

MINUTES

DECATUR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM

TUESDAY, MAY 10, 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 JEFF FINLEY.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

AMENDMENTS / APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Mosely made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

There were no Special Presentations.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Chairman Brinson recognized Gary Breedlove. Mr. Breedlove gave some background information on the Service Delivery Strategy. Mr. Breedlove spoke of the operation and maintenance of portion of the county roads that are in the City limits that the City of Bainbridge took over during the Service Delivery Strategy which the County now pays the City \$125,000.00 per year to maintain. Mr. Breedlove stated the County is funding the City five times what the County's Public Works Department is getting to maintain their roads per mile. Mr. Breedlove stated he was hoping for a mileage rate decrease this year and presented some suggestions on how to increase the County's revenue.

APPROVE MINUTES

Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of the Commissioners Meeting held April 26, 2016. Vice Chairman Stephens seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business to be discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

**Report from Development Authority – Rick McCaskill.** Chairman Brinson recognized Development Authority Director Rick McCaskill. Mr. McCaskill gave an Economic Development update on projects throughout the County. Mr. McCaskill stated that Barber Fertilizer, Gulf Sulphur and R.W. Griffin have all expanded their businesses or are in the process of expanding them. Mr. McCaskill stated that the floor of the 60,000 square-foot spec building at the Commodore Park has been completed and the steel is now being erected. Mr. McCaskill stated they were building a box made out of metal that will have the capability for heavy duty electric and will be expandable if the tenant requires more than 60,000 square-feet. Mr. McCaskill stated that the Development Authority has received two inquiries from out-of-state companies on

the spec building already. Mr. McCaskill stated that Elberta Crate and Sanfillipo have both done expansions over the past year. The Development Authority is also working with two groups that have purchased the Shaw Machine Shop with the intention of operating a vegetable packaging facility and Smithco Recycling has moved in Nathan Harrell's old building at the Industrial Park. Mr. McCaskill stated that they plan to break ground in the next couple of months on a large trans loading railroad facility. The master plan is to have five large spurs where you will be able to bring railcars in and load them from both sides. Mr. McCaskill said that they are entering into the bid process and have reached agreements with landowners to build two more solar plants in Decatur County. Mr. McCaskill gave a brief update on the status of Bainbridge Manufacturing, stating they have until March 2017 to fill their obligation to provide 100 jobs that they have committed to.

**Roland Hebert – The Pines Golf Course.** Chairman Brinson recognized Mr. Roland Hebert. Mr. Hebert presented the Board with sign-in sheets from the golf course for May 4<sup>th</sup> which had 7 participants listed and May 7<sup>th</sup> which had 10 participants listed. Mr. Hebert stated that the Recreation Authority voted to close the golf course and asked that the Board of Commissioners rescind their previous motion to transfer the golf course over to the Recreation Authority and consider renewing his contract to keep the golf course open. Mr. Hebert also asked the Board to consider approving his budget which is approximately \$14,000.00 less than last year's budget. Commissioner Mosely suggested that the Board wait until June to make any decisions on the golf course to see if there would be an increase in business for them. Vice Chairman Stephens stated that the Board of Commissioners signed off on approving the Service Delivery Strategy in which the Recreation Authority was created to handle all of the recreation for the City and the County. Vice Chairman Stephens stated that the Board also voted to turn the golf course over to the Recreation Authority, therefore, this decision is for the Recreation Authority. Commissioner Davis stated that he agrees with Vice Chairman Stephens, the Board voted to turn over the golf course to the Recreation Authority, and he stands by that decision. Commissioner Smith stated that he agreed with both Vice Chairman Stephens and Commissioner Davis. Commissioner Anderson stated that he thought it should be kept open since it was the only recreation offered in the County. Chairman Brinson stated there was no motion by the Board of Commissioners to rescind their motion to transfer the golf course over to the Recreation Authority, therefore it remains in the hands of the Recreation Authority, and it is no decision for the Board of Commissioners. Chairman Brinson stated that Mr. Hebert could go back before the Recreation Authority to plead his case. Mr. Hebert stated that he felt it wouldn't do any good to go back before the Recreation Authority and that he would start the procedures to close the golf course.

**Consider Request from Civil Affairs Battalion – Mission Rehearsal Exercise.** Chairman Brinson recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated that the County has had previous success stories from working with the 97<sup>th</sup> Civil Affairs Battalion during the last Mission Readiness Exercise and they are requesting support from Decatur County again for units of Mission Rehearsal Exercise to be executed tentatively August 17<sup>th</sup> through the 27<sup>th</sup> of 2016. Decatur County offers an ideal setting for this training. County Administrator Thomas recommended the Board approve this request and provide their support. Commissioner Mosely made a motion to approve this request. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

**Consider Broadband Consultant Proposal – Mies Management Associates, LLC.** Chairman Brinson recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated that in a recent meeting, the Board had agreed to seek a third party with expertise in wireless broadband operations to help provide county-wide wireless broadband network to the unincorporated areas. County Administrator Thomas stated he received a proposal from Mies Management Associates, LLC for consulting services to assist Decatur County and Turner Broadband to develop a contract. Mies would charge \$195.00 per hour if a satisfactory agreement is reached by both parties and \$125.00 per hour if no such agreement is made, indicating the process should not take more than 15 hours. County Administrator Thomas stated that Turner Broadband has agreed to pay half of the consultant's fee. Commissioner Mosely said "We have an obligation to a lot of citizens in this County who, right now, have poor service, so we need to give it our best shot to get it right." Commissioner Mosely made a motion to approve this proposal. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

#### COMMISSIONERS / ADMINISTRATOR'S REMARKS

Commissioner Mosely commended County Administrator Thomas on the outstanding job he has been doing and the direction the County is now going with everyone working together.

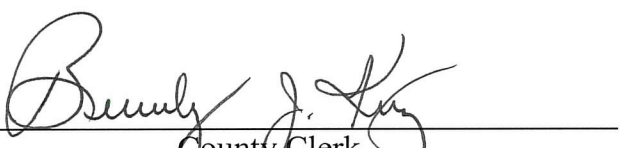
Commissioner Smith concurred with Commissioner Mosely's statements.

Vice Chairman Stephens dittoed what has already been said by the previous commissioners.

Commissioner Anderson thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and reminded everyone to vote and make good choices to get the right people in the right places.

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

Approved:   
Chairman

Attest:   
County Clerk