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 6:35 p.m. and asked for a moment of silence to remember George Holloman, J.D. Royston, Mark Dove and Billy Pethel who have recently passed away. Commissioner Bettis asked for prayer for a student whose relative passed away. Prayer was requested for Terry Smith who has been moved to the Shepherd Center. After Chairman Dove led in the pledge to the American Flag, there was a moment of silence and then Chairman Dove gave the invocation.

Item No. 1. Approval of minutes:
Minutes of the Public Hearing and Regular Business Meeting of December 5, 2016. Minutes have been distributed.

On motion by Commissioner Bond and second by Commissioner Thomas the Board approved the minutes of the December 5, 2016 Public Hearing and Regular Business Meeting. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

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

Chairman Dove said that he would like to give an opportunity to those who are leaving office to say a few words. Commissioner Thomas, Commissioner Bond and Chairman Dove each made a statement regarding their years of service and extended thanks to family and friends for their support. The other Board members, county attorney, county clerk and audience stood with applause.
Item No. 3. Chairman’s Report

Chairman Dove stated that the Georgia Department of Transportation has agreed to install materials and equipment necessary for roundabout lighting in Danielsville and in exchange they request Madison County to assume responsibility for operation, repair and maintenance of lighting. Chairman Dove stated that the Board needs to vote on a resolution adopting the agreement.

On motion by Commissioner Bond and second by Commissioner Bettis the Board voted to approve the resolution approving and adopting the roundabout lighting agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Chairman Dove stated that the Food Bank served 118 households consisting of 289 individuals last month. He asked Larry Cox for the number of families who received Christmas presents at the Food Bank yesterday. Mr. Cox stated that 292 children in 133 families received gifts. Commissioner Elect Lee Allen spoke of the joy and appreciation that he witnessed while helping at the Food Bank yesterday.

Chairman Dove, County Attorney Mike Pruett and the Board discussed the Intergovernmental Lease Agreement with the City of Danielsville for the land containing 0.356 of an acre used for their governmental storage facility.

On motion by Commissioner Escoe and second by Commissioner Pethel the Board voted to approve a 20 year lease agreement. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

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. After the report, Mr. White presented Chairman Dove with a plaque for appreciation of his service on the ID&BA Board.

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. Consider 2017 Beer and Wine License application for Kwik Chek. (Chairman Dove)

The commissioners discussed the new lease provided by Mr. Hameed last week and had several questions and concerns. Mr. Hameed was not present to address the Board’s concerns.

On motion by Commissioner Escoe and second by Commissioner Bond the Board voted to deny a 2017 Beer and Wine license for the Kwik Chek store. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.
Item No. 7. Consider approving the 2017 Food Bank Budget. (Chairman Dove)

On motion by Commissioner Escoe and second by Commissioner Bettis the Board voted to approve the 2017 Food Bank Budget. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 8. Consider approving the 2017 Law Library and Clerk’s Deed Budgets. (Chairman Dove)

On motion by Commissioner Escoe and second by Commissioner Thomas the Board voted to approve the 2017 Law Library and Clerk’s Deed Budgets. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 9. Consider approving the 2017 Madison County Budget Resolution. (Chairman Dove)

The Board discussed two budget requests that were previously made regarding the Food Bank and the Extension Office.

On motion by Commissioner Escoe and second by Commissioner Thomas the Board agreed to add $6,000 to the 2017 Food Bank budget and $180 to the Extension Office budget for the weather station. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

On motion by Commissioner Escoe and second by Commissioner Bond the Board voted to approve the 2017 budget with the two amendments. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Bettis and Escoe voted YES. Commissioner Pethel voted NO.

Item No. 10. Roads Update

Commissioner Escoe requested trash pick-up on Hardman Morris Road.

Item No. 11. Urgent Matters

There was discussion regarding the ownership of the Peach Pantry store and the 2017 Beer and Wine license.


Chairman Dove asked if there were any statements or remarks.

Commissioner Elect Lee Allen approached the Board and extended gratitude to Commissioner Bond, Commissioner Thomas and Chairman Dove for their service.

Commissioner Thomas said that the position takes a lot of time from your family and he couldn’t have asked for a better wife than his wife Judy to support him during his years of service.
Item No. 13. Executive Session to discuss land acquisition, personnel matters and/or potential litigation (if needed).

There was no need for executive session.


On motion by Commissioner Pethel and second by Commissioner Escoe, the Board unanimously agreed to adjourn at 7:40 p.m.