

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, August 21, 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, Ms. Rushe Hudzinski-Sero, Human Resources Director, Mrs. Joanna Wright, Finance Director, Mr. Tim Mathews, Mr. J. C. Garvin, Mr. Franklin Goldwire, Mr. Chris Wood, Mrs. Tammy Wilkes, Mr. Chip Wilkes, Mr. Gary G. Wilkes, Sr., Ms. Shirley Fail, and Mr. Ricky Fail.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Zeigler called the regular meeting to order.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

Chairman Zeigler gave the invocation and the pledge to the American Flag.

AGENDA APPROVAL

County Administrator Crawley explained that a written notice is required to be delivered to the cities no later than September 1, 2012 for any county that desires to have an excise tax on energy used for manufacturing.

Vice-Chairman Loper made a motion to approve the Agenda with the addition to new business number 11 – Consideration to approve providing written notice to each of the three cities concerning an excise tax on energy used for manufacturing. Commissioner Brantley 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 interested in viewing these may do so in this office.

MINUTES

Commissioner Brantley made a motion to approve the minutes for the August 7, 2012. Vice-Chairman Loper seconded the motion. Chairman Zeigler abstained. The motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

OLD BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE CHANGES IN QUANTITIES AND ADDITIONAL CONTRACT ITEMS FOR OLD AUGUSTA ROAD (01): Civil Engineer Allen explained that he was still compiling information concerning the change order and requested that the Board either table this item or remove it from the agenda.

Commissioner Mason made a motion to remove this item from the agenda. Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE AN ASSEMBLAGE PERMIT FOR FRANK RIMSEK TO HOLD A HALLOWEEN PARTY ON THE STREETS OF ROYAL OAKS PLANTATION (01): County Clerk Crawley explained that Royal Oaks is heavily traveled during Halloween night. Frank Rimsek, with a majority of the homeowners, would like to ask trick-or-treaters to park and walk in the neighborhood. Last year, the Board approved an Assemblage Permit with the stipulation that Frank would explain to people entering into the subdivision that due to the number of kids trick-or-treating and the safety of the kids, they should park and walk in the neighborhood. Sheriff McDuffie sent a letter stating that he will support and assist with the decision of the Royal Oak Homeowners and the Effingham County Board of Commissioners.

Frank Rimsek stated that a neighbor allows for parking into the field adjacent to the entrance and hires a Sheriff's Deputy to help direct traffic. Last year, the deputy documented 597 cars in a 1 mile circle.

Vice-Chairman Loper made a motion to approve an assemblage permit on October 31, 2012 or whenever trick-or-treating is being held from 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. in Royal Oaks Plantation. Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH HARVEYS SUPERMARKET (02): EEMA Director Myrick explained that the agreement with Harveys Supermarket outlines procedures for acquiring perishable food items in the event of a potential disaster. Currently, the Emergency Operation Center stocks perishable food items that must be discarded by the

expiration date. This agreement allows EEMA to acquire food items just before or right after the impact of a disaster, decreasing the amount of waste.

Commissioner Mason made a motion to approve a Memorandum of Understanding with Harveys Supermarket (see minute book page _____). Vice-Chairman Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE MAJOR MEDICAL AND SUPPLEMENTAL INSURANCE (03): Human Resources Director Hudzinski-Sero explained that Effingham County has received the renewal for major medical and supplemental insurance representing all components of the current insurance plan. The United Health Care, AFLAC, renewals were received and renegotiated beginning in July, 2012 for the following sections: major medical, dental, vision, AD&D, STD/LTD, life and supplemental insurances. The only increase was to the current dual major medical plan which increased by 1.15 percent. Other alternatives were reviewed with potential increase in deductibles, co-pays, out of pocket maximums and also reduction of coverage. Staff recommends a single option plan at 90/10 coverage with a \$10 increase in specialist and \$50 increase in emergency co-pays. This will result in a decrease to current premiums for employer and employee.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve major medical with the change to single plan 90/10 coverage with a \$10 increase in specialist and \$50 increase emergency co-pays. Vice-Chairman Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve AFLAC, dental, vision, AD&D, STD/LTD, life and supplemental insurances at the same price. Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE AN AGREEMENT WITH FINANCIAL MARKETING CONCEPTS, INC. FOR DISCOUNT PRESCRIPTION CARDS FOR RESIDENTS OF EFFINGHAM COUNTY (04): Human Resources Director Hudzinski-Sero explained that ACCG member services have presented counties with the option of obtaining a pharmacy discount card for citizens. The County receives a royalty of \$1.25 for each qualified prescription filled and 11 local pharmacies participate in the program. If approved, the county is obligated to endorse the program, sign the agreement with a 30 day with no penalty termination notice, schedule a press conference or release to announce the launch of the program, and provide a link on the county website to the private label web page.

Commissioner Brantley made a motion to table this item to the September 4, 2012 meeting for staff to gather information from other counties. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE AMENDING THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN CONTRIBUTIONS (05): Human Resources Director Hudzinski-Sero explained that based on the review of the actuary, the defined benefit plan has met the required contributions for 2012 and projected required contributions through 2014. It has been recommended to amend the plan document to reduce contributions by 2% resulting in a required employer contribution of 3% and required employee contribution of 1%.

Vice-Chairman Loper made a motion to approve amending the Effingham County Defined Benefit Plan contribution to 3% employer and 1% employee contribution (see minute book page _____). Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE FY2012/2013 BUDGET (06): Finance Director Wright explained that the boiler at the Sheriff's Complex is in need of replacement and the budget does not have sufficient funding above the regular maintenance cost to handle this expenditure cost. The replacement boiler is recommended and was chosen in close consultation with the plumbing engineer for the new sheriff's office project. The budget amendment will be to increase department 17 Sheriff by \$14,800. Staff is researching the possibility that this expense can be moved to the new construction budget of the Sheriff's Complex, once approved.

Vice-Chairman Loper made a motion to approve a resolution to amend the FY2012/2013 Budget by \$14,800 (see minute book page _____). Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE OGEECHEE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT PUBLIC DEFENDER OFFICE (07): Community Relations Director Kobek explained that the Ogeechee Public Defenders Office has been providing indigent defense services for Effingham County for several years. This is an annual contract which memorializes the obligations of the public defender's office and the cost of the services which are provided by the member counties of the Ogeechee Judicial Circuit.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve an agreement with the Ogeechee Judicial Circuit Public Defender Office (see minute book page ____). Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE TRAVEL TO THE ANNUAL CHAMBER RETREAT (08): County Clerk Crawley explained that Effingham Chamber of Commerce will hold their annual community retreat August 22nd through 23rd at St. Simons Island. Commissioner Kieffer and County Administrator Crawley have agreed to represent the Board of Commissioners. As stated in the travel policy, the Board must approve Commissioner Travel.

Vice-Chairman Loper made a motion to approve Commissioner Kieffer to travel to the annual Chamber Retreat. Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE TRAVEL TO THE GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ON TOURISM (09): County Clerk Crawley explained that the Director of State Tourism Division for the Department of Economic Development has requested that Vice-Chairman Loper speak at the Governor's Conference on Tourism. This conference will be held in Atlanta August 26th – 28th. Effingham County is one of the two counties selected in the state to be showcased at this conference for their excellent progress in tourism development. As stated in the travel policy, the Board must approve Commissioner Travel.

Commissioner Brantley made a motion to approve travel to the Governor's Conference on Tourism. Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chairman Loper stepped down for possible conflict.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A LETTER OF FINANCIAL COMMITMENT ASSOCIATED WITH A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE NATIONAL COASTAL WETLANDS CONSERVATION GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS EBENEZER CROSSING (10): County Administrator Crawley explained that The Department of Natural Resources Coastal Resources Division is submitting a grant application to the National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant program for the acquisition of property located adjacent to Ebenezer Creek. The proposed total purchase price is \$526,640 with the County being responsible for approximately \$150,000 as part of the required match.

Commissioner Kieffer made a motion to deny a letter of financial commitment associated with a grant application to the National Costal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program for the acquisition of property identified as Ebenezer Crossing. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chairman Loper returned to his seat.

ADDITION TO THE AGENDA

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE PROVIDING WRITTEN NOTICE TO EACH OF THE THREE CITIES CONCERNING AN EXCISE TAX ON ENERGY USED FOR MANUFACTURING (11): County Administrator Crawley explained that during the 2012 legislative session, the General Assembly passed legislation that would phase out local sales tax over a 4 year period on energy used in manufacturing. The legislation allows for local governments to recoup lost local sales tax revenue by levying an energy excise tax at a rate equal to the amount exempted. To levy the excise tax, the County must first hold a meeting with all of the municipalities within the County to discuss whether and when to levy the excise tax. Written notice is required to be delivered no later than September 1, 2012 for any county that desires to have an excise tax on energy used for manufacturing.

Commissioner Brantley made a motion to approve providing written notice to each of the three cities concerning an excise tax on energy used for manufacturing. Commissioner Mason seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:01 p.m., Chairman Zeigler made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel, property, and pending litigation. Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

County Administrator Crawley and Commissioners discussed pending litigation and property. (See copy of Chairperson’s affidavit on minute book page number _____).

At 6:46 p.m. Chairman Zeigler made a motion to go back into Regular Session. Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Commissioner Brantley discussed the following:

- ◆ Mosquito control for Effingham County
- Commissioners Jones discussed the following:
- ◆ Residential limit at Stephens Road

Chairman Zeigler discussed the following:

- ◆ Coastal Transportation – update on the use of the Coastal Transportation

Commissioners Mason discussed the following:

- ◆ Log Landing Road needs to have the shoulder clipped

Commissioners Kieffer discussed the following:

- ◆ Stephens Drive needs to have the shoulder clipped
- ◆ Fees at the landfill
- ◆ Status of Ron Morgan – The deed will be on the next agenda
- ◆ Hospital Audit – Will receive within the next 90 days

PLANNING BOARD

NEW BUSINESS

CHRIS WOOD – PUBLIC HEARING (01): A Public Hearing was held on the application by Chris Wood for a rural business use Map and Parcel 435-1 located at 1800 Goshen Road to operate a boarding kennel business in the Second District.

Zoning Administrator Shaw presented the request.

Ricky Fail stated that as long as the smell was under control, he did not have a problem.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the First Reading for the application by Chris Wood for a rural business use Map and Parcel 435-1 located at 1800 Goshen Road to operate a boarding kennel business with the following stipulations:

1. Must meet all requirements of Sec. 3.15B rural business.
2. Must meet all requirements of Chapter 10 Animals of the Effingham County Code of Ordinances

Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

GARRY G. & TAMMY C. WILKES, JR – PUBLIC HEARING (03): A Public Hearing was held on the application by Garry G. & Tammy C. Wilkes, Jr. for a rural business use Map and Parcel 408-22 located at 2535 Hwy 119 North to operate a part time automotive paint and body business in the Third District

Zoning Administrator Shaw presented the request.

There were no objectors present.

Commissioner Mason made a motion to approve the First Reading for the application by Garry G. & Tammy C. Wilkes, Jr. for a rural business use Map and Parcel 408-22 located at 2535 Hwy 119 North to operate a part time automotive paint and body business with the following stipulations:

1. Each lot shall meet requirements of Sec. 3.15B – Rural Business
2. The spray booth must meet all EPA and EPD requirements
3. No more than five customer vehicles on the premises at one time

Vice-Chairman Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

Commissioner Brantley made a motion to approve the Board of Commissioners executive session minutes for August 7, 2012 Vice-Chairman Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

County Administrator Crawley discussed the following:

- ◆ Central School site – title issues
- ◆ ACCG Fall Meeting will be in Athens – who will be attending
- ◆ Community Retreat – August 23rd and 24th
- ◆ LOST Meeting
- ◆ Transportation Workshop in September
- ◆ State of the Port of Address
- ◆ Special Called Meeting on Tuesday, August 28, 2012 to finalize the Jail Financing

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:36 p.m., Chairman Zeigler made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Reginald S. Loper, Sr., Vice-Chairman

Patrice R. Crawley, County Clerk