

**THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS' MEETING**

The Board of Commissioners of Effingham County, Georgia, Mr. C. D. Zeigler, Chairman, Mrs. Myra W. Lewis, Vice-Chairperson, Mrs. Verna H. Phillips, Mr. Jeffrey A. Utley, Mr. Reginald S. Loper, Sr. and Mr. Robert Brantley met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, January 5, 2010 in the Commissioners' Meeting Room at the Effingham County Administrative Complex.

PERSONS ATTENDING THE MEETING

Mr. Eric Gotwalt, Assistant County Attorney, Mr. David Crawley, County Administrator, Mr. Adam Kobek, Project Manager, Mr. George Shaw, Zoning Administrator, Mrs. Joanna Wright, Finance Director, Ms. Natalie Jenkins, Administrative Assistant, Mrs. Rushe Hudzinski-Sero, Human Resources Director, Mr. Steve Liotta, County Engineer.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Zeigler called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Vice-Chairperson Lewis gave the invocation and led the Pledge to the American Flag.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Chairman Zeigler called for the election of the Vice-Chairperson. Assistant County Attorney Gotwalt passed out and retrieved the election ballots. Assistant County Attorney Gotwalt tallied up the votes and announced that Mrs. Myra W. Lewis was elected Vice-Chairperson.

AGENDA APPROVAL

County Administrator Crawley explained that there were Additions to Agenda-New Business 7 Consideration to approve a Computer Grant Agreement & New Business 8 Consideration to approve an Agreement between Continental U.S. Norad Region and Effingham County Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Phillips made a motion to approve the Agenda Resolution with the changes requested by staff (see copy of agenda resolution on minute book page number _____). Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

Chairman Zeigler presented the previous month's correspondence. He reported that each Commissioner has been furnished a copy of all correspondence received and that these are available for all interested persons to review in the County Clerk's office.

MINUTES

Commissioner Brantley made a motion to approve the minutes for December 8, 2009 Board of Commissioners Meeting. & December 21, 2009 Special Called Meeting. Commissioner Utley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Zeigler read out loud Consent Agenda items number 01 through Number 04. Vice-Chairperson Lewis made a motion to approve Consent Agenda (01) Zoning Map 246-11 for the application by Charlotte Goldwire to rezone 3.22 acres located at Savannah Town 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 Stormwater Management Local Design Manual.
3. All wetland impacts shall be permitted by USACE.
4. Subdivision plat shall be approved by the Health Department and the Zoning Office.

(02)Errors and releases for Mobile Homes and (03)Property Taxes as submitted by the Tax Commissioner (see minute book page _). Consent Agenda 04 Release of Penalties (see min book page____) Commissioner Utley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION TO EXECUTE A MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT WITH THE PORT WENTWORTH FIRE DEPARTMENT (01): Public Safety Director Ashcraft presented a request for mutual aid between Port Wentworth and Effingham County in the event of a disaster. This document addresses issues of cost reimbursement and risk management.

Commissioner Phillips made a motion to table a mutual aid agreement with Port Wentworth Fire Department until the first meeting in February. Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO AMEND CHAPTER 75 OF THE CODE OF EFFINGHAM COUNTY (02): County Engineer Liotta explained that this was the Second Reading of Chapter 75- Re-use lines and Wellhead protection.

Commissioner Loper made a motion to amend Chapter 75 of the Code of Effingham County. Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A WARRANTY DEED FOR GREYSTONE SUBDIVISION (03): County Engineer Liotta explained that the owner has requested the County to accept the title and maintenance of the infrastructure. Previously incorrect wording has been changed and this is the updated warranty deed.

Commissioner Utley made a motion to approve a warranty deed for Greystone Subdivision. Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Don Goss- Spoke to the Board about Old Reidsville Road where his parents had 17 acres and explained the roads were in bad condition and they are requesting that the road and drainage be improved.

9:00 a.m. RUTH LEE- Mr. Starling spoke on behalf of Ms. Lee about the Board not taking action when asked to remove the Board of Assessors. He also wanted to express his concern over the performance review conducted by the Department of Revenue.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR PERSONNEL REALIGNMENT FOR DEPARTMENT 22 (01): Human Resources Director Hudzinski-Sero explained that the Board previously approved the Animal Control personnel realignment and several job descriptions.

Commissioner Phillips made a motion to approve the proposed budget for personnel realignment for department 22 (see minute book page ____). Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion. Chairman Zeigler, Vice-Chairperson Lewis, Commissioner Brantley and Commissioner Utley approved. Commissioner Loper opposed. The motion carried.

CONSIDERATION TO INVEST \$700,000 OF THE REMAINING \$762,760 CASH BALANCE (02): Merrill Lynch Advisor Jenny Nichols explained several options on how the Commissioners could choose to invest a portion of the remaining cash balance.

Commissioner Phillips made a motion to go with Alternative Number 1 to invest \$700,000 of the remaining \$762,760 cash balance. (see minute book page ____). Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE A LOAN FROM GENERAL FUND TO THE WATER AND WASTEWATER OPERATING FUND (03): Finance Director Wright explained to the Board the County

is in the process of operating and constructing water and wastewater infrastructure. This money was approved to be borrowed from the General Fund. This resolution will place funds into the water and wastewater operating fund.

Commissioner Loper made a motion to a resolution to authorize a loan from general fund to the water and wastewater operating fund (see minute book page __).

Commissioner Phillips seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE CHANGE ORDER NUMBER 6 FOR THE RESTORATION OF THE COURTROOM IN THE HISTORIC EFFINGHAM COUNTY COURTHOUSE(04): Project Manager Kobek explained to the Board that this change order will restore the Courtroom to its original layout.

Commissioner Loper made a motion to approve change order number 6 for the restoration of the courtroom in the Historic Effingham County Courthouse (see minute book page__) Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPORVE CHANGE ORDER NUMBER 7 WITH RB BAKER ON THE OLD AUGUSTA ROAD PHASE I PROJECT (05): Project Manager Kobek explained to the Board that upon completion of the road a punch list was given by the GA DOT and they are to be approved in order for the road to be completed.

Commissioner Phillips made a motion to approve change order number 7 with RB Baker on the Old Augusta Road Phase I project (see minute book page__) Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO SET THE 2010 QUALIFICATION FEES (06): County Administrator Crawley explained that State law pertaining to qualifying fees, requires each county governing authority to fix and publish qualifying fees for county offices no later than February 1 of any year in which general primary, nonpartisan election, or general election is to be held.

Chairman Zeigler made a motion to approve the 2010 qualification fees (see minute book__) Vice-Chairperson Lewis seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A RATIFY CHAIRMAN'S AUTHORIZATION OF COMPUTER GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH (07): County

Administrator Crawley explained that a Grant was awarded to EMS to place computer's in the emergency vehicles.

Commissioner Utley made a motion to approve the computer grant (see minute book___) Commissioner Lewis seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN CONTINENTAL U.S. NORAD REGION AND EFFINGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS (08): County Administrator Crawley presented the request from Continental U.S. Norad to place equipment and personnel on the County's property for Air Defense Artillery.

Commissioner Phillips made a motion to approve an agreement between Continental U.S. Norad Region (see minute book page___) Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF:

Commissioner Brantley discussed the following:

- ◆ Drainage Issues

Chairman Zeigler discussed the following:

- ◆ Hospital Update

Vice-Chairperson Lewis discussed the following:

- ◆ Repairs on Old River Road

Vice-Chairperson Lewis discussed the following:

- ◆ Drainage issues
- ◆ Bidding suggestions

Commissioner Phillips discussed the following:

- ◆ Ridgecrest

Commissioner Utley discussed the following:

- ◆ Port Wentworth Speeding Tickets

County Administrator Crawley discussed the following:

- ◆ Transportation Advisory Board
- ◆ Old Augusta Road Phase II
- ◆ Highway 80
- ◆ Effingham Parkway
- ◆ I-16 Update
- ◆ EMS OmniFlight
- ◆ City of Rincon Newsletter
- ◆ Effingham Day at the Capital
- ◆ Drug Court Update
- ◆ Guyton Water and wastewater workshop
- ◆ Lobbyists
- ◆ Hospital
- ◆ Audit
- ◆ Traffic Unit
- ◆ Agreement for Military to use equipment on County property

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 10:49 a.m. Chairman Zeigler made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel, property, and pending litigation. Commissioner Phillips seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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

ADJOURNMENT

At 11:15 a.m., Chairman Zeigler made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice-Chairperson Lewis seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

C. D. Zeigler, Chairman

Natalie Jenkins, Administrative Assistant