

**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, March 5, 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. Jack C. Garvin, Mr. Joseph Whitaker, and Mr. Tim Mathews.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Kessler called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

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

AGENDA APPROVAL

Vice-Chairman Mason made a motion to approve the Agenda (see minute book page _____). Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES

Commissioner Loper made a motion to approve the February 19, 2013 minutes. Commissioner Floyd 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.

OLD BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE CHANGE ORDER NUMBER 4 WITH BAKER INFRASTRUCTURE GROUP ON OLD AUGUSTA ROAD PHASE 2A, 2B, AND SIGNAL IMPROVEMENTS (01): Staff recommends tabling this item since the contractor has not provided the new cost.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to table this item. Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE SECOND READING TO AMEND THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY ZONING MAP 378-42 ON THE APPLICATION BY HENRY S. MORGAN TO REZONE 12.18 ACRES FROM I-1 TO AR-1 (02): Zoning Administrator Shaw explained that on March 20, 2012 the Board approved the first reading to amend zoning map 378-42 pending approval of the second reading for the EPD mine closure approval. Mr. Morgan now has received EPD mine closure approval. Staff requests that the Board approve the second reading.

Commissioner Mason made a motion to approve the Second Reading to amend zoning map 378-42 on the application by Henry S. Morgan to rezone 12.18 acres from I-1 to AR-1 (see minute book page _____). Commissioner Floyd seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Kessler is the President of Amby Development and stepped down due to possible conflict.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A WARRANTY DEED WITH AMBY DEVELOPMENT FOR STONEGATE SUBDIVISION (01): County Engineer Liotta explained that Amby Development requests that Effingham County accept ownership of the roads and drainage infrastructure for Stonegate Subdivision. The final plats for the Pebblestone, Cobblestone, and Ballastone section, 134 lots total, were approved on April 7, 2005. Water and sewer services are provided by private companies.

Commissioner Floyd made a motion to approve a warranty deed with Amby Development for Stonegate Subdivision (see minute book page _____). Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Kessler returned to the Chairman seat.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE FOR OFFICE SPACE (02): Director of Community Relations Kobek requested this item to be tabled to the March 19, 2013 meeting.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to table this item until March 19, 2013. Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION DECLARING COUNTY PROPERTY SURPLUS AND AUTHORIZING THE PUBLIC SALE OR DISPOSAL (03): Director of Community Relations Kobek explained that from time to time the County has furnishings, good, and equipment that are broken, damaged or no longer needed. The County must declare items of value as surplus to dispose of the items and remove them from the County inventories. Typically these items are auctioned locally, unless the items may not bring top dollar through the auction. Items not sold at auction can be salvaged, trashed or donated. The Prison had several buses that it no longer needs, that have been used for parts, and are not worth repairing to operational condition. The fire department has an older piece of equipment that has been used for parts and is not worth repairing. The motor was moved and all usable pumps have been removed.

Commissioner Mason made a motion to approve a Resolution declaring county property surplus and authorizing the public sale, disposal, or offered sealed bid with the stipulation that the bid has to be more than the scrap value (see minute book page _____). Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE PRICE PROPOSAL FOR CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS TESTING FOR JAIL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT (04): Director of Community Relations Kobek explained that the Board has authorized the construction of the Effingham County Jail project. As a design build contract, the County will need to procure a qualified construction material testing firm. The design team and county staff procured three prices from reputable firms in our area. Total unit pricing was arrived at by adding one of each required test and trip charge. Each required test may or may not be required, depending on subcontractor or mixed testing results. Proposed budgets are difficult to interpret, while one firm may

believe that 8 test will be called for the other firm may believe that 15 tests will be called for, and the true quantity will vary by project scheduling and pace of construction. The design team is comfortable with either firm. Staff recommends Whitakers proposal.

Mr. Joseph Whitaker with Whitaker Labs was on hand to answer any questions.

Commissioner Floyd made a motion to approve Whitaker Labs for construction materials testing for jail construction projects (see minute book page _____). Commissioner Mason seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT TO THE FIRE DISTRICT MAP

(05): Director of Community Relations Kobek explained that it came to staff's attention that a parcel was changed from the County's fire service area to Rincon's fire service area when the Fire Protection Agreement was signed in April, 2011. The parcel in question is located within 5 miles of a County fire station but is listed in Rincon service area. An amendment to the fire services boundaries and auto aid map requires approval from both local governments. This resident is concerned as his insurance rates are scheduled to rise significantly in March, 2013. Rincon Fire Chief and the Interim County Fire Chief have agreed to move this parcel from Rincon to the County's service area at the monthly Chief's meeting on February 21, 2013. Rincon City Council will be hearing this request at their February 25, 2013 Council meeting.

Commissioner Loper made a motion to approve the amendment to the Fire District Map. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE ACCG-GSIWCG AND IRMA SAFETY DISCOUNT

VERIFICATION FORM (06): County Clerk Crawley explained that ACCG handles the Board of Commissioners workers' compensation, property and liability insurance program. ACCG offers 7.5% safety discount on workers comp and 5% discount on property liability. In order to qualify for these discounts the County must have a safety coordinator, attend LGRMS classes, hold a quarterly safety

program, conduct safety inspection, employees must be notified of the panel physicians and patients bills of rights for the injured workers, seat belt policy, return to work policy, drug free policy, annual review of the personnel policy and Sheriff's SOP, MVR must be obtained on all employees and County jail employees must be separated from the Sheriff's Department.

Commissioner Loper made a motion to approve ACCG-GSIWCG and IRMA safety discount verification (see minute book page ____). Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY FOR TOWER SPACE (07): County Clerk Crawley explained that Georgia Department of Public Safety has antenna/receiver space on the County tower located near 240 public Safety Blvd. The antenna/receiver is used by the Georgia State Patrol, Post 42, and Law Enforcement Division for the purpose of maintaining a VHF radio voice repeater. The agreement will automatically renew annually for five additional one year periods at the end of each term unless otherwise cancelled by either party.

Commissioner Loper made a motion to approve a Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Public Safety for tower space (see minute book page ____). Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE ENTERPRISE SERVICE TERMS WITH STAMPS.COM (08): County Clerk Crawley explained that staff has been looking at ways to save on mailing envelopes and packages for County Departments. Using online postage will save money and time by no trips to the post office, batch printing addresses and postage, printing of certified mail receipts, exact postage and tracking of the postage by cost codes.

Commissioner Kieffer made a motion to approve enterprise service terms with Stamps.com (see minute book page _____). Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE REAPPOINTMENT OF LOWELL MORGAN AND TIM MATHEWS TO THE TAX ASSESSOR BOARD (09): County Clerk Crawley

explained that Lowell Morgan and Tim Mathews were both appointed to the Tax Assessor Board on March 15, 2011 and their term is due to expire March 13, 2013. Mr. Morgan and Mr. Mathews are interested in being reappointed to the Tax Assessor Board.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the reappointment of Lowell Morgan and Tim Mathews to the Tax Assessor Board (see minute book page ____). Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Commissioner Mason discussed the following:

- ◆ Logging Ordinance.

Commissioner Kieffer discussed the following:

- ◆ Ridgecrest would like the County to take over the roads.
- ◆ Chamber of Commerce would like the Board to pass a hotel/motel tax.

County Administrator Crawley discussed the following:

- ◆ Solar Farms – interested parties have requested to be able to use AR-1 zoned property which would require amendment of the zoning ordinance or approval as a conditional use.
- ◆ Video recording of the Commissioners Meetings. Still being evaluating.
- ◆ Hotel/Motel Tax – requires sitting down and creating a budget and contracting with an entity.

EXECUTIVE MINUTES

Commissioner Mason made a motion to approve the February 19, 2013 and the corrected February 26, 2013 executive session minutes. Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 5:57 p.m., Commissioner Loper made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel, property, and pending litigation. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Mason left the meeting at 6:33 p.m. to go to an EPD meeting.

County Administrator Crawley, Finance Director Wright and Commissioners discussed personnel and pending litigation. (See copy of Chairperson’s affidavit on minute book page number ____).

RECONVENED

At 6:53 p.m., Commissioner Floyd made a motion to reconvene into regular session. Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:53 p.m., Commissioner Floyd made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Wendall Kessler, Chairman

Patrice R. Crawley, County Clerk