

**MINUTES
DECATUR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2013**

PRESENT: CHAIRMAN RUSSELL SMITH, VICE CHAIRMAN FRANK LOEFFLER, COMMISSIONERS DR. BUTCH MOSELY, OLIVER SELLERS, DENNIS BRINSON AND JAN GODWIN, COUNTY ATTORNEY BROWN MOSELEY, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR GARY BREEDLOVE, COUNTY CLERK BEVERLY KING AND NEWS EDITOR JUSTIN SCHUVER.

INVOCATION AND PLEDE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. After the call to order, Reverend Randy Mosely gave the invocation and all those assembled pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

AMENDMENTS / APPROVAL OF AGENDA.

County Administrator Breedlove asked the Board to approve the following amendments: Under Special Presentations, Debbie McIntyre will give a presentation on LIFE instead of June Faircloth; Under Old Business Add Michelle West to give an Update on the Budget Status and Add Executive Session to Discuss Personnel. Vice Chairman Loeffler made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Mosely seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Firefighter Recognitions: Banquet Winners. County Administrator Breedlove recognized three Firefighters that won awards at the Firefighters Annual Banquet that was held a few days ago. From the Decatur County Fire Department, Carroll Polk was recognized for the outstanding training officer of the year; Adam Taylor was recognized for rookie of the year; and James Coddington from the Blackjack Volunteer Fire Department was recognized for firefighter of the year.

Debbie McIntyre – LIFE. Ms. McIntyre gave a brief update on the adult education program stating that during the first GED graduation on January 29, 2013 there were 36 graduates. Ms. McIntyre stated that 235 tests have been taken and the pass rate is about 95%. Ms. McIntyre introduced Sarah Babcock. Ms. Babcock went through the program back in the fall and was a speaker at the recent graduation. Ms. Babcock stated that she received her GED at the end of September 2012 and is continuing her education at Bainbridge College. Ms. Babcock stated this experience has opened many doors for her.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Vice Chairman Loeffler made a motion to approve the minutes of the Commissioners' Meeting held January 22, 2013. Commissioner Brinson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Budget Update. Chairman Smith recognized Accounting Manager, Michelle West. Mrs. West presented the Board with a report with projected income from February, 2013 through June, 2013. Mrs. West stated the County would probably be okay financially through March but would anticipate on applying for another TANS loan by the beginning of April, 2013. Mrs. West stated the revenue was just not coming in to cover all the expenses.

Motorola Tower Update. Chairman Smith recognized E911 Director Tonya Griffin. Ms. Griffin presented the Board with a quote from Motorola for the Spring Creek Road Tower Remediation. The remediation work included the foundation, fabrication and installation of diagonals and horizontals and installing new guy wires and guy wire hardware, plumb and set tension. The amount of the quote was \$176,366.00. Ms. Griffin stated the estimated completion time for the Spring Creek Tower will be 6 to 8 weeks. Ms. Griffin asked the Board to approve permission to move forward with this project. Commissioner Sellers made a motion to give permission to move forward with the Spring Creek Road remediation work. Commissioner Brinson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Update on Elevated Water Tower Project. Chairman Smith recognized Industrial Park Manager Eric Swain. Mr. Swain stated Turner Broadband has to remove their equipment from the water tower and relocate it on a temporary tower during the water tank renovation and then reinstall it back on the water tower. This will be at their expense. Mr. Swain stated his department will have to man the water control system for the ground level tank 24 hours a day during the contract to ensure water supply to the Industrial Park customers.

Update on Waste Water Treatment Plant Draft RFP – Bid Deadline February 27th.

County Administrator Breedlove stated that the four major pieces of equipment have been released for proposals from contractors, those bids are due February 27th. Engineer Stacy Watkins will be in the next morning following the bid opening to evaluate those bids to decide which contractor meets all the criteria to win the bid. The bid will be awarded not only according to the cost but according to the operation and maintenance characteristics, reliability, and track record with the proposed equipment and other factors that is determined to be important to the selection process.

Col. Breedlove

Update on GEMA Home Demolitions. Chairman Smith recognized Public Works Director Dennis Medley. Mr. Medley stated of the 14 total homes to be demolished, 11 homes have been completed. Mr. Medley stated of the 4 remaining, 1 home is ongoing now, 1 home is awaiting hazmat inspection and 1 homeowner to turn their keys in. Mr. Medley stated once all the homes are demolished, GEMA will inspect all of the properties.

Update on Fuel System Upgrade. Chairman Smith recognized Public Works Director Dennis Medley. Mr. Medley stated sites, the Public Works site and the Landfill site now have the new fuel system installed. All the keys and cards have been programmed and seem to be working well.

Update on Landfill

- **Decatur County “Regional”** – Col. Breedlove stated that the Decatur County Solid Waste Facility is starting to become more of a regional landfill because the majority of the waste that comes there is from outside of the county’s boundaries.
- **Status on Seminole County** – Col. Breedlove stated that the county’s recently signed contract to accept solid waste from Seminole County is already paying dividends and is expected to bring revenues of \$146,000 per year.
- **Blakely / Early County** – Col. Breedlove said that the county is currently in discussions to sign a similar contract with the City of Blakely and Early County. If a contract is signed, those municipalities’ volume will like be more than double what is brought in from Seminole County.
- **City of Colquitt** – Col. Breedlove stated the County has been in discussions with City of Colquitt to possibly build a transfer station.
- **PSE Visit to Landfill** - Col. Breedlove stated the former Landfill Manager John Simmons and Keep Decatur County Beautiful Executive Director Suzanne Brandt, who has been helping with marketing the landfill, recently visited Potter Street Elementary School to talk to the students about the landfill. One week later the students visited the landfill for a field trip. Col. Breedlove stated he received several thank-you letters from the students that took the field trip.

Update on WWII Renovation Project. County Administrator Breedlove stated this project is

still in the engineering state. Col. Breedlove said he anticipates on getting information in the next few days to see what the next step will be. Col. Breedlove stated this project should be completed by the end of this year.

NEW BUSINESS

Ratify Proclamations for Black History Month. Chairman Smith stated at the request of a local Church, a separate proclamation for a list of distinguished black citizens of Decatur County was constructed and presented on Sunday, February 10th. Chairman Smith stated with the verbal approval of all the commissioners he signed the proclamations and now they need to be ratified by the Board in an open meeting. Commissioner Mosely made a motion to ratify proclamations for Black History Month. Vice Chairman Loeffler seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Arbor Day at West Bainbridge Elementary – Friday, February 15th. Chairman Smith recognized Keep Decatur County Beautiful Executive Director Suzanne Brandt. Ms. Brandt asked everyone to join Keep Decatur County Beautiful, Georgia Forestry and Decatur County Extension in celebrating Arbor Day at West Bainbridge Elementary School at 9:00 a.m. on February 15th, 2013. Each class will plant a tree.

Electronic Recycle Day at Old Landfill – Saturday, February 16th. Keep Decatur County Beautiful Executive Director Suzanne Brandt announced that they will be hosting an electronic recycling event designed to allow people to easily dispose of their unwanted devices in an environmentally friendly manner. This event will take place Saturday, February 16th at the county's old landfill from 9:00 a.m. until noon. People who dispose of televisions will be charged a \$10.00 fee.

Solar Project at Public Works “Dirt Yard.” Col. Breedlove stated he had been in discussions with a company named Solon to discuss solar farms. Possibilities include an area across the road from Public Works Department referred to as the dirt yard. The other possibility is at Bainbridge High School. Col. Breedlove asked for permission to continue discussions with this company to possibly work out an agreement to bring to the Board in the near future for consideration. Commissioner Mosely made a motion to allow Col. Breedlove to continue discussions with Solon to possibly work out an agreement to bring to the Board for consideration. Vice Chairman Loeffler seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Elected Officials Development Authority “Cook Out” – February 21st. Col. Breedlove announced that the City of Bainbridge and Decatur County Development Authority will host a cook out for elected officials on Thursday, February 21st. The time and place will be announced at a later date.

Report on Taylor Benefits Visit. Col. Breedlove stated that Michelle West, Beverly King and himself recently visited Taylor Benefits to learn more about their process and how to better manage the county's insurance costs. Col. Breedlove stated it was a productive session that included discussions about wellness programs, higher deductibles, spousal medical coverage, employee awareness of benefits and the Obama Care. Col. Breedlove stated some recommendations will be brought to the Board in the near future.

Oxford Natural Gas Project. County Administrator Breedlove stated Oxford Construction is interested in going to natural gas energy source at their asphalt plant on Highway 27 north. That would involve us according to the volume of gas they would need, running a new 4 inch pipe line from the peak shaving equipment west of the fire department to connect to them. Col. Breedlove stated that Oxford is willing to front the cost of this project.

COMMISSIONERS / ADMINISTRATOR'S REMARKS

Commissioner Godwin stated she enjoyed her recent tour of all the departments. Commissioner Godwin stated she enjoyed meeting all the department heads and their staff and looks forward to continue working with everyone.

Commissioner Brinson stated he appreciated everyone working together on the proclamations for Black History Month. Commissioner Brinson stated the presentation was a great success.

County Administrator Breedlove stated the Board needed to schedule a Road Work Shop at 6:00 p.m. February 26th before the next commissioner's meeting. All the commissioners agreed.

Chairman Smith stated a lady in his district had requested that the county pick up some shingles that was dumped on a private road. All the commissioners agreed that it was private property and county employees cannot do work on private property. The request was denied.

Chairman Smith stated a gentleman came to him before the commissioner's meeting started and requested that the county waive landfill fees for some debris from his house that was recently destroyed by fire. All the commissioners agreed that if the county did this request for him, they would have to grant the request for anyone else that asked for it. The request was denied.

Vice Chairman Loeffler made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel. Commissioner Brinson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

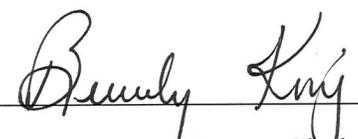
After the executive session the Commissioners assembled back in the board room. Vice Chairman Loeffler made a motion to go into regular session. Commissioner Godwin seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Chairman Smith stated the Board received information pertaining to some personnel. Chairman Smith stated no action was taken at this time.

Chairman Smith stated the Board discussed some names to submit to the Hospital Authority Board to consider for an appointment. Commissioner Brinson made a motion to submit the following names to the Hospital Authority Board for their selection of an appointment to their Hospital Board: Dr. Linda Jones, Liv Warren and Ron Kirkland. Commissioner Godwin seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

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

Approved: 
Chairman

Attest: 
County Clerk