

THIRD TUESDAY MEETING

February 19, 2008

The Jones County Board of Commissioners met for their Third Tuesday meeting at 6:30 p.m. February 19, 2008, 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. Leila Brittain, Clerk of the Board / Human Resource Director, and Connie Mize, Chief Deputy Clerk, were not present. They attended training in Athens. Whitney Stevens, Personnel Technician, and Nicole Hunnicutt, Executive Assistant, attended in their place.

Chairman Hawkins called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.
(Chairman Hawkins exercises his voting rights in the case of a tie.)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Amendments to the Agenda were as follows: Michael D. Underwood, County Administrator, requested to add New Business number seven; Caterpillar backhoe repair. Chairman Hawkins requested to postpone New Business number four until the first Tuesday meeting, March 4, 2008. Comm. Gault requested to add New Business number eight; Annexation discussions with Macon Mayor Robert Reichert at the W. E. Knox Civic Center. Comm. Gault made a motion to approve the agenda with the amendments as noted. Comm. Liston seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous.

Jimmie Williams, Pastor of Ellis Chapel Baptist Church, opened with volunteer prayer followed by the leading of the pledge.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Comm. Merritt made a motion to approve the first Thursday February 7, 2008, minutes. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote 3-0. Comm. Childs was not present.

VISITORS:

1. Pastor Ernestine Sherard was on the agenda to discuss taxes for seniors but was not present.
2. Valvin Hambrick with the Jones County Track and Field Program gave the Board an update. There are currently 52 Jones County children participating in the program and more children are interested. There is a track meet scheduled for March 22, 2008 and the program is in need of track equipment. Mr. Hambrick requested for the Board to donate \$668.15 for track equipment. Frank Childs, County Attorney, said the county could legally donate to the track program up to the amount that has previously been donated to the other leagues. Comm. Gault made a motion to donate \$668.15 to the Jones County Recreational Track and Field program. Comm. Childs seconded the motion. Vote- unanimous.
3. Molly McInvale Haroni was on the agenda to discuss the speed limit on Morton Road but was not present. Comm. Merritt made a motion to reduce the speed limit on the portion of Morton Road, between the intersections of Highway 18, and Turnerwoods Road to 25 miles per hour. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Shon Hampton with Ingram and Associates discussed the bids for the elevated storage tank for Curtis James Road. Mr. Hampton recommended Phoenix Fabricators for \$805,755; they were the low bid. Construction would begin on March 6, 2008. Comm. Childs made a motion to award the bid for the elevated storage tank on Curtis James Road to Phoenix Fabricators for \$805,755. Comm. Liston seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. See attachments for specifications.
2. Freddie Wiggins, Water Superintendent, discussed the bids for the Henderson Road project materials. Mr. Wiggins recommended awarding the bid to Macon Supply for \$342,326.82. Comm. Childs made a motion to award the bid for the Henderson Road project materials to Macon

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Supply for \$342,326.82. Comm. Liston seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous.

At this time Comm. Gault requested for the minutes to reflect he has been pursuing the projects in Haddock. Comm. Gault requested for Shon Hampton to address the Board with an update on the Haddock projects. Mr. Hampton has met with the grant writer; the Department of Transportation funding should be available in July. Ingram and Associates are in the process of advertising for bids for the Community Development Block Grant project in Haddock, to meet the funding release in July. Comm. Gault asked if anyone had obtained any information on the water system at the Haddock Cannery. Michael D. Underwood said he had contacted the owner of the cannery and he is awaiting an offer from the county.

3. Bobby Bonner, Building and Maintenance Director, discussed the installation of the proposed irrigation system at the courthouse. Mr. Bonner requested the Board's guidance on installing the irrigation system around a hickory tree that is about 100 years old. Judy Webb, Keep Jones Beautiful Executive Director, had Fred Allen, the retired Director of the Forestry Commission look at the tree; he said there is nothing wrong with the tree. Ms. Webb suggested for Kevin Stevens, Assistant Superintendent of Jonesco Golf Course, to give his suggestions on installing the irrigation system around the tree because he has a degree in Turf Management. Consensus of the Board for Bobby Bonner and Kevin Stevens to meet and research ways to have the irrigation system installed without harming the tree.
4. Consensus of the Board was to postpone the sound system for the first Tuesday meeting, March 4, 2008.

At this time Chairman Hawkins moved to New Business number eight.

8. Chairman Hawkins discussed a request from Macon Mayor Robert Reichert. Mayor Reichert has requested to meet with the Jones County Board of Commissioners to discuss annexation. Consensus of the Board was to schedule a public hearing with Mayor Reichert on Thursday, March 6, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. at the W. E. Knox Civic Center.
5. Comm. Childs discussed repairs needed on the roof of the Old Bradley School. Curtis Barfield said water is running down the light fixtures in the gym and requested funding to fix the roof. Mr. Barfield said he would like to extend the Bradley Wayside Lease Agreement for an additional three years if the repairs are made; the lease agreement expires in December 2008. Comm. Gault said he would like to know what the cost would be to fix the roof. Consensus of the Board was for Bobby Bonner, Building and Maintenance Director, to obtain an estimate on cost to repair the Bradley Wayside School roof.

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6. Freddie Wiggins, Water Superintendent, gave the Board a handout and discussed the proposed elevated storage tank to be located at 219 Curtis James Road. There is a mobile home located on this property; if the mobile home is not removed it will cost an additional \$40,000 to install the elevated storage tank. Mr. Wiggins recommended advertising for sealed bids to sell the mobile home. Comm. Gault made a motion to advertise for sealed bids to sell the mobile home located at 219 Curtis James Road. Comm. Liston seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. See attachments for specifications.
7. Michael D. Underwood gave the Board a handout and discussed repairs needed for the water department's backhoe which sustained structural damage in a recent accident. Mr. Underwood said Yancey Brothers has presented the Board an estimate of \$24,012.56 for repairs. The repairs to the cab of backhoe will ensure that it retains its certification which addresses the liability issue for the county should it roll over in the future. Comm. Merritt made a motion to award the proposal from Yancey Brothers for the repairs needed to certify the backhoe from the water department in the amount of \$24,012.56. Comm. Childs seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. See attachments for specifications.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Allan Green, EMA Director, was on the agenda to discuss the Public Assistance Pilot Project but was not present. Comm. Gault requested to postpone this discussion because he has questions concerning the project. Consensus of the Board was to postpone the Public Assistance Pilot Project for the third Tuesday meeting, March 18, 2008 and for Leila Brittain, Clerk of the Board / Human Resource Director, to inform Allan Green of the meeting.
2. Comm. Gault discussed establishing a water and sewer capital improvement fund and a water and sewer maintenance fee fund to be accounted for in a special account with funds set aside from each water and sewer bill as discussed under the previous board when rates were increased. Comm. Gault made a motion to establish a water and sewer capital improvement fund to begin in March 2008, for expansion and maintenance of water and sewer lines in Jones County. The account would start with \$500 and then fifty cents from each water and sewer bill would be added thereafter. Comm. Childs seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous.
3. Marion Hatton, Elections Superintendent, presented the Board a handout of corrected 2008 Qualifying Fees. Comm. Gault made a motion to

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rescind the motion from January 8, 2008 for qualifying fees. Comm. Merritt seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. Comm. Gault made a motion to adopt the corrected 2008 Qualifying Fees; \$288 for the Chairman and \$252 for the District Commissioner's. Comm. Liston seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. See attachments for specifications.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

1. Judy Webb, Keep Jones Beautiful Executive Director, and the Haddock Revitalization Committee requested four 36-gallon trash cans for Haddock. Ms. Webb gave the board a price of \$600 per trash can; a total of \$2,653.88 which includes freight. Comm. Gault made a motion to approve the purchase of decorative trash cans for Haddock contingent on obtaining a price from Advance Disposal. Comm. Liston seconded the motion. Vote 3-2. Comm. Gault, Comm. Liston and Chairman Hawkins in favor. Comm. Childs and Comm. Merritt opposed. See attachments for specifications. Ms. Webb said this year is the 30th anniversary of Keep Georgia Beautiful and is also the 30th anniversary of Keep Jones Beautiful. Keep America Beautiful is hosting a mid-year conference in Atlanta to honor Keep Georgia's 30th anniversary. Ms. Webb has not budgeted for this conference and requested for the board to approve funding for the conference. Comm. Gault made a motion for the county to fund two nights lodging, meals and travel expense for the Keep America Beautiful Conference held July 31, through August 2, 2008. Comm. Liston seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous.
2. Freddie Wiggins, Water Superintendent, made a request last summer to the Environmental Protection Division to increase the county's water withdrawal permit. Mr. Wiggins received a fax from the Environmental Protection Division stating a water withdrawal permit has been increased from 1.5 millions per day to 2.5 millions per day. If there are no objections from the public at the hearing held by EPD, the permit will begin March 19, 2008.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Comm. Childs: Comm. Childs discussed training for Freddie Wiggins and two volunteers on permits for right of way road projects for the Environmental Protection Division. The classes will be held in Monroe County for two days lasting four hours per day with no cost to the county.

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Comm. Gault: Comm. Gault requested to place Commercial Drivers License for county employees on the first Tuesday meeting March 4, 2008 agenda.

Comm. Liston: Comm. Liston discussed annexation with the president of the homeowners association of Kingsview Village which is already in the City of Macon. Comm. Liston said they are not overly satisfied with the services being provided by the City of Macon.

Comm. Merritt: Comm. Merritt had no comments.

ADJOURNMENT:

Comm. Liston made a motion to adjourn into executive session to discuss Litigation. Comm. Childs seconded the motion. Vote - unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

RECONVENED:

The meeting reconvened at 8:44 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Comm. Childs made a motion to adjourn. Comm. Merritt seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

APPROVED

Jones County Board of Commissioners

Preston Hawkins, Chairman

David C. Gault, Vice-Chairman, District 2

Larry Childs, District 1 Commissioner

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Mell Merritt, District 3 Commissioner

Bert Liston, District 4 Commissioner

Whitney Stevens, Personnel Technician