

MACON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
JUNE 6, 2005  
MINUTES

Chairman Bryson convened the meeting at 6 p.m. in the new board room on the third floor of the Courthouse. All Board Members, the County Manager, County Attorney, Staff Attorney, Finance Director, Deputy Clerk, members of the news media and interested citizens were present. Commissioner Shepherd gave the invocation.

MINUTES: Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Shepherd, the Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the May 2nd and 23rd meetings as submitted.

ADDITIONS/ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA: Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson and seconded by Commissioner Davis the Board unanimously voted to add a financing issue to the agenda. Upon motion by Commissioner Leatherman and seconded by Commissioner Shepherd the Board unanimously voted to add an offer to purchase as item 9-D/Legal.

RESIGNATION OF COUNTY ATTORNEY: Richard S. Jones, Jr. who has served as County Attorney since 1969 submitted his resignation letter per attachment #1. (It was noted a retirement reception for Mr. Jones would be held at 7:30 p.m.)

SCC LEADERSHIP CLASS: Hank Shuler stated members of the 2005 leadership class were present to explain their projects and commended Kathy McGaha, a member of the 2003 leadership class, for successfully writing a \$67,468 PARTF Grant for the Greenway. Guindy Stewman gave a power point presentation on construction of two barbeque pits at the Big Bear Greenway Shelter her group did as their project and M.R. Hall explained a program her group is implementing for Middle School students in cooperation with REACH. The Board commended the group for their contributions and involvement.

PUBLIC SESSION: Darlene McDowell expressed appreciation to the Board for their continued support of education stating students need resources, talents, etc. to become productive citizens. Carole Rogers informed the Board animal abuse is getting worse and being ignored because nobody seems to care. She urged the County to put something in place to protect children and animals.

Shelia Myers expressed concerns about the lack of animal control in the county, stated the Humane Society had offered their shelter to the county, questioned what the Board was going to do adding that they need to do something and she hoped for a solution soon.

Norm Roberts read a letter he was sending to the editor of local papers concerning confusion surrounding the scheduled time of the public hearing and questioned if the county manager manipulated the time so those in support of the budget would be present and those with critical comments were too late to be heard. Chairman Bryson stated he would allow comments on the proposed budget at this particular time if anyone wished to do so.

Jerry Arnold, principal of Cartoogechaye School, thanked the Board for being progressive and expressed appreciation for support of quality teachers and technology in the schools.

Narell Kirkland distributed copies of the Peek's Creek Video and stated it was now available.

BUDGET ORDINANCE: Upon motion by Commissioner Leatherman and seconded by Commissioner Simpson the Board unanimously voted to approve the FY 2005/2006 budget and adopt the attached budget ordinance. (Attachment #2.) Prior to adoption Chairman Bryson gave each Board Member an opportunity to make comments on the budget.

STATE PAY PLAN: Human Resource Director Gary Nicholson presented the FY 2005/2006 State Pay Plan for competitive service employees (Health and Social Services). Upon a motion by Commissioner Simpson and seconded by Commissioner Leatherman the Board unanimously voted to approve the plan as submitted. (A copy is on file in the Human Resource Office.)

CRISIS HOUSING ASSISTANCE FUNDS: Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson and seconded by Commissioner Davis the Board unanimously voted to adopt the attached resolution authorizing the filing of an application for crisis housing assistance funds relating to damages from Hurricane Ivan. (Attachment # 3) Commissioner Shepherd made a motion to adopt a resolution designating County Manager Sam Greenwood as the Primary Agent and Emergency Management Director Warren Cabe as the Secondary Agent to execute and file applications for federal and/or state assistance for disaster relief and emergency assistance per attachment #4.

OTTO SCHOOL: In accordance with general statutes the Board of Education informed the Board of their intent to dispose of the Otto School Complex and offered it to the county for purchase. Upon motion by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Leatherman the Board unanimously voted to decline the offer.

LEGAL: Offer to purchase finalization - Upon motion by Commissioner Leatherman and seconded by Commissioner Simpson the Board unanimously voted to adopt a resolution finalizing the offer to purchase parcel #01-00087 by Gail Hansen. (Attachment #5)

Easement/Balsam West - Commissioner Simpson made a motion to approve an easement to Balsam West for fiber optic cable serving the library. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Shepherd and all favored. (Attachment #6)

Sexually Oriented Business Ordinance - The Staff Attorney presented a draft of the Sexually Oriented Business Ordinance. After discussion Commissioner Simpson made a motion to accept the draft and schedule a public hearing to be held at the July meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Davis and all favored. (A copy of the draft ordinance is on file in the Office of the Staff Attorney and County Manager's Office.)

Offer to purchase Smokerise lots and parcel #0301989 - Offers from Duc Properties LLC to purchase eight lots in Smokerise Subdivision at \$13,500 and a one acre tract (parcel #0301989) located in Ellijay Township for \$2,850 were presented. It was noted these properties were obtained through tax foreclosure in the early 90's and offers are the current tax values. Commissioner Simpson made a motion to accept the offers as negotiated offers and authorize advertisement for upset bids as required by general statute. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Davis and all favored. Offer to purchase Lot #13, Copeland Subdivision - An offer from Ricky and Kathy Snyder to purchase Lot #13, Copeland Subdivision (Parcel #1100576) for \$6,000 was presented.

The Staff Attorney stated an offer from the Snyders had previously been rejected and a counter offer of the tax value, \$8,980, had been made.

Commissioner Simpson made a motion to reject the offer since it was below the tax value. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Davis and all favored.

APPOINTMENTS: Farmland Preservation - Commissioner Simpson made a motion to reappoint John McCall to the Farmland Preservation Committee and to appoint Ricky James to replace Troy Dalrymple who has served the maximum number of terms. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Shepherd and all favored. Terms will expire May 31, 2008. Health Board - Commissioner Simpson made a motion to accept the recommendation to make the following appointments to the Health Board: reappoint John Hourdequin representing engineers,

Dr. Scott Petty representing physicians and to appoint Dr. David Silverstein

as the dental representative replacing Dr. Robert Richeson who has served the maximum number of terms. Terms will expire June 30, 2008. Also included in the motion was to appoint Dr. Roy Lenzo representing Veterinarians to replace Dr. Charlie Enloe who has not attended any meetings nor responded to communication since his appointment. Term will expire January 1, 2008. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Davis and all favored.

Industrial Facilities and Pollution Control Financing Authority (Bond Authority) - Commissioner Leatherman made a motion to waive term limitations and reappoint Roger Plemons, Joe Collins, Nolan Smathers, Mike Morgan and Bobby Corbin to the Bond Authority. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Shepherd and all favored. Terms will expire June 30, 2008.

Juvenile Crime Prevention Council - Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson and seconded by Commissioner Shepherd the Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation to redesignate a member of the faith community, two persons under age twenty-one (Nicole Anderson and Conner Sim), a representative of the United Way or other nonprofit and a Parks/Recreation representative to the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council. It was noted designated agencies will name their representatives.

Library Board of Trustees - A recommendation that Vince West be appointed to replace Christ Baldwin as the Nantahala representative on the Library Board of Trustees was unanimously approved upon motion by Commissioner Shepherd and seconded by Commissioner Leatherman. Term will expire February 28, 2006.

JULY MEETING: Commissioner Simpson made a motion to change the July meeting from Monday July 4th to Monday July 11th at 6 p.m. due to Independence Day. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Leatherman and all favored.

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM: County Manager Sam Greenwood had previously provided information to the Board on the creation of a Community Economic Development Program which would offer opportunity to the County to pursue turning the standard housing and rehab programs into much more intensive and job producing programs. Mr. Greenwood explained this would necessarily require consolidation of housing related programs which is within the statutory powers of the County Commissioners. After discussion Commissioner Shepherd made a motion to move in the direction of consolidation of housing programs and to authorize the County Manager to develop a proposal for finalization with a report and recommendation on structure of the consolidation to be presented at the July meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Davis and all favored.

TAX RELEASES: Upon motion by Commissioner Davis and seconded by Commissioner Leatherman the Board unanimously voted to approve tax releases in the amount of \$810.78 as presented. (A printout of releases is on file in the Tax Collectors Office and the County Manager's Office.)

FINANCE: The following budget revisions were unanimously approved:  
revision #100, upon motion by Commissioner Simpson and seconded by Commissioner Davis, appropriating \$2,500 Criminal Justice Partnership funds;  
revision #101, upon motion by Commissioner Leatherman and seconded by Commissioner Shepherd, appropriating \$2,000 increase in BCCP Health funds;  
revision #102, upon motion by Commissioner Shepherd and seconded by Commissioner Leatherman, appropriating \$277 increase in Family Planning Health funds;  
revision #103, upon motion by Commissioner Simpson and seconded by Commissioner Leatherman, appropriating \$9,550 insurance settlement for Sheriff's Department vehicle;  
revision #104, upon motion by Commissioner Simpson and seconded by Commissioner Davis, appropriating \$2,625 insurance settlement for Transit Service vehicle;  
and revision #105, upon motion by Commissioner Leatherman and seconded by Commissioner Shepherd, appropriating contributions of \$2,000 for DOA travel expenditures. (Note: revisions with corresponding numbers attached.)

RECESS: The meeting recessed to the Grand Jury Room on the fourth floor for a retirement reception in honor of Richard S. Jones, retiring County Attorney and then to 6 p.m. on June 13th for a continuation meeting.

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Sam K. Greenwood, County Manager  
Clerk to the Board

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Daniel A. Bryson  
Board Chairman

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