

**THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS' MEETING**

The Board of Commissioners of Effingham County, Georgia, Mr. Wendall Kessler Chairman, Mr. Steve Mason, Vice-Chairman, Mr. Forrest Floyd, Mrs. Vera Jones, Mr. Reginald Loper, Sr., and Mr. Phil Kieffer met in regular session at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 7, 2013 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, Director of Community Relations, Mr. Toss Allen Civil Engineer, Mrs. Patrice R. Crawley, County Clerk, Ms. Karen Arnold, Executive Assistant, Mrs. Joanna Wright, Finance Director, Mr. Tim Mathews, Mrs. Elaine Spencer, Mr. David Grandgeorge, and Mr. Mickey Kicklighter.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Kessler called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION

Commissioner Jones gave the invocation.

PLEDGE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

Chairman Kessler led the Pledge to the American Flag.

AGENDA APPROVAL

County Clerk Crawley explained that New Business Number 1 can be removed as the action has been handled by the Tax Assessor Board.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the Agenda with removing New Business 1 (see minute book page ____). Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Kessler read aloud the Consent Agenda.

Vice-Chairman Mason made a motion to approve amending the Zoning Map for (1) the Effingham County Zoning Map 374-39 at the request of Warren Cawley, Jr. to rezone 5 acres from AR-1 to AR-2 located at 599/613 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 Resources Protection Ordinance and the Storm Water Management Local Design Manual, 3-All wetland impacts shall be permitted by the USACE and 4-Subdivision plat shall be approved by the Health Department and the Zoning Office (2) the Effingham County Zoning Map 258-52 at the request of Fontella F. Singleton to rezone 4.44 acres from AR-1 to AR-2 located at 263 Mt. Pleasant 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 Resources Protection Ordinance and the Storm Water Management Local Design Manual, 3-All wetland impacts shall be permitted by the USACE and 4-Subdivision plat shall be approved by the Health Department and the Zoning Office (3) the Effingham County Zoning Map 424-25 at the request of Tyrone Dixon to rezone 2.61 acres from AR-1 to AR-2 located at 165 Johnson 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 Resources Protection Ordinance and the Storm Water Management Local Design Manual, 3-All wetland impacts shall be permitted by the USACE and 4-Subdivision plat shall be approved by the Health Department and the Zoning Office, (4) to amend the Effingham County Zoning Map 410-1 at the request of Sandra E. Martin for a rural business use to conduct a quilting, sewing business with classes located at 490 Stillwell Road with the stipulation that the applicant shall meet all requirements of section 3.15B-Rural Business of the Effingham County Zoning Ordinance, and (5)to approve the Second Reading to amend the Official Zoning Map.

Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

MINUTES

Commissioner Floyd and Commissioner Mason explained that some wording needed to be corrected in the minutes.

Commissioner Floyd made a motion to approve the minutes with the corrections stated (see minute book page _____). Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE REQUEST TO REVALUE LOTS OF MOSSY HOLLOW SUBDIVISION TO THE 2012 VALUE FOR YEARS 2009, 2010 AND 2011 DUE TO THE LACK OF INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE SUBDIVISION (01): This item was removed during the Approval of the Agenda.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE AN AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE FISCAL AGENT SERVICES FOR THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY FAMILY CONNECTION COMMISSIONER, INC. (02): County Clerk Crawley explained that the Board received the latest version of the Contract with Family Connection Commission in their folder at the meeting.

Executive Director of Family Connection and Communities In School Spencer, and Chairman of Family Connection and Communities in School collaborative Grandgeorge explained that Family Connection has received a grant from Georgia Family Connection Partnership. In order to accept the grant, the Family Connection is requesting that Effingham County continue to serve as the Fiscal Agent for the grant. The fiscal agent must certify and understand this is a 12 month commitment, expenses are reimbursable on a quarterly basis, agree to receive all financial correspondence and payments relating to the funds, and make all records available for any required financial audit, have appropriate accounting and financial systems to document costs incurred and claims made under the contract and agree the local Family Connection collaborative board is the body responsible for all decisions associated with budgeting of these funds, but will ensure such decisions shall be in compliance with the fiscal agent's own policies and procedures.

Commissioner Loper made a motion to approve an agreement to provide fiscal agent services for the Effingham County Family Connection Commission, Inc. with the most recent changes presented (see minute book page _____). Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE AN AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE FISCAL AGENT SERVICES FOR THE COMMUNITY IN SCHOOLS PROGRAM (03) AND CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE AN AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE FISCAL AGENT SERVICES FOR THE WILLING INTERVENTION NOW FOR STUDENTS PROGRAM (04): County Clerk Crawley requested that this and the next item be tabled until February 19, 2013.

Commissioner Mason made a motion to table New Business Number 03 and 04 until February 19, 2013. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE APPOINTMENTS TO THE RECREATION BOARD FOR THE FIRST DISTRICT AND AT-LARGE (05): County Clerk Crawley explained that Charles Dixon had been representing the First District on the Recreation Board for several years. Commissioner Floyd spoke with Mr. Dixon and he would like to continue to serve on the Recreation Board.

Mike Wilson has served on the Recreation Board for several years as an at large member and would like to stay on the Board. Dusty Zeigler has submitted his name as an at large member of the Recreation Board as well.

Commissioner Floyd made a motion to approve reappointing Charles Dixon to the Recreation Board for the First District. Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Loper made a motion to approve reappointing Mike Wilson to the Recreation Board as the At-Large member. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Floyd stepped down due to possible conflict because Georgia Power is his employer.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE AN UNDERGROUND EASEMENT WITH GEORGIA POWER FOR THE JAIL PROJECT (06): Director of Community Relations Kobek explained that the Board has authorized the construction of the new jail and

prison renovations. New utility service will be required to serve the new building and some for the prison renovations. Georgia Power is prepared to begin the work and requires a utility easement to begin running the new services. Work includes outdoor lighting relocation, new pad mounted transformer.

Commissioner Loper made a motion to approve an underground easement with Georgia Power Company for Jail project (see minute book page _____). Vice-Chairman Mason seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Floyd reentered the meeting.

DISCUSSION OF THE PROS & CONS OF NON-PARTISAN ELECTION FOR THE OFFICES OF COUNTY COMMISSIONER, SHERIFF, TAX COMMISSIONER, CORONER, AND DISTRICT ATTORNEY (07): Chairman Kessler stated that the Sheriff, Tax Commissioner, Coroner, and District Attorney would like to have their position to be non-partisan. Commissioner Floyd feels that the Board of Commissioners should be a partisan position.

Mickey Kicklighter, former Chairman of the Republic Party stated that the positions should be partisan positions.

Commissioner Floyd directed staff to edit the Resolution that was presented to reflect only for the Board of Commissioners for the February 19th meeting.

Commissioner Floyd stepped down due to possible conflict because Georgia Power is his employer.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A PORTION OF OLD AUGUSTA ROAD CENTRAL TO BE REMOVED FROM THE COUNTY'S ROAD SYSTEM (08): County Administrator Crawley explained that Georgia Power would like to create a single secured entrance to the Plant McIntosh Facility. This would require the abandonment of 27.2 acres of right of way. The County has maintained and improved Old Augusta Central past the bridge almost entirely for the benefit of Ga Power, who now wishes to own this portion of the right of way.

Commissioner Loper made a motion to remove a portion of Old Augusta Road Central from the County's road system. Vice-Chairman Mason seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Floyd reentered the meeting.

REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Commissioner Floyd discussed the following:

- ◆ Putting video of the commissioners meeting on the County web age. Tim Mathews and David Harris both spoke in favor of streaming the meetings. .
- ◆ RV's use on personal property
- ◆ Board of Education energy saving audit

Commissioner Jones discussed the following:

- ◆ Green Drive drainage in Westwood

Commissioner Kieffer discussed the following:

- ◆ Recreation concession stand money

County Administrator Crawley discussed the following:

- ◆ Hospital – discussion of property and existing agreement
- ◆ Weight limits – on the roads and the ordinance previously provided. What would the cost be for implementing the weight limits?
- ◆ Cost of Ft Howard Road where Old Augusta Road meets.
- ◆ Water rates to increase for the City of Savannah
- ◆ Ga Trend advertisement with the Chamber of Commerce.
- ◆ Old Effingham Days is still moving forward.
- ◆ Congressman Kingston will be in Effingham for a meet and greet on February 12th.
- ◆ Eli Whitney Watershed ditch – see the attached memorandum.
- ◆ Ground breaking for the Jail – February 19th at 3:30 p.m.
- ◆ Ribbon cutting at Goshen Public Safety. Hold off on this.
- ◆ Request of street lighting in certain subdivisions. Adam Kobek has provided a memo with the information.
- ◆ Mars Theater to use the Historic Courthouse for a play.
- ◆ ACCG training in April – Who will be attending.
- ◆ A movie production has asked for the use of Low Ground Road to produce a movie.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:15 p.m., Commissioner Kieffer made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel, property, and pending litigation. Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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

RECONVENED

At 8:36 p.m., Commissioner Kieffer made a motion to reconvene into regular session. Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

WORKSHOP

County Loans – County Administrator Crawley explained that a notice to borrow money for the I-16 property was given to CSRF.

Transportation – County Administrator Crawley explained that we need to continue pushing the transportation funding for I-16 interchange.

Ash Roads – Need to look at the best way to handle repairing ash roads.

Ft. Howard Road – Should the County continue with the center line in Ft. Howard Road that the City of Rincon has started?

EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

Commissioner Kieffer made a motion to approve the Executive Session minutes. Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:07 p.m., Commissioner Loper made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Wendall Kessler, Chairman

Patrice R. Crawley, County Clerk