

The McDuffie County Board of Commissioners held a Regular Commission Meeting Tuesday evening, June 21, 2011, 6:30 PM, Grand Jury Room, McDuffie County Courthouse.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Charles G. Newton IV, Chairman
Sammie Wilson, Sr., Vice Chairman
Paul McCorkle, Commissioner
Wm. "Bill" M. Jopling, Commissioner

COUNTY REPRESENTATION

Don Norton, County Manager
Penny Salley, County Clerk
Pam Workman, Finance Director
Linda Thurmond, Chief Tax Appraiser
Logan Marshall, Sheriff
Maj. Ronnie Williamson, Sheriff's Dept.
Bob Howard, Recreation Director
Raymond White, IT Director
Stephen Sewell, Asst. Fire Chief
Rusty Allen, Acting Public Works Director
Susan Smith, Administrative Assistant, Road Department

MEDIA

WTHO
McDuffie Mirror
WJBF

OTHER

Fourteen (14) others were in attendance

PUBLIC INPUT

None

ZONING ISSUES

James Higdon-Min. Structure Size (Handicap Residence)-538 Starr-Hinson Rd.

Guerrant summarized for the Board an application which he received from James Higdon requesting a reduction in structure size to accommodate a proposed single-wide to be used as a handicap residence on .25 acre property located at 538 Starr-Hinson Road. Guerrant explained that Mr. Higdon's wife, Carol Mitchem, had been seriously ill in the hospital and that the Higdon's would like to purchase a "new" single-wide of approximately 700-800 sq. ft. which would be ADA accessible. They currently own a single-wide at 4113 Stagecoach Road which is for sale due to the fact that it is not ADA accessible. Mr. Higdon indicated that they wanted to locate on their Starr-Hinson property since there were other family members on the road that could assist him in taking care of Carol. Guerrant stated that Mr. Bo Bowling was at the Planning Board meeting in opposition due to the predominance of manufactured housing already in the neighborhood. Guerrant further informed the Board that he had received three phone calls in opposition to the application.

The application was not approved by the Planning Board due to the lack of a motion.

Adjournment 6:45

COMMISSION MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Newton acknowledged a quorum of commissioners present and welcomed everyone in attendance.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Sammie Wilson offered the invocation and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL

Agenda (Current)

A motion to approve the current Agenda with the following change was made by McCorkle, seconded by Jopling and passed unanimously.

Remove Item 6 from Old Business: Further Discussion of Susan Smith Personnel Appeal

Minutes (Regular Mtg. 6/1/11)

A motion to approve the minutes of the regular Commission Meeting held 6/1/11 was made by Jopling, seconded by McCorkle and passed unanimously.

INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **Recommend Tuesday, June 28, 2011 for Next Budget Work Session, 6:30 PM**
The Budget Work Session will be held on June 28th at 7:00 PM
2. **Recommend Cancellation of July 4, 2011 Work Session and Possible Cancellation or Rescheduling of July 6, 2011 Regular Board Meeting.**
Both meetings have been cancelled.
3. **Congressman Paul Broun Town Hall Meeting Tuesday, June 28th, 6:00 PM at the Depot**
4. **Chairman Newton announced that the Grand Opening of the New Government Center would be on Friday, August 5, 2011.**
5. **Bill Doupe-Hospital Update**
Bill Doupe and Doug Keir updated the Board on the current discussions with University Hospital.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Government Center Status Update

Jud reported that the government center is 99% complete with punch list items. He further reported that the District Attorney's office has moved and will be operational by tomorrow morning. Major Williamson is handling all of the keys and card access for the building.

McCorkle has concerns with the appearance of the landscaping and has received several complaints. He would like to see it improved prior to the August 5th grand opening. Chairman Newton also has concerns with the appearance of the grass and has requested that Jud make sure the fertilizer specifications were met.

- **FPL Energy Services Presentation**

Jud introduced Marcus Craig with FPL Energy Services. Mr. Craig explained that FPL Energy Services is a company that supplies energy auditing services to counties in order to reduce energy costs. Mr. Craig has suggested performing an energy audit on the old courthouse in order to see what improvements/repairs can be made to save money on energy/utility costs in the future.

Mr. Craig explained that the energy audit would be free of charge, after the audit is complete FPL Energy Services would present the findings and the billing would be based on the savings to occur over a period of time. The County would control the scope of work.

After discussion a motion was made by McCorkle to allow the energy audit to be performed at the old courthouse, seconded by Jopling and passed unanimously.

2. Further Discussion of Hospital Board Appointment

Chairman Newton stated that the Hospital Authority presented the following three names for consideration to fill the second four year term of Mr. James Isom.

Valerie Roberson
Kathy Hinesley
Anita Cummings

With no additional nominations, a motion was made by McCorkle to accept the three names, seconded by Jopling and passed unanimously.

3. Further Discussion of Recreation Board Appointment

Chairman Newton stated that the terms of Michael Thomas, Mike McQuaig and Billy Elmore will end on June 30, 2011. Michael Thomas and Mike McQuaig have both expressed an interest in remaining on the Recreation Board. Bob made the recommendation at the June 4, 2011 Commission meeting to appoint Wayne Wilson to replace Billy Elmore, who does not wish to be reappointed.

A motion was made by Jopling to reappoint Michael Thomas to the Recreation Board for an

additional four year term, seconded by Wilson and passed unanimously.

A motion was made by McCorkle to reappoint Mike McQuaig to the Recreation Board for an additional four year term, seconded by Jopling and passed unanimously.

A motion was made by McCorkle to appoint Wayne Wilson to the Recreation Board for a four year term 7/1/11-6/30/15, to replace Billy Elmore, seconded by Jopling and passed unanimously.

4. Further Discussion of DFACS Board Appointment

Chairman Newton stated that the term of Donald Newsome would end on June 30, 2011. Mr. Newsome has agreed to continue to serve on the DFACS Board.

With no additional nominations a motion was made by McCorkle to reappoint Donald Newsome for an additional five years. The motion died due to the lack of a second.

Jopling requested that the appointment be postponed to the July 19, 2011 Commission meeting.

5. Further Discussion of Outstanding Special Account Invoices/Issues

Chairman Newton made the recommendation to approve outstanding invoices for the 2009 and 2010 City CDBG projects. He has also recommended the Board approve the total remaining 2009 and 2010 CDBG match requirements in the amount of \$121,053.90 to be paid from the Special Account.

A motion was made by Jopling to approve the above expenditures. The motion died due to the lack of a second.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Planning Board Recommendations

Chairman Newton asked the Board for their response regarding the application received from James Higdon requesting a reduction in structure size to accommodate a proposed single-wide to be used as a handicap residence.

After discussion and a recommendation from Chairman Newton, a motion was made by McCorkle to approve the conditional use of 538 Starr-Hinson Rd for a reduction in set back and structure size in order to be handicap accessible. The house will not be approved as rental property or any type of primary dwelling if the house is not used as a handicap residence, the structure must also be approved by Planning & Zoning and must improve the area. The motion was seconded by Jopling and passed unanimously.

2. Consideration of Additional Water Project Enhancements

Chairman Newton explained that the current water project terminated a water main extension at the intersection to Wire Road and Central Road Extension. Due to the written request from a number of citizens living on Central Road Extension, the County is requesting funds to extend this water main approximately 2,500 L.F. along Central Road Extension to serve these citizens with potable water.

The County is also requesting funds to construct a pump station/rechlorination station and a second stand alone rechlorination station in order to improve drinking water quality in the Southeast quadrant of the County (below Dearing).

In order to add the water lines on Central Road Extension and perform the water quality work Chairman Newton has requested funds not to exceed \$100,000 from the special account, which will be leveraged against nearly \$300,000 in remaining USDA grant funds.

After discussion and a recommendation from Chairman Newton, a motion was made by Jopling to approve an expenditure not to exceed \$100,00.00 from the Special Account to add a water line on Central Road Extension and perform water quality work below Dearing and to accept Precision Planning's Engineering and Construction observation proposal, seconded by McCorkle and passed unanimously.

3. Bid Award-Vending Services New Government Center

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

Don stated that one bid had been received for the vending services at the new government center from the Georgia Department of Labor's Rehabilitation Services-Business Enterprise Program-representing Mr. Keith Morris.

For the first year a payment in the amount of \$100.00/month will be submitted to the County, this will be re-evaluated at the end of the first year and BEP and the County will renegotiate the fee based on sales from the machines.

After discussion a motion was made by Jopling to accept the bid from the Georgia Department of Labor's Business Enterprise Program-representing Mr. Keith Morris, seconded by McCorkle and passed unanimously.

4. Discussion of "No Smoking" Designation of New Government Center Grounds

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

Don presented a No Smoking ordinance for the new government center. He made the recommendation to have designated smoking areas. Sheriff Marshall and Chairman Newton recommended making the entire campus no smoking at this time until further research can be done about the placement of a designated smoking area.

After discussion a motion was made by Wilson to make the entire campus of the government center no smoking at this time, seconded by Jopling and passed unanimously.

5. Recommend Reclassification of IT Director Position

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

Don made the recommendation to reclassify the position of IT Director to higher level commensurate with current standards/requirements. Currently the position of IT director is classified as Pay Grade 22, Don has recommended to reclassify this position of Pay Grade 24.

This reclassification will result in an approximate \$10,000/year salary increase; however this cost is to be divided 50-50 with the City of Thomson. For the remainder of 2011 enough flexibility remains in the IT budget to cover this increased cost.

A motion was made by Jopling to reclassify the position of IT Director from Pay Grade 22 to Pay Grade 24, seconded by McCorkle. At this time Commissioner Wilson requested a roll call vote.

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

6. Monthly Budget Report -May 2011

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

Don reported that as of May 31, 2011, with 41.7% of the year lapsed, the County had collected \$3,331,950.44 or 26.9% of the projected YTD revenue for the General Fund. With 41.7% of the year lapsed, the YTD General Fund Expenditures were \$4,624,015.32 or 38.0%, and this amount included the one time expenditure for pension across the board.

7. Monthly Financial Report -May 2011

Chairman Newton asked Pam Workman, Finance Director, to address this matter.

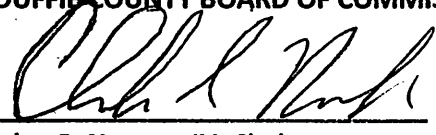
Pam Workman, reported on all bank accounts showing a grand total of \$12,665,495 as of May 31, 2011; Hotel/Motel revenue reflects a YTD \$83,212 or a total of 11.74% more than on the same date in 2010; Local Option Sales Tax Collections are YTD \$949,111 or a total of -12.37% decrease from the same date in 2010; SPLOST IV Revenue/Expenditures report a cumulative revenue total of \$17,818,007 with a balance of \$36,796 plus \$490,188.00 interest earnings; SPLOST V revenues

reflect \$7,125,460 as of May 31, 2011; expenditures are \$2,523,407. Of the \$17,655,000.00 in Bond Construction Funds for the new Government Center Project, \$16,004,593.12 had been spent.

ADJOURNMENT

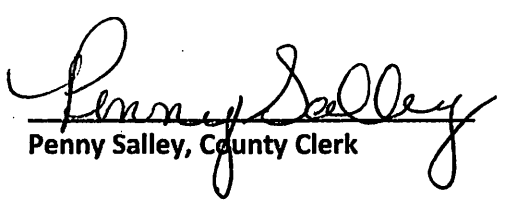
There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, a motion to adjourn was made by Wilson, seconded by Jopling and passed unanimously.

McDUFFIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Charles G. Newton IV, Chairman

ATTEST:



Penny Salley, County Clerk