

**MACON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CALLED MEETING – 8 A.M.
SEPTEMBER 9, 2011
MINUTES**

Chairman McClellan convened the called meeting at 8:04 a.m. in the Commissioners' Boardroom on the third floor of the courthouse as noticed. All Board Members (with the exception of Commissioner Corbin), the County Manager, Deputy Clerk, Finance Director, County Attorney and members of the news media were present.

Chairman McClellan explained that there was only one item – property acquisition – on the agenda, and asked the County Manager to update the board on the situation.

As background, the County Manager explained that, years ago, once the school system moved into the new Cartoogechaye School, it offered the old school building to the county, but at that time, the board declined it due to the price (approximately \$1 million). The Board of Education subsequently put the property up for sale, but rejected the bids it received, and the property has seen limited use since then. Meanwhile, the county recreation department has been looking for space for new ball fields.

The Board of Education has recently received an offer of \$235,000 for the property, and has advertised the upset bid process for the required 10-day period, which ends today (September 9). The County Manager said he felt it would be good for the board to discuss the idea of submitting its own upset bid.

The County Attorney explained that due to the wording of the state statute – which requires an upset bid to be at least 5 percent more – the board would need to bid a minimum of \$246,800. Commissioner Beale outlined his vision for the property and said he would support upsetting the bid one time, as did Commissioner Koppers.

The County Manager reminded the board that school officials had recently appeared before them requesting funding to update and replace aging computers, and Commissioner Haven said that obtaining the property from the school system would be a win-win for the students in that they would get practice fields for sports and the money would go back to the schools.

Chairman McClellan said that Commissioner Corbin, who was out of town, was supportive of an upset bid up to \$250,000.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Beale, seconded by Commissioner Koppers, the board voted unanimously to give the County Manager and the County Attorney the authority to place an upset bid for the old Cartoogechaye School property in the amount of \$247,000, with the bid and the accompanying deposit to be submitted on this date. The Finance Director clarified that the funds would come from contingency.

With no other business, Chairman McClellan adjourned the meeting at 8:32 a.m.

Jack Horton, County Manager
Clerk to the Board

Brian McClellan
Board Chairman