

**MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
AGENDA SETTING MEETING
DECEMBER 18, 2017
6:30 PM**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commission Chairman John Scarborough
District 1 Commissioner Lee Allen
District 3 Commissioner Theresa Bettis
District 4 Commissioner John W. Pethel, Sr.
District 5 Commissioner Jim R. Escoe, Sr.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

District 2 Commissioner Tripp Strickland

MEDIA PRESENT:

Sharon Hogan, Madison County Journal

STAFF PRESENT:

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

Chairman Scarborough called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., led in the pledge to the American Flag and gave the invocation.

Item No. 1. Approval of minutes:

Minutes of the December 4, 2017 Regular Business Meeting. Minutes have been distributed.

On motion by Commissioner Allen and second by Commissioner Bettis the Board approved the minutes of the December 4, 2017 meeting. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

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

None

Item No. 3. Chairman's Report

No report given

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

Marvin White was unable to attend due to a scheduling conflict with the ID&BA meeting and the B.O.C. meeting being held at the same time. Chairman Scarborough read a report that was submitted by Mr. White.

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

Chairman Scarborough asked if there were any statements or remarks on an agenda item. Melanie Berryman, Ryan Melton and Shirley Aaron each came forward to speak of the valuable and influential Family and Consumer Science position, agenda item number six.

Item No. 6. Consider vacant Family & Consumer Science position. (Adam Speir)

County Extension Agent Adam Speir addressed the Board regarding the vacant Family and Consumer Science position. Mr. Speir requested a salary increase for the position and a continued 60/40 contribution split between Madison County and Oglethorpe County with Madison County's portion to be \$9,600.

On motion by Commissioner Bettis and second by Commissioner Allen the Board voted to approve the salary increase contribution of \$9,600 contingent upon Oglethorpe County's agreement to the 40 percent contribution. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 7. Consider 2018 Beer & Wine License applications. (Chairman Scarborough)

On motion by Commissioner Escoe and second by Commissioner Allen the Board approved the two new Beer and Wine License applications. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 8. Consider scheduling a work session with the Board of Assessors, Chief Appraiser and any staff available. (Commissioner Escoe)

On motion by Commissioner Escoe and second by Commissioner Pethel the Board voted to have Rhonda Wooten schedule a work session with the Board of Assessors, Chief Appraiser and any staff available. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 9. Consider reappointment of Kenneth Bradley to Planning and Zoning Board. (Commissioner Allen)

On motion by Commissioner Allen and second by Commissioner Bettis the Board voted to reappoint Kenneth Bradley to the Planning and Zoning Board. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 10. Discuss intersections on Highway 72. (Commissioner Bettis)

Commissioner Bettis said that we need to discuss the Highway 72 safety concerns and be proactive. She said that a number of students are enrolling in Colbert Elementary and the traffic is increasing. The Board agreed to take the necessary steps to seek D.O.T. cooperation in having traffic lights installed at high traffic, dangerous intersections on state highways.

Item No. 11. Roads Update

Commissioner Escoe inquired about the dirt that is being hauled from the Georgia Renewable Power location and requested that work begin on Hope Drive as soon as possible.

Item No. 12. Urgent Matters

There were no urgent matters.

Item No. 13. Statements and Remarks from Citizens.

Chairman Scarborough asked if there were any statements or remarks. Gene Lurwig addressed the Board regarding (1) county wide voting for all commission seats, (2) county not burying farmers' animals, even for a fee, as it should not be a taxpaying function and (3) employees should pay 25 percent of their health insurance the first year and then an increased percentage each year until 100 percent of the premium is paid by the employee.

Item No. 14. Executive Session to discuss land acquisition, personnel matters and/or potential litigation (if needed).

County Attorney Mike Pruett advised the Board of a need for executive session regarding pending litigation. On motion by Commissioner Allen and second by Commissioner Escoe the Board voted to go into executive session at 7:15 p.m. to discuss pending litigation. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

The Board returned from executive session at 7:31 p.m.

On motion by Commissioner Bettis and second by Commissioner Pethel the Board voted to approve the minutes of executive session. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 15. Adjourn.

On motion by Commissioner Pethel and second by Commissioner Escoe the Board unanimously agreed to adjourn at 7:32 p.m.