

MINUTES

DECATUR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2019

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

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Pete Stephens called the regular scheduled meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. After the call to order, County Attorney Bruce Kirbo gave the invocation and all those assembled pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

There were no Special Presentations.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no Public Participation.

APPROVE MINUTES

Commissioner Murray made a motion to approve the minutes of the Commissioners' Meeting held August 27, 2019 as presented. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business to be Discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

Department of Family and Children Services – Jackie Bridges. Chairman Stephens recognized Director of Family and Children Services, Jackie Bridges. Mrs. Bridges gave a brief update on foster care in Decatur County, stating that there are 68 foster children in Decatur County alone. Ms. Bridges stated that DFACS receives \$3,500.00 from Decatur County to assist foster parents for the extra goods and services each foster child needs every year, money that the state government does not include in its budget. Mrs. Bridges stated that the community has been very good in helping with these children but there is more that needs to be done. Mrs. Bridges requested that the County consider increasing their budget for foster care. County Administrator Thomas asked what specific amount she had in mind. Mrs. Bridges stated at one time the County was giving \$10,000.00 and that is what she would like to receive. County Administrator Thomas stated that the budget process started in February and the County just recently approved their budget. After a brief discussion, Vice Chairman Brinson made a motion for the Board to try to extend those funds from \$3,500.00 to \$10,000.00 a year. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. Chairman Stephens asked Mrs. Bridges if she could get by with increasing it to \$5,000.00 for this year and bring her request next year during the budget process. Mrs. Bridges stated that any increase would help. Vice Chairman Brinson withdrew his motion and Commissioner Anderson withdrew his second. Vice Chairman Brinson made a motion to increase the Department of Family and Children Services' budget to \$5,000.00 and have Mrs. Bridges come back during budget process to discuss her budget concerns. Commissioner Anderson seconded this motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Update from Public Works – Dennis Medley. Chairman Stephens recognized Public Works Director, Dennis Medley. Mr. Medley gave a brief update on projects throughout the County. Mr. Medley stated that they have resurfaced Martin Road, which stretches for two miles between State Route 97 and State Route 311 and it is awaiting striping. Watauga Road, from State Route 262 to the County Line, had its 2.2 miles level course complete, emplacing top course now. These projects are funded by TSPLOST. The final projects on the 2019 LMIG list are the leveling course of Bell Dixon Road, a 1.2-mile stretch from State Route 262 to the County Line; Woodhull Road, from Lake Douglas Road to Hwy. 27, and Kelley Road, from Butler Ferry Road to U.S. 84. Mr. Medley stated that funds for the 2020 LMIG have been applied for and Decatur County is awaiting the more than \$832,000 grant to begin those projects next on the list; Betts Community Road, Porter Mitchell Road, Oak Ridge Lane, River Ridge Drive, Bert Phillips Road, Bunny Lane and Kelly Lane are all on the 2020 LMIG list.

County Administrator Thomas stated that we now have the deeds for right-of-way acquisition for Sharber Road and will begin that process soon. County Administrator Thomas stated that this is another project in its entirety paid by TSPLOST.

COMMISSIONERS / ADMINISTRATOR'S REMARKS

All of the Commissioners thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

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

Approved: 
Chairman

Attest: 
County Clerk