

MINUTES

DECATUR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 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 Dennis Brinson called the regular scheduled meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. After the call to order, Chairman Brinson gave the invocation and all that assembled pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

AMENDMENTS / APPROVAL OF AGENDA

County Administrator Alan Thomas asked the Board to approve the following amendment: Add Under New Business #8, Amendment #1 to Task Order 4, Phase 1 Land Acquisition Services. Commissioner Mosely made a motion to approve the agenda with this amendment. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Lawrence Knighton – Energy Savings. Chairman Brinson recognized Lawrence Knighton with Triangle Energy Concepts, Inc. Mr. Knighton and his associate Charles Burgamy stated Triangle Energy Concepts is a technology company that helps property owners of both commercial and residential conserve energy while saving money. Mr. Burgamy stated that his products, LED lighting, will pay for itself by offsetting the cost of electricity. Mr. Burgamy stated his mission is to encourage and educate consumers to reduce electrical energy consumption. Mr. Burgamy stated he would like to do a case study for Decatur County to show how the County could spend money more efficiently.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no Public Participation.

APPROVE MINUTES

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to approve the minutes of the Commissioners Meeting held August 23, 2016. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Turner Broadband Update- Shane Turner. Chairman Brinson recognized Shane Turner. Mr. Turner stated that due to a non-disclosure agreement with his investors, he would not be able to disclose specifics of his upgraded internet service but he did say that this upgraded system will deliver on a level the County has never seen before. Mr. Turner said he plans to have the new service up and running within the next 60 days, but that wouldn't equate to how quickly customers would have the service in their homes. Mr. Turner stated he would need to hire more people to get this new system installed in customers' homes and that he was looking to hire approximately 20 people within the next six to nine months to install and market this new product. Mr. Turner stated the tower sites would be up within the next 60 days. Mr. Turner stated that other service improvements will include a 24-hour service hotline that customers can call for immediate assistance. Mr. Turner stated that a contract with the County has been drawn up and given to the County Attorney to review.

Consider Approval of Addendum to Motorola Lease Purchase Agreement. Chairman Brinson recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated that in the original Motorola lease purchase agreement that the Board approved at the last commissioners' meeting, the City of Cairo was not included because they wanted to pay their cost up front. Since then, the City of Cairo has decided that they would like to be included in the lease purchase agreement, so this addendum includes the City of Cairo. That is the only change that was made to the agreement. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve this addendum to the Motorola Lease Purchase Agreement. Vice Chairman Stephens seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Economic Development Update – Rick McCaskill. Chairman Brinson recognized the Development Authority Director, Rick McCaskill. Mr. McCaskill said he stopped by the Tax Commissioners' office last week where he found that the two solar farm projects that are now in the County have put over \$1,800,000 dollars on the tax roles, which \$800,00 of that went to the County. Mr. McCaskill stated he has two new solar projects pending. Mr. McCaskill spoke of several expansions by existing companies. Mr. McCaskill stated that a shallow water barge customer has been found that would make barge shipping possible for Steward Machine Company and other companies on the Flint River. Mr. McCaskill stated he was working on a possible location for a tier 4 data center. If it comes, it would could generate about 20 jobs and the facility would be a huge user of energy and additional money on the tax roles. Mr. McCaskill gave an update on the 60,000 square foot spec building constructed in the Commodore Industrial Park. Mr. McCaskill also gave an update on Bainbridge Manufacturing, stating very shortly they will be starting up their first shift. Mr. McCaskill stated that the economy is not that bad off and produced some figures to prove his point. Mr. McCaskill stated the unemployment rate as of May 2016 is at 5.9 percent and the lowest rate prior to that was in 2006, it was reported at 5.7 per cent. Mr. McCaskill said as far as population figures go, we have lost a little population from our peak year of 2009 which was 28,058. In 2015 it was 27,174. Mr. McCaskill stated all in all it is looking better.

Consider Approval for Purchase of a New Vehicle for the Sheriff's Department. Chairman Brinson recognized County Administrator Alan Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated that he received a letter from the Sheriff's Department requesting approval for purchase of a new 2016 Chevrolet Tahoe Pursuit. County Administrator Thomas stated that bids were solicited from four companies and two bids were received. County Administrator Thomas recommended the Board approve the low bid from Hardy Chevrolet in the amount of \$39,380.00. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve this purchase. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Consider Approval for Licensing for Simulcast Radio Network for 911 – Tonya Griffin. Chairman Brinson recognized E911 Director Tonya Griffin. Ms. Griffin stated EZ Spectrum is a company that does licensing for radio systems. Ms. Griffin stated the problem they have now with their current system is licensing and interference in their frequencies. Ms. Griffin stated the total price for this contract is \$41,422.00. Ms. Griffin stated that \$16,422.00 of this cost is for administrative fees, which would have to be paid regardless. Ms. Griffin stated the other \$25,000.00 is the administration fee for EZ Spectrum. The work included in this fee is they will complete the contract and the application with the regional planning commission for the State and provide the required maps. They will also work with Alabama and Florida who will also be included in the process of pertaining the license for this radio system. EZ Spectrum will provide additional consultation on an as needed basis. Ms. Griffin stated this company came highly recommended by the State Regional Planning Commission. County Administrator Thomas said he felt this was a good step in resolving the interference in frequencies that 911 is now experiencing. County Administrator Thomas stated that in his opinion this was good insurance. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve this contract with EZ Spectrum. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Consider Approval for Purchase of a Computer Aided Dispatch System – Tonya Griffin. Chairman Brinson recognized E911 Director Tonya Griffin. Ms. Griffin presented the Board with a bid tabulation for a 5 position Computer Aided Dispatch System. Ms. Griffin stated that this was a budgeted item and that it would be replacing the computer system that was installed in March of 2007. Ms. Griffin explained that this CAD system provides records and incident management for law enforcement, fire and EMS agencies within the 911 Center. Ms. Griffin stated that 911

supervisors and staff saw demos from each vendor that bid on this system. Ms. Griffin stated that Southern Software is the vendor that everyone felt would provide the best features and support for Decatur-Grady 911 and was also the low bidder at a price of \$213,707.96. County Administrator Thomas added that the 911 committee had also recommended this system. Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve this purchase. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Amendment No. 1 to Task Order 4: Phase I Land Acquisition Services. Chairman Brinson recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated that this was Amendment No. 1 to Task Order 4, Phase 1 Land Acquisition Services for additional appraisal work at the Industrial Air Park. County Administrator Thomas stated the amount of this amendment is \$9,900.00 and recommended that the Board approve this amendment. Vice Chairman Stephens made a motion to approve this amendment. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

COMMISSIONERS / ADMINISTRATOR'S REMARKS

Commissioner Mosely thanked Rick McCaskill for the economical updates in Decatur County and stated that he was very pleased with the tax revenue that the solar projects had brought in. Commissioner Mosely stated with the good leadership that the County now has and if the Board of Commissioners stay focused, the County is definitely heading in the right direction.

Commissioner Smith also thanked Rick McCaskill for the good news from the economic updates that he brought to the Board.

Vice Chairman Stephens dittoed what the previous commissioners have said.

Commissioner Anderson thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and thanked all the County staff for their hard work during the clean-up from the recent storm.

Chairman Brinson thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

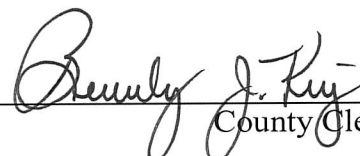
Vice Chairman Stephens made a motion to go into executive session to discuss Real Estate Acquisition. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

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

Chairman Brinson stated during executive session, the Board of Commissioners discussed Real Estate Acquisition and no action is to be taken at this time.

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

Approved: 
Chairman

Attest: 
County Clerk