

MINUTES

DECATUR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM

TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2015

PRESENT: CHAIRMAN DENNIS BRINSON, VICE CHAIRMAN PETE STEPHENS, COMMISSIONERS DR. BUTCH MOSELY, RUSSELL SMITH, RUSTY DAVIS AND GEORGE ANDERSON, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR GARY BREEDLOVE, COUNTY CLERK BEVERLY KING, COUNTY ATTORNEY BRUCE KIRBO AND NEWS REPORTERS BRENNAN LEATHERS AND POWELL COBB.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

AMENDMENTS / APPROVAL OF AGENDA

County Commissioner Mosely asked the Board to approve the following amendments: Delete #8 Service Delivery Strategy Implementation and Replace it with; Appoint a Committee to Negotiate with The City of Bainbridge Some Terms of the Service Delivery Strategy. Chairman Brinson asked the Board to Approve the following amendment: Add Revonn Miller to Special Presentations. Commissioner Anderson made a motion to approve the Agenda with these amendments. Vice Chairman Stephens seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Chairman Brinson recognized Sharon Howard with New Harvest Ministries. Ms. Howard stated their mission is to equip and inspire people to be a positive force for change. Youth are highly capable of designing solution to the challenges they face daily. New Harvest Empowerment Program provides that opportunity by encouraging, supporting, mentoring, challenging, and mobilizing them to be the change they want to see in their community. Services offered are Men of Standard Mentoring Program, Virtuous Women of Action Mentoring Program, and Golden Years Community Outreach Program. Ms. Howard stated that she was asking for support from the community with these programs.

Life Link Proclamation. County Administrator Breedlove read aloud the proclamation to recognize National Donate Life Month 2015. Chairman Brinson presented the proclamation to a representative of the Life Link Program.

Chairman Brinson recognized Revonn Miller. Ms. Miller stated she wanted to introduce a Public Safety Cost Program on behalf of Life Liberty and Lotus, Inc. that would off-set some of the cost for technical violators of probation. Ms. Miller stated she would come to the next scheduled commissioners' meeting, May 28th to present a proposal and give more information about the program.

Chairman Brinson recognized Dan West. Mr. West spoke to the Commissioners about a special event he wanted to have to raise money to open a Veterans Center in Decatur County that would provide services to veterans in this area. The event is a musical festival with eight bands that will be held at the Bainbridge Bikefest Grounds. It will be a family event that will be held May 30th from noon to midnight. Mr. West stressed that the music festival was not a biker event although the Bikefest organizers were gracious enough to lend the use of their property. Mr. West was concerned with the ordinance pertaining to a "Mass Gathering" which consists of 500 or more people. Mr. West stated he didn't participate on having 500 at the first event. Mr. West stated he wanted to hold these events yearly and stated that the crowd would probably be over 500 the next event. Commissioner Mosely stated the Board will discuss this issue at that time but he should be okay with this event with him expecting less than 500 people.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Chairman Brinson recognized Terry Lankford. Mr. Lankford stated that he had an elderly mother that lived with him and his wife is handicapped. He stated that he had a mobile home on approximately 1.9 acres. He has purchased a new mobile home and wanted to move the new home onto his land with the existing mobile home that is there. He wanted to get his elderly mother and his wife moved into the new home before he destroyed the other mobile home. The building inspector told him he could not do that because it was less than 3 acres. Mr. Lankford asked if the Board would allow him to move his new home onto the land and allow him 60 days to get moved in and have the other home destroyed. Commissioner Smith made a motion to allow Mr. Lankford to move his new mobile home onto his land and give him a 60 day grace period to get moved into his new home and have the old home moved off the land. Vice Chairman Stephens seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Chairman Brinson recognized Billy Dollar. Mr. Dollar spoke to the commissioners concerning Decatur County being selective on how they handle issues with builders without license. Mr. Dollar stated that some builders choose to ignore laws. Mr. Dollar stated that there are buildings going up that have not had any permits pulled and being built by unlicensed builders. Commissioner Mosely stated that if this is being done they need to turn in the people that are doing this.

APPROVE MINUTES

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to approve the minutes of the Commissioners Meeting held March 24, 2015. Vice Chairman Stephens seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Industrial Park Status. County Administrator Breedlove gave a brief update on the status of the Industrial Park stating that personnel is in full strength and employees have been certified.

Gas Pipeline Progress. County Administrator Breedlove gave a brief update on where the 6" gas line has been installed at the Industrial Park stating the installation of the pipe is now complete. The official pressure test is scheduled to be preformed Friday.

Employee Sick Leave / PTO. County Administrator Breedlove stated that Dave Wills with ACCG has sent two samples of sick leave and PTO time from two different counties for us to look at and consider. Col. Breedlove stated he has not been able to evaluate the two samples yet.

Courthouse Tower. County Administrator Breedlove stated the courthouse tower bell has been repaired and installed. Col. Breedlove stated there was some more work to be done at the courthouse.

Solar Farm Status. County Administrator Breedlove stated the North Farm has paid their permit fees and the project is underway. The 6" water line has been installed under Airbase Road for the offices that have been set up there. The South Farm paperwork needs to be completed and permit fees paid.

Solar Farm Road: Rick McCaskill. Chairman Brinson recognized Development Authority Director Rick McCaskill. Mr. McCaskill stated that the construction road that was previously approved by the Board of Commissioners needs to be installed so the South Farm project can get started. The company is paying the total cost of materials and they just need Dennis Medley with Public Works to have his crew get started on the road.

Chairman Brinson questioned if the permit fees have been paid.

Mr. McCaskill stated the permit fees have been paid for the road but the permit fees for the project will be paid probably next month.

County Administrator Breedlove stated the road has already been engineered and approved by EPD. If the layout has changed, it probably needs EPD approval or we might end up with an

EPD problem similar to the one we had with Butler Ferry Road Inert Site.

Mr. McCaskill stated he was just requesting the construction road to be installed so the project can get started.

After a brief discussion, Vice Chairman Stephens made a motion to approve to have the Public Works Department install the construction road for the South Solar Farm. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. Col. Breedlove stated that the Engineer has not gotten clearance from the Department of Transportation. Chairman Brinson stated he was concerned about the permit fees. A vote was taken and approved with a 5 to 1 vote. Vice Chairman Stephens, Commissioners Anderson, Smith, Mosely and Davis voted in favor. Chairman Brinson opposed.

NEW BUSINESS

Appoint a Committee to Negotiate Service Delivery Strategy. Commissioner Mosely made a motion to appoint a committee consisting of Chairman Brinson, Vice Chairman Stephens and Commissioner Davis to negotiate some terms of the Service Delivery Strategy with the City of Bainbridge and authorize the committee to make a decision to bring back before the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Eagle Advantage Solutions: Sheriff. County Administrator Breedlove stated this request has already been accomplished.

Off-System Safety Action Plan: Public Works. County Administrator Breedlove stated the bulk of this project has been paid with a remaining invoice of a little over \$2,000.00 that does not require the Board's approval.

Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan. EMA. Chairman Brinson recognized E911 Director Tonya Griffin. Ms. Griffin stated this Memorandum of Agreement was to engage Southwest Georgia Regional Commission to render technical assistance to update the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan for Decatur County that is required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Ms. Griffin stated the cost of the project is \$15,000.00. Ms. Griffin stated Decatur County received a grant for \$12,000.00 to do the update and the County's portion was \$4,000.00 to be paid by in-kind contributions. The plan has to be submitted to FEMA by July 2016. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve this agreement. Vice Chairman Stephens seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

COMMISSIONERS / ADMINISTRATOR'S REMARKS

Commissioner Anderson thanked all the citizens for coming to the meeting and thanked all those who spoke today about giving back to the community. Commissioner Anderson thanked all the department heads for their dedication and hard work.

Vice Chairman Stephens thanked all the citizens who spoke today for volunteering their time in projects that give back to the community. Vice Chairman Stephens asked the media if they would please express to the City of Bainbridge and the citizens of Decatur County that the commissioners are working toward negotiating and implementing the Service Delivery Strategy to make Decatur County a better place for all the citizens that live here.

Commissioner Mosely stated that there was a 5-minute limit on public participation and asked the County Administrator to instruct the County Attorney to please enforce this rule in the future.

Commissioner Mosely expressed concerns of a bad experience he encountered when his dog was shot and buried at the hands of his neighbor just because his dog went on his neighbor's property. Commissioner Mosely stated it was a cruel and insensitive act. According to state law and the County's ordinance there is nothing he can do about it. Commissioner Mosely said "Let my bad experience be a lesson for other pet owners."

Commissioner Mosely requested that County Clerk Beverly King call Accountant Harrison Tillman to inquire about an internal audit to be performed on all County Departments.

Commissioner Davis thanked all the commissioners for trusting in the commissioners that were

appointed, that included himself, to negotiate some of the terms of the Service Delivery Strategy with the City of Bainbridge.

County Administrator Breedlove stated that the first round of budget hearings are in process now and everything is going well so far.

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

Approved: 
Chairman

Attest: 
County Clerk