

**MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
AGENDA SETTING MEETING
MARCH 27, 2017
6:30 PM**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commission Chairman John Scarborough
District 1 Commissioner Lee Allen
District 2 Commissioner Tripp Strickland
District 3 Commissioner Theresa Bettis
District 5 Commissioner Jim R. Escoe, Sr.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

District 4 Commissioner John W. Pethel, Sr.

MEDIA PRESENT:

Zach Mitcham, Madison County Journal

STAFF PRESENT:

Rhonda S. Wooten, County Clerk
Mike Pruettt, 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 Regular Business Meeting of March 6, 2017. Minutes have been distributed.

On motion by Commissioner Bettis and second by Commissioner Allen the Board voted to approve the minutes of the March 6, 2017 Regular Business Meeting. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis and Escoe voted YES.

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

None

Item No. 3. Chairman's Report

Chairman Scarborough advised the Board that he has been approached by citizens seeking Board approval to place Sunday alcohol sales on a ballot for public vote. He said that this subject will be addressed at an upcoming meeting.

Chairman Scarborough said that he has been in communication with Georgia Department of Transportation regarding potential grant money for road safety projects. He stated that there is up to \$330,000 available for safety improvements and a local funding match is not required. He stated that our safety project list has been submitted for review and we are awaiting the state's decision.

Chairman Scarborough advised the Board that work will commence within the next few months on the Transco Road Bridge which will be totally paid for by a state program to repair or replace bridges. He said that the state performed a study on two bridges in Madison County and the bridge on Transco Road has been approved. The bridge work will necessitate closure and notice will be given to the public. The bridge on Old Wildcat Bridge Road is also being studied.

Chairman Scarborough stated that we are reengaging with the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission in an effort to develop our Comprehensive Land Use Plan. He said that he believes that a June 1, 2017 completion date is attainable.

Chairman Scarborough advised the Board that a time sensitive item will be presented under urgent matters by the Madison County School District attorney Cory Kirby regarding a bond resolution.

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

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

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Item No. 6. Consider approval of the Cypress Woods preliminary subdivision plat. (Adam Swann)

Mr. Swann discussed the preliminary Cypress Woods subdivision plat. The plat was provided in the commissioners' meeting packets the week before.

On motion by Commissioner Escoe and second by Commissioner Allen the Board voted to approve the Cypress Woods preliminary subdivision plat. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 7. Consider appointing a new member to the Industrial Development and Building Authority. (Chairman Scarborough)

Chairman Scarborough said that a new member needs to be appointed to the Industrial Development and Building Authority to fill a vacant position.

Commissioner Strickland said that he would like to appoint Derek Doster, an engineer who lives in Colbert and provides project management services for the Athens-Clarke SPLOST program. Commissioner Strickland provided a copy of Mr. Doster's bio to each B.O.C. member for review.

On motion by Commissioner Strickland and second by Commissioner Allen the Board voted to appoint Derek Doster to the Industrial Development and Building Authority. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 8. Consider appointing a new member to the Planning and Zoning Commission. (Commissioner Strickland)

Commissioner Strickland said that he would like to appoint Terry Chandler, a member of the farming community and previous Planning and Zoning Commission member. Commissioner Strickland provided a copy of Mr. Chandler's bio to each B.O.C. member for review.

On motion by Commissioner Strickland and second by Commissioner Allen the Board voted to appoint Terry Chandler to the Planning and Zoning Commission. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 9. Consider a proclamation naming April to be Donate Life Month. (Chairman Scarborough)

Chairman Scarborough read from a proclamation acknowledging organ, eye and tissue donation. The proclamation gave honor to those who made the decision to give the gift of life.

On motion by Commissioner Bettis and second by Commissioner Strickland the Board voted to approve the proclamation naming April to be Donate Life Month. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 10. Roads Update

Commissioner Allen said that people have expressed appreciation for the ditches being pulled and the gravel being put down on Hardman Hooper Road.

Commissioner Strickland noted the work done by the Road Department to take care of a drainage problem on Irvin Kirk Road.

Chairman Scarborough stated that the Road Department will begin mowing next week.

Commissioner Allen asked if road trash pick-up is still being handled by inmates. Chairman Scarborough said that it is.

Item No. 11. Urgent Matters

Chairman Scarborough recognized Madison County School District attorney Cory Kirby. Mr. Kirby presented a bond resolution created for the purpose of providing funds to pay the cost of refunding an existing bond, which could result in a \$500,000 savings. A copy of the resolution was emailed to the commissioners earlier in the day with the understanding that due to time restraints, consideration of this bond resolution would be handled under Urgent Matters.

On motion by Commissioner Allen and second by Commissioner Bettis the Board voted to approve the resolution. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis and Escoe voted YES.

Commissioner Allen stated that he was asked to assist in filling vacant positions on the Animal Control Board and that he would like to recommend veterinarian Katie Moody. Commissioner Allen said that the appointment is time sensitive due to a hearing that is scheduled on March 30, 2017.

On motion by Commissioner Allen and second by Commissioner Strickland the Board voted to add this consideration to the agenda. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis and Escoe voted YES.

On motion by Commissioner Allen and second by Commissioner Strickland the Board approved Katie Moody as a new member of the Animal Control Board. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 12. Statements and Remarks from Citizens.

Chairman Scarborough asked if there were any statements or remarks.

Steve Massey addressed the Board regarding his support of the suggestions made by Conolus Scott at the last B.O.C. Meeting concerning procedures to appoint citizens to various county boards and committees.

Karen Hitchcock addressed the Board regarding a water drainage problem at her residence on Stone Stewart Road.

Chip Chandler addressed the Board to request their support in opposing the development of the Sweet City Landfill in Elberton.

Item No. 13. Executive Session to discuss land acquisition, personnel matters and/or potential litigation (if needed).

There was no need for executive session.

Item No. 14. Adjourn.

On motion by Commissioner Allen and second by Commissioner Strickland , the Board unanimously agreed to adjourn at 7:17 p.m.