

THIRD TUESDAY MEETING

April 15, 2008

The Jones County Board of Commissioners met for their Third Tuesday meeting at 6:30 p.m. April 15, 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.

Chairman Hawkins called the meeting to order at 6:44 p.m.
(Chairman Hawkins exercises his voting rights in the case of a tie.)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Comm. Childs requested to add discussion of a sewer study to Comm. Comments. Chairman Hawkins requested to add the Boy Scout Troop 485 question/answer session as Visitor #1, Impact Fee Advisory Committee as Visitor #2, Tara Burney as Visitor #3 and the Jones County National League as Visitor #4. Comm. Merritt made a motion to approve the agenda with the amendments as noted. Comm. Liston seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous.

William Beaver, Ordained Minister of Communications for Haddock Baptist Church / Scout Leader for Troop 485, opened with volunteer prayer. William Beaver and Scout Troop 485 followed by the leading of the pledge.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Comm. Liston made a motion to approve the first Tuesday April 1, 2008, minutes. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous.

VISITORS:

1. Boy Scout Troop 485 is working on their citizenship in the community award. This award requires each of the boys to learn more about how business is conducted in their city and county and requires them to attend a meeting. Each Scout asked the Board various questions about what it is like to be a county commissioner.
2. Ted Stone, president of the Jones County Board of Education and a member of the Impact Fee Advisory Committee, said the Advisory Committee had a vote of 3-3 on whether it thought the impact fees should be adopted. Mr. Stone said the three members in the building industry were against the fees, but the three who are not in building industry were in favor of impact fees. Mr. Stone said the impact fees can take some of the burden off of the tax payers and get help from those moving into Jones County. Larry Shepherd, a builder that was on the Impact Fee Advisory Committee, said the other members felt the time was wrong for impact fees and that the \$1,107 to \$2,309 average fee being discussed definitely would hurt new construction in Jones County. Comm. Merritt requested to hold another work session to discuss the fees. Consensus of the Board was to have a work session to discuss impact fees; no date was set. Michael D. Underwood, County Administrator, commended the Impact Fee Advisory Committee for their time and dedication to the county.
3. Terra Burney, President of the Home Owners' Association for Hampton Lakes, said Womack Paving Incorporated, is going to repave Hampton Lakes in two weeks. Ms. Burney asked the Board if the county will maintain the roads once they have been paved. Comm. Childs and Comm. Liston looked at the roads in Hampton Lakes and said some places are not marked that need to be paved. The county will coordinate with Womack Paving, the company with whom Wendall Parker has contracted to repair the roads. Laten Boniol, Assistant Public Works Director, will call Womack Paving and request 24 hour notice of paving. Comm. Gault discussed the possibility of withholding future building permits until the issues have been resolved. Comm. Liston spoke of erosion problems on Cole Drive. There are also outstanding side walk issues. Michael D. Underwood said he would look at the erosion problem on Cole Drive to see what can be done. Ms. Burney discussed sewage problems in Hampton Lakes; three of the lots will not perk. Ms. Burney said she does not feel that it is fair for residents to pay a \$6,500 tap on fee to county sewage. Freddie Wiggins, Water Superintendent, presented the Board a handout showing lots 521, 525 and 529 at Claire Court in Hampton Lakes Subdivision that are not perking and

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recommended for the Board to allow these three houses to connect to the county sewer system. Comm. Childs stated that the Board had put a stop to adding on more homes in Hampton Lakes until the problems with the sewer system previously discussed have been corrected. Comm. Childs said he would however support allowing these three homes to hook on only if Mr. Parker will waive his fees. Comm. Childs explained that part of the \$6,500 tap on fee includes fees for the Macon Water Authority, the Board of Education and the county. These fees will not be waived; the county doesn't have the authority to waive fees for the Board of Education or MWA. Consensus of the Board was for Ms. Burney and Michael D. Underwood write a letter to Wendell Parker and get his consent in writing that he will waive his connection fees. Comm. Childs made a motion to authorize Freddie Wiggins, Water Superintendent, connect houses on lots 521, 525 and 529 at Claire Court in Hampton Lakes to the county sewer provided Wendell Parker waives his fees. Comm. Merritt seconded the motion. The tap on fees for the county, the Board of Education and Macon Water Authority will not be waived. Vote – unanimous. See attachments for specifications.

4. Jimbo Griffin with the Jones County National League discussed security issues at the Recreation Complex on Highway 18. Previously the Jones County National League was granted up to \$5,000 for batting nets and repairs to the recreation board room. Mr. Griffin proposed applying the funding allocated for the board room to be used to pay for an off duty deputy for security. Comm. Merritt made a motion to approve spending up to \$2,000 to pay for security at the Highway 18 East Recreation Complex during the rest of the youth baseball and softball season. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. Michael D. Underwood requested for the Jones County National League to keep a record of the cost for the officer and send the county the bill. This funding will be in addition to the funds promised for repairs to the Board room and will come from contingency funds.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The Board discussed a request from Jignesh Patel for a Beer and Wine License. No opposition was present. Comm. Liston made a motion to approve the Beer and Wine License for Jignesh Patel located at 2460 Shurling Drive. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. See attachments for specifications.
2. Freddie Wiggins, Water Superintendent, requested for Frank Childs, County Attorney, to write a 20 foot construction easement for the sewer

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line needed to connect lots 521, 525 and 529 at Claire Court to connect them to the county sewer system.

3. Freddie Wiggins discussed the need for a booster pump station to serve the new water line being built on Upper River Road and Highway 18 West. Mr. Wiggins had met with Tim Ingram and the cost for the booster pump station is an estimated \$65,000 to \$75,000. Mr. Wiggins recommended advertising for bids in the official legal organ of Jones County on April 24, 2008. Mr. Wiggins recommended opening the bids on May 6, 2008, at 11:00 a.m. and award the bid at the first Tuesday meeting, May 6, 2008. Comm. Childs made a motion to approve Mr. Wiggin's request to advertise for bids and spending up to \$75,000 for a booster pump station to serve the new water line being built on Upper River Road and Highway 18 West. Comm. Merritt seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. See attachments for specifications.
4. Comm. Gault said Jack Colter contacted him concerning the condition of Fifth Road from where the county maintains it down to Mr. McKenstry's road. The county has serviced this portion of Fifth Road in the past. Jack Colter discussed the condition of the two miles of Fifth Road where he and Plum Creek have ownership of land. He stated that portion of the road is impassable and requested for the county to repair the two miles of Fifth Road. Consensus of the Board was for Leila Brittain, Clerk of the Board / Human Resource Director, to conduct a research for abandonment of the road and contact Jack Colter. Mike McKenstry a resident of Fifth Road discussed: his concerns with illegal dumping of tires beside the road and who may eventually have to pay to clean this up; safety issues with the social activities that take place on the portion of the road that is not maintained; and the fact that he felt it was still a county road with an assigned road number. He explained that the road wasn't closed and gated off as discussed previously because Plum Creek didn't agree. There may have been land locked issues that would arise from closing the road.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. The Board discussed the approval of Recreation Policies as follows:
 - a. Jones County American League Baseball – South Complex.
 - b. Jones County National League Baseball – Central Complex
 - c. Jones County Midget Football
 - d. Jones County Youth Basketball

Comm. Liston made a motion to approve the recreation policies. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. See attachments for specifications.

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2. The Board discussed the approval of Comm. Gault attending the Black Caucus Annual Legislative Conference in Washington DC. Comm. Childs made a motion to approve Comm. Gault attending the 2008 Congressional Black Caucus Annual Legislative Conference in Washington DC. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. See attachments for specifications.

At this time Comm. Merritt requested to hold an additional work session to discuss the impact fees. Chairman Hawkins said the Board needs to study the matter more and have Mr. Ross provide more information. Consensus of the Board was to have a work session to discuss impact fees; no date was set at this time.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

1. Freddie Wiggins, Water Superintendent, requested to have an Executive Session to discuss Personnel.
2. Michael D. Underwood, County Administrator, requested for the Board to approve a letter supporting an application for a One Georgia Grant by the Jones County Industrial Authority. This will require a commitment from the county of \$500,000 which has already been allocated in the 2004 SPLOST funds. The county had already voted to approve an entrance road into the tract purchased last year for an industrial park off Highway 57. The Development Authority has identified its need at this point to be the construction of an entrance roadway; this is vital to marketing and securing potential businesses and industries. The county will commit to in-kind service up to \$110,000 to prepare and gravel the road into the property. Comm. Childs made a motion to approve a letter supporting an application for a One Georgia Grant by the Jones County Industrial Authority. The county will provide the gravel entrance road into the tract purchased last year for an industrial park on Highway 57, with the county's cost not to exceed \$110,000. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. See attachments for specifications.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Comm. Childs: Comm. Childs had a request to add additional speed breakers on Plentitude Church Road. Comm. Childs recommended continuing the Board's practice of residents obtaining a petition requesting speed breakers. Comm. Childs discussed the Highway 49 area down County Line Road to the

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bridge having good potential for commercial growth. Comm. Childs would like to do a study to see if sewer can be gravity fed through two of the properties and obtain an estimate of cost. Comm. Childs proposed contacting Baldwin County to see if they will let Jones County tie onto their sewer main up to the Cannery. The funding would come from the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax. Comm. Childs proposed placing all of the information obtained in a book and set short range, medium range and long range plans. Comm. Childs said we need to up date our land use plan to show all of the current sewer and water plans. Comm. Childs said the sewer at the industrial park is going to be expensive and proposed obtaining additional land for landfill application.

Comm. Gault: Comm. Gault discussed the priority list for water expansion; Haddock seems to be low priority. Comm. Gault said he feels water expansion should be done throughout the county not in just certain areas. Comm. Gault said the county needs to focus on water and bring water into the northern section; Bradley Wayside and Haddock areas. Comm. Gault said it is not fair to the citizens to spend 14 million in the southern part of the county and \$700,000 in the other areas. Comm. Gault has written a letter but will read it after more water decisions are made. See attachments for specifications.

Comm. Merritt: Comm. Merritt had no comments.

Comm. Liston: Comm. Liston requested a work session to discuss the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax. Consensus of the Board was to have a work session May 6, 2008, at 4:30 p.m. The work session will be to discuss water, sewer and what items they would like to include in a new Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax.

ADJOURNMENT:

Comm. Liston made a motion to adjourn into executive session to discuss Personnel. Comm. Gault seconded the motion. Vote - unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

RECONVENED:

Comm. Liston made a motion to reconvene the regular meeting. Comm. Childs seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. The meeting reconvened at 8:22 p.m.

Consensus of the Board was to put Adult Education on the next agenda.

ADJOURNMENT:

Comm. Liston made a motion to adjourn. Comm. Merritt seconded the motion. Vote – unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 8:23 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