

AFFIDAVIT
CLOSED MEETING - ENTIRE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

(copy must be filed with official minutes)

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF McDUFFIE

Charles Newton, IV, Chairman, Commissioner Sammie Wilson, Sr. Commissioner
Wm. Bill Tipling, Commissioner Paul McCockle, Commissioner
Fredrick Favors, 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 March 15, 2011;

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

3.
The Executive Session was called to order at 8:20 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 15th day of March, 2011.



McDUFFIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

[Signature] Chairman
[Signature] Vice Chairman
[Signature] Commissioner
[Signature] Commissioner
[Signature] Commissioner

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 15th day of March, 2011.

Pence M. Sallee
Notary Public
My Commission Expires:

The McDuffie County Board of Commissioners held a Regular Commission Meeting Tuesday evening, March 15, 2011, 6:30 PM, Grand Jury Room, McDuffie County Courthouse.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

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

COUNTY REPRESENTATION

Don Norton, County Manager
Penny Salley, County Clerk
Pam Workman, Finance Director
Eric Reisinger, Public Works Director
Fred Guarrant, Planning and Zoning Director
Linda Thurmond, Chief Tax Appraiser

MEDIA

WTHO
McDuffie Progress

OTHER

Two (2) Others Attended

PUBLIC INPUT

None

ZONING ISSUES

Monroe J. Matherly – Reduction in front footage – Huff's Bridge Rd.

Guarrant summarized for the Board an application which he received from Monroe Matherly requesting a reduction in the minimum required road frontage for his 26.61 acre parcel (67-21-B) located on the east side of Huff's Bridge Road. Guarrant familiarized the Board with the surrounding property uses, structure uses, zoning classification and indicated that it was the Matherly's request that, due to extenuating circumstances, the Board allow a reduction in road frontage from 300' to the current 107.48' in order to allow a second residence to be placed on the 26 acres for their daughter and her two children. Guarrant stated that in the Planning Commission meeting the Matherly's indicated that they had attempted to purchase additional frontage without success. He informed the Board that he had received no public comment regarding the application.

The Planning Commission recommended conditional approval of the request provided that; a.) the new residence shall be occupied by family members only (i.e. no rental), and, b.) there be no future variance applications considered regarding this same property.

Adjournment: 6:35 PM

COMMISSION MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

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

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner 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 Wilson, seconded by Jopling and passed unanimously.

Add Executive Session: Topic of Discussion - Personnel

Minutes (Regular Mtg. 3/2/11)

A motion to approve the minutes of the regular Commission Meeting held 3/2/11 was made by Jopling, seconded by Wilson and passed unanimously.

INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Boys and Girls Club Steak and Burger Dinner March 2011
2. Spring Trash Amnesty Day March 26th

OLD BUSINESS

1. Government Center – Landscape – Installation of Sod

Chairman Newton made the recommendation to allow Whitestone to install 100% sod from the front sidewalk east, with a small portion of hydro seeding at the back of the property at a cost of \$7,189.00, which is an approximate \$1,400.00 credit from the original contract. Amending the contract removes all grassing from the front sidewalk west, Whitestone will be responsible for the preparation (fine grading) for the installation of sod from the front sidewalk west.

After discussion a motion was made by Jopling to amend Whitestone's contract, for a credit of \$1,400.00, to include 100% sod from the front sidewalk east, with a small portion of hydro seeding at the back of the property and remove all grassing from the front sidewalk west, seconded by Wilson and passed unanimously.

Chairman Newton also made the recommendation to allow the City/County to purchase and install sod in the approximately 50,000 sq. ft. area from the front sidewalk west. McCorkle stated that after measuring with a walking wheel the actual square footage of the area is 122,000. McCorkle made the recommendation to allow Whitestone to seed the entire area, Newton has concerns that, if the area is seeded, it will take several years to produce grass and the area would be unsightly and unusable during that time. Chairman Newton feels that the installation of sod would produce a more complete project. The installation would be done by the County prison crew and city workers, with the possibility of finding volunteers to assist. County workers will be used when available.

After discussion a motion was made by Jopling to approve the purchase of sod to be used in the 122,000 sq. ft. area from the front sidewalk west, not to exceed \$15,000, to be paid from Owner Contingency and to be installed by the County prison crew and City workers, County workers will be used when available, seconded by McCorkle and passed unanimously.

2. Government Center-Location Sign

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

Don presented several lettering options for the location sign at the Government Center. He made the recommendation of using the 6" lettering option. Don stated that according to Jud it would be approximately \$1,500.00 to make the top portion of the sign larger to accommodate the larger lettering. Chairman Newton has asked Don to get a cost from Jud to make the sign (base and top portion) larger and phone poll the Commissioners for approval, before moving forward.

After discussion a motion was made by Wilson to place the 6" all capital lettering on the sign, once the sign has been approved, seconded by McCorkle and passed unanimously.

3. Discuss TIA 2010 (T-SPLOST) List

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

Don presented the regional project list that is to be forwarded to the CSRA RC for consideration of T-SPLOST funds. Chairman Newton stated that the list had to be turned into DOT by March 31st. The list will be reviewed and returned to the County for consideration and the decision for the projects will be made by the T-SPLOST Executive Committee, which includes representatives from the 13 CSRA RC counties.

There was no action taken at this time.

4. Discuss Proposed Human Resources Policy

Chairman Newton asked Bill Jopling, Commissioner, to address this matter.

Bill presented the following proposed changes to be included in the new Human Resources Policy:

Holidays

Currently County gets 11 - City gets nine. The County has Veterans Day and a third day at Christmas, all others the same.

Proposal: City will consider addition of Veteran's Day and a "floating" holiday. County will change the third day at Christmas to a "floating" holiday.

Result: All Holidays for the City and County will be standardized.

Annual Leave Accruals

<u>Current County</u>		<u>Current City</u>		<u>Proposal</u>	
0-5 Yrs	80hrs	0-2 Yrs	40 hrs	0-2 Yrs	40hrs*
6-15 Yrs	120 hrs	3-4 Yrs	80 hrs	3-4 Yrs	80 hrs
16 & above	160 hrs	5-14 Yrs	120 hrs	5-14 Yrs	120 hrs
		15 & above	160 hrs	15 & above	160 hrs

*This lesser rate for 0-2 years for county employees will only be effective for new employees- those hired after the adoption of this new policy. All others will be "grandfathered" under the old policy.

Result: Slight "loss" by new employees of the County (only those hired after adoption of this policy) and then only for the first two (2) years of employment. However, slight "gain" by County employees when they hit their 5th anniversary and 15th anniversary. (I.e. they get the higher accrual rate one year earlier in each case.)

Sick Leave Accrual

County currently gets 10 days sick leave per year-City gets 12 days per year.

Proposal: County to get same as City.

Result: Both City and County employees will earn 12 days of sick leave per year. With proper supervisory oversight, should not have much negative effect or cost.

Funeral (Bereavement) Leave

County has variable scale of two (2) to five (5) days (depending on what relative has passed. City uses a standard three (3) days.

Proposal: No change at this time since thankfully this type of leave is not required that often. If it must be standardized at some time in the future, it is believed either approach is acceptable.

Result: Basically it seems to be a "non-issue" as it is currently.

After discussion a motion was made by Jopling to approve the above proposed changes only, and not the entire policy, seconded by McCorkle and passed unanimously.

The adoption of the actual policy will be further discussed at the April 4, 2011 work session.

5. Discuss Current Special Account Expenditures

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

Don stated that there are currently two invoices that need to be paid from the Special Account. He has also made the recommendation that the Board approve the City 2009 CDBG remaining project match/leverage in the amount of \$80,740.00 and 2010 CDBG remaining project match/leverage in the amount of \$40,315.00, as opposed to having to present each invoice for these projects. The money has previously been pledged as a match and leverage for these programs.

The following invoices have been brought to the Board for approval:

Civil Design Solutions, LLC for Professional Engineering Services/City 2009 CDBG	\$2,283.30
Civil Design Solutions, LLC for Professional Engineering Services/City 2010 CDBG	\$9,299.25

A motion was made by Jopling to approve the above expenditures only in the amount of \$11,582.55 to Civil Design Solutions, LLC, to be paid out of the Special Account, seconded by Wilson and passed with a three to two vote, with Commissioners McCorkle and Favors opposed.

McCorkle and Favors have questions regarding what the money could be used for and why it was moved and designated to water and sewer without Board approval. Chairman Newton explained that the money was originally and officially designated for water and sewer projects by the voters. McCorkle and Favors feel that the money could be used for other projects, not only water and sewer projects.

McCorkle made a motion to not approve any more payments from the Special Account until issues are resolved, seconded by Favors and passed with a three to two vote with Commissioners Jopling and Newton opposed.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Planning Board Recommendations: Reduction in front footage – Huff's Bridge Rd.

Chairman Newton asked the Board for their response regarding the application received from Monroe Matherly requesting a reduction of front footage

A motion was made by McCorkle to uphold the recommendation of the Planning Board to approve the zoning change application with stipulation, seconded by Jopling and passed unanimously.

2. Discuss Iron Hill Road Damage

Chairman Newton asked Eric Reisinger, Public Works Director, to address this matter.

Eric brought to the Boards attention the condition of Iron Hill Road, specifically the intersection of Ft. Creek Road to the intersection of Ellington Airline Road. He stated that the damage and condition of the road is a direct result of exceeding the weight limit restrictions and that tractor trailers being operated by Imery's Mining Operation far exceed the 56,000 pound design weight of this road. The cost of repairs will continue to increase as the road ages and the weight limit is exceeded. Eric has requested approval to enter in discussion with Imery's Mining Operation to request assistance in repairing the road due to the damage that has been caused by their trucks. Eric has received an estimate in the amount of \$379,000.00 from Reeve's Construction for repairs to the road.

Chairman Newton has made the recommendation to change the truck route and allow them to use Ft. Creek Road instead of Iron Hill Road. He has asked Eric to get information from DOT on weight limits for Ft. Creek Road. Chairman Newton further instructed Eric to speak with Imery's Mining Operation and make them aware of the following options:

1. Truck Route-Ft. Creek Road, with a reduced load, in order to cross the bridge.
2. Weight limit not to exceed 56,000 lbs. on Iron Hill Road.
3. Agree to significant funding when the mining operation is complete in 1 ½ years and the County will continue to allow them to operate as usual.

No action was taken at this time. Eric is to report back at the April 4, 2011 Commission Meeting.

3. Monthly Budget Report – February 2011

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

Don reported that as of February 28 2011, with 16.7% of the year lapsed, the County had collected \$1,237,863.30 or 10% of the projected YTD revenue for the General Fund. With 16.7% of the year lapsed, the YTD General Fund Expenditures were \$2,027,382.76 or 16.8%, but this amount included the one time expenditure for pension across the board.

4. Monthly Financial Report – February 2011

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

Pam Workman, reported on all bank accounts showing a grand total of \$15,761,192 as of February 28, 2011; Hotel/Motel revenue reflects a YTD \$22,549 or a total of 12.11% more than on the same date in 2010; Local Option Sales Tax Collections are YTD \$374,907 or a total of 1.40% increase from the same date in 2010; SPLOST IV Revenue/Expenditures report a cumulative revenue total of \$17,818,007 with a balance of \$161,802 plus \$490,110.00 interest earnings; SPLOST V revenues reflect \$7,125,460 as of February 28, 2011; expenditures are \$2,022,847. Of the \$17,655,000.00 in Bond Construction Funds for the new Government Center Project, \$14,150,737.60 had been spent as of February 28, 2011.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

Topic of Discussion: Personnel


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

McDUFFIE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


 Charles G. Newton IV, Chairman

ATTEST:


 Penny Salley, County Clerk