

# Apalachee Regional Planning Council

## FULL COUNCIL BOARD MEETING

Thursday – November 15, 2018

10:00 a.m. ET / 9:00 a.m. CT



*307<sup>th</sup> Public Meeting*

UF IFAS / North FL Research & Education Center

155 Research Road

Quincy, Florida 32351

[www.thearpc.com](http://www.thearpc.com)

*The Apalachee Regional Planning Council serves its citizens and local governments by providing technical assistance and a forum for communication and collaboration, to preserve and enhance the economic, natural, and social environments of the Apalachee Region.*

**APALACHEE REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL BOARD**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Randy Merritt, Chairman (Wakulla) • John Jones, Past Chairman (Monticello)  
Nancy Miller, Vice-Chairwoman (Tallahassee) • Wes Johnston, Secretary/Treasurer (Altha)  
FRCA Policy Board Members: Kristin Dozier, Lisa Miller and Gene Wright

**FULL COUNCIL**

**Calhoun County**

Gene Bailey  
Wes Johnston  
Don Stephens

County Commissioner  
Mayor, Town of Altha  
Governor's Appointee

**Franklin County**

Ricky Jones  
Brenda La Paz  
*Vacant*

County Commissioner  
Mayor, City of Carrabelle  
*Governor's Appointee*

**Gadsden County**

Brenda Holt  
*Vacant*  
Henry Grant

County Commissioner  
Municipal Representative  
Governor's Appointee

**Gulf County**

Ward McDaniel  
Johnny Paul  
Michael Hammond

County Commissioner  
Commissioner, City of Wewahitchka  
Governor's Appointee

**Jackson County**

Jim Peacock  
Gene Wright  
*Vacant*

County Commissioner  
Mayor, Town of Malone  
*Governor's Appointee*

**Jefferson County**

Stephen Walker  
John Jones  
*Vacant*

County Commissioner  
Councilman, City of Monticello  
*Governor's Appointee*

**Leon County**

Kristin Dozier  
Nancy Miller  
Lisa Miller

County Commissioner  
Commissioner, City of Tallahassee  
Governor's Appointee

**Liberty County**

Dexter Barber  
Woody Stewart  
Davis Stoutamire

County Commissioner  
Councilman, City of Bristol  
Governor's Appointee

**Wakulla County**

Randy Merritt  
Gail Gilman  
*Vacant*

County Commissioner  
Mayor, City of St. Marks  
Governor's Appointee

**Ex-Officio Members**

Michael Fuller  
Christina Coger  
Ray Kirkland  
Diane Scholz

FL Dept. of Environmental Protection  
NW FL Water Management District  
FL Dept. of Transportation  
Enterprise Florida

**APALACHEE REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL  
BOARD MEETING**

**UF/IFAS North FL Research & Education Center  
155 Research Road – Quincy, FL**

**THURSDAY – NOVEMBER 15, 2018  
10:00 AM Eastern Time / 9:00 AM Central Time**

**DRAFT AGENDA**

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Introductions
2. \*Approval of Agenda
3. \*Approval of Minutes – September 13, 2018 Regular Board Meeting
4. Freight Logistics Zone, Foreign Trade Zone and North Florida Corridor Panel  
Moderated by Beth Kirkland, Gadsden County Development Council
5. SELF – Solar and Energy Loan Fund - Doug Coward, Executive Director
6. Executive Director's Report
  - Chris Rietow, ARPC Executive Director
  - A. \*Financial Report
  - B. Staff Program Reports
    1. Economic Development & Community Planning
    2. Emergency Planning
    3. Revolving Loan Fund
    4. Transportation Planning
    5. Environmental Planning
    6. GIS Program
    7. Correspondence and Items of Interest
  - C. \*ARPC Executive Committee Meeting Reports
7. Board Member Reports / Local & Regional Issues Discussion
8. Ex-Officio Member Updates
9. Public Comment
10. Adjournment
11. Next ARPC Board Meeting – January 17, 2019

***\*Items Requiring Board Action***

**APALACHEE REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL  
UF IFAS - North Florida Research & Education Center  
155 Research Road – Quincy, FL**

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES – September 13, 2018**

**Item 1: Call to Order and Roll Call**

Chairman Merritt called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. He led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance and asked all in attendance to introduce themselves for the Roll Call.

**ARPC Board Members in Attendance:**

|                 |                  |                                   |
|-----------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Calhoun County  | Gene Bailey      | County Commissioner               |
| Calhoun County  | Wes Johnston     | Mayor, Town of Altha              |
| Calhoun County  | Don Stephens     | Governor’s Appointee              |
| Franklin County | Ricky Jones      | County Commissioner               |
| Franklin County | Brenda La Paz    | Mayor, City of Carrabelle         |
| Gadsden County  | Henry Grant      | Governor’s Appointee              |
| Gulf County     | Ward McDaniel    | County Commissioner               |
| Gulf County     | Johnny Paul      | Commissioner, City of Wewahitchka |
| Gulf County     | Michael Hammond  | Governor’s Appointee              |
| Leon County     | Kristin Dozier   | County Commissioner               |
| Leon County     | Nancy Miller     | Commissioner, City of Tallahassee |
| Liberty County  | Davis Stoutamire | Governor’s Appointee              |
| Wakulla County  | Randy Merritt    | County Commissioner               |

**Ex-Officio Members in Attendance**

|                 |                                      |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Mike McDaniel   | NW FL Water Management District      |
| Maria Showalter | FL Dept. of Transportation           |
| Michael Fuller  | FL Dept. of Environmental Protection |
| Diane Scholz    | FL Institute of Government           |

**ARPC Staff in Attendance**

|                  |                                    |
|------------------|------------------------------------|
| Chris Rietow     | Executive Director                 |
| Zach Annett      | LEPC Coordinator                   |
| Kwentin Eastberg | Regional Planner / Transportation  |
| Richard Fetchick | Economic Development Director      |
| Janice Watson    | Finance Director/ Loan Coordinator |

**Others in Attendance**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Mary Louise Hester – Senator Bill Nelson      | Victor Leotta – Leotta Planning & Design    |
| Shannon Metty – Jefferson Co. Planning        | Cheri Bryant – Tallahassee/Leon Planning    |
| Al Latimer – Leon Office of Economic Vitality | Jason Hight – FL Fish & Wildlife Commission |
| Beth Kirkland – Gadsden Development Council   | Brian Waterman - HDR                        |
| Kent McWaters – HDR                           |   |

Chairman Merritt welcomed the ARPC guests and asked that the records show a quorum of the Apalachee Regional Planning Council (ARPC) was in attendance.

**Item 2 and 3: Approval of the Agenda and Minutes**

**A motion was made by Davis Stoutamire to approve the Agenda and Minutes of the July 19, 2018 ARPC Full Council Board Meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Henry Grant. A vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.**

**Item 4: Strategic Sites Inventory Presentation**

Chris Rietow introduced Victor Leotta, of Leotta & Design, noting that Mr. Leotta had provided valuable expertise to the ARPC during the 2017 Freight Logistic Zone (FLZ) project. Mr. Leotta gave the Board an overview of his company's work in developing an inventory of strategic economic development sites throughout the Apalachee Region. Using a detailed power point presentation, he reviewed a map which outlined the 160 identified sites and explained the extended process of taking a site from identification to being ready for market. He noted that many of the most suitable properties were not actively on the market and reported that his company had been very successful in convincing landowners to consider selling the properties for economic development purposes. Mr. Leotta emphasized that no amount of workforce availability, tax incentives or infrastructure would be able to successfully attract a company if a community did not have a competitive site. He closed in stating that it was equally important that the types of industries targeted, matched the existing culture of the community. Chairman Merritt opened the floor for questions and there was an extended discussion on the specific sites noted on the presentation map. Also discussed was how the identified sites coordinated with the boundaries of the Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ) project. The Board suggested that an update on the FTZ might be included as a future Board agenda item. Mr. Leotta asked Beth Kirkland to expound on the numerous strategic sites that had been identified in Gadsden County. Chairman Merritt also suggested that Beth Kirkland be invited back to the next meeting to make a presentation on the North Florida Corridor initiatives. The Board thanked Mr. Leotta for his presentation and he encouraged the Board to contact him either directly or through Mr. Rietow if they had any other questions or needed any additional information.

**Item 5: Executive Director's Report**

**5A – Financial Report:** Mr. Rietow reviewed with the Board the Budget Reports and the Reconciled Check Registers as of July 31, 2018 and August 31, 2018, and the ARPC's current list of accounts payable and accounts receivable as of August 31, 2018.

**A motion was made by Henry Grant to approve the financial reports for July 2018 and August 2018 as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nancy Miller. A vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.**

**5B – Staff Reports:** Mr. Rietow highlighted the following ARPC Program Reports prepared by staff and included in the Board Package beginning on page 15. He asked the Board for any

questions in reference to the reports listed below and briefly updated the Board on additions to the reports included in the board package.

1. Economic Development & Community Planning – Richard Fetchick
2. Emergency Planning – Zach Annett & Elise Fisher
3. Revolving Loan Fund – Janice Watson
4. Transportation Planning – Kwentin Eastberg
5. Environmental Planning – Joe Crozier
6. Misc. Correspondence & Items of Interest

**5.B.1 – Economic and Community Development Update:** Mr. Rietow announced that the ARPC had been awarded a Technical Assistance Grant from the FL Dept. of Economic Opportunity (FDEO) for the purpose of creating *Apalachee Online*, a regional GIS database for the eight rural counties of the Region. Richard Fetchick made a brief presentation on the project explaining in detail that the final project would be a digital collection of planning, story and analysis maps. Mr. Fetchick explained that ARPC staff would be working closely with county planners and county GIS staff to structure the final product around the current need of each respective county. Chairman Merritt emphasized to the Board how important this project was to the Region, stating that it would provide the foundation for the establishment of an ARPC Regional GIS department with a full-time GIS Specialist. Chairman Merritt asked if a county requested additional information be added to a specific county map being prepared through the *Apalachee Online* project, would ARPC staff be able to contract with the County on a fee for service basis to include the additional information. Mr. Fetchick and Mr. Rietow stated that ARPC staff was very willing to work with each county on including specific data in *Apalachee Online* that would be the most beneficial to the county. Mr. Rietow noted that during FY 2018, the ARPC had contracted directly with Gadsden County for GIS services and Mr. Fetchick was currently in discussions with Gadsden county staff on the terms of renewing the contract for FY 2019. Chairman Merritt thanked ARPC staff for taking the initiative to secure the funding for the project and stated that he looked forward to the Board presentation upon completion.

Mr. Rietow also announced that the ARPC had been awarded a second Technical Assistance Grant from the FDEO for the completion of the Old Florida Coastal Trail (US 98 Corridor) tourism-based project. He explained that the ARPC staff would be providing the grant administration services for the project and the substantive work would be contracted to a consultant.

Mr. Rietow reported that ARPC staff had coordinated with the City of Sopchoppy to secure a Competitive Florida grant and would be providing economic development planning assistance to the City of Sopchoppy on completing the required deliverables of the project.

Mr. Fetchick reminded the Board that any county or city in the Region interested in applying for Technical Assistance and Competitive Florida FDEO grants in 2019, should contact him as soon as possible about the application process. Chairman Merritt reminded the Board that this type

of technical assistance from ARPC staff is what the RPC County dues are for, emphasizing that the dues allow ARPC staff to assist the local governments of the Region in obtaining funding that they would not otherwise have access to.

5.B.2- Emergency Planning: Mr. Rietow reported that since the last ARPC meeting, ARPC staff had conducted a multi-jurisdictional exercise on August 1<sup>st</sup> in Wakulla County. He explained that the focus of the exercise was a coordinated response to a transportation related hazardous materials incident affecting a nearby Wakulla County school. He noted that this exercise completed the requirements of the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Planning grant for FY 17/18 funded by the FL Division of Emergency Management (FDEM).

Mr. Rietow reported that ARPC staff continued to plan and coordinate a full-scale Point of Dispensing (POD) exercise in Leon County scheduled for October 26<sup>th</sup>. He noted that the funding was being provided by the FL Dept. of Health (FDOH). He explained that the purpose of the exercise was to evaluate the FDOH's ability to effectively set up a POD and deliver medicine to the affected population within 48-hours of a biological incident.

Mr. Rietow reported that ARPC staff was assisting Leon County and the City of Tallahassee with an update to its Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan (PDRP). He also noted that ARPC staff continued to work with the North FL Regional Domestic Security Task Force (RDSTF) to begin planning for a series of Active Shooter tabletop exercises in 2019 as well as two full-scale exercises to be held in 2020.

5.B.3 – Revolving Loan Fund Report: Mr. Rietow directed the Board to the RLF report in the Board package beginning on page 21 and stated that a report from the recent loan committee meeting would be presented later in the Executive Committee update. Ms. Watson encouraged the Board to promote the Revolving Loan Fund to local businesses in the Region that might be potential borrowers and eligible participants in the program.

5.B.4 – Transportation Planning Update: Mr. Rietow reported that ARPC staff had been invited to a multi-state Peer Exchange hosted by the FL Highway Administration (FHWA) and the FL Dept. of Transportation (FDOT). He explained that the purpose of the Peer Exchange was to provide Florida with an opportunity to learn more about Rural Transportation Planning Organizations (RTPO) and how RTPOs functioned in other states. Mr. Rietow stated that the Peer Exchange included Dept. of Transportation and Regional Planning entities from: North Carolina, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia and Washington. He explained that the consensus of the meeting was very positive, with virtually every entity recommending the establishment of RTPOs and many stating that housing a RTPO within a pre-existing Regional entity like a RPC, would be the "best bank for your buck". Many of the speakers at the exchange stated that Florida's RPCs already had the knowledge, capacity and relationships within their respective Regions to know what projects are most likely needed and should have priority. Mr. Rietow closed by saying that by grouping the rural counties as regions, the rural counties would have a better and more effective way to access state transportation dollars.

Chairman Merritt voiced his encouragement that FDOT had gone to such lengths to explore the effectiveness of RTPOs and that ARPC staff had been invited to participate. He stressed how important it had been to Wakulla County to be part of the Capital Regional Transportation Planning Agency (CRTPA) and explained that numerous Wakulla County transportation projects had been realized that otherwise would not have happened. Chairman Merritt emphasized that having a voice at the table was invaluable, citing that when he was originally appointed to the CRTPA, the 4-laning of Highway 319 was not even on the list of potential projects, but through the participation of Wakulla County in the decision-making process, the project rapidly moved up to second place in priority for fundable projects. Chairman thanked ARPC staff for their continued work on researching the pros and cons of the establishment of a RTPO in the Region and asked them to keep the Board informed of any new developments.

5.B.5 – Environmental Planning: Mr. Rietow directed the Board to the staff report beginning on page 31, noting that ARPC Environmental Planner, Joe Crozier had recently been elected as Vice-Chairman of the Apalachicola/Chattahoochee/Flint Stakeholders, Inc. (ACFS). He noted that Mr. Crozier also served as the Coordinator of the Riparian County State Coalition (RCSC) which included the six riparian counties of the Apalachicola River and administered through an agreement with the RCSC by ARPC staff.

5C – Florida Regional Councils Association (FRCA) Policy Board Report: Mr. Rietow reviewed the structure of the FRCA Policy Board explaining that each RPC in Florida appointed three Board members to serve, noting that Commissioner Kristin Dozier, Mayor Gene Wright, and Lisa Miller represented the ARPC on the FRCA Policy Board. Mr. Rietow reported that all three ARPC Policy Board members had attended and participated in the FRCA Policy Board meeting held in conjunction with the FL League of Cities conference and since the last ARPC meeting. He explained that the FRCA Policy Board had requested that each RPC pass a resolution to encourage the State of Florida and its local governments to prioritize the reduction and eventual elimination of the land application of human biosolids. Commissioner Dozier proudly announced that on October 1<sup>st</sup>, Mr. Rietow would begin serving as the Chairman of the FRCA Executive Director’s Advisory Committee and would be a valuable asset to the RPCs of Florida and to FRCA as he leads an extensive review of the function and purposes of the FRCA Policy Board.

5D – Executive Committee Report: Mr. Rietow reported that the ARPC Executive Committee met on September 10<sup>th</sup> and had taken the following actions on behalf of the ARPC.

- Reviewed and accepted the audit report for Fiscal Year ended September 30, 2017 as presented by ARPC Auditors Moran & Smith, LLP.
- Reviewed and approved Revolving Loan Applications for Peak’s Inc. LLC (Gulf County), Watson Baled Straw, LLC (Calhoun County), and Sloan Family Grain Works (Jefferson County).
- Reviewed and approved an ARPC Fiscal Year 2017/2018 Budget Amendment.



- Approved and authorized the Chairman to sign a Resolution that encourages the State of Florida and its local governments to prioritize the reduction and eventual elimination of the land application of human biosolids.

**A motion was made by Davis Stoutamire to ratify the actions of the ARPC Executive Committee as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ward McDaniel. A vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.**

**Item 6: Board Member Reports / Local & Regional Issues Discussion**

Davis Stoutamire thanked ARPC staff for continuing to provide articles in the Board package on the status of the Port of Port St. Joe. Mr. Stoutamire asked the Gulf County Board members to give the ARPC an update on the status of the development of the Port. Michael Hammond gave the Board an extended summary on the potential of new funding for railroad improvements and the further development of the Eastern Shipbuilding site and facility. Mr. Hammond noted that the shipbuilding company when fully established would build large ferry boats similar to the Stanton Island Ferry. The Board discussed at length how a fully operational port as well as the improved railroad infrastructure in Gulf County would be foundational for extended economic development across the entire Region. Michael Hammond suggested that Franklin, Gulf, Jefferson, and Wakulla counties go together and ask for TRIUMPH funds to recapitalize the ARPC RLF. The Board directed Mr. Rietow to research the possibility and to report back to the Board at the next meeting.

Chairman Merritt asked for any further Board or public comments and there were none. He announced that the next ARPC Board meeting would be held on November 15, 2018 at the same location.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 pm.

APPROVED BY:           THE APALACHEE REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL  
                                  MEETING IN REGULAR SESSION ON NOVEMBER 15, 2018

SIGNED:

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Randy Merritt  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chris Rietow  
Executive Director

## **AGENDA ITEM 6**

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT – Chris Rietow**

The following items will be reported and discussed with the Board:

- A.     **\*Financial Report:** On the following pages are the following financial reports.
- Budget Report for the month ending September 30, 2018
  - Budget Report for the month ending October 31, 2018
- B.     **Staff Reports:** Staff program reports are included on the following pages. Staff will be present at the meeting to answer any questions and report on any additional program updates.
- C.     **\*ARPC Executive Committee Meetings:** Staff will highlight actions taken at the September 10, 2018 and October 8, 2018, Executive Committee Meetings.

### **ACTIONS NEEDED**

**\*Motion to accept Financial Reports for the periods ending September 30, 2018 and October 31, 2018.**

**\*Motion to ratify actions of the Executive Committee.**

Apalachee Regional Planning Council  
Budget Report as of 9/30/18

Bal. 8/31/18  
38,051.89

Bal. 9/30/17  
19,497.51

| LINE-ITEM                          | FY 17/18<br>Budget                     | September<br>2018 | FY-To-Date<br>as of 9/30/18 | Budget<br>Balance |
|------------------------------------|--|-------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>General Revenue</b>             |  |                   |                             |                   |
| EDA Planning Grant                 | 70,000                                 | -                 | 70,000.00                   | -                 |
| Revolving Loan Fund - Admin        | 22,500                                 | 10,575.41         | 22,968.45                   | (468.45)          |
| Misc. Small ED Contracts           | 2,050                                  | -                 | 2,050.00                    | -                 |
| FDACS - Animal Safety Planner      | 33,450                                 | 3,200.00          | 34,950.00                   | (1,500.00)        |
| FDEM - Hazards Analyses            | 22,000                                 | -                 | 21,746.00                   | 254.00            |
| FDEM - HMEP Planning 17/18         | 25,000                                 | -                 | 25,000.00                   | -                 |
| FDEM - HMEP Training 17/18         | 47,300                                 | 22,185.00         | 47,146.76                   | 153.24            |
| FDEM - LEPC Support Staff          | 80,000                                 | -                 | 80,000.00                   | -                 |
| FDOH - N FL MRC Admin              | 30,000                                 | -                 | 30,000.00                   | -                 |
| Misc. Small EP Contracts           | 18,150                                 | -                 | 18,107.00                   | 43.00             |
| NWFWMD - SWIM Plan                 | 28,500                                 | -                 | 28,468.00                   | 32.00             |
| EPA - Brownfield                   | 4,850                                  | -                 | 4,820.00                    | 30.00             |
| FDEP - SQG Inspections             | 35,700                                 | -                 | 35,672.45                   | 27.55             |
| RCSC - Admin                       | 10,000                                 | 5,000.00          | 10,000.00                   | -                 |
| ARPC County Dues                   | 69,250                                 | -                 | 69,206.00                   | 44.00             |
| Big Bend CoC - Admin               | 33,650                                 | -                 | 33,615.66                   | 34.34             |
| FRCA - Admin                       | 51,200                                 | 5,450.00          | 51,875.00                   | (675.00)          |
| QGAA - Admin                       | 26,400                                 | 2,200.00          | 26,400.00                   | -                 |
| PSJ -CDBG                          | 47,000                                 | -                 | 47,000.00                   | -                 |
| Misc. Small TA Contracts           | 52,000                                 | 2,250.00          | 52,000.00                   | -                 |
| CTD - Transportation Disadvantaged | 166,870                                | 36,406.85         | 166,931.73                  | (61.73)           |
| <b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>               | <b>875,870</b>                         | <b>87,267.26</b>  | <b>877,957.05</b>           | <b>(2,087.05)</b> |
| <b>General Expenses</b>            |  |                   |                             |                   |
| Accounting                         | 1,000                                  | 24.00             | 665.00                      | 335.00            |
| Advertising                        | 1,500                                  | 109.44            | 1,394.90                    | 105.10            |
| Audit                              | 15,000                                 | -                 | 15,000.00                   | -                 |
| Board Meeting Expenses             | 3,000                                  | 548.41            | 2,939.77                    | 60.23             |
| Contingency & Project Pass-Thru    | 44,520                                 | 695.00            | 10,848.57                   | 33,671.43         |
| Consultants (HMEP-T CDBG HurrEx)   | 58,400                                 | 5,950.00          | 58,375.11                   | 24.89             |
| Dues (FRCA, NADO, SERDI & Other)   | 23,500                                 | -                 | 23,357.25                   | 142.75            |
| Equipment Lease - Copiers          | 15,700                                 | 723.67            | 15,248.21                   | 451.79            |
| Fringe Benefits (FICA, CHP & FRS)  | 125,000                                | 8,711.26          | 122,594.98                  | 2,405.02          |
| Insurance (Work Comp, Liability)   | 8,500                                  | -                 | 8,014.00                    | 486.00            |
| IT Tech Support                    | 13,000                                 | 521.39            | 12,599.58                   | 400.42            |
| Legal                              | -                                      | -                 | -                           | -                 |
| Licenses (REMI)                    | 4,500                                  | -                 | 4,500.00                    | -                 |
| Miscellaneous                      | 500                                    | -                 | -                           | 500.00            |
| Office Supplies                    | 3,500                                  | 227.93            | 3,564.07                    | (64.07)           |
| Postage                            | 2,650                                  | 124.70            | 2,665.71                    | (15.71)           |
| Rent                               | 39,500                                 | 3,477.50          | 39,290.90                   | 209.10            |
| Salaries                           | 462,500                                | 36,566.50         | 458,860.25                  | 3,639.75          |
| Subscriptions & Publications       | 300                                    | -                 | 301.05                      | (1.05)            |
| Telephone & Internet               | 8,300                                  | 659.21            | 8,287.30                    | 12.70             |
| Travel                             | 45,000                                 | 4,787.86          | 46,755.63                   | (1,755.63)        |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>              | <b>875,870</b>                         | <b>63,126.87</b>  | <b>835,262.28</b>           | <b>40,607.72</b>  |
|                                    | Bal. 9/30/18                           | <b>62,192.28</b>  | <b>62,192.28</b>            | Bal. 9/30/18      |
|                                    | <b>Operating Acct. Balance 9/30/18</b> |                   | <b>62,192.28</b>            |                   |

**Apalachee Regional Planning Council  
Budget Report as of 10/31/18**

Bal. 9/30/18  
62,192.28

Bal. 9/30/18  
62,192.28

| LINE-ITEM                          | FY 18/19<br>Budget                      | October<br>2018  | FY-To-Date<br>as of 10/31/18 | Budget<br>Balance |
|------------------------------------|---|------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>General Revenue</b>             |   |                  |                              |                   |
| EDA Planning Grant                 | 70,000                                  | 17,500.00        | 17,500.00                    | 52,500.00         |
| Revolving Loan Fund - Admin        | 15,000                                  | -                | -                            | 15,000.00         |
| Misc. Small ED Contracts           | 1,500                                   | -                | -                            | 1,500.00          |
|                                    |   |                  |                              |                   |
| FDACS - Animal Safety Planner      | 30,000                                  | 1,550.00         | 1,550.00                     | 28,450.00         |
| FDEM - Hazards Analyses            | 22,000                                  | -                | -                            | 22,000.00         |
| FDEM - HMEP Planning 17/18         | 40,000                                  | -                | -                            | 40,000.00         |
| FDEM - HMEP Training 17/18         | 30,000                                  | -                | -                            | 30,000.00         |
| FDEM - RDSTF Exercise 2019         | 15,000                                  | -                | -                            | 15,000.00         |
| FDEM - LEPC Support Staff          | 80,000                                  | -                | -                            | 80,000.00         |
| FDOH - Leon POD Exercise           | 21,500                                  | -                | -                            | 21,500.00         |
| Misc. Small EP Contracts           | -                                       | -                | -                            | -                 |
|                                    |   |                  |                              |                   |
| EPA - Brownfield                   | 6,000                                   | -                | -                            | 6,000.00          |
| FDEP SHaRC                         | 15,000                                  | -                | -                            | 15,000.00         |
| FDEP - FRCP                        | 30,000                                  | -                | -                            | 30,000.00         |
| FDEP - SQG                         | 40,000                                  | -                | -                            | 40,000.00         |
| RCSC - Admin                       | 10,000                                  | -                | -                            | 10,000.00         |
|                                    |   |                  |                              |                   |
| ARPC County Dues                   | 69,275                                  | -                | -                            | 69,275.00         |
| FRCA - Admin                       | 60,000                                  | 4,850.00         | 4,850.00                     | 55,150.00         |
| QGAA - Admin                       | 26,400                                  | 2,200.00         | 2,200.00                     | 24,200.00         |
| FDEO - Apalachee Online            | 63,450                                  | -                | -                            | 63,450.00         |
| FDEO - Sopchoppy Competitive FL    | 20,000                                  | -                | -                            | 20,000.00         |
| Big Bend Continuum of Care         | 30,000                                  | -                | -                            | 30,000.00         |
| Misc. Small TA Contracts           | 27,000                                  | -                | -                            | 27,000.00         |
|                                    |   |                  |                              |                   |
| CTD - Transportation Disadvantaged | 184,950                                 | -                | -                            | 184,950.00        |
|                                    |   |                  |                              |                   |
| <b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>               | <b>907,075</b>                          | <b>26,100.00</b> | <b>26,100.00</b>             | <b>880,975.00</b> |
|                                    |   |                  |                              |                   |
| <b>General Expenses</b>            |   |                  |                              |                   |
| Accounting                         | 1,000                                   | 24.00            | 24.00                        | 976.00            |
| Advertising                        | 2,400                                   | 119.90           | 119.90                       | 2,280.10          |
| Audit                              | 15,000                                  | -                | -                            | 15,000.00         |
| Board Meeting Expenses             | 4,000                                   | -                | -                            | 4,000.00          |
| Contingency & Project Pass-Thru    | 10,675                                  | 651.13           | 651.13                       | 10,023.87         |
| Consultants (HMEP-T CDBG HurrEx)   | 30,000                                  | 3,400.00         | 3,400.00                     | 26,600.00         |
| Dues (FRCA, NADO, SERDI & Other)   | 27,500                                  | -                | -                            | 27,500.00         |
| Equipment Lease - Copiers          | 14,500                                  | 878.14           | 878.14                       | 13,621.86         |
| Fringe Benefits (FICA, CHP & FRS)  | 131,000                                 | 9,715.75         | 9,715.75                     | 121,284.25        |
| Insurance (Work Comp, Liability)   | 12,000                                  | 2,636.25         | 2,636.25                     | 9,363.75          |
| IT Tech Support                    | 12,000                                  | 155.00           | 155.00                       | 11,845.00         |
| Legal                              | 2,000                                   | -                | -                            | 2,000.00          |
| Licenses (REMI)                    | 6,500                                   | -                | -                            | 6,500.00          |
| Miscellaneous                      | 500                                     | -                | -                            | 500.00            |
| Office Supplies                    | 4,000                                   | 225.89           | 225.89                       | 3,774.11          |
| Postage                            | 3,000                                   | 200.00           | 200.00                       | 2,800.00          |
| Rent                               | 40,000                                  | 3,477.50         | 3,477.50                     | 36,522.50         |
| Salaries                           | 517,000                                 | 36,575.00        | 36,575.00                    | 480,425.00        |
| Subscriptions & Publications       | 500                                     | -                | -                            | 500.00            |
| Telephone & Internet               | 8,500                                   | 577.10           | 577.10                       | 7,922.90          |
| Travel - ARPC Fleet Vehicle        | 15,000                                  | -                | -                            | 15,000.00         |
| Travel                             | 50,000                                  | 3,932.71         | 3,932.71                     | 46,067.29         |
|                                    |   |                  |                              |                   |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>              | <b>907,075</b>                          | <b>62,568.37</b> | <b>62,568.37</b>             | <b>844,506.63</b> |
|                                    |   |                  |                              |                   |
|                                    | Bal. 10/31/18                           | <b>25,723.91</b> | <b>25,723.91</b>             | Bal. 10/31/18     |
|                                    | <b>Operating Acct. Balance 10/31/18</b> |                  | <b>25,723.91</b>             |                   |
|                                    |   |                  |                              |                   |

## AGENDA ITEM 6 – B – 1

### ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Richard Fetchick

#### 2018-2022 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Update:

Staff is working to coordinate with regional partners and implement objectives from the ARPC's Regional Economic Strategy.

**CEDS 2019 Update** – ARPC staff whittled the original 35 objectives from the 2018 CEDS into 28 smarter, more comprehensive objectives. These cover entrepreneurship, tourism, agriculture, financing, strategic sites such as airports & business parks, and collaboration. EDA has been sent a copy of the update and Executive Summary for review and upon approval, these documents will be posted online.



**Hurricane Michael** – In October Hurricane Michael caused unprecedented damage to crops, livestock, residential, commercial, and government facilities. As a result, Congress may pass another disaster supplemental allocation in the coming year. Additionally, the Hurricane Irma disaster supplemental funds are being reviewed more favorably for applicants of our Region due to the present damage.

**EDA Disaster Supplemental** – Over \$147 Million is available to communities in the Southeastern Region.

- **Objective 1.2: Increase Employee and Business Resilience**

Staff developed an application for a **Disaster Resilience Coordinator (DRC)** – a new hire whose job would be to liaise with all 9 counties' recovery staff, connecting them to resilient economic response tactics, subject matter experts, and grants. The DRC will assimilate into local government meetings in order to provide maximum responsiveness to Hurricane recovery needs. The Coordinator is a position that other RPCs cultivated directly after Irma and feedback has been positive about their value-add.

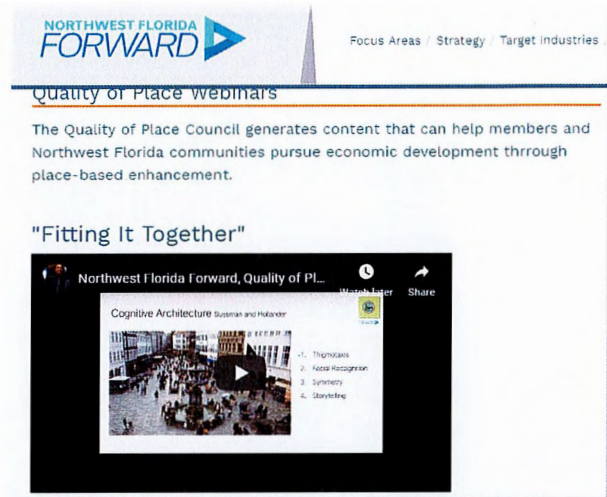
ARPC Economic Development Staff: The Assistant Planner and GIS Specialist have continued to provide value to our cities and counties during this period.

- **GIS** – GIS Specialist Sarah Hibbard has continued efforts to gather data, coordinate, and capacity-build with the 8 rural county partners toward building *Apalachee Online*. More about her projects will be presented in the new "GIS Program Report".

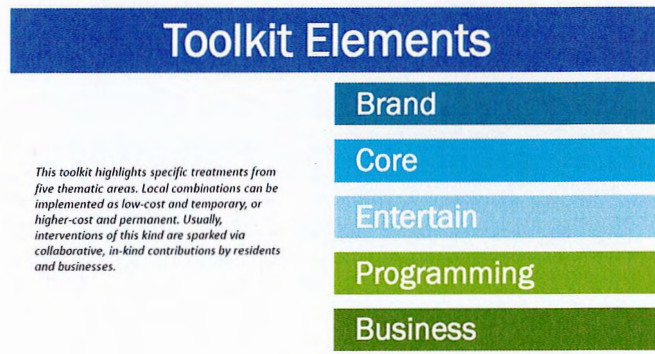
- **Planning** – Assistant Planner Caroline Smith will be finalizing the Sopchoppy Placemaking/Beautification Plan and the FL Dept. of Environmental Protection Resilient Coastline Comprehensive Plan Recommendations for Franklin, Gulf, and Carrabelle.

Northwest Florida Forward: ARPC staff continues to organize meetings and help coordinate activities for the Quality of Place Council. Staff created a webinar recording of a presentation given to FDOT Bicycle Pedestrian Committee in September and posted it to the NWFL Forward Website.

Other Technical Assistance: ARPC staff continues to assist regional partners with Comprehensive Planning, Intergovernmental Coordination and other tasks.

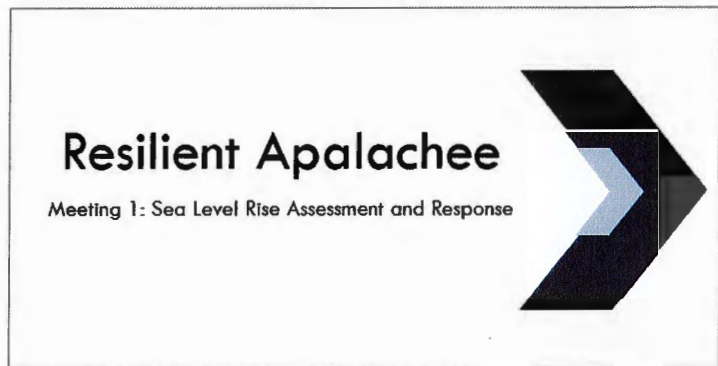


- **City of Sopchoppy, PLACE** – ARPC staff created a Placemaking Toolkit specifically for City of Sopchoppy. They facilitated the first workshop, which engaged Placemaking Committee Members toward defining a view of downtown enhancements. Conceptual designs will be presented within the next month.



- **Economic Modelling** – ARPC staff is working with West Florida Regional Planning Council and Tallahassee Community College to generate economic impact models of two proposed Triumph Projects. Models will show additional indirect and induced jobs, GDP, and personal income gains.
- **Economic Development Planning** – City of Sopchoppy was awarded a Competitive Florida grant based on a DEO TA application co-developed with the ARPC. ARPC staff is currently working with DEO and the City to finalize a scope of work, which will help add a related puzzle piece to the Placemaking Plan for triggering economic development.
- **Census PSAP** – The Participant Statistical Areas Program helps to define census boundaries (e.g. tract, block, etc.) for every county in the United States. The ARPC is acting as Primary and Technical Participant on behalf of Calhoun and Gadsden counties.
- **Intergovernmental (IG) Review** – Current IG applications are at a lull due to the time of year. Counties and cities will be generating these applications in the coming months, and they will again pick up in frequency and quantity.

- **Florida Resilient Coastlines Program, DEP** – ARPC staff held the first workshop to describe Vulnerability Assessment findings and discuss adaptation options with Franklin County and City of Carrabelle. Key assets such as US-98 and the county-consolidated school were discussed, and staff is building these and other policies into a Coastal Management Element update recommendation for each community. ARPC staff is working with Gulf County to schedule a first meeting, which was delayed by hurricane impacts.



Regional Coordination: ARPC staff participated in the following events –

- **Post-Hurricane Michael Assessment** – ARPC staff visited Gadsden, Jackson, Gulf and Franklin Counties on October 18<sup>th</sup> to coordinate with EOC groups and determine “best-fit” tasks by which it could help in recovery. An outcome of this has been REMI modelling of Timber Impacts and application to EDA to create the Disaster Resilience Coordinator Position.
- **Gadsden County Development Council** – ARPC staff participated in the monthly board meeting of the Gadsden County Development Council.
- **Opportunity Florida** – ARPC staff attended the September board meeting for Opportunity Florida, where VisionFirst Consulting reported findings from the I-10 Corridor Study.



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**Economic Development Administration**  
**Atlanta Regional Office**

Suite 1820  
401 West Peachtree St., N.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30308-3510

September 28, 2018

Mr. Chris Rietow  
Executive Director  
Apalachee Regional Planning Council  
2507 Callaway Road, Suite 200  
Tallahassee, Florida 32303

Dear Mr. Rietow:

Thank you for your submission of the 2017 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). EDA appreciated the opportunity to review the document and learn of the great plans and work that will continue to take place in your District.

We are pleased to inform you that EDA's review of your CEDS document and process align with EDA's regulatory and programmatic requirements, and that it has been accepted. The priorities and focuses outlined in the CEDS will help form the foundation upon which EDA will review applications for EDA financial assistance in the region.

We greatly appreciate the work of the Apalachee Regional Planning Council Board and CEDS Committee to develop this innovative, regionally-driven economic development strategy.

EDA looks forward to continuing our work together in support of the goals and priorities outlined in your 2017 CEDS document.

Sincerely,

H. Philip Paradice, Jr.  
Regional Director





**AGENDA ITEM 6 – B – 2**

**EMERGENCY PLANNING PROGRAM**

Zach Annett – Elise Fisher

**Regional Hazardous Materials Program**



The ARPC staffs the Apalachee Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) which is responsible for implementing the federal Emergency Planning and the Community Right-To-Know Act for the ARPC Region. The four primary activities of the Apalachee LEPC are hazardous materials planning, training, emergency exercises and public outreach.

Quarterly Meetings

The quarterly meetings of the State Emergency Response Commission scheduled for October 16 - 17, 2018 were postponed due to Hurricane Michael. It is unsure if these meetings will be rescheduled at this time. The next meeting of the Apalachee LEPC has been scheduled for December 1, 2018 at the Capital Area Chapter of the American Red Cross in Tallahassee.

Hazardous Materials Training

ARPC staff coordinated the following courses during the quarter to train first responders and officials who play a role in hazardous materials incidents:

| <b>Date</b>          | <b>Class</b>                       | <b>Location</b> | <b>Students</b> |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 11/1/18-<br>11/10/18 | 24-Hour Operations Level<br>Course | Leon County     | TBD             |
| 12/10/18             | 8-Hour Technician Level<br>Course  | Leon County     | TBD             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>         |                                    |                 | <b>TBD</b>      |

Additionally, staff has coordinated the following trainings for the upcoming quarter:

- HazMat Incident Commander Course – Gulf County – October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>. *This course was postponed to a later date due to Hurricane Michael.*
- HazMat Tox-Medic Course – Date and Location TBD
- Hazardous Materials Symposium – Daytona Beach – January 22<sup>nd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>

All training opportunities and are posted on the ARPC website at [www.thearpc.com](http://www.thearpc.com).

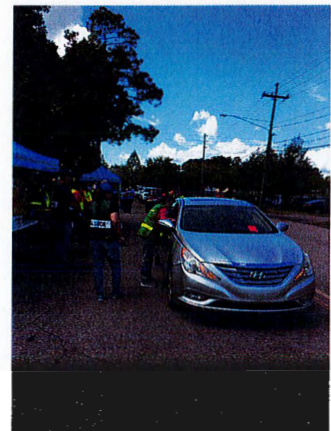
## State Agricultural Response Team



ARPC staff provides planning support to the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) State Agricultural Response Team (SART). Staff is working with SART partners, the University of Florida, the Florida Division of Emergency Management, and the State Animal Response Coalition (SARC) on developing an online pet-friendly sheltering course. This course will be an independent study course in which participants can complete the training at their own pace and receive a state certificate upon successful completion. The training will provide participants valuable information on how to set up, run, and take down and pet-friendly shelter. The target audience are emergency managers, county employees, and shelter volunteers. Staff continues to assist with updating the training material on the SART website.

### Exercise Planning and Facilitation

ARPC staff conducted a full-scale “Point of Dispensing (POD)” exercise on October 26, 2018 with the FL Dept. of Health in Leon County. The purpose of the exercise was to evaluate the Dept. of Health’s ability to effectively set-up and manage a POD and deliver medicine to the affected population within 48-hours of a biological incident. The ARPC was contracted to design, facilitate and evaluate the exercise for the Dept. of Health and will provide an After-Action Report/Improvement Plan upon completion of the exercise. Exercise participants consisted of representatives from the Dept. of Health, Leon County Sheriff’s Office, City of Tallahassee Fire Department and Leon County EMS. Volunteers from Florida State University, Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, the Refugee House, and more also participated in the exercise.



POD Full-Scale Exercise

### Other Technical Assistance

ARPC staff will be facilitating the Hurricane Michael Hot Wash for the Dept. of Health in Leon County. The Hot Wash will focus on two separate areas. The first area of focus will be on the Department’s ESF-8 Operations within the Leon County Emergency Operation Center. The second area will focus on the Department’s Special Needs Sheltering Operations and Logistics. The Hot Wash is scheduled for November 16, 2018.

ARPC staff is also assisting Leon County and the City of Tallahassee with an update to the Leon County Post Disaster Redevelopment Plan. The update was scheduled to be completed in October, but has been partially delayed due to Hurricane Michael.

**AGENDA ITEM 6 – B – 4**

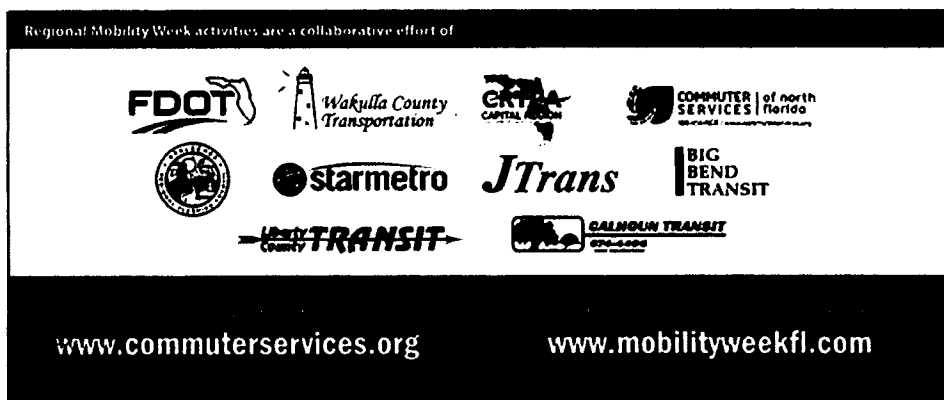
**TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROGRAM – Kwentin Eastberg**

**Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) Program**

The second quarter meetings for the Transportation Disadvantaged Program were postponed due to the lingering impacts of Hurricane Michael. In an effort to aid the Community Transportation Coordinators (CTCs), who were focused on staff recovery and providing basic services to riders, staff had to cancel meetings that were traditionally held in the beginning of November. Several CTCs were without power for an extended period, in addition, several meeting places were damaged in the storm and alternate accommodations needed to be made. Below is an updated meeting calendar with dates, times and meeting locations. Please remember, all meetings are open to the public and the second quarter meetings will consist of a public workshop geared to education of the TD program to members of the public as well as new TD board members. Other items on this agenda will include the Annual Operating Report and regular monthly business items.

**Mobility Week**

ARPC staff partnered with Commuter Services of North Florida Staff for the FL Dept. of Transportation (FDOT) Mobility Week initiative. Across the Region, many transportation providers were geared up to take part in Mobility week (October 27<sup>th</sup> to November 3<sup>rd</sup>) however due to some of the impacts of Hurricane Michael some of the CTCs could not participate the way they initially planned. Star Metro and Big Bend Transit partnered to provide a “fare free day” where services on any of the deviated fixed route systems were free of charge for that day. Calhoun and Liberty counties were both planning a Tallahassee trip for either a move or for shopping, among others throughout the Region. The goal of Mobility Week is to build awareness of safe, multimodal transportation choices through a collection of outreach events. Below is an advertisement from the local paper announcing the exciting transportation events being hosted in the area!



**2018-2019 TD-Local Coordinating Board Meetings**

**Transportation Disadvantaged Coordinating Boards  
2018 - 2019 Meeting Calendar**

| <b>COUNTY</b>   | <b>SEPTEMBER 2018</b> | <b>NOVEMBER 2018</b><br><b>*Rescheduled due to Hurricane*</b>  | <b>FEBRUARY 2019</b> | <b>JUNE 2019</b>  |
|---|-----------------------|--|----------------------|---|
| <b>Calhoun</b><br>1:00 PM CT<br>Senior Center,<br>16859 NE Cayson<br>Street, Blountstown      | 4<br>Tuesday          | <b>December 11</b><br>Tuesday  | 5<br>Tuesday         | 4<br>Tuesday  |
| <b>Franklin</b><br>10:00 AM ET<br>Courthouse Annex,<br>33 Market Street,<br>Apalachicola      | 5<br>Wednesday        | <b>December 19</b><br>Wednesday  | 6<br>Wednesday       | 5<br>Wednesday  |
| <b>Gadsden</b><br>2:00 PM ET<br>Gadsden Public Library<br>732 S Pat Thomas<br>Parkway, Quincy | 20<br>Thursday        | <b>December 6</b><br>Thursday<br><b>*New Location*</b><br>Havana Public<br>Library<br>203 5 <sup>th</sup> Ave E,<br>Havana, FL | 14<br>Thursday       | 13<br>Thursday<br><b>*New Location*</b><br>Havana Public<br>Library<br>203 5 <sup>th</sup> Ave E,<br>Havana, FL |
| <b>Gulf</b><br>1:00 PM ET<br>Gulf Transp. Office,<br>122 Water Plant Road,<br>Port St. Joe    | 5<br>Wednesday        | <b>December 19</b><br>Wednesday  | 6<br>Wednesday       | 5<br>Wednesday  |
| <b>Jackson</b><br>10:00 AM CT<br><del>Trans.</del><br>3988 Old Cottondale<br>Road, Marianna   | 4<br>Tuesday          | <b>December 4</b><br>Tuesday   | 5<br>Tuesday         | 4<br>Tuesday  |
| <b>Jefferson</b><br>10:00 AM ET<br>Commission Annex<br>435 West Walnut<br>Street, Monticello  | 20<br>Thursday        | <b>December 6</b><br>Thursday  | 14<br>Thursday       | 13<br>Thursday  |
| <b>Leon</b><br>2:00 PM ET<br>Area Agency on Aging<br>2414 Mahan Drive,<br>Tallahassee         | 12<br>Wednesday       | <b>December 3</b><br>Monday  | 13<br>Wednesday      | 12<br>Wednesday   |
| <b>Liberty</b><br>3:30 PM ET<br>Civic Center,<br>10405 NW Theo Jacobs<br>Way, Bristol         | 4<br>Tuesday          | <b>December 4</b><br>Tuesday<br><b>@2:00 PM</b>  | 5<br>Tuesday         | 4<br>Tuesday  |
| <b>Wakulla</b><br>10:00 AM ET<br>Senior Citizens Center<br>33 Michael Drive,<br>Crawfordville | 12<br>Wednesday       | <b>November 28</b><br>Wednesday  | 13<br>Wednesday      | 12<br>Wednesday   |

### **Board Member Appointments**

The Executive Director appointed the following members to the TD Local Coordinating Boards effective July 1, 2018. All terms will end June 30<sup>th</sup> on the year listed.

| <b>COUNTY</b> | <b>MEMBER</b>      | <b>POSITION</b>             | <b>TERM ENDING</b> |
|---------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Calhoun       | (vacant)           | Disabled                    |                    |
| Calhoun       | (vacant)           | Citizen Advocate/User       |                    |
| Calhoun       | Peggy Sullivan     | Community Action            | 2021               |
| Calhoun       | Darlene Boykin     | Vocational Rehab            | 2021               |
| Franklin      | Peggy Sullivan     | Community Action            | 2021               |
| Gulf          | (vacant)           | Citizen Advocate/User       |                    |
| Gulf          | Peggy Sullivan     | Community Action            | 2021               |
| Gulf          | Tony Gaines        | Department of Elder Affairs | 2021               |
| Jackson       | (vacant)           | Community Action            |                    |
| Jackson       | (vacant)           | Children at Risk            |                    |
| Jackson       | Deborah Peters     | Vocation Rehab              | 2021               |
| Jefferson     | Everlena White     | Citizen Advocate/User       | 2021               |
| Jefferson     | (vacant)           | Veterans                    |                    |
| Jefferson     | (vacant)           | Public Education            |                    |
| Jefferson     | (vacant)           | Department of Elder Affairs |                    |
| Liberty       | (vacant)           | Disabled                    |                    |
| Liberty       | (vacant)           | Workforce Dvp Board         |                    |
| Liberty       | Darlene Boykin     | Vocational Rehab            | 2021               |
| Wakulla       | (vacant)           | Chairman                    |                    |
| Wakulla       | Ida Moore          | Elderly                     | 2021               |
| Wakulla       | Diane Thompson     | Disabled                    | 2021               |
| Wakulla       | Johnny Coggins III | Citizen Advocate            | 2021               |
| Wakulla       | (vacant)           | Veterans                    |                    |

### **ACTION NEEDED**

Motion to approve the Executive Director's appointments to the designated TD Local Coordinating Boards.

### **Other Transportation Items of Interest**

ARPC staff, along with Gadsden County Development Council Director, Beth Kirkland met with David Pollard and Alisha Wetherell from the Tallahassee International Airport to discuss the current state of the Freight Logistics Zone and the Airport's Foreign Trade Zone. The group had a great discussion bringing each other up to speed on their respective projects. Takeaways from this meeting include a future update/amendment will need to be made to the Freight Logistics Zone Plan, and the Tallahassee Airport is refocusing its efforts on the Foreign Trade Zone application.

Staff also participated in the Tallahassee/Leon County Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan – 2019 Update. Staff attended a public workshop where planners from the City of Tallahassee, Leon County, CRTPA, and Kimley-Horn presented current and proposed bicycle and pedestrian facilities within the city and county. They asked for input on what current routes cyclists took to get to various destinations, similarly they asked for input on their proposed goals and objectives of the Master Plan.

Lastly, since the last board meeting, Transportation Planner, Kwentin Eastberg got to celebrate his honeymoon in Europe for a couple weeks. He is pictured below with his lovely wife Emily as they prepared for Oktoberfest in Munich, Germany and on a Gondola ride in Venice, Italy.



*Multimodal transportation in Italy.*

## AGENDA ITEM 6 – B – 5

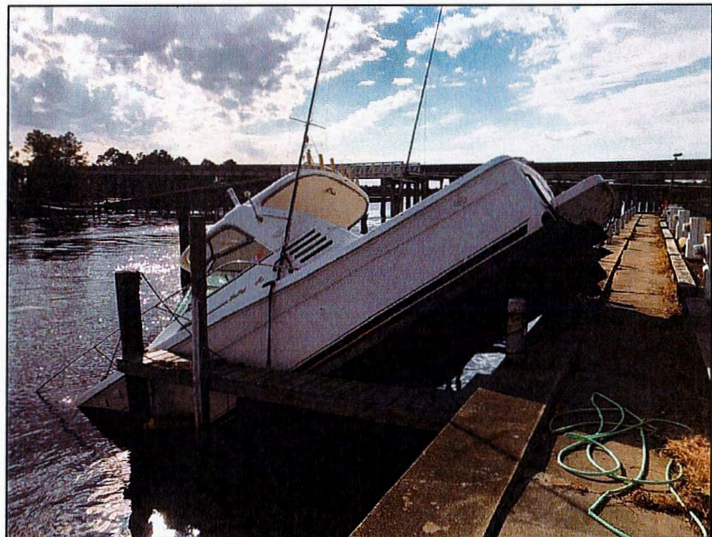
### ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING PROGRAM – Joe Crozier

#### Shoreline Habitats and Resilient Coasts (SHaRC)

ARPC staff received final approval from the National Atmospheric and Oceanic Administration (NOAA) and the FL Dept. of Environmental Protection (FDEP) to begin work on the Shoreline Habitats and Resilient Coasts (SHaRC) Analysis in Apalachicola Bay under the Florida Coastal Management Program. The model will be used to identify infrastructure most vulnerable to wave action in Apalachicola Bay. ARPC staff has begun running wave energy analyses in ArcGIS based on fetch, bathymetry, shoreline slope and nearshore habitat.

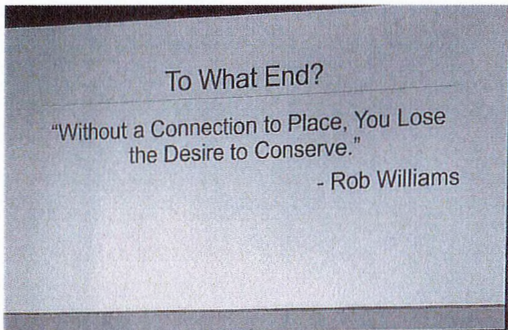
#### Hazard Analysis

ARPC staff has begun the annual Hazard Analysis visits for Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Jefferson, Leon and Liberty counties. Thus far, visits in Jefferson, Gadsden and Leon have been completed. Staff has worked from east to west to allow additional time for the western counties to recover from Hurricane Michael before the visits are scheduled. Facilities this year include the Jim Woodruff Powerplant, Georgia Pacific in Hosford, WCTV in Tallahassee and approximately 80 other sites. Approximately 50% of site visits have been completed.



*This is one of several boats in a Carrabelle marina damaged from Hurricane Michael.*

#### Riparian County Stakeholder Coalition (RCSC)

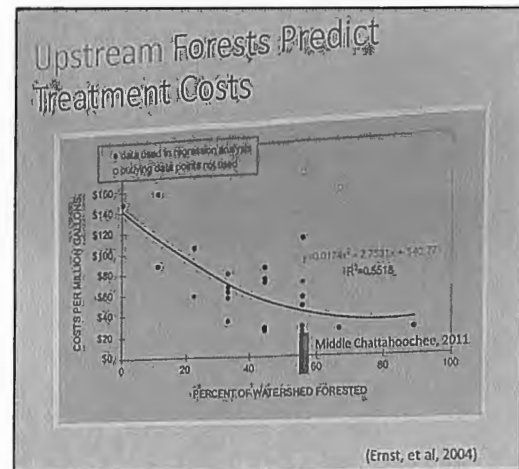


*This slide was a quote provided by the University of Georgia during the Water Resource Economics Conference.*

ARPC staff attended the Georgia-Alabama Water Resource Economics Conference in October.

Attendees included the Brigadier General overseeing the Apalachicola/Chattahoochee/Flint (ACF) Basin for the South Atlantic Division of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the USACE ACF basin manager and other representatives as well as scientists, elected officials, and water managers around the ACF system.

The conference included updates from current research including ground-breaking studies on paleolimnology (the study of the history of inland waters) and forestry. Auburn University is examining the correlation between sequential reservoirs and sediment transport. This research has never been undertaken and is occurring in our reservoir system. Other interesting research included the impacts of pristine forests on water treatment costs and needs. The Apalachicola River enjoys the largest forested-floodplain in the state and the local utilities illustrate low cost water treatment. This is also evident in more urban scenarios.



*This slide illustrates the relationship between increased percentage of watershed forest coverage and water treatment expenses.*

The RCSC was asked to facilitate a visit to the Apalachicola Basin on November 15<sup>th</sup>. The tour details are being finalized and will include presentations from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Apalachicola Riverkeeper, the University of Florida, Franklin County, the RCSC and others. The agenda is as follows:

**9:30 AM: Chattahoochee Landing (Gadsden County)**

- Welcome, Riparian County Stakeholder Coalition
- Meet residents, leaders & elected officials

Presentations:

- Dr. Catherine Phillips, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
  - Sturgeon and endangered species
- Liz Sparks, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
  - Significance of designated blueway trails

**10:30-11:30: Van travel from Chattahoochee to Wewahitchka**

- Bag lunches in van

**Noon: Gaskin Park Landing, Wewahitchka (Gulf County)**

- Meet residents, leader & local officials (15 minutes)

**Boat Tour, 1 hour, out and back**

Floodplain & Slough Connections

- Ted Hoehn, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
  - George Wilson, Conservation Lands
  - Georgia Ackerman, Apalachicola Riverkeeper

**1:30: Drive from Wewahitchka to Apalachicola**

**2:45-3:50 PM: History, Culture & Arts Center, Apalachicola (Franklin County)**

- Meet residents, leaders and elected officials
  - Shannon Hartsfield, SMARRT and FCSWA
  - Apalachicola Mayor, Van Johnson
  - Franklin County Commissioner, Smokey Parrish
  - Dr. Andy Kane, University of Florida, Apalachicola Bay

**4:00 PM: Wrap Up & Depart**



## AGENDA ITEM 6 – B – 6

### GIS Program – Sarah Hibbard

#### Apalachee Online

ARPC was awarded a Community Planning Technical Assistance grant by the Department of Economic Opportunity to create an online mapping resource for Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Jackson, Jefferson, Liberty, and Wakulla counties. The website will host interactive culture, environmental, planning, and demographic maps.

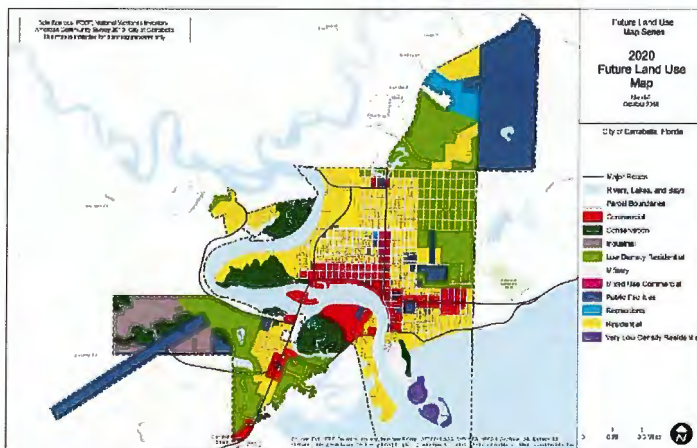
ARPC staff has begun to coordinate online meetings with each county to discuss the website and map products.



*Screenshot of Apalachee Online*

#### Gadsden GIS

The interlocal agreement between ARPC and Gadsden County has been renewed and ARPC staff will continue to provide an assortment of GIS services to Gadsden. This includes updates to the future land use map, database maintenance and on-site technical assistance.



*City of Carrabelle's future land use map for 2020*

#### City of Carrabelle FLUM Updates

ARPC staff has been working with the City of Carrabelle to update their future land use map series for their comprehensive plan. These changes include updating parcel boundaries, using the most recent demographic and environmental data, and updating legal boundaries. ARPC staff are also digitizing shapefiles from previous future land use maps.

#### Sopchoppy PLACE

ARPC staff has been collaborating with the City of Sopchoppy on PLACE, a beautification project with a goal to attract tourists and vendors to the city. GIS input for this project includes digitizing zoning layers and maps depicting potential future placemaking enhancements for Sopchoppy.

## **AGENDA ITEM 6 – B – 7**

### **CORRESPONDENCE / ITEMS OF INTEREST**

1. **Triumph Board Advances Gulf Projects – September 2018**
2. **Aviation System Company Arrives in Gulf County – September 2018**
3. **Dredge Funds Sought from Triumph Board – September 2018**
4. **New ARPC GIS Program – September 2018**
5. **Future Brightens for Eastpoint Channel Dredge – October 2018**
6. **Hurricane Michael Devastation – October 2018**
7. **Jackson County Receives \$5.8 Million from FL Job Growth Fund – October 2018**
8. **FL Regional Councils Association Newsletter & Activity Report – September 2018**

# Triumph board advances Gulf projects

**\$13M for floating dry dock; \$750K for drone program**

By Tim Croft

The Port St. Joe Star | 850-227-7827  
@PSJ\_Star | tcroft@starfl.com

The board of Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc., last week approved advancing two Gulf County projects, including construction of a floating dry dock in the ship channel off the former paper mill site.

The board also capped the

Triumph award on the project at \$13 million; the county's application was seeking \$28 million.

The Triumph board also approved to move ahead on a term sheet for a project from Gulf District Schools to fund the start-up of an unmanned aviation course to be implemented in both high schools.

The drone program sounded like all but a no-brainer for the Triumph board, with the timing nearly perfect given the formal arrival in Gulf County the following day of

a company specializing in the manufacture of manned and unmanned aviation systems.

"The application could not be more timely or important," wrote Board of County Commissioners chair Sandy Quinn, Jr. in a letter to the Triumph board.

Triumph's grant would be \$750,000, 54 percent of the overall projected cost, said Dr. Rick Harper, the economic adviser to the Triumph board.

Harper said the technology and project were "well-matched to the local

economy" and noted that given district projections on enrollment in the program, each industry certification earned would come at a cost of just \$1,400.

In its application, Gulf District Schools said the program would be self-sustaining in five years, graduating its first 50 students within three years.

Triumph staff had scored the project an "A" as a measurement of economic impact.

"This is a great program,

a great project," said Jason Shoaf, Gulf County's representative on the Triumph Gulf Coast board.

"This helps both ends of the county and it couldn't have happened better as far as timing."

The board moved the project to the creation of a term sheet, effectively the contract, with specific measurement and accountability goals, for receiving the grant funding.

See TRIUMPH, A8

## TRIUMPH

From Page A1

### Floating dry dock

The discussion on the floating dry dock project, given its complexity, was far more lengthy and broad.

As Harper indicated again last week, there is a level of interest among board members and staff to see the project come to fruition.

"This does have a chance to be transformative for the county," Harper said. "It would be nice to find a way forward...."

But, he added, the cost in funding per job projected to be created was the highest of any project the Triumph board had considered.

The county is projecting 240 direct jobs created within five years, overwhelmingly in Gulf

County, by the floating dry dock.

That, Harper said, would be \$118,000 per job if Triumph funded the applied for amount of \$28 million.

In addition, the county will have to find some form of "third-party indemnification."

In simple terms, entities with deep enough pockets to essentially serve as insurance to pay Triumph back the dollars if job-creation numbers are not met.

"Somebody has to be responsible for the results," said Triumph board chair Don Gaetz, adding that Gulf County was not offering, nor indicating it could offer, to be that party.

Gaetz also expressed reluctance at approving any project in which the cost per job created exceeded \$100,000.

"Gulf County is the applicant, but you don't control the results," he continued. "(This project) has some hills to climb before it can be achieved."

Triumph staff scored the project a "B."

Assistant County Administrator Warren Yeager said county and Triumph staff had already discussed some potential options for the "claw-back" provision on any term sheet.

Those include securing a line of credit, using ownership of the dry dock as collateral, selling the dry dock on the secondary market or additional private sector tenants.

Several Triumph board members also noted that the project involved, in fact results depended upon, a private sector company, Eastern Shipbuilding.

In addition, the project, though creating a floating dry dock jointly owned by the BOCC and Port St. Joe Port Authority, would take place on private land.

Shoaf and Yeager both noted the recent economic history of Gulf County, the loss of more than 1,000 jobs as the paper

mill and several chemical companies closed local operations.

Yeager said the county had a "stable" company ready to expand into the county, transforming not only Gulf but surrounding counties.

"This is our first real opportunity that has some along for Gulf County," Shoaf said, adding that while there are challenges ahead, "Overall, I do believe in this project."

Triumph board member Steve Riggs noted the unanimous support for the project of local governing bodies and though the project "was a bigger ask, with the smallest match" of projects the board had considered, he was inclined to move the project forward.

A first step, Gaetz said, is determining the actual total costs of the project, which will not be known until the project is bid out.

A key provision of a Triumph term sheet will be the requirement the county bid

construction of the floating dry dock out in a "transparent" process.

Initially, construction was going to fall to Eastern.

Gaetz noted that until the project is bid, any number was purely an estimate, and the actual cost could take the project cost higher or lower.

He moved Triumph cap the award for the project at \$13 million, which was unanimously approved as the board sent the project back to staff for drafting of a term sheet.

Yeager said the outcome of the Triumph meeting was what the county sought; an idea how much Triumph would fund.

The county has anticipated seeking other sources of funding, such the governor's Job Growth Fund, to which the county has already applied.

"We know we are going to find other funds," Yeager said.

"We are going to do everything we can to put the funding in place for this project."

# Aviation systems company arrives in Gulf County

**Dalkeith Industrial Park site of first U.S. manufacturing facility**

**By Tim Croft**

The Port St. Joe Star | 850-227-7827  
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Skyborne Technology, Inc., a designer and developer of manned and unmanned aviation and sea systems will open its first U.S. manufacturing facility today at the county Industrial Park in Dalkeith.

The welcoming, including a demonstration of the

company's technology, is scheduled for 3-5 p.m. ET.

The facility is located 115 CR 381.

The opening caps several months of negotiations as the county sought first to secure full ownership of the Industrial Park, as was its due to under an agreement with U.S. EDA, before finally finding a viable and stable company to enter into a lease agreement.

And the payoff is estimated to be roughly 100 jobs created over the long-term in a growing sector of the world's

economy.

"Gulf County has been working with all the parties on this project for a matter of months," said Assistant County Administrator Warren Yeager.

"We are very excited to land a project of this magnitude that will diversify our local economy and fits the type of industry we are trying to attract."

Skyborne Technology, with existing facilities in Central America and South America, is at the cutting edge of

aviation systems, designing and developing manned, i.e. tethered, and unmanned technology with underwater applications.

Through a series of mergers, said CEO Mike Lawson, the company was able to assemble varying technologies, with the potential for integration, under one roof and process.

In considering their products, Lawson said, conjure to the mind a mother ship in the air on a tether or extremely long line.

That mother ship, in turn, contains any number of drones which can be deployed, in the air and underwater, for a variety of applications.

A significant application is agricultural assessment: instead of relying on satellite images to detect insect or some other type of blight, the Skyborne technology can sharpen it down to near ground level.

The technology is also used

See AVIATION, A7

## AVIATION

From Page A1

in assessing power grids and a host of monitoring applications.

Lawson said the company is also working on applications to create a drone which would identify and eliminate "bad drones" which other companies and countries are developing.

"We have a number of great partners," Lawson said.

As a smaller, but growing company, relatively new to the sector, Skyborne is both more flexible and cost-efficient than larger companies in the business, Lawson said.

"The uniqueness of our design is that we've combined multiple designs," Lawson said. "The technology is proven. It just needed to be organized into a company that can use that technology (at its potential).

"It's a combination of doing business in a different way and doing it in an affordable way."

The company, Lawson added, "really wanted to be in Florida."

Gov. Rick Scott's promotion of the aerospace and technology sectors was a strong factor and Gulf County provided an additional "strategic reason" for locating a facility: plenty of water.

A technology the company is developing is used for underwater applications.

Additionally, much of the technology and systems Skyborne is developing are also part of the military's mission and a segment of that work is taking place down the road at Tyndall AFB.

"There are a lot of things moving in this direction," Lawson said.

Two other compelling strong factors pointed Skyborne to Gulf County, Lawson said.

Area high school and college curriculums were beginning to integrate the technologies and skills the

company would require from a workforce.

Lawson added the company was likely to be heavily involved in a district public school proposal to create a drone program.

Skyborne's growth will bring other educational and job-training programs opportunities.

Additionally, the area is in need of jobs, the company's presence will have an impact, and, hopefully, the multinational company and community will grow for "years to come."

"This is where it's at," Lawson said. "We feel being in this area, a potential growth area, is (a positive).

"If we can help improve the local environment, provide jobs for students in high school and college ... we want to soak that up."

The Gulf County facility will be, Lawson said, an "integration" facility, where such components as flight decks, generator decks and composites will be manufactured.

# Dredge funds sought from Triumph

## BOCC, Port Authority partner on application

by Tim Croft

The Port St. Joe Star | 850-227-7827  
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Pieces of the port puzzle continue to land on the table to await proper placement.

The Board of County Commissioners unanimously agreed Tuesday to join the

Port St. Joe Port Authority in a pre-application to Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. for funding to dredge the federally-authorized shipping channel.

The pre-application would seek \$15 million of the estimated \$35 million needed to dredge the shipping channel to federally-authorized depths.

The Port Authority, using roughly \$1 million in grant funds from the Florida

Department of Transportation, has already completed design for the infrastructure needed for spoil disposal and entered into an agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on the actual dredge work.

What had been initially estimated at a cost of nearly \$50 million has come down, said Guerry Magidson, chair of the Port Authority, to the neighborhood of \$35 million.

"We are finding traction (for this project)," Magidson said. "I think we can bring the price down even more."

The pre-application follows the Triumph board's decision to enter into term sheet negotiations with the county concerning a floating dry dock off the former paper mill site.

The dry dock would facilitate the expansion of Eastern Shipbuilding into

Gulf County.

The Triumph board, in agreeing to term negotiations, capped any grant award for the dry dock project at \$1 million; the county was seeking more than \$28 million.

Those term sheet negotiations, Assistant Administrator Warren Yeager said, are likely to play out over the course of many months.

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## FUNDS

From Page A1

The BOCC Tuesday also approved going out for bids on the dry dock project, which the Triumph board requested as the first step in understanding the true costs of the project.

A decision, any decision, by the Triumph board on the dry dock project had been sought by the county to determine what Triumph would contribute and what other pots of money must be pursued.

The county is seeking additional grant funding from the governor's Job Growth Fund.

The dredging of the shipping channel is all but shovel ready.

The project has secured state and federal permitting and design of the spoil site infrastructure was seen as the last major hurdle before the dredging could commence.

However, county officials, perceiving the floating dry dock as the quickest path to development of the Port of Port St. Joe, had asked and been provided full backing from the county's various governing bodies in making the dry dock the top priority.

Now that the county understands where that

entire channel was a logical next step.

"I think it is the time to do that," Yeager said of the pre-application.

Triumph staff will determine the eligibility of the pre-application before the project would move to a full application.

Other pieces of the port puzzle are also slipping onto the table top.

Magidson and Yeager said the county and Port Authority, working with the St. Joe Company, are much closer to securing a release of FDOT grant funds for repair of the rail line that connects the port to points north.

"We are close," Magidson said.

The repair of the rail lines will take more than a year, Yeager said, and are a priority to fully opening the port to development.

Additionally, permitting continues ahead on work on the former paper mill site in preparation of the arrival of an Eastern Shipbuilding outfitting/maintenance yard.

The county secured a \$6 million state appropriation to facilitate dredging in the ship channel turning basin, permitting and construction of elements of the yard, including a 10,000-square-foot building.

County commissioners on Tuesday also approved going out for bids on some components of that project.

Yeager said Eastern

ferries vessels in Port St. Joe by next May.

Triumph Gulf Coast, Inc. is charged with disbursing some \$1.2 billion in eight Northwest Florida counties over the next 15 years.

Each of those counties receives each year a designated percentage of the annual payments coming to the state as fine dollars stemming from the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

Gulf County's first year dedicated funding from Triumph was \$15 million.

### WindMark pier

Commissioners approved a recommendation from Yeager that the county turn down \$1.3 million in Natural Resources Damage Assessment (NRDA) funds in order to seek additional funding for a pier at WindMark.

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection is overseeing the project, which five years ago was announced as one of several NRDA "early restoration" projects stemming out of Deepwater.

However, the price tag is now \$3.5 million and the FDEP has recommended the county turn down the original funding award and seek the entire \$3.5 million in NRDA funds.

Yeager did not have a

# GIS in county's future

## Mapping system could be a gamechanger

By **ERIN HILL**

Staff Writer

Wakulla County will soon have a Geographic Information System (GIS).

During the county commission meeting last week, Commissioner Randy Merritt announced that the Apalachee Regional Planning Council (ARPC) received \$63,000 to put GIS in eight counties, including Wakulla.

GIS is a computer system used for capturing, storing and displaying spatial or geographic data.

The other counties that will get GIS are Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Jackson, Jefferson and Liberty. The ARPC serves those eight counties, in addition to Leon, and their municipalities.

Merritt said once GIS is set up, the county can put Future Land Use, Zoning Lidar and flood maps on there.

It would also be a good move for economic development, Merritt said. Businesses considering a site in Wakulla County can download maps and put into whatever system the site selector uses, he said.

County Administrator David Edwards said the county will also put all of the county's roads and storm water facilities into the GIS.

Merritt pointed out that it could be

used by staff and citizens.

He noted that the county can also put information from the property appraiser in the system.

"It will be a big game changer for smaller counties, they do all the work and it doesn't cost us anything," Merritt said.

He noted that it's a free starting point for the county.

"We pay our dues, this is one of the things we get out of it," Merritt said.

Also during the meeting, Edwards said the county was recently awarded a \$200,000 grant from the Florida Wildlife Commission to install a floating dock north of the fixed dock at Rock Landing in Panacea.

Edwards said it will be a usable commercial dock, where there will be space available to rent for oyster boats.

In other matters the commissioners voted 5-0 to:

- Allow Inspired Technologies to install fiber connectivity from the community center to the Trice Lane Complex where Revenue Collections, Road & Bridge, and the new Fire Rescue Facility are located.

- Approve a change of zoning for the property Gulf Specimen Marine Lab is located on from Single-Family Residential to Downtown Commercial District.

# Picture brightens for Eastpoint Channel dredge

By David Adlerstein

The Apalachicola Times  
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The county's long-sought dredging of the Eastpoint Channel could begin as early as next summer, if a series of steps fall into place regarding RESTORE Act monies and an Army Corps of Engineering redesign of the project.

In a lengthy report to county commissioners Tuesday morning, former County Planner Alan Pierce, now the county's liaison for securing monies stemming from the 2010 BP oil spill, sounded an optimistic note regarding the dredging, a project the county sought, unsuccessfully, to secure funds for over at least the past two decades.

He said a meeting last week with Wylon Register, site manager for the Corps out of the Panama City office, reaffirmed the Corps has received \$2 million in the upcoming year to dredge the channel, for which it holds the permit to dredge and dispose of materials on the water side of the breakwater.

See CHANNEL, A3

## CHANNEL

From Page A1

Costs for the project, however, are expected to be higher, because of problems associated with the current design to have the disposal area surrounded by geo tubes to hold in the spoil, and then planted as if it is a marsh environment.

"The problem has come out that the geo tubes the Corps have used in other projects have 'underperformed,' to use Mr. Register's term, and have created maintenance liability problems for the Corps and the local sponsor, being the county," Pierce told commissioners. "The berms fail, the mud goes back in the water and you haven't accomplished anything, so the Corps is re-evaluating the construction of the berms."

Pierce said the Corps has tasked a nationwide consulting firm, Anchor QEA, to help design a better solution. "If the proposed construction costs of the re-designed disposal area are higher, the Corps would then have to reduce the extent of the dredging because they have no additional funds," Pierce said, noting he told Register the county would want the full extent of the channel dredged.

"I told him that it might be possible for the county to provide some additional funds to keep the project on track and at the size it was originally designed," he said.

Pierce said he was told the Corps hopes to complete its analysis of the new disposal design by year's end, "and if everything is favorable (the project) will start in summer of 2019."

Pierce said one way for the county to secure additional

funds for the dredging would be to move the project higher on its list of priorities for securing funds from the RESTORE Council, an aggregation of the five states affected by the BP oil spill, and six federal agencies responsible for the federal recovery of the Gulf of Mexico.

Pierce outlined to commissioners how the RESTORE Council has final approval over the State Expenditure Plan, and is responsible for authorizing and releasing funds for projects in the SEP.

"While the RESTORE Council has control over some \$300 million in funds, the individual counties will only get their share of the principal, which in the case of all counties in Florida is some \$11 million," he said. "All interest generated by unspent funds stays with the US Treasury; no additional funds are going to the counties."

Pierce said that while the county's current priority is to use these RESTORE funds to build a new emergency operations center, it would make better sense to make channel dredging the first to be funded in the SEP, when the first round of funds become available by summer 2019.

"I think that's a bigger public interest right now," he said. "I hope in December we hear a more complete report from the Corps."

Pierce said that if the Corps tells the county that it is ready to start dredging the Eastpoint Channel in 2019, the county could delay the construction of the emergency operations center and use that \$1 million to keep the Eastpoint Channel moving forward.

"We don't have a bunch of money to be putting out for stuff," said Chairman Smokey Parrish.

Pierce said the RESTORE

monies, once earmarked for the project, could quickly reimburse the county.

"It will be April or May before we see anything," said Commissioner Cheryl Sanders, a longstanding representative of the county with the Gulf Consortium, the body of Florida's 23 Gulf Coast counties, from Escambia County to Monroe County, tasked with overseeing expenditures of RESTORE Act monies.

"The larger counties are ready to get out there. We're at a critical time for this in the county," said Sanders, who is retiring from her seat on the county commission, ahead of the upcoming consortium meeting at the end of November in Hillsborough County.

Sanders pledged her support to brief the commissioners on the consortium's work. "We can't miss none of those meetings," she said.

# Hurricane Michael leaves area unrecognizable after destroying homes, businesses & schools

by Teresa Eubanks, *Journal Editor*

Seven days after the hurricane, the power is still out.

Cell phone service is sporadic, if you're lucky enough to get a signal.

Unless you happened to have a generator and a supply of gas standing by, everything in your freezer and refrigerator has spoiled.

The contorted metal shells of cars, trucks and farm equipment dot front yards and fields.

You've probably got at least one big tree on your roof, with several more blocking your driveway.

A Hosford man who called in to speak on a Tallahassee radio program the night after the storm summed up the aftermath in two words: "Tore Up."

.....

Hurricane Michael slammed into the Florida Panhandle Wednesday morning, snapping huge pine trees in two and knocking power lines down like dominoes along State Road 20 in Calhoun and Liberty counties.



A tree tipped over a delivery van at the Calhoun-Liberty Journal in Bristol last Wednesday. Numerous other trees fell around and on top of the office as well as blocking the driveway. TERESA EUBANKS PHOTO

Michael grew into a Category 4 hurricane as he entered the Florida Panhandle.

Even if your property was spared, your life was put on hold as communication ceased with the rest

of the world. Cell phones and land lines went out, along with the internet and television. The folks who held on to their old portable radios had something to listen to...if they had enough fresh batteries, of course.

Law enforcement officers and emergency responders had to work around the problems, including losing the use of their police radios. Much of their job became hands-on as they wielded chain saws to clear the way.

Inside this special issue of The Calhoun-Liberty Journal we'll share the challenges law enforcement faced and show you some of the damages in our area.

And like those on duty that night, we're doing it all without electricity. At this writing, our first generator has already burned out, followed by our second one. A new one is sitting on the front porch, connected by an extension cord to a single computer inside our office on Summers Road.

If you're reading this now, you'll know the third generator lasted until our deadline.



# Jackson County Mayors have answers for 'Michael'

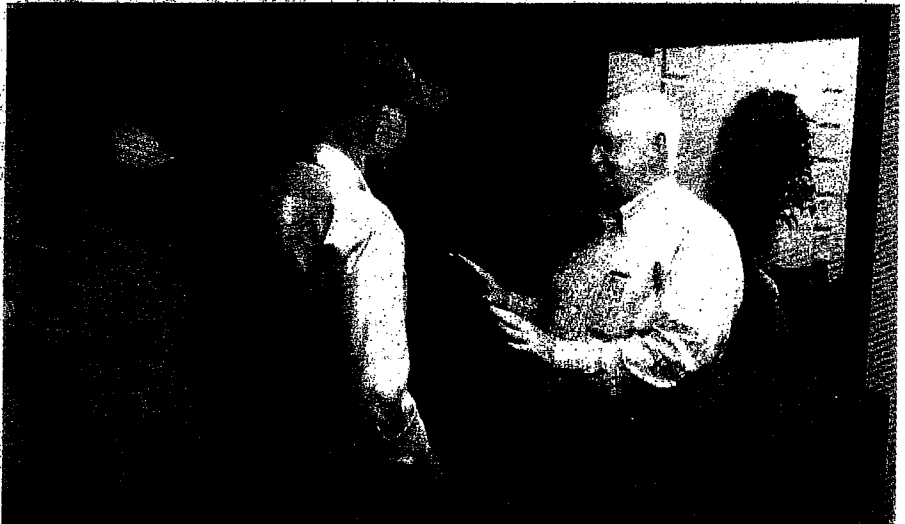


By SHELIA MADER

Storms come and go, especially hurricanes in Florida however Jackson County is blessed with mayors with longevity who waste no time getting things done for their towns. Michael wreaked havoc on our county but Malone Mayor Gene Wright, Marianna Mayor John Roberts and Grand Ridge Mayor Wayne Edenfield had an answer for Michael.

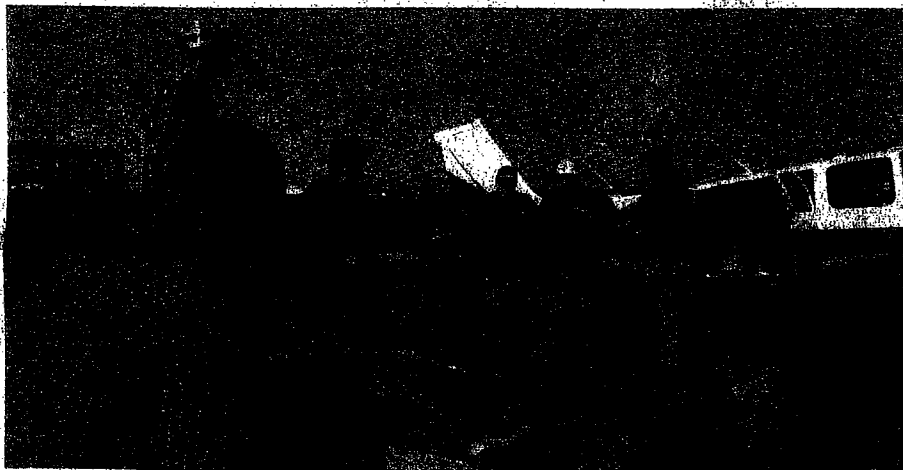
## Counties come to the aid of Malone

Mayor Gene Wright is well known throughout the panhandle and most of the state of Florida as one who gets things done. Wright's reputation of always helping others paid off big time in the aftermath of the storm. Just three days after the storm left



SHELIA MADER | TIME

Gov Scott listens to Marianna mayor John Roberts at Marianna Health and Rehab.JPG



Malone fire department unloading one of two planes bringing supplies to Malone

Jackson County, Wright, along with the Malone Volunteer Fire Department were at the Marianna Airport. There they were met with the mayor of Freeport Mayor Russ Barley and two planes loaded with supplies including food, hygiene and baby items for the residents of Malone. The planes were courtesy of Florida Volunteers Pilots with the supplies put together by Carolyn Klempeter, a former resident of Malone, Jennifer Leatherman, Toby Booth of Vero Beach and Alton Brock of Bainbridge. A convoy of 14 vehicles arrived moments later loaded with chain saws, generators, gas and tools of every description, along with volunteers to put all of those tools to use.

See **MAYORS** - A13

Wright said offers came in groves from Pensacola city commissioners, Mayor Kurvin Qualls of Jay, Mayor Bob Campbell of DeFuniak Springs, Leon County Commissioner Kirsten Dozier and Tallahassee Commissioner Gil Ziffer have made contact with Wright expressing their interest in helping his town and community.

Crestview, Cottonwood, Morgan, Alabama, Samson, Alabama, Milton, and Century have all sent supplies and well wishes to help out the citizens of Malone.

Wright, who is seldom without a smile or humor of some kind, was almost tearful and at a loss for words, "I can't tell you what it meant to me when Mayor Barley called and said he was sending not one but two planes to help us out in Malone. My people in Malone are the best anywhere and they deserve so much more than what they have right now. They're strong and they're the best though and we will all come through this. It is unbelievable the outpouring of support we have had and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts."

Within minutes the planes were unloaded onto trucks and trailers and headed to Malone with the convoy of trucks heralding equipment and workers. Once they hit Malone, the sound of chain saws filled the air while volunteers at town hall were busy unpacking and filling 'survivor' bags for pickup or delivery to those unable to pick up. Wright had volunteers willing and ready to go the extra mile for residents caught in the eye of Hurricane Michael and in immediate need for basic necessities.

Throughout the next two weeks, food was served as available from Town Hall to those who needed a meal, with meals being offer in other areas as available. Supplies were and still are available from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Malone Town Hall.

### **Edenfield went from moving mobile homes to trees**

Mayor Wayne Edenfield is no stranger to hard work and that showed big time when crews hit the streets to clean up after Michael departed. Front and center on a bulldozer was Edenfield, clearing paths on roads for citizens to be able to get to fresh water and supplies. Edenfield took no credit, as is the norm for him, working dawn to dusk to get done what needed to be done. He had a host of volunteers working right along side of him and others volunteering in other parts of Grand Ridge. The town's landscape has changed for sure, but the community has bonded and become stronger in the wake of tragedy. Hats off to the Town of Grand Ridge for their hard work and perseverance in returning their town to civilization.

### **John Roberts tours with Governor Scott**

Governor Rick Scott made a trip to Marianna last

week to tour the Marianna Health and Rehabilitation and left feeling proud of the facility. Roberts made the tour of the facility with Scott and it was evident from the smiles that everything he saw met with his approval. Scott made time to stop and visit with the residents of the facility and listened to their praises and any concerns they had. I had the opportunity to meet with Governor Scott while he was there. He praised the efforts of the staff and the facility as a whole, "I found this facility in great shape, the residents were happy and very well taken care of, with the staff extremely helpful and well organized." When asked about Sunland Center, Scott said, "It is a very special place that has overcome many obstacles, very caring staff there." Roberts stayed in close contact with all city and county managers and commissioners throughout the storm.

**From:** Governor's Press Office <Governor'sPressOffice@eog.myflorida.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 30, 2018 3:58 PM

**Subject:** Gov. Scott Announces Nearly \$30 Million in Awards for Florida Job Growth Grant Fund Projects



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
October 30, 2018

**CONTACT: GOVERNOR'S PRESS OFFICE**  
(850) 717-9282  
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### **Gov. Scott Announces Nearly \$30 Million in Awards for FL Job Growth Grant Fund Projects**

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla.** – Today, Governor Rick Scott announced eight awards for \$28.6 million in funding from the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund. The Florida Job Growth Grant Fund, established by Governor Scott and the Florida Legislature last year, provides funding for improving public infrastructure and enhancing workforce training in Florida. Since this July, the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) has received more than 90 proposals requesting more than \$531 million in funding. Today's announcement reflects a total of more than \$113 million in funding awarded to 41 communities across the state since the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund was established. In total, through the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund, more than \$39 million has been awarded to 15 rural communities.

Governor Scott said, "The Florida Job Growth Grant Fund supports job growth through projects that allow communities to meet the changing infrastructure and workforce needs for their regions, encouraging business to invest and expand in Florida, which means more opportunities for Florida families. More than \$113 million has already been awarded to promote strong economic development in 41 communities across our state, and we are excited to continue to grow Florida's economy – which has already created more than 1.6 million jobs since December 2010."

#### **The eight awarded projects include:**

- **Columbia County** (\$10,200,000) for the construction of a wastewater treatment plant which will serve the North Florida Mega Industrial Park, nearby correctional facilities, Florida Gateway Airport, Florida Gateway College and other areas east of Lake City.
- **Hardee County Industrial Development Authority** (\$2,360,000) to provide water and sewer infrastructure for the development of an additional 20 lots of land within Hardee County Commerce Park, which will make the area more attractive for manufacturing companies looking for new locations.

- **Indian River State College** (\$1,530,000) to address the workforce gap in the marine and aeronautical manufacturing sectors by implementing successful training models and providing students with on-the-job training that aligns with the current supply and demand of jobs.
- **Jackson County** (\$5,880,000) to redevelop the Arthur G. Dozier School for Boys campus into a regional distribution and manufacturing center, including a state center of excellence for Autism Spectrum Disorder transition training.
- **Melbourne Airport Authority** (\$4,000,000) to design and construct an enclosure structure at the Orlando Melbourne International Airport to serve as a noise barrier for aircraft engine testing, attract new clients within the aviation industry and meet the needs of current airport tenants.
- **Pasco County Sheriff's Office** (\$1,800,000) to develop the Florida Forensic Institute for Research, Security and Tactics, a state-of-the-art law enforcement training center complex that will offer cutting-edge training to transform public safety through research, education and innovation.
- **School District of Indian River** (\$532,000) to expand the School District of Indian River County's Technical Center for Career and Adult Education's program offerings to include welding technologies, building construction technologies, commercial and culinary arts.
- **South Florida State College** (\$2,296,895) to support the development of jobs in three areas: (1) an expansion of an advanced manufacturing curriculum where students will pursue courses designed for mechanists and industrial maintenance; (2) the creation of a construction institute aimed at providing programs in basic building trades and residential construction; and (3) a program for veterans and transitioning military personnel to be trained as electronic warfare technicians to fill a need for Florida's defense-based industries.

These proposals were reviewed by DEO, Enterprise Florida (EFI) and chosen by Governor Scott based on their strong return on investment to the state and to meet the demand for a robust workforce or infrastructure needs. Return on investment was calculated to determine the best projects for the state and economic development in the regions.

Cissy Proctor, Executive Director of DEO, said, "The Florida Job Growth Grant continues to make Florida a top competitor for attracting businesses to our state. We are proud to support regional projects that strengthen our skilled workforce and provide necessary infrastructure to support Florida businesses, families and communities."

Peter Antonacci, CEO of Enterprise Florida, Inc. said, "By investing in these projects, Florida has committed to developing a stronger workforce and expansive infrastructure that will help create new jobs for Floridians and provide more opportunity for communities to succeed. Enterprise Florida's Board of Directors will continue to make sure Florida remains the number one destination for business."

For more information about the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund, visit [www.FloridaJobs.org/JobGrowth](http://www.FloridaJobs.org/JobGrowth).



### RPC Director Honored with Award

Michael Busha, Executive Director of the Treasure Coast RPC, was honored with a Lifetime Service Award at the recent Annual Conference of the Florida Chapter of the American Planning Association. Mr. Busha, pictured with Laura Everitt, was given this award in recognition of his contributions to the planning profession at the local, regional, state and national levels. Mr. Busha has been with the Treasure Coast RPC for more than 37 years, advocating on behalf of communities in Indian River, Martin, Palm Beach and St. Lucie counties. He will be retiring this November.



LOCAL  
**KNOWLEDGE**  
REGIONAL  
**SOLUTIONS**  
STATEWIDE  
**IMPACT**

## Tampa Bay RPC Hosts Economic Modeling REMI Training

On September 24th & 25th the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council hosted a two-day course on the economic development modeling program, REMI PI+, for regional planning councils around the state. Eight RPCs attended the training led by staff from the East Central Florida, North Central Florida and Tampa Bay RPCs. Economic Development planners from across the state were able to discuss, share ideas and help each other better understand the REMI PI+ model.



The REMI Model is based on an extensive record of peer-reviewed articles in publications such as the Journal of Regional Science, the American Economic Review, and the Review of Economics and Statistics. REMI has been used in thousands of policy evaluations and was used to predict a close correlation between the simulated effects and the actual outcome of large-scale economic shocks caused by Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

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### RPCs Attend Rural Transportation Planning Peer Exchange

On August 29-30th the Apalachee, Central Florida, North Central Florida and West Florida Regional Planning Councils were invited to attend and participate with a Peer Exchange focused on Rural Transportation Planning convened by the Federal Highway Administration and the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). The FDOT convened staff from the state Departments of Transportation of Michigan, North Carolina, Ohio, Texas, Virginia and Washington as well as the National Association of Development Organizations, the North Central Pennsylvania Regional Planning and Development Commission, and the Heartland Regional Transportation Planning Organization in Florida. The purpose of the Peer Exchange was to learn how rural transportation planning is conducted in other states and how their missions differ and are similar. The FDOT is conducting a study of best practices in rural transportation planning and input gathered from this convening will be included in the data collection phase of the study.

Regional planning councils in Florida are involved in transportation planning in various capacities. Some RPCs staff Metropolitan Planning Organizations known as MPOs or TPOs, while others staff transportation disadvantaged planning agencies. All regional planning councils maintain Strategic Regional Policy Plans which address regional transportation.

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Apalachee • Central Florida  
East Central Florida • North Central Florida  
Northeast Florida • South Florida • Southwest Florida  
Tampa Bay • Treasure Coast • West Florida

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## MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT: September 2018

### RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT/CAPACITY BUILDING and OUTREACH

- Organized and distributed the August 2018 Florida Regional Councils Association (FRCA) Newsletter, *FRCA Forward*. Began collecting articles and formatting the September 2018 Newsletter. Continued to update the FRCA Facebook page.
- Continued to update and maintain the email listserv for the more than 2,500 individuals who receive *FRCA Forward*.
- Continued to work with the Florida Association of Counties to maintain and enhance the FRCA website: [www.flregionalcouncils.org](http://www.flregionalcouncils.org).
- To enhance partnerships and strengthen the relationship between regional planning councils and their state and federal partners, participated in or attended the following meetings and shared information:
  - Florida Department of Transportation Bicycle/Pedestrian Summit
  - Rural Economic Development Initiative Meeting
  - 2018 Future of Florida Forum
- Attended the Florida Chapter of the American Planning Association Annual Conference and moderated a panel on resiliency.

### ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT

- Prepared for and participated in the September 27<sup>th</sup> Executive Directors Advisory Committee (EDAC) and Partners Meetings held in conjunction with the Future of Florida Forum.
- Continue to coordinate logistics for the 2019 meeting schedule.
- Distributed grant opportunities and information of interest from local, state and national organizations.

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