

MINUTES

DECATUR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2018

PRESENT: CHAIRMAN PETE STEPHENS, VICE CHAIRMAN DENNIS BRINSON, COMMISSIONERS RUSTY DAVIS, GREG MURRAY, GEORGE ANDERSON AND STEVE BROCK, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR ALAN THOMAS, COUNTY ATTORNEY BRUCE KIRBO, COUNTY CLERK BEVERLY KING AND NEWS REPORTER POWELL COBB.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Pete Stephens called the regular scheduled meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. After the call to order, Chairman Pete Stephens gave the invocation and all those assembled pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

County Administrator Alan Thomas asked the Board to approve the following amendments: Add #4 – FEMA Update and add #5 – Consider Approval of Scrap Tire Abatement Agreement Modification. Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the agenda with these amendments. Commissioner Brock seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Kinder Morgan. Chairman Stephens recognized Mr. Mathew Thompson, Operations Manager for Southern Natural Gas Company. Mr. Thompson presented a check for \$6,000 to support the Decatur County Fire & Rescue. Mr. Thompson stated that Southern Natural Gas Company is pleased to support the Decatur County Fire & Rescue and the firefighters that consistently go above and beyond in their call of duty. Mr. Thompson stated that Southern Natural Gas Company has operated in Decatur County for decades and it was their honor to give back to this community, especially in the wake of Hurricane Michael.

County Administrator Alan Thomas said that Decatur County is very grateful for this donation and it will allow our fire department to purchase much needed equipment to better serve Decatur County.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Chairman Stephens recognized Johnnie Mae Livingston. Ms. Livingston inquired about the disposal of debris and the charges at the landfill for the disposal of construction and household items. County Administrator Thomas explained how storm related debris should be separated and placed in the right-of-way to be picked up.

APPROVE MINUTES

Vice Chairman Brinson made a motion to approve the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting held October 9, 2018 as presented. Commissioner Murray seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business to be Discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

EMA Update – Chief Charlie McCann. Chairman Stephens recognized Fire Chief Charlie McCann and E-911 Director Tonya Griffin. Ms. Griffin gave a brief update on the number of 911 calls that were received during the hurricane. Ms. Griffin stated that the Decatur County

Emergency Management Agency is receiving help from numerous agencies as the Hurricane Michael relief effort begins. Ms. Griffin stated that the Department of Corrections Strike Team; Georgia State Troopers and Department of Community Supervision workers are in the process of arriving now. Ms. Griffin stated that resources are coming to help ensure Decatur County residents are safe, sheltered and fed. Ms. Griffin gave an update on shelters being set up to house those displaced by Hurricane Michael. Ms. Griffin gave an update on the power restoration throughout the county, stating that 100% of the county was without power after the hurricane and less than 1% is without power now. Chief McCann commended the help received from the Georgia Forestry Commission to clear roadways, stating the primary goal was getting the state roads cleared first. County Administrator Thomas and all of the commissioners commended Ms. Griffin, Chief McCann; the County staff; the City of Bainbridge and all of the citizens, stating they could not be more proud of how they handled this situation.

Consider Purchase of Dozer – Landfill. Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated bids were opened Thursday, October 18th for a new dozer at the landfill. County Administrator Thomas read aloud the results of the bid opening and recommended the Board approve the low bid purchase from Yancey Brothers for a 2019 Caterpillar D6N with a sale price of \$238,813.00, trade-in allowance of \$98,000.00, 5-year buy-back of \$95,000.00 and finance rate of 4.30%. Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve this purchase. Commissioner Brock seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

FEMA Update – Mr. Manuel Portela. Chairman Stephens recognized Mr. Manuel Portela with U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Intergovernmental Affairs Specialist and Mr. Brian Beard, director of SBA's Field Operations Center East in Atlanta, Georgia. Mr. Portela stated that once the governor of the state asks for a declaration of a state disaster and it is approved by the President of the U.S, then a lot of people come in to help. FEMA is just one of the players to help residents through the assistance process after damage and losses suffered during Hurricane Michael. Mr. Beard stated The U.S. Small Business Administration set up a service location at the Bainbridge-Decatur County Chamber of Commerce, offering business physical disaster loans, economic injury disaster loans and home disaster loans. Its hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The SBA provides low-interest, long-term disaster loans to businesses of all sizes, private non-profit organizations, homeowners and renter to repair or replace uninsured/underinsured disaster damaged property. SBA disaster loans offer an affordable way for individuals and businesses to recover from declared disasters. Mr. Portela and Mr. Beard provided the Board with brochures with information on how to apply for assistance. Mr. Beard stated that the SBA is committed to facilitating economic recovery in this disaster.

Consider Approval of Scrap Tire Abatement Agreement Modification. Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated that the County had previously entered into an agreement in April providing the Local Government Scrap Tire Abatement Project. County Administrator Thomas stated the original agreement was for \$30,000 but the cost for the scrap tires collected exceeded the original amount. County Administrator Thomas stated this modification is to amend the original agreement in order to cover the additional cost of \$4,022.50. County Administrator Thomas recommended the Board approve this modification. Commissioner Brock made a motion to approve this modification to the Scrap Tire Abatement Agreement. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

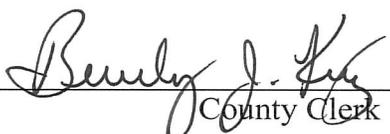
COMMISSIONERS / ADMINISTRATOR'S REMARKS

All of the commissioners had nothing but praise for all the team members who have worked through these adverse conditions, stating how proud they were of the County Administrator and the county employees that had things that needed attention at their own home, but had come in to make sure Decatur County citizens were taken care of. The commissioners also praised the community in general, stating they were so impressed that even among the destruction, they seen nothing but people helping others.

Chairman Stephens recognized a student with the Youth Leadership Program and encouraged him to come back.

There being no further business, the meeting, on motion by Commissioner Davis, was duly adjourned. Vice Chairman Brinson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Approved: 
Chairman

Attest: 
County Clerk