

**EFFINGHAM COUNTY**  
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING**  
*October 18, 2016*

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The Board of Commissioners of Effingham County, Georgia, Mr. Wendall Kessler, Chairman, Mr. Forrest Floyd – Vice Chair, Mrs. Vera Jones, Mr. Jamie Deloach, Mr. Reginald Loper and Mr. Phil Kieffer met in regular meeting 5:00 pm on Tuesday, October 18, 2016 in the Commissioners Meeting Room at the Effingham County Administrative Complex.

**PERSONS ATTENDING THE MEETING**

Mr. Toss Allen, County Administrator, Mr. Edward Newberry, County Attorney, Mrs. Stephanie Johnson – County Clerk, Mrs. Joanna Wright – Finance Director, Mrs. Fiona Charleton-Purchasing Agent, Mr. Clint Hodges – Fire Chief/EMA Director, Mr. R.C. Barenchik-Zoning Administrator,

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Kessler called the meeting to order.

**INVOCATION**

Chairman Kessler gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG**

Chairman Kessler led the Pledge.

**AGENDA APPROVAL**

Commissioner Loper made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Deloach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**MINUTES**

County Clerk Johnson confirmed a change needed to be made in the motion for agenda approval regarding New Business Item# 4. The motion should read New Business Item# 4 instead of Item# 1 to table until November 1, 2016.

Vice Chairperson Floyd made a motion to approve the minutes for the October 4, 2016 regular Commissioners meeting with the noted change. Commissioner Kieffer 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.

**APPEARANCE**

Mr. Driggers, a resident of FoxBow expressed concern about ditch drainage and repaving of the road.

It was explained the road is scheduled to repaved at some point in 2017.

Phillip Heath, President of Foxbow Farms Home Owner's Association stated roads in the development were paved in the late 70s to early 80s. Since this time the roads have only been patched.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE TO AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN A PROPOSAL FROM WHITAKER LABORATORY FOR MATERIAL TESTING AND INSPECTION SERVICES FOR THE RECREATION COMPLEX PROJECT (01):**

County Administrator Allen explained Effingham County hired Lavender and Associates as the construction manager to deliver the Recreation Complex project. Construction is underway at this time.

The geotechnical report for the project was prepared by Whitaker Laboratory. Our Construction Manager contract requires the county to provide special inspections testing services. A proposal was obtained from Whitaker Laboratory to provide special inspections testing services. Staff would like to utilize the same firm that prepared the geotechnical report to provide special inspections testing. Whitaker Laboratory has provided special inspections testing services for most of the projects constructed by Effingham County the past several years.

Commissioner Kieffer made a motion to approve to authorize the Chairman to sign the proposal from Whitaker Laboratory for Material Testing and Inspection Services.

Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**DISCUSSION ON INSURANCE AND RETIREMENT PLANS (02):**

Finance Director Wright gave an overview of the options received by various carriers including United Health Care, BlueCross BlueShield (BCBS) and Humana. Findings were that BlueCross BlueShield offered the most cost effective option. Humana offered savings; however, the coverage is an HMO.

Interim Human Resources Director Dunn explained BlueCross BlueShield, Option K will offer employees comparable coverage at no real increase to the County. Employees will receive breaks in copays – from \$40 to \$25, from \$75 to \$50 for office visit, urgent care visit, from \$100 to \$60, and emergency room visits will mostly remain at \$250, (\$150 was offered). The individual deductible will be \$2500/ \$7500 family deductible.

There was a discussion about the coverage period being 12 or 18 months with coverage to begin January 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Larry Hadden, Agent of Record, confirmed from the aspect of cost savings the 12 month period may be the better option.

The Board and Staff continued in a lengthy discussion regarding cost, savings, and benefits of the coverage.

Interim Human Resources Director Dunn further discussed the terms of the County's current long term disability which outlines if an employee returns within 2 years. Would the board like to consider revising the terms to state when an employee is able to return to work that they be brought back in any capacity for which they are qualified?

The Board confirmed needing more time to consider the proposed changes.

## **REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

County Administrator Allen discussed the following:

### **1. Library Board Meeting**

- The Effingham County Library Board will be meeting on October 19, 2016 at 10:00 at the Springfield Library.

### **2. Hurricane Matthew After Action Review**

- An after action review will be conducted at the Effingham County Administrative Complex on Monday, October 24, 2016 beginning at 10:00 am.

### **3. FEMA Disaster Declaration**

- Effective October 17, 2016, Effingham County has been designated for both Individual Assistance and assistance for debris removal and emergency protective measures.
- The IA declaration will provide specific FEMA assistance to citizens who suffered loss from Hurricane Matthew.
- The PA declaration will assist the County and other governmental entities and certain Not For Profit, specifically EMC's.

### **4. FEMA Applicant Briefings**

- GEMSHA's Public Assistance and Recovery Division will be conducting Applicant Briefings on Thursday, October 20, 2016 at the Bryan County Administration Building beginning at 2:00 pm.
- They will be addressing application procedures, administrative requirements, funding and program eligibility criteria.

### **5. Debris Dump Sites**

- The county is currently accepting storm debris (natural vegetation) free of charge at the Atlas Sand Mine Site, the Convenience Center and at Old Augusta and Ft. Howard Roads.
- A prison detail is available to assist in unloading debris at the Convenience Center and at Old Augusta and Ft. Howard Roads sites.

**6. Sanitation Bids**

- Has the Board had an opportunity to look over documents? The Board and Staff discussed replacement of all carts.
- This item was tabled to the November 1, 2016 commission meeting, is there any additional info or input from the Board?

**7. Holly Lane**

- Would the Board like for Staff and the County Attorney to perform title work and survey before moving forward with improvements? Board directed Staff and Attorney to move ahead.

**8. Road Striping**

- Asked the Board if there were any additional roads to be considered?

**9. Administrative Complex Project**

- Programming sites, DFCS, current Admin Building and Early Street site

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 6:42 pm, Commissioner Kieffer made a motion to enter executive session to discuss personnel, property and pending litigation. Commissioner Deloach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**RECONVENE**

The Board reconvened the meeting at 7:01pm.

**PLANNING BOARD**

**Patrick Porter – Public Hearing (01):** The Planning Board recommends approving an application by Patrick Porter to rezone 4.16 acres located at 180 McIntyre Road from AR-1 to AR-2 to allow for a home site Map# 297 Parcel# 49 in the First District.

Zoning Administrator Barenchik explained the applicant would like to rezone the property give a family member one acre of property. Staff and Planning Board recommend approval.

No one was present in favor or against the request.

Vice Chairperson Floyd made a motion to approve with Staff and Planning Board recommendations:

1. Lot meets the requirements of the AR-2 zoning district.
  2. Site development plans comply with the Effingham County Water Resources Protection Ordinance and the Stormwater Management Local Design Manual.
  3. All wetland impacts permitted by USACE.
  4. Subdivision plat must be approved by the Health Department and the Zoning Office.
- Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Patrick Porter – Second Reading (02):** Consideration to approve the Second Reading of an application by Patrick Porter to rezone 4.16 acres located at 180 McIntyre Road from AR-1 to AR-2 to allow for a home site Map# 297 Parcel# 49 in the First District.

Vice Chairperson Floyd made a motion to approve the Second Reading. Commissioner Deloach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Gregory Lloyd Shearouse – Public Hearing (03):** The Planning Board recommends approving an application by Gregory Lloyd Shearouse to rezone 2.52 acres located at 584 Roebling Road from AR-1 to AR-2 Map# 376A Parcel# 8C in the First District

Zoning Administrator Barenchik explained the applicant would like to rezone the property to add another home site. Planning Board and Staff recommends approval.

No one was present in favor or against the request.

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

1. Lot meets the requirements of the AR-2 zoning district.
2. Site development plans comply with the Effingham County Water Resources Protection Ordinance and the Stormwater Management Local Design Manual.
3. All wetland impacts permitted by USACE.
4. Subdivision plat must be approved by the Health Department and the Zoning Office.

Commissioner Deloach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Gregory Lloyd Shearouse - Second Reading (04):** Consideration to approve the Second Reading of an application by Gregory Lloyd Shearouse to rezone 2.52 acres located at 584 Roebling Road from AR-1 to AR-2 Map# 376A Parcel# 8C in the First District

Vice Chairperson Floyd made a motion to approve the Second Reading. Commissioner Deloach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Atlantic Cargo Logistics, LLC – Public Hearing (05):** The Planning Board recommends approving an application by Atlantic Cargo Logistics, LLC for a Conditional Use for the construction of a warehouse located at 323 Commerce Drive, zoned B-3 Map# 466C Parcel# 6 in the Fifth District

Zoning Administrator Barenchik explained warehouses are permitted as a conditional use in a B-3 zoning district. Staff recommends approval with all buffer requirements.

No one was present in favor or against the request.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve with Planning Board and Staff recommendations:

1. Site development plans comply with the Effingham County Water Resources Protection Ordinance and the Stormwater Management Local Design Manual.
2. All wetland impacts permitted by USACE.
3. Meet the requirements of 3.4 Buffers
4. Meet the requirements of 3.30 Off-street access control parking and loading.

**Atlantic Cargo Logistics, LLC – Second Reading (06):** Consideration to approve the Second Reading of an application Atlantic Cargo Logistics, LLC for a Conditional Use for the construction of a warehouse located at 323 Commerce Drive, zoned B-3 Map# 466C Parcel# 6 in the Fifth District

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the Second Reading with the Planning Board and Staff recommendations. Commissioner Deloach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES**

Commissioner Deloach made a motion to approve the October 4, 2016 executive session minutes. Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business at 7:28 pm, Commissioner Loper made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Deloach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

  
WENDALL A. KESSLER, CHAIRMAN

  
STEPHANIE JOHNSON, COUNTY CLERK