

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Washington County, Florida
Public Community Meeting
Sand Hills Baptist Church, Chipley, FL 32428**

DISTRICT 1	DISTRICT 2	DISTRICT 3	DISTRICT 4	DISTRICT 5
Alan Bush	Charles Kent	Tray Hawkins Chairman	Todd Abbott Vice-Chairman	Steve Joyner

The following persons were present:

Chairman Tray Hawkins

Vice-Chairman Todd Abbott

Commissioner Charles Kent

Commissioner Steve Joyner

Also present were County Administrator Jeff Massey, Finance Director, Johnnie Pettis, and Deputy Clerk Risha Brantley.

I. WELCOME

II. INTRODUCTION OF GUEST

- Northwest Florida Water Management Division
- Florida Division of Emergency Management
- Washington County Clerk's Staff
- Wheeler Emergency Management
- Washington County Emergency Management
- Washington County Administrator
- Washington County Public Works Supervisor
- Washington County Human Resources
- Washington County Grants Department
- County Engineer

- Congressman Dunn's Representative
- Senator Gainer's Representative

III. MEETING HIGHLIGHTS/COMMENTS

- Buy-Out Program – The program is reimbursable. The state is covering 75% and disaster recovery funding is covering the remaining 25%. The first buy-out program is closed.
- Purchased Property – Once the property is purchased, it turns into green space. It reverts to the county's ownership. The commissioners approved to deed some property to the municipality that it lies in, but it always must be used for green space.
- Demolition – The extension request will not prevent the purchase of homes. The septic tank and the well must be closed out on the property and all debris will be removed.
- Value of Property – The 2018 pre-Hurricane Michael evaluation of the home is how the determination of the value of the property was figured.
- List – The order of the buy-out list is subject to change. The first people on the list are those who were displaced immediately. Another determining factor is the county budget.
- Emergency Management Plan – Approval to apply for a grant has been given to look at updating the plan for disaster housing. The current plan is from 2008 and it hasn't been feasible. Catholic Charities have assisted, mosquito control will be going to the flooded areas to determine what abatement is needed, Shepherds Gate Church and Care and Share Food Pantry does food giveaways, and Tri-County Community Council aids with utility bills and will assist, with first month's rent based on their guidelines, and they also assist with Hurricane Michael repairs.

Washington County Emergency Management uses Alert Washington, Facebook, Washington County Sheriff's Facebook page, and the Washington County webpage for communication.

- Next Door App and the Sunny Hills bulletin board are a source of communication used by the Sunny Hills community.
- Spikes Road – Chairman Hawkins advised that meetings would continue with Water Management until there is a resolution.
- 911 Addresses – People who are having to use other properties as an inlet and exit to their property should provide that address as a temporary address.
- Wages Pond Road/Dog 24 – Public works and Water Management are working on Dog 24 regularly.
- Ratcliff and Childress – Childress needs to be graded and needs dead-end or road underwater signs.
- Rolling Pines Road – The road is a one-lane road.
- Ratcliff Hill – One-lane Road signs need to be put up.
- Rolling Pines – The road was damaged during Hurricane Michael. There are FEMA funds to repair and mitigate the damage. It can't be repaired at this time because of the water.
- Isolation Shelter – The county is currently working on an isolation shelter at the equestrian center, which would be available for issues like the ones being discussed now.
- Contract – After signing, there is a 30-day window to move from the damaged property.
- Property Tax – Taxes will be taken up at closing if you are in the HMGP Buy-Out Program.
- Water Test – The health department should be contacted for a water test.

Chairman Hawkins advised that he intends to research the matter and post what information that he finds.

- Moratorium – There was a suggestion to implement a moratorium on cutting trees until the flooding is figured out.
- Sunny Hills Water – There are septic tanks underneath that water. There is a strong smell near some of the houses. The water needs to be tested.
- Deerpoint – Check to see if the flood gates are open and if that affects the levels of the water.
- Department of Transportation – Contact Jason Williams, Project Manager for SR 77.
- Childress and Ratcliff – Install a culvert where ditches were dug. The driveway was left without a culvert. The water comes down and jumps across and continues to wash it out.
- Communications Liaison – Appoint a communications person for the flood group.

IV. CURRENT PROGRAMS AVAILABLE

- FMA – This annual program requires the applicant to have flood insurance.
- BRICK PROGRAM – The pot of money isn't as big as the flooding program. Flood insurance isn't required for this annual program.

V. ADJOURN