

The McDuffie County Board of Commissioners held a regular Commission Meeting on Tuesday evening, April 4, 2006, 7:30 PM, Grand Jury Room, McDuffie County Courthouse.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Charles G. Newton IV, Chairman
Sammie Wilson, Vice Chairman
Darrell Wester, Commissioner
J. Robt. "Bob" Farr

COUNTY REPRESENTATION

Don Norton, County Manager
Annette Finley, County Clerk
Jimmy Whitaker, County Finance Director
Chris Pelly, Director of Public Works
Fred Guarrant, Director, Planning Commission
Kelly Evans, Director, IT Department

ABSENT

Rev. Fred Favors, Commissioner

MEDIA

WTHO Radio Station
McDuffie Progress
McDuffie Mirror

OTHERS

Zero (0) citizens attended.

CALLED TO ORDER

Chairman Newton called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commission Sammie Wilson led the invocation which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVALS

Minutes (Regular Meeting 3-21-06)

A motion to approve the minutes as written of the regular Commission Meeting held on March 21, 2006, was made by Wester, seconded by Wilson and passed unanimously.

Agenda (Current)

A motion to approve the current agenda as written was made by Wilson, seconded by Farr and passed unanimously.

INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **Announcement:** Steak & Burger Dinner, Boys & Girls Club, March 28, 2006, Big Success, Over \$100,000 was donated.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Bid Award – Sewer District I:** Chairman Newton presented award recommendations from both engineering firms, Precision Planning and O'Brien & Gere. Chairman Newton announced that the sale of land to the Development Authority in the amount of \$754,240 (refer to Item 10 in these minutes) would help defray the costs involved with the "overage" of the bid amounts. The total funding set aside for this project was \$7,441,000. The total bid amounts from the 4 contracts after several deductive alternates had been removed and the actual construction price of N. Dallas Drive \$855,085 added, was \$8,571,490. This leaves a funding shortfall of \$1,130,490. Note was made that the following funds would be available for making up the difference:

\$376,250 - possible Water/Sewer SPLOST III Funds (of which \$300,000 may be available from budget SPLOST III, if not needed for anticipated purchase of Corp of Engineers storage capacity)

\$754,240 - sale of land to the Development Authority
\$1,130,490

Four contractors were approved for this immense sewer project and are named below within their respective area and was awarded the bid.

After a very lengthy discussion, the first motion to approve the recommended bid from Precision Planning, Inc. to the firm of John R. Walker, Inc., Macon, GA, in the awarded amount of \$2,598,825.77 for the gravity sewer line work in the Belle Meade Subdivision was made by Wilson, seconded by Farr and passed unanimously.

A 2nd motion to approve the recommended bid from Precision Planning, Inc. to the firm of L & L Utilities, East Dublin, GA in the award amount of \$1,232,384.00 for the gravity sewer line work in the Highway 150 @ I-20 area was made by Wester, seconded by Wilson and passed unanimously.

A 3rd motion to approve the recommended bid from O'Brien & Gere, to the firm Mabus Brothers, Inc., Augusta, GA in the award amount of \$1,259,075.60 for the construction of the pump station in Contract "A", Sewer District I project, was made by Wester, seconded by Wilson and passed unanimously.

A 4th and final motion to approve the recommended bid from O'Brien & Gere to the firm of Piedmont Water Company, Atlanta, GA in the award amount of \$1,135,743.01 for the construction of the force mains in Contract "B", Sewer District I project, was made by Wilson, seconded by Wester, and passed unanimously.

Chairman Newton stated that construction is anticipated to start July 1, 2006, after bond validation has been completed through our County Attorney's office and "notice of wards" are issued by our contracted engineering firms. Construction is anticipated to take approximately one (1) year for completion.

Commissioner Wester "congratulated" Chairman Newton on the completion of the final bid awarding process for Sewer District I noting its inception was in 1997; 9 years for to come to fruition.

2. **Resolution – CSX Transportation Agreement/Sewer District I:** Chairman Newton presented a copy of the Resolution which the CSX Transportation was requesting as well as a Certificate of Insurance to be attached to their supplemental Agreement for the Sewer District I project. The Resolution is copied below and made a part of these minutes.

A motion to adopt and approve the Resolution was made by Wester, seconded by Farr and passed unanimously.

3. **Resolution – Ft. Gordon Joint Land Use Study (JLUS):** Chairman Newton presented a Resolution to be adopted certifying that McDuffie County Board of Commissioners favors the adoption of policies to ensure Fort Gordon's operating environment is preserved and is an integral part of the CSRA. The Resolution is copied below and made a part of these minutes.

A motion to adopt the Resolution was made by Wester, seconded by Farr and passed unanimously.

4. **Resolution – CSRA RDC Regional Administrator, Transportation System of DHR:** Chairman Newton presented a Resolution requiring written adoption of member jurisdictions wishing to continue to have the RDC continue to administer and operate the Coordinated Transportation System and other DHR funded programs for McDuffie County. The Resolution is copied below and made a part of these minutes.

A motion to approve the adoption of this Resolution was made by Wilson, seconded by Farr and passed unanimously.

5. **Appointment – Planning Commission:** Chairman Newton reported that he had received a letter from Fred Guerrant stating that Mr. Jimmy Poston's terms on the Planning Commission expired March 23, 2006, and he had indicated his willingness to serve for an additional three (3) year term.

After discussion, a motion was made by Farr to re-appoint Jimmy Poston to Post 2 for another three (3) year term effective immediately ending March 23, 2009; motion was seconded by Wilson and passed unanimously.

6. **Purchase - Large Bed Scanner:** Chairman Newton presented a request from the IT Department to purchase a Large Bed Scanner and asked Kelly Evans to address the issue.

Kelly reiterated the necessity of this purchase for use in keeping and documenting historical articles in their current time frame for future records. She recommended the purchase of a Microtek Scanmake 1000XL with a 12 x 18 flat bed and a resolution of 3200 DPI from CDWG in the amount of \$2,000.64 with funds coming from the existing IT budget simply with a revision from the Operating Account to the Capital Account since the cost is over \$1000.

After discussion, a motion to approve this recommendation was made by Wilson, seconded by Farr and passed unanimously.

7. **Bid Award – Road Department Asphalt (Patching) Paving:** Chairman Newton asked Chris Pelly, Director of Public Works, to present this bid award to the Board.

Chris announced that two (2) quotes had been received for the bid seeking annual asphalt (patching) paving needed for the county for its needs preparing for the upcoming LARP season and in maintaining county roads at a minimum price as quickly as possible at the time of need. The quotes are copied below and made a part of these minutes.

After discussion, a motion to approve the low bid from C-N-H Paving in the amount of \$61.70/Ton was made by Wester, seconded by Farr and passed unanimously.

8. **Surplus Property Declaration:** Chairman Newton presented an updated list of items to be declared as “surplus” in an effort to prepare for an upcoming auction and asked Chris Pelly and Kelly Evans for an update regarding the possibility of an “online” auction.

Chris and Kelly both recommended the “gov.deals” online as it is endorsed and recommended by ACCG, at a commission of 7.5%, can be advertised locally and items can be added as an ongoing process at any time. As of this date, the additional items to be declared as “surplus” are listed below:

After a lengthy discussion, a motion to declare the additional items as “surplus” was made by Wilson, seconded by Farr and passed unanimously.

9. **Postage Meter Acquisition & Budget Amendment:** Chairman Newton asked Jimmy Whitaker, Director of Finance, to present this matter.

Jimmy reviewed the Executive Summary of his request for a new postage meter for the county and recommended the purchase of the Pitney Bowes DM500 model in the amount of \$4,265 with a meter rental of \$240 per quarter (free for 1st year), postage refills to be paid when billed by Postal Service and with a Maintenance Contract of \$374.00 per year. Jimmy also added that the \$4265 only is a non-budgeted item and funds will have to come from Contingency.

After discussion, a motion to approve this request with funds coming from Contingency was made by Wester, seconded by Wilson and passed unanimously.

10. **Sale of Land Back To Development Authority:** Chairman Newton presented the sale of 144.68 acres comprised of 3 tracts of land, previously purchased by McDuffie County from the Development Authority, in the same amount as had been purchased earlier, \$754,240. He added that the money derived from this sale would be used to partially offset the balance needed for the Sewer District I project as discussed earlier in Item 1. A motion to sell this land and approve the distribution/depositing of proceeds in the account recommended by County Auditor, Baird & Company, along with the advice and consultation of the County Attorney, was made by Wester, seconded by Wilson and passed unanimously; Note was also made that the 43.99 acres which were donated to McDuffie County by the Development Authority will also be returned to the Development Authority.

11. **FY 2007 Budget Policy:** Chairman Newton asked Don Norton to present this item.

Don presented a drafted /FY 2007 Budget Policy to be considered for adoption stating that it was similar to the ones approved in earlier years. After discussion, a motion to approve the FY 2007 Budget Policy was made by Farr, seconded by Wilson and passed unanimously.

