

**MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
AGENDA SETTING MEETING
MAY 22, 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 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 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 May 8, 2017. Minutes have been distributed.

On motion by Commissioner Bettis and second by Commissioner Allen the Board approved the minutes of the May 8, 2017 Regular Business Meeting. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

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

Jennifer Ivey, Madison County Library Branch Manager

Ms. Ivey gave a quarterly update of the activities at the library. She provided a brochure, calendar and printed report highlighting the adult and youth programs. She pointed out that two children received a certificate for completing the "1,000 Books B4 Kindergarten" program. Ms. Ivey also advised the Board that Mia Townsend was recently hired to fill a vacant position.

Item No. 3. Chairman's Report

Chairman Scarborough stated that he is trying to get budget material sent out to them in preparation for upcoming budget sessions.

Chairman Scarborough advised the Board that a meeting was held today with ACCG, Regional Commission, Senator Ginn and several others regarding TSPLOST. Madison County is one of 12 counties in our region. This is an opportunity for us to see some sales tax money if placed on the ballot and voted in by this November.

Item No. 4. Report from the 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. Stanley Thomas addressed the Board regarding his concerns with agenda items eight and ten.

OLD BUSINESS:

Item No. 6. Consider updated Recreation Department fee structures.

On motion by Commissioner Allen and second by Commissioner Bettis the Board voted to approve the remaining fee increases as requested by the Recreation Department and referenced in Items 3.B, 3.D and 3.E of the Madison County Recreation Board minutes of April 18, 2017. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis and Escoe voted YES. Commissioner Pethel voted NO.

NEW BUSINESS:

Item No. 7. Consider 2017/2018 health insurance policy. (Chairman Scarborough)

MSI Benefits agent Matt Bidwell addressed the Board regarding quotes received for health insurance. Mr. Bidwell stated that the 2016 paid/loss ratio was 94 percent and that Cigna's 15 percent premium increase was the best quote in comparison to other providers of the same coverage. Mr. Bidwell provided several employee/county contribution options, including a five percent employee contribution for employee only insurance and an additional three percent employee contribution for dependent coverage.

After discussion, on motion by Commissioner Escoe and second by Commissioner Strickland the Board voted to have the coverage remain as is and to continue to pay 100 percent of employee health insurance and the approximately 22 to 26 percent of dependent coverage that is currently being paid. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 8. Consider extending moratorium. (Chairman Scarborough)

Chairman Scarborough stated that a considerable amount of information gathering has taken place. There have been meetings with Planning and Zoning and members of other counties. Chairman Scarborough stated that he believes we are now ready to fine tune and codify the information.

On motion by Commissioner Strickland and second by Commissioner Bettis the Board voted to approve a resolution extending the moratorium to July 10, 2017. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 9. Consider adopting a resolution to repeal Section 6 of the Charter regarding executive session. (Chairman Scarborough)

On motion by Commissioner Escoe and second by Commissioner Allen the Board voted to adopt a resolution to repeal Section 6 of the Charter. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 10. Consider placing Sunday alcohol sales on voters' ballot. (Commissioner Allen)

Commissioner Allen advised the Board that he has been asked by several citizens throughout the county to place Sunday alcohol sales on the voters' ballot. He stated that some people are for Sunday alcohol sales are some are against it and he would like to let the people vote.

Commissioner Allen made a motion to place Sunday alcohol sales, to be effective January 1, 2019, on either a November, 2017 or a May, 2018 referendum. Commissioner Escoe seconded the motion. After discussion the vote was as follows: Commissioner Allen voted YES. Commissioners Strickland, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted NO.

Item No. 11. Roads Update

Commissioner Allen said that citizens have expressed their thanks for the road work that was done on Seagraves Mill Road.

Commissioner Strickland said that citizens were grateful for the work that was done on Irvin Kirk Road.

Item No. 12. Statements and Remarks from Citizens.

Chairman Scarborough asked if there were any statements or remarks. No one came forward.

Item No. 13. 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 Bettis the Board voted to go into executive session at 7:56 p.m. to discuss pending litigation. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

The Board returned from executive session at 8:41 p.m.

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

Item No. 14. Adjourn.

On motion by Commissioner Pethel and second by Commissioner Allen, the Board unanimously agreed to adjourn at 8:42 p.m.