

MINUTES

DECATUR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM

TUESDAY, JULY 24, 2018

PRESENT: CHAIRMAN PETE STEPHENS, VICE CHAIRMAN DENNIS BRINSON, COMMISSIONERS RUSTY DAVIS, GEORGE ANDERSON AND STEVE BROCK, 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 Dennis Brinson gave the invocation and all those assembled pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

County Administrator Alan Thomas asked the Board to approve the following amendment: Add #1A; Consider Closure of Portion of Blackjack Road. Vice Chairman Brinson made a motion to approve the agenda with this amendment. Commissioner Brock seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

There were no Special Presentations.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no Public Participation.

APPROVE MINUTES

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to approve the minutes of the Commissioners' Meeting held July 10, 2018 as presented. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

PUBLIC HEARING

Vice Chairman Brinson made a motion to go out of the regular meeting and into a Public Hearing for the Closure of a Portion of Blackjack Road. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated the purpose of this public hearing is to consider the matter of abandoning a portion of Blackjack Road. County Administrator Thomas presented the Board with a letter from Attorney Edwin J. Perry, III, representing Gerald W. Long, requesting to abandon Blackjack Road extension along with a copy of the advertisement that is required by law. County Administrator Thomas stated in Mr. Perry's letter it outlines the area of the road showing an abandoned road but was never officially abandoned. County Administrator Thomas stated since that time, the road has not been used by the public and has in fact been abandoned. County Administrator Thomas stated that Mr. Long is requesting that official action be taken so that he can obtain a clear title to that property. County Administrator Thomas stated that counsel has been involved in this request and recommended this request be considered by the Board.

Mr. Edwin J. Perry, III stated that he represented Gerald W. Long and stated his client's wishes are for the County to abandon this portion of Blackjack Road. Mr. Perry stated that Mr. Long would like to acquire this property if this is approved by the Board.

County Attorney Bruce Kirbo explained the proper procedures to follow if the Board approves to abandon this portion of Blackjack Road and requested that the Board follow the same procedures as in the past, to advertise for public bids.

There being no more comments, Commissioner Davis made a motion to close this public hearing and enter into the regular scheduled meeting. 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 Abandoning Portion of Blackjack Road. Commissioner Brock made a motion to abandon this portion of Blackjack Road and advertise this property for public bids with the understanding that the Board can accept or reject any or all bids at their discretion. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Consider Lease Agreement – Nexamp Solar. Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated the purpose of this action is to gain approval for non-aeronautical use of airport property at the Decatur County Industrial Air Park to be leased by Nexamp Solar, for the benefit of Danimer Scientific, under a twenty-five (25) year lease for the installation of solar panels. County Administrator Thomas stated the property in question has no known future for commercial or aeronautical use at the Industrial Park. County Administrator Thomas stated due to the building restrictions at this location, there are no plans for airport development. County Administrator Thomas stated the requested Federal Action is a change in use of approximately 7.62 acres of current airport property from future aeronautical use to non-aeronautical use. The change of use and development into a solar facility is currently scheduled to occur sometime during the summer of 2018 and is expected to last for a period of 25 years. County Administrator Thomas stated this proposed action would provide an impetus for economic development for Decatur County, stating the current asking price at the airport is approximately \$6,500 per acre; consequently, the property would expect to be sold for approximately \$39,000.00. The 25-year lease agreement at \$20,000.00 per year would far exceed the one time selling price and would represent a boom to the County and its airport operations. County Attorney Kirbo stated that he has reviewed this lease and approved it. Commissioner Brock made a motion to approve this lease agreement. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Consider Approval of Funding Assistance for Airfield Lighting Rehabilitation - GDOT. Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated this is a project that is part of the Capital Improvement plan. County Administrator Thomas stated that GDOT notified the County that a tentative allocation of federal funding assistance in the amount of \$310,500 for constructing airfield lighting rehabilitation at the Decatur County Industrial Airpark. County Administrator Thomas stated that this project will require matching funds from Decatur County in the amount of \$19,500, which has been put in the budget for this year. County Administrator Thomas recommended the Board approve this funding assistance for this project. Vice Chairman Brinson made a motion to approve this funding assistance. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Consider Adoption Agreement Amendment #2/Resolution – Defined Benefit Plan. Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated that this is an adoption agreement amendment and a resolution to be considered. County Administrator Thomas stated that the Board previously adopted Association County Commissioners of Georgia Defined Benefit Plan for Decatur County employees. County Administrator Thomas stated the amendment is to provide employees who have attained normal retirement age may commence receiving benefit payments while still employed by Decatur County and to increase the vesting schedule from 5 years to 10 years for employees hired on or after August 1, 2018. County Administrator Thomas stated the resolution is to adopt the amendment to the defined benefit plan. County Administrator Thomas recommended the Board approve the amendment and adopt the resolution. Commissioner Anderson made a motion to approve the amendment and adopt the resolution. Commissioner Brock seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Consider Request to Transfer Shotguns (2) from Sheriff's Office. Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated that he received a letter from Chief Deputy Wendell Cofer requesting the consideration to transfer two DCSO 12-gauge shotguns to the Southern Regional Technical College. County Administrator Thomas recommended the Board approve this request. Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve

this request. Commissioner Brock 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 Brock made a motion to approve this report. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Vice Chairman Brinson made a motion to go into executive session to discuss litigation. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

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

Chairman Stephens stated the Board discussed some litigation matters during executive session and no action is to be taken.

COMMISSIONERS / ADMINISTRATOR'S REMARKS

All of the Commissioners thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

Commissioner Brock commended the 911 service and all the Decatur County staff that was involved in helping with the recent storm. Commissioner Brock stated that everyone did a great job.

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

Approved: _____

Chairman

Attest: _____

County Clerk