

THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

The Board of Commissioners of Effingham County, Georgia, Mr. Wendall Kessler, Chairman, Mrs. Vera Jones, Vice Chairperson, Mr. Forrest Floyd, Mr. Jamie Deloach, and Mr. Phil Kieffer met in regular session 5:00 pm on Tuesday, February 3, 2015 in the Commissioners' Meeting Room at the Effingham County Administrative Complex.

PERSONS ATTENDING THE MEETING

Mr. Eric Gotwalt, County Attorney, Mr. Toss Allen, County Administrator, Mrs. Stephanie Johnson, County Clerk, Mrs. Joanna Wright, Finance Director, Mr. Adam Kobek, Community Relations Director, Mr. George Shaw, Zoning Administrator, Mrs. Fiona Charleton, Purchasing Agent, Mr. Clint Hodges, Fire Chief, Mr. Mickey Kicklighter, Ms. Claudia Collier, Mr. Jack Garvin, Ms. Gigi Rigsby

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

Chairman Kessler stated he would like to add as Item# 9 under New Business, consideration to accept allocation of \$50,000 from the Law Library Committee to the Drug Court. Vice Chairperson Jones made a motion to approve the agenda with addition of New Business # 9, approval of the Drug Court information. Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Kessler made mention that Commissioner Loper was not present due to illness.

MINUTES

Commissioner Floyd made a motion to approve the January 20, 2015 Commission meeting minutes as written. Commissioner Deloach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Kessler stated public comment should be limited to agenda items only.

CORRESPONDENCE

Chairman Kessler explained all correspondence and documents from the meeting are located in the Clerk's office and on the Board of Commissioner's website.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Floyd made a motion to approve (1) the Second Reading of an application by William Hopper III for a variance located at the corner of Central Avenue and Third Street Map# 330A Parcel#27B & 28B. (2) the Second Reading of an application by William Hopper III to rezone 0.88 acres located at the corner of Central Avenue and Third Street from AR-1 to AR-2 Map# 330A Parcel# 27B & 28B. Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE CONTRACT ADDENDUMS FOR EFFINGHAM STATE AND SUPERIOR COURTS AND SPRINGFIELD AND GUYTON MUNICIPAL COURTS (01):

David Zittrouer of the Probation Office explained the addendums are being added to explain how indigent probationers are handled.

Commissioner Floyd made a motion to approve the contract addendums for Probation Services. Vice Chairperson Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE TO ACCEPT A QUOTE AND ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER FOR ONE (1) AMBULANCE REMOUNT TO RELIANT EMERGENCY SPECIALITIES (02):

EMS Director McDuffie and Purchasing Agent Charleton explained a request for quote for two (2) ambulance remounts was issued and posted on the ECBOC website, Georgia Procurement Registry website, Georgia Local Government Access Website; advertised in the Savannah Morning News and the Effingham Herald, and sent to known vendors.

A mandatory pre-bid inspection and meeting was held which was attended by representatives from five. Responses were received from four of the five companies who attended the pre-bid inspection and meeting.

Based on their references, their experience remounting Dodge chassis', and after test driving some of their remounts, Staff believe that Reliant offers the best remount program for the County ambulances, but, as the County have not conducted business with Reliant in the past, in order to be prudent Staff recommend issuing a purchase order for one (1) Dodge remount to them now in

the amount of \$92,620.00, and based upon the finished product, issuing the second and final remount purchase order (with Board approval at that time).

There were a couple of questions to Staff from the Board.

Vice Chairperson Jones made a motion to approve and accept Reliant Emergency Specialties quote and approve to issue a purchase order in the amount of \$92,620.00 to Reliant Emergency for one (1) Dodge ambulance remount. Commissioner Floyd seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE TO RENEW THE INMATE MEDICAL CONTRACT WITH TRANSFORM HEALTH CS FOR ONE YEAR (03):

Purchasing Agent Charleton explained the Board currently has a contract in place with Transform Health CS, Inc. to provide Inmate Medical Services for the Prison and Jail inmates. The contract runs from April 1st, 2013 to March 31st, 2015, after which it allows for two automatic annual renewals unless a written nonrenewal notice is issued by either party.

In order to maintain continuity while the needs of the County are being evaluated after the Jail expansion, Staff believe it would be beneficial to keep the current inmate medical service provider for an additional year rather than bid out the service. Putting the service out to bid would involve a new contract, and most providers would not commit to a term of less than 2 years as it is not financially viable for them. The current annual fee with Transform Health CS is \$238,000.00 which will be increased by \$7,140.00 (3%) for 2015-2016 to \$245,140.00

The County Attorney has reviewed and approved the renewal letter with a note that although the letter essentially extends the agreement for a further 5 years, the County can terminate it at any time at least 60 days prior to the end of each renewal term.

There was a discussion among the Board, Staff and the County Attorney regarding a termination clause.

Vice Chairperson Jones made a motion to approve the contract and change wording to state a 30 day out clause notice to be allowed at any time during the contract period. Commissioner Floyd seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE TO ISSUE A LETTER OF NON-RENEWAL OF AGREEMENT TO UNIFIRST FOR PUBLIC WORKS UNIFORMS (04):

Purchasing Agent Charleton explained the County currently has an agreement in place with Unifirst to provide a uniform service for the Public Works

department. The agreement runs for 60 months from July 2010 to July 2015, after which it will automatically renew for 60 months unless 90 days written notice is given.

Unifirst provides the rental and laundering agreement for the County Public Works employee uniforms. Staff has researched the cost of uniforms for the Public Works employees and believes a savings can be made by purchasing uniforms rather than renting them and having the employees launder them rather than sending them out to be laundered.

There was a discussion about adding a 30 day opt out clause to all County contracts.

Commissioner Kieffer made a motion to approve to issue a non-renewal of agreement letter to Unifirst. Vice Chairperson Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE TO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR THE CRITICAL WORKFORCE SHELTER INITIATIVE (CWSI) (05):

EMA Director Myrick explained the purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is to establish the terms and conditions under which the Effingham County Methodist Campground youth building and kitchen may be used as a critical workforce shelter and/or post event shelters when requested by Effingham Emergency Management.

Commissioner Floyd made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding for the Critical Workforce Shelter Initiative. Vice Chairperson Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A BID AND ACCEPT A CONTRACT FOR SITE WORK COURTHOUSE ROAD FIRESTATION DRIVEWAY (06):

Community Relations Director Kobek explained the County has a fire station at 2750 Courthouse Road. During construction no driveway was installed. As a 24 hour station this facility has a good amount of heavy fire apparatus traffic. The installation of a driveway was considered and approved in the Short Term Work Program since its inception and is included in the STWP most recently approved on January 20, 2014.

The county received a total of 5 competitive bids. The apparent low bidder is J.L. Hardin d/b/a Harco at \$20,375, the work is anticipated to take approximately a week to complete.

Vice Chairperson Jones made a motion to accept the bid from J.L. Hardin d/b/a Harco in the amount of \$20,375 and award a contract for the same. Commissioner Floyd seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION ON LOTS SERVED BY AN ACCESS EASEMENT (07):

County Administrator Allen explained from time to time the County receives requests to allow more than three lots to be served by private access easements. In order to subdivide more than three lots, they must be served by an access road meeting County road standards. Even if the access road is to remain private, it must be designed and constructed to County road standards.

Private roads, if constructed, are required to state that the roads are private on all plats and deeds associated with parcels served by the roads. Previous versions of Effingham's Regulations allowed for mini farm subdivisions to be constructed with dirt roads meeting a dirt road standard. Effingham County removed mini farm subdivisions as allowable uses due to the problems that were experienced with the maintenance of their roadways.

Previous versions of Effingham's Regulations allowed, by the subdivision of lots on unimproved access easements for sale to family members. Effingham County removed this provision because the developer would tell the Board that the parcels would be sold to family members and then sell them to non-family members or the parcels didn't remain with family members for very long.

Zoning Administrator Shaw researched the requirements of three (3) other counties. The search proved the ordinances to be very similar to the county's requirements.

There were concerns among the Board regarding number of parcels off of an easement, limiting to family only, and the required width of the easement.

The Board advised Staff to gather information from other counties for review.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE PAYMENT FOR PERMITS ISSUED TO DATE FOR BLANDFORD CROSSING (08):

Chairman Kessler requested this item be tabled until the April 21, 2015 Commission meeting. Mr. Mickey Kicklighter, attorney for Robert Plank and Wilson Burns of Greenland Developers was present and agreed with the item being tabled.

Vice Chairperson Jones made a motion to table the request until the April 21, 2015 Commission meeting. Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO ACCEPT ALLOCATION OF \$50,000 FROM THE LAW LIBRARY COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASES AUTHORIZED BY O.C.G.A. § 36-15-7(A) (09):

Mr. Mickey Kicklighter explained the Law Library is giving the County funds for expenditures allowed for under the statute for the Courthouse. This funding will support the Drug Court. Mr. Kicklighter further gave a synopsis of the history of the Law Library providing previous funding for the Drug Court.

There was a discussion between the Board and Mr. Kicklighter. The Board further questioned if grants have been applied for to aid in funding for the Courts. Mr. Kicklighter confirmed approval has been settled to pursue grants and the work is in progress.

Finance Director Wright asked that the Finance Department receive verification of understanding of expenditures from the Law Library. A budget amendment also needs to be approved by the Board for transfer of the funds.

Vice Chairperson Jones made a motion to elect to approve the \$50,000 funding and that funding can be used solely for the purposes and discretion of the County's Superior Court, State Court, Probate Court, Magistrate Court or Juvenile Court and for the purchase or leasing of computer related legal research equipment and programs. And when the invoices are sent to Finance a form is signed stating it's in coordination with that and approve a budget amendment for the \$50,000 as well as disbursement for the Drug Court. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Floyd. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A CLASSIFICATION TITLE FOR SHELTER COORDINATOR (10):

This item was added after executive session. *(See section under RECONVENE for action taken)*

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE COMMISSIONERS AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

County Administrator Allen discussed the following:

- 1. Annual Fire Report**
 - Attached is the annual report for 2014.
- 2. E 911 Agency Call Volumes**
 - Attached are the call volumes, by agency, for 2014 and January of 2015.
- 3. ACCG Annual Conference**
 - The 2015 Annual Conference will be held from April 17-20, 2015 at the Savannah International Trade and Convention Center.
 - ACCG Lifelong Learning Academy will be held on Friday, April 17 and Monday, April 20, 2015.
- 4. IDA Board Appointments**
 - There are five appointments that need to be made for the IDA Board.
 - IDA Board members are appointed by General Militia District's.
- 5. City of Springfield Notice of Rezoning Public Hearing**
 - The Effingham County Hospital Authority has requested to rezone 3.67 acres located at 703 First Street Extension from R-1 to B-1.

- Public hearings will be held by the Planning and Zoning Board on February 4, 2015 at 6:00 PM and by the Springfield City Council on February 10, 2015 at 6:00 PM.
- Both public hearings will be held at the City of Springfield Council Chambers.
- 6. Effingham Parkway PIOH**
 - On March 17, 2015, there will be a public information open house from 4:00 PM until 6:00 PM at the Effingham County Administrative Office. Date to be revised due to BOC meeting.
- 7. Road Resurfacing List**
 - On January 20, 2015, a list of proposed roads to be resurfaced was distributed to the Board for prioritization.
 - The attached list included one additional road, Caribbean Village Drive which the Board agreed to repair when the road was accepted.
 - Long Bridge Road, Wylly Road and High Bluff Road are included on the 2015 LMIG project list. If these roads are not included in the Board's prioritization, the LMIG list will need to be amended.
- 8. Notification of Corrective Action Plan – Part A**
 - The Georgia Environmental Protection division has required the owners of the Fast Stop #63 (3049 US Highway 80, Faulkville, GA) to prepare a Corrective Action Plan – Part A to investigate and/or remediate contamination of soil and/or groundwater caused by a release from underground storage tanks.
 - The plan is anticipated to be submitted to EPD by February 17, 2015.
 - A copy can be obtained from Terracon for \$85 or viewed for free at the Springfield Library.
 - The UST Management Program will accept comments on the plan until March 17, 2015.
- 9. Georgia Trend**
 - Effingham County is being featured in the magazine. A representative will be at the Chamber on Monday, February 23rd at 1:00 pm to speak with by appointment.
- 10. GIS External Website**
 - Available for viewing. Binary Bus is no longer available.
- 11. Tower Upgrade**
 - Received a check from Rincon in the amount of \$80,000 towards the cost of the upgrade.

County Clerk Johnson discussed the following:

- 1. Nominations for Chamber Board Seats**
 - The Chamber is seeking nominations for two Board members to serve for the upcoming 3 year period. Must receive nominations by 5:00 pm, March 25, 2015.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:29pm, Commissioner Kieffer made a motion to enter executive session to discuss Personnel, Property and Pending Litigation. Commissioner Floyd seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

RECONVENE

The meeting reconvened from executive session at 7:43 pm.

Chairman Kessler asked the board to add as New Business item# 10, consideration to approve a classification title for Animal Control for Shelter Coordinator.

Vice Chairperson Jones made a motion to add the item as stated as New Business item# 10. Commissioner Floyd seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Kessler called for a motion. Chairperson Jones made a motion to approve the classification title for Shelter Coordinator. Commissioner Deloach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

Vice Chairperson Jones made a motion to approve the January 20, 2015 Executive Session Minutes. Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:45pm, Commissioner Floyd made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chairperson Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.



WENDALL KESSLER, CHAIRMAN



STEPHANIE JOHNSON, COUNTY CLERK