

MINUTES

DECATUR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2017

PRESENT: CHAIRMAN PETE STEPHENS, COMMISSIONERS RUSTY DAVIS, STEVE BROCK 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 9:00 a.m. After the call to order, Reverend Mike Brown gave the invocation and all those assembled pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Stephens asked that the Board approve the following amendment: Add Under Special Presentations; Dennis Medley to Give an Update on Storm Damages. Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the agenda with this amendment. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Chairman Stephens recognized Public Works Director Dennis Medley. Mr. Medley briefed the Board on the work that the Public Works department along with help from the Decatur County Fire Department did to clear the roadways and clean-up debris throughout Decatur County caused by the recent storm.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Chairman Stephens recognized Johnnie Mae Livingston. Ms. Livingston stated that she lived on Bettstown Road and expressed concerns with limited visibility at the corner of Bettstown and Cooter Bouie Roads due to high weeds in the right-of-way. Ms. Livingston stated there was also a problem with snakes hibernating in those high weeds. Chairman Stephens stated he thought this issue had been taken care of and that he would address this problem.

APPROVE MINUTES

Commissioner Brock made a motion to approve the minutes of the Commissioners Meeting held August 22, 2017 as presented. Commissioner Davis 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 – TSPLOST. Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Alan Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated this is an intergovernmental agreement for the use and distribution of proceeds from the proposed transportation special purpose local option sales and use tax for transportation purposes between Decatur County and the City of Bainbridge; the City of Attaplugus; the Town of Brinson; and the City of Climax. County Administrator Thomas stated all four of the municipalities have signed this agreement and recommended the Board approve this intergovernmental agreement. Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve this intergovernmental agreement. Commissioner Brock seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Consider Approval of Resolution – TSPLOST. Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Alan Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated with the Intergovernmental Agreement now being formally approved this is the resolution that calls for a referendum on

November 7th of this year and recommended the Board approve this resolution. Commissioner Brock made a motion to approve this resolution. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Consider Approval of for Purchase of Backhoe – Landfill. Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated for some time the landfill has needed a rubber tired backhoe. The landfill has a 938H Caterpillar wheel loader that is not being used and would trade it in on this backhoe. County Administrator Thomas presented the Board with a bid tabulation showing 3 bids that were received. County Administrator Thomas recommended the Board approve the bid from John Deere with a purchase price of \$77,650 on a 2016 310SL John Deere and a trade-in allowance on the 938H Caterpillar wheel loader in the amount of \$42,500 leaving a balance of \$35,150.00. County Administrator Thomas stated this is a budgeted item for the landfill. Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve this purchase. Commissioner Brock seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Consider Approval of Resolution for Comprehensive Plan. Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated this is the joint comprehensive plan between Decatur County, Brinson, Attapulgus and Climax. County Administrator Thomas stated after several work sessions and the required public hearings, the next step is to approve the resolution to adopt the comprehensive plan. County Administrator Thomas recommended the Board approve this resolution. Commissioner Anderson made a motion to approve this resolution. Commissioner Brock seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Consider Approval of Resolution to Amend the Land Development Regulations – Poultry Related. Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated in 1995 a resolution was approved that allowed up to 30,000 square feet for a poultry house which was the standard size at that time. County Administrator Thomas stated that now the standard size is over 30,000 square feet. County Administrator Thomas stated this resolution is to amend these regulations to increase the square footage for up to 33,000 square feet. County Administrator Thomas stated this would eliminate anyone from having to go through the variance process and recommended the Board approve this resolution. Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve this resolution. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Consider Approval for Alcoholic Beverage Permit – Flint River Jam. Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated last Tuesday on the 5th of September at the direction and request of this Board the County issued an alcoholic beverage permit to Flint River Jam for the dates of September 13th, 14th, 15th and 16th. County Administrator Thomas stated that Leslie Bernier is the alcohol license holder for this permit. County Administrator Thomas recommended the Board ratify this action that was approved by this board last Tuesday. Commissioner Anderson made a motion to ratify the approval of this permit. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Consider Approval of Error and Release Report from Tax Commissioner. Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas presented the Board with an Error and Release report from the Tax Commissioner for their consideration of approval. Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve this report. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Consider Authorization to Write-Off Aged Accounts. Chairman Stephens recognized County Clerk Beverly King. Mrs. King presented the Board with a list of aged accounts dated back from 2009 to present. Mrs. King stated that most of these accounts were opened by the former Finance Director Carl Rowland and the charges were authorized by him. Mr. Rowland would allow some contractors to charge their landfill fees until the end of their job and some of these companies did not pay the County and some filed bankruptcy. Mrs. King stated since Mr. Thomas became County Administrator, he has authorized Mrs. King to cut customers off at the landfill if they get behind in paying, which was not allowed by Mr. Rowland, and allowed her to turn these aged accounts that didn't file bankruptcy over to collections, which also was not allowed by the former administration. Mrs. King stated since the accounts have been turned over to collections, thousands of dollars have been collected and will continue to work with collections to try to retrieve more of the monies owed on these accounts. Commissioner Brock made a motion to approve this request. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Commissioner Anderson thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and stated that he was thankful for everyone's safety during the recent hurricane.

Commissioner Brock thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and commended the County and the City for feeding and showing great hospitality to the hurricane victims that were coming through Bainbridge.

Commissioner Davis thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and stated that this is a great County that we all live in. Commissioner Davis said he heard so many compliments on how courteous and helpful the people from this County were to the hurricane victims that came through Bainbridge.

County Administrator Thomas commended the staff for stepping up and doing what was necessary during the storm and that he appreciates all their hard work.

Chairman Stephens said he dittoed what all the others have said and that he was grateful for the staff and all of the citizens for a great job in helping with the people coming through our town who had to evacuate from the hurricane. Chairman Stephens also commended the Salvation Army for their role in helping with the hurricane victims. Chairman Stephens stated that the Red Cross dropped the ball and that it would be addressed.

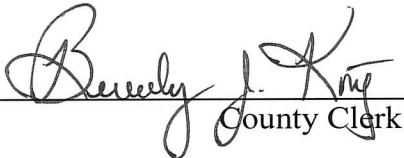
Vice Chairman Brinson arrived at the meeting during Commissioners' remarks and apologized for being late.

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

Approved: _____

Chairman

Attest: _____

County Clerk