

**APTA – Alligator Point Taxpayers Association
Minutes or Board Meeting – August 12, 2007**

Ken Osborne called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM

Minutes for July was approved. Motion by Don Munroe, second by Ben Houston, approved by Board.

Treasurer's Report provided by Bill Kimbrough for July was approved. Motion by Ben Houston, second by Paul Parker, approved by Board.

Ken Osborne introduced Sam Rogers who replaces Board Member Bob Mensching for the remainder of his term ending September 1, 2007.

Ann Maruszak substituted for Camilla Godfrey at the August meeting as Secretary. Camilla will return to her position at the September meeting.

Committee Reports

Development – Allan Feifer – Nothing to report

Planning and Zoning – John Murphy nothing to report

Tourist Development Council – Paul Parker – TDC revenues are increasing. Revenues from Alligator Point are around \$30,000 and about \$25,000 are available for local use. Funds can be made available to improve Beach facilities. It is expected that County crews funded by TDC dollars to keep the beaches clean of litter will expand their effort to include keeping facilities clean if the beach renourishment project is approved and completed.

With the beach renourishment project walkovers are expected to be constructed at the Chip Morrison access, at the Carnival access and at South Shoal. Walkovers serve to protect dunes and to provide a pathway for people to use to get to the beach.

Improvement of a boat ramp at Alligator Point could be funded by TDC dollars.

Communications – Ann Maruszak – APTA's web site has received over 43,000 hits since its remake. One gig of memory was requested for APTA's laptop at a total cost of \$111.96 and approved by the Board.

Franklin County Budget Workshop – Comments from Allan Feifer.
The County will hold a workshop on the Hospital August 29 and August 30th.

The County may hold a referendum on a 1% local option sales tax. One-half percent would go to hospital operation and on-half percent for infrastructure. The City of

Carrabelle has not yet determined if they would share revenues from the proposed 1% sales tax.

Hospital CEO, Chuck Colson disagrees with the need for any new studies.

Ken Osborne suggests a study be conducted by a known consultant.

Ken wants to know if APTA wants to take a position. APTA's Board of Directors voted to ask Ken to represent the Board at the Hospital Workshop. The APTA Board recommends that an Infrastructure Plan be developed that takes into account population trends. APTA also request the County to provide sufficient information about the sales tax option and how the money is to be used. Motion by Don Munroe, second by Dick Waters.

Allan reports that the hospital received 16 patient visits last year and this year so far the far count is 4. In comparison 120-130 patients came from Lanark and over 1000 from Carrabelle. The nature of the visits is not known but could range from flu shots to emergencies.

Allan cautions against the need to build a new hospital and would rather see residents in the western part of the County use the new Sacred Heart hospital in Gulf County and a clinic built in Lanark or Carrabelle could serve residents in the eastern part of the County.

The County has so far approved over \$1,900,000 in next year's budget for the Hospital.

Northwest Florida Transportation Corridor Authority – Rob Hinchee

The NWFTCA posted their priority list of projects on their web site at www.NWFTCA.com. In the first priority group is the relocation of Highway 98. The widening of SR 319 is in the second priority group. Will Stewart is doing the study on relocation Highway 98 in Franklin County. It is anticipated that in September four relocation options will be developed for consideration.

In our area the prime design consideration is hurricane evacuation. Will Stewart would like information about people who were trapped by flood waters produced by Hurricane Dennis that prevent their passage on US 98 to evacuate.

Ken Osborne noted that the hurricane evacuation routes need to move traffic North rather than East or West. He also stated that the parallel US 98 in our area should be called an "Access Road"

Discussion going on to rename SR 319 in Sopchoppy to US 98.

APTA Election

So far 68 ballots have been received. 245 ballots were mailed out.

Turtle Report

No Report.

Beach Renourishment

Dick Waters

The County will conduct a Public Workshop at the Mission by the Sea Church on August 24th at 5:00 PM. Mike Dombrowski and Camille Tharpe plan to attend.

Dick read a letter from the DEP (see attachment). The letter from the DEP expressed the scientific reasons for putting sand in the “GAP” area.

Ken Osborne noted that Option 4 is the preferred beach design option by DEP, the County and by APTA.

Ken read his letter sent to the Board asking for their response to Beach Renourishment statements made by residents opposing aspects of the project.

The Deibels are among those that oppose placing sand in the “GAP”. Ken Osborne offered that if the Deibels wanted to write their position to include the names of all of those that agree with their position that APTA would post the article on its web site.

It is anticipated that “cutter dredging” will be used if the project is approved and commences. This method causes less turbidity and is safer for turtles.

A question was asked if the decision on the Beach Renourishment Project should have been done by referendum. Ken explained that only registered Franklin County voters could have participated and if one vote per house hold was allowed only 159 people would be eligible to cast a vote.

Paul Parker asked if maps showing the parking areas could be made available. He also inquired about what happens to private revetments. Paul further stated he is investigating automatic parking meters.

Ken Osborne showed a photo of a property in another beach renourishment project that did not get sand like their adjoining neighbors (see attachment)

There was discussion about berm lengths and it was stated that berm length varies and changes at different locations along the project.

Ken Osborne also commented that Commissioner Cheryl Sanders feels there are votes to approve the TIF.

Other Business

- Carol Kimbrough asked if a notice could be posted on APTA's web site to remind folks to remove their Alligator Point decal when they sell their vehicle.

- Concerned Citizens of Franklin County - Allan Feifer, President
Noted these meeting dates:

September 4, 2007 - Regular Meeting - 9 AM - Commission Chamber at Annex (Apalachicola)

September 10, 2007 - 1st Budget Public Hearing - 5:30 PM - Commission Chamber at Annex (Apalachicola)

September 11, 2007 - Special Meeting (MSBU - Alligator Point) - 9 AM - Commission Chamber at Annex (Apalachicola)

September 18, 2007 - Regular Meeting - 5 PM - Commission Chamber at Annex (Apalachicola)

September 24, 2007 - 2nd Budget Public Hearing - 5:30 PM - Commission Chambers at Annex (Apalachicola)

- AP Water Resources

Tom Vanderplatt states that he is still looking for funding to get water from across the Ochlockonee Bridge and has a meeting with Rep. Will Kendrick. Bob Williams replaced Bob Mensching at the water department.

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting by Ben Houston. Joe Hambrose second.
Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by
Ann Maruszak, Communications Chair