

THIRD TUESDAY MEETING

March 20, 2007

The Jones County Board of Commissioners met for their Third Tuesday meeting at 6:30 p.m. March 20, 2007, in the Charlotte C. Wilson Conference Room at the Jones County Government Center. Members present were:

Preston Hawkins - Chairman
David C. Gault – Vice-Chairman
Larry Childs – District 1 Commissioner
Mell Merritt – District 3 Commissioner
Bert Liston – District 4 Commissioner

County Attorney, Frank Childs, was present.

Chairman Hawkins called the meeting to order at 6:43 p.m.
(Chairman Hawkins exercises his voting rights in the case of a tie.)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Comm. Gault made a motion to approve the agenda with one amendment to add Fleta Harper as visitor #4. Comm. Merritt seconded the motion. Vote - unanimous.

Mr. Thunderburke opened with volunteer prayer. Scout Master Michael Hamlin and Cub Scout Pack 485 followed by the leading of the pledge.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Comm. Merritt made a motion to approve the minutes from the first Tuesday meeting, March 6, 2007, minutes. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote - unanimous.

VISITORS:

1. Fred Walton with AARP requested a wavier of fees for the use of the Civic Center; however he was not present.

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2. Tim Pitrowski, Director of Planning and Zoning, was present to discuss requiring new subdivisions to provide construction drawings. Consensus of the Board was to table discussion until the first Tuesday in April.
3. Terry Godfrey requested that Stallings Road be added back to the paving list. Chairman Hawkins had the locally funded road paving priority list with him and the Board reviewed it. Consensus of the Board was to remove Stirk Road, priority one which was completed, and add approximately 1.5 miles of Stallings Road as priority 16. The fire station in Haddock was briefly discussed. Diana Morris from the audience then addressed the Board concerning the paving on Plantation Club Drive.
4. Fleta Harper thanked the Board members and Michael D. Underwood, County Administrator, for their participation in the Bicentennial Celebration March 17, 2007.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Benny Lukose requested a Beer and Wine license. Comm. Gault made a motion the request be approved. Comm Merritt and Liston dually seconded. Vote – unanimous.
2. Michael D. Underwood, County Administrator, discussed employee appreciation day with the Board. Comm. Gault made a motion to approve the request as written with the Commissioners' Office being responsible for keeping the door prizes locked in the safe and logged as they come in. Comm. Liston seconded. Vote – unanimous.
3. Michael D. Underwood discussed the new contracts for county cell phone service. The same services that the county has received in the past will continue; the county will keep the same phone numbers; information will be downloaded from the old phones to new ones; 36 new phones will be provided free of charge with an approximate cost savings of \$100 per month. Comm. Gault made a motion to accept the contract; Comm. Childs seconded. Vote – unanimous.
4. The Board discussed the bids for a 2008 single-axel flatbed dump truck. Freddie Wiggins recommended the bid from Riverside Ford. Comm. Gault questioned how much the truck will be used and if the needs would be served with a used truck. With the truck not being used every, Comm. Gault recommended a dependable used truck. Comm. Childs discussed problems that have occurred with the purchase of a used truck and preferred warranties that come with a new truck. Comm Childs made a motion to approve the bid from Riverside Ford for \$56,765. Comm. Liston commended Comm. Gault for trying to save the county money. Comm. Liston seconded the motion. Vote was 3-2 with Commissioners Gault and Merritt opposed; Chairman Hawkins, Comm. Childs and

Comm. Liston voted in favor of the motion. The Board discussed the backhoe and trailer that the water department used to have that is still missing. Mr. Wiggins said that it was gone when he came back to work at the water department. Comm. Merritt asked that the fixed asset records be pulled to verify the asset. Consensus of the Board was to try to find the trailer by tracking serial numbers.

5. Chairman Hawkins discussed the Department of Transportation striping contract. Comm. Gault made motion to accept the contract with the new roads added by Chairman Hawkins; Comm. Liston seconded. Vote – unanimous. Roads added for striping were Bowen Hill, Henderson Road, and Howard Roberts Road. These roads will be swapped with other roads previously listed in a contract with a net difference in cost of an estimated \$345 which would be due back to the state. The Board briefly discussed Chapman Road. Also discussed was a portion of the road caving in due to a boiling spring at Chee Haw towards Homer Roberts Road.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

1. Discussion of the policies were tabled.
2. Freddie Wiggins discussed the county contract with Mark Brothers for collections. Freddie asked that the county use Bibb Collection Agency. They would charge 40% of collections on legal accounts and 33% on all other accounts. They only accept accounts over \$50.00. Comm. Gault made a motion to allow Freddie Wiggins to engage Bibb Collection Agency to start with the list he has today with a \$50.00 minimum. Comm. Liston seconded. Vote – unanimous. Mr. Wiggins presented a jacket to Laten Boniol, Assistant Director of Public Works.
3. Laten Boniol announced that Bobby Waldrop should be returning to work soon following his hospital stay. Comm. Childs recommended that Mr. Waldrop gradually return to full time status.
4. Mike Underwood announced the resignation of Mandy Doles, Director of Keep Jones Beautiful. Upon recommendation, the Board discussed abolishing the program. The Board discussed the fact that Tiffany Whorton had been helping Mrs. Doles. Consensus of the Board was not to advertise the position at this time. Mr. Underwood discussed closing the recycling center on Industrial Boulevard and moving building maintenance in the center for additional office space.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Comm. Childs: Comm. Childs discussed sending letters about changing the name of Tower Road to Curtis James Road effective April 15, 2007. Signs need to be ordered. Comm. Childs discussed smoking at the recreation complexes. Comm. Childs made motion to adopt a policy that no smoking is allowed except in areas that are specifically designated for smoking at the South Complex on Hwy 49, the Central Complex on Hwy 18, the recreation areas adjoining the Government Center, and the recreation area in Haddock. Comm. Gault seconded. Vote – unanimous. Mr. Wood and Mr. Underwood are to meet to establish the designated smoke areas and order signs to post at the facilities. No smoking areas are to include but are not limited to the bleachers, concession stands, and dug outs. State law provides for no smoking indoors such as the bathrooms.

Comm. Gault: Comm. Gault asked about the ball fields in Haddock and requested the installation of bases. Discussion about theft of bases followed. Consensus of the Board was to purchase one set of bases only and to move the old bleachers from the public works complex to the Haddock field.

Comm. Liston: Comm. Liston discussed opening day for the two recreation complexes.

Comm. Merritt: Comm. Merritt had no comments.

ADJOURNMENT:

Comm. Gault made a motion to adjourn into executive session to discuss personnel. Comm. Merritt seconded the motion. Vote - unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

RECONVENED:

The meeting reconvened at 8:00 p.m. Comm. Childs made a motion to rescind the motion from the previous meeting on March 6, 2007 to hire a part time laborer at \$7.50 per hour and made a new motion to hire a part time laborer in Public Works at \$8.16 per hour. Comm. Gault seconded. Vote – unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT:

Comm. Gault made a motion to adjourn. Comm. Liston seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

APPROVED

Jones County Board of Commissioners

Preston Hawkins, Chairman

David C. Gault, Vice-Chairman, District 2

Larry Childs, District 1 Commissioner

Mell Merritt, District 3 Commissioner

Bert Liston, District 4 Commissioner

Leila Brittain, Clerk of the Board