

THIRD TUESDAY MEETING

June 20, 2006

The Jones County Board of Commissioners met for their Third Tuesday meeting at 6:30 p.m. June 20, 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

Frank Childs, County Attorney was present.

Chairman Hawkins called the meeting to order at 6:40p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

Gary Thomas, pastor of Elam Baptist Church opened with volunteer prayer followed by the pledge.

Chairman Hawkins presented Amber Mize a Proclamation from the Jones County Board of Commissioners for being named a United States National Collegiate Award winner in Psychology. See attachments for specifications.

(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, June 6, 2006. Comm. Gault seconded. Vote – unanimous.

VISITORS:

1. Representative Alan Freeman recognized Amber Mize for being awarded the prestigious honor of being named a United States National Collegiate Award winner and for setting an example for the youth of Jones County. Mr. Freeman requested use of the Civic Center from August 27, 2006, thru September 13, 2006. The request is for a museum quality educational and tourism exhibit featuring Anne Frank in the World. The exhibit gives a historical prospective of the Holocaust. It features a model of the Frank home; letters and pictures, and a movie. Mr. Freeman presented the board a handout and said portions of the Civic Center would be available during regular open hours and the auditorium would be available for evening meetings and events. Comm. Gault made a motion to allow use of the Civic Center as presented by Representative Freeman from August 27, 2006, thru September 13, 2006. Comm. Liston seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. See attachments for specifications.
2. Johnny Avery a resident of Chambers Road expressed his concerns with the conditions of Chambers Road; the county tries to keep the road up but it is still in bad condition. Mr. Avery had presented the board a petition from the citizens on Chambers Road requesting the road be paved in its entirety and a survey of the road dated 1965. Consensus of the Board was for Michael D. Underwood, Administrator, to have the county surveyor acquire the original survey from 1965. See attachments for specifications.
3. Tim Ingram presented the Board with handouts on his presentation of the water system upgrades and expansions proposal. Consensus of the board was to schedule a work session for July 6, 2006, at 5:00 p.m. to discuss water upgrades. See attachments for specifications.
4. George Skinner, a resident of Skinner Road requested that the county pave the road. Consensus of the board was to obtain a survey for Skinner Road; Skinner Road is the third road on the county road paving list. Mr. Skinner thought that the road had been surveyed when he was eight or nine years old. However, no record of the survey has been located. Chairman Hawkins asked that the minutes reflect there hadn't been a survey done, or that there is no record of a survey and that Skinner Road will be the next road to be surveyed.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Alan Green, EMA Director, discussed the award of bid on a construction manager for the fire station on Highway 22. Mr. Green recommended Ed Burks be awarded the bid of \$28,200.00. Comm. Gault made a motion to award the bid of construction manager for the fire station on

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- Highway 22, to Ed Burks in the amount of \$28,200.00. The motion was amended to include all fees for water and taps. Comm. Liston seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. See attachments for specifications.
2. The Board discussed Mr. Curry's request for a Beer and Wine License; Mr. Curry was not present. The request was to sell Beer and Wine out of his Beauty Shop. Consensus of the Board was to postpone Mr. Curry's request for the first Thursday meeting July 6, 2006. See attachments for specifications.
 3. The Board discussed all new hired employees under their direction should work a full forty hour week from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Tim Pitrowski, Planning and Zoning Director, expressed his concerns with extended operation hours; no one in his office is willing to stay until 5:00 p.m. creating extended hours for department managers. Pam Billingsley, Accountant, expressed her concerns with payroll problems that might occur with the extended hours. The Board passed the motion at the last meeting that all employees at the Government Center Building work until 5:00 pm. Comm. Childs made a new motion, rescinding that of the last meeting, that all county office hours under the direction of the Board are from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and new hire employees' hours be 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. with a 1 hour lunch break and explain the procedure to employees during the hiring process. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous.
 4. The Board discussed the amendment to the DHR Transportation Services Contract between the Middle Georgia Regional Development Center and the Jones County Board of Commissioners. Comm. Gault made a motion to accept the amendment to the DHR Transportation Services Contract between the Middle Georgia Regional Development Center and the Jones County Board of Commissioners. Comm. Liston seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. See attachments for specifications.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Dr. Moon, representative of the Water Committee, presented the Board recommendations and a handout for the water system. The committee unanimously supports rate increases of \$2.95 in the base water rate and in the water usage charges. Dr. Moon acknowledged Susan Green and Martha Branson for their outstanding work with the Water Committee. See attachments for specifications.
2. The Board discussed the proposed employee sick leave pool at length. Consensus of the Board was to postpone action on the sick leave pool policy.

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3. The Board had previously discussed new employee work hours under new business #3.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

1. Leila Land, Clerk of the Board / CFO, proposed budget amendments to the Board as follows:
 - a. Move all revenues from DOT and related expenses for road paving to the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax fund as the administrator had requested of her contingent on auditors' approval.
 - b. Imaging Revenue - increase revenue budget (34.1220) and equipment budget in Superior Court (21500 54.2220 53.1640) by \$3,230 as per the verbal agreement that stands with the Clerk of Court and the Board. This amount reflects revenue collects to date that is to be used for the purchase of equipment in superior court.

Comm. Childs made a motion to amend the budget as presented by Mrs. Land. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous.

2. Michael D. Underwood discussed a software program available from Jordan Jones and Goulding that provides road project management. There will be a seminar in August regarding this issue.
3. Freddie Wiggins, Water Superintendent, discussed a request from Mr. Jenkins on Plantation Drive to tap into the water line on Lite-N-Tie; Mr. Jenkins is approximately 4\10 of a mile from the main line. Mr. Jenkins is willing to contribute an amount equal to well cost for the water line hookup. Mr. Wiggins said a resident at 145 East Virginia Avenue has been stealing water. Mr. Wiggins made a report to the sheriff department and the problem has been resolved.
4. Bobby Waldrop, Public Works Director, requested a tractor; the old one has now broken. Comm. Childs made a motion to authorize Michael D. Underwood to purchase a John Deere 310 tractor at \$15,000. Comm. Liston seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. Mr. Waldrop said he can't put enough water on Davis Road to get it to compact. Consensus of the Board was to see if the county can lease a water truck from Bubba Epps.
5. Michael D. Underwood reported that Bobby Bonner, Building Maintenance Director, will construct the bathrooms at the Highway 49 Complex; they will cost approximately \$7,500 to \$9,000.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

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Comm. Childs: Comm. Childs discussed Chambers Road is not on the road paving list and feels the roads on the list should be surveyed first. Comm. Childs received a letter from Nell Harris requesting the old Roberson's dam be opened up due to flooding problems on Holloman Road. Consensus of the Board was for Michael D. Underwood to research to find the current owner.

Comm. Liston: Comm. Liston discussed the proposed stop light on Joycliff and Highway 49.

Comm. Merritt: Comm. Merritt received a letter requesting to change the name of Chambers Road.

Comm. Gault: Comm. Gault discussed personnel issues needing to be in an open session. Comm. Gault had Leila Land check with Jim Grubiak from ACCG. Mr. Grubiak said it has to be in an open session. Comm. Gault said the handbook for commissioners states that the board is liable for conduct of our subordinates. He read from several pages of the handbook, including excerpts from pages 37, 120, and 124. Comm. Gault requested not to be the one who asks the questions. Comm. Gault stated that he as a commissioner can request the GBI or the District Attorney to come and ask the questions. Frank Childs, County Attorney, has researched and agrees with Comm. Gault on having an open session.

At this time Steve Hatton from the audience asked what employee the Board was discussing. After comments from Mr. Hatton, the board called for adjournment.

ADJOURNMENT:

Comm. Childs made a motion to adjourn into executive session to discuss Personnel. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

RECONVENED:

The meeting reconvened at 10:10 p.m.

Frank Davis with the Golf Association discussed the Jonesco Golf Course being in desperate need of water for the greens. Mr. Davis will call Jarrell Green with Greens Well Boring and meet with Mike Underwood, County Administrator. Comm. Childs discussed the need for a 10" or 12" well with a 30 hp pump.

Comm. Childs made a motion to suspend Marion Hatton, Elections Superintendent, with pay citing two offenses in the Jones County employee handbook listed on page 31 under Group III offenses as numbers three and five; until a hearing is complete not to exceed fifteen days and that she is to surrender

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all county property including keys. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote 3-1. Comm. Childs, Comm. Gault and Comm. Merritt in favor. Comm. Liston opposed the suspension and felt a reprimand and warning that another infraction would lead to termination would be the proper action. Consensus of the Board was to schedule a Call Meeting to hear evidence on June 26, 2006, at 4:00 p.m.

Comm. Gault asked Frank Childs if he had written an Ordinance for four wheel vehicles as requested by the Sheriff's department, and asked if he would have a draft at the July 6, 2006 meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Comm. Liston made a motion to adjourn. Comm. Childs seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

APPROVED

Jones County Board of Commissioners

Preston Hawkins, Chairman

David C. Gault, Vice-Chairman, District 2

Larry Childs, District 1 Commissioner

Bert Liston, District 4 Commissioner

Mell Merritt, District 3 Commissioner

Leila Land, Clerk of the Board