

MINUTES

DECATUR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM

TUESDAY, JULY 28, 2015

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

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

AMENDMENTS / APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Interim County Administrator Perry Henry asked the board to approve the following amendments: Add Under New Business; Consider Approval of the Georgia Indigent Defense Services Agreement and Remove #8 from the Agenda – Request made by Elijah McCoy. Chairman Brinson asked the board to approve the following amendments: Add in the place of item #8, Information from County Attorney, and Remove Executive Session from the Agenda. Commissioner Anderson made a motion to approve the agenda with these amendments. Commissioner Mosely seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

There were no Special Presentations.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Chairman Brinson recognized Ted Snell. Mr. Snell discussed solar panels and commended the Commissioners for approving solar panels at the Industrial Park in Decatur County. Mr. Snell spoke of concerns relating to the unemployment rate in Decatur County and challenged the Board of Commissioners to try to get some industry into this area to provide jobs to help the economy.

Chairman Brinson recognized Basil Lucas. Mr. Lucas discussed the pros and cons of the gate cards used by our local farmers. Mr. Lucas asked for information pertaining to the polices that relate to the gate cards. Interim County Administrator Perry Henry and Commissioner Rusty Davis both commented on the fact that the gate cards are issued by the State Department of Agriculture and are used for agricultural equipment and product inputs. It affects our community a good bit due to the fact that Decatur County is considered a heavy agricultural community and we lose that tax money.

APPROVE MINUTES

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to approve the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting held July 14, 2015. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to approve the minutes of the Special Called Meeting held July 10, 2015. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Consider Hiring of County Administrator and Approving Contract. Vice Chairman

Stephens made a motion to hire Alan Thomas as the new County Administrator. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the contract between Decatur County and Alan Thomas for the position of County Administrator. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Proposals for Courthouse Roof. Interim County Administrator Perry Henry stated he had to restart the process for advertising and receiving sealed bids for the courthouse roof. Mr. Henry stated that he asked Lt. Coddington to help prepare some specs for the work that is needed on the roof at the courthouse so that everyone that bids the job would be bidding on the same thing. Mr. Henry asked the Board to table this matter until the next meeting. The Board agreed to table this matter.

SIPS. Chairman Brinson recognized Development Authority Director Rick McCaskill. Mr. McCaskill and the Board discussed the debris that is stored behind SIPS and the importance of getting this debris removed as soon as possible. After a brief discussion, Mr. McCaskill stated that he would have Ron Harrigan, owner of SIPS, remove the debris within two weeks or he would contract the debris to be removed. Vice Chairman Stephens made a motion to table this matter for two weeks or the next commissioners' meeting and at that time consider viable options to have this debris removed. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved. Mr. McCaskill stated that he was looking for a building for SIPS to move to due to this type of business is not compatible to have at an airport.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider Approval of Site Work on Drop-Off Area at Landfill. Chairman Brinson recognized Suzanne Brandt. Ms. Brandt presented two proposals for a concrete wall for cell 5 drop-off area. Ms. Brandt stated that Quick Service Concrete bid \$63,000.00 and Eddie Brinson Concrete Finishing bid \$60,850.00. Ms. Brandt recommended the Board approve the low bid from Eddie Brinson Concrete Finishing. Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the bid from Eddie Brinson Concrete Finishing in the amount of \$60,850.00. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Consider Approval of Road Improvements on West Broad Street in Climax. Chairman Brinson recognized Public Works Supervisor Dennis Medley. Mr. Medley stated during the last commissioners' meeting, the Board directed him to do a cost analysis on this project that was requested by Climax Mayor Charles Hadsock which consisted of shoulder clipping and ditch cleaning of West Broad Street in Climax. Mr. Medley estimated the cost to be around \$1,587.72 and stated it would take about half a day to complete. Vice Chairman Stephens made a motion to approve this request. Commissioner Smith second the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Information From County Attorney. County Attorney Bruce Kirbo stated that a request from Warden Elijah McCoy dated July 16, 2015 was given to Chairman Dennis Brinson. In response to that request, Mr. Kirbo instructed county personnel to put Elijah McCoy on the agenda. Mr. McCoy requested yesterday to be removed from the agenda. Mr. Kirbo stated a person was hired by the County to gather facts pertaining to the County Prison and its operations and submit a report to the County Administrator. Once this report is received by the County Administrator, the County Administrator will report back to the Board for a recommendation.

Consider Approval of Georgia Indigent Defense Services Agreement. County Attorney Bruce Kirbo stated this agreement is given to every county in the South Georgia Judicial Circuit. Mr. Kirbo stated that it is a contract with the circuit public defender office for the provision of criminal defense for indigent persons. Vice Chairman Stephens made a motion to approve this agreement. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

COMMISSIONERS / ADMINISTRATOR'S REMARKS

Interim County Administrator Perry Henry stated that he was looking forward to going into retirement. Mr. Henry thanked all the staff for their help and support and thanked the Commissioners for the confidence they placed in him. Mr. Henry said he looked forward to working with the new County Administrator.

Commissioner Davis thanked Mr. Henry for helping the County during a difficult time and said he looked forward to working with the new County Administrator.

Commissioner Mosely thanked Mr. Henry and all the County staff for working together as a team and keeping things going. Commissioner Mosely said he looked forward to working with the new County Administrator and that he had his full support.

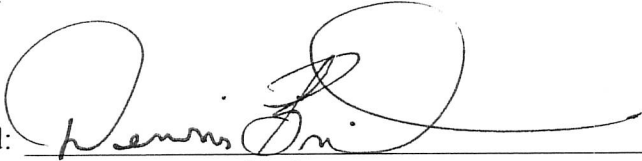
Commissioner Smith thanked Mr. Henry and the County staff for a job well done and said he looked forward to working with the new County Administrator.

Vice Chairman Stephens commended Mr. Henry and the County staff for keeping things running as smooth as possible and working together as a team. Vice Chairman Stephens said during Alan Thomas' interview, he made a statement that he admired. Vice Chairman Stephens stated that Alan was asked if he could get the County back in the shape it was in when he left as County Administrator 10 years ago and Alan made the statement, "No, I can't do it, but WE can".

Commissioner Anderson thanked all the citizens present for coming to the meeting and for their input. Commissioner Anderson welcomed everyone to come back to the meetings and stay involved in County business.

Chairman Brinson thanked all the citizens for coming and taking part in the county commissioners' meeting. Chairman Brinson thanked Alan Thomas for accepting the position of County Administrator. Chairman Brinson thanked Mr. Henry for stepping up to the plate in difficult times and that he appreciated all that he has done. Chairman Brinson said he looked forward to working together with the new County Administrator as a team.

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

Approved: 
Chairman

Attest: 
County Clerk