

MINUTES

DECATUR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM

TUESDAY, MAY 24, 2016

PRESENT: CHAIRMAN DENNIS BRINSON, VICE CHAIRMAN PETE STEPHENS, COMMISSIONERS RUSTY DAVIS, RUSSELL SMITH AND GEORGE ANDERSON, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR ALAN THOMAS, COUNTY CLERK BEVERLY KING, 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, Vice Chairman Pete Stephens gave the invocation and all those assembled pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

AMENDMENTS / APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Smith 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 Johnny Mae Whigham. Ms. Whigham stated that she lives on Bettstown Road in Faceville and that she had concerns about Bettstown Road when the County receives a lot of rain. Ms. Whigham stated when it rains, the water breaks the road and the ditches fill up and overflow into her yard, making her yard become like a river. Ms. Whigham requested that the ditches be cleaned out. Commissioner Smith said he would check with the Public Works Superintendent about having the ditches pulled.

Chairman Brinson recognized Paul Jackson. Mr. Jackson stated that he lived in Climax and that his concern was the internet service in the unincorporated areas of Decatur County. Mr. Jackson said he understood that there had been discussions regarding the internet service and asked if any progress had been made in getting a contract to provide internet service to the county residents. Chairman Brinson stated it was currently a work in progress but there was no contract as of now.

Chairman Brinson recognized Ted Snell. Mr. Snell spoke about open primary voting. Mr. Snell stated it was a shame that the State does not look into having an open primary. Mr. Snell said the reason was having control of party affiliations. Mr. Snell said it was time for a change. Mr. Snell said it would be great to have the simple privilege of voting regardless of the party.

Chairman Brinson recognized Gary Breedlove. Mr. Breedlove spoke of concern for citizens living on a fixed income and the big impact property taxes have on these people. 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 and that the local newspaper has never printed anything about this issue. Mr. Breedlove said he feels like these issues need to be made public to all citizens of Decatur County.

APPROVE MINUTES

Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of the Commissioners Meeting

held May 10, 2016. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business to be discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement Between the Georgia Department of Corrections and Decatur County. Chairman Brinson recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated this was a standard contract that the Board of Commissioners reviews every year and has the opportunity to renew. County Administrator Thomas recognized Warden Screen. Warden Screen stated this contract was for 135 state inmates which would bring in approximately \$985,000.00. Warden Screen said he was requesting to increase the number of inmates to 185 but the State did not have that many inmates available. Warden Screen stated the State did have 20 inmates available and requested that the Board approve him to increase his number of inmates to 155 which would bring the contract amount to \$1,131,000.00. Warden Screen stated he would not need any additional personnel to accommodate this increase of inmates and that he had a surplus of clothing, so he would not need any additional clothing for the inmates. Warden Screen stated he would need to add a little expense on meals but that would be the only additional cost. Warden Screen stated that he recently had a Federal Audit of the prison and was in 100% compliance and exceeded in two areas. County Administrator Thomas recommended the Board approve this contract with the increase of inmates to 155. Commissioner Anderson made a motion to approve this contract with the increase of inmates to 155. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Consider Approval of Contract with Norman Appraisal Services. Chairman Brinson recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated this contract has been approved and recommended by the Board of Tax Assessors. County Administrator Thomas stated it was a three-year contract for maintenance and appraisal updates in the amount of \$108,000.00 per year, the same amount as previous years. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve this contract. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Consider Purchase of Trailer for the Landfill. Chairman Brinson recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated the County currently has two contracts to haul garbage to the landfill. County Administrator Thomas stated the County purchased two trailers last year and that there have been several issues with these trailers which caused the County to be without one of these trailers for several weeks. County Administrator Thomas stated it is very difficult for these transfer stations to operate without Decatur County being able to remove their garbage within a timely manner. County Administrator Thomas stated that he started looking around for another trailer and requested bids from several companies. County Administrator Thomas provided the Board with a bid tabulation of six prices for both new and used trailers. County Administrator Thomas said after reviewing all the prices that he recommended the Board approve the low bid of \$66,915.00 for a new trailer from Mac Trailer, MFG. Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the purchase of a new trailer in the amount of \$66,915.00 from Mac Trailer, MFG. Vice Chairman Stephens seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Consider Disposal of Salvage Vehicles and Equipment. Chairman Brinson recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated in the Commissioners' agenda packets is a list of vehicles and equipment that was confiscated by the Sheriff's Department. County Administrator Thomas stated that the Sheriff's Department is requesting the Board of Commissioners to declare these items to be surplus property and allow these items to be placed on Govdeals.com to dispose of them to the highest bidder. 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.

Consideration of Airport Consultant. Chairman Brinson recognized County Administrator

Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated that airports that receive federal funds are required on a five-year cycle to go through a selection consultant process. The County has been using Croy Engineering for a number of years. County Administrator Thomas stated that he was notified by the Georgia Department of Transportation that it is time for Decatur County to go through this process. County Administrator Thomas stated that he sent out request for qualifications to every engineering firm that is approved by DOT and received three responses. Out of those three responses, the Airport Committee was asked to review them and recommend a firm to bring before the Board of Commissioners for their approval. The Airport Committee has requested that the County continue to use Croy Engineering Services. County Administrator Thomas stated with that being said he recommended the Board approve their request. Vice Chairman Stephens made a motion to approve the Airport Committee's request to continue to use Croy Engineering Services. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

COMMISSIONERS / ADMINISTRATOR'S REMARKS

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.

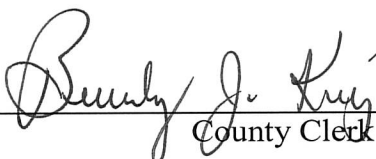
Vice Chairman Stephens dittoed what Commissioner Anderson said. Vice Chairman Stephens said he appreciated all the candidates that are running for this election. Vice Chairman Stephens asked everyone to remember Henry Cobb's family in their prayers, a long time former employee at the Public Works Department that recently passed away.

Commissioner Smith concurred with all the statements made by the previous commissioners. Commissioner Smith urged everyone to exercise their right to vote.

Chairman Brinson said he dittoed what everyone else has said about voting and that he was excited about the new commissioners that are running for election and he looked forward to working with the two new ones that will be coming on board.

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

Approved: 
Chairman

Attest: 
County Clerk