

THIRD TUESDAY MEETING

September 18, 2007

The Jones County Board of Commissioners met for their Third Tuesday meeting at 6:30 p.m. September 18, 2007, in the W. E. Knox Civic 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 6:00 p.m.
(Chairman Hawkins exercises his voting rights in the case of a tie.)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Chairman Hawkins proposed to amend the agenda to postpone OB #1- Tax Assessors Contract Labor Agreement for the second Tuesday meeting October 9, 2007. Comm. Gault made a motion to approve the agenda with the amendments as noted. Comm. Liston seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous.

Paul Robards, Scout Master Leader for Cub Scout Pack 911 opened with volunteer prayer Mr. Robards and Cub Scout Pack 911 followed by the leading of the pledge.

PLANNING AND ZONING:

- Item A: Rinker Materials of Florida, Incorporated requested to rezone from R-R (Rural Residential) to M-2 (General Industrial) with a conditional use for the expansion of activities ancillary to existing aggregate quarry overburden storage area, storm water / sediment ponds, mining activity buffers and quarry expansion. The property is located North of Highway 49 and West of Cumslo Road.
- Item B: Rinker Materials of Florida, Incorporated requested a conditional use to allow the relocation of an existing plant, quarry expansion into existing plant area, modification to existing rail line, expansion of

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activities ancillary to existing aggregate quarry. The property is located on Lite-N-Tie Road and zoned M-2 (General Industrial).

Chairman Hawkins allowed all who wished to speak either for or against the request. The main speaker for each side was allowed a maximum of 30 minutes. Each person in the audience was allowed one minute. Tim Pitrowski, Director of Planning and Zoning, presented the Board a report and recommendation for approval from the Planning and Zoning Board and requested to combine Items A and B. Bob Norman, an attorney speaking on behalf of Rinker, gave the Board the proposed plans and discussed the requests at length. Mr. Norman stated if the changes are not approved the quarry will have the capacity to operate approximately six additional years. Clay Washburn discussed his concerns and said he does not oppose the changes, but feels Rinker should address the land owners whose property the changes will affect. There were many citizens in the audience in favor of Rinkers' request and five families opposed. Comm. Childs made a motion to approve Item A and table Item B for 90 days. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote 3-1. Comm. Liston opposed. Consensus of the Board was for Rinker Materials of Florida, Incorporated to address concerns and conduct a good faith discussion with the citizens who have attended the meeting. Those attending the meeting were named as Mr. and Mrs. Clay Washburn, Mr. McIntosh, Jason Alewine, Steve Gary, and G. C. Walker. See attachments for specifications.

The Board recessed for ten minutes at 7:50 pm.

The Board reconvened at 8:00 pm.

Item C: Elizabeth Collins and James Wood, Jr., requested a conditional use to allow a natural cemetery. The property is located on Lois Lane, off Highway 49 and is approximately 26.16 acres and zoned Ag-1 (Agricultural). There were many people in the audience who opposed to the request expressing their concerns with health issues and the increase of traffic on the one lane private road. Comm. Gault made a motion to deny Elizabeth Collins and James Wood's request for a conditional use to allow a cemetery. Comm. Childs seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Comm. Merritt made a motion to approve the minutes from the first Tuesday meeting September 4, 2007. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The Board discussed the award of bid for the trackhoe for the Water Department. Freddie Wiggins, Water Superintendent recommended Cat 315CL Hydraulic Excavator from Yancey Brothers for \$89,500.00. Comm. Childs made a motion to award the trackhoe bid for the Water Department to Yancey Brothers for \$89,500.00. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. See attachments for specifications.
2. Leila Brittain, Clerk of the Board / Human Resource Director discussed employees eating at their desks and smoking in undesignated areas at the Government Center. This issue had previously been addressed with Ms. Brittain by commissioners. Comm. Gault made a motion to send a memo for county employees to recognize their specified breaks in the designated areas, to eat their lunch in the break room and when smoking on their breaks, to do so in the designated area away from entrances used by visitors and at the designated time. Comm. Liston seconded the motion. Vote 3-1. Comm. Merritt opposed. Per discussion, designated areas shall be away from any front or side entrances used by the general public.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

1. Leila Brittain discussed the need for approval of one part time laborer in the Public Works Department (continued from September 4, 2007 motion). The Board approved a total of 5 part time laborer positions. They currently had one position filled. The motion from September 4, 2007 was to hire an additional three. Comm. Childs made a motion to approve hiring a total of five part time laborers for Public Works. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous.
2. Mike Underwood discussed a request from the residents at Stone Edge Drive. They have petitioned to have speed limit signs posted due to excessive speeding problems on their road. The members of the homeowners association have agreed on a 25 miles per hour limit and would like to have children at play signs posted. Comm. Childs made a motion

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to set the speed limit at Stone Edge Subdivision at 25 miles per hour. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. See attachments for specifications. Mr. Underwood said the residents have requested to have 45 miles per hour signs posted on Weidner Drive. No action was taken because the speed limit should already be set at 45 miles per hour. The Golf Association has asked for the use of the clubhouse for a meeting to discuss a sprinkler system for the golf course on October 1, 2007, and requested the Commissioners to attend. Consensus of the Board was to waive the fees and authorize the Golf Association to use the Jonesco Clubhouse for a meeting to raise money for a sprinkler system for the golf course on October 1, 2007. Chairman Hawkins, Comm. Gault, Comm. Liston and Michael D. Underwood will be unable to attend because they will be attending the ACCG Fall Policy Conference in Atlanta. Mr. Underwood discussed the need to have another Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax. The present Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax will expire in the latter part of 2009. For the county to have the opportunity to place it on the ballot for the February Presidential Primary, the Elections office must reserve a place on the ballot and the wording will need to be given to Elections by October. The next opportunity would be the July ballot with the commissioners' primary. The October deadline places time constraints that would not allow an appropriate amount of time to discuss future projects or negotiate allocations for the City. Consensus of the Board was to place the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax on the July ballot.

3. Freddie Wiggins, Water Superintendent, gave the Board a handout and discussed the proposal for construction of the test well at the test hole number three adjacent to Harrison Lake and the Ocmulgee Gun Club Shooting Range. Mr. Wiggins proposed to get permission from Plum Creek, contact the property owners to obtain the rights-of-way, and then obtain a survey before construction. Comm. Childs said that Twiggs County should be in favor of a joint project with Jones County and apply for the Georgia One Fund grant. Comm. Childs made a motion to authorize Michael D. Underwood to contact Twiggs County to negotiate on a joint project, applying for Georgia One Fund for test wells at Plum Creek and to obtain a survey. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote - unanimous. See attachments for specifications.
4. Bobby Wood, Director of Parks and Recreation, had given the Board a proposal for improvements for the South Recreation Complex in the amount of \$9,995.00. Michael D. Underwood reported that according to the Finance Director, David Jahns, there is \$20,000 available in the 1999 SPLOST to fund the project. This would allow an extra practice field for

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the complex. The proposal is for the fencing of two practice fields. Comm. Liston made a motion to approve the proposal from All American Fence in the amount of \$9,995.00 for improvements at the South Recreation Complex. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Comm. Childs: Comm. Childs proposed hiring an independent appraiser to appraise a random sample of properties to compare with the current appraised values. Comm. Childs made a motion to hire an independent appraiser to appraise a random sample of properties to compare with the current appraised values and give Michael D. Underwood the authority to obtain prices. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. Consensus of the Board was to amend the motion for Michael D. Underwood to bring the price estimates back to the Board before going forward with the independent appraiser.

Comm. Gault: Comm. Gault thanked Laten Boniol, Assistant Director of Public Works, and Public Works for removing the tree on Liberty Street.

Comm. Liston: Comm. Liston thanked Bobby Wood for his hard work with the recreation facilities.

Comm. Merritt: Comm. Merritt had no comments.

At this time Chairman Hawkins asked for citizens comments.

Charles Harrington addressed the Board with his concerns about county issues.

ADJOURNMENT:

Comm. Merritt made a motion to adjourn into executive session to discuss Land Acquisition and Personnel. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote - unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

RECONVENED:

The meeting reconvened at 9:40 p.m.

Comm. Liston made a motion to approve Bobby Wood's request to raise the three concession workers hourly rate to \$6.02 per hour. The three employees are Casey Skinner, Crystal Reynolds, and Kammy Reynolds.

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ADJOURNMENT:

Comm. Merritt made a motion to adjourn. Comm. Liston seconded the motion.
Vote – unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 9:42 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