

## THIRD TUESDAY MEETING

January 16, 2007

The Jones County Board of Commissioners met for their Third Tuesday meeting at 6:30 p.m. January 16, 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 6:30 p.m.  
(Chairman Hawkins exercises his voting rights in the case of a tie.)

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Michael D. Underwood requested adding Old Business number five, a change order on Courthouse renovations, and Old Business number one will be tabled for an executive session for legal matters. Comm. Gault made a motion to approve the agenda. Comm. Liston seconded the motion. Vote - unanimous.

Reverend Douglas B. McMillan, Jr., Pastor of The Church in the Pines opened with volunteer prayer followed by the leading of the pledge.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Comm. Gault made a motion to approve the minutes from the first Tuesday meeting, January 2, 2007. Comm. Liston seconded the motion. Vote - unanimous.

### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

1. Comm. Liston made a motion to appoint Calvin Pitts to the Department of Family and Children Services Board. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous.

**VISITORS:**

1. Evelyn Simmons requested to waive the variance fee for Holt's School located on Holt's Chapel Church Road. This school was in service prior to 1896 and was used to educate the black children of the community. Comm. Gault made a motion to waive the variance fee for Holt's School. Comm. Liston seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. See attachments for specifications.
2. Reginald Jones was on the agenda to request use of the gym for the Mount Salem Baptist Church basketball team but was not present. Consensus of the Board was to postpone Reginald Jones request for the third Tuesday meeting February 20, 2007.
3. Pam Blount, Secretary for the Jones County American League, discussed the current American League Board members amending the by laws with out public notice. Comm. Childs said that the league boards do not fall in the commissioner's jurisdiction and suggested that they refer to their bylaws of the American League to confirm the provisions dealing with the board members.
4. James Lamb, a resident of 2170 Graham Road discussed property across from his property that has fill material placed on it. Tim Pitrowski, Planning and Zoning Director, confirmed that the property passed the compaction test. Comm. Gault referred Mr. Lamb to the state regulatory agencies such as EPD.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Michael D. Underwood, County Administrator, discussed appointments for the Development Authority of Jones County as follows: E. C. Nelson for a two year term, Frank Duke for a two year term, Francis Adams for a four year term, Alan Childs for a four year term, Greg Mullis for a six year term, Mickey Parker for a six year term, and Dottie Walker for a six year term. Comm. Childs made a motion to approve the appointments to the Development Authority of Jones County as presented by the County Administrator. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. See attachments for specifications.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

2. Tim Ingram presented the Board handouts of the preliminary cost estimate and drawing for the Civic Center Streetscape. Consensus of the Board was to postpone the Civic Center Streetscape for the second Thursday meeting February 8, 2007.

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3. Leila Land, Clerk of the Board, discussed the Background Check Policy with the Board. Comm. Merritt made a motion to approve the Background Check Policy. Comm. Liston seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. See attachments for specifications.
4. Michael D. Underwood discussed the lease agreement between the Macon Water Authority and Jones County for the proposed passive park on Upper River Road. Frank Childs, County Attorney, suggested postponing the approval of the lease agreement for the second Thursday meeting February 8, 2006, to inquire on liability requirements. Consensus of the Board was to postpone the passive park lease agreement for the second Thursday meeting February 8, 2006. See attachments for specifications.
5. The Board discussed the change order document for the reduced price of \$1,685.00 for Courthouse renovations. Comm. Merritt made a motion to approve the change order document for the reduction in price for Courthouse renovations. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. See attachments for specifications.

**DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

1. Leila Land requested a budget amendment for expenses incurred to her department for new tax appraisers in the amount of \$6,217.63. Comm. Gault made a motion to approve the budget amendment. Comm. Childs seconded the motion. Vote 3-1. Comm. Gault, Comm. Childs, and Comm. Liston in favor. Comm. Merritt opposed. See attachments for specifications. Funds will be transferred from contingency.
2. Michael D. Underwood discussed a letter he received from Jeff Browne, P. E., the representing engineer of Hampton Lakes. Wendell Parker has sold Hampton Lakes and is asking for the Board to accept the conveyance. Macon Water Authority wants Jones County to be responsible for the operations and maintenance of the sewer system. Jones County is currently sending the Macon Water Authority 95% of the amount collected and retaining 5% for administrative fees. Comm. Childs stated that the system was not built to the Macon Water Authority specifications. Comm. Childs said that the system should have been installed to River North's specifications and it is not. The Board discussed Tim Ingram looking at the system and reporting his findings to the Board. Mr. Underwood will respond with a letter stating that the Board will review the stations and one generator. Comm. Gault made a motion to postpone the water and sewer issues for Hampton Lakes until further notice from Tim Ingram. Comm. Liston seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous.

3. Freddie Wiggins, Water Department Superintendent, discussed Mark Brothers not collecting outstanding monies for the water department. Comm. Gault asked Frank Childs, County Attorney, if the county may possibly send a certified letter to Mr. Brothers requesting information on the actions he has taken and the monies he has collected. Frank Childs' legal opinion was to request the information, however the county would only be able to enforce the request with a law suit. Leila Land said we need to obtain the county's original documents back. OMI had sent the only original documents to Mark Brothers to begin collections. Consensus of the Board was to send a certified letter requesting the county's original documents and information on the actions Mark Brothers has taken and the monies he has collected. Mr. Wiggins said the Department of Health has a clause to the effect if the Health Department deems that a septic tank fails and the property is within 200 feet of the county or city sewage they must hook on. Mr. Wiggins proposed amending the Water and Sewer Ordinance to reflect the regulations. Comm. Childs would like to see continuation of the line to allow other homes to tap on. Consensus of the Board was to amend the Water and Sewer Ordinance to reflect the changes as noted.
4. Bobby Waldrop, Public Works Director, reported that he had met with Mr. Coulter and worked things out. Comm. Childs requested for public works to clean the dirt off of Graham Road. Comm. Liston discussed a complaint from Mr. Adams concerning beavers. Comm. Childs discussed with the Board entrances to subdivisions needing to meet all necessary requirements including sight distance. To assure the appropriate placement of these entrances, plats must be approved by the Public Works Director by consensus of the Board. Comm. Childs would like to amend the requirements to require conditional use for all add on dwellings on single lots. Consensus of the Board was for Tim Pitrowski to start the process of making the amendment to require conditional use for all conditional dwellings on a single lot.

#### **COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:**

**Comm. Gault:** Comm. Gault reported they purchased a filing cabinet for Mike Greene's office for \$400. Comm. Gault requested for Michael D. Underwood to obtain definite prices for the new Animal Shelter. Comm. Gault said that we need a quarantine area for diseased animals and he is tired of putting money into a rented facility.

**Comm. Liston:** Comm. Liston commended Comm. Gault on his idea of auxiliary police for recreation facilities.

**Comm. Merritt:** Comm. Merritt had no comments.

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**Chairman Hawkins:** Commended the Board and staff for the progress made in the past two years.

**Comm. Childs:** Comm. Childs passed out the Jones County Water Authority “An Act” that was suggested by the water committee and supported by the previous board to be introduced as new legislation. Comm. Childs proposed dedicating a group to form a water authority. Consensus of the Board was to place the Jones County Water Authority Legislation on the second Thursday agenda February 8, 2007. Comm. Childs discussed the need to increase the Commissioners monthly expense allowance. The last increase was in 1974, and was set at \$150.00 per month when the mileage reimbursement rate was 10 cents per mile. Frank Childs’ legal opinion was to proceed with the request to the legislators and make it effective upon the governors signature. Comm. Childs made a motion to introduce to the legislative body to increase the commissioners’ monthly business expenses allowance from \$150 to \$250, effective upon legislative approval and the governors’ signature. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. Comm. Childs proposed making it mandatory for subdivisions within one mile of county water to connect. Comm. Childs asked Freddie Wiggins and Michael D. Underwood to design sewer specifications for the county records. Comm. Childs said that the sewer rates for Hampton Lakes will need to be raised to support the subdivisions repair cost. Comm. Childs said we need to look at the cost of operating stations now and adjust the fee’s to cover that. Comm. Childs requested for Freddie Wiggins and Michael D. Underwood to estimate the cost of repairs for Hampton Lakes and report their findings at the third Tuesday meeting February 20, 2007. Comm. Gault said to create our sewage specifications similar to the Macon Water Authorities specifications.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Comm. Childs made a motion to adjourn into executive session to discuss legal matters. Comm. Liston seconded the motion. Vote - unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

**RECONVENED:**

The meeting reconvened at 9:25 p.m.

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**ADJOURNMENT:**

Comm. Gault made a motion to adjourn. Comm. Liston seconded the motion.  
Vote – unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 9:26 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