

The McDuffie County Board of Commissioners held a Regular Commission Meeting
 Wednesday Morning, December 7, 2011, 10:00 AM, Meeting Room,
 Thomson-McDuffie County Government Center

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Charles Newton, IV, Chairman
 Sammie Wilson, Sr., Vice Chairman
 Frederick D. Favors, Commissioner
 Wm. "Bill" M. Jopling, Commissioner
 Paul W. McCorkle, Commissioner

COUNTY REPRESENTATION:

Don Norton, County Manager
 Penny Salley, County Clerk
 Pam Workman, Finance Director
 Stephen Sewell, Asst. Fire Chief
 Rusty Allen, Public Works Director
 Ruthie Thomas, Human Resources Coordinator
 Stacey Thomas, Tax Commissioners Office
 Elizabeth Vance, Tourism Director
 Linda Thurmond, Chief Tax Appraiser
 Don Clauson, Solid Waste Director
 Valerie Burley, Probate Judge

MEDIA:

WTHO
 McDuffie Mirror
 McDuffie Progress

OTHER:

Four (4) others were in attendance

COMMISSION MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Newton called the meeting to order, acknowledged a quorum of commissioners present and welcomed everyone in attendance.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Fred Favors offered the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL

Agenda (Current)

Chairman Newton asked if there were any corrections or additions to the current agenda. A motion to approve the current agenda with the following change was made by Wilson, seconded by Jopling and passed unanimously.

Add Item 7 to New Business: Internal Time Card Audit for Road Department and Animal Shelter

Minutes (Regular Mtg. 11/15/11)

A motion to approve the minutes of the 11/15/2011 Regular Commission Meeting was made by McCorkle seconded by Wilson and passed unanimously.

INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. County Christmas Party, December 23, 2011, White Columns Inn 8:00 PM
2. 2012 Capitol Connection Conference, January 30-31, 2012, Atlanta Marriott Marquis

UPCOMING APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

1. CSRA Economic Opportunity Authority

There being no nominations, Chairman Newton postponed this appointment to the December 20th Commission meeting.

2. Board of Health

There being no other nominations a motion was made by Jopling to re-appoint Robin Dudley, Joannette Terry, and Dr. Daryl Wiley to the Board of Health, seconded by Wilson and passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Review Employee Health Plan Proposal (Ashley Ellis)

Chairman Newton asked Ashley Ellis, Blount, Burke, Wimberly & Hendricks Insurers, to address this matter.

Ms. Ellis presented the 2012 renewal package to the Board, she has suggested keeping the plan the same with no changes from 2011.

The renewal increase for fixed costs is 4 ½ %, approximately \$10,000; the administrative fees are the same as 2011.

2. Further Consideration of Proposed Human Resources Policy

Chairman Newton asked Commissioner Jopling to address this matter.

Commissioner Jopling presented the Human Resources Policy for approval. Commissioner Wilson has recommended a change to the policy. Commissioner McCorkle and Commissioner Wilson have asked that any changes be incorporated into the policy before it is voted on.

Chairman Newton has asked that any suggested changes or recommendations be turned in by December 14th for discussion at the Organizational Committee meeting. All agreed upon changes will be incorporated into the policy by December 16th and distributed to the Commissioners for review and a vote will be taken on the policy at the December 20th Commission Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

1. ER & ACO Report – November

Chairman Newton asked Stacy Thomas to present this report.

Stacy stated that the report for November 2011 reflects an increase in the amount of \$4599.67 for changes to the Property Tax Digest. Property tax increase is due to cell tower audits resulting in three years of increases of value; several appeals settled resulting in rebilling of changed value; granting of one year's support by Probate Court.

There were no changes to the mobile home digest for the month of November.

A motion was made by Jopling to accept the reports for November, seconded by McCorkle and passed unanimously.

2. Discuss Proposed Hotel/Motel Tax Ordinance Amendment

Chairman Newton stated that an amendment was needed to the Hotel-Motel ordinance in order to change the length of time the tax could be collected from 10 to 30 days, in order to be in agreement with state law.

A motion was made by McCorkle to change the tax collection period from 10 to 30 days, seconded by Wilson and passed unanimously.

3. Discuss Proposed 1% Salary Increase for Employees

Chairman Newton asked Commissioner Wilson to address this matter.

Commissioner Wilson proposed a 1% salary increase for employees. He stated that there have been several raises given throughout the year and feels that employees should be given a 1% raise for 2012. The cost of the raise would be approximately \$61,000 to come from contingency leaving the 2012 contingency at approximately \$70,000.

Chairman Newton suggested giving the 1% raise as a bonus at the end of the year, in addition to the annual Christmas bonus, provided funds are available.

A motion was made by Wilson to approve a 1% salary increase for all full-time employees, not to include employees that have received a raise in 2011, effective January 1, 2012, seconded by Favors. Commissioner Wilson requested a roll call vote.

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Favors	✓	
McCorkle		✓
Wilson	✓	
Jopling		✓
Newton		✓

The motion failed with a two to three vote with Commissioners McCorkle, Jopling, and Newton voting no.

McCorkle made a motion to reconsider the 1% salary increase in April or May when the preliminary tax digest numbers are available, seconded by Jopling. Wilson requested a roll call vote.

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Favors		✓
McCorkle	✓	
Wilson		✓
Jopling	✓	
Newton	✓	

The motion passed with a three to two vote with Commissioners Favors and Wilson voting no.

4. EMS Budget Amendment

Chairman Newton asked Don Norton, County Manager, to address this matter.

Don has requested \$35,000 from contingency to pay the November ambulance service bill. This would mean that a full twelve months would now have been paid, albeit one month in arrears. The average bill is \$33,000 and the invoice that is currently due is \$50,005. He stated that the funds are currently available through contingency.

A motion was made by Jopling to approve a budget amendment of \$35,000 from contingency to the EMS budget for the November ambulance service invoice, seconded by Wilson and passed unanimously.

5. Retroactive Approval of Byrne/JAG CJCC Grant Application

Chairman Newton asked Don Norton, County Manager, to address this matter.

Don stated that a \$10,000 grant application had been previously concurred with by the Commissioners' via email. The grant application is for an automated license plate recognition system for the Sheriff's Department. There is a \$1,000 required match, should the grant be awarded. The match portion of the grant is already budgeted.

A motion was made by Jopling to approve the \$10,000 Byrne/JAG CJCC Grant application, seconded by McCorkle and passed unanimously.

6. Approval of CSRA Area Agency on Aging Grant

Chairman Newton asked Don Norton, County Manager, to address this matter.

Don stated that this is a \$22,000 grant that will buy supplies and pay for three part-time employees for the Senior Center. It will also allow more seniors to be involved with a variety of activities, if awarded.

A motion was made by Favors to approve the CSRA Area Agency on Agency grant application, seconded by McCorkle and passed unanimously.

7. Internal Time Card Audit for Road Department and Animal Shelter

Commissioner Wilson has requested an internal time card audit of the Road Department and the Animal Shelter. Pam Workman, Finance Director said she should be able to have the information ready in one week.

There was no action taken or required. Information purposes only.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion to enter into an Executive Session was made by Wilson, seconded by Jopling and passed unanimously.

Topic of Discussion: Pending Litigation

A motion to resume the regular Commission Meeting was made by Jopling, seconded by Wilson and passed unanimously.

No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

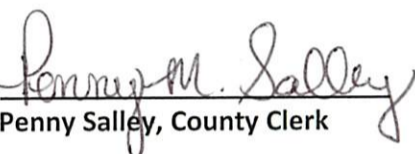
There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, a motion to adjourn was made by Wilson, seconded by Jopling and passed unanimously.

McDUFFIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Charles G. Newton, IV, Chairman

ATTEST:



Penny Salley, County Clerk

AFFIDAVIT
CLOSED MEETING - ENTIRE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
(copy must be filed with official minutes)

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF McDUFFIE

Charles G. Naulton IV, Chairman, Commissioner Sammie Wilson, Sr., Commissioner
Frederick Favors, Commissioner Wm. "Bill" Japling, Commissioner
Paul McCorkle, being duly sworn, state under oath that the following is true and accurate to the best of their knowledge and belief:

1.
The McDuffie County Board of Commissioners met in a duly advertised meeting on December 7, 2011;

2.
During such meeting, the Board voted to go into closed session;

3.
The Executive Session was called to order at 10:35 AM PM;

4.
The subject matter of the closed portion of the meeting was devoted to the following matters(s) within the exceptions provided in the open meetings law;

- Consultation with the county attorney or other legal counsel to discuss pending or potential litigation;
- Discussion of tax matters made confidential by state law as provided by O.C.G.A. S 50-14-2(2) (insert the citation to the legal authority making the tax matter confidential) _____
- Discussion of the future acquisition of real estate as provided by O.C.G.A. S 50-14-3(4);
- Discussion of deliberation on the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a county officer or employee as provided by O.C.G.A. S 50-14-3(6);
- Other (describe the exemption to the open meetings law): _____ as provided in (insert the citation to the legal authority exempting the topic) _____

This 7th day of December, 2011.

McDUFFIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

[Signature] Chairman
Sammie Wilson Sr. Vice Chairman
[Signature] Commissioner
[Signature] Commissioner
[Signature] Commissioner

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 7th day of December, 2011.

Pence M. Salley
Notary Public
My Commission Expires:
March 28, 2014

