

MINUTES

DECATUR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2014

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

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Loeffler called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. After the call to order, Commissioner Dennis Brinson gave the invocation and all those assembled pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Chairman Loeffler recognized the County Auditor, Ben Lee. Mr. Lee briefed the Board of Commissioners on the findings of the county's audit report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013. Mr. Lee announced that Decatur County was eligible for the Single Audit Act of 1996. The act allows the federal government to provide an extensive array of federal assistance to recipients reaching over \$400 million annually. Mr. Lee said the primary federal program that made Decatur County eligible for the single audit was the FEMA buyout program. Mr. Lee stated there weren't any areas of non-compliance with federal laws and regulations, nor problems with Decatur County's internal controls over the federal laws and regulations. All the reports are clean reports. Mr. Lee noted the Board of Commissioner's success for budgeting for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013 with no departments going over their budget. The actual revenues were less than what was anticipated; however the actual expenditures were also less than appropriated. Mr. Lee suggested that Decatur County review and revise their cash management polices to complement the current accounting software being used by the County which was implemented subsequent to the adoption of the Cash Management policies. Mr. Lee stated the County has recently adopted an Anti-Fraud policy and should be commended for this action. Mr. Lee suggested that the County enhance this action by developing an Anti-Fraud Program which would include Anti-Fraud Procedures, a Code of Business Ethics and Conduct, Annual Employee Questionnaires and Certification. Mr. Lee said he appreciated the opportunity to be of service and will be available to assist in any of the aforementioned suggestions.

AMENDMENTS / APPROVAL OF AGENDA

County Administrator Breedlove asked the board to approve the following amendments: Add Rick McCaskill with the Development Authority; and Pre-Construction Meeting at the Industrial Park. County Attorney Moseley asked the Board to approve the following amendment: Add Litigation to the Executive Session. Commissioner Mosely made a motion to approve the agenda with these amendments. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Chairman Loeffler recognized Ted Snell. Mr. Snell spoke about economics. Mr. Snell stated that Decatur County needed growth in businesses. Mr. Snell asked the Board to consider combining the two governments, the City and the County under one roof in order to save millions of dollars. Mr. Snell asked the Board to leave increasing taxes out of the new budget and consider furloughing employees to save money.

Chairman Loeffler recognized Richard Whigham. Mr. Whigham expressed concerns with the ditches on Bettstown Road. Mr. Whigham asked that the Public Works Department schedule routine ditch cleaning on Bettstown Road instead of waiting for someone to call and complain about them. Mr. Whigham requested that Bettstown Road get on the list in the near future to be paved.

APPROVE MINUTES

Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of the Commissioners Meeting held February 11, 2014. Vice Chairman Brinson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Rick McCaskill – Sale of Land at Commodore Industrial Park. Mr. McCaskill asked the Board to consider transferring the title of some land to the Development Authority that is in the Commodore Industrial Park. Mr. McCaskill stated the land is titled in the City of Bainbridge and Decatur County's names. Mr. McCaskill stated the land was in two sections, one is 58.78 acres and the other is 13.7 acres. Mr. McCaskill stated if approved the Development Authority would enter into an agreement to sale the land to Decatur Gin Company. Mr. McCaskill stated that part of the land would be sold for \$2500 per acre and part of it that has road frontage for \$3500 per acre. The Development Authority plans to use the money to help build a spec building. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the transfer of this land to the Development Authority. Vice Chairman Brinson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Mr. McCaskill gave a brief economical development update stating there were several expansions going on at the Industrial Air Park. Mr. McCaskill announced a job fair for Bainbridge Manufacturing to be held March 18th at the Bainbridge State College with plans to have a couple of sessions for all the elected officials to see the end results for the potential growth of Bainbridge Manufacturing. Mr. McCaskill stated the Propex Building is under contract with a group of principals from the Meridian Company. Mr. McCaskill stated that Bainbridge Manufacturing has decided to go with the gas furnace in which they will be using a lot of gas which will be good for the County.

Pre-Construction Meeting on Water Pump. County Administrator Breedlove stated the pre-construction meeting with Bates Engineering was held last Wednesday on the High Pressure Pump House that supplies water to all the customers at the Industrial Air Park. Col. Breedlove stated he was very impressed with Bates Engineers that they are very aware of the specs and the need to maintain water supply to all the customers during the construction.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration of SPLOST VI Intergovernmental Agreement. County Attorney Moseley explained that the revenue projection for SPLOST VI is a little over 34 million over the next six years. SPLOST money is to be used for special projects. Mr. Moseley stated this is a three stage project. The first stage is to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with all the municipalities within the County and in Decatur County's case with the Hospital Authority as well. The second stage is to pass a resolution authorizing the collection of revenue and expenditures. The third stage is the referendum, which is in May this year, and this has to be passed by the voters of Decatur County. Mr. Moseley presented the Intergovernmental Agreement to the Board for their approval. Mr. Moseley stated all of the municipalities and the Hospital Authority have signed the Intergovernmental Agreement leaving the Board of Commissioners the last to sign. Commissioner Moseley made a motion to approve this SPLOST VI Intergovernmental Agreement. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

SPLOST VI Resolution, April 2015-March 2021. County Attorney Moseley stated this document sets all of this in motion and it can only be initiated by the County. Mr. Moseley stated he made one change to the document on page two, paragraph three, adding one sentence stating that the SPLOST VI is being imposed for a period of six years. Mr. Moseley stated on page two of this resolution is the exact language that will be on the referendum ballot for the voters to consider. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve this SPLOST VI Resolution. Commissioner Sellers seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Resolution for Workman's Comp for Volunteer Firemen. County Administrator Breedlove stated this was a resolution to complete the transaction that the Board voted on earlier to change the Workman's Comp for the volunteer firemen except for Climax to be covered by Hartford Insurance Company. Commissioner Sellers made a motion to approve this resolution. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Report on Public Service Commission Visit at Industrial Park. County Administrator Breedlove stated on February 18th the Public Service Commission made their third visit in eight

months. Col. Breedlove stated the County received a very good verbal report with a written report to follow at a later date.

Support for Veterans Van Transportation. County Administrator Breedlove stated he had done some research as a request from the last commissioner's meeting on this matter. The Veterans Association has applied for a grant. Leon County is involved and requested that the Veterans Association get some support from approximately six surrounding counties in order to provide their support. The cost for each county would be \$1,245.11. This van would provide transportation for veterans from Tallahassee to other Veteran Hospitals. Commissioner Mosely made a motion to support our veterans and approve the payment of \$1,245.11 providing that the other counties agree to pay their portion. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

WWII Hangar Phase I "Final Inspection." County Administrator Breedlove stated the final inspection has been completed with a couple of minor items to be fixed.

WWII Hangar Phase I "Dedication." County Administrator Breedlove stated the two main factors in planning the Hangar Dedication are Alec Poitevint's availability and the availability of Tom Smith to have his BT-15 aircraft that was originally delivered to Bainbridge in August 1942 present at the dedication. The tentative dates will be either April the 5th or 6th. Chairman Loeffler commended Col. Breedlove for his hard work and dedication in getting this Hangar restored. Commissioner Godwin suggested that Col. Breedlove solicit some old pictures pertaining to the WWII Hangar to be hung in the Hangar.

Watkins' Proposal – Natural Gas Line. County Administrator Breedlove presented the Board with a short form agreement with Watkins & Associates, LLC for them to review for a source for additional gas supply at the Industrial Air Park. Col. Breedlove stated he would bring it back before the Board at the next commissioners' meeting for their consideration of approval.

COMMISSIONERS' REMARKS

Commissioner Godwin gave an update on the Larry Harrison flood problem.

Vice Chairman Brinson stated it was very important to inform the citizens of Decatur County that the SPLOST VI referendum is not a new tax but just a continuation of what already exists.

Chairman Smith requested an update on the EMS assessment. County Administrator Breedlove stated the EMS assessment has been rescheduled for March 11th through the 14th.

Commissioner Sellers asked if there was a plan to get the ambulances repaired and back operational. Col. Breedlove stated that two were now operational and one should be back up and running by tomorrow. Col. Breedlove stated that half of the fleet had over 180,000 miles.

County Administrator Breedlove announced that Saturday, March 1st, Pilots & Paws will be at the Bainbridge-Decatur County airport. Dogs from all over the tri-state will be traveling to the Bainbridge-Decatur County airport to catch their flights to a better place. This event is coordinated to take dogs to rescue and other shelters that have room to accommodate the canines.

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

Chairman Loeffler stated the Board discussed some board appointments and voted to appoint Connie Snider to the Georgia Pines Community Service Board and Ted Snell to the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities Board.

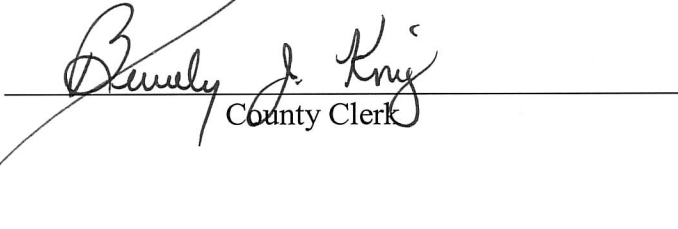
Chairman Loeffler stated a litigation matter was discussed but no action was taken at this time.

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

Approved:


Chairman

Attest:


County Clerk