

MINUTES

DECATUR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2018

PRESENT: CHAIRMAN PETE STEPHENS, VICE CHAIRMAN DENNIS BRINSON, COMMISSIONERS RUSTY DAVIS, GREG MURRAY, GEORGE ANDERSON AND STEVE BROCK, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR ALAN THOMAS, COUNTY ATTORNEY BRUCE KIRBO, COUNTY CLERK BEVERLY KING AND NEWS REPORTER JILL HOLLOWAY.

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, Pastor Mike Brown gave the invocation and all those assembled pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Anderson made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Murray seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Chairman Stephens recognized Johnnie Mae Livingston. Ms. Livingston complained about a tree that fell during Hurricane Michael. Ms. Livingston stated the tree fell across a ditch and is now blocking the water from flowing down the ditch causing the water to back up in her yard. Commissioner Murray stated that he would look into this matter as soon as possible.

APPROVE MINUTES

Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting held November 27, 2018 as presented. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Soil Evaluation Policy – Ansley Johnson. Chairman Stephens recognized Mr. Ansley Johnson, Decatur County Environmental Health Manager. Mr. Johnson stated that the Decatur County Board of Health brought before this Board in August a policy to consider that would require all undeveloped properties evaluated by a registered soil classifier, registered engineer, or registered geologist prior to onsite sewage system approval and permitting by their office. Mr. Johnson stated the Board of Health asked the commissioners to look the policy over and give them some feedback. Mr. Johnson stated that he met with the commissioners to discuss this matter and their concerns. Mr. Johnson presented the Board with an Administrative Order for Soil Data Acceptability Protocols for their consideration of approval. Mr. Johnson said that he thought this policy was a common middle ground that would meet the commissioners' concerns and relieve the concerns with the Board of Health. Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve this Administrative Order. Commissioner Brock seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Georgia Forestry Commission Yearly Report – Van Smith. Chairman Stephens recognized Mr. Van Smith, Ranger with the Georgia Forestry Commission. Mr. Smith presented the Board with their annual report for Decatur County. Mr. Smith highlighted some of the areas in the report, stating that in Decatur County there is a total of 399,040 acre of land, 57% of which is forest land totaling 172,390 acres. Mr. Smith stated they are now also responsible for Seminole County which is a total of 40,011 acres of forest land. Mr. Smith stated the Decatur-Seminole County Forestry Unit is responsible for all forest protection activities involving the suppression of forest land wildfires, pre-suppression firebreaks, and other forest related activities. Mr. Smith stated the Board of Commissioners of Decatur County contributed \$17,239.00 and the Seminole County Board of Commissioners contributed \$4,008.00 to the Georgia Forestry Commission

during the 2018 fiscal year toward the cost of protecting their forest land. Mr. Smith stated that the Georgia Forestry Commission also helped in clearing roads during the aftermath of Hurricane Michael. Mr. Smith stated that the Georgia Forestry Commission recently purchased a plane to help control wild fires. The Commissioners and County Administrator Thomas thanked Mr. Smith for their assistance during the hurricane.

Consider Approval of Language Access Plan – (CDBG). Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Alan Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated this Language Access Plan was prepared by Bob Roberson for the CDBG Grant Decatur County was recently awarded. County Administrator Thomas stated this plan addresses Decatur County's responsibilities as a recipient of federal financial assistance from Georgia Department of Community Affairs programs and grants funded by HUD as they relate to the needs of individuals with limited English language skills. County Administrator Thomas recommended the Board approve this plan. Commissioner Murray made a motion to approve this Language Access Plan. Vice Chairman Brinson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Consider Approval of Task Order Number 10 – CROY Engineering. Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Alan Thomas. County Administrator Thomas stated this is part of the Master Agreement Plan for the Industrial Air Park Project. County Administrator Thomas stated that this is the agreement for Task Order Number 10 with Croy Engineering to provide engineering and design services at the Industrial Air Park for electrical rehabilitation. County Administrator Thomas stated the total fee for that service is \$100,716.00 which will be funded with 90% Federal Grant Money, 5% State Funding and 5% Local funding. County Administrator Thomas recommended the Board approve this agreement. Commissioner Brock made a motion to approve this agreement. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Consider Proposal for Roof Repair – Courthouse. Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Alan Thomas. County Administrator Thomas presented the Board with two bids to repair the damage from the hurricane on the flat roof at the Courthouse. County Administrator Thomas stated the slate roof has been completed. County Administrator Thomas recommended the Board approve the low bid from New South Systems, Inc. in the amount of \$54,900.00 with a two-year New South Systems warranty and a twenty-year manufacturer's warranty. Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the low bid from New South Systems, Inc. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Consider Cancellation of Commissioners' Meeting December 25, 2018. Chairman Stephens called for a motion to cancel the second meeting of December which falls on Christmas Day, December 25, 2018. Commissioner Anderson made a motion to cancel the December 25th Commissioners' meeting. Commissioner Murray seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Kelly Crossing – Peggy Stout. Chairman Stephens recognized Ms. Peggy Stout. Ms. Stout stated that she lived at 108 Fay Drive at Kelly Crossing. Ms. Stout expressed concerns with big trucks coming through her neighborhood causing damage to the roads and them speeding through the neighborhood while there are children out playing. After a brief discussion, Dennis Medley, Public Works Superintendent, stated that he could possibly put some signs up but that it was a public road and without an ordinance that prevents heavy trucks from using that road, that he was limited on what he could do. Mr. Medley stated that he would talk with Jones Welding and Mike Floyd to see if they would help with getting the trucks to go a different route. Chairman Stephens suggested that County Administrator Thomas and Mr. Medley look into the matter and get back with Ms. Stout.

Comments – Larry Fountain. Chairman Stephens recognized Mr. Larry Fountain. Mr. Fountain stated that he lived on Palmer Road. Mr. Fountain stated that for the last five years that the ditches on Palmer Road, in front of his house, have not been pulled or maintained by the County. Mr. Fountain stated because there is no ditch in front of his house anymore, the water is backing up on his property when it rains. Mr. Fountain stated if the ditch was pulled and maintained it would prevent this problem. Mr. Fountain also expressed concerns with some surveys that were done on his property and the right-of-way. After a brief discussion, the commissioners agreed to find a surveyor within six months to survey the property in question and see if this problem could be resolved.

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

After 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 during executive session the Board discussed a litigation matter. There was no action to be taken at this time.

COMMISSIONERS / ADMINISTRATOR'S REMARKS

All of the commissioners thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

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

Approved: 
Chairman

Attest: 
County Clerk