

**MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
AGENDA SETTING MEETING
JANUARY 25, 2016
6:30 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commission Chairman Anthony Dove
District 1 Commissioner Stanley Thomas
District 2 Commissioner Dewitt "Pete" Bond
District 3 Commissioner Theresa Bettis
District 4 Commissioner John W. Pethel, Sr.
District 5 Commissioner Jim R. Escoe, Sr.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

MEDIA PRESENT:

Zach Mitcham, Madison County Journal

STAFF PRESENT:

Rhonda S. Wooten, County Clerk
Mike Pruett, County Attorney

Chairman Dove called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm, led in the pledge to the American Flag and asked for a moment of silence for the passing away of Jack Finley and Bobby Sanders. Commissioner Pethel asked for a moment of silence for Bill Madden who is in the hospital.

Item No. 1. Approval of minutes:

Minutes of the Regular Business Meeting of January 4, 2016 and Budget Work Session of January 11, 2016. Minutes have been distributed.

On motion by Commissioner Bond and second by Commissioner Thomas the Board approved the minutes of the January 4, 2016 Regular Business Meeting. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

On motion by Commissioner Bond and second by Commissioner Bettis the Board approved the minutes of the January 11, 2016 Budget Work Session. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Bettis and Escoe voted YES. Commissioner Pethel abstained.

Item No. 2. Business Involving Guests, Groups or Multiple Visitors.

None

Item No. 3. Chairman's Report

Chairman Dove advised the Board that the unemployment tax rate was reduced to .52% for 2016.

Chairman Dove stated that he received a report from the Athens office of Department of Veterans Service stating the Madison County veterans were assisted in receiving \$9,099,000 in compensation and pension.

Chairman Dove stated that Madison County EMA Director Johnny Bridges turned in his resignation effective January 31, 2016. He has diligently served our county in this capacity and is ready to retire. Fire Chief Marc Perry has agreed to be the interim Director.

Chairman Dove read a letter from Food Bank Director Bobbie Rooker extending thanks and appreciation to employees of the Government Complex for their support and donations to the Food Bank.

Chairman Dove read a letter from D.O.T. Commissioner Russell McMurry regarding several transportation issues that were discussed during his recent visit.

Chairman Dove stated that the 2016 LMIG check in the amount of \$518,264.95 has been received.

Chairman Dove stated that the Madison County Rotary Club has started receiving electric wheel chairs in conjunction with the ramp building program. He said that if anyone would like to donate a wheel chair, the Rotary Club would be happy to accept.

Item No. 4. Report from Industrial Development and Building Authority. (Marvin White)

Chairman Dove announced the agenda item and recognized Marvin White, Executive Director of the Madison County Industrial Development and Building Authority. Mr. White gave a report of the activities of the ID&BA.

Item No. 5. Statements and Remarks from Citizens on agenda items.

Chairman Dove asked if there were any statements or remarks on an agenda item. No one came forward.

Item No. 6. Citizens input on the 2016 budget.

Chairman Dove asked if anyone would like to speak regarding the proposed 2016 budget.

Library Board Member Victor Johnson addressed the Board regarding the previously submitted request for an increase of \$16,166 to the Library Budget.

Library Board Members Ramona Booth and Mike Moak addressed the Board in support of the request.

Board of Elections Board Member Lisa Mathis addressed the Board requesting consideration of pay raises for the employees in the Board of Elections Office.

Chairman Dove asked if anyone else would like to speak. No one came forward. Chairman Dove said that he meant to say earlier that he appreciated the employees of the Road Department, 911 Office, EMS and

Sheriff's Office for working during the snow last weekend. He said that most employees like the snow and like to get off of work early, but the emergency personnel work during these times.

Item No. 7. Consider allowing ID&BA to receive 2016 TAVT revenue.

Marvin White, Executive Director of the Madison County Industrial Development and Building Authority, addressed the Board requesting that the ID&BA be allowed to receive their percentage of the 2016 Title Ad Valorem Tax.

On motion by Commissioner Escoe and second by Commissioner Bettis the Board voted to approve the request. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Commissioner Thomas asked Mr. White if a water line could be run for a fire hydrant at Neese Sanford Volunteer Fire Department. Mr. White said that the ID&BA could not handle the financial responsibility on their own but would be willing to work with the Board of Commissioners to get it done.

Item No. 8. Consider lease agreement for cell tower. (David Camp)

E911 Director David Camp addressed the Board regarding a lease agreement for a cell tower located at 54 Sam Bruce Road.

On motion by Commissioner Bettis and second by Commissioner Bond the Board voted to approve the lease agreement. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 9. Consider agreement with Code Red for emergency alert system. (David Camp)

E911 Director David Camp addressed the Board regarding an agreement with CodeRED Emergency Notification System, an internet-based software service.

On motion by Commissioner Bond and second by Commissioner Thomas the Board voted to approve the agreement with CodeRED Emergency Notification System. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 10. Discuss new job classifications for Code Enforcement. (Jack Huff)

Code Enforcement Director Jack Huff addressed the Board regarding his request to have Beth Harmon's position be reclassified to Assistant Director. He stated that he will be out of work for several weeks due to an upcoming surgery and that he is also making plans to retire.

Commissioner Bond made a motion to have Ms. Harmon's position changed to a grade 13.5 with a title of Code Enforcement Officer. Commissioner Pethel seconded the motion.

After discussion, on substitute motion by Commissioner Escoe and second by Commissioner Bond the Board voted to have Ms. Harmon's position changed to a grade 14 with a title of Code Enforcement Officer One. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES. Commissioner Bond withdrew his first motion and Commissioner Pethel withdrew his second with no objections.

Item No. 11. Consider appointment of Public Defender for Probate and Magistrate Courts. (Chairman Dove)

County Attorney Mike Pruett presented an Indigent Defense Contract for the Probate and Magistrate Courts naming James W. Webb as the Public Defender.

On motion by Commissioner Escoe and second by Commissioner Thomas the Board voted to approve the contract. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 12. Roads Update

Chairman Dove said that he has looked at the private roads that the commissioners have asked about and Alan will bring information on their findings to the next meeting.

Commissioner Thomas requested that Oak Circle be looked at because of water in the curve, and that a pot hole be repaired on Loyd Nelms Road and trash be picked up on Crabapple Hollow Road all the way through Nowhere Road.

Commissioner Pethel requested that the portion of Hickory Hills Road that is not owned by the county be added to the list of private roads that are being looked at for maintenance.

Commissioner Escoe requested the status of the road striping.

Item No. 13. Urgent Matters

There were no urgent matters.

Item No. 14. Review February 1, 2016 agenda for Regular Business Meeting.

Mrs. Wooten read the February 1, 2016 agenda items.

Item No. 15. Statements and Remarks from Citizens.

Chairman Dove asked if there were any statements or remarks.

John Peck of Diamond Hill Colbert Road addressed the Board requesting to be exempt from taxes due to being a 50% disabled veteran.

Joyce Daniel of Stapler Road addressed the Board requesting that Stapler Road be maintained by the county.

Item No. 16. Executive Session to discuss land acquisition, personnel matters and/or potential litigation (if needed).

There was no need for executive session.

Item No. 17. Adjourn.

On motion by Commissioner Pethel and second by Commissioner Bond, the Board unanimously agreed to adjourn at 8:15 p.m