MINUTES
CALLED MEETING OF THE
COLQUITT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2017
5:00 o'clock p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Terry R. Clark. The purpose of the called meeting was to preview upcoming agenda items and to discuss and/or conduct any other county business deemed necessary. The meeting was duly called and advertised.

PRESENT: Those present were Commissioners Chris Hunnicutt, Marc DeMott, Al Whittington, and Johnny Hardin, Chairman Terry R. Clark, County Administrator Chas Cannon, County Attorney Lester M. Castellow, and County Clerk Melissa Lawson.

ALSO PRESENT: Human Resources Director John C. Peters, Chief Compliance Officer Justin H. Cox, Solid Waste Manager Stacy Griffin, Maintenance Superintendent Mac Lawson, City of Moultrie Main Street Director Amy Johnson, Landscape Architect Jonathan Vines, and Chris Brinson with the Georgia Forestry Commission.

ABSENT: Commissioner Paul Nagy.

GEORGIA FORESTRY COMMISSION: Georgia Forestry Commission Representative Chris Brinson provided the Board with an annual update consisting of departmental activities, equipment, and statistics.

UPDATE ON MULE BARN PARK: Mr. Cannon presented bid pricing results as well as a proposed cost share breakdown regarding the renovation and construction of Mule Barn Park located adjacent to the Courthouse Annex.

Commissioner DeMott stated that a lot of work had been invested in the project and noted that the county's portion of the cost share breakdown was more than the FY 17 – 18 budgeted amount of $75,000.00. Commissioner DeMott further stated that he did not want to scale back on the project due to the higher than anticipated bid results.

Commissioner DeMott stated that, from an intergovernmental relations standpoint, the project had been invaluable.

(Jonathan Vines entered the meeting at 5:08 p.m.)

APPROVAL OF MOTION REGARDING ESTIMATED COST SHARE – MULE BARN PARK: Commissioner DeMott made the motion to approve the estimated cost share, in the amount of $87,879.90, regarding the renovation and construction of Mule Barn Park. Commissioner Whittington made a second. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Vines remarked that all contractors who bid on the Mule Barn Park project were qualified and further remarked that all subsequent bid pricing was fair and reasonable.

Discussion ensued regarding the project.
November 21, 2017
Page 2

Amy Johnson, City of Moultrie Main Street Director, stated that she anticipated that a ground-breaking ceremony would be held in January 2018.

MID – MONTH REVIEW: Mr. Cannon reviewed upcoming agenda items with the board:

- Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance – Mr. Cannon stated that the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance would be led by Commissioner Al Whittington.

- Appointment to Moultrie – Colquitt County Planning Commission – Mr. Cannon stated that a resignation was received in early August from Planning Commission member Gene Abbett. Mr. Cannon noted that seated Planning Commission members Doug Loftis and William Gay wished to be re-appointed. Upon approval by the Board, Mr. Cannon further noted that applicants would serve a three-year term.

- Appointment to Southwest Georgia Regional Commission – Mr. Cannon stated that current Non – Public and Additional Member appointees Henry and Dollie Crumley were no longer able to serve upon the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission due to health issues. As a result, Mr. Cannon further stated that advertisement for the vacancies would begin immediately. Upon selection, Mr. Cannon noted that the appointees would fulfill the remainder of the 2017 term as well as the 2018 term.

- Appointment to Economic Development Authority – Mr. Cannon stated that the terms of current appointees Mr. Mark Mobley and Mr. Plenn Hunnicutt would soon expire. Mr. Cannon further stated that while Mr. Mobley would like to continue to serve, Mr. Hunnicutt did not.

Discussion ensued regarding the appointments.

Commissioner DeMott declared that a Commissioner should be appointed and voiced his support regarding the re-appointment of Mr. Mobley.

- Approval of Association of County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG) 2018 Membership Dues – Mr. Cannon presented an invoice, in the amount of $5,460.44, regarding 2018 ACCG membership dues. Mr. Cannon noted that the total amount was inclusive of an increase unanimously approved by the ACCG Board of Managers. Mr. Cannon further noted that funding was available in the FY 17 – 18 budget for this expenditure.

- Approval of Bid for Guardrails – Roads & Bridges Dept. – Mr. Cannon presented the low and recommended bid, in the amount of $82,215.00, submitted by South Georgia Erosion Control regarding the provision of guardrail improvements on Lower Meigs Road and Old Adel Road. Mr. Cannon noted that funding would be derived from both Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant (LMIG) funding as well as District 3 and 6 SPLOST funds.
• Approval of Bid for Lowboy - Roads & Bridges – Mr. Cannon presented the low and recommended bid, in the amount of $64,867.20, submitted by Transpower, Inc. regarding the provision of a goose neck lowboy. Mr. Cannon noted that funding was available in the FY 17 – 18 General Fund budget for this expenditure.

• Approval of Payment of Invoice – Rock Bledsoe, CPA – Mr. Cannon presented an invoice, in the amount of $7,225.00, submitted by CPA Rock Bledsoe regarding the provision of professional accounting services for the month of November. Mr. Cannon noted that funding was included in the FY 17 -18 General Fund budget for this expenditure.

David Zeanah, Finance Director, noted that while the county had been presented with clean financial audits, the inner workings of the overall process were in need of some repair.

• Approval of Amendments to County Personnel Policy – John C. Peters, Human Resources Director, presented a list of amendments to the county personnel policy for the Board’s consideration. The amendments pertained to the following sections:
  - Section I (F) Departmental Operating Rules and Regulations
  - Section 3 (F) Annual Cost of Living Adjustment
  - Section 9 (B) Prohibited Conduct
  - Section 11 (C) (2) Annual Leave Accrual Rates
  - Section 11 (D) Sick Leave
  - Section 15 (I) Personal Dealings with Inmates
  - Section 17 (E) Authorized Use of Purchase Cards
  - Appendix Constitutional Officers

Mr. Peters presented additional amendments involving eligibility for insurance coverage, open enrollment periods, and changes to the Employee Health Insurance Plan regarding nicotine usage.

Discussion ensued regarding the amendments.

If approved by the Board, Mr. Peters stated that the amendments would become effective January 1, 2018.

• Alcoholic Beverage Application – Justin H. Cox, Chief Compliance Officer, presented an application from Fastrac Tallokas, LLC requesting a license to sell beer for off-premises consumption.

• Business License Ordinance Amendments – Mr. Cox presented modifications to the current business license ordinance to allow for a true twelve-month business license. Mr. Cox explained that, currently, all licenses renew in January with no option to pro-rate the license fee.
ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES: At this time, Mr. Cannon discussed the following pertinent issues with the Board:

- **Financial Strategy Discussion** – Mr. Cannon reviewed a list of current financial accounts and subsequent interest rates.

  Investing county funds outside of local banks in order to maximize interest earnings was briefly discussed. If done, Mr. Cannon stressed that this must be a Board decision.

  Mr. Cannon stated that he would prefer to make county employees the beneficiaries of any additional interest earnings.

  Commissioner Whittington stated that he would not be in favor of investing outside of local banks unless the additional interest was substantial.

  Chairman Clark stated that he would prefer to continue to do business with local banks, stressing that these institutions employed local individuals who paid local taxes.

- **Solid Waste Hauling Discussion** – Mr. Cannon stated that local contractor Rick Clements, in conjunction with the City of Thomasville, had recently contacted the county about hauling the county’s solid waste transfer.

  Mr. Cannon presented transfer tonnage amounts for calendar year 2017.

  If was the consensus of the Board to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) regarding the county’s solid waste transfer.

- **Old Prison/Jail Renovations** – Mr. Cannon stated that progress was being made regarding the demolition of the Old Prison. In addition, Mr. Cannon stated that meetings had been held with all relative departments concerning future development plans.

  Mr. Cannon stated that communication had been ongoing with the local engineering firm of Carter & Sloope regarding an overall plan. Mr. Cannon requested the Board’s approval to proceed with an overall master plan.

  It was the consensus of the Board to proceed with an overall master concept plan.

- **Payment & Performance (P&P) Bonds** – Mr. Cannon stated that the county’s current ordinance was unclear regarding when Payment & Performance Bonds apply and suggested that an overall standard be implemented. Mr. Cannon stated that, per state law, any project over $100,000.00 required P&P bonds. Mr. Cannon suggested that any county project under $100,000.00 adhere to the 20/80 rule consisting of 20% payment up front, with the remaining 80% payment being remitted upon completion of the project.
Discussion ensued regarding the effect this might have on local contractors.

- Deese Property Update – Mr. Cannon stated that Mr. Paul Deese was non-compliant with the last correspondence generated from the Compliance Office. As a result, Mr. Cannon stated that the county possessed a few options, consisting of proceeding with an environmental analysis or the filing of a lien against the property.

Discussion ensued regarding the matter.

- Wrecker Policy Update – Mr. Cannon stated that input had been received from pertinent departments regarding an overall wrecker policy for the county. Mr. Cannon stated that the next step would be to meet with Sheriff Rod Howell before presenting a final draft to the Board for consideration.

**KEY DATES:** Mr. Cannon reviewed a list of key, upcoming dates with the Board.

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry R. Clark
Chairman

Melissa Lawson
County-Clerk

Approved:

December 7, 2017