

## THIRD TUESDAY MEETING

January 17, 2006

The Jones County Board of Commissioners met for their Third Tuesday meeting at 6:30 p.m. January 17, 2006, 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

Attorney Jason Downey attended the meeting in County Attorney Frank Childs' place.

Chairman Hawkins called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. Comm. Gault opened with volunteer prayer followed by the pledge.  
(Chairman Hawkins exercises his voting rights in the case of a tie.)

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Comm. Merritt made a motion to approve the minutes from the first Tuesday meeting on January 3, 2006. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote - unanimous.

### **VISITORS:**

1. Floyd Comer, with the Jones County Health Department, presented the Board handouts and requested that the Board adopt the Georgia Department of Human Resources rules and regulations as a county ordinances. Comm. Gault made a motion to adopt the Georgia Department of Human Resources rules and regulations as a county ordinances as follows:
  1. On-site sewage management systems, 290-5-26.
  2. Food services, 290-5-14.
  3. Tourist accommodations, 290-5-18.
  4. Swimming pools, spas, and recreational water parks, 290-5-57.Comm. Liston seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. See attachments for specifications.

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2. Evelyn Hill with the Adult Education Center was on the agenda but not present.
3. Bennie Gray and David Tufts were not present. Consensus of the Board was to table the discussion on water issues at the Saw Mill Quarters and land by the cemetery for the second meeting in February, Thursday February 9, 2006.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

1. Approval of Qualifying Fees; Chairperson for the Board of Education, \$180.00; District Members of the Board of Education, \$108.00.
2. Adopt resolution to qualify our healthcare program in Section 125 POP Plan.
3. Approval of the Contract for renovations to the Jones County Courthouse.
4. Approval of the Office of Homeland Security /Georgia Emergency /Jones County Government Performance Partnership Agreement.

The Board discussed the contract for renovations to the Jones County Courthouse. Frank Childs, County Attorney, has approved the contract. Comm. Liston made a motion to approve the items on the Consent Agenda with number 3 to read authorizing the chairman to sign the contract. Comm. Merritt seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. See attachments for specifications.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Mr. Underwood, Administrator, and Frank Childs had discussed the need to rebid the new building for the golf course. Comm. Gault made a motion to rebid the golf course building with the approval of the electrical contractors and Mearl Cooler's specifications. Comm. Liston seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous.
2. The Board discussed recreational issues. Comm. Childs made a motion to authorize Michael D. Underwood to contact the Macon Water Authority to look for land to purchase on Upper River Road. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. Consensus of the Board was to table recreational issues for the second Thursday meeting February 9, 2006, and to schedule a work session with the Board of Education.

**DEPARTMENT MANAGERS:**

1. Leila Land, Clerk of the Board, proposed the following budget amendments:

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- a. Increase donation revenue and the expense budget for Parks and Recreation by \$1,000 that was given by Martin Marietta for that specific purpose.
- b. Operating account for the sheriff's department. The auditors have had issues with the agency funds of the sheriff's department for several years. The county will continue to have this problem unless the sheriff's department separates the funds collected from the funds that they expend on an emergency basis, such as under cover buys. Because they expend the funds collected on behalf of the Commissioners to be deposited in the General Fund, the account never balances and contains a deficit to the collections that should be on deposit. Mrs. Land suggested opening an operating account that would function much the same as a petty cash fund. The account would be opened with \$20,000. As the funds as used, reimbursement request would be turned in by the sheriff's department and then charged against their budget.

Comm. Gault made a motion to approve the budget amendments as presented and to establish the operating account for the sheriff's department with \$20,000.00. Comm. Liston seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. See attachments for specifications.

2. Leila Land discussed the need for a new telephone system at the courthouse. Mike Greene, Probate Judge, and Bart Jackson, Clerk of Superior Court, were unable to attend the meeting. Consensus of the Board was to table the telephone system for the courthouse and put the matter on the seconded Thursday meeting, February 9, 2006. The Board requested detailed information on the maintenance agreement of the proposed system, along with a comparison of lease versus purchase of the system.
3. Jimmy Crutchfield, volunteer fireman represented Allan Green, Director of EMA. Mr. Crutchfield requested the Board's approval to remove the old firestation building on Green Settlement Road to allow parking for the new fire station. Comm. Gault made a motion to authorize the removal of the old building beside the new fire station on Green Settlement Road. Comm. Liston seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous.
4. Georgia Forestry contacted Michael D. Underwood regarding access fees; a timber company feels access fees are illegal. Mr. Underwood requested not charging county access fees until the county attorney will be able to research the legalities. Consensus of the Board was to table access fees for the second Thursday meeting February 9, 2006. Mr. Underwood will schedule a meeting with the Department of

Transportation for Thursday. Mr. Underwood will schedule a workshop with the City of Gray for Thursday, February 23, 2006, at the Chamber of Commerce Conference Room at the Civic Center.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Milton Appling, Chairman for the Board of Assessors and Linda Sibley, Chief Appraiser, presented the Board with the bids on aerial photography and GIS data conversion; their recommendation was Keck and Wood. Comm. Gault made a motion to award the bid for aerial photography and GIS data conversion to Keck and Wood in the amount of \$116,050.00, as recommended by the Board of Assessors. Comm. Liston seconded the motion. Vote 3-0. See attachments for specifications.
2. Comm. Childs made a motion ratify the resolution for the retirement program. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote 3-0. Comm. Merritt was out of the room. See attachments for specifications.
3. The Board discussed the bid for 39 miles of striping various roads. Comm. Gault made a motion to award the striping bid to Mid State Striping Incorporated in the amount of \$115,701.00. Comm. Childs seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. See attachments for specifications.
4. The Board discussed the award of the contract for the loan on golf course equipment. Comm. Childs made a motion to award the contract on equipment and if not financed in the budget, and then approve the loan from Piedmont Bank for three years at 3% interest. See attachments for specifications.
5. The Board discussed changing the date of the first Tuesday meeting, February 7, 2006. The Board will be in Atlanta for the Legislative Conference February 5 – February 7. Comm. Merritt made a motion to change the date of the first Tuesday meeting February 7, 2006, to the second Thursday February 9, 2006. Comm. Childs seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous.

**COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:**

**Comm. Gault:** Comm. Gault discussed the Assistant Administrator position needing to be filled. Comm. Gault made a motion for Michael D. Underwood to choose his top five candidates for the Assistant Administrator position then present them to the Board for discussion. Comm. Childs seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. Comm. Gault discussed returning the duties of the rental facilities to Marion Hatton, Elections Superintendent. Ms. Hatton was relieved

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of the rental facilities February 17, 2004, because of her duties during elections. Comm. Liston had a request from Ms. Hatton asking the Board to not make a decision until she is present. Comm. Gault made a motion to return the rental facilities to Ms. Hatton as part of her duties, keep a sign on her office door when closed to inform the public of the time she would return and to let the Michael D. Underwood know where she is when leaving the building. Comm. Childs seconded the motion. Comm. Merritt requested to see a copy of the February 17, 2004, minutes before voting. Comm. Gault rescinded his motion. Comm. Childs rescinded his second. Comm. Gault made a motion to table the rental facilities for the second Thursday meeting February 9, 2006. Comm. Childs seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous.

**Comm. Childs:** Comm. Childs asked for an update on the Huckabee Road contract. Mr. Underwood informed the Board that the contract for Huckabee Road has been advertised. Comm. Childs proposed raising travel expenses allowance for the commissioners. Jason Downey will research what needs to be done to increase commissioner’s travel expense allowance.

**Comm. Liston:** Comm. Liston received a request from Alma Pounds to help her find a location for her Boy Scout troop to meet. The meeting room at the Highway 49 Recreation Complex was discussed.

**Comm. Merritt:** Had no comments.

**Chairman Hawkins:** Had no comments.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Comm. Merritt made a motion to adjourn into executive session to discuss land purchase and litigation. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote - unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

**RECONVENED:**

The meeting reconvened at 8:51p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Comm. Gault made a motion to adjourn. Comm. Liston seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

**APPROVED**

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Jones County Board of Commissioners

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Preston Hawkins, Chairman

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Larry Childs, District 1 Commissioner

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David C. Gault, Vice-Chairman, District 2

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Mell Merritt, District 3 Commissioner

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Bert Liston, District 4 Commissioner

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Leila Land, Clerk of the Board