

**THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS' MEETING**

The Board of Commissioners of Effingham County, Georgia, Mr. C. D. Zeigler, Chairman, Mr. Reginald S. Loper, Sr., Vice-Chairman, Mr. Robert Brantley, Mrs. Vera Jones, Mr. Steve Mason, and Mr. Phil Kieffer met in regular session at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 15, 2011 in the Commissioners' Meeting Room at the Effingham County Administrative Complex.

**PERSONS ATTENDING THE MEETING**

Ms. Elizabeth Pavlis, County Attorney, Mr. David Crawley, County Administrator, Mr. Adam Kobek, Director of Community Relations, Mr. George Shaw, Zoning Administrator, Mrs. Patrice R. Crawley, County Clerk, Mrs. Joanna Wright, Finance Director, Ms. G.G. Rigsby, Mrs. Ruth Lee, Ms. Morgan Love, Mr. Richard Hall, Mr. Troy Davis, Mrs. Irma Davis, Mrs. Beth Mosley, Mr. Travis Bazemore, Mr. Darrell O'Neal, Mr. Joe White, Mrs. Mary White, Mr. Michael Cornaire, Mrs. Jennifer Cornaire, Mrs. Toni Cowart, and Mr. Ed Beaty.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Zeigler called the meeting to order.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG**

Chairman Zeigler gave the invocation and led the Pledge to the American Flag.

**AGENDA APPROVAL**

Vice-Chairman Loper made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Chairman Zeigler stated that all correspondence for the Board of Commissioners is kept in the County Clerk's office, and anyone who is interested in viewing these may do so in this office.

**MINUTES**

Commissioner Brantley made a motion to approve the minutes for November 01, 2011 Board Meeting. Vice-Chairman Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chairman Zeigler stated that if anyone would like to discuss an Agenda Item, they may do so when that item is presented.

**APPEARANCE**

**PROBATE JUDGE BETH MOSLEY:** Judge Mosley explained that a new carry license program will begin on January 1, 2012. The new license shall incorporate overt and covert security features which shall be blended with personal data printed on the license to form a significant barrier to imitation, replication, and duplication. The cost to create these licenses is going to go up and the Probate Court will have to fund these mandated cost.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE HUNT INSURANCE GROUP, LLC FOR SPECIFIC STOP LOSS COVERAGE AT THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY JAIL (01):** Director of Community Relations Kobek explained that the County has maintained a catastrophic insurance policy for many years. The policy covers major medical expenses on incarcerated individuals not under state custody. State sentenced inmates are covered by the state after the first \$1,000. County inmates are the County's responsibility. The County has been using a policy underwritten by the Hunt Group for the past several years. This item was tabled at the October meeting to see if other providers offered this coverage and to obtain a quote. Staff and Larry Hadden have been unable to locate another service provider.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve agreement with the Hunt Insurance Group, LLC for specific stop loss coverage at the Effingham County Jail with the \$30,000 deductible option (see minute book page \_\_\_\_\_). Vice-Chairman Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A SPECIAL ENCROACHMENT PERMIT AND RIGHT OF WAY MOWING AND MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT WITH THE GEORGIA**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR STATE ROUTE 21 (02):** Civil Engineer Allen explained that since Georgia Department of Transportation only mows the grass adjacent to the state routes twice a year the Board has expressed a desire to maintain a portion of State Route 21 from the Effingham County line to the City of Rincon's City Limits.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve a special encroachment permit and right of way mowing and maintenance agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation for State Route 21 (see minute book page \_\_\_\_\_). Vice-Chairman Loper seconded the motion. Chairman Zeigler and Commissioner Mason opposed the motion. Vice-Chairman Loper, Commissioner Brantley, Commissioner Jones, and Commissioner Kieffer voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

**CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE FILING THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF NEAL KESSLER ON THE TAX ASSESSOR BOARD (03):** County Clerk Crawley explained that Neal Kessler was appointed to the Board of Tax Assessors and did not fulfill his term. Vice-Chairman Loper would like to appoint Bonnie Gnann to fill the unexpired term of Neal Kessler. If appointed, Ms. Gnann's term will expire March, 2012.

Vice-Chairman Loper made a motion to approve appointing Bonnie Gnann to fill the unexpired term of Neal Kessler. Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2011 (01):** Finance Director Wright explained that a second budget amendment for year ending June 30, 2011 is needed to present a balanced budget by department in order to comply with Georgia Law.

Vice-Chairman Loper made a motion to approve the second budget amendment for Year ending June 30, 2011 (see minute book page \_\_\_\_\_). Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT WITH THE COASTAL GEORGIA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL ON THE AGING SERVICES CONTRACT (02):** Finance Director Wright explained that each year the County renews a

contract with the Coastal Georgia Regional Development Center to be the provider of Aging Services to our senior citizens in Effingham County. Amendment 2012-08.1 provides for an increase in funding for the meals our Senior Citizens Center provides.

Commissioner Brantley made a motion to approve the amendment with the Coastal Georgia Regional Development Council on the Aging Services Contract (see minute book page \_\_\_\_\_). Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE RIDER WITH ADT FOR ACCESS CONTROL AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLEX (03):** Director of Community Relations Kobek explained that access control has been discussed at the Administrative Complex for some time. It was recommended that a door be installed at the main entrance lobby where all public traffic would access the building. This rider is to have installed a kantech card reader access control devise that will allow access to staff and personnel without keys. The cost of the equipment and installation is \$909.95.

Commissioner Brantley made a motion to approve the rider with ADT for access control at the administrative complex (see minute book page \_\_\_\_\_). Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSIDERATION TO DENY BIBLE LUTHERAN CHURCH WATER AND SEWER SERVICES (04):** County Engineer Liotta explained that Bible Lutheran Church request the County to deny the church connection to County water and sewer. Since no houses have yet been constructed in Blandford Crossing, the infrastructure is not being used. County and State ordinance's state that if water and sewer services are reasonably available, the project must tie onto the infrastructure.

EMC Engineer Travis Bazemore stated that it would not be feasible for the church to tie onto the sewer system and request that the Board deny them service so that the Health Department will permit an onsite system.

Mr. Jimmy Helmeley was present to answer any question for Bible Lutheran Church.

Vice-Chairman Loper made a motion to deny Bible Lutheran sewer services due to the force main line not being available. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Chairman Zeigler opposed the motion. Vice-Chairman Loper, Commissioners Brantley, Jones, Mason and Kieffer voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

**DIRECTION ON THE BID RESULTS FOR THE GOSHEN PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING**

**(05):** Director of Community Relations explained that Board purchased a lot off of Goshen Road with a functioning will. The intended use of the property has been to construct a facility which will house a fire station, EMS and Sheriff's substation. The RFQ/RFP was publicly advertised and 11 responses were received. The project budget was 1.35 million. All bids received were above the project budget. State law dictates that the Board can negotiate with the apparent low bidder, redesign and rebid or may choose not to move forward with the project. Staff is requesting direction from the Board on how to proceed with the Goshen Public Safety Building.

Direction was given to staff to negotiate with the lowest bidder and notify the ten other companies that responded that they are not the lowest bidder.

**CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A RADAR PERMIT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (06):** County Clerk Crawley explained that in order for the Sheriff's Department to run radar on County Roads, the Board must approve the speed ordinance as presented from Georgia Department of Transportation.

Vice-Chairman Loper made a motion to approve a radar permit with the Department of Transportation (see minute book page \_\_\_\_\_). Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE SERVICE DELIVERY WORKSHEETS (07):** County Attorney Pavlis explained that the Service Delivery Strategy worksheets was filled out and presented to the Cities and the City of Rincon had some concerns about the wording.

Vice-Chairman Loper made a motion to table the service delivery worksheet. Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE CANCELING THE DECEMBER 20, 2011 BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING (08):** County Administrator Crawley explained that the Board has discussed having only one regular business meeting in December. Due to the Commissioners and Staff schedules for the month of December, it would appear to be more appropriate to hold only the December 6<sup>th</sup> regularly scheduled meeting.

Vice-Chairman Loper made a motion to approve canceling the December 20, 2011 Board of Commissioners meeting. Chairman Zeigler seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

Commissioner Brantley discussed the following:

- ◆ Veterans' plaques – How long does it take to get a plaque put up? County Clerk Crawley to get with Mrs. Ruth Lee.

Commissioner Jones discussed the following:

- ◆ Article in the Savannah Morning Paper concerning Natural Gas tax

Vice-Chairman Loper discussed the following:

- ◆ Completion of Log Landing Road – Civil Engineer Allen stated that they are supposed to pour the asphalt on Thursday of this week.

Commissioner Mason discussed the following:

- ◆ Roads in the County that need to be graded – spoke with Public Works Director Tucker and he has handled this issue

County Clerk Crawley discussed the following:

- ◆ Reminder that the forums will be held November 29 at 6:00 p.m. at the Career Academy

County Administrator Crawley discussed the following:

- ◆ Ash road repairs – field trials
- ◆ Tourism Assessment went well
- ◆ ACCG LOST Negotiations Seminar will be held Thursday, December 1st
- ◆ Quarterly Local Elected Officials Meeting will be scheduled in February
- ◆ Workshops – to be held over the next several meetings
- ◆ The Sheriff requested ordinance on the regulation of gold sales
- ◆ Verna Phillips would like to thank the Board for resurfacing Chimney Road

Civil Engineer Allen discussed the following:

- ◆ Old Augusta Road bids have been received
- ◆ DOT is investigating the safety issues at the intersection of Blue Jay Road and Hwy 17

**PLANNING BOARD PRESENTMENTS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**JOE L. WHITE – PUBLIC HEARING (01):** A Public Hearing was held on the application by Joe L. White to rezone 4.50 acres located at 365 Ohoopie Avenue from AR-1 to AR-2 Map 330 Parcel 14 located in the First District.

Zoning Administrator Shaw presented the request.

There were no objectors present.

Commissioner Brantley made a motion to approve the First Reading to amend Zoning Map 330 Parcel 14 for an application by Joe L. White to rezone 4.50 acres located at 365 Ohoopée Avenue from AR-1 to AR-2 with the following stipulations:

1. Each lot shall meet requirements of the AR-2 Zoning District
2. Site Development plans shall comply with the Effingham County Water Resources Protection Ordinance and the Storm Water Management Local Design Manual
3. All wetland impacts shall be permitted by the USACE
4. Subdivision plat shall be approved by the Health Department and the Zoning Office

Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**JENNIFER AND MICHAEL CORNAIRE – PUBLIC HEARING (02):** A Public Hearing was held on the application by Jennifer & Michael Cornaire for a variance on the property line setback located at 507 Shearouse Road Map 398 and Parcel 10 located in the First District.

Zoning Administrator Shaw presented the request.

Mrs. Jennifer Cornaire, Mr. Michael Cornaire, and Mrs. Toni Cowart were present to answer any questions.

There were no objectors present.

Commissioner Brantley made a motion to approve the First Reading to amend Zoning Map 398 Parcel 10 for an application by Jennifer and Michael Cornaire for a variance on the property line setback located at 507 Shearouse Road.

Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**JAMES T. CAMERON – PUBLIC HEARING (03):** A Public Hearing was held on the application by James T. Cameron to rezone 5.65 acres located at 476 Honey Ridge Road from AR-2 to AR-1 Map 296 Parcel 37 located in the Second District.

Zoning Administrator Shaw presented the request.

There were no objectors present.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the First Reading to amend Zoning Map 296 Parcel 37 for an application by James T. Cameron to rezone 5.65 acres located at 476 Honey Ridge Road from AR-2 to AR-1 with the following stipulations:

1. Each lot shall meet requirements of the AR-1 Zoning District
2. Site Development plans shall comply with the Effingham County Water Resources Protection Ordinance and the Storm Water Management Local Design Manual
3. All wetland impacts shall be permitted by the USACE
4. Subdivision plat shall be approved by the Health Department and the Zoning Office

Commissioner Mason seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**BEATY CONSTRUCTION – PUBLIC HEARING (02):** A Public Hearing was held on the application by Beaty Construction Company, LLC for a conditional use to have a church occupy the facility located at 131 Commercial Court Map 465D Parcel 16 located in the Fifth District.

Zoning Administrator Shaw presented the request.

There were no objectors present.

Commissioner Kieffer made a motion to approve the First Reading to amend Zoning Map 465D Parcel 16 for an application by Beaty Construction Company, LLC for a conditional use to have a church occupy the facility located at 131 Commercial Court

Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:30 p.m., Chairman Zeigler made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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C. D. Zeigler, Chairman

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Patrice R. Crawley, County Clerk