

MACON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
NOVEMBER 4, 2002  
MINUTES

Chairman Corbin convened the meeting at 9 a.m. All Board Members, the County Manager, County Attorney, Deputy Clerk, finance officer, members of the news media and interested citizens were present. Rev. John Makinson from Franklin Covenant Church gave the invocation. Chairman Corbin expressed his appreciation to his fellow board members for their hard work and dedication during his four-year tenure.

MINUTES: Upon a motion by Commissioner Greene and seconded by Commissioner Bryson the minutes from the October 7, 2002 meeting were unanimously approved as submitted.

PUBLIC SESSION

Narella Kirkland stated when she came to Macon County Chairman Corbin was the first person to speak to her, she has attended every Commission meeting but one since moving here in February, that this Board has shown strength and strong leadership and expressed appreciation to the outgoing board members for excellent leadership.

FINANCE: GFOA Presentation - Chairman Corbin presented the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for FY 2001 from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada to Finance Director Kim Woodley who expressed appreciation to her staff and county department heads for their support and assistance in making the award possible. Audit - Brian Starnes from Martin Starnes and Associates presented the county audit for the period ending June 30, 2002 giving an unqualified opinion and complimenting the county on their sound fiscal position. (A copy of the audit is on file in the Finance and County Manager's Offices.) Budget revisions - Budget revisions were unanimously approved as follows: revision #46, upon a motion by Commissioner Bryson and seconded by Commissioner Greene, budgeting a \$1,200 donation to the Health Department; revision # 47, upon a motion by Commissioner Leatherman and seconded by Commissioner Greene, increasing DSS state funds by \$951; revision #48, upon a motion by Commissioner Bryson and seconded by Commissioner West, appropriating the final \$19,776 for school athletic facilities; revision #49, upon a motion by Commissioner Greene and seconded by Commissioner Leatherman, appropriating \$5,418 to county buildings capital project fund for completion of old health building; revision #50, upon a motion by Commissioner West and seconded by Commissioner Greene, appropriating additional funding to county capital projects fund for completion of the Nantahala EMS facility and revision #51, upon a motion by Commissioner Bryson and seconded by Commissioner West, appropriating \$7,500 in the 441-South water/sewer capital project. (Note: copies of revisions with corresponding numbers are attached.)

HEALTH DEPARTMENT: Terrell Jones from NCDENR and local Health Director Ken Ring gave an update on the State's plans to being surveys of properties on Lake Sequoyah and possibly Nantahala Lake and the Little Tennessee River for straight piping and failed septic repair systems. Mr. Jones explained funding for the survey will be provided by the Clean Water Management Trust Fund and the U.S. EPA with a three-year plan. Mr. Ring noted this project will affect the Health Department by providing funds for staff to perform improvement permits and final inspections of septic systems of the mentioned waterways and he anticipated using current staff with no additional personnel. No action was necessary.

SOLID WASTE: J & B Disposal Services - Joe Hamstra, owner of J & B Disposal Services, presented a letter of intent from Republic Services, Inc. regarding the proposed purchase of substantially all of the assets of J&B by Republic. No formal action was required at this time and Mr. Hamstra was instructed to work with the County Manager and County Attorney on the details.

FINANCE/SCHOOLS: A request from the Board of Education for permission to apply \$41,312.74 of allocations for Franklin High School in school package A toward bleachers purchased as part of the football stadium renovations was presented. The general consensus of the Board was that the School Board sets their funding priorities and if this is a priority should be approved as requested. Commissioner West made a motion to approve the request based on the assumption this is a priority of the School Board. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bryson and all favored.

SOLID WASTE: Chris Stahl presented bids received and opened on September 27, 2002 for groundwater testing at all county landfill (operating and closed) facilities with a recommendation that the bid from Altamont Environmental be accepted. Mr. Stahl noted this was the second lowest bid but the services include some services already being provided to the county by Altamont that would reduce county cost and the scope of services is of a higher quality that could protect the county from future liability. The County Attorney advised Mr. Stahl's explanation was proper justification to accept the higher bid. Upon a motion by Commissioner Greene and seconded by Commissioner Leatherman the Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation as presented. (Note: bid tally and specifications are on file in the Solid Waste Management Office.)

MPP HOUSING PROJECT SUBORDINATION AGREEMENT: MPP Housing Coordinator Rick Norton presented a Subordination Agreement for Debra A. Jarvis who received property improvements funded by CDBG money and now wishes to obtain a loan using the property as collateral. The County Attorney explained why the lending institution requires the agreement and advised there were no legal reasons the county should not approve it. Upon a motion by Commissioner Greene and seconded by Commissioner Leatherman the Board unanimously approved the agreement and authorized the Chairman to execute the necessary documents per attachment #1.

NCDOT/KINGS ROAD: Upon a motion by Commissioner Greene and seconded by Commissioner West the Board unanimously voted to forward the N.C. Department of Transportation a resolution recommending Kings Road be added to the Secondary Road System for maintenance per information from DOT. Attachment #2.

CAPITOL PROJECTS: Courthouse renovations - County Manager Greenwood presented a proposal from Ritter Architecture, P.A. for comprehensive architectural services for courthouse renovations per attachment #3. Mr. Greenwood also advised not included in the proposal was updating or replacing the HVAC system in the courthouse noting the original system is still in place. Commissioner Greene made a motion that the existing courthouse HVAC system be replaced with a new up-to-date system. The motion was seconded by Commissioner West and all favored. Upon a motion by Commissioner Greene and seconded by Commissioner Bryson the County Manager was unanimously authorized to enter into a contract with Ritter Architecture/SUD Associates for courthouse renovations including the HVAC system but does not include a security/sally port entrance. Recreation Park pool renovations - The County Manager reported the pool at the Franklin Recreation Park is in need of repairs before the pool can open next summer at a cost of approximately \$85,000. Commissioner Greene made a motion to authorize getting proposals and accepting the lowest cost to make the repairs. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Leatherman and all favored.

DAY REPORTING CENTER: The County Manager stated the County has received notification from the State that funding for the Day Reporting Center would be cut and, based on that information, the local center was closed; however, the State has now allocated \$33,281 for the current year. Mr. Greenwood added the CJPC Committee has met and voted to reopen the office and advertise the position. He advised accepting the recommendation with caution that program cuts may further reduce the \$33,281 and there are no absolute guarantees that the program may extend beyond the current fiscal year. Upon a motion by Commissioner Leatherman and seconded by Commissioner Bryson the Board unanimously voted to amend the budget, advertise the position and reopen the office.

TAX RELEASES: Upon a motion by Commissioner Bryson and seconded by Commissioner West the Board unanimously voted to approve tax releases in the amount of \$5,881.41 as submitted.

COIN/GRIBBLE PROPERTY: The County Attorney advised no upset bids had been received on the negotiated offer to purchase the Coin/Gribble property. Based on this information Commissioner Greene made a motion to accept the offer to purchase Tracts 1, 2 and 3 of the Coin/Gribble property at \$409,171 made on behalf of James Carter Mason, et. als. as presented at the October meeting and to authorize the Chairman and County Manager to execute the necessary documents. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bryson and all favored.

PUBLIC HEARING: Chairman Corbin stated, after proper advertisement and posting, no one requested a public hearing on the proposed Community Transportation Application.

CLOSED SESSION: The County Attorney advised two items that involved existing or potential litigation dealing with real property in the area of the Department on Aging building and existing litigation Macon County has joined with Southwestern Community College against APAC needed to be discussed in closed session. Commissioner West made a motion to go into closed session to discuss the above referenced items. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Leatherman and all favored. During closed session the County Attorney briefed the Board on the above referenced items. No action was taken and Commissioner Greene made a motion to return to regular session. The motion was seconded by Commissioner West and all favored.

RECESS: Upon a motion by Commissioner Leatherman and seconded by Commissioner Bryson the Board unanimously voted to recess until 9 a.m. on Monday, November 18, 2002.

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Sam K. Greenwood, County Manager  
Ex Officio Clerk to the Board

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Harold P. Corbin  
Board Chairman

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