

## MINUTES

### DECATUR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

#### COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2016

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

#### INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

#### AMENDMENTS / APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Vice Chairman Stephens asked that the Board approve the following amendment: Add under Special Presentations, Airport: Lenny DeLamar. Vice Chairman Stephens 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 Lenny DeLamar. Mr. DeLamar stated he lived in Bainbridge and spent many hours at the Bainbridge Airport where his father, Leonard DeLamar Sr. was a flight instructor for Southern Airways from 1951 to 1961 when the airbase closed. Mr. DeLamar stated he came to visit the airport back in October where he saw a few photos and two class books from the flight training school. This compelled him to present a display case of personal artifacts, background of sectional charts, navigational plotter and a photo of his father, along with some of the patches he wore on his uniform to the commissioners to be displayed at airport. Mr. DeLamar told the history of his father while presenting the display case. Mr. DeLamar stated he was thankful that the display and books containing the history of the 3306 USAF Training Group would now be at the airbase where they belong.

#### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Chairman Brinson recognized Billy Dollar. Mr. Dollar stated that he was concerned with the decision to consolidate the county's planning department with the City of Bainbridge. Mr. Dollar stated that Planning Director Craig Smith was the best code enforcement that Decatur County has ever had. Mr. Dollar stated that he could tell the Board of Commissioners other ways they could save the county money rather than combining this department with the City.

Chairman Brinson recognized Ted Snell. Mr. Snell spoke of the problems that the hospital was facing with a debt of 2.4 million, suggesting that the Hospital Authority should seek a buyer for the hospital. Mr. Snell spoke of concerns with the Recreational Authority buying land when there were far worse problems facing this county such as the housing market declining and the need of jobs.

Chairman Brinson recognized Gary Breedlove. Mr. Breedlove gave a history of the open records request from the City of Bainbridge and the background of the Service Delivery Strategy. Mr. Breedlove stated that it sound like the City and County were leaning toward a consolidation of the two governments and suggested letting County Administrator Thomas hire a couple of people and running the two governments.

Chairman Brinson recognized Doug Griffin. Mr. Griffin announced his intention to run for the 2<sup>nd</sup> district Decatur County Commissioner seat. Mr. Griffin thanked Commissioners Mosely and Smith for their years of service on the Board and asked for their support.

## APPROVE MINUTES

County Administrator Thomas recommended that under the topic of Disposal of Salvage Vehicles and Equipment; in the sentence that refers to the vehicles and equipment at the Industrial Park; that the Road Department be added. Commissioner Anderson made a motion to approve the minutes of the Commissioners Meeting held January 12, 2016 with this amendment. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

## OLD BUSINESS

**Consider Appointment – DCCI Warden.** Chairman Brinson recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated in the last meeting the Commissioners announced Gordon Screen as a sole candidate for the Warden position at the Decatur County Prison. County Administrator Thomas recommended the Board appoint Gordon Screen Warden. Commissioner Smith made a motion to appoint Gordon Screen the Warden for the Decatur County Prison. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

**Update - Turner Broadband.** Chairman Brinson recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated there has not been a contract prepared at this time and recommended County Attorney Kirbo take over the discussion. County Attorney Kirbo stated that he met with Shane Turner and the County Administrator and that he still needs more information to put together a contract. There is still uncertainty of how much equipment belongs to the County and what Mr. Turner's intentions are. County Administrator Thomas clarified with Mr. Turner that when he consumed ownership of the equipment it was valued at approximately \$50,000.00. After a lengthy discussion, Chairman Brinson recommended the three, Mr. Turner, County Attorney Kirbo and County Administrator Thomas get together again and try to work out the details. County Attorney Kirbo recommended Mr. Turner provide a letter confirming that he is guaranteed the funding to upgrade this system.

**Discussion – The Pines Golf Course.** Chairman Brinson recognized Roland Hebert, manager of the Pines Golf Course. Mr. Hebert stated he has managed the golf course for 12 years and gave a brief history of the golf course. Commissioner Mosely said the county is funding 1.5 mils to the Recreation Authority for a comprehensive recreational program. Commissioner Mosely said if the Recreation Authority turned down taking the Golf Course under their authority, then his motion would be to decrease that amount by \$104,000.00 if the majority of the Board feels like the Golf Course is worth saving. Chairman Brinson agreed with Commissioner Mosely, stating everybody does not go to the Country Club. Chairman Brinson said those who can afford to go to the Pines, it is an asset to them. Chairman Brinson said on the other side, we have to make sure even though the services are available to all of our citizens, the amount of money being put into it is hard to see. Decatur County budgets \$104,000.00 for the Golf Course operations. Vice Chairman Stephens and Commissioner Smith questioned Mr. Hebert on how many people used the golf course and Mr. Hebert responded by saying that he had no idea. County Administrator Thomas stated that the Recreational Authority has not made an official decision on the Pines Golf Course and their next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February the 11th. After a lengthy discussion, Commissioner Smith made a motion to recommend that the Recreational Authority accept the Pines Golf Course. Commissioner Mosely seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

**Consider Approval of Resolution to Set Qualifying Fees for 2016.** Chairman Brinson recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas presented a resolution to set the qualifying fees for elective county offices of Decatur County for the 2016 elections. Commissioner Mosely made a motion to approve this resolution. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

**Consider Approval of Holidays for County Employees.** Chairman Brinson recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas, at the Board's request from the last meeting, presented several surveys from surrounding counties on how many holidays they provide for their employees. County Administrator Thomas recommended following

the City of Bainbridge's schedule of holidays and suggested removing President's Day and Employee's Birthday from the County's list and allow one paid day following one year of perfect attendance. Commissioner Mosely made a motion to approve the County Administrator's recommendations. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Commissioner Davis said he couldn't see taking away something that has already been given to the employees. Chairman Brinson agreed with Commissioner Davis and stated that the County was far behind in raises for County employees. A brief discussion followed. Commissioner Mosely, Commissioner Smith and Vice Chairman Stephens voted in favor of the County Administrator's recommendations. Chairman Brinson, Commissioner Anderson and Commissioner Davis opposed. No action was taken.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Consider Agreement with City of Bainbridge – Building Official / Code Enforcement.**

Chairman Brinson recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated that there have been several discussions taken place with the City of Bainbridge to allow the City to provide the building official duty and code enforcement for the County. County Administrator Thomas stated the City is prepared to provide that service beginning March 1<sup>st</sup>. County Administrator Thomas stated with that being said, he is presenting this to the Board for their consideration. County Administrator Thomas stated this was another decision that he feels will be cost effective and will hopefully provide a more uniform process for builders. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve this agreement. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. After a brief discussion, Chairman Brinson, Vice Chairman Stephens, Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Mosely and Commissioner Davis voted in favor. Commissioner Anderson opposed.

**Consider Approval of Contract with Horne Enterprises for Mapping Services.** Chairman Brinson recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated the next three items on the agenda are contracts for the Tax Assessor's office that have already been reviewed and approved by the Tax Assessors' Board. County Administrator Thomas stated the contract with Horne Enterprises if for mapping services in the amount of \$1,000.00 per month. County Administrator Thomas stated the County Attorney has also reviewed all three contracts and finds them to be acceptable. Commissioner Mosely recommended to combine items 8, 9, and 10 on the agenda by consent and made a motion to approve all three contracts. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

**Consider Approval of Contract with Tinker & Associates for Business Personal Property Audits.** Commissioner Mosely made a motion to approve this contract. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

**Consider Contract with Governmental Systems, Inc. for Software Support for Tax Assessor's Office.** Commissioner Mosely made a motion to approve this contract. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

**Consider Approval of Restaurant License for Pace's Fish Camp, LLC.** Chairman Brinson recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas presented an application from Mr. Cliff Whittaker for a restaurant license. County Administrator Thomas stated the Building Official has inspected the building and stated that it meets all the requirements. County Administrator Thomas recommended the Board approve this license. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve this license. Vice Chairman Stephens seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

**Consider Recommendations from KAB for Transfer of Recycling Trailer.** Chairman Brinson recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated he received a request from the Board of Directors of Keep Decatur County Beautiful to transfer ownership of the Away From Home Recycling Trailer that is parked at the County Administrator's office parking lot to the Bainbridge Middle School / Decatur County Board of Education along with the recycling products that came with the trailer. County Administrator Thomas recommended the Board approve this request. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve this request. Vice Chairman Stephens seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

### **COMMISSIONERS / ADMINISTRATOR'S REMARKS**


Commissioner Anderson congratulated Gordon Screen on his position as Warden and thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. Commissioner Anderson thanked all the County employees for their hard work and dedication to the County.

Vice Chairman Stephens, Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Mosely and Commissioner Davis all said they agreed with Commissioner Anderson's remarks.

County Administrator Thomas said he also concurred with Commissioner Anderson's remarks. County Administrator Thomas stated Fire Chief Charlie McCann received a letter from Insurance Services Office (ISO) stating they have received the Automatic Aid Agreement between the City of Bainbridge and Decatur County Fire & Rescue for fire services and the ISO ratings for that area would become effective April 1, 2016.

Chairman Brinson stated on Thursday night at Jones Wheat Elementary School, they will be holding a Community Collaboration meeting. This meeting will be on how we can come together to better improve the school system and everybody is invited. This meeting will start at 4:00 p.m. and end around 6:00 p.m. They are asking that all of the Commissioners attend if possible. Chairman Brinson congratulated Gordon Screen on his new position and thanked all the citizens for coming to the meeting.

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

Approved:   
Chairman

Attest:   
County Clerk