

## MINUTES

### DECATUR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

#### COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM

TUESDAY, MAY 26, 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, Chairman Brinson 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 Greg Teague, Director of Croy Engineering under Special Presentations. Chairman Brinson asked the board to approve the following amendment: Change the Wording for Item #4 to Inmate Contract for Decatur County Jail. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the agenda with these amendments. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

#### SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Chairman Brinson recognized Greg Teague, Director of Croy Engineering. Mr. Teague explained the contract with Georgia Department of Transportation that is on the agenda for consideration of approval. Mr. Teague stated this contract includes a series of title searches, updated surveys and property appraisals for properties that are adjacent to the airport. Mr. Teague stated the value of this contract is over \$90,000.00 which all but \$5,300.00 would be paid for by Georgia Department of Transportation and the Federal Airport Authority. Mr. Teague stated if the county elects not to do this, GDOT could consider the airport to be out of compliance which could mean the county could lose entitlement money and grant money from the state.

#### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Chairman Brinson recognized Doug Young, member of Airport Advisory Committee. Mr. Young stated that all of the landowners at the airport were opposed to the land acquisition. Mr. Young stated with all of the landowners stonewall opposed to this, it would make no sense to approve this contract to go nowhere. The only one to gain from this contract would be Croy Engineering. Mr. Young stated if landowners refused to sell their property, other options for acquisition include a "through the fence agreement," which allows residential property with aircraft storage facilities near an airport to access the airport from off-airport property.

Chairman Brinson recognized Billy Howell. Mr. Howell gave a brief history of his company that is located at the airport, AG Flight. Mr. Howell said he had poured all of his money into his company for 31 years and wouldn't let his property go easily.

Chairman Brinson recognized Johnnie Mae Livingston. Ms. Livingston stated that she lived on Bettstown Road. Ms. Livingston complained that some farmers that owns property on Bettstown Road had took it upon their selves and dug the ditches and in the process took part of the roadway. Ms. Livingston stated there was a bad wreck that occurred in front of her house and she felt it would not have been so bad if the ditches were not like they are. Chairman Brinson advised Public Works Superintendent Dennis Medley to check into this matter.

Chairman Brinson recognized Gary Breedlove. Mr. Breedlove presented to the Board a diagram of the county's reserves from 2001 through 2013. Mr. Breedlove also presented a list of fiscal red flags concerning the county's financials and explained an honorable goal to work toward.

### APPROVE MINUTES

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to approve the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting held May 12, 2015. Vice Chairman Stephens seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

### OLD BUSINESS

**Drainage Ditch Behind Kelly Store.** Chairman Brinson stated that the County Attorney had done some research on the request that was made at the last commissioners' meeting concerning the drainage ditch behind Kelly Store. Chairman Brinson stated that the County Attorney advised the Board that the request was not allowable under the current policy that the County has in place. County Attorney also discovered that the County obtained a drainage easement of thirty feet in width on the property in question in 1967. So therefore, after the research was done and clarification was made of who owned the property, public works was able to do the necessary work on the ditches behind Kelly Store to allow the water to drain into the holding pond. Chairman Brinson asked the commissioners to do their homework in the future to see who own the property before making requests.

**Update on County Administrator.** Chairman Brinson explained that the search for a County Administrator is moving forward with extensive background checks. Chairman Brinson stated the commissioners have narrowed down the applicant pool to five candidates and the names of those candidates will remain anonymous for now. After the background checks are completed the interview process will begin. Chairman Brinson explained the expectations the Board have in finding a good administrator with one of the goals to bridge the relationship between the City and the County.

### NEW BUSINESS

**Inmate Contract for Decatur County Jail.** Chairman Brinson recognized Sheriff Wiley Griffin. Sheriff Griffin stated he was recently contacted by the City of Bainbridge and told that the jail in Pelham that housed the City inmates was closing. Sheriff Griffin stated that he has secured a contract with the City of Bainbridge to house their inmates after the County Attorney made some minor changes. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve this contract. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

**Inmate Labor Contracts.** Chairman Brinson recognized Warden Elijah McCoy. Warden McCoy stated that currently the County has contracts with several other local governments to provide inmate labor to them. Warden McCoy stated that he met with all of those local governments to renegotiate their contracts. Warden McCoy stated that the City of Bainbridge and the Board of Education agreed to the new contracts but he was not sure of the other ones. Warden McCoy stated he would be getting with County Attorney Kirbo to establish the new contracts.

**Contracts for Phase I – Land Acquisition Services at the Industrial Park.** Commissioner Anderson made a motion to approve these contracts. The motion failed for a lack of a second. County Attorney Bruce Kirbo explained the contract in question was only for a FFA approved contractor and not specifically Croy Engineering. Mr. Kirbo stated that nowhere in the contract is Croy Engineering mentioned. The contract itself is to receive the \$90,000.00 in grant money and use it for contracting services. After a lengthy discussion the Board decided to have a Special Called Meeting Thursday, May 28, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. after the Airport Advisory Committee meets Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. at the Decatur County Airport and discusses this contract in length to vote on these contracts.

**Southwest Georgia Regional Commission / Comprehensive Plan.** Interim County Administrator Perry Henry explained this is an agreement to request the assistance of the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission in the development of the County's Comprehensive Plan Update. Mr. Henry recommended the Board approve the basic plan. Vice Chairman Stephens made a motion to approve this request. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. A vote was taken

and unanimously approved.

**COMMISSIONERS / ADMINISTRATOR'S REMARKS**

Commissioner Davis asked the County Attorney to check into the cost of having all of the County's resolutions and ordinances put together in some kind of form, perhaps a digital form to make it easy to access.

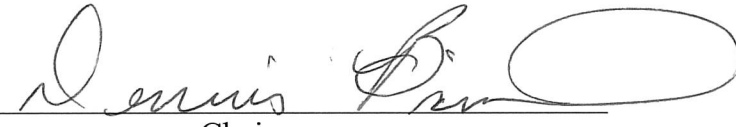
Commissioner Anderson made a motion to go into executive session to discuss Personnel and Litigation. Vice Chairman Stephens seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

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 Vice Chairman Stephens, was duly adjourned. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Approved:   
Chairman

Attest:   
County Clerk