

## **Call Meeting**

May 23, 2006

The Jones County Board of Commissioners met Tuesday, May 23, 2006, at 5:30 p.m. 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

Frank Childs, County Attorney was not present.  
Chairman Hawkins called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Comm. Childs made a motion to approve the agenda. Comm. Gault seconded. Vote – unanimous.

Chairman Hawkins had spoken to Terry Gables, State Aid Administrator for the Department of Transportation, regarding county contracts. The state has agreed to assist with funding for Cumslo Road, Lite-N-Tie Road, and Joycliff Road this year; funding for Upper River Road, Juliette Road, and Green Settlement Road will be next year. The Board discussed improvements for various county roads at length. Comm. Childs made a motion to accept the Department of Transportation contracts as recommended by Chairman Hawkins. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote - unanimous.

The Board discussed public works being in need of two tractors. Comm. Childs purposed using the funds allocated for the salary of an assistant administrator to purchase one tractor. Comm. Childs made a motion authorizing Michael D. Underwood, Administrator, to purchase one John Deere tractor at \$14,600. Comm. Liston seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous.

Comm. Gault proposed adopting a policy to restrict employees from audio recording other employees' conversations without their knowledge. Leila Land, Clerk of the Board / CFO, had spoken to Kim Kembrough, Attorney with ACCG, about the

legalities of audio recording. Mr. Kembrogh explained to Mrs. Land that when an employee tape records conversations on county time, a public record has been created and is property of the county. It is therefore subject to the open records act. The custodian of the record is the person that has the tape recording. The legal custodian of county records is the County Clerk. The local government has the sole domain over the creation of public records and does have the option to adopt policies regulating the creation of those records that they will be held responsible for maintaining. Consensus of the Board was for Mrs. Land to contact Frank Childs, County Attorney, on creating a policy.

**COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:**

**Comm. Childs:** Comm. Childs discussed the possibility of a dry summer this year. The city will not have enough water for their needs without purchasing water from the county, and the county may not be able to supply their demand. A representative of the First Baptist Church went before the city and requested permission to drill a well to be used for landscaping purposes. The city denied their request. Jason Briley, Mayor for the City of Gray, came before the Board and requested the county sell the city .003 of an acre located by High View Cemetery which contains a well earlier this year. Mayor Briley said the city has plans to create a nice entrance to the High View Cemetery beside the First Baptist Church. The Board has received a request from the First Baptist Church to buy the same property which contains the well since they can't drill their own. Consensus of the Board was for the representative of the First Baptist Church to go before the city council and request their reason for denying their request for the well.

**Comm. Gault:** Comm. Gault discussed a request from the Sheriff's Department for an off road vehicle ordinance. Connie Mize, Chief Deputy Clerk, has researched and obtained examples from other counties. Consensus of the Board was to have Frank Childs, County Attorney, compose an off road vehicle ordinance.

**Comm. Merritt:** Comm. Merritt said it is time for the quarterly meeting with the city and county. Consensus of the Board was for Michael D. Underwood to schedule a meeting with the city.

**Chairman Hawkins:** Chairman Hawkins discussed the property on Overland Way

**Comm. Liston:** Comm. Liston asked the Board if the county has a policy on speed breakers. Comm. Childs stated the request usually comes before the Board with a petition but he would want to have input if the area is in his district.

At this time Laten Boniol, Assistant Director for Public Works, discussed a memo Comm. Gault had sent to all Department Managers concerning job titles. Comm. Childs made a motion to appoint Laten Boniol as Assistant Director for Public

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Works for Jones County. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. See attachments for specifications.

Bobby Waldrop, Director for Public Works, reported to the Board that the tractor was down due to broken parts.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Comm. Childs made a motion to adjourn. Comm. Merritt seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

**APPROVED**

Jones County Board of Commissioners

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Preston Hawkins, Chairman

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David C. Gault, Vice-Chairman, District 2

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Larry Childs, District 1 Commissioner

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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