, and said Mr. Mark Curenton, County Planner, estimated the project will be in 2-3 years. He said the paint should last that long. Mr. Nabors agreed and said DOT will also mill that road. Mr. Nabors reported the first paving project will go from Highway 98 to Lake Morality Road. Mr. Moron said the DOT project will start at Highway 98 and go to Crooked River Bridge and should be starting soon but then there will be another project to go beyond that. Commissioner Boldt asked if there is a sidewalk project beginning in this area. Mr. Moron answered yes, but it will not interfere with the road project. Commissioner Massey reported they are working on the sidewalks now. On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize Roberts and Roberts to stripe C.R. 67 from Crooked River to the county line with paint at a cost of \$17,187.00.

Mr. Moron offered Item #6 from his report, as follows:

6. Timber Island Bridge Repairs: A while back, FDOT did an inspection at the Timber Island Road Bridge and forwarded their findings to the Road Department. Mr. Nabors, Road Superintendent, asked the local FDOT contractor, Ferrovial, for a quote to make the necessary repairs based on the FDOT inspection. Mr. Nabors received a \$5,985.00 quote from Ferrovial for the repairs and recommends proceeding with this project.

Request: Board action to authorize Ferrovial to do the maintenance repair work on the Timber Island Road Bridge for \$5,985.00.

On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize Ferrovial to do the maintenance repair work on the Timber Island Road Bridge for \$5,985.00. Mr. Moron stated he checked with Mr. Clay Kennedy, Dewberry, because they have another project going this way but their scope of work does not include any of this work. Mr. Nabors reported they will use divers to do some of this work so that is not something the county could do.

Chairman Lockley asked if the public will be safe when they put this stripe on the road. Mr. Nabors answered yes, and commented it is a long way from Lake Morality Road to Highway 98. Commissioner Boldt questioned if all the bids include labor. Mr. Moron replied yes.

#### **Information Items**

2. Detail of Work Performed and Material Hauled by District (see attached documents)

#### Solid Waste Director - Fonda Davis

F. Solid Waste Directors Report

Mr. Davis said his report does not have any items that require Board action. He stated they are placing COVID-19 signs throughout the county at St. George Island and Carrabelle Beach. He reported the signs request people social distance.

Mr. Davis reported there are 2 more dune walkovers left to remove at Alligator Point and they are starting back on this work.

Mr. Davis questioned if they have found out any information from CareerSource about the workers. Mr. Moron responded no but Ms. Kim Bodine, CareerSource, is on the agenda for a different reason but will probably provide an update on this item.

Mr. Davis reported the Animal Control Department is doing well.

Commissioner Boldt inquired if he has looked at the mobile recycling project again and if he has received any bids for materials. Mr. Davis said he can meet with Commissioner Boldt later because he has information about a company that sells mobile units. He stated the market is still down so he did not entertain the conversation with this company

Mr. Moron offered the following item for the Board's consideration:

16. Tipping Fees: After some discussion at your July 30th Budget Workshop, the Board directed me to add increasing tipping fees for any out of town garbage, debris, trash or waste that came across the scales at the County's Landfill to today's agenda. Staff will need specific direction from the Board on how much to increase the tipping fees as Mr. Fonda Davis, Attorney Shuler and I attempt to provide some options to the Board.

Request: Board discussion and direction on how much to increase the tipping fees for out of town garbage, debris, trash or waste at the Landfill.

Chairman Lockley said the county needs to charge at least the same amount in tipping fees as other counties are charging. Commissioner Massey stated Mr. Davis needs to make that decision because he knows how much is being dumped from other counties. Commissioner Boldt agreed they need to find out what other counties are charging. Commissioner Parrish reported that was the discussion at the budget meeting. He said they want to inquire what other surrounding counties are charging and if they are charging a different amount for people bringing materials from out of the county. He stated the county is buying a new tub grinder and he questioned what they are doing with the chips. He explained our landfill and Gulf County's landfill are still burning from chips they have already chipped. Commissioner Parrish said the county is buying a new tub grinder for \$800,000 and people are bringing in debris from out of the county and they need to help pay for this equipment. He explained the chips go through a process, catch fire and then smolder for years and he would like to know how they are going to deal with the chips. Commissioner Parrish said Mr. Davis is hoping to find someone who will purchase the chips and he has some options like burying the chips. He explained these expenses at the landfill will cost the residents because the budget will increase to take care of these items and people from out of the county that are using the landfill should help also. Commissioner Parrish reported they

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are getting more in tipping fees but the additional debris is also filling up the landfill. He stated the decision is up to the Board but he feels like someone should help the county bear these costs. Commissioner Massey agreed people in this county should not take care of other counties issues and they need to be charged. Commissioner Boldt reported it is not only the tub grinder but they also need property for expanding the landfill. He explained the tub grinder is a short term focus but the property is a long term focus. Commissioner Parrish stated they also had to purchase a track loader to load the tub grinder so the county is incurring a lot of expense. He said they want to help people like they did in disaster response after Hurricane Michael but that should be over now and yet the county is still receiving out of county debris. Commissioner Parrish reported Mr. Davis and the citizens are bearing the brunt of this. Commissioner Massey stated the county has helped but people from out of the county have to start paying. Chairman Lockley questioned if the pulp mills buy the chips. Mr. Davis commented he checked with Telogia Energy and they looked at the chips but they were too trashy. He said hopefully they can clean them up. He reported they make a strainer that could be purchased to help with the chips. Mr. Davis reported now that the incinerator is going they can try to burn the small vegetation. He stated hopefully with the tub grinder someone will purchase the chips or the county can give them away. Chairman Lockley asked if they will come get them if the county gives them the chips. Mr. Davis answered yes. Commissioner Boldt inquired if they can sell the chips as mulch. Mr. Davis said they cannot be used in this way because there are different types of materials mixed in. He reported when the county pile of chips ignited it smoldered for a long time because there was a mix of chips and dirt. He explained they do bury the chips and mix it with dirt so it does not take as much dirt for cover. Mr. Moron agreed they will check around and compare prices and see who has this type of policy and bring something similar back to the Board. Chairman Lockley stated if they do not want to pay then the county can shut them off. He said the county has helped as long as they can. He reported if they want to pay then the county has to make sure it is worth it.

Mr. Moron presented the following item from his report:

19. Inmate Labor: As I stated at the July 30th Budget Workshop, with the assistance of Mr. Fonda Davis, I was able to talk to Warden Duval a few weeks ago and he explained that the prison was at Phase II at the time which did not allow non-DOC personnel to supervise inmates. He also stated that it was his last week and a new warden would be in place within a week or two. It is my intention to reach out to Warden Conner to an update.

Mr. Moron said the new warden's secretary called for the livestream information for the Budget Workshop so he could watch the meeting. He stated he may be watching again today and at some time he will contact him. He explained with the increase of COVID-19 at the prison they may go back to Phase 1 which is more restrictive. Mr. Moron stated it may be a while before the county has any inmate labor. Commissioner Parrish said they will not allow non-DOC personnel to supervise the inmate crews but he will take DOC inmate supervised crews. He stated the inmate crew does not have to have a county supervisor. Mr. Davis reported Parks & Recreation had an inmate crew of 15 with a DOC supervisor. He stated the Road Department also had 1 crew supervised by DOC. He said now with the increase in cases they will not let any of the squads out. Commissioner Parrish clarified the county does not have to supervise the inmates and when they send a DOC supervisor they get more inmates. He reported when they talk with the new warden they need to tell him the county needs some help. Chairman Lockley said there was an inmate crew out 2 weeks ago because he saw them out with a DOC supervisor. Mr. Moron agreed they were out with Phase 2 but it was still limited. He FCBCC REGULAR MEETING August 4, 2020 Page 9 of 45

said he will call and find out if they went to Phase 1. Commissioner Boldt said the DOC supervisors have a higher level of training and safety. Commissioner Massey stated it is better for DOC to supervise the inmates and not have any of the county workers get in trouble.

Commissioner Parrish said Mr. Davis has a lot of stuff to take care of with Parks & Recreation, Animal Control and Solid Waste and he appreciates the job he does for Franklin County. He thanked Mr. Davis for the job he does for the county. The Board thanked Mr. Davis. Mr. Moron said he needed help because of some COVID-19 exposure in his office and Mr. Davis sent a couple of employees to assist him in dealing with Courthouse matters. Commissioner Boldt agreed he has been responsive in his district too. Commissioner Parrish stated Mr. Davis worked for him before he came to work for the county and he does an excellent job. Mr. Davis thanked the Board and said it is good working with them.

#### **Emergency Management Director – Pam Brownell**

Mrs. Jennifer Daniels, Emergency Management Coordinator, said Mrs. Brownell apologies for not being here today. She read her report, as follows:

G. Action Items:

1. Request the Boards Approval to retroact the Non-Congregate Shelters (NCS) Plan extension request letter signed on 07/21/20 by Chairman Lockley.

On motion by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Parrish, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to retroactively approve the Non-Congregate Shelters (NCS) Plan Extension request letter.

2. Request the Boards Approval and Signing of the Funding Agreement with FEMA for Public Assistance for COVID 19.

On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve and sign the funding agreement with FEMA for Public Assistance for COVID-19.

Commissioner Massey thanked Mrs. Daniels for her work.

Mr. Moron offered the following item for the Board's consideration:

1. Local State of Emergency (COVID-19): As authorized by the Board, Chairman Lockley signed COVID-19 Local State of Emergency (LSE) Declarations for the weeks starting July 13th, July 20th, July 27th, and August 3rd. Request: Board action to ratify the Chairman's signature on the stated COVID-19 LSE Declarations.

On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to ratify the Chairman's signature on the COVID-19 LSE declarations from July 13<sup>th</sup>, July 20<sup>th</sup>, July 27<sup>th</sup> and August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Mr. Moron read the following item from his report:

2. Local State of Emergency (Potential Tropical Cyclone 9): Mrs. Pam Brownell, Emergency Management Director, requested the Chairman's signature on a Local State of Emergency Proclamation for what was anticipated as becoming Tropical Cyclone 9 and became Hurricane Isaias.

Request: Board action to ratify the Chairman's signature on the Potential Tropical Cyclone LSE.

### On motion by Commissioner Boldt, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to ratify the Chairman's signature on the Potential Tropical Cyclone LSE.

Commissioner Jones inquired about the CARES Act. Mr. Moron said Ms. Traci Buzbee, The Management Experts, is calling in today.

Chairman Lockley asked if there are any more storms. Mrs. Daniels said there are a few waves they are watching.

Information Items:

3. EOC Staff along with our CERT Volunteers continue to distribute washable & Reusable cloth mask throughout our community. We have partnered with the City of Carrabelle and City of Apalachicola Chamber of Commerce along with the St. George Island & Eastpoint Visitor Centers to assist with distribution to local businesses and residents. We will continue this effort as long as supplies are available.

4. EOC Staff are working diligently with DOH Staff regarding the COVID-19 virus. This includes hosting meetings with representatives from DOH, Sheriff's Dept. Weems, and EMS, as needed. We also are assisting with Conference Calls, information distribution from DOH via Alert Franklin, Facebook and our EOC Website.

5. EOC Staff continue to participate in conference calls with State DEM, Region 2, DOH, FEMA, etc. regarding COVID 19. We also continue to update WebEOC with missions for PPE, Local State of Emergency, and SitReps.

6. EOC Staff continue to work on FEMA reimbursement claims from Hurricane Michael. (Please see attached report regarding Hurricane Michael Projects). This includes working with FEMA staff regarding mitigation of damaged parks, roads, etc. Mitigation takes some time but EOC Staff continue to work diligently with FEMA Staff on the most beneficial repairs for Franklin County. EOC Staff has also began the FEMA reimbursement claim process for COVID-19.

Commissioner Parrish questioned if the county has to continually sign the LSE for COVID-19. He asked if there is a way Chairman Lockley can just sign these until COVID-19 is over rather than having to come back to the Board. Mr. Moron stated the Chairman signs the LSE every Monday morning and even though he has permission they are brought back to the Board to ratify so it is in the Board record. Mr. Moron pointed out there was a public records request for the LSE's recently.

#### **Extension Office Director – Erik Lovestrand**

Mr. Lovestrand reported there are no action items in his report but he has 1 more information item. He stated he just finished a 6 month summary of Extension Program activities and clientele that they have been serving. He reported a lot of this was done during COVID-19 and he wanted them to know his office has been very active. Mr. Lovestrand presented this report to the Board. FCBCC REGULAR MEETING August 4, 2020 Page 11 of 45

Commissioner Parrish inquired about #1 on the information items in relation to CARES Act funding for fisheries. Mr. Lovestrand reported there is CARES Act funding specifically focused on fisheries related businesses. He stated there is \$10 million allocated and Florida will get a share of the funding based on a number provided by the Florida Wildlife Commission (FWC). He explained it is targeted toward commercial fishery related businesses, aquaculture related businesses and charter fishing businesses. He stated it is for any business that makes their living off of the fishing industry. He said seafood dealers are also included and can apply for the funding. Mr. Lovestrand explained a spending plan draft has been put together by the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and is being submitted to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in early August. He stated when NOAA approves the plan the funding will be distributed through the National Marine Fisheries Commission to the applicants that are successful in applying for the funding. Mr. Lovestrand stated instructions for applying are on FWC's website. He explained they have a good layout showing the draft plan and what people can expect. He stated there is an application period of 30 days for people to submit applications. Mr. Lovestrand said it is targeted to businesses that have lost revenue due to the pandemic. Commissioner Parrish asked for this link to be forwarded to the Commissioners. Mr. Lovestrand agreed to forward this information. Mr. Lovestrand reported he will have an article coming out in The Apalachicola Times next week and he also placed the information digitally in some other locations. Commissioner Parrish discussed issues with people being available to work during the pandemic and the problems this causes with a loss of revenue for the business. Mr. Lovestrand explained the business needs to be able to document at least 35% revenue loss over this 3 month period of COVID-19. He reported this figure is compared to the average revenue over the last 5 years. Commissioner Parrish said the 2 month lockdown was very harmful to the seafood industry because the restaurants were not open and they could not sell the seafood. Mr. Lovestrand agreed a lot of products were lost because they were perishable. Chairman Lockley asked if this funding is also for wild caught oysters. Mr. Lovestrand reported it is for aquaculture and wild caught oysters if they can document a loss of income due to COVID-19. Chairman Lockley questioned if this is a loan or a grant. Mr. Lovestrand responded a grant. Commissioner Boldt brought into discussion partnering in a new grant with Bay County and Gulf County for removal of marine debris from coastal habitats. Mr. Lovestrand said he participated in the application for funding with the Bay County Extension Director who put this application together. He explained the project was approved for \$3 million in grant funds through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. Mr. Lovestrand reported this project will address marine debris in all 3 counties. He stated he worked with FWC on locating targets in Franklin County that were included on the list for funding. Mr. Lovestrand said he will be working with the project director who was hired by the Bay County Extension Office and FWC to get boats removed in the bay and creeks. He said they have even included a structure along Highway 98 that has fallen into the water along the shoreline. Mr. Lovestrand explained good information has been received from FWC about the coordinates of the vessels and whether or not fuel has been removed from the vessels. He stated the title for the vessel gets surrendered and turned over to NOAA. He reported there are 15-16 large targets for Franklin County included in this project. Commissioner Boldt stated this is good because there are a lot of private homes that have been abandoned and are falling into the water. He questioned if these items are considered marine debris. Mr. Lovestrand said they can be but are not always considered marine debris. He went on to say derelict vessels are not included because FWC will look at those items under the Derelict Vessel Program that has a separate pot of funding. He explained the vast majority of vessels are in Bay County because they had so much damage. Commissioner Parrish said he is talking about boats and buildings but there is a fine line on private property issues.

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He explained individuals should have insurance to help if there is damage to their home or it washes away. He reported homes along the water are not normally considered marine debris. Commissioner Parrish described the locations of some of these boats that will be removed. Mr. Lovestrand stated FWC does a regular burning program in the marshes in the head of the bay and these large structures and boats are impairing their ability to burn the areas so they want to remove the vessels.

H. Extension Office Report

#### **Informational Items**

General Extension Activities:

1. During this period, the Extension office assisted citizens on the topics interpretation of soil test results, murder hornets, bees, citrus and blueberry production, CARES Act funding for Fisheries-related businesses, rose pruning for better flowering, controlling invasive hydrilla in a private pond, and more.

Sea Grant Extension:

2. Extension Director worked with a team of five FL Sea Grant agents and two UF food safety professors to plan and co-host a two-day in-service training on the topic of Seafood Safety titled "How do you See Your Seafood." The primary audience was UF/IFAS faculty who work with seafood industry segments and State regulatory staff, primarily from FDACS. Interactive sessions and presentations were conducted via Zoom and provided information on a variety of topics focused around safe seafood handling practices, how the industry is regulated, and future anticipated challenges for seafood supply and demand.

3. The Extension Director participated on a planning team with other FL Sea Grant agents who work with clientele in aquaculture-related industry, regarding the initiation of a new intern program that will pair UF interns with various aquaculture businesses to provide an educational opportunity for interns, as well as providing staffing assistance to the businesses. Funding will be coming from FL Sea Grant to pay intern's salaries.

4-H Youth Development:

4. 4-H youth are participating in a virtual 4-H University program this year due to the COVID pandemic.

5. A virtual 4-H Plant Camp is being conducted and available to Franklin, Bay and Gulf County youth. 6. 4-H clubs are still not meeting in-person due to the virus but a large number of programs are being conducted online with great success and high numbers of youth participating. Family and Consumer Sciences:

7. Transition to a distance learning platform continues for programs to use when school begins.8. Yearly statistics for nutrition programming in the schools were provided to the Franklin County Health Department for their reporting purposes.

#### **Library Director - Whitney Roundtree**

Mr. Moron stated Mrs. Roundtree is meeting with the Wilderness Coast IT Group at this time. He said the Board has her report and there are no action items. He asked the Board to let him know if they have any questions and he will have Mrs. Roundtree call them.

I. Library Director Report

#### **Informational/Reference items:**

1. The job posting for the two FT Library Assistants closes July 30th, 2020. I will begin interviewing and vetting applicants the following week. Eight applications have been received.

 We have extended the deadline for the Summer Reading Challenges by one week, until August 7th, to allow more time for entries. Prizes will be drawn August 10th.
 The libraries have seen a slow, but steady increase in usage. From July 1st- July 27th the Carrabelle branch had 514 physical check outs (not including digital materials) and the Eastpoint branch had 511 (not including digital materials). We also added 153 new and donated items to combined collection.

Mr. Moron asked to amend the Agenda to allow Mr. Solomon to present his report and then have the Planning & Zoning report. He stated they will then have Mrs. Beaudry address the Board, conduct the bid opening and continue with the Agenda.

Chairman Lockley asked if they filled the positions at the Library. Mr. Moron said she sent an email yesterday about what needs to be done after she fills the positions and he told her she needs to inform the Board. Mr. Moron stated he will ask her to call Chairman Lockley. Mr. Moron explained her report said there were 8 applicants and he assumes she interviewed all of the applicants.

#### TDC - John Solomon (Administrator) – Report

Mr. Solomon read his report for the Board, as follows:

K. TDC Administrator's Report

#### Information Item:

Collections:

1. The Collections for the month of May were \$123,839.27. Which is a 25% decrease from May 2019. This is a much higher collection number than originally estimated. That being said lodging was only open for 12 days in May. Attached you will find the collections report as well as a screen shot of the Software the TDC uses KeyData Dashboard. The first screen shot is for January 1st 2020 to December 31st 2020. If you see from June 1st to September 30th which shows that the occupancy is higher than last year in the same time period and, in some instances, much higher. Taking into account that this same time period last year was a record for collections in Franklin County. Compared to Northwest Florida as whole and some major tourist destinations in North West Florida they are showing a decrease in bookings compared to last year. The second chart shows a comparison of how Franklin County looks compared to Northwest Florida as a whole.

Mr. Solomon discussed the report for the Board and said starting around May 20<sup>th</sup> their collections increased above last year's collections and for the rest of the year they have been above what the collections were last year during the same time period. He pointed out this time last year was a record collection for the TDC. Mr. Solomon reported they are only down \$100,000 from last year's collections and looking at the paid occupancy rates for June and July they should match or surpass that amount.

Commissioner Parrish left the meeting at this time. Mr. Solomon explained a chart that shows Franklin County versus Northwest Florida and Florida in general on collections and Franklin County is over 25% higher in percentage on paid occupancy for 2020 than Northwest Florida and Florida in general. He said these are amazing numbers for the county in relation to collections and taxes. Mrs. Griffith read the following information: FCBCC REGULAR MEETING August 4, 2020 Page 14 of 45

In 2017, Visit Florida shared a study called the 'Contribution of Travel and Tourism to the Florida Economy'. In that publication, Franklin County ranked second in Florida with 62% of employment being supported by tourism. The tourism industry in Franklin County results in property management businesses, cleaning services, yard maintenance, construction, fishing charters, dining, and spending in local shops and groceries. This economic activity contributes directly to Franklin County's share calculation for state shared sales tax revenues, gas tax proceeds and health care trust fund tax dollars. To put the market in perspective, the state estimated Franklin County was going to have over 70 million dollars in taxable transient rentals this prior fiscal year ending on June 30, 2020 – for the third least populated county in Florida with a population just over 11,000 people, counties with similar taxable sales include much larger counties such as Flagler, Indian River, Marion, Martin, Pasco and Santa Rosa. We need to bring attention to the fact that the Tourism industry does have a positive impact on the county budget.

Mr. Solomon thanked Mrs. Griffith for this information. He explained if the TDC collections show a decrease that is multiplied for the county collections. He reported since they are showing an increase or a match that will mean the county collections will be similar to last year or more. Mr. Solomon reported TDC has a great team and during COVID-19 they have worked hard and understand the sensitivity of the area and are not doing heavy marketing. Mr. Solomon said knowing the county is leading the way in percentages and tied with last year for paid occupancy is good news.

Commissioner Jones read the following:

The Flagler Awards are an annual statewide competition recognizing outstanding Florida Tourism Marketing. The Program was created by Visit Florida to honor the countless individuals and organizations that help position Florida as the number 1 travel destination in the world. Each year the Flagler Awards pay tribute to the efforts of those who use their skills, resourcefulness, creativity and innovation to market Florida to the world.

Commissioner Jones said this year Franklin County TDC was notified that they have won 3 Flagler Awards but they do not know what place they have won. Commissioner Jones stated the first award was for television advertising for the 14 minute television show "Discover the Forgotten Coast". He reported the second award is for resource promotion material category for the Franklin County Visitors' Guide and the third is the direct marketing category for "The Villages Open for Business and Peace and Quiet Invitation. Commissioner Jones stated the awards ceremony has been cancelled but they will receive notice and hope one award will be a Henry which is top place. He said there are good things going on in TDC. Mr. Moron questioned if these are statewide awards. Commissioner Jones answered yes. Commissioner Boldt said it shows the cooperation of the different departments in the county as they look at good health guidelines. He stated people view Franklin County as a safe harbor to come and enjoy their tourist opportunities. He explained the county does not have the problems they are facing down south and that is due to the quality management they have done in the last few months. The Board thanked Mr. Solomon for this work.

Recessed at 10:20 a.m.

Reconvened at 10:35 a.m.

#### Planning and Zoning – Amy Ham-Kelly – Report 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Moron said all the people who have requests are on the phone and muted and if they have a question or the Board has a question they will be unmuted to speak. Mrs. Ham-Kelly provided her report, as follows:

#### **Critical Shoreline Applications**

 M. Consideration of a request to construct a Single Family Private Dock located at Lot 3, Block H, Magnolia Bluffs, 215 North Bayshore Drive, Eastpoint, Franklin County, Florida. The applicant has all State and Federal Permits. The dock will be 269' x 4' with a 26' x 6' terminal platform and a 12' x 20' boatlift. Request submitted by Garlick Environmental Associates, agent for Charles Galloway, applicant. (Existing House)
 STAFF RECOMMENDATION: This dock will extend into East Bay. Staff recommendation is to approve this item.

**BCC ACTION**: To Approve, Table or Deny

### On motion by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve this request.

N. Consideration of a request to construct a Single Family Private Dock located at Lot 46, River's Edge, 208 Sand Bar Road, Apalachicola, Franklin County, Florida. The applicant has all State and Federal Permits. The dock will have a 23' x 6' and a 10' x 40' fixed boardwalk, a 6' x 20' walkway and a 6' x 40' floating hinged dock. Request submitted by Dan Garlick, applicant. (Proposed House)
 STAFF RECOMMENDATION: This dock will extend into the Apalachicola River. Staff recommends approval of this item.
 BCC ACTION: To Approve, Table or Deny

### On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of

#### the Board present, it was agreed to approve this request.

Consideration of a request to construct a Single Family Private Dock located at Lot 25, Indian Bay Village, 2009 Seminole Lane, St. George Island, Franklin County, Florida. The applicant will need State and Federal Permits. The dock will have (2) 78' x 4' boardwalks over wetlands, 130' x 4' dock and a 20' x 6' terminal platform. Request submitted by Garlick Environmental Associates, agent for John Sims, applicant. (Proposed House)
 STAFF RECOMMENDATION: This dock will extend into the Apalachicola Bay. The State and Federal Permits have been issued.
 BCC ACTION: To Approve, Table or Deny

### On motion by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve this request.

P. Consideration of a request to construct a Single Family Private Dock located at Lot 28, Indian Bay Village, 2023 Seminole Lane, St. George Island, Franklin County, Florida. The applicant has State permits and will need the Federal permits. The boardwalk over wetlands will be 199' x 4' and the dock will be 436' x 4' with (2) 10' x 20' boatlifts and a 6' x 20' terminal platform. Request submitted by Garlick Environmental Associates, agent for Timothy Padgett, applicant. (Proposed House)

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**: This dock will extend into the Apalachicola Bay. The Federal permit has not been issued yet. Staff recommends approval of this dock subject to obtaining the Army Corps of Engineer Permit. **BCC ACTION**: To Approve, Table or Deny

#### On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve this request subject to obtaining the Army Corps of Engineer permit.

Q. Consideration of a request to construct a Single Family Private Dock located at Lot 16, Heron Bay Village, 2215 Sea Gull Way, St. George Island, Franklin County, Florida. The applicant will need State and Federal Permits. The boardwalk over wetlands will be 120' x 4', the dock will be 438' x 4' with (1) 30' x 13' Boatlift and (1) 12' x 20' Boatlift and a 20' x 8' terminal platform. Request submitted by Garlick Environmental Associates, agent for Hugh Whitehead, applicant. (Proposed House) **STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** This dock will extend into the Apalachicola Bay. The State and Federal Permits have been issued. Staff recommends approving this item. **BCC ACTION**: To Approve, Table or Deny

#### On motion by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve this request.

R. Consideration of a request to construct a Single Family Private Dock located at Lot 3. Block R. Peninsular Point, Unit 5, 1545 Alligator Drive, Alligator Point, Franklin County, Florida. The applicant has both State and Federal Permits. The dock will be 229' x 4' with a 6' x 20' terminal platform and a 12' x 20' proposed boatlift. Request submitted by Garlick Environmental Associates, agent for Robert Kirby, applicant. (House Under Construction- #29097) **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**: This dock will extend into Alligator Harbor. The State permit for the 40' extension has been received. Staff recommends approve of this item subject to obtaining the Federal permit.

**BCC ACTION**: To Approve, Table or Deny

Commissioner Boldt made a motion to approve this request subject to obtaining the federal permit. **Commissioner Massey seconded the motion.** Chairman Lockley asked if they are continuing to get their permits. Mrs. Ham-Kelly stated they will not issue the county permit until they have the Corps of Engineers permit. Motion carried; 5-0

S. Consideration of a request to construct a Single Family Private Dock located at Lots 5-6, Block M, Peninsular Point, Unit 3, 1529 Alligator Drive, Alligator Point, Franklin County, Florida. The applicant has both State and Federal Permits. The dock will have a 6' x 6' platform and the dock will be 225' x 5' with a 12' x 25' boat slip with lift, a 8' x 20' terminal platform, an 8' x 5' floating jet ski platform with a separate 4' x 10' stairs. (The 8' x 22' portable building would not be permitting in the VE Flood Zone nor in the Critical Habitat Zone). Request submitted by Aaron Sarchet, Florida Environmental Land Services, agent for Michelle Darpel and Lonnie Davis, applicant. (Existing House)

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** The dock will extend into Alligator Harbor. Staff recommends approving the dock and stairway in this application. **BCC ACTION**: To Approve, Table or Deny

### On motion by Commissioner Boldt, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the dock and stairway in this application.

T. Consideration of a request to construct a Single Family Private Dock located at Lot 5, Block 51, Unit 5, 309 Gander Street, St. George Island, Franklin County, Florida. The applicant has both State and Federal Permits. The dock will be 5' x 28' with a 8' x 20' terminal platform and a 10' x 20' boat slip with lift. Request submitted by Aaron Sarchet, Florida Environmental Land Services, agent for Rudy Rowe, applicant. (The proposed house is situated over wetlands.)
STAFF RECOMMENDATION: The dock will extend into a canal off of Apalachicola Bay. There is an isolated Corps of Engineers' wetland on the lot that will have to be filled to build the house. The applicant has an Army COE (Federal Permit) to fill this wetland for a house pad. Staff recommends approving this item.

BCC ACTION: To Approve, Table or Deny

## On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve this request.

Mr. Moron said when he talked to the Board about the consent agenda these items would be presented and Mrs. Ham-Kelly would ask for one motion that covered all the requests. He reported if they had questions on an item that item would be removed and they would discuss it separately. He said they would not go through each request because the Board would have already talked with Mr. Curenton and Mrs. Ham-Kelly about the requests. Commissioner Jones stated the extended problem with the dock permits is making sure they are constructed right and take into consideration the riparian lot lines. He said they need the building department to make sure these docks are being placed where they are permitted and not wherever they want to construct the dock. Commissioner Jones reported that is the purpose behind what they are doing and the riparian lot lines are important and it is difficult to address once the structure is in place. Commissioner Parrish said this must be stressed by county staff when the applicant get their permits. He stated they need to know that the county will check behind them. Commissioner Parrish made a motion that staff warn people that once they get the permit that permit allows them to build the dock where it is stated. He explained if they build across the riparian lot lines and do not build according to the permit that has been issued then they are subject to having to remove the dock and start over. Commissioner Jones seconded the **motion.** Chairman Lockley said they need to follow the permit or they will have to remove the dock. Commissioner Boldt reported this may be another assignment for a code compliance department. Motion carried; 5-0.

#### **Final Plat Applications**

U. Consideration of a request to Final Re-Plat "Island Breeze" to "Island Breeze Phase II" a 4 lot subdivision lying in Section 28, Township 8 South, Range 6 West, Eastpoint, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by Thurman Roddenberry, agent for Charles and Angela Overstreet, applicants.
 STAFF RECOMMENDATION: The promised changes have been made to the parcels south of

Highway 98. Staff recommends approving this item. BCC ACTION: To Approve, Table or Deny

**Commissioner Massey made a motion to approve the final re-plat. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.** Commissioner Jones asked if they are re-doing the properties south of Highway 98. Mrs.

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Ham-Kelly presented the final plat and said the original plat had a road that was platted in the center of the 2 south properties on Highway 98 and all the lots entered through Highway 98 through that 1 road. She explained in the re-plat they took the road out and the 2 back lots will access off CC Land Road and the 2 front lots will access off of Highway 98. Mrs. Ham-Kelly said that is basically the only difference but the language on the 4 south side parcels say the lots have access to these parcels. She reported the lots on the south side are not buildable. **Motion carried; 5-0.** 

#### **Commercial Site Plan Review**

V. Consideration of a request for Commercial Site Plan Review for an 8,000 square foot climate controlled self-storage facility located at 162 US Highway 98, Eastpoint, Franklin County, Florida. 32 Units will be conditioned and 8 non-conditioned units. Request submitted by Wade Brown, Edwin Brown and Associates and Jonathan Barwick, Southeastern Engineering, agents for 98 Storage, LLC, applicant.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**: This project is located in front of the existing Seminole Self Storage buildings in Eastpoint. This application appears to meet all the requirements for a commercial development. Staff recommends approving this items. **BCC ACTION**: To Approve, Table or Deny

On motion by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve this request. Commissioner Boldt stated he looked at the site plan and drove by the property and this is well done

W. Consideration of a request for Commercial Site Plan Review for (5) 18' x 40' Recreation Boat Storage Units located on Lots 6 & 7, Block 1, David Brown Estates, 257 Creamer Street, Eastpoint, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by Christopher B. Varnes, applicant. (Building #5 will extend 2 feet onto Lot 6 which is also owned by Mr. Varnes and is currently zoned C-4 Mixed Use Residential)

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**: Mr. Varnes owns Lots 6 and 7, Block 1, David Brown Estates, except for a 30' x 40' parcel out of Lot 7 owned by Water Management Services (St. George Island Water System). The property is zoned C-4. This proposal meets the requirements for commercial development.

BCC ACTION: To Approve, Table or Deny

Mrs. Ham-Kelly stated this item has been withdrawn by the applicant. She reported the applicant will come back and do commercial site plan on another property.

X. Consideration of a request to construct a Commercial Pool, Pole Barn Activity Center, Men/Women's Bath House, 4 Coastal Suites, Laundry and Check-In Center located at 909 US Highway 98, Eastpoint, Franklin County, Florida. Request submitted by Michael Seamon, Cox Pools, agent for Coastline Rentals, LLC, applicant.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**: There are 8 parking spaces shown on the site plan. The enclosed structure such as the restrooms, coastal suites and check-in will have to meet the flood elevation requirements. There is no indication on the site plan about how the stormwater will be taken care of. Staff recommends approve subject to receiving any required stormwater permit or exemptions. **BCC ACTION**: To Approve, Table or Deny

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On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve this request subject to receiving any required stormwater permit or exemptions.

#### Land Use/Re-Zoning Applications

Y. Consideration of a request for a Public Hearing to change 1.40 (+/-) acres parcel for a Land Use Change from Commercial and Residential to Commercial and a Re-Zoning from C-4 Residential Mixed Use and R-4 Single Family Home Industry to C-3 Commercial Recreation on property described as 16 North Franklin Street, Eastpoint, Franklin County, Florida. Request Submitted by (Eastpoint Lands LLC) Bruce Millender, applicant.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**: A portion of the property in this request is located on the easement for the electrical transmission line through Eastpoint. I am uncertain what development Duke Energy will allow beneath their transmission line. The applicant has not submitted any analysis to support this request. Staff recommends tabling this request until the applicant supplies more information about the requested change.

BCC ACTION: To Approve, Table or Deny Public Hearing Request

Commissioner Jones asked if the request is for a public hearing. Mrs. Ham-Kelly replied yes. Chairman Lockley said they cannot table this request for a public hearing. Commissioner Jones explained that is why he is confused because every time they have a request like this the Board approves going to a public hearing. He asked if this can be worked out at the public hearing. Mrs. Ham-Kelly stated this matter could be discussed at a public hearing but the information is part of the analysis that is required. Chairman Lockley inquired if they are just asking for a public hearing and nothing else. Mrs. Ham-Kelly answered yes, they are asking for a public hearing to change the property zoning and land use. Chairman Lockley stated they have to give them a public hearing and cannot deny a public hearing. Attorney Shuler explained staff did not recommend denying the request but asked to table for more information. He said they are correct and the Board's policy has been to send people to a public hearing and not deny the public hearing. Attorney Shuler reported he does not know the reason for the tabling or what other information is being requested so he is not in a position to advise the Board on staff's request. He said the recommendation is not to deny the request but staff is looking for more information from the applicant so they can make a recommendation. Attorney Shuler stated it is the Board's discretion if they want to proceed to a public hearing and work it out there. Commissioner Parrish asked if they send this item to a public hearing and the request is denied then the applicant cannot re-apply for a year. Attorney Shuler stated that is correct. Commissioner Parrish reported Duke Energy does not allow anyone to development anything under their transmission lines. He explained if the transmission lines are damaged then they must get to the area with trucks and cannot have development under the transmission lines. Commissioner Parrish said if they table this request to get more information and then they hold a public hearing then it may be approved or it could be approved like it is. He stated this transmission line runs down the middle of Eastpoint and the last time it came up Duke Energy said they could plant flowers but they are not going to allow you to develop under those lines. He reported they cannot rezone the property under Duke Energy's transmission line because they do not own the property. He explained the request and part of the rezoning is the easement Duke Energy has for the transmission lines. Mrs. Ham-Kelly reported this will affect the next request also. Chairman Lockley stated they will not be denying the request. Commissioner Parrish reported staff is asking for more information. He stated if that part is not removed the request will probably be denied and he cannot reapply for a year. Mrs. Ham-Kelly

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explained they are asking to table until the applicant can provide documentation from Duke Energy that what they are anticipating putting there can be done. She said they do not want to go through the whole process and then Duke Energy says they cannot do this. Commissioner Massey guestioned if it is best to table this matter and see what Mr. Millender can do. Mrs. Ham-Kelly stated the table is not denying him due diligence but tabling this matter so he can find out if Duke Energy will allow anything in the easement. Commissioner Parrish asked how he can rezone something he does not own. Mrs. Ham-Kelly responded he owns the property but is not allowed to do anything in the easement. Commissioner Parrish explained he can rezone the property he owns but not the easement. He said this will set a precedent for Duke Energy and they are not going to do this because they would have to do it for everyone in this situation and then they could not maintain their transmission lines. Chairman Lockley questioned how long it will take to get this information. Mrs. Ham-Kelly stated that will depend on the applicant because he would need to contact Duke Energy. She went on to say the analysis is done by the applicant. Commissioner Massey asked if the applicant is wanting to table. Mrs. Ham-Kelley was not sure but felt the applicant wanted this to go forward. She reported Mr. Curenton went through the analysis and recommends tabling this request until the applicant provides further analysis. Mr. Moron said it sounds like they need to table this for the applicant's protection. He reported this will save it from being denied and having to wait a year to reapply. He stated the best course forward is to table this and let the applicant get this information to satisfy the staff and then come back with a favorable response and then proceed with a public hearing. Commissioner Parrish said he cannot rezone property he does not own and must remove that portion with the easement. Chairman Lockley reported they can table it and then if the applicant is not satisfied they can give him a public hearing. Commissioner Jones questioned if tabling this before it goes to the public hearing is the most economically sustainable because it does not cost any more money. Mrs. Ham-Kelly agreed and said once it is approved for a public hearing they charge the applicant and the land use and rezoning is \$500 per item and he has 2 items. Commissioner Jones made a motion to table this request. Commissioner Massey seconded the motion. Chairman Lockley said to tell the applicant to get the information because it is needed. Motion carried; 5-0.

Z. Consideration of a request for Public Hearing to change .34 (+/-) acres parcel for a Land Use Change from Commercial and Residential to Commercial and a Re-Zoning from C-4 Residential Mixed Use and R-4 Single Family Home Industry to C-3 Commercial Recreation on property described as 15-4th Street, Eastpoint, Franklin County, Florida. Request Submitted by (Eastpoint Lands LLC) Bruce Millender, applicant.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**: This property is located on the easement for the electrical transmission line through Eastpoint. I am uncertain what development Duke Energy will allow beneath their transmission line. It is located on 4th Street, which connects to Otterslide Road and carries more traffic than the average residential street in Eastpoint. The applicant has not submitted any analysis to support this request. Staff recommends tabling this request until the applicant supplies more information about the requested change. **BCC ACTION**: To Approve, Table or Deny Public Hearing Request

**Commissioner Jones made a motion to table this request. Commissioner Massey seconded the motion.** Chairman Lockley said to tell the applicant to bring this information. Commissioner Parrish asked what he wants to do with .34 of an acre. Mrs. Ham-Kelly stated he wants to do RV parking pads for workforce housing. Commissioner Parrish questioned how many he wants to put on 1/3 of an acre. Mrs. Ham-Kelly said it will depend on the water and sewer availability and the health department regulates the number of units on the lot. Commissioner Parrish inquired why they do not have this

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information before it comes to the Board. He questioned if they have a site plan. Commissioner Parrish asked how they are supposed to make an informed decision without this information. He clarified they approve the rezone and then have site plan approval. Mrs. Ham-Kelly answered yes commercial site approval. Commissioner Massey inquired what the applicant wants to put on the property. Mrs. Ham-Kelly stated RV pads. She explained the Health Department requires a certain size paved pad for RV's. Commissioner Massey said he wants to have an RV park. Mrs. Ham-Kelly replied ves, that is her understanding. Chairman Lockley asked if the lots are next to each other. Mrs. Ham-Kelly said no, and described the locations. Commissioner Massey agreed with Commissioner Parrish that they are not going to allow a camper under the power line. Chairman Lockley asked if he must have permission to pull a camper under their transmission line. Mrs. Ham-Kelly reported Duke Energy would have to approve anything they do and that is the information they do not have and the reason for the request to table. Mr. Moron said this is the same issue because Duke Energy has easements and that is their property. Commissioner Parrish reported if you rezoned this easement it would be for Duke Energy not for Mr. Millender. Chairman Lockley asked if this is his property or Duke Energy's property. Mrs. Ham-Kelly reported Mr. Millender has the deed but there is an easement through the property and he is asking for the whole property but does not have a sufficient analysis. Mr. Moron clarified Duke Energy has an easement on Mr. Millender's property. Commissioner Parrish said the property is basically dedicated to Duke Energy for the power line. Motion carried; 5-0.

#### Langton Consultants - Melissa Beaudry – Update

L. RESTORE Act- Direct Component Funding Update

Franklin County "Pot 1" projects approved in the MYP:

1. County-wide Dune Restoration: \$110,000.00

Sixteen (16) miles of coastline including St. George Island residential area, the Carrabelle Beach area, Alligator Point, and Bald Point

2. St. George Island Storm water Drainage Improvement: \$110,000.00

The commercial district on St. George Island, which runs from 3rd St. East to 3rd St. West, from Gorrie Drive to Bayshore Drive, and covers approximately 70 acres.

The process for getting funding through the RESTORE Act is a complex and frustratingly long process. A timeline of the main aspects of the process so far are as follows: Treasury approved the MYP on January 23, 2020 and the next stage in the process was to develop and submit full grant applications and submit those into the online system. In 2020 Treasury closed their open application system to transition to a different application format and reopened a new application portal in June 2020. In March 2020 the RFQs for both projects were submitted to Treasury for desk review in anticipation of submitting them with the grant applications. On July 20, 2020 we received approval from Treasury for the RFQs and are now submitting the grant applications in the online system.

Once the applications are submitted, they will be reviewed through an iterative process and then approved by Treasury. A grant award is anticipated for the projects in October or November and work can begin on both projects immediately. As the grant award date approaches, we can release the RFQs for bid in anticipation of the grant award. We will continue to work with staff throughout the process and will continue to update the board of developments as we work toward grant award on these and future applications.

Ms. Beaudry appeared via telephone. She reported they are the county's consultants working on the RESTORE Pot 1 project. She explained the process has been extremely frustrating and she wanted to provide an update for the Board. She stated the MYP (Multi-year Implementation Plan) was approved

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the beginning of 2020 and unfortunately with timing the grant cycle closed after the MYP was approved. Ms. Beaudry reported Treasury told them the cycle closed because they are improving the process. She stated they just reopened the new online application system and it looks similar to them but Treasury says it is more efficient. She said they are hopeful this means they can submit the application and it will not take a year to get a grant award as it has in the past. Ms. Beaudry explained the 2 projects that they have approved in the MYP is \$110,000 for county-wide dune restoration and \$110,000 for the St. George Island Stormwater Drainage Improvement Project. She reported these items will be 2 planning grants to do all the design work for these 2 projects. She stated they are in the final stages of putting these applications in the system and then they must go through the process of getting approval. She estimated it will take 2-3 months to get approval which would be October or November. Ms. Beaudry explained once they get further into the approval process and have an anticipated award date they can start the bid process so they will not lose any more time. She stated they will put together the applications in a way that they will streamline some designs straight into construction instead of having to do a different application for construction. Ms. Beaudry stated she is waiting on approval from Treasury saying she can do this. She reminded the Board Langton Consultants do not get paid until the work is done. She said they understand the frustration and want the projects to move forward. She reported they continue to work with Treasury and are available to do more reports if needed or to answer any questions. Commissioner Jones said he would like the public to know when they started the process for these 2 projects. Ms. Beaudry replied the Board starting talking about the MYP in 2018 and they started work on the MYP in 2019. She said they developed the MYP and then went out to public comment and then to review by Treasury. She reported they got approval for the MYP on January 23, 2020. She explained they had issues with the portal being closed and reopened and this is the county's money and it should be flowing continuously but this is still a grant application that goes through the federal system and has open and closed dates. Ms. Beaudry reported the portal just reopened on July 1, 2020 and they received approval on July 20<sup>th</sup> for the Request for Qualifications (RFQ's). She said now they are ready to submit in the online system. Commissioner Jones stated the county has been in this process for 1-2 years. Commissioner Boldt said he is interested in the county wide dune restoration and asked what the MYP stands for. Ms. Beaudry reported the MYIP or MYP as Treasury calls it is the multi-year implementation plan. She stated this is the planning document that Treasury requires for a county to plan how they want to spend their allocation over the 15 years the money will become available to the local governments. Ms. Beaudry said the document will be updated when the projects get moving and she will come back to the Board to plan ahead on what money will be available and what future projects they want to use the money for. She reported they will use the same model for projecting when the funds should be used, what the scope of work is and how it meets eligibility. Ms. Beaudry explained the MYP is the planning document required before submitting applications for specific projects. Commissioner Boldt questioned if the \$110,000 is only for design work on these projects. Ms. Beaudry answered that is correct and once they have the design then they will understand the construction costs and that will be funded through RESTORE. She explained the first 2 construction projects would be the first use of funds after approval of the planning grant. Commissioner Boldt requested Ms. Beaudry keep them informed and show illustrations so they can show their constituents. Ms. Beaudry reported she will also be talking about RESTORE at the next Board meeting because she would like to let the Board know when she gets the applications submitted. She said when there is time on the agenda she can also provide an outline of the MYP, what funds are available and how they can plan for other projects. Commissioner Parrish explained a lot of counties that received BP funds had their money planned out

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and what they wanted to use their money for. He reported the county came up with the dune restoration project after Hurricane Michael washed most of the dunes away on St. George Island and some on Alligator Point. He stated they tried to come up with a plan to build the dunes back. He said the county has not planned long range because things change so much. Commissioner Parrish reported the county is also moving slower than other counties because they are doing project by project. Commissioner Parrish explained they do not want to obligate all of the money at one time because things change. He stated they are trying to take care of issues as they come along rather than doing a 10 year plan and allocating and spending all of the money. He explained if something comes up that needs to be addressed this is a funding source. Commissioner Parrish stated they have discussed obligating \$4 million for beach renourishment to protect the road at Alligator Point but problems have come up with putting back the beach if it washes away because FEMA will only pay 50% of the costs. He explained without a mechanism in place to generate the other 50% this project will not move forward. Commissioner Parrish said the MYIP means they can allocate money over 10-15 years but they do not want to get a plan approved that far out when things change quickly. He reported some counties did a 10 year plan and there money is already allocated. Commissioner Parrish said the previous Board decided they would not allocate all this money because the money does not go away and is at Treasury in the name of Franklin County. He reported the oyster industry may need more help and there are many items that could come up and this is the funding mechanism for those items. Commissioner Parrish stated the allocation comes down each year for 15 years so they are letting the allocation build up. He reminded the Board this is a onetime funding source. Commissioner Parrish explained these are just the planning grants and they do not know how much it will cost to implement the plans. Commissioner Jones asked what the reasonable expectation is between the design and the projects going out to bid. Ms. Beaudry reported that is contingent on how long the consultants take to plan the project. She stated they are not bound by Treasury to have a certain amount of time between planning and construction. She explained once they go out for bids for the planning work and the consultant is selected and they get better numbers on the construction costs they can start even if the final design is not done. She stated if she can get the budget and scope then she can start to put together the MYIP process in the grant application. Ms. Beaudry reported this can be done concurrently with the planning work so when they are ready to submit the application for the construction they are not losing too much time. She said it will depend on how long the design work takes and a couple of months must be allowed for Treasury's review. Ms. Beaudry reported she hopes they will be under construction by the summer or fall of next year but that is based on factors they do not have control over. She explained in relation to what Commissioner Parrish said he is right about the county's conservative approach to the funding. She commented they are working with other counties and even though it looks like Franklin County is going slower they are doing the right thing by not planning out and creating expectations to the public on projects that are not necessarily a priority years down the road. Ms. Beaudry explained a lot of counties are running into an issue because they planned out their money and priorities changed so now they are having to go back and re-do the planning document and process. She pointed out a county can have to start the process over for a simple scope change. Ms. Beaudry reported Gulf County had to re-start the process on their beach nourishment project. She said it does appear Franklin County is moving slower but it is a more efficient way to use the funds. She reported when they look at the MYIP it does not say they have to dedicate the money and find new projects. She stated that money can sit in the account to the benefit of Franklin County for whatever time it takes for the county to find new projects. Chairman Lockley thanked Mrs. Beaudry for her report.

#### RFP / RFQ / Bids Opening

J. The Franklin County Board of County Commissioners will receive sealed bids from any qualified Florida licensed general contractors of Florida licensed builder, company or corporation interested in constructing: St. George Island Restroom Design.

The project is located at 2 E. Gulf Beach Drive, St. George Island, Florida 32328 and consists of the construction of an elevated restroom building, handicap ramps, deck, water service connection, and septic sewer on St. George Island, Florida.

Sealed bids will be opened and read aloud at the August 4, 2020 Franklin County Board of County Commission regular meeting beginning at 9:00 a.m. (ET) at 34 Forbes Street, Apalachicola, Florida.

Mr. Moron opened and read the bids, as follows:

<u>Company</u>	<b>Location</b>	<u>Bid Amount</u>
Storm Construction, LLC	Carrabelle, FL	\$450,000.00
OliverSperry Renovation	Tallahassee, FL	\$568,893.00
North Florida Construction, Inc.	Clarksville, FL	\$468,001.00

All companies submitted bid bonds. Mr. Moron stated the bids will go to the engineer for review. On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to send the bids to the engineer for review and a recommendation. Mrs. Griffith inquired if the Board would like her to research financing alternatives for construction. Mr. Moron said the cost will be paid back through TDC. On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to direct Mrs. Griffith to research financing alternatives for the construction.

Weems Memorial Hospital - David Walker (CEO) – Update

Mr. Walker thanked the Board for their work. He stated Mrs. Brownell in partnership with the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) delivered 30,000 masks and 1,000 face shields to the hospital which increased their personal protective equipment (PPE) availability. He explained in the ongoing partnership with Tallahassee Memorial Hospital (TMH) a wound clinic is coming to the hospital. He stated they are having ongoing discussions and meetings with TMH representatives to add their service lines to the hospital and clinic. Mr. Walker explained there are a lot of people in the county going out of county for wound care services so they would bring this service to the grounds of the hospital. He reported they want to have this service at the hospital because they receive better reimbursement rates. He said there are staff at TMH that have family owned homes in the county and are willing to help staff this clinic. Mr. Walker reported they will start small and build the program up as demand increases. He said they feel with the number of people leaving the county for wound care they can have the program here in the county. He stated they are trying to create access to care.

Mr. Walker reported in working with TMH they hosted a physician here last month that is interested in working in Franklin County. He said the physician toured both the hospital and clinics and has a

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background in critical access hospitals and rural health clinics as well as EMS. He stated TMH offered the position and contract and the physician has accepted and his tentative start date is November 23, 2020. Mr. Walker explained TMH will pay market share price for the lease of their facilities for this physician. He stated this physician has family in Ocala and wants to move back to the area. He said the physician talked with the previous administration about coming here and he stayed in contact with Ms. Ginny Griner, Weems Memorial Hospital, through the years and then got this opportunity. Mr. Walker reported the physician likes Weems Memorial Hospital and currently works at a critical access hospital, oversees the EMS and runs the clinic. Mr. Walker stated they are very excited about that part of the partnership.

Mr. Walker stated they are still participating in statewide calls with the Surgeon General and the Agency for Health Care Administration (ACHA) about bed availability and ICU beds. He said they are also monitoring staff for surging hot spots. He explained when areas have a surge the state employs nursing professionals to come into the communities to assist hospitals. Mr. Walker reported they still have monthly calls with TMH and Capital Regional Medical Center to continue to partner with them during the pandemic. He explained they may be on a downward turn with COVID-19 but they still have flu season coming up. Mr. Walker said when school starts back they will have to work together because there are a lot of variables. He stated in Franklin County the health care entities have joined together and are also working with other county and city departments in relation to COVID-19. Mr. Walker said there is also a regional strategy with the major hospitals in Leon County and Bay County. Commissioner Boldt reported the wound care clinic is spectacular and he has seen it successfully operated at TMH. He pointed out Capital Health Plan (CHP) also has a wound care clinic within their facility. Commissioner Boldt reported he specializes in post wound care management and invites the hospital to consider having a compression garment component post wound care. He said the staff will know about this item. Commissioner Boldt estimated the partnership with TMH is worth about \$300,000 with bringing in the physician and all the components that go with it. He stated the county has a tremendous opportunity with TMH and the management company working with TMH.

Commissioner Boldt asked about standard flu vaccinations as they enter the new flu season. Mr. Walker reported a flu vaccination campaign will come out from the Health Department and Weems Memorial Hospital will join in. He said the campaign will probably start in September and they will encourage people to get a vaccination before the season starts. Mr. Walker reported their clinical department has talked about this and could do a campaign but prefer to do it in partnership with the Health Department because they specialize in these items.

Mr. Walker reported his action item is the Paycheck Protection Program. He explained last month they were able to apply for this program for the funding was exhausted. He stated People's South Bank assisted them with the loan and they received approval for \$930,855 which would cover 2 ½ payrolls. He reported the loan will be fully forgiven. Mr. Walker explained 60% of the money must be used for payroll costs but they will use 100% for payroll. Mr. Walker stated they were able to get the loan because they receive less than 50% of their revenue from the county. He requested Board action to accept the loan and open the account at People's South Bank. He stated initially when this program started public hospitals could not apply because they were owned by public entities. Mr. Walker reported a lot of lobbying occurred and they came up with a rule that if they receive less than 50% of revenue from the county is a lot of small rural critical access.

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hospitals applied early on and the money ran out. He said they were notified there was a window of opportunity to apply and they applied and received the money. Mrs. Griffith reported one of the requirements is to set up a separate account so they can easily verify payroll expenditures. She explained they need authorization from the Board to set up a new account. **On motion by** Commissioner Boldt, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to accept the loan and open the account. Commissioner Boldt said this is another example of how the federal government favors rural hospitals. Mr. Walker stated there may be a push for more funding for infrastructure needs for small rural hospitals. He reported they want to be involved and make sure Franklin County is not forgotten. He thanked the Board for their support. Chairman Lockley said if the Board had gone the other way this money would be going to Port St. Joe. He stated they did the right thing to keep the hospital here. Commissioner Jones clarified the Board is in the process of engaging with Mr. Jim Coleman's company, Alliant, to see what they can come up with. He said there have been several statements indicating this was done and he questioned where they are in the process. Mr. Moron explained they are continuing to negotiate with Mr. Coleman and based on the negotiations they will make a decision. Chairman Lockley reported his understanding was they had 2 choices and they have not picked Mr. Coleman yet but out of the 2 they went with Mr. Coleman. Commissioner Jones agreed that is correct.

#### Clerk of Courts – Marcia M. Johnson – Report

Clerk Johnson presented her report, as follows:

DD. Clerk of Courts Report

#### **Action Items:**

1. Board action is requested relative to the Value Adjustment Board (VAB):

a. Two county commissioners must be appointed;

b. A citizen member who owns homestead property within the county must be appointed. The citizen member cannot be a member or employee of any taxing authority. Mr. Donnie Gay has graciously agreed to serve should it be the desire of the Board.

Board action is requested to appoint two commissioners and to appoint Mr. Donnie Gay as the citizen member to the VAB.

**Commissioner Massey made a motion to appoint Commissioner Boldt, Chairman Lockley, and Mr. Donnie Gay to the Value Adjustment Board.** Attorney Shuler said Chairman Lockley is involved in an election. Mr. Moron explained they usually appoint the Commissioners that are not running for election. **On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to appoint Commissioner Parrish, Commissioner Boldt and Mr. Donnie Gay to the Value Adjustment Board.** Clerk Johnson said Mr. Moron is working with Mrs. Hines to use Zoom for the hearings. Mr. Moron agreed all the meetings would be virtual. Clerk Johnson stated last year they did not have any hearings so they will hope for the best this year.

#### **Information Item:**

2. For information, a copy of the county's audit reports for the year 18/19 has been provided to the Board and has been posted on the county's website.

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Clerk Johnson said the county had a good audit and there were no findings to worry about.

Mr. Moron stated Mrs. Griffith has some updates on the budget and then they will break for lunch and come back at 1:30 p.m. Mrs. Griffin provided the following update:

At the Budget Workshop on Thursday, July 30<sup>th</sup> the BOCC set a preliminary millage rate for the TRIM notices at 5.9026, just below the current millage rate of 5.9494. The renewal rates for Capital Health Plan were not available at the time of the budget meeting and an estimated 10% increase (\$144,492 in additional cost) was used for the preliminary budget presentation. Capital Health Plan released the renewal rate yesterday at a 2% increase. The cost for individual coverage will rise from \$645.31 per month to \$658.22 per month. This reduction from the estimated 10% increase to 2% will reduce the proposed budget by \$114,599. Although the rate that will go out on the TRIM notices will be the 5.9026, at the 1<sup>st</sup> public hearing if all other conditions remain the same, the BOCC will incorporate this reduction and the preliminary millage rate will fall to 5.8490 – from 3.69 percent over the rolled-back rate to 2.75% over the rolled-back rate. We are hopeful at this time that further reductions will be possible with legislative progress on HEROES funding for revenue losses by county government and updates from the second revenue estimating conference later this month.

Chairman Lockley said they are lucky. Commissioner Jones agreed a 2% increase on the insurance is low.

The meeting recessed at 11:50 a.m.

The meeting will reconvene at 1:30 p.m.

#### **CareerSource Workforce - Kim Bodine (Executive Director) – Request**

Ms. Bodine appeared via telephone. She said annually the Board approves their budget and waiver. She reported the budget is included in the Board's packet. She explained the budget is higher this year than last year because they anticipating money for the displaced worker grant. Ms. Bodine stated without additional grants their budget is usually about \$5 million. She reported if the Board has any questions then she will have the finance person available to answer the questions. She explained in relation to the Individual Training Account (ITA) Waiver under state law they are required to spend 50% of their Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WAIO) funding for classrooms and other types of training. She said it has been difficult for them to manage how to spend the money because they cannot force people to go into training. Ms. Bodine stated right now it is more difficult to get individuals interested in going into training because of the pandemic. Ms. Bodine said they usually seek a waiver to make their goal 30% of their funding but they strive for 50%. She reported for the year that ended June 30<sup>th</sup> they were about 40% for the amount of dollars required to go into training. She explained the reason they ask for the waiver is because the penalties for not hitting their mark are punitive and rolls into the following year to increase the amount they must spend. Ms. Bodine stated they like to air on the side of caution with this request. She said the Board has approved this ITA Waiver for many years. On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the budget and ITA waiver.

#### AA. Request:

The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) and Federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act require local workforce development areas to partner/work with specific entities within the community and to outline their commitments through the execution of a memorandum of understanding (MOU/IFA) between partners. It is also required that each MOU/IFA is approved by the chief elected officials in each county where CSGC serves. These documents were last written and approved in 2017 for a three year term; therefore, all must be renewed in 2020.

All one-stop partner programs must contribute to the infrastructure costs and certain additional costs of the one-stop delivery system based on their proportionate use, as required by 20 CFR 678.700 and 678.760, 34 CFR 361.700 and 361.760, and 34 CFR 463.700 and 463.760. A partner's contribution must be an allowable, reasonable, necessary, and allocable cost to the program, consistent with the Federal Cost Principles set forth in the Uniform Guidance.

Attachment1: Copy of the remaining mandatory MOU/IFA for:

1. Dept. of Education, Division of Blind Services

Ms. Bodine said the Board approved some of the MOU's at the last meeting but the Division of Blind Services had not completed their portion of the MOU yet so it is being submitted this month with the other items. She explained the MOU outlines what they are committing to in supporting their work and what they are committing to do in supporting the work of job centers. **On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve this MOU for the Department of Education, Division of Blind Services.** 

Mr. Moron stated the last item is the email Ms. Bodine sent yesterday. Ms. Bodine reported the email was concerning some data they requested from DEO related to unemployment claims. She explained normally when someone applies for unemployment they are required to register in the job matching system (Employ Florida) for the State of Florida which is administered through Workforce Boards. She stated because of the pandemic, social distancing and the large number of people being unemployed within weeks DEO stopped the migration of data to them and the Governor waived the requirement for individuals to register in this system. She said the Governor also waived the requirement during the pandemic for job searches. Ms. Bodine explained because of this they cannot reach out to individuals that applied for unemployment through the system to get them registered for work. She said they also wanted to look at the number of individuals and any commonality and reach out to them. She reported at some point this requirement not to register and do job searches will end and they do not want a huge amount of people to try to get in the system at one time. Ms. Bodine stated they have always had access to this information in the past and starting in March they requested the information be transmitted to them so they could start to assist these individuals over the phone with getting into the system to prepare for when the pandemic ends. She explained DEO decided that in order for them to access the data the County Commission needed to sign an agreement allowing them to receive the data. Ms. Bodine stated they are confused why now they must have a new level of approval for data they have always received in the past. Ms. Bodine reported yesterday they sent a sample agreement for the County Commission. She said she shared this information with Mr. Moron and he sent it to Attorney Shuler for review. Ms. Bodine reported Attorney Shuler had some questions and she believes she has answered his guestions. She explained for the Board to be more comfortable

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with them receiving the data they could create an agreement with the county describing why they need the data, what they use the data for and that the data is secure. Ms. Bodine stated everyone that works in a job center and has access to data has to complete a security agreement with the State of Florida. She reported the agreement the county signed last month with DEO also has sections that clarifies how they are to treat confidential information. Ms. Bodine stated when the agreement with DEO is finalized then she will come back to the County Commission to see if they will agree that DEO can share the data with them. Commissioner Parrish said if they are allowed to receive this data they will not force someone into a job until the state tells them they must do this to keep collecting their unemployment. Ms. Bodine responded they cannot force anyone into a job but at some point the unemployment will end and people will be looking for jobs. She explained at that time all of them will have to go through the process of registering and they are trying to be proactive and keep that from happening all at once. She reported they would like to reach out to these individuals with help registering and with job leads. Commissioner Parrish pointed out right now most people are not looking for a job and he does not want to put their constituency in a different place than everyone else in the state. He questioned if they just want to get a head start registering people into the system. Ms. Bodine said that is correct. Commissioner Parrish asked how they will reach them if they cannot contact them by telephone. Ms. Bodine explained they will push this information out on social media and do press releases with the media. She stated they understand the climate and that many people are concerned about getting back out in the workplace and in the public. She stated they would like for individuals to make contact with them early on so when they get ready to work they are already in the system. She reported if they can get registered over the phone then they do not have to come in the office. She stated they can work with them virtually and they can go into Employ Florida and look for jobs if they have access to a computer. Ms. Bodine explained when they are ready to get back to work they are there to assist them. Commissioner Parrish suggested this information be advertised in the newspaper so they know this service is available to them but that they are not forcing them to give up their unemployment. Ms. Bodine pointed out registering with Employ Florida does not have any bearing on unemployment claims. She reported right now they can receive 13 weeks of state unemployment and when that is exhausted they can get 13 weeks of pandemic federal unemployment assistance. She stated on top of that they have been receiving \$600 a month but they do not know what will change until the next federal package is passed. Ms. Bodine said the most any individual can receive is 26 weeks of unemployment. She explained many people have already moved from the state unemployment into the federal unemployment so eventually they will be out of unemployment benefits. She stated they want to be sure when that happens they are there working with them and helping them get ready to go back to work. Commissioner Parrish reported some of these people will be getting close to the end of their unemployment. He explained letting them know that there is only 26 weeks of unemployment should be part of the notice so they know it will be to their advantage to pre-register. Commissioner Boldt asked if employers are getting in touch with them to let them know they have jobs. Ms. Bodine answered yes, but they are having a difficult time finding job seekers who are ready to go back to work. She explained the process of employers offering back jobs to individuals. Commissioner Boldt asked if there is a possibility of an open air job fair under the current COVID situation. Ms. Bodine stated they could host that event but they are trying to reach people through their contact information and pushing job openings on social media but they are not getting information from job seekers. Commissioner Parrish inquired about forms that should come to employers when their former employees have applied for unemployment and said his business has not received any of these forms saying they have applied for unemployment and asking if their job is no

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longer available. He stated if businesses were receiving these forms there would be a lot of people off of unemployment. Commissioner Parrish said as long as this agreement does not cause any disadvantage to their constituency then he does not see anything wrong with the agreement but they need to hear Attorney Shuler's comments. Attorney Shuler inquired if the data set they are asking for under the MOU with DEO is information that pre-COVID was already available to them. Ms. Bodine stated that is correct. Attorney Shuler asked if the county under pre-COVID was required to provide oversight of this data as opposed to the county oversight of the information they will receive in the MOU. Ms. Bodine replied no, they never had separate agreements for this information. She reported whatever is written in the local elected official agreements that they have with them that maintains that they are responsible for making appointments to their board and if they have disallowances on spending the county is responsible. Ms. Bodine said they have never requested data from DEO before that has required a separate security agreement. Attorney Shuler explained his concern is this contract imposes upon the County Commission a level of oversight of Ms. Bodine and the information she receives, how she protects it and what uses she makes of it. He said he informed Ms. Bodine they barely have enough county staff to provide our own essential services and do not have enough staff to oversee the management of this data that will be coming from DEO to CareerSource. He said he questioned how they can resolve this additional layer of liability that the state is intending to impose on the county. Attorney Shuler reported Ms. Bodine proposed a contract between the county and CareerSource. He stated this is similar to agreements they have with people who provide services to the hospital in regards to HIPPA requirements. He reported this separate agreement is between the county and CareerSource to use the data appropriately because there is definitely not going to be any county oversight day to day because the county does not have the ability to that. He questioned why the state would ask the county to do that. Attorney Shuler reported from a public policy standpoint this gives the people of the county an opportunity to get into the system and get re-employed when they are allowed to go back to work. He said the county probably does not have much choice but he wanted the Board to be aware of this additional level of responsibility the state is imposing on the county. Commissioner Parrish said his concern is the county signing another agreement for the release of the information and if that will adversely affect the people of Franklin County and if not, why is DEO implementing this extra level of oversight. Attorney Shuler stated he had the same question and discussed it with Ms. Bodine but he is not sure they have an answer. He explained this is what DEO is requiring of her organization and the county before they will release the data and Ms. Bodine needs the data to help people in the county so he will try to mitigate the risk to the county in terms of providing oversight through a separate agreement. Attorney Shuler reported the county has a good working relationship with Ms. Bodine's organization and have confidence in who they are partnering with. Commissioner Parrish asked if the surrounding counties have already signed with CareerSource. Ms. Bodine reported no one has signed because DEO has just provided a draft copy of the agreement. She stated she provided the agreement to county managers at Bay County, Gulf County and Franklin County and asked them to pass it on to their legal counsel. She explained DEO has not normally given them good turnaround time on these items so she wanted to give the counties time to look at the agreement. Ms. Bodine commented all 24 state directors have asked why they are doing this because they already have agreements with local governments that govern these items. She pointed out they signed an agreement with DEO that had language that they did not care for but DEO responded their legal counsel said they have to do this. She said it is creating problems for them in explaining it to local governments and she thinks this agency is going to proceed this way on other things too. Ms. Bodine reported CareerSource Gulf Coast has never had a data breach but she is not sure about the agency.

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She assured the Board the data will be protected. Chairman Lockley asked if a person is drawing unemployment and someone needs them to work will they lose their benefits. Ms. Bodine replied no, this has nothing to do with starting or stopping unemployment benefits. She stated they will just help people that are unemployed and want to go back to work register in the system so they can find a job. She explained if the Governor changes his mind before the benefit stops and they must register to receive benefits then they will have a huge amount of people at one time and that will not be a good situation. Chairman Lockley said the county will be blamed for this. Mr. Moron explained if they do not do this and the Governor changes and everyone has to look for a job then they can will say they are behind because of the county. Attorney Shuler reported this is a draft but they have not received a final version so the Board is not in a position to make a decision now. He explained they wanted the Board to be aware of the situation when they need to make a decision. Mr. Moron guestioned when the Board must make a decision. Ms. Bodine felt they would finalize the agreement in the next 2 weeks. She explained they have been asking for the data since March and hoped they would get it in increments as individuals have their claims go through so they could reach out monthly to them but it has not moved quickly. She reported if DEO is looking for feedback and she will send comments from the County Commissions and their legal counsel but they do not normally see much change. Chairman Lockley stated once a person exhausts their benefit and wants to work they will come to her so they do not need to do anything. Ms. Bodine explained if they all come at the same time that is going to be an issue. Commissioner Boldt asked how many people in Franklin County are drawing unemployment. Ms. Bodine responded around 700 people and they did not help all of these individuals apply for unemployment. She explained some people probably went through the process on their own. Chairman Lockley said her organization should be able to hire some extra people to get this done. Ms. Bodine reported they only have 2 staff people in Franklin County and if half of the people came in it would be difficult to assist them in the timeframe. Commissioner Parrish asked if they should have Attorney Shuler contact DEO and inquire why this agreement is needed and in the meantime they will be looking at the draft that was submitted. Ms. Bodine stated she would fully support that idea. **On** motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to direct the County Attorney to get in touch with DEO about the MOU and ask why this is needed and why this information cannot be released to the Workforce Board as it always has been without having another level of bureaucracy and try to get an answer within the next 2 weeks at the same time they receive the draft and they have to make a decision as a Board. Attorney Shuler requested the contact information for DEO. Ms. Bodine agreed to provide this information. Commissioner Boldt asked about the information Ms. Bodine is trying to obtain. Ms. Bodine said she is not sure why they will not release the information because they always had access to it in the past. Commissioner Parrish reported there has nothing to do with the loyalty of her organization but it is about what is coming out of Tallahassee. Attorney Shuler said they do not need to amend the motion but he mentioned earlier as a small rural county they lack the technical staff to have meaningful oversight of the data set being provided to Ms. Bodine. He asked if he could add some language to this affect in addition to the message of the Board in the motion. Commissioner Parrish said he would expect that he would add that. He said they trust their local Workforce Board and have always worked well together and questioned why they need this extra agreement. Commissioner Boldt asked if they have protection from this type of event. Ms. Bodine answered yes, they have criminal insurance and are insured in all ways. Commissioner Boldt stated they should show how well prepared they are. Ms. Bodine reported she can provide this information to Attorney Shuler. She explained anyone who has access to confidential records signs a security agreement with them for

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the state that lets them know if they use any confidential information there are criminal penalties. Commissioner Boldt inquired if DEO does sight surveys every year. Ms. Bodine replied yes, DEO monitors them and CareerSource has a full time monitor and a financial audit.

Chairman Lockley asked about the people that are working with Workforce that have been laid off and if the jobs are gone or will come back. Ms. Bodine said she has been told from a DEO contact that they feel like the extension and new monies for the Hurricane Michael grant will be approved but they are not sure if it will be approved at the full amount they requested. She reported for the Bay County, Gulf County, and Franklin County region they requested \$29 million to cover the next 2 years through September 22<sup>nd</sup>. Ms. Bodine stated the entire request was \$39 million but the rest of the money is for counties to the north and east. She explained DEO sent the proposal to the regional office on May 5<sup>th</sup> and they send it to the national office. She reported they asked them to make a change and shorten the time by a year and sent it back by July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Ms. Bodine stated they are saying statutorily they have 45 days from the day they received it but they do not count from the first time they received it. She reported DEO says they think it will be approved before August 20<sup>th</sup> but the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) has until then to make a decision. Commissioner Parrish asked if they could write a letter to support this because they need these workers. He stated they cannot get inmate crews out to work and they need help. He reported this is detrimental to the county and they would be willing to support her in this matter. Mr. Moron asked Ms. Bodine to tell the Board what they are telling all the federal representatives and delegates that reach out to them. Ms. Bodine reported the delegation has called and emailed and USDOL is still giving the same response that statutorily they have 45 days from July 2nd. She explained the county has supported her with a letter and she sent it with the package that went to USDOL. She reported they have had letters of support from all of their communities and most of the work sites within the communities and from local elected officials. Ms. Bodine said they have sent information that they need this and have a lot of recovery to do. She expressed concern that USDOL may take until August 20<sup>th</sup> to make a decision because a lot of their workers are working remotely and have had to quickly distribute a lot of COVID money. Commissioner Parrish said the Board has done all they can with the letter but they support Ms. Bodine and need the workers. Ms. Bodine agreed they need the workers and said they hate to lay people off particularly now but they did not have the money. She explained the burn rate of this grant is about \$150,000 a week and the funds are specifically for those workers and their salaries and they could not use other funds. Chairman Lockley asked if Ms. Bodine will contact them after the 20<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Bodine stated she will contact the county when they get an answer. She explained once the money is approved it takes about a week for the money to get flowing. She said as soon as it is approved they will start putting workers on. Chairman Lockley inquired if it will be the same amount of people they had before. Ms. Bodine responded she thinks it will be the same amount of people. She reported if they approve the full request they may be able to add a few positions. Ms. Bodine said they have requested more COVID money but have not had much response from that request. Chairman Lockley asked if that is a different program. Ms. Bodine answered yes, she said it could provide some relief but it is slow and they may have the Hurricane Michael money by then. Ms. Bodine apologized and said she wished it could move more quickly and they could continue on and not have a break in operations. She said the new grant will run through September, 2022. She thanked the Board for their support on the other agreement and said it is important that DEO hear from their partners and maybe they will rethink it.

#### SHIP Program - Lori Switzer Mills (Administrator) - Request

Mrs. Mills offered her report for the Board, as follows:

- CC. SHIP Administrator's Report 8/4/2020: Action Items:
- 1. The Board approved 8 contracts, at your July 7, 2020 regular meeting, to purchase Hurricane Housing Recovery Program homes for qualified County residents. What was not included in those contract totals were tag/title cost, permit fees, and pump out fees/inspections, for some of the home recipients. Attachment #1 is a breakdown of each mobile home recipient amended cost.

Request: Board action to authorize the amended contracts that include the original bid amount plus costs and fees, with Ironwood Homes for the 8 HHRP home recipients.

Commissioner Massey made a motion to authorize the amended contracts that include the original bid amount plus costs and fees, with Ironwood Homes for the 8 HHRP home recipients. **Commissioner Parrish seconded the motion.** Mrs. Mills said the attachment has the breakdown for each mobile home and an explanation of the fees. Mr. Moron said the contracts should be contingent upon Attorney Shuler's review. Attorney Shuler asked if the amounts are still under the county's bid policy. Mr. Moron answered yes. Mrs. Mills stated 2 trailers were supposed to be delivered this week and 4 next week but they were delayed due to the storm. Commissioner Massey amended his motion to include that the contract is contingent upon Attorney Shuler's review. Commissioner Parrish **amended his second.** Commissioner Jones stated people are confused that these mobile homes are for people tied to CDBG for the fire victims. He said he assured them this is a different pot of money and all from the storm. Ms. Mills said these are HHRP funds. Chairman Lockley stated these funds are from Hurricane Michael and are state funds not county funds. Commissioner Massey agreed these are hurricane funds and said an advertisement was placed in the newspaper about these funds. Mrs. Mills stated the money is from Florida Housing Finance for hurricane disaster. Chairman Lockley reported Hurricane Michael happened in 2018 and they knew the funds were approved but the county just received the funds. He said it just happened that trailers are coming in for the fire victims and storm victims at the same time and people are confused. Chairman Lockley explained this is state money and there are state rules and guidelines. He said Mrs. Mills asked to advertise in the newspaper and the Board approved it. Motion carried; 5-0.

2. After performing the septic inspection, it was determined that four of the eight home recipients would need new septic systems. I got a list of certified septic installers for this area and requested quotes and of the four companies that I contacted, only Collins Construction of St. George Island provided estimates for the four home recipients that needs new septic systems. These estimates are based on visual inspections of the property, so Collins estimates are the "worst case scenario". Some of the installation costs could be slightly over the County's maximum bid amount, and one of the septic installations may put a home recipient over the \$75,000 limit. The septic installations will be paid from the HHRP funds. Request: Board action to proceed with Collins Construction for the installation of the four septic systems. If any of the installations are over the Board's \$10,000 bid policy limit or causes any of the home recipients to go over the \$75,000 program limit per household, these projects will be paused and brought to you for your approval at the August 18th meeting.

Chairman Lockley asked if any of these trailers could be hooked up to city sewer. Mrs. Mills said she does not know. Commissioner Parrish asked if there is any way to bring these back into the budget.

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Mrs. Mills answered no, because the one trailer that is over the limit is an exposure d trailer which costs more because the person lives close to the bay. She reported the limit for the new home strategy is \$75,000 and she thinks it will be over the limit but she is not sure because she only has an estimate now. Commissioner Parrish inquired if she will bring this trailer purchase back to the Board if it is over the limit. Mrs. Mills answered yes. **On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to proceed with installation of the four septic systems and come back with the ones that are over the limit.** 

3. Governor DeSantis authorized \$120 million of the State of Florida's Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) allocation to Florida Housing Finance Corporation (Florida Housing) to assist Floridians that have been negatively impacted by the CORONA-19 pandemic and struggling to pay housing expenses such as: rent, mortgage payments, and emergency repairs that will keep families stably and safely housed.

In general, the CRF is a portion of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act passed by Congress into law by the President in March 2020 in response to the economic fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic. Florida Housing's CRF Fund for Impacted Homeowners and Renters will be administered by the local State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Program housing office in your community. Florida Housing staff are working with the local governments and SHIP Programs in preparation to begin the application process in each community as soon as possible.

Franklin County will receive \$175,000. The next step is for the Board of County Commissioners to approve and sign the CRF Sub-Recipient Agreement with the Florida Housing Finance Corporation (attached) and the CRF Sub-Grantee Agreement (attached) between the County and I.

Mortgage, rent, and utility assistance will be provided for very low, low, and moderate-income applicants. Each household will receive a maximum of \$2500 in assistance.

### Commissioner Massey made a motion to sign the CRF Sub-Recipient and the CRF Sub-Grantee Agreement.

We are required to advertise for 10 days before accepting applications. I plan to run the ad in the Times in the August 13th paper. Applications will be accepted on Monday, August 24th. The application period will be ongoing until the funds are spent. We will have packets available for pickup at the SHIP office on August 13th.

Request: Board action to authorize the Chairman's signature on the CRF Sub Recipient and the CRF Sub-Grantee Agreements.

**Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.** Commissioner Massey asked if she will make sure they actually need this before they get it. Mrs. Mills answered yes and offered to go over the strategy if they would like her to. She said Attachment 4 is the strategy. She reported applicants must show they have been or are currently unemployed or underemployed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Commissioner Boldt clarified the county is not liable for any of the recipients that might miss a rent payment or mortgage payment and this is only an added supplement. Ms. Mills stated yes, they are just helping them get caught up on their bills. **Motion carried; 4-0.** 

Request: Board action to authorize future payments of CRF funds, if awarded.

Mrs. Mills said it might be possible to get another round of money. She reported on the calls they were encouraging them to get approved for any future payments while they were getting the

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agreement signed. Commissioner Parrish stated as long as the County Commission is notified if future payments come through he will make a motion. On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize future payment of CRF funds if awarded as long as the County Commission is notified when the future payments come through.

Request: Board action to revisit applicants, if the funds are available and pay future Rent, Mortgage or Utility Payments over the \$2,500 limit. This would ensure that the funds are spent by the December 30, 2020 deadline.

Mrs. Mills said if the funds are not spent they must be returned. She stated they never know how many people will apply. She explained if they do not have enough then they could go back and pay more for the existing applicants. Commissioner Parrish said he thinks she should bring this back to the Board at the 1<sup>st</sup> of December and see what funds are left over. He explained he does not want to allocate all the money and then more applicants come in later. He suggested they wait and work through this until the last meeting in November or the first meeting in December. Commissioner Parrish said there may be more applicants than they think. He explained he would like to spread this out so everyone has a chance for assistance if they need it. Mr. Moron asked if the second round of funding would also need to be spent by December. Mrs. Mills did not know but said they had another training tomorrow and she could ask. She said they want them to make sure they spend the money by December 30<sup>th</sup> so they do not have to send any money back. Commissioner Parrish stated it probably depends on how many applicants they have and how fast they go through the money and not making future payments. He explained this is why he does not want to go through with future payments. Commissioner Parrish said if they spend these funds by December it may help the chances of getting another round of funds. He felt there were going to be more applicants than Mrs. Mills expects. Mrs. Mills reported people are already hearing about this program and contacting her but they cannot help them if they are on social security and did not lose any income. She said she has turned people away and they will have to go to the Capital Area Community Action Agency (CAP) because they also have funds and their rules are different than hers. Mr. Moron explained they think the money that CAP will receive will be confined to low and very low income and only the SHIP Program will be able to help people with medium income. He stated they must work with CAP to move individuals to the appropriate agency to help as many people as possible. Mrs. Mills said she has already talked with Mrs. Angela Webster, CAP, and they will work together. Attorney Shuler questioned if she asked for permission to exceed a cap of money in the event that the applicant pool is smaller than expected and what the authority was for the county to exceed a cap that the state imposed on the funds. Mrs. Mills responded the county set the cap and they can set whatever cap they want. She explained if they get close to December 30<sup>th</sup> and there are no applications for the money then she will come back to the Board. Mr. Moron stated the Board may want an update in November or earlier and then the Board can make a decision. Commissioner Parrish suggested Mrs. Mills come back in September and then appear once a month to keep the Board informed. He said this will also keep the public informed if there are still funds available. Chairman Lockley stated the money will be spent in September.

#### CDBG Administrator – Deborah Belcher (Administrator) – Report

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Mrs. Belcher said in the past she has asked for Board approval of individual homeowner applicants for assistance before they were placed on the bid list but now they may appear on her report a couple of times. She presented her report, as follows:

#### BB. CDBG Administrator Report

#### **Action Items**

1. The County's CDBG grant expires 10/1/2020. The County should apply for a grant modification to extend the grant expiration date. DEO normally extensions in 6-month increments, and will support a request for a 6-month extension. This will allow plenty of time to finish the CDBG mobile home replacements. If the work is completed before the April 1, 2021 extended deadline, the County may close out the grant before the deadline.

**Requested Action:** Authorize a modification to the CDBG subgrant agreement with the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, extending the grant expiration date from 10/1/2020 to 4/1/2021.

## On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize a modification to the CDBG Sub-grant agreement with DEO.

2. William Gordie, 608 Ridge Road, has applied for CDBG mobile home rehabilitation or replacement relating to the Eastpoint Wildfire. The age and condition of his damaged mobile home make replacement the appropriate type of assistance. Mr. Gordie is eligible for CDBG mobile home replacement assistance.

**Requested Action:** Approve the CDBG mobile home replacement application for William Gordie, 608 Ridge Road.

Mrs. Belcher said this request has already been included in the bid package. On motion by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present it was agreed to approve the CDBG mobile home replacement application for William Gordie at 608 Ridge Road.

3. Billie Dalton, 658 Ridge Road, has applied for CDBG mobile home replacement assistance. Mr. Dalton received a donated mobile home but wants a CDBG-funded new mobile home. Mr. Dalton is eligible for the CDBG mobile home replacement. I recommend that Mr. Dalton's current mobile home be transferred to Charlie Golden and Allison Yowell. Mr. Charlie Golden (son of Charles Golden who received home replacement assistance from the County) was living in a camper at the time of the fire, and his camper was destroyed. Golden and Yowell have purchased a lot on Home Place Road (off Ridge Road) and are installing a septic tank, Eastpoint Water and Sewer Authority water connection, and power pole, to live in a camper with their 3 children. Mr. Dalton's used mobile home would give this struggling young couple a permissible permanent dwelling. CDBG funds can pay for the removal of the home from Dalton's property, and Capital Area Community Action can pay for additional setup costs of the home on the Golden-Yowell property. **Requested Action:** Approve CDBG mobile home replacement application, Billy Dalton, 658 Ridge Road.

**Commissioner Massey made a motion to approve a CDBG mobile home replacement application for Mr. Billy Dalton at 658 Ridge Road. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.** Commissioner Jones inquired if the trailer that is being relocated for Mr. Golden and Ms. Yowell will be in the home place on Ridge Road. Mrs. Belcher replied yes. **Motion carried; 5-0.**  4. A third CDBG mobile home replacement bid package was developed and advertised, with a prebid meeting held. Bids for 7 specific homeowners previously approved by the County, and generic bids for potential sites, were received July 9, 2020 from Ironwood Homes of Perry. Clayton Homes (CMH) of Panama City did not get their proposal submitted to the County. I **submitted a report to the Board for the scheduled July 21, 2020 regular meeting, which was cancelled.** In that report, I recommend award of CDBG mobile home replacement funding for the following 7 homeowners, based on Ironwood Homes of Perry's bid. Due to the urgent nature of the home replacement, County Coordinator Michael Morón authorized me to proceed with the home replacement mortgages and contracts. Those documents were executed July 23, 2020. PLEASE RATIFY THE FOLLOWING:

a. Approve CDBG mobile home replacement funding for Anna Creamer, 568 Wilderness Road, in the amount of \$77,583.84 plus CDBG mortgage costs.

b. Approve CDBG mobile home replacement funding for Arlene King, 680 Wilderness Road, in the amount of \$80,575.84 plus CDBG mortgage costs.

c. Approve CDBG mobile home replacement funding for William Gordie, 608 Ridge Road, in the amount of \$75,923.52 plus CDBG mortgage costs.

d. Approve CDBG mobile home replacement funding for Billy Dalton, 658 Ridge Road, in the amount of \$76,306.02 plus CDBG mortgage costs.

e. Approve CDBG mobile home replacement funding for Lucy Bettinger, 697 Ridge Road, in the amount of \$77,484.22 plus CDBG mortgage costs.

f. Approve CDBG mobile home replacement funding for Steven Shiver, 700 Ridge Road, in the amount of \$74,299.92 plus CDBG mortgage costs.

g. Approve CDBG mobile home replacement funding for Jim Joyner/Anita Kennett, 701 Ridge Road, in the amount of \$69,577.88 plus CDBG mortgage costs.

Mrs. Belcher requested a formal acknowledgement of a waiver of the CDBG limit of \$75,000 because of the 7 homes 5 are over the limit for various reasons from tree removal to new utility hookups. **Commissioner Massey made a motion to formally waive the CDBG limit of \$75,000 and ratify award of CDBG mobile home replacement funding for the 7 listed homeowners. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.** Chairman Lockley asked how much they were over. Mr. Moron read the prices for the mobile homes. Mrs. Belcher reported the most expensive one includes a sewer bore that will also benefit a future home next door. Mr. Moron asked if a neighbor can tap into that sewer bore. Commissioner Jones said a sewer pit can serve 2-4 houses. **Motion carried; 5-0.** 

#### **Information Items**

5. Bonnie Langley, 659 Ridge Road, has been approved for mobile home replacement. As confirmed by a professional land surveyor, the property where her existing mobile home is located is not the lot she actually owns. She owns the vacant lot (649 Ridge Road) to the left (south) of her present location. There are 2 more homes to the right (north) of Bonnie Langley's on the same block, and each of the 3 owners thought they were located correctly and do not want to move a lot south. The owners are trying to resolve the ownership situation. We received a bid to replace Bonnie Langley's damaged mobile home on her correct lot, including clearing some trees and making the utility connections. If the ownership situation remains the same, the County can fund the replacement home at the correct location and demolish the existing home. If Ms. Langley is able to obtain the 659 Ridge Road location, the cost of the replacement home will be reduced.

Mrs. Belcher said she will get a revised price for this mobile home replacement and the price should be better because the other site is better. She stated she will bring this back very soon.

#### **RESTORE Coordinator – Alan Pierce – Report**

Mr. Pierce did not have a report.

#### County Coordinator – Michael Morón – Report

Mr. Moron read his report, as follows:

EE. County Coordinator's Report

#### **Action Items**

1. This item was addressed during the Emergency Management Department report.

2. The Board handled this matter during the Emergency Management Department report.

3. Dewberry FEMA Service Agreement: In 2018 the Board entered into a two-year professional services agreement with Dewberry Engineering for project management, engineering & environmental services for FEMA funded recovery. This agreement included options for renewals up to five years. I recommend renewing this contract for three additional years. Request: Board action to authorize the Chairman's signature on the addendum extending this professional services contract for three years.

On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize the Chairman's signature on the addendum extending the professional services contract with Dewberry Engineering for 3 years.

4. Dewberry Task Orders: Below are three (3) Task Orders from Dewberry for the Board's review and approval:

a. Assist with survey, design, bidding, and contract award and construction inspection of the repairs to County Road 30A East and West Washout areas. These professional services will be performed as described in the Task Order #4 for a lump sum amount of \$59,250.00.

b. Assist with survey, design, bidding, and contract award and construction inspection of the repairs to the Eastpoint Fishing Pier and Parking Area / ADA Restrooms. These professional services will be performed as described in the Task Order #5 for a lump sum amount of \$39,750.00.

c. Assist with design, bidding and contract award and construction inspection of the repairs to the St. George Island Fishing Pier Road. These professional services will be performed as described in the Task Order #6 for a lump sum amount of \$9,600.00.

Request: Board action to approve and authorize the Chairman's signature on Dewberry's Task Orders #4, #5, and #6 for the amount stated and services described in each Task Order.

### On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to approve the 3 task orders from Dewberry Engineering.

5. The Board addressed this item earlier in the meeting.

6. This matter was handled during the Road Department report.

7. Road Paving District 5: At an earlier meeting, the Board waived the County's bid policy to save on mobilization costs and authorized Roberts and Roberts to pave roads in the County. Commissioner Massey asked for a proposal to pave Sybil and Court Streets in his District. Roberts and Roberts submitted a \$70,135 proposal to pave these streets which will be paid from District 5 paving funds. Request: Board action to authorize Roberts and Roberts to pave Sybil and Court Streets for \$70,135.

## On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize Roberts and Roberts to pave Sybil and Court Streets for \$70,135.

8. CR 30A CEI Advertisement: The Florida Department of Transportation has signed the agreement for the resurfacing of CR 30A from the Gulf County line to 13-Mile Road and returned it to the County along with the Notice to Proceed. The Board needs to authorize the Planning Department to advertise for a Construction Engineering and Inspection (CEI) consultant for this job. Request: Board action to authorize CEI advertisement for the CR 30A project.

### On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize a CEI advertisement for the C.R. 30A project.

9. CR 67 CEI Advertisement: The Florida Department of Transportation has signed the agreement for the resurfacing of CR 67 from Highway 98 to the Crooked River Bridge and returned it to the County along with the Notice to Proceed. The Board needs to authorize the Planning Department to advertise for a Construction Engineering and Inspection (CEI) consultant for this job. Request: Board action to authorize CEI advertisement for the CR 67 project.

## On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize a CEI advertisement for the C.R. 67 project.

10. Alligator Point Multi-Use Path Advertisement: The County Commission received the Coastal Construction Control Line permit from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for construction of the Alligator Point Multi-Use Path. The next step in the process is to advertise for CEI services and construction bids for the portion of the multi-use path from the marina to Tom Roberts Road. Due to time constraints and the cancellation of the July 21 BOCC meeting, the Planning Office has already submitted the required advertisements to the newspaper. The CEI proposals will be opened on September 1 and the construction bids will be opened on September 15.

Request: Board action to ratify staff's submittal of the required advertisements to the newspaper.

# On motion by Commissioner Boldt, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to ratify staff's submittal of the required advertisements for the Alligator Point Multi-Use Path to the newspaper.

11. CR 67/Tallahassee Street Sidewalk Project: The bid documents for the CR 67 Tallahassee Street Sidewalk inadvertently included the wrong wage decision form for the contractor to follow. FDOT requires that Franklin County and the contractor, M of Tallahassee, Inc., amend the contract to reflect the new 2020 wage decision. M of Tallahassee has signed the amendment. Request: Board action to authorize the Chairman's signature on the wage decision amendment form.

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On motion by Commissioner Massey, seconded by Commissioner Boldt, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize the Chairman's signature on the wage decision amendment form.

12. Opportunity Florida Letter of Support: Opportunity Florida is working on the Regional Rural Development grant application of the 2020-21 year and is requesting a letter of support that states the County will continue our involvement with Opportunity Florida and intends to pay the 2020-21 annual investment \$1,154.90 dues.

Request: Board action to authorize the Chairman's signature on the letter of support for Opportunity Florida.

**Commissioner Massey made a motion to authorize the Chairman's signature on the letter of support for Opportunity Florida. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion.** Commissioner Parrish asked if the county is getting any benefit from Opportunity Florida. Mr. Moron answered yes, they send leads for jobs and airport industry. Commissioner Parrish questioned if there is anything in this grant application for Franklin County. Mr. Moron said he will have to ask. Commissioner Parrish reported they are asking for a letter of support and the dues and he wants to know how the county benefits. Mr. Moron said the dues are in the budget. He explained in relation to the Cares Act funding Ms. Traci Buzbee will team up with Opportunity Florida which will provide an extra level of approval but there will be a minimal cost. He stated they will back up Ms. Buzbee and review every business grant that is received. **Motion carried; 5-0.** 

13. Liberty County Letter of Support: The Liberty County Board of County Commissioners wrote a letter (attached to the agenda packet) to USDA Forest Service opposing the closing and/or moving of the camping area adjoining the Whitehead's Lake boat landing on the Ochlocknee River, located in Liberty County. The Liberty County Board of County Commissioners would like Franklin County Board of County Commissioners to send a letter in support to the Forest Service. Request: Board action to authorize a letter of support opposing the closing and/or moving of the camping area adjoining the Whitehead's Lake boat landing in Liberty County.

Mr. Moron said this request came late yesterday and he did not have time to do any research. He explained this item was added out of respect for the Liberty County Board of County Commissioners but the Board can table this matter if they want until he does the research. Commissioner Parrish stated in relation to the U.S. Forest Service, Liberty County is composed of a lot of national forests so if they do not get allotment from the federal government then they do not have a big tax base. He reported this is why they are at 10 mills and trying to generate enough money to operate the county. Commissioner Parrish said if they want to close boat ramps then the county gets no public benefit or money so he understands and he support it. **On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Massey, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize a letter of support.** 

14. One Pay Credit Card Agreement: Mrs. Amy Kelly and I met with a representative from CIVITEK to discuss their online One Pay Credit Card service. Currently, any customer that needs to pay for a permit over the phone has to give all of their credit card information to one of the permitting clerks, a process I am not comfortable with. With the One Pay service, a customer would go to an online link to pay for a permit, armory rental, or other services, then receive the requested service. Currently, the Clerk of Courts uses this same service for her office as does the City of Carrabelle for water and sewer payments. Attorney Shuler has requested some changes to the contract, which was returned yesterday with the requested changes.

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Request: Board action to authorize the Chairman's signature on the One Pay Credit Card Agreement after Attorney Shuler's approval of the final version.

#### On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize the Chairman's signature on the One Page Credit Card agreement contingent upon Attorney Shuler's approval of the final version of the contract.

15. Audio/Video Agreement: As discussed at a previous meeting, staff requested quotes from four companies to install multiple large screen televisions in the meeting room for virtual meetings. Of the four requests we received 2 quotes and went with the lower of the two. I signed a proposal with Inspired Technologies, an official Florida Association of Counties partner, for \$7,250. This amount will be paid from the CARES Act funds received from the State. Request: Board action to ratify my signature on the Inspired Technology \$7,250 proposal for the installation of four (4) large sized monitors in the Commission Meeting room.

# On motion by Commissioner Boldt, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to ratify his signature on the Inspired Technology \$7,250 proposal for the installation of four (4) large size monitors in the Commission Meeting Room.

16. The Board discussed the tipping fees during the Solid Waste Director's report.

17. Assistant Planner: At your July 30th Budget Workshop, the Board discussed the importance of creating an assistant planner position as Mr. Mark Curenton, County Planner, is in the State's DROP program and can retire at any time. I discussed this matter with Mr. Curenton along with the option of working with the Apalachee Regional Planning Council (ARPC) for this service. Mr. Curenton suggested a meeting with ARPC to discuss the County's planning needs versus what ARPC could offer and then have a discussion with the Board at a future meeting.

Request: Board action to authorize staff to meet with ARPC to discuss future planning services for the County.

On motion by Commissioner Parrish, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and by unanimous vote of the Board present, it was agreed to authorize staff to meet with ARPC to discuss future planning services for the county.

#### **Information Items**

18. Eastpoint/2 Mile Dredge Update: Inform the Board the staff received a letter from the US Army Corps of Engineers updating us on the status of the Eastpoint and Two-mile dredge project. A copy is attached to the agenda packet.

19. Inmate Labor: As I stated at the July 30th Budget Workshop, with the assistance of Mr. Fonda Davis, I was able to talk to Warden Duval a few weeks ago and he explained that the prison was at Phase II at the time which did not allow non-DOC personnel to supervise inmates. He also stated that it was his last week and a new warden would be in place within a week or two. It is my intention to reach out to Warden Conner to an update.

20. CARES Act Funds update: Inform the Board that Mrs. Traci Buzbee, your CARES Act fund consultant, has been meeting, discussing, and working with Constitutional Officers, County Departments, Civic Groups, the Tourist Development Administrator, the Health Department administrator on the CARES program. She is collecting requests from these entities and creating an expense spreadsheet which will be converted to a spending plan. The Oversight Committee meets weekly via teleconference to discuss and review all related issues and request. Ms. Buzbee is in

constant communication with FDEM regarding any new rules or questions posed to her locally and has also reached out to Opportunity Florida to serve as the business grant applications reviewer. Mrs. Buzbee is on the phone to answer questions from the Board.

Mr. Moron said she was supposed to be on the phone but they will meet with her on Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. and he can ask her any questions the Board has. Commissioner Jones questioned if they are using the simplest way for businesses to apply. Mr. Moron stated he has seen the emails that they think it is difficult. He pointed out they must verify applicants have not received any other funds. He explained the Board is aware if applicants receive any other money and let the county know then the county will get penalized and have to go after them for the funds. Mr. Moron stated Ms. Buzbee is trying to make sure that she has as much information as possible. He said if they need help Opportunity Florida is willing to assist. Chairman Lockley asked if this is close to what Mr. Lovestrand is doing. Commissioner Jones said his understanding is that is a separate allotment through IFAS. Mr. Moron said they must make sure that applicants are not getting money from each group. Commissioner Parrish questioned when the Board gets to have input on what the money is being spent on. Mr. Moron explained as soon as they get a draft of the spending plan it will be submitted to the Board for their approval and they can suggest changes. He said they are trying to determine what goes to the county, the constitutional officers, the two cities, civic clubs and businesses associations. Mr. Moron stated they are trying to get the spreadsheet within the \$2 million budget and then the Board can address it. Commissioner Parrish inquired if they should have input before that or information because they are getting nothing until he comes up with a final draft. He said they do not know what is going on and have no input and he is uncomfortable with that. Mr. Moron explained they are not approving anything. Commissioner Parrish stated they are building up expectations when the Board has no idea of what is going on. He explained he does not like that and likes to have information of how they are progressing. Commissioner Parrish questioned who the oversight committee is. Mr. Moron replied him, Ms. Buzbee, Mrs. Brownell, and maybe Mrs. Daniels. Commissioner Parrish stated he would like to be better informed of where they are heading before it is final. He explained if he thinks they are going down the wrong road then he is going to say something. Commissioner Parrish stated he would like information sent to his I-pad of where they are going and who is applying instead of a spreadsheet and then if the Board removes something at the end then they are the bad guys. Mr. Moron explained the only people that have seen the spreadsheet is the oversight committee so no one knows what they might get. He reported they asked for a wish list from each group and then they go through the requests and see what is allowed. Mr. Moron explained when they bring the spreadsheet to the Board they can present what is allowed and what they can spend. Mr. Moron stated the \$500,000 for the 25% that comes back to their revenue was not considered and just appeared so they had to make adjustments. He reported they are not trying to keep the Board out but want to give them an informed very well put together package to look at. Mr. Moron stated they are not saying anyone is approved or denied. Commissioner Parrish inquired if businesses are included. Mr. Moron answered yes. Commissioner Parrish asked what happens if businesses come to him to be included and the money is already allocated in the spreadsheet. He explained they may need to break down the businesses to allow for more people. Commissioner Parrish said he does not know what is going on so he does not know what to tell people. Mr. Moron stated the Board will make a decision on how much money goes to businesses, the county and cities. He explained without knowing what they want they can't tell them what the numbers are. Commissioner Parrish stated whoever is included in the spreadsheet needs to be notified that this is not set and subject to change. He reported they need to know this is not guaranteed and the Board has not seen the spreadsheet. Commissioner Parrish stated

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they cannot fund just certain ones and not include everyone. He said they need to know this is their wish list and may not be funded because they do not want to build up expectations. Mr. Moron stated in the beginning he thought they would have trouble spending \$2 million but he was wrong. Commissioner Parrish reported the Board has not even seen the spreadsheet and may have other ideas. Chairman Lockley stated Mr. Lovestrand was talking about a similar program this morning and he questioned why private entities and government are together. He said one program should just handle private requests and another program handle the government requests. Commissioner Parrish pointed out it all must be COVID related. Commissioner Parrish said if a business gets the payroll protection plan then they are not eligible for this program and asked if that was correct. Mr. Moron answered yes. Commissioner Jones agreed they cannot double dip. Mr. Moron said that is the term they used. Commissioner Parrish said it can also affect how much money you receive through the payroll protection plan. He explained someone could get a large amount out of these funds because they did not get the payroll protection plan. Commissioner Jones inquired if they have already asked businesses to turn in applications and if the deadline has already past. Mr. Moron reported August 1<sup>st</sup> was the date just so they would have a wish list for the Board as soon as possible. He clarified just because they submit an application does not mean they are promised anything. He said if they do not have the appropriate paperwork then that will not work. Commissioner Jones asked about the businesses that did not know what they are discussing now and are trying to meet that deadline. Mr. Moron said he will ask Ms. Buzbee but she was trying to get a list to submit to the Board. Mr. Moron inquired if Mr. Lovestrand's program is just for seafood. Commissioner Jones replied it included seafood related. Chairman Lockley reported that program is for the private sector. Chairman Lockley asked if government can apply for that program. Commissioner Jones reported it will not be hard to spend this money by December. He suggested it would be better not to have hard numbers now but get better numbers so when it is presented to the Board they are solid numbers. Mr. Moron said in following what Commissioner Parrish stated they want to make sure the Board is involved in the breakdown of the money. He stated there are a lot of categories and they must be fair about the breakdown. Mr. Moron said like Chairman Lockley said if the private sector can access the other program then they need to direct them there. Commissioner Parrish stated he thought the spending plan was on the original \$500,000 but they are doing it for the whole \$ 2million. Mr. Moron said the first 25% will probably have to go to reserve until a decision is made by the Legislature about the Heroes Act and the county using the money for revenue shortfall. Commissioner Parrish asked if that is what they are going to do with the first \$500,000. Mr. Moron answered yes. Commissioner Parrish reported they are already spending some of the initial \$500,000 on a sign campaign, all the work to his office, and televisions so they cannot use it for the 25%. Mr. Moron stated it is basically their reimbursement so they can spend it how they like. He explained they can either use the first \$500,000 to pay the bills back quickly and put \$500,000 in reserve. He stated they are saving that \$500,000 for revenue so when the Heroes Act passes then they can use that portion in the budget and lower the millage rate even more. He reported they still have access to the other \$1.5 million as needed. Commissioner Jones stated some of the language in the Heroes Act moves the time line for the money too. Mr. Moron reported he will bring up all their concerns at the meeting tomorrow.

21. Small County Grant (Solid Waste): Chairman Lockley signed the Solid Waste Small County Grant. No action is needed on the Chairman's signature as this is part of the County's approved budget.

22. USDA De-obligation Letter: County staff received the official notice from USDA de-obligating the \$10,000,000.00 George E. Weems Memorial Hospital Improvement project that was obligated on June 22, 2015.

Mr. Moron said this morning a few comments were made about which way the Board went concerning the hospital. He explained they said they would start negotiations with Alliant and Sacred Heart sent a letter pulling back their offer. He said the county never said no to Sacred Heart. Mr. Moron stated Commissioner Parrish said he wanted to give this a chance and see how this works out and if it doesn't then they would make another decision after that. Commissioner Parrish reported Sacred Heart pulled back after the county de-obligated the money with USDA to build a building. He explained part of Sacred Heart's proposal was wanting the county to build them an \$8 million building because they do not want the old hospital. Commissioner Boldt commented they pulled back and lost their option. Mr. Moron said he will make the letter from USDA part of this Board file.

Commissioner Massey stated the county vehicles, ambulances and buses are using Buck Road and they are not able to go down the road. He reported they are saying they are going to sue if they cannot get the vehicles down there. He explained the ambulance could not get down the road to pick up a child due to the condition of the road. **Commissioner Massey made a motion to temporarily fix this road until Attorney Shuler finds out something. Commissioner Boldt seconded the motion.** Commissioner Boldt said this is the right thing to do temporarily at the present time. Commissioner Parrish stated this is temporary because every time it rains it will wash it out again so this is not fixing the problem. **Motion carried; 5-0.** Chairman Lockley said this is a onetime deal and it is a private road. He explained when other private roads appear at the next meeting then are going to get something done too because he is not just going to do one.

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

Attorney Shuler did not have a report.

#### **Commissioners' Comments**

Chairman Lockley stated he has a problem with the librarian that was hired. He explained she had interviews last week and told a lady she was the only applicant that applied and was interviewed for the job. He reported 1 person put in for the job and there were 2 jobs open. Chairman Lockley stated 2 people were hired and 7 people were interviewed. He commented from last week she did not have time to interview 6 more people and whoever she hired for this position the other person took the interviews and she did not interview. Chairman Lockley said he has a problem with this and he is going to call the labor attorney and have them check it out because it is not right. He advised Attorney Shuler he wants this looked into and he wants the labor attorney to review it.

#### **Board Information**

FF. ORDER APPROVING DUKE ENERGY FLORIDA, LLC'S PETITION TO REVISE UNDERGROUND RESIDENTIAL TARIFFS

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#### Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Attest:

Noah Lockley - Chairman

Marcia M. Johnson - Clerk of Courts