

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, March 06, 2012 in the Commissioners' Meeting Room at the Effingham County Administrative Complex.

PERSONS ATTENDING THE MEETING

Mr. Eric Gotwalt, County Attorney, Mr. David Crawley, County Administrator, Mr. Adam Kobek, Community Relations Director, Mr. Toss Allen Civil Engineer, Mrs. Patrice R. Crawley, County Clerk, Mrs. Joanna Wright, Finance Director, Mr. Mack Thompson, Mr. A. Blake Johnson, Mrs. Elaine Spencer, Mr. David Grandgeorge, Ms. G. G. Rigsby, Mrs. Irma Davis, and Mr. Phillip King.

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

Commissioner Jones stepped down.

Commissioner Mason made a motion to add to the Agenda New Business Number 6 – Consideration of D. M. Jones request for reimbursement at the March 20th Board of Commissioners meeting. Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion. Chairman Zeigler opposed the motion. Vice-Chairman Loper, Commissioners Brantley, Mason, and Kieffer voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

Commissioner Jones resumed her seat.

MINUTES

Vice-Chairman Loper made a motion to approve the minutes for February 21, 2012 meeting. Chairman Zeigler 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.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Zeigler read out loud the Consent Agenda Items. Commissioner Loper made a motion to approve:

(01) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE ERRORS AND RELEASES FOR PROPERTY TAX AS SUBMITTED BY THE TAX COMMISSIONER;

(02) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE ERRORS AND RELEASES FOR MOBILE HOME TAX AS SUBMITTED BY THE TAX COMMISSIONER;

(03) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE SECOND READING TO AMEND MAP AND PARCEL NUMBER 396-28,28A FOR REZONING 4.90 ACRES FROM AR-1 TO AR-2 LOCATED AT 237 NEASE ROAD WITH THE FOLLOWING STIPULATIONS:

1. Each lot shall meet the requirements of the AR-2 Zoning District.
2. Site development plans shall comply with the Effingham County 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.

(04) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE SECOND READING TO AMEND MAP AND PARCEL NUMBER 435G-10 FOR REZONING OF 4.30 ACRES FROM AR-1 TO AR-2 LOCATED AT 1569 HODGEVILLE ROAD WITH THE FOLLOWING STIPULATIONS:

1. Each lot shall meet the requirements of the AR-2 Zoning District.
2. Site development plans shall comply with the Effingham County 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.

(05) CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE SECOND READING TO AMEND MAP AND PARCEL NUMBER 340-28 FOR REZONING OF 2.52 ACRES FROM AR-1 TO AR-2 LOCATED ON GREEN MORGAN SCHOOL ROAD WITH THE FOLLOWING STIPULATIONS:

1. Each lot shall meet the requirements of the AR-2 Zoning District.
2. Site development plans shall comply with the Effingham County 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 Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE EFFINGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO CONTINUE TO SERVE AS THE FISCAL AGENT FOR EFFINGHAM FAMILY CONNECTIONS/COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS (01): Family Connection Coordinator Spencer and Family Connection Chair Grandgeorge explained that Family Connection would like for the Board of Commissioners to continue as the fiscal agent for Family Connections and Communities in Schools.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve Effingham County Board of Commissioners to continue to serve as the fiscal agent for Effingham Family Connections/Communities in School (see minute book page _____).

Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE REQUEST BY FLINT RIVER SERVICES, INC. TO RELEASE THE PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX PENALTIES (02): Chief Tax Appraiser Bevill explained that her office audited Flint River around July and sent them an assessment notice correction. Only the Board of Commissioners can release the assessed penalties.

Commissioner Brantley made a motion to table this item until March 20th so that an invitation for Flint River to come and speak to this matter. 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.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A QUOTE FOR REMOUNTS OF TWO AMBULANCE MODULES (03): Purchasing Agent Morris and EMS Director McDuffie explained that staff is seeking to remount two ambulance modules onto new chassis.

Vice-Chairman Loper made a motion to approve accepting the quote from State-Line and proceed with re-mounting on Chevrolet chassis. Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT AND NOTICE TO PROCEED WITH LAVENDER CONSTRUCTION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF GOSHEN STATION

(04): Community Relations Director Kobek explained that the Board authorized construction documents for the Goshen Station early 2011. Plans were completed and the project was bid in late 2011. The apparent low bidder was Lavender Construction and all bids received were higher than the anticipated project budget. At the Board's November 2011 meeting, direction was given to negotiate a final price with Lavender. Value Engineering options were approved by the Board in January 2012 and are included in the contract price.

Commissioner Kieffer made a motion to table the contract and notice to proceed with Lavender Construction for the Construction of Goshen Station. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Chairman Zeigler, Vice-Chairman Loper, Commissioner Brantley and Commissioner Mason opposed the motion. The motion died.

Vice-Chairman Loper made a motion to approve the contract and notice to proceed with Lavender Construction for the Construction of Goshen Station (see minute book page _____). Commissioners Jones and Kieffer opposed the motion. Chairman Zeigler, Vice-Chairman Loper, Commissioners Brantley and Mason voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE SENDING A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE MARS THEATRE GRANT OFFERED BY THE FOX THEATRE INSTITUTE (05): Community Relations Director Kobek explained that The Springfield Revitalization Corporation is submitting a grant for funding for the Mars Theatre renovation and the grant requests a letter of support from surrounding governments. The Coastal Regional Commission is assisting with the grant writing and requested that the County execute a letter of support.

Commissioner Kieffer made a motion to approve sending a letter of support for the Mars Theatre Grant offered by the Fox Theatre Institute. Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

ADDITION TO THE AGENDA

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE VOTING ON D.M. JONES REQUEST AT THE MARCH 20th MEETING (06): Commissioner Jones stepped down. Commissioner Mason made a motion to approve voting on D.M. Jones request at the March

20th meeting. Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion. Chairman Zeigler opposed the motion. Vice-Chairman Loper, Commissioners Brantley, Mason, and Kieffer voted in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

WORKSHOP

SHORT TERM WORK PROGRAM (STWP): Community Relations Director Kobek explained that the only difference in the information from the last meeting was addition of full financial plan and projects broken out by priority. The STWP was created to serve as a master planning document which will assist with planning and the allocation of funding. Each project will still be required to be formally allocated each year in the budget process, no guarantee that projects will be funded or completed, and projects will be re-evaluated each year and priorities, finances and projects are subject to change.

WATER AND SEWER DEBT: Finance Director Wright presented to the Board water and sewer restructuring plan.

SURPLUS PROPERTY: County Administrator Crawley presented to the Board two options on handling surplus property. (1) Declare property surplus and advertise either through sealed bids or by auction. (2) Transfer select properties to another governmental entity that has the ability to work through agents to market property and review offers.

Commissioner Brantley left the meeting.

JAIL FINANCING: County Administrator Crawley explained that if there were no objections, staff was going to go ahead and move with the financing of the jail.

REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Commissioner Jones discussed the following:

- ◆ Would like another copy of the budget calendar and plans on attending all of the budget meetings.

Chairman Zeigler discussed the following:

- ◆ Savannah feed the hungry program

Commissioner Mason discussed the following:

- ◆ Local participation

Commissioner Kieffer discussed the following:

- ◆ Would like to honor a citizen of Effingham County for the charity work they do

County Administrator Crawley discussed the following:

- ◆ IDA will be holding strategic planning workshops
- ◆ City of Springfield Presentation with SCAD on establishment of a Historic Preservation District in Springfield
- ◆ SCAD would like to shoot a movie for a school project in the Historic Courthouse on the weekend of April 20-22
- ◆ On-call service quotes were requested on plumbing, electrical, and HVAC. The response was low. Board suggested to readvertise.
- ◆ County Attorney Gotwalt would like to send a letter to Old Augusta Group, Inc. concerning water and wastewater.

ADDITION TO THE AGENDA

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve adding New Business 07 – Consideration to approve authorizing County Attorney Gotwalt to send a letter to Attorney Susan Cox concerning Grandview to the Agenda. Vice-Chairman Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried.

CONTINUED – COMMITTEE REPORTS

- ◆ House Bill 811- addressing the redirection of dedicate fees
- ◆ House Bill 397 – proposed changes to the Georgia’s Open Meeting and Open Records Law
- ◆ Rincon annexation request of Webb Animal Property
- ◆ Sunday Sales referendum is on the ballot

ADDITION TO THE AGENDA

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE AUTHORIZING COUNTY ATTORNEY GOTWALT TO SEND A LETTER TO ATTORNEY SUSAN COX CONCERNING GRANDVIEW WATER AND SEWER (07): Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve authorizing County Attorney Gotwalt to send a letter to attorney Susan Cox concerning Grandview water and sewer. Vice-Chairman Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:26 p.m., Chairman Zeigler made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

C. D. Zeigler, Chairman

Patrice R. Crawley, County Clerk