

**MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
JANUARY 5, 2015
6:30 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commission Chairman Anthony Dove
District 1 Commissioner Stanley Thomas
District 2 Commissioner Dewitt Bond
District 3 Commissioner Mike Youngblood
District 4 Commissioner John 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 Janet Crowe and her family.

Item No. 1. Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of December 18, 2014 Public Hearing and December 29, 2014 Agenda Setting Meeting. Minutes have been distributed.

On motion by Commissioner Bond and second by Commissioner Thomas the Board approved the minutes of the December 18, 2014 Public Hearing and the December 29, 2014 Agenda Setting Meeting. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Youngblood, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

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

None

Item No. 3. Chairman's Report.

Chairman Dove recognized Leigh Anne Aaron with the Madison County Extension Office. Mrs. Aaron expressed her appreciation for the Board's support of the Madison County Mentor Program. She read a proclamation declaring January as National Mentoring month. Chairman Dove recognized Shirley Aaron, Director of the Madison County Mentor Program. She introduced several mentors that were in attendance which included Wayne Douglas, Michael Williams, Stephanie Pope and Asia Allen.

On motion by Commissioner Pethel and second by Commissioner Bond the Board voted to approve the proclamation declaring January as National Mentoring month. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Youngblood, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Chairman Dove advised the Board of a letter received by Curtis Veal, Chief Investigator for the Public Defender's Office, commending Jack Huff and Beth Harmon for the promptness and professionalism in their work.

Chairman Dove stated that Senior Center Director Kelsey Tyner is here to request that the Board allow her to interview and make a hiring decision to fill a vacant position as soon as possible to allow for training. Director Tyner addressed the Board and stated that for training purposes she would like to choose an applicant and have them start on Monday, January 19th.

On motion by Commissioner Escoe and second by Commissioner Bond the Board voted to allow Director Tyner to make the hiring decision. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Youngblood, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

**Item No. 4. Hearings and Actions on Rezone Matters, Special Use Permits, Etc.
(Linda Fortson and Wayne Douglas)**

1. Danny Dinh Ta is representing Debra Greeson, she would like to rezone her 84.98 acre parcel A2 to A1 for chicken houses. The property is located on Cherokee Road on Map 103 Parcel 12 in District 4.

Chairman Douglas explained the rezone request and stated that the Planning and Zoning Board voted six (6) to zero (0) to approve.

Chairman Dove asked if anyone would like to come forward to speak in favor of the request. Danny Dinh Ta, representing applicant Debra Greeson, spoke in favor of the request.

Chairman Dove asked if anyone would like to come forward to speak in opposition of the request. No one came forward.

Chairman Dove asked if anyone would like to come forward to speak in favor of the request. No one came forward.

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

2. James Doster is requesting to rezone his 1.5 acre parcel from R1 to A1 to combine with a portion of the adjoining parcel. The property is located on Charlie Morris Road on Map 58 Parcel 18-03 in District 5.

Chairman Douglas explained the rezone request and stated that the Planning and Zoning Board voted six (6) to zero (0) to approve.

Chairman Dove asked if anyone would like to come forward to speak in favor of the request. Applicant James Doster spoke in favor of the request.

Chairman Dove asked if anyone would like to come forward to speak in opposition of the request. No one came forward.

Chairman Dove asked if anyone would like to come forward to speak in favor of the request. No one came forward.

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

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.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Item No. 6. Consider hiring for vacant EMS part-time call-in positions. (Jason Lewis)

EMS Director Jason Lewis addressed the Board to request approval to hire four applicants for part-time call-in positions.

On motion by Commissioner Escoe and second by Commissioner Thomas the Board to approve the request to hire Sean Crowe, Morgan Pulliam, Phillip Haulk and Michael Hook for part-time call-in positions. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Youngblood, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 7. Consider restructure of the Building Inspection and Planning and Zoning offices. (Board of Commissioners)

There was discussion among the Board regarding downsizing of the two departments and eliminating department head status.

New Tax Commissioner Lamar Dalton was asked to speak to the Board. Commissioner Dalton advised the Board that he planned to be aggressive with collection of delinquent taxes and could use some help with this work.

New Magistrate Judge David Patton was asked to speak to the Board. Judge Patton spoke to the Board regarding the overcrowded space in the Magistrate Office and that he would like to expand the office by swapping offices with Building Inspection and Planning and Zoning.

On motion by Commissioner Youngblood and second by Commissioner Bond the Board voted to move the Magistrate Office into the Planning and Zoning and Building Inspection Offices and move Planning and Zoning and Building Inspections into the Magistrate Office. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Youngblood, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

On motion by Commissioner Youngblood and second by Commissioner Escoe the Board voted to eliminate the department head status in both departments, to have the pay structure for the Building Inspector at \$16.43 and the Administrative Assistant at \$16.36, to have the office remain open from 8:00 to 5:00, to have any compensation time for meetings be eliminated by coming in late or taking the time off in the week, to have the department head status be held by the Chairman until further review, to have a daily report given to the Chairman from the Building Inspection & Planning and Zoning office itemizing the work done and for the report to include any activity related to the Tax Commissioner's office and Code Enforcement, and that the employee's hours remain the same. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Youngblood, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Commissioner Youngblood stated that he would like to make the point that he put the motion on the floor but that the motion has been discussed by the entire Board, it was not a Mike Youngblood decision; it was a Board decision.

Item No. 8. Consider 2015 General and Personnel Policies. (Chairman Dove)

On motion by Commissioner Escoe and second by Commissioner Bond the Board voted to approve the 2015 General and Personnel policies. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Youngblood, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

On motion by Commissioner Youngblood and second by Commissioner Pethel the Board voted to have Commissioner Stanley Thomas remain the Vice-Chairman in 2015. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Youngblood, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 9. Roads Update

Commissioner Thomas stated that on December 2, 2014 he requested trash pick-up on Sanford Road and it has still not been picked up and he would appreciate it being taken care of. He also requested trash pick-up on Sanford Nicholson Road, Nowhere Road, Crabapple Hollow Road between Hwy 106 and Nowhere Road, Beck Road, Dillard Road, Seagraves Road and Martin Griffeth Road.

Commissioner Pethel requested trash pick-up on Jones Chapel Shiloh Road, Shiloh Fort Lamar Road, Duffel Martin Road and Transco Road.

Chairman Dove stated that a meeting is going to take place with the Chairman of Oglethorpe County to negotiate road work regarding asphalt.

Item No. 10. Urgent Matters

Commissioner Thomas stated that the Board asked for specifics on budgets and had received all but two. He stated that we need to get the information this week.

Item No. 11. Statement and Remarks from Citizens

Eddie Pritchett approached the Board and requested the previous salary amount and the new salary amount for his position and Linda Fortson's position.

**Item No. 12. Executive Session to discuss land acquisition, personnel matters and/or potential litigation
(if needed)**

There was no need for executive session.

Item No. 13. Adjourn

On motion by Commissioner Pethel and second by Commissioner Youngblood the Board unanimously agreed to adjourn at 7:34 pm.