

**MACON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CALLED MEETING
APRIL 4, 2013 – 7 P.M.
MINUTES**

Chairman Corbin called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. All Board Members with the exception of Commissioner Haven, the County Manager, Deputy Clerk, Finance Director, County Attorney, and one member of the news media were present.

Chairman Corbin explained that the purpose of the special meeting was to consider bids received for the Highlands School renovation project, and he deferred to the County Attorney for further details. The County Attorney said that state law requires that a job of this size be advertised for bids, and that no such advertisement had been published. The failure to advertise calls into question the legality of the bid process, and the County Attorney recommended that the county reject the bids that have been received and start the process over again. He noted the board may reject the bids if it determines that it is in the best interest of the county to do so, due specifically to the project not being properly advertised, which calls into question the legality of the bid process. Commissioner Beale made a motion that the board determines that it is in the best interests of the county to reject the bids received due to the failure to advertise which calls into question the legality of the bid process and to reject the bids based upon that determination, and that motion was seconded by Commissioner Tate. Chairman Corbin asked for further discussion, and the County Manager explained that the county had advertised a prequalification process for bidders for the project, with the county receiving five submissions, four of which were qualified. He also noted that all four that qualified turned in bids on the project, and that the county stipulated that a contractor prequalify in order to bid. However, the architect on the project failed to publish the necessary bid advertisement. He added that this will cost the county two weeks of time on the renovations, but that he hoped the work could still be completed

prior to the opening of the new school year in August. Chairman Corbin stated that he was not happy with the delay, but given the circumstances, the right thing to do was to reject the bids, and the board voted unanimously in favor of said motion.

Upon a motion by Commissioner Tate, seconded by Commissioner Higdon, the board voted unanimously to authorize staff to advertise for bids on the Highlands school renovation project. The County Manager pointed out that the schedule called for bids to be opened on April 22nd at 3 p.m. and that the board would be able to consider awarding the bid at a meeting on April 23rd.

With no other business and upon a motion by Commissioner Beale, seconded by Commissioner Tate, the board voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:15 p.m.

Jack Horton, County Manager
Clerk to the Board

Kevin Corbin
Board Chairman