

**Franklin County Tourist Development Council
Board of Directors
Eastpoint Visitors Center
Wednesday, January 13, 2016, 2 P.M.**

MINUTES

In Attendance: Commissioner Cheryl Sanders, Mayor Brenda LaPaz, Commissioner Frank Cook, Chester Reese, Beverly Hewitt, Janalyn Dowden, Walter Armistead, Rex Pennycuff, Diana Prickett

Recording: Curt Blair, Laura Graham, Jean Lane

Guests: Mike Horvath, Cindy Clark, Lisa Munson, Tana Kendrick, Del Suggs, Jane Kirk

Commissioner Sanders called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

There was prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

A quorum was established.

Del Suggs gave a presentation on the status of the Big Bend Scenic Byways project that is sponsored in part by the FCTDC.

Amendment to the Agenda: None.

Commissioner Sanders asked for approval of the minutes.

Motion to approve the December 2, 2015 Board Meeting minutes.

Motion: Reese. Second: Prickett. Passed.

Administrative Reports: Laura Graham presented the Collections Report for FY 2015-16 for the month of October and the 2015-16 Expense to Budget Report through December 2015.

Ms. Graham asked for approval of an Armory expense.

Motion to approve \$65,727.86 payment request for the Armory from funds carried forward to the 2015-16 Budget; Aid to Local Government.

Motion: LaPaz. Second: Cook. Passed.

Ms. Graham provided a handout for new meeting dates for 2016.

Cindy Clark gave her Media report with an update on current advertising.

Tana Kendrick presented 2kWebgroup's monthly stats report.

Curt Blair reported on the number of visitors to the four area visitor centers for 2015.

Committee Reports:

Grants Committee: Mr. Blair announced the 2016-17 Visit Florida Grants will be discussed at the next committee meeting on 1/27/16.

Marketing Committee: Mr. Blair presented a subsequent Request for Submittal for photographers, videographers. He noted musicians have been added to update musical material on saltyflorida.com.

Motion to approve up to \$3,000 for musical costs on FCTDC website.

Motion: Armistead. Second: Prickett. Passed.

VRBO Committee: Ms. Dowden presented a letter that will be distributed to owners of accommodation rentals. The letter explains the benefits of the 2% tourist tax and the requirement to submit the funds.

Reports by Local Governments:

Franklin County: Commissioner Sanders reviewed the Resolution of Opposition from Franklin County BOCC.

City of Apalachicola: No Report.

City of Carrabelle: No Report.

Continuing Business: Mr. Blair reviewed the current status of funds allocated to the Armory. Mr. Blair reviewed the current status on the bathroom renovations in Carrabelle Beach Park and St. George Island Beach Park. He recommended the FCTDC recommend to the BOCC that they move forward with obtaining bids on the Carrabelle Beach facility in order to address a potential safety issue. The Board concurred without a vote.

Mr. Blair stated a land survey was needed for the EPVC property and asked the board for approval.

Motion to approve the cost of a land survey at the EPVC.

Motion: LaPaz. Second: Pennycuff. Passed.

Mr. Blair announced next Tuesday is Visit Florida's Hospitality Day in Tallahassee for those who wish to attend. It was discussed that board members attend to support their Resolution of Opposition on the proposed changes to TDC statutes. Due to the importance of this resolution, the board asked Mr. Blair to make appointments for members with our legislative delegation.

New Business: Mr. Blair presented the request for funds from the Forgotten Coast Conservation Corps to repair the boardwalk crossovers on St. George Island. It was discussed by the board and determined there are not funds available at this time for this project considering other large projects currently underway. The board requested that it be reported to the BOCC that an inspection of the dune crossovers be done by county staff to determine need.

Public Comment: Mike Horvath gave an update on the status of Camp Gordon Johnston's new location and stated they may make some changes to the building plans to gain more floor space and are still working on a legal agreement with county attorney, Michael Schuler.

Meeting Announcements:

FCTDC Committees Meeting, Wednesday, January 27, 2016, 2 P.M., EPVC

FCTDC Board Meeting, Wednesday, February 10, 2016, 2 P.M., EPVC

Commissioner Sanders asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:10 p.m.

Motion to adjourn.

Motion: Hewitt. Second: Reese. Passed.