

**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, Mr. Reggie Loper and Mr. Phil Kieffer met in regular session 5:00 pm on Tuesday, January 20, 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. Clint Hodges, Fire Chief, Mr. Clarence Morgan, Recreation Director, Mr. Tim Matthews, Mr. Larry Saxon, Ms. Elaine Spencer, Mr. Craig Johnson, Mr. Patrick Graham, Mr. King Evans, Mike and Elaine Hutto, Mr. Bryan Ferris, Deidre and Yancy Ford, Ms. Claudia Collier, Mr. Ryan Price, Mr. Jimmy Seckinger, Ms. Gigi Rigsby and Mr. Pat Donahue

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 reverse the order of New Business item# 4 to New Business item# 6.

Commissioner Loper made a motion to approve the agenda with the noted changes. Commissioner Floyd seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES

Commissioner Floyd made a motion to approve the January 6, 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 Loper made a motion to approve (1) the Second Reading to amend Chapter 34 – Flood Damage Prevention Regulations, section 34-7.

Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION

The Board of Commissioners presented each member of the Effingham County Recreation & Parks 10 and under Jaguars Football Team members and its coaches with a plaque which proclaimed January 20, 2015 as Effingham Champions Day.

OLD BUSINESS**CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE CERTIFICATE OF SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION FOR THE NEW SHERIFF'S OFFICE (01):**

Community Relations Director explained the Board approved funding for the construction of a new Effingham County Sheriff's and the building is now being used for its intended purposes. "Substantial Completion is the stage in the progress of the work when the work or designated portions is sufficiently complete in accordance with the contract documents so that the Owner can occupy or utilize the work for its intended use" and sets the effective date for all warranties. This is a part of the project closeout required by our contract procedures. A letter from the Sheriff has been received stating satisfaction.

Sheriff McDuffie stated there were a few minor issues but all other substantial issues have been resolved.

Ryan Price with Rives Worrell explained the roof system does have a 20 year warranty and an additional 10 year warranty for any leak discoveries within that time period. Any future issues will be repaired in a most timely fashion. A letter regarding the milestone accomplishments was submitted to the Clerk for the Board's review.

Commissioner Loper made a motion to approve to execute the Certificate of Substantial Completion. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION ON THE JOINT STUDY COMMITTEE ON CRITICAL TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING (02):

County Administrator Allen explained there is still no new information to report regarding the structure of this committee. A report has been submitted to the Board but Staff is unable to make any recommendations. Requested the Board remove the item from the agenda.

There was continued discussion among the Board and Staff.

Vice Chairperson Jones made a motion to remove this item from the agenda. Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE AN ASSEMBLAGE PERMIT FOR GUYTON LODGE #428 LOCATED AT 188 MAGNOLIA PLACE FOR A TURKEY SHOOT (01):

Zoning Administrator Shaw explained the Guyton Lodge had a successful turkey shoot this past fall and is requesting to hold another event on the last Friday of January through April.

Commissioner Deloach made a motion to approve the assemblage permit. Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE AN AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE FISCAL AGENT SERVICES TO EFFINGHAM COUNTY FAMILY CONNECTION COMMISSION, INC (02):

Mrs. Elaine Spencer of Family Connection requested of the Board to remain as Fiscal Agent for Effingham County Family Connection Commission.

Commissioner Loper made a motion to approve to be the fiscal agent for Effingham County Family Connection Commission, Inc. Vice Chairperson Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE TO APPOINT AN INDIVIDUAL TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR FAMILY CONNECTION (03):

Mrs. Elaine Spencer of Family Connection requested to appoint Stephanie Johnson to represent the Board of Commissioners on the Board of Directors for Family Connection.

Vice Chairperson Jones made a motion to appoint Stephanie Johnson to the Board of Directors for Family Connection. Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE AMENDED SHORT TERM WORK PROGRAM BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015 (04):

Finance Director Wright explained during the budget process staff makes estimations regarding the proposed budget based upon certain operational assumptions. During this year the board approved various projects and or expenditures. Staff adjusts the budgets based upon the budget ordinance and board direction. The board has recently prescribed direction regarding various projects contained within the Short Term Work Project Listing. Additionally we have completed the prior year's audit and have updated project status budget figures. A summary of the spreadsheet given to the Board was reviewed.

There was a lengthy discussion among the Board and Staff regarding the projects listed in the program.

Vice Chairperson Jones made a motion to approve the STWP project budget funding as amended for fiscal year 2014-15. Commissioner Floyd seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE TO DECLARE A HOUSE AT 1752 GEORGIA HIGHWAY 21 SOUTH AS SURPLUS FOR THE SALE THEREOF BY SEALED BIDS (05):

Community Relations Director Kobek explained the house is approximately 1752 square feet. Staff believes the home is in good condition and can be relocated. A revised resolution has been submitted which provides more detail about the property. Pictures are also included. Staff recommends approval.

Commissioner Deloach made a motion approve the Resolution of Surplus and allow Staff to properly dispose of. Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE TO ADOPT THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY 15 YEAR COMPREHENSIVE RECREATION AND PARKS PLAN (06):

Mr. Patrick Graham gave a brief presentation of the conceptual plan for all three phases of the proposed development which included the budget numbers and recommendations of CHA Sports based on the needs assessment.

There was a discussion and questions among the Board, Staff and Mr. Patrick Graham regarding the information presented.

Vice Chairperson Jones made a motion to approve to adopt the Effingham County 15 year Comprehensive Recreation and Parks plan. Commissioner Deloach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE ANNUAL SERVICE DELIVERY PAYMENTS TO THE MUNICIPALITIES (07):

Finance Director Wright explained the County entered into a service delivery agreement with the Municipalities. As part of the agreement the county agreed to provide a percentage back of the property tax funds spent each year in the area of roads and recreation to the municipalities. This is done based upon the audited statements and a prescribed calculation. The calculation involves isolation of duplicate and non-duplicated service cost, several iterations of expenditures less specific revenues, proration of administrative and information technology expenditures across funds, and the determination of actual property tax used to fund the County's recreation and roads. This net use of funding is then broken down by the percentage of digest in each municipal area to arrive at the payments owed to the cities. Staff requested the Board approve disbursement of \$392,275.22 and up to \$400,000.00.

There was a discussion among the Board and Staff regarding the processes for disbursement.

Vice Chairperson Jones made a motion to approve the disbursement of \$392,275.22 up to \$400,000.00. Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE TO DISBURSE FUNDING TO EFFINGHAM HOSPITAL (08):

Finance Director Wright explained Effingham County adopted a MOU regarding the hospital funding which stipulates protocol and mechanisms of reconciling the \$3,600,000 obligation under the HUD Hospital expansion agreement. A detail recap and reconciliation has been done regarding the collection of tax dollars. Payments have been reviewed by the Hospital Authority and by the Tax Commissioner, a shortfall was determined as of December 31, 2014.

There was a discussion on the levy, the digest and the stipulations of the agreement regarding payment.

Vice Chairperson Jones made a motion to approve the disbursement of \$529,043.63. Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE APPOINTMENTS TO THE JOINT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (09):

County Administrator Allen explained on December 9, 2014 the Board approved a resolution to create and activate the Savannah Port-Interstate 16 Corridor Joint Development Authority. The IDA Board approved the Joint Development Authority intergovernmental agreement on December 18, 2014. The agreement states the IDA would be responsible for and agrees to pay any costs

associated with the agreement as long as one of the two appointments is an IDA Board member appointed by the IDA Board. The Resolution states that one of the two appointments can be a member of the Board of Commissioners but does not have to be as long as they are a taxpayer residing in Effingham County. One member will be appointed for a two year term and the other member shall be appointed for a four year term.

Vice Chairperson Jones made a motion to approve the Chairman of the Industrial Development Authority (IDA), for the four (4) year appointment and the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners (BOC), for the two (2) year appointment. Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE CLERK TRAVEL FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION (10):

County Clerk Johnson explained the travel is for continuing education credits. The training is a twice per year event and is sponsored by ACCG and the Carl Vinson Institute.

Commissioner Loper made a motion to approve the travel cost. Commissioner Floyd seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO CANCEL THE APRIL 7, 2015 COMMISSION MEETING (11):

County Administrator Allen explained a number of Staff will be out of town for the week of the meeting due to Spring Break. There are no pressing issues and minimal items to place on the upcoming agendas therefore Staff believes the first Tuesday meeting of April can be cancelled.

Commissioner Loper made a motion to approve to cancel the April 7, 2015 Commission meeting. Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE COMMISSIONERS AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

County Administrator Allen discussed the following:

- 1. Monthly Fire Report**
 - Attached is the fire report for the month of December.
- 2. EMS Quarterly Report**
 - Attached is the quarterly report from EMS.
- 3. ACCG Spring Session of Lifelong Learning Academy**
 - The 2015 Spring Session will be held on March 12 and 13, 2015 at the Legacy Lodge at Lake Lanier Islands Resort.
 - The deadline to register for housing is February 9, 2015.
- 4. ACCG Leadership Institute**
 - The Leadership Institute will be held on March 12 through 14, 2015 from 7:00 am until 3:30 pm at the Legacy Lodge at Lake Lanier Islands Resort.
 - The deadline to register for housing is February 9, 2015.
 - Completion of the Leadership Institute is required for core certification in the Lifelong Learning Academy.
- 5. 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.

- Attached is a map showing the General Militia Districts, Commission Boundaries and residence of each Commissioner.
- 6. Springfield Revitalization**
 - The Springfield Revitalization Association has requested the use of the Blue Building.
 - Does the Board want to allow them to have an office in the building?
- 7. Amendments to the Planning Board**
 - Updated By-Laws for the Planning Board and proposed ordinance amendments are included for your review.
- 8. Second Readings**
 - There have been previous discussions regarding eliminating second reading to shorten the overall time required for an ordinance amendment.
 - Staff would like to propose placing both a first and a second reading on the agenda to be heard at the same meeting. If the first reading passes unanimously, the second reading would be voted on. If the first reading does not pass unanimously, the second reading would be tabled until the next regularly scheduled meeting.
- 9. Board Meeting Schedule**
 - There have been discussion about going back to the Boards previous meeting schedule where the first meeting on the month is held during the day and the second meeting of the month is held in the evening.
 - Would the Board like to consider making this change?
- 10. Blue Jay Road Waterline Extension**
 - EPD approval was received for the extension on January 8, 2015.
- 11. Financial Statement**
 - Financial Statements are attached for your review.
- 12. Republic Waste**
 - Discussed the company operating landfill/convenience center
- 13. Sheriff's Office Open House**
 - To be held on Sunday, February 8th at 3:00 pm open house
- 14. Final ISO Report**
 - To be discussed with the BOC in February

Vice Chairperson Jones discussed the following:

1. Westwood Cleanup

- The cleanup was requested by the Westwood HOA. A quarterly cleanup has been established with Republic to be conducted in any area where there is a need in Effingham County. Vice Chairperson Jones suggested the cleanup is rotated throughout the commissioner districts as needed.

County Clerk Johnson discussed the following:

1. Hospital Appointments

- Reminder about the hospital appointments. Clerk to provide the Board with a listing of all Boards & Committees

2. Training Profiles

- The Clerk provided the Commissioners with training profile information which details courses taken and courses not yet taken.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:56 pm, Commissioner Kieffer made a motion to enter executive session to discuss Personnel, Property and Pending Litigation. Vice Chairperson Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

RECONVENE

The meeting reconvened from executive session at 9:24 pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

Vice Chairperson Jones made a motion to approve the January 6, 2015 Executive Session Minutes. Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

PLANNING BOARD PRESENTMENTS

WILLIAM HOPPER III (01): The applicant request a variance located at the corner of Central Ave and Third Street Map# 330A Parcel# 27B & 28B in the First District

Zoning Administrator Shaw explained the applicant wants to combine the parcel to create a more buildable lot. The Health department is agreeable to the change.

Mr. William Hopper approached in favor of the request.

Commissioner Floyd made a motion to approve the request as stated by Staff and the Planning Board. Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

WILLIAM HOPPER III (02): The applicant request to rezone 0.88 acres located at the corner of Central Ave and Third Street from AR-1 to AR-2 Map# 330A Parcel# 27B & 28B in the First District

Zoning Administrator Shaw explained after combining the two nonconforming lots the property needs to be rezoned.

No one was present in favor or against the request.

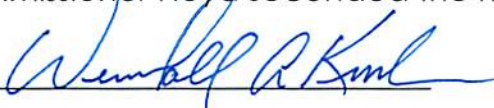
Commissioner Floyd made a motion to approve the request with the following Staff and Planning Board recommendations:

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.
4. Subdivision plat shall be approved by the Health Department and the Zoning Office.

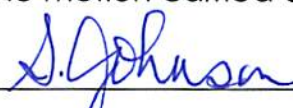
Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:24 pm, Commissioner Loper made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Floyd seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.



WENDALL KESSLER, CHAIRMAN



STEPHANIE JOHNSON, COUNTY CLERK