

THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FIRESTATION WORKSHOP

The Board of Commissioners of Effingham County, Georgia, Mr. Wendall Kessler Chairman, Mr. Steve Mason, Vice Chairman, Mr. Forrest Floyd, Mrs. Vera Jones and Mr. Reginald Loper met in a workshop at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 3, 2013 in the Commissioners' Meeting Room at the Effingham County Administrative Complex.

PERSONS ATTENDING THE MEETING

Mr. Toss Allen, Interim County Administrator, Mrs. Stephanie Johnson, County Clerk, Mr. Adam Kobek, Community Relations Director, Mrs. Joanna Wright, Finance Director, Ms. Karen Arnold, Executive Assistant, Mr. David Owen, Fire Captain, Ms. Hannah Jenkins, Fire Admin Assistant, Mr. Jack Burnsed, Interim Fire Chief, Mr. R.C. Barenchik, GIS Technician, Mr. Ken Lee, Mr. Wesley Corbitt, Mr. Corey Rahn, Mr. Clint Hodges, Mr. Paul Wendelken, Ms. Gigi Risby and Mr. Pat Donahue

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Kessler called the workshop to order.

WORKSHOP

DISCUSSION ON A PROPOSED FIRE STATION TO BE LOCATED ON BLUE JAY ROAD

01):

Mr. Wesley Corbitt, City Manager of Rincon explained with the addition of the Blue Jay station and additional payroll a large portion of the county residents in the City's fire district that is now a 10 would be a 4 rating. This would provide substantial savings to the residents of the unincorporated area. The County could improve many properties within five miles from a current 10 & 9 ISO to an improved ISO rating of 4 in the Rincon Fire district or with auto aid the County could improve the same

areas to a 4/9. The Blue Jay Road station location is recommended considering it is 4.8 miles from City of Rincon Station 1.

Mr. Corey Rahn, Fire Chief of Rincon, stated it would take approximately 3 months to have the auto aid agreement approved.

Mr. Wesley Corbitt continued there does not appear to be any loss of coverage by choosing the Blue Jay station with Rincon over the Hodgeville location. The City of Rincon would provide for an EMS station at the Blue Jay station providing a much needed EMS response to the north end of Rincon and the McCall/Blue Jay area.

Mr. Wesley Corbitt reviewed a contract comparison and projections for 2014 and 2015 resulting in total annual cost for the County in the amount of \$366,915 for 2014 and \$511,700 for 2015. The projected cost for the County to build the Hodgeville Station is \$400,000.

Chairman Kessler asked the cost for 2013. Mr. Wesley Corbitt stated approximately \$358,000.

Mr. Wesley Corbitt further explained the County would save the initial capital outlay estimated at \$750,000. Estimated savings to the County over 10 years would be at a minimum of \$1,534,934. Financial savings would provide needed resources for the other fire stations the County must provide to other unincorporated areas.

The increased staff with the added station would provide comparable personnel in the Rincon fire district with the County's fire district. The County's fire district has 21 fulltime staff for 10 stations or 2.1 per station average. Rincon's fire

district has 5 fulltime staff for 3 stations or 1.67 per station. With the fourth station and two added personnel the Rincon fire district would have 1.75 personnel per station.

Interim County Administrator Allen confirmed his belief that based on the numbers presented there would be a cost savings to the County.

There was a brief discussion among the Board about the location and providing the best area coverage.

Interim Fire Chief Burnsed explained the proposed site would not provide adequate coverage. The Hodgeville site would be a better location.

Fire Captain Owens stated the location is inappropriate for the need. The Belmont Glen properties would not receive protection with the proposed location.

Paul Wendelken, Rincon City Council spoke on identifying appropriate locations and being cost effective.

Mr. Billy Dasher questioned when a Fire Station would be constructed to serve the North West area of the County. There is currently no fire protection available which could have an adverse effect for property owners.

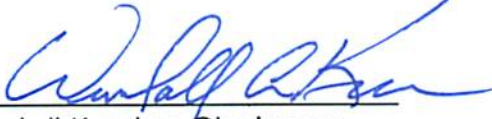
Interim County Administrator Allen replied the property acquisition is in the works and upon acquisition completion site construction would begin.

There was further discussion about the location and drafting an agreement with the City of Rincon.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Kieffer and Mr. Eric Gotwalt came in at the end of the workshop.

The workshop adjourned at 5:08 p.m.



Wendall Kessler, Chairman



Stephanie Johnson, County Clerk