

MINUTES

DECATUR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM

TUESDAY, JULY 25, 2017

PRESENT: CHAIRMAN PETE STEPHENS, VICE CHAIRMAN DENNIS BRINSON, COMMISSIONERS RUSTY DAVIS, STEVE BROCK, GREG MURRAY 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 Pete Stephens called the regular scheduled meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. After the call to order, Vice Chairman Brinson gave the invocation and all those assembled pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Vice Chairman Brinson asked that the Board approve the following amendment: Add Executive Session to Discuss Personnel. County Administrator Thomas asked that the Board approve the following amendments: Add Under New Business #4; Georgia Indigent Defense Services Agreement and Add #5; Consider Request from City of Bainbridge - Annexation of 1815 Forest Lane. Commissioner Murray made a motion to approve the agenda with these amendments. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

There were no Special Presentations.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Chairman Stephens recognized Mr. Frazier Bingham. Mr. Bingham stated that he lived on Lakeshore Drive and expressed concerns with the road from Jenks Crossing to the Florida line. Mr. Bingham stated that the road was in very bad shape and needed resurfacing. Mr. Bingham asked that the Board of Commissioners consider putting this road on the top of their priority list of roads to be paved.

County Administrator Thomas stated that he was aware that this road was in bad shape and it was on the current list to be done when LMIG funds become available.

Chairman Stephens gave a brief explanation on T-SPLOST and asked that Mr. Bingham spread the word to citizens in his area to vote on it in the November election to help get funds to improve roads in Decatur County.

APPROVE MINUTES

Commissioner Brock made a motion to approve the minutes of the Commissioners Meeting held July 11, 2017. Commissioner Murray seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business to be Discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

Legal Equality Movement – Nicole Austin. Chairman Stephens recognized Nicole Austin. Ms. Austin gave a brief history of the company she was representing, LegalShield. Ms. Austin stated that Legalshield was founded over 40 years ago and serves an estimated 140,000 businesses throughout the United States and Canada. Ms. Austin stated in this program, members have access to attorneys who can provide advice or assistance on a variety of personal legal issues at an affordable low monthly fee. Ms. Austin presented the Board with brochures that provide more information.

2017 Digest Submission / Pending Appeals. Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas presented the Board with a list of properties that are under appeal. County Administrator Thomas stated that the Chairman of the Board of Tax Assessors has certified that this list represents the pending appeals and arbitrations filed in the county at the time this digest is being submitted to the Revenue Commissioner for examination. The Board of Tax Assessors will not have a final taxable value until all appeals are finalized. County Administrator Thomas recommended the Board approve Chairman Stephens to sign off on these documents for submission to the Georgia Department of Revenue. Commissioner Brock made a motion to approve Chairman Stephens to sign these documents. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Georgia Indigent Defense Services Agreement. Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated this is an annual agreement for the Circuit Public Defender Office for provision of criminal defense for indigent persons accused of violating ordinances or state laws. County Administrator Thomas stated the cost for the county is \$184,401.42 and is included in the budget. Vice Chairman Brinson made a motion to approve this agreement. Commissioner Brock seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Request from City of Bainbridge – Annexation of 1815 Forest Lane. Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated this is a request from the City of Bainbridge to annex 1815 Forest Lane into the city limits. County Administrator Thomas stated the Planning Commission made the recommendation at the request of property owner, Don Whaley and the City Council approved the annexation in their April meeting. County Administrator Thomas recommended the Board approve this request. Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve this request from the City of Bainbridge. Commissioner Murray seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Commissioner Brock made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel. Commissioner Murray seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

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

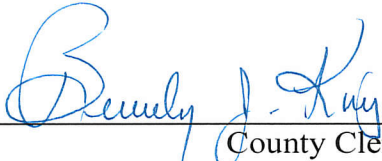
Chairman Stephens stated the Board discussed a personnel issue during executive session and no action was taken.

COMMISSIONERS / ADMINISTRATOR'S REMARKS

All the Commissioners thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. Commissioner Murray thanked Mr. Bingham for his comments and stated the County will do their best to address his concerns when the money becomes available.

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

Approved: 
Chairman

Attest: 
County Clerk