

MACON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OCTOBER 6, 2003
MINUTES

Chairman West convened the meeting at 6 p.m. All Board Members, the County Manager, County Attorney, Deputy Clerk, County Finance Director, members of the news media and interested citizens were present. Rev. Lynn Dulakis from Holly Springs Baptist Church gave the invocation.

MINUTES: Upon a motion by Commissioner Simpson and seconded by Commissioner Shepherd the minutes from the September 8th meeting were approved as submitted.

STAFF ATTORNEY: Chairman West introduced the new staff attorney, Rickey Moorefield.

PUBLIC HEARING - AIRPORT HAZARD ORDINANCE: Chairman West recessed the regular meeting and convened the public hearing on the Airport Hazard Ordinance at 6:05 p.m. as noticed. No one wished to comment and the hearing was adjourned. The meeting reconvened in regular session.

FRANKLIN CHAMBER: Linda Harbuck and Tony Angel from the Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce were present to answer questions on the Annual Occupancy Tax Report for FY 2002/2003 that had been previously submitted to the Board. Mr. Angel made a brief presentation and expressed appreciation for the confidence of the Board in placing the occupancy tax funds with the Chamber. (A copy of the report is on file in the County Manager's Office.)

DIVISION OF COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS: Debra DeBruhl, 30th Judicial District Manager with the Division of Community Corrections (probation), gave an annual report on the unit's activities in the 30th Judicial District. No action was necessary. (A copy of the report is on file in the County Manager's Office.)

LIBRARY: Chairman of the Library Board of Trustees Randolph Bulgin and Librarian Karen Wallace presented statistics on library growth in number of users, volumes, public access computers and programs since the current facility was opened in 1977. Mr. Bulgin stated the Library was outgrowing the current building and the Board of Trustees has discussed several options for expansion. Mr. Bulgin presented a request for authorization to hire a professional consultant at a cost not to exceed \$20,000 to evaluate all three libraries in the county system and make a recommendation. Commissioner Simpson made a motion to fund up to \$20,000 from Contingency and to authorize the Board of Trustees to select a consultant as requested. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Leatherman and all favored.

PUBLIC SESSION: Narelle Kirkland reiterated her offer made at the September meeting to coordinate planting trees on Highway 29 north near Lee Tallent Road to hide the junk yard nearby.

ADDITIONS/ADJUSTMENTS: Upon a motion by Commissioner Bryson and seconded by Commissioner Shepherd the Board unanimously approved the following adjustments to the agenda: add a legal matter as item 14A, change location of the November meeting as 14B, discussion on cell tower application as item 14C, a presentation on a tax matter by Commissioner Leatherman as 14D and deletion of item 11A.

AIRPORT HAZARD ORDINANCE: Airport Authority Chairman Milles Gregory and Engineer Gary Varga were present to answer any questions concerning the proposed Airport Hazard Ordinance and voice support of adoption of the ordinance. Upon a motion by Commissioner Bryson and seconded by Commissioner Shepherd the Board unanimously approved the second reading of the Airport Hazard Ordinance. (Attachment #1.)

REGISTER OF DEEDS: Register of Deeds Adelaide Green presented a request for cutoff time of 4:30 p.m. for the drop off of documents to be recorded. Ms. Green explained they are required to have all documents on temporary index within twenty-four hours before leaving for the day and in addition to closing out the register and balancing for the day her employees are there until at least 5:45 p.m. or later which means they are accumulating overtime. Ms. Green presented information concerning the County

Commission's authority in establishing office hours including a cutoff time for registering instruments earlier than the office's regular closing time. After discussion Commissioner Bryson made a motion to adopt a resolution approving the request effective December 1, 2003 with the Register publicizing the change and sending and posting notifications. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Leatherman and all favored. (Attachment #2.)

TAX RELEASES: Upon a motion by Commissioner Shepherd and seconded by Commissioner Simpson the Board unanimously voted to approve tax releases in the amount of \$3,449.90 as submitted. (A computer printout is on file in the Tax Office and the County Manager's Office.)

FINANCE/SCHOOLS: A request from the Board of Education for release of \$25,000 in Public School Building Capital Funds for upgrade of school technology was unanimously approved upon a motion by Commissioner Bryson and seconded by Commissioner Simpson. (Attachment #3)

PINE GROVE SCHOOL BUILDING: A proposal for a negotiated offer to purchase certain lands, rights, privileges and easements from Macon County, the same being identified as Pine Grove School Property, a/k/a/ Piney Grove Community Center, having been presented to the Board of Commissioners; after full discussion of the terms of such offer, and it appearing to the Board that this property is not necessary for providing any required County functions, and that it would be in the best interest of the citizens of Macon County for this property to be conveyed to the Macon County Preservation Society, Inc. for the consideration that if the Society improve the property, repair and maintain it for historical purposes and for the use and benefit of the citizens of Macon County, and as a polling place for the voters of Sugarfork Township. It was, upon motion of Commissioner Leatherman, seconded by Commissioner Bryson and unanimously approved that the offer of Macon County Preservation Society, Inc., a copy of which is attached to these Minutes, be and the same is hereby accepted as a negotiated offer and the County Manager and County Attorney are hereby authorized and directed to advertise the offer as a negotiated offer for the purchase and sale of said lands as by law provided. (Attachment #4.)

NOVEMBER MEETING: Upon a motion by Commissioner Bryson and seconded by Commissioner Leatherman the Board unanimously voted to hold the November 3rd meeting in Highlands at 6 p.m. at the Highlands Conference Center.

CELL TOWER APPLICATION: Planner Bryon McClure was present to answer questions on the cell tower application from Cingular Wireless ATT Communications and determine if the Commission wanted to require an special conditions as outlined in the county ordinance. No action was taken.

PROPERTY TAX EXCLUSION: Commissioner Leatherman distributed information on tax exclusions for the elderly and permanently disabled persons stating he would like to see income limits removed for permanent residents. He explained the item was presented for informational purposes and he would like the Board to give the item some thought for consideration at a later date.

ADJOURNMENT: Upon a motion by Commissioner Bryson and seconded by Commissioner Simpson the Board unanimously voted to adjourn.

Sam K. Greenwood, County Manager
Ex Officio Clerk to the Board
Minutes
10/06/03
Page #1

Mark B. West
Board Chairman