

**MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES  
AGENDA SETTING MEETING  
APRIL 27, 2015  
6:30 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Commission Chairman Anthony Dove  
District 1 Commissioner Stanley Thomas  
District 2 Commissioner Dewitt "Pete" Bond  
District 3 Commissioner Mike Youngblood  
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  
Jackie Kesler, Deputy 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 the passing of Ms. Bonnie Berryman.

**Item No. 1. Approval of minutes:**

**Minutes of the Regular Business Meeting of April 6, 2015. Minutes have been distributed.**

On motion by Commissioner Bond and second by Commissioner Thomas the Board approved the minutes of the Regular Business Meeting of April 6, 2015. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Pethel and Escoe voted YES. Commissioner Youngblood was not present when the vote was taken.

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

None

**Item No. 3. Chairman's Report**

Agenda item number four took place prior to the Chairman's Report.

Chairman Dove stated that the surplus vehicles are really being used. Magistrate Judge Patton, Tax Commissioner Lamar Dalton, County Extension Agent Adam Speir and occasionally the Senior Center staff, in addition to himself and commissioners, are driving the Crown Vic surplus vehicles and the old 911 Ford Ranger.

Chairman Dove stated that he gave a presentation to the Grand Jury last week and copies of their recommendations were distributed to each commissioner.

Chairman Dove said that we have received two requests for grant support letters, one from the City of Jefferson to complete Thomas Parkway in McClure Industrial Park and another from Athens Tech to aid in the financing of a Public Safety Training Center on their Elbert County Campus.

On motion by Commissioner Escoe and second by Commissioner Pethel the Board voted to approve both of the requests for grant support letters. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Youngblood, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Chairman Dove stated that we have been working with Mr. Tim Shelnutt to enter an agreement for him to handle building inspections in Mr. Brown's absence. Mr. Shelnutt approached the Board, introduced himself and told of his work experience.

On motion by Commissioner Escoe and second by Commissioner Thomas the Board voted to approve the Independent Contractor Agreement with Mr. Tim Shelnutt. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Youngblood, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

**Item No. 4. Report from IDA (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 IDA.

**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 proclamation naming the month of May Syringomyelia Awareness Month in Madison County. (Chairman Dove)**

Chairman Dove stated that we were contacted by the mother of a daughter with a rare disease called Syringomyelia, a disease of the spinal cord. Her daughter, Laci LaDuke, is one of five Georgia citizens currently battling this disease. She requested that the Board approve a proclamation naming the month of May as Syringomyelia Awareness Month in Madison County. Chairman Dove read the proclamation which provided information about the disease that was identified over 200 years ago and has no cure at this time.

On motion by Commissioner Bond and second by Commissioner Escoe the Board approved the proclamation naming the month of May Syringomyelia Awareness Month in Madison County. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Youngblood, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

**Item No. 7. Consider allowing County Extension Officer to re-hire a Family and Consumer Science Agent. (Adam Speir)**

County Extension Officer Adam Speir advised the Board that Nancy Bridges plans to retire on June 30, 2015 and that he would like to fill her position as a Family and Consumer Science Agent for Madison and Oglethorpe counties. He stated that before the University of Georgia can proceed with requesting a position announcement, a confirmation on the amount of funding the County will provide is needed. Mr. Speir stated that the current Family and Consumer Science Agent spends one day in Madison County and four days in Oglethorpe County and there were plans to achieve a more equitable sharing of time between the two counties.

On motion by Commissioner Escoe and second by Commissioner Bond the Board voted to at least match the amount that Oglethorpe County contributes. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Youngblood, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

**Item No. 8. Consider jail addition. (Sheriff Thomas)**

Sheriff Thomas and New South Construction Senior Project Manager Steve Langdon addressed the Board regarding a projected additional cost analysis with and without the jail addition. The Board had several questions regarding the analysis, the number of detention officers requested and the total projected Facility 51 Jail budget with the addition. The Board requested that consideration of the jail addition be placed on the May 4, 2015 agenda to allow time to study the numbers.

**Item No. 9. Consider Utility Facility Encroachment for a water line on Manley Martin Road. (Chairman Dove)**

Chairman Dove stated that an application for a Utility Facility Encroachment Permit for a water line on Manley Martin Road was submitted by a property owner with the intention to tap into the water line on Highway 29. The application did not provide the length of the water line. The Board and County Attorney Mike Pruett discussed the necessary regulations when installing water lines in road right-of-ways.

On motion by Commissioner Escoe and second by Commissioner Bond the Board voted to move this request to the May 4, 2015 agenda to review the ordinance and study the request. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Youngblood, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

**Item No. 10. Consider allowing Jason Lewis to sign the Athens Tech agreement to renew clinical affiliation. (Chairman Dove)**

Chairman Dove presented the renewal agreement and County Attorney Mike Pruett said that there were some changes that he and Jason were fine with.

On motion by Commissioner Youngblood and second by Commissioner Thomas the Board voted to allow Jason Lewis to sign the Athens Tech agreement to renew clinical affiliation. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Youngblood, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

**Item No. 11. Discuss 2015 Health Insurance Policy. (Chairman Dove)**

Chairman Dove stated that additional information was provided today and that Blue Cross and Blue Shield will be providing another offer. He said that MSI Benefits Insurance Agent, Matt Bidwell, will bring several insurance options to the May 4, 2015 meeting.

**Item No. 12. Roads Update**

Commissioner Thomas requested that consideration of a 35 mile per hour speed limit for Fairplay Church Road be placed on the next agenda.

Commissioner Pethel requested that the pot holes be repaired on Rock Quarry Road.

Commissioner Escoe requested that discussion of the bids that were received by the City of Colbert for the paving of Second Avenue be placed on the next agenda.

Chairman Dove stated that the county's LMIG grant might increase with House Bill 170.

**Item No. 13. Urgent Matters**

There were no urgent matters.

**Item No. 14. Review May 4, 2015 agenda for Regular Business Meeting.**

Mrs. Wooten read the May 4, 2015 agenda items.

**Item No. 15. Statements and Remarks from Citizens.**

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

**Item No. 16. Executive Session to discuss land acquisition, personnel matters and/or potential litigation (if needed).**

There was no need for executive session.

**Item No. 17. Adjourn.**

On motion by Commissioner Pethel and second by Commissioner Youngblood, the Board unanimously agreed to adjourn at 8:35 pm.