

MACON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
JULY 12, 2004  
MINUTES

Chairman West convened the meeting at 6 p.m. All Board Members, the County Manager, County Attorney, Staff Attorney, Deputy Clerk, County Finance Director, members of the news media and interested citizens were present. Rev. Harold Ball from First Baptist Church gave the invocation. Chairman West recognized Allan Chase and Brandon Shepherd, Boy Scouts from Troop 202 who are working on their citizenship badge.

MINUTES: Commissioner Shepherd made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 1st public hearing and June 14th meeting as submitted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Leatherman and all favored.

ADDITIONS/ADJUSTMENTS: There were no additions or adjustments to the agenda.

PUBLIC SESSION: Narrelle Kirkland suggested placing a drop box for books in front of the courthouse after the library relocates, suggested purchasing the front acre that is for sale at the airport and landscape an entrance to the airport, questioned if any thought had been given to the Maconian retreat project, suggested a liaison to work with her on the project and updated the board on the Klatt property on Phillips Street.

TANSFER OF PROPERTY TO NANTAHALA FIRE & RESCUE: Upon motion by Commissioner Leatherman, seconded by Commissioner Bryson, the Board unanimously voted to adopt a resolution approving the conveyance of certain real property to Nantahala Volunteer Fire and Rescue, Inc. pursuant to N.C.G.S. §160A-279 per attachment #1.

PANNELL ROAD EASEMENT: Commissioner Shepherd made a motion to adopt a resolution approving the conveyance of right of way for Pannell Road (S.R. 1326) to the North Carolina Department of Transportation pursuant to N.C.G.S. §160A-274 per attachment #2.

OFFER FOR SMOKE RISE LOTS: An offer of \$9,500 from Chuck Buroker to purchase eight lots in Smoke Rise Subdivision obtained by the County through tax foreclosure in 1991 was presented. After discussion Commissioner Bryson made a motion to refuse the offer and make a counter offer of \$13,500, the current tax value. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Simpson and all favored.

NANTAHALA COMMUNITY: Commissioner Leatherman stated the following concerns were expressed at the recent high impact meeting held in Nantahala: need for picnic tables at the recreation park which is already being taken care of; weekend operating hours at the convenience/drop off centers with a suggestion at least one of the centers in Nantahala have the same operating hours as other centers; development of a picnic/recreation area where Wine Springs Creek enters the lake with the first step being to determine who owns the property; due to response time from the deputies when dispatched consideration of a combination of SRO position, EMS position being tied into Sheriff's Department to have a deputy in the community and lack of day care facilities which should be reopening according to MPP because of an increase in numbers. No action was requested at this time but Commissioner Leatherman asked the Board to consider these items.

OUTSTANDING COUNTY COMMISSIONER NOMINATION: Chairman West and Commissioner Bryson noted and expressed appreciation to Commissioner Leatherman for his dedicated service both locally and at the State level and informed the group they had submitted Commissioner Leatherman's name to the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners for Outstanding County Commissioner of the Year. Commissioner Leatherman stated he appreciated the gesture, felt there were others more deserving or the recognition but the people of Macon County were worth all the effort.

APPOINTMENTS: Farmland Preservation Committee - Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson and seconded by Commissioner Bryson the Board unanimously voted to appoint Jerry Sutton to the Farmland Preservation Committee with a term to expire May 31, 2007. Nursing & Adult Care Home Advisory Committee - Commissioner Bryson made a motion to appoint Velma Zeek to the Nursing and Adult

Care Home Advisory Committee to fill the unexpired term of Margaret Ramsey who resigned. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Leatherman and all favored. Term will expire August 31, 2005. Juvenile Crime Prevention Commission: Upon motion by Commissioner Bryson and seconded by Commissioner Simpson the Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation to add the following three positions to the JCPC: Belinda Anderson as a commissioner appointee with a term to expire June 30, 2007, the director or designee of the SOS (Support our Students) Program and a representative of a Civic/Nonprofit group (currently to be filled by a Boy Scout representative). Nantahala Recreation Commission: Commissioner Leatherman reported he is still waiting for a response and requested appointments to the Nantahala Recreation Commission be delayed until the August meeting.

TAX DEPARTMENT: Delinquent Tax Collections - Upon motion by Commissioner Bryson and seconded by Commissioner Simpson the Board unanimously voted to adopt a resolution directing the procedures to collect delinquent taxes per attachment #4. Releases - Tax releases in the amount of \$4,901.40 were unanimously approved as submitted upon motion by Commissioner Leatherman and seconded by Commissioner Shepherd. (A computer printout of releases is on file in the Tax Department and the County Manager's Office.)

FINANCE: Project Ordinance - Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson and seconded by Commissioner Leatherman the Board unanimously voted to adopt the Recreational Trails Grant Project Ordinance per attachment #5. Budget revisions: The following budget revisions were unanimously approved: revision #174, upon motion by Commissioner Bryson and seconded by Commissioner Shepherd, aligning various appropriations to final expenditures; revision #175, upon motion by Commissioner Leatherman and seconded by Commissioner Simpson, appropriating \$2,998 to JCPC for golf tournament proceeds; revision #176, upon motion by Commissioner Simpson and seconded by Commissioner Bryson, appropriating general fund contribution to the Sheriff's Department; revision #177, upon motion by Commissioner Bryson and seconded by Commissioner Leatherman, appropriating \$4,716 drug forfeiture funds; revision #178, upon motion by Commissioner Shepherd and seconded by Commissioner Leatherman, appropriating \$7,840 in Highlands Gym Capital Project; revision #179, upon motion by Commissioner Bryson and seconded by Commissioner Simpson, correct budget amendment #68 (debt service); revision #180, upon motion by Commissioner Shepherd and seconded by Commissioner Simpson, aligning debt service transfers to funds received; revision #181, upon motion by Commissioner Leatherman and seconded by Commissioner Shepherd, appropriating additional school debt service and correcting budget revision #169; revision #182, upon motion by Commissioner Simpson and seconded by Commissioner Bryson, appropriating additional General Fund contribution for close out on Transit Services building; revision #183, upon motion by Commissioner Shepherd and seconded by Commissioner Leatherman, appropriating \$16,329 additional funding for SCC Law Enforcement Facility; revision #184, upon motion by Commissioner Bryson and seconded by Commissioner Leatherman, appropriating \$200,000 additional revues from various funds for health insurance and revision #185, upon motion by Commissioner Simpson and seconded by Commissioner Bryson, appropriating \$5,000 additional funding to Macon County Airport Authority to be reduced in FY 2005. (Note: revisions with corresponding numbers attached.)

CLOSED SESSION: Upon motion by Commissioner Bryson and seconded by Commissioner Leatherman the Board unanimously voted to go into closed session to discuss a matter of potential litigation dealing with a contractual matter. During closed session the above referenced matter was discussed. It was agreed the County Attorney would be designated as spokes person in the matter and no comments should be made by anyone due to potential litigation. The County Attorney was also instructed to proceed with obtaining legal experts in the matter. No formal action was taken and upon motion by Commissioner Leatherman and seconded by Commissioner Bryson the Board unanimously voted to return to regular session.

ADJOURNMENT: Being no further business the meeting was adjourned upon motion by Commissioner Simpson and seconded by Commissioner Shepherd.

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Sam K. Greenwood, County Manager  
Clerk to the Board

Mark B. West  
Board Chairman

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