

EFFINGHAM COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
November 1, 2016

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 session 5:00 pm on Tuesday, November 1, 2016 in the Commissioners Meeting Room at the Effingham County Administrative Complex.

PERSONS ATTENDING THE MEETING

Mr. Edward Newberry, County Attorney, Mr. Toss Allen – County Administrator, Mrs. Stephanie Johnson – County Clerk, Mrs. Joanna Wright – Finance Director, Mrs. Vicki Dunn – Interim HR Director, Mr. Clarence Morgan – Recreation Director, Mr. Clint Hodges – Fire Chief/EMA Director, David & Joyce Lockard, Mr. Tony Chiariello, Mr. Jack Garvin, Mr. Randy Dixon, Mr. Matt Dunn, Ms. Gini Nichols, Mr. Brett Bennett and Zack Lee

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Kessler called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION

Commissioner Deloach gave the invocation.

PLEDGE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

Chairman Kessler led the Pledge.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Chairman Kessler explained there were a few items being proposed to add to the agenda. New Business #1 – Discussion and consideration of approval of a Proposal from Enviroworx Operations Management (EOM) for Mosquito Control services, New Business# 11- Consideration to approve funding for the use of a grant writer and New Business# 12 – Consideration to approve a Memorandum of Understanding between Effingham County and the City of Rincon for Debris Removal and Monitoring Services

Commissioner Deloach made a motion to approve the agenda with the noted changes.

Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES

Commissioner Loper made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2016 Commission meeting and the October 24, 2016 special called 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 Kieffer made a motion to approve the following Consent Agenda items as noted. Consideration to approve: (1) an Assemblage Permit for a turkey shoot for Albert Jackson located at 187 Church Road Map# 366A Parcel# 17. Commissioner Deloach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE AN INFRASTRUCTURE PURCHASE AND SALE CONTRACT FOR SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH LAUREL MILL SUBDIVISION AND AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO EXECUTE THE CLOSING DOCUMENTS (01):

Commissioner Loper recused himself from voting.

Chairman Kessler asked if there was any additional information or questions from the Commissioners.

Commissioner Jones asked if all other pump stations have been accepted.

County Administrator Allen explained there were a few others that have not yet been accepted.

Vice Chairperson Floyd made a motion to approve the Infrastructure Purchase and Sale Contract for system improvements associated with Laurel Mill Subdivision and authorize the Chairman to execute the closing documents. Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Republic Services

Mr. Randy Dixon, Municipal Manager for Republic Services explained he wanted to come before the board to speak on the events related to services after the storm and to answer any questions. Republic services were suspended for a couple of days due to evacuation orders

for Chatham County. Once resumed, the recycle cart was also allowed to be used for trash to aid citizenry in getting rid of extra household garbage.

Commissioner Jones expressed complaints received regarding oil coming from trucks; asked that options are explored to resolve the issue.

Other concerns mentioned were trying blowing over the road from trucks. Mr. Randy Dixon stated cages are installed on the back of trucks to keep trash from falling from the trucks.

More concerns were trash cans being left in the roadway after they are dumped.

Harold Morgan, King Leonard and Derek Gillette complained about the trash and recycle services of Republic.

The dialogue continued about the number of complaint calls the County receives on behalf of Republic. The discussion ended.

Capstone Benefits Consulting

Mr. Leonard Blount presented information to the Board and gave an overview of the health care options offered by Capstone. The discussion also included the process for open enrollment and ACH compliance. Capstone Benefits Consulting provides health care insurance to Effingham Hospital.

Mr. Reed Damron further continued the conversation with a discussion on cost and fees, marketing results and plan benefit comparisons.

The Board conversed with representatives of Capstone on the information presented and asked questions about flat rates, commission and in network facilities.

NEW BUSINESS

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF A PROPOSAL FROM ENVIROWORX OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT (EOM) FOR MOSQUITO CONTROL SERVICES (01): *(addition to agenda)*

Commissioner Jones explained the concern begin with comments she received from Don Logana of WTOC. After this time staff was consulted to gather pricing options for mosquito control. A price of approximately \$11,000 was submitted from EOM for a one time spray for approximately 600 road miles. As a precaution areas consisting of bee hives would be avoided and spray times would be 8:00 pm – 1:00 am over three weekends.

Rev. Ron Quarterman, a certified beekeeper confirmed bees have been killed recently on the south end of the county from spraying in Chatham County. Concern was expressed for children, groundwater and predators of nature. The mosquito problem is a temporary issue.

Mr. Robert Wright, former beekeeper and mosquito control employee explained the mosquito control industry has evolved over the years. However, the insecticide being used today is still toxic to bees but will only kill insects approximately the size of a mosquito.

Ms. Kim Studier stated each year she is losing more and more bees because of viruses and diseases, spraying chemicals would cause the loss of more.

Another citizen expressed concern for the toxins in the insecticide causing cancer, expressed the option of setting up bat houses to decrease the mosquito population.

Mr. Jack Garvin, former Chatham County mosquito control employee stated if the trucks are not entering private property (driveways) the spray would not help. In addition, the beekeeper houses need to be identified.

Mr. Harold Royer stated he just left Chatham County where the mosquitos are still bad. A beehive is worth approximately \$200 each. It would be more cost effective if each homeowner would be responsible for mosquito control on their properties.

There was further discussion about entering private roads and gated communities.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the contract and allow the County Administrator to work with the contractor to depict beekeeper locations and designate the more beneficial areas to spray. There was no second. The motion dies. Commissioner Loper made a motion to deny the request.

DISCUSSION ON A BID FOR SANITATION SERVICES (02):

County Administrator Allen explained an RFP was previously given to the Board for review. One of the questions asked before was should all new trucks be provided.

The Board and Staff discussed the outline of the current contract which states the trucks shall be no older than 8 years old.

Mr. Randy Dixon, Municipal Manager of Republic Services stated trucks are typically cycled out every 10 years.

The Board and Staff continued at length discussions about trucks, carts and services currently being provided.

There were no changes advised by the Board. A final document will be prepared for the Board's review.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE MEDICAL AND ANCILLARY INSURANCE WITH BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD FOR A 12 MONTH PERIOD (03):

Finance Director Wright explained after a series of meetings a plan was presented for consideration by our Agent of Record. The plan Staff has considered is called the K Plan for a 12 month period with ancillary opposed to an 18 month plan with ancillary.

The Board and Staff discussed the presentation by Capstone and the material provided for BlueCross Blue Shield. The Board spoke about needing more time to review the options.

Mr. Larry Hadden gave an overview of the county's insurance history over the decade. Information has been provided to the County but due to turn over within the Human Resources department there have been challenges in finalizing insurance plans.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to table the request until November 15, 2016, a workshop to be held before the board meeting at 4:00 PM and authorize the Chairman to sign a letter allowing Capstone Benefits Consulting to gather quotes. Commissioner Deloach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO ADDENDUM# 6 OF THE FINANCIAL POLICIES TO ALLOW FOR PAYMENT OF STIPEND FOR RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS (04):

Finance Director Wright explained during the past budget year the County budgeted funds for payment of stipends to the volunteer fire fighters. Under our financial policies we identify acceptable or unacceptable courses of action by establishing parameters in which the county can operate and make disbursements. Prior to this time payment for volunteers has not been made, however some stipends due exist regarding work clothing.

Fire Chief Hodges confirmed the cities of Rincon and Springfield currently have a policy in place.

Commissioner Loper made a motion to approve payment of stipends under current Federal and State guidelines. Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE TO ACCEPT AN ENGAGEMENT LETTER WITH LEWIS LAW TRIAL LAWYERS FOR LEGAL SERVICES (05):

County Administrator Allen explained the easement is necessary within the Effingham Park of Commerce. The County Attorney recently got involved and ran title to the property. The search revealed some issues. This avenue appears to be the easiest way to final the process.

Commissioner Deloach made a motion to accept the Engagement Letter. Vice Chairman Floyd seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A MOA BETWEEN EFFINGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES FOR TOWER SPACE (06):

County Administrator Allen explained a meeting was held with Public Safety and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) where a request was initiated for the use of tower space. There is no coverage for DNR in this area. There is no cost to the County. If this agreement is approved by the Board it will be forwarded to State Properties for approval.

Commissioner Deloach made a motion to approve the MOA with the Georgia department of Natural Resources for antenna/receiver space. Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO ACCEPT A DONATION FOR EFFINGHAM COUNTY FIRE RESCUE FROM KINDER MORGAN (07):

County Administrator Allen explained Kinder Morgan offered a \$10,000 donation to Effingham Fire Rescue that will be specifically used for a trailer to transport foam. The truck previously used to transport is now inoperable. Effingham County's Financial Policies require donations or gifts in amounts greater than \$5,000 to be accepted by the Effingham County Board of Commissioners.

Chairman Kessler and the Board confirmed for the record there are no promises or commitments made by the County.

Commissioner Loper made a motion to approve to accept the donation from Kinder Morgan. Vice Chairperson Floyd seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO AMEND THE SCHEDULE OF FEES (08):

Finance Director Wright explained over the last year a new phone and commissary system was implemented at the Prison. Fees for services provided by the county to inmates have been charged. The current Schedule of Fees does not include these fees. The fees being charged mirrors those of the state prison system. The schedule of the fees for services

provided to the inmates is: ID card fee \$5.00, Medical fee \$4.00, D-3-L fee \$ 100.00, Medical Co Pay \$5.00 and Monthly Banking Fee \$1.00.

The Board asked for confirmation that no other fees were being changed within the schedule expect what was outlined by Staff and presented in read. Staff responded affirmatively.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the changes as presented with the new fees not previously reflected. Vice Chairperson Floyd seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION ON THE RETIREMENT PLAN INVESTMENT AND CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE ANY NECESSARY CHANGES (09):

Finance Director Wright explained in the last few weeks the Board has been working to provide new avenues to employees regarding Retirement and recently made changes to the Define Benefit Plan. As part of the overall review staff has requested a review of the current investment strategy.

Chairman Kessler outlined that there is concern regarding the current environment of the investments. Conversations have taken place about moving the funds to a safer and more stable environment.

Ms. Virginia Nichols of LPL Financial stated the Board can place investments in any manner chosen. The Board will need to approve to make those changes to preserve capital. In addition, the Board would need to decide who would make the investment objectives. It's historically proven that an increase is seen in the market during presidential elections. The recommendation from Ms. Nichols was to stay the course.

There was a lengthy discussion on how to move forward, the amount of funds to be left in account and who should be a part of the investment committee.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve a change of the investment objective within the Investment Policy Statement (IPS) for the Defined Benefit (DB) Plan to preservation of capital with income and form a committee consisting of the Chairman, County Administrator, Finance Director and one other Commissioner to make those necessary changes.

Commissioner Deloach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE GUARANTEED MAXIMUM PRICE CHANGE ORDER #2 FOR THE PROPOSED RECREATION COMPLEX (10):

County Administrator Allen explained the existing contract only covers Construction Management Services; a Change Order is required for the site construction. The proposed

GMP Change Order is for the ball field construction and the vertical structures. Approving this GMP Change Order requires \$3,356,807.18. This is a portion of the funding previously approved in the short term work program for this project. The money will be paid from SPLOST proceeds. Under this Change Order the board will be granting latitude to the committee to negotiate the contract.

There was some discussion among the Board and Staff about some concerns with the changes being suggested by the Contractor.

Commissioner Deloach made a motion to approve the Guaranteed Maximum Price Change Order. Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE FUNDING FOR THE USE OF A GRANT WRITER (11):
(addition to agenda)

Commissioner Loper mentioned that the CRC has a grant writer on hand that is available to the County.

Finance Director Wright explained Emergency Management is in need of additional radios. Currently there is an open Assistance to Firefighters grant. The grant opened October 11th and closes November 18th. Silver Business Development is a business group who perform grant writing. We have used them in the past to request radios and other equipment.

Silver Business Development has been successful in obtaining grant funding on behalf of the county and the various municipalities. Many of the grants will allow for the grant writer payment to be paid from the grant, if so we will include the cost within the grant. Given the shortness of time staff is requesting permission to appropriate funds for use of a grant writer.

Approximately \$800,000 was received from previous grant written by Silver Business Development. This particular grant does not allow payment from the proceeds of the grant.

The Board discussed possibly using the grant writer with the CRC for future grants.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the request. Vice Chairperson Floyd seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN EFFINGHAM COUNTY AND THE CITY OF RINCON FOR DEBRIS REMOVAL AND MONITORING SERVICES (12): *(addition to agenda)*

County Administrator Allen explained October 24, 2016 the Board had a Special Called Meeting at which a Debris Removal contract with Southern Disaster Recovery and a Debris Removal Monitoring Contract with Thompson Consulting were approved.

Both contracts contained provisions for the Cities to utilize the same contractors for the same services within their corporate limits.

On October 26, 2016 The City of Rincon had a Special Called Meeting at which they opted to utilize the service of Southern Disaster Recovery for Debris Removal and Thompson Consulting for Debris Removal Monitoring. A Memorandum of Understanding between Effingham County and The City of Rincon is required to formalize their choice.

Today we received a revised Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and a new Intergovernmental Agreement was received from Rincon's attorney. Staff suggested that the Board approve the MOU and agreement to be signed by the Chairman upon review by the County Attorney.

There was dialogue about from where the funds would be dispersed, payments and reimbursements schedules.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve to authorize the contract for the City of Rincon for debris management to be approved by the County Attorney with the provision being added that payment is received within 30 days of the date of invoice. Commissioner Deloach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

County Administrator Allen discussed the following:

- 1. Monthly Senior Citizens Report**
 - The monthly senior citizens center report for the month of September 2016 has been provided.
- 2. EMS Quarterly Report**
 - The quarterly report for the third quarter of 2016 has been provided.
- 3. ACCG District Meeting**
 - The 12th District meeting will be held on November 9th from 4:30 until 6:30 at the Dorchester Village Civic Center.
 - An agenda is provided.
- 4. Annexation Arbitration Panels**
 - The Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA), in conjunction with ACCG and GMA, is actively calling for local county and city elected officials who are willing to serve on annexation arbitration panels.
 - Volunteers will be required to complete some training before serving on a panel and will receive a per diem for their services.
 - You will not be asked to serve on more than two panels per year.
- 5. Community Clean Up**

- A Sanitation Bulk Waste and Drop off Event will be held Saturday and Sunday, December 3-4 from 8 am until 6 pm at the Clio Recreation Center.
- Household items, furniture and yard waste will be collected free of charge.
- 6. Eggs and Issues**
 - The Effingham County Chamber of Commerce will host this year's Eggs and Issues at the Effingham College and Career Academy at 7:30 am on Wednesday, December 7, 2016.
- 7. City of Guyton Christmas Parade**
 - The City of Guyton will host a Christmas Parade on December 3, 2016.
 - The line-up begins at 9:00 am with the parade beginning at 11:00 am.
 - If you would like to participate in the parade you must notify them by November 18, 2016.
- 8. FEMA Scoping Meeting**
 - The FEMA Recovery Scoping Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 11/2 at 10:00 am and will be held at the Effingham County EOC, 181 Recycle Way, Guyton, GA 31312.
 - This meeting is expected to take approximately 2 hours.
- 9. Define Benefit Documents**
 - An individual needs to be named, would the Board like this item to be placed on an agenda?
- 10. Mark Butler**
 - At Career Academy at November 15, 2016 at 8:30 AM
- 11. FEMA Disaster Recovery Center**
 - To be held November 15 -17 at the Rec Dept Gym on Hwy 119, times not yet determined.
- 12. FEMA Waiver**
 - Applied for waiver for gated communities and private roads; received info back from FEMA on the private roads, no definitive response

County Clerk Johnson discussed the following:

- 1. Swearing In Ceremony**
 - To be held December 15th at 6:00 PM at the Historic Courthouse Courtroom
- 2. Meeting Date Change/Cancel**
 - Discussed having one meeting in December; date proposed is December 13th. Also, discussed the January 3rd meeting. To be discussed at a later date.
- 3. CORE MPO Board**
 - Dr. Cheryl Goldwire will be submitting a letter of resignation from the CORE MPO Citizens Advisory Board. The Board will need to consider another appointment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 9:44 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 approximately 10:15 pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

Commissioner Deloach made a motion to approve the October 18, 2016 executive session minutes. Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, at 10:16 pm, Commissioner Kieffer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.


WENDALL A. KESSLER, CHAIRMAN


STEPHANIE JOHNSON, COUNTY CLERK