

MINUTES

DECATUR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM

TUESDAY, MAY 12, 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 9:00 a.m. After the call to order, Reverend Diana Williams gave the invocation and all those assembled pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

AMENDMENTS / APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Smith asked the board to approve the following amendment: Add Drainage Ditch Behind Kelly Store. Vice Chairman Stephens asked the board to approve the following amendment: Add Under Special Presentations, Randy Williams with Grady EMS. Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the agenda with these amendments. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Chairman Brinson recognized EMS Director Randy Williams. Mr. Williams gave a brief update on the EMS department and their response times, number of calls and the ambulance vehicles. Mr. Williams briefed the Board on the education that is being provided to the EMS employees and the First Responders. Mr. Williams invited the Board of Commissioners to the EMS Appreciation Day Luncheon to be held Thursday, May 14, 2015 at noon at the Early Mae Boat Basin.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Chairman Brinson recognized Volunteer Fireman Robert Tate. Mr. Tate asked the Board of Commissioners to help promote residents to put address signs out at their residence to allow Emergency responders to locate them in case of emergency calls. Mr. Tate stated that some of the Volunteer Fire Departments make and sell these signs to citizens. Vice Chairman Stephens asked the media to consider posting an article in the local newspaper and online to get the word out to residents to have their address visible for emergency responders.

Chairman Brinson recognized Basil Lucas. Mr. Lucas invited the Board of Commissioners to attend a Civics 101 meeting to be held at the Library on May 18, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. The topic is a discussion concerning the City of Bainbridge and Decatur County. Mr. Lucas asked the Board to try to figure out how the citizens could get a report on the progress of the communication between the City of Bainbridge and Decatur County.

APPROVE MINUTES

Vice Chairman Stephens made a motion to approve the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting held April 28, 2015. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Bainbridge Bikefest – Consider Waiving Permit Fee. Chairman Brinson explained that Mr. Robert Tate had asked the Board of Commissioners at the last scheduled meeting to consider

waiving the Mass Gathering Permit Fee of \$2,500.00 for this year's Bainbridge Bikefest. Chairman Brinson stated he was in favor of waiving the fee and Commissioner Smith stated he was also in favor of waving the fee. Vice Chairman Stephens suggested that the Board rescind the present Resolution pertaining to the Mass Gathering Permit Fee and come up with another resolution to address these issues. Vice Chairman Stephens stated he would like to know what the surrounding counties have in place pertaining to this issue. Commissioner Mosely made a motion to abandon the current policy and start over with another resolution that will address profit and non-profit organizations. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. County Attorney Kirbo suggested that the Board amend their motion to include that the abandonment of the current resolution or policy only pertains to the Mass Gathering issue in case the resolution covers other issues. Commissioner Mosely amended his motion as follows: Commissioner Mosley made a motion to abandon the Mass Gathering portion of the current policy or resolution that pertains only to the Mass Gathering and direct the County Attorney to upgrade our current policy or resolution to bring back before the Board for their approval. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Prison Update. Chairman Brinson recognized Warden Elijah McCoy. Warden McCoy stated that he planned to return approximately 90 to 100 inmates his facility is housing back to the State of Georgia by June 1, 2015, which costs the County approximately \$13.00 per day per inmate. In addition, Warden McCoy plans to let go 10 of his guard staff by June 30, 2015 in light of the reduced inmate population. Warden McCoy stated he notified his staff that he would make the selection based on job performance and attendance. After removing 90 to 100 inmates, there will still be around 220 inmates housed at the County Prison. Sending that many inmates back to the State could result in a cost savings of \$475,000.00. Warden McCoy said his goal is to put every inmate he houses out on a work detail every day, with the exception of laundry and kitchen staff.

NEW BUSINESS

Drainage Ditch Behind Kelly Store. Chairman Brinson recognized Curtis Wacaser. Mr. Wacaser stated the drainage ditch is approximately 500 or 600 feet long and is designed to take on the water from both sides of Ten Mile Still Road and drain into a holding pond on the far side of the road. In the past this ditch was maintained by the County. Mr. Wacaser asked the Board to approve the Public Works department to clean the ditch out to give the property owners relief from overflowing water when it rains and possibly flooding out septic tanks. The water flows from Ten Mile Still Road over to Highway 253. Mr. Wacaser stated that he owns part of this property and Stanley Phillips owns the rest of this property. Both parties are in agreement to allow County personnel to go on their property to clean this ditch out. Commissioner Smith made a motion to allow Public Works department to clean the ditch out and direct the County Attorney to prepare all the proper paperwork for the landowners to sign allowing permission to go on their property to do so. County Attorney Bruce Kirbo questioned where the water would go if the ditch was cleaned out. Mr. Wacaser stated the water would flow under Highway 253 into a holding pond. County Attorney Kirbo stated there was undoubtedly another party that owns the land where the holding pond is that would need to be in agreement with this request. Commissioner Smith amended his motion to state after all proper paperwork and documentation has been agreed upon and signed. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Commissioner Mosely reminded all the commissioners that he was always in favor of helping the citizens and taxpayers. Commissioner Mosely reminded them of Cedar Grove Cemetery request that he made several meetings ago that the commissioners turned down. Commissioner Mosely stated this was the same principal. Commissioner Mosely stated he would be bringing this request back before the Board.

COMMISSIONERS / ADMINISTRATOR'S REMARKS

Commissioner Anderson thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and for their comments.

Vice Chairman Stephens thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and for their participation.

Commissioner Smith thanked everyone for coming out. Commissioner Smith stated he was pleased with the present Board working together and making decisions to better the citizens of Decatur County.

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to go into executive session to discuss Personnel and Litigation. Commissioner Mosely seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

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

Chairman Brinson stated the Board discussed a litigation matter and no action was taken.

Chairman Brinson stated the Board discussed a personnel matter and no action was taken.

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

Approved: 
Chairman

Attest: 
County Clerk