

**JUNE 25, 2012**

**PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA**

**EMERGENCY MEETING**

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners met this date in emergency session with the following members present: Chairman William C. Williams, III, Vice Chairman Tan Smiley, and Commissioners Carmen L. McLemore, Ward McDaniel, and Warren J. Yeager, Jr.

Others present were: County Attorney Jeremy Novak, Clerk Rebecca L. Norris, Deputy Clerk Kari Summers, Chief Administrator Don Butler, Assistant Administrator Michael Hammond, Deputy Administrator Lynn Lanier, Deputy Administrator Brett Lowry, Building Official Lee Collinsworth, Building Inspector George Knight, Emergency Management Director Marshall Nelson, Emergency Medical Services Director Houston Whitfield, E9-1-1 Coordinator Ben Guthrie, G.I.S. Coordinator Scott Warner, Grant Writer Towan Kopinsky, Mosquito Control Director Mark Cothran, Planner David Richardson, Preble Rish Engineer Clay Smallwood, Public Works Director Joe Danford, Public Works Director Jake Lewis, Sheriff Joe Nugent, and T.D.C. Director Jennifer Jenkins.

Chairman Williams called the meeting to order at 10:25 a.m., E.T.

### **TROPICAL STORM DEBBY**

Emergency Management Director Nelson gave an update on Tropical Storm Debby, stating the National Weather Forecast Service is now pushing the storm more to the East; probably around Dixie County. He reported there are approximately 1,300 people without power throughout the County, stating that Gulf Coast Electric Cooperative and Progress Energy are working diligently to restore power. Upon inquiry by Commissioner Yeager, Emergency Management Director Nelson recommended the Board declare a Local State of Emergency. Commissioner Yeager motioned to approve this recommendation. Commissioner Smiley seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Emergency Management Director Nelson discussed the storm surges, stating they have diminished to around 2 to 3 feet on top of the tide. He noted the winds should be diminishing, and the chance of tornados is less likely than before. Emergency Management Director Nelson reported rain fall up to 4 ½ inches at the E.O.C. Commissioner Yeager discussed the ongoing construction at the Stumphole area and reported they have had some issues there but the Berm has been built back with some of the rock that had been previously excavated, and have additional rock coming in.

Chairman Williams called for public comment.

City of Port St. Joe Mayor Mel Magidson discussed the erosion around the lighthouse, stating they have loss anywhere from 6 -10 feet more. He noted they have closed that area at this time to keep everyone out.

Upon inquiry by Sheriff Nugent concerning the rivers, Emergency Management Director Nelson reported there will be a little rise on the Chipola River. He stated what we will receive in the Flint River Basin and the Apalachicola River Basin is very minimal. Mr. Nelson noted Blountstown reading is less than a half a foot, having dropped since yesterday. Sheriff Nugent thanked the fire departments and Public Works for their assistance in getting the down trees removed from the roadways.

Chairman Williams recommended the Public Information Officer be a shared roll with T.D.C. Director Jennifer Jenkins handling the external component, and Deputy Administrator Brett Lowry handling the internal. The Board had no objection to this recommendation.

There being no further business, and upon motion by Commissioner Smiley, the meeting did then adjourn at 10:35 a.m., E.T.

**WILLIAM C. WILLIAMS, III**  
**CHAIRMAN**

**ATTEST:**  
**REBECCA L. NORRIS**  
**CLERK**