

MINUTES

DECATUR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM

TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2020

PRESENT: CHAIRMAN PETE STEPHENS, VICE CHAIRMAN DENNIS BRINSON, COMMISSIONERS RUSTY DAVIS, GREG MURRAY, 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, Vice Chairman Dennis Brinson 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 Murray 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 March 10, 2020 as presented. Vice Chairman Brinson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Consider Proposed Road Closure – Portion of Old Faceville Road. Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Alan Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated that at the last meeting he presented a letter from Mr. Greg Smith who represents the clients of James and Gail Brown along with a map that shows the portion of Old Faceville Road that they are requesting to close. County Administrator Thomas stated that it was on the agenda at the last meeting for informational purposes only. County Administrator Thomas stated at the last meeting a Georgia Power representative was present and stated that he thought there were utilities down that road way, so that would be an issue to take into consideration. County Administrator Thomas stated if this request is approved, it would also create a dead-end situation as well. County Administrator Thomas submitted this request to the Board for their consideration. Commissioner Davis made a motion to discuss the proposed road closure. Commissioner Murray seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved. The Commissioners discussed several issues with closing this portion of Old Faceville Road. Chairman Stephens pointed out an issue with having to still maintain the road. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Davis made a motion to not move forward with the procedures to close this portion of Old Faceville Road. Commissioner Brock seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider Approval of Proclamation – National Donate Life Month. Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated that this is a proclamation that Ms. June Faircloth brings before the Board every year for the past several years to declare April as the National Donate Life Month. County Administrator Thomas recommended the Board approve this Proclamation. Vice Chairman Brinson made a motion to approve this Proclamation. Commissioner Murray seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Ratify Resolution for Waiver of Certain Penalties and Interest by Tax Commissioner.

Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated that this agenda item relates to the COVID-19 situation. County Administrator Thomas stated that this resolution was requested and recommended to be approved by the Board by email last month. The Board unanimously approved this resolution to authorize the Tax Commissioner to waive certain penalties and interest. This request is to ratify that approval by the Board that was accomplished by email. Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve this request. Commissioner Murray seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Ratify Executive Order – COVID-19. Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated that this item too relates to the COVID-19 situation. County Administrator Thomas stated this was requested and recommended that the Board authorize a local state of emergency Executive Order related to the COVID-19 which was also unanimously approved by email confirmation from this Board. County Administrator Thomas recommended the Board Ratify this Executive Order. Commissioner Brock made a motion to approve this request. Commissioner Murray seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Consider Purchase of Semi-Truck – Public Works. Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas presented the Board with a bid tabulation sheet for a semi-truck for the Public Works Department. County Administrator Thomas stated that three bids were received and opened on April 2, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. County Administrator Thomas recommended the Board approve the bid from Capital Truck in the amount of \$121,000.00 with a \$109,000.00 buy-back and a 3-year, 300,000-mile warranty. County Administrator Thomas stated this is a T-SPLOST budgeted item. Commissioner Brock made a motion to approve the bid from Capital Truck in the amount of \$121,000.00. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Consider Request from Sheriff's Department – Disposal of Surplus Vehicles. Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated that this is a request from the Sheriff's Department to declare three vehicles; a 2001 Chevrolet Suburban, a 1998 Mercury Grand Marquis, and a 2002 BMW 330i surplus property to be sold on Govdeals.net. County Administrator Thomas stated that these vehicles were confiscated and the proceeds from the sale should be put in the State Drug Account. County Administrator Thomas recommended the Board approve this request. Vice Chairman Brinson made a motion to approve this request. Commissioner Murray seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Consider Appointment – Decatur County Gilbert H. Gragg Library Board. Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated that he received a letter from Ms. Susan Whittle, Executive Director for the Decatur County Gilbert H. Gragg Library Board, stating that Ms. Dianne Washington will complete her final term on the Board June 30, 2020. County Administrator Thomas stated that Ms. Whittle requests that the Board of Commissioners appoint Julie Harris to take her place on the Library Board. If approved, Mrs. Harris' term would begin July 1, 2020 and end June 30, 2023. County Administrator Thomas recommended the Board approve this request. Commissioner Davis made a motion to appoint Mrs. Julie Harris to the Library Board. Vice Chairman Brinson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Consider Appointment – Decatur County Department of Family & Children Services.

Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas presented a letter from Ms. Jackie Bridges, the director for the Department of Family and Children Services, requesting that the Board of Commissioners reappoint Ms. Karen Malone to the Department of Family and Children Services Board to serve another term. This term will extend through June 30, 2025. County Administrator Thomas recommended the Board approve this request. Commissioner Brock made a motion to reappoint Ms. Karen Malone. Commissioner Murray seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Consider Approval of Error and Release Report from Tax Commissioner. Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas presented the Board with an Errors and Reliefs report from the Tax Commissioner for their consideration of approval. Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve this report. Commissioner Murray seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Consider Approval of Auction Bids – County Attorney Bruce Kirbo. Chairman Stephens recognized County Attorney Bruce Kirbo. County Attorney Kirbo commended the Tax Assessor's office, the Tax Commissioner's office and the Administrative Office for making this an easy process. County Attorney Kirbo stated that the on-line auction was completed and approximately 85% of the properties had bids placed on them. County Attorney Kirbo stated that

he is closing the properties in batches and the first batch which consists of 38 properties is completed and these properties will be put back on the tax rolls. County Attorney Kirbo stated that the first batch took in \$78,770.00 and the second batch should bring in \$62,000.00. County Attorney Kirbo stated there was some upfront money that had to be spent for the auctioneer and for publication costs. County Attorney Kirbo requested that the Board approve these bids so that he can finalize the sale of these properties. Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve these bids. Commissioner Murray seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

COMMISSIONERS / ADMINISTRATOR'S REMARKS

All of the Commissioners thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and commended everyone involved with the successful process of the Decatur County Surplus Property Sale through the online auction.

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: Pete Stephens
Chairman

Attest: Brendy J. King
County Clerk