

MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
June 24, 2013
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.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

District 5 Commissioner Jim R. Escoe, Sr.

MEDIA PRESENT:

Zach Mitchem, Madison County Journal

STAFF PRESENT:

Rhonda Wooten, Deputy Clerk
Mike Pruet, County Attorney

Chairman Dove called the meeting to order at 6:30pm, led in the pledge to the American flag and called for a moment of silence to keep Commissioner Escoe and his family in our prayers as well as the family of Chairman Darnell, who passed away.

Item No. 1. Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of Regular Business Meeting of June 3, 2013. Minutes have been distributed.

Commissioner Bond made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 3, 2013 meeting. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion.

In discussion Commissioner Pethel stated item number 16 had an incorrect last name.

On motion by Commissioner Bond and second by Commissioner Thomas the Board approved the minutes of the June 3, 2013 meeting with the change as noted. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Youngblood and Pethel voted YES.

Commissioner Bond withdrew his first motion.

Item No. 2. Chairman's Report

Chairman Dove recognized Probate Judge Cody Cross. Judge Cross and County Attorney Mike Pruett discussed Senate Bill 120 which establishes a statutory procedure for having a prosecutor in Probate Court and states that the District Attorney's office shall be the prosecutor unless the District Attorney declines in writing. Our contract with the current private prosecutor can be cancelled since District Attorney Parks White is willing to handle the prosecution responsibility.

On motion by Commissioner Youngblood and second by Commissioner Bond the Board agreed to void the contract with the private prosecutor and have the money paid to the private prosecutor be added to the supplement paid to the District Attorney's office. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Youngblood and Pethel voted YES.

Chairman Dove stated that SPLOST TAVT tax comes in on the 10th. May, 2013 was up 12% compared to May, 2012 which puts us up about 2.12% for the year.

Item No. 3. Business Involving Guests, Groups or Multiple Visitors. Review Jail Committee Report

No report was given.

Item No. 4. Report from IDA (Marvin White)

Bruce Azevedo gave a report of the IDA activity.

Item No. 5. Statements and Remarks from Citizens on agenda items.

There were none.

Item No. 6. Consider adoption of Resolution Authorizing the Participation of Oconee in the Joint Development Authority of Northeast Georgia. (Marvin White)

Bruce Azevedo presented this request in Marvin White's absence.

On motion by Commissioner Bond and second by Commissioner Youngblood the Board approved to adopt the Resolution Authorizing the Participation of Oconee in the Joint Development Authority of Northeast Georgia. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Youngblood and Pethel voted YES.

Item No. 7. Consider hiring Linda Huffstetler for a part time receptionist position at the Recreation Department. (Robin Pendleton)

On motion by Commissioner Bond and second by Commissioner Youngblood the Board approved the hiring of Linda Huffstetler for a part time receptionist position at the Recreation Department. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Youngblood and Pethel voted YES.

Item No. 8. Consider finalizing SPLOST numbers. (Chairman Dove)

Chairman Dove stated the SPLOST ballots have to be ordered by the end of July. The following SPLOST amounts were discussed:

IDA	\$1,422,500
CITIES	\$1,500,000
TRANSFER STATION	\$ 84,167
E-911	\$ 153,000
REC. DEPT.	\$ 227,500
4-H	\$ 8,333
EMS	\$ 755,833
SHERIFF	\$ 681,667
VFD	\$1,033,333
OLD COURTHOUSE	\$ 42,000
ROADS	\$6,479,167

The Board discussed that the purchase of the 4-H van should come from General Funds rather than SPLOST.

On motion by Commissioner Bond and second by Commissioner Youngblood the Board agreed to accept the amounts given with moving the \$8,333 allotted for the 4-H van to Roads bringing the Road total to \$6,487,500. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Youngblood and Pethel voted YES.

Item No. 9. Consider agreement with Public Defender. (Chairman Dove)

On motion by Commissioner Bond and second by Commissioner Thomas the Board approved the Furnished Employee Agreement with the Public Defender. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Youngblood and Pethel voted YES.

Item No. 10. Consider hiring Human Resources Manager. (Chairman Dove)

Chairman Dove stated that we do not have anyone to consider at this time.

Item No. 11. Consider hiring County Clerk. (Chairman Dove)

Chairman Dove stated he is putting forward the name of Rhonda Wooten for the County Clerk position and recommending a salary of \$33,000.

Commissioner Bond made a motion to approve the request. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion.

In discussion Commissioner Pethel stated he believed Rhonda to be a good choice but did not agree with the value of Mrs. Wooten's experience and suggested a salary of \$28,000.

On motion by Commissioner Bond and second by Commissioner Thomas the Board approved the County Clerk's salary of \$33,000. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond and Youngblood voted YES. Commissioner Pethel voted NO.

Item No. 12. Consider a 4-way stop sign at Aderhold Rogers Road and Rogers Church Road. (Commissioner Thomas)

On motion by Commissioner Thomas and second by Commissioner Bond the Board approved placing a 4-way stop sign at Aderhold Rogers Road and Rogers Church Road. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Youngblood and Pethel voted YES.

Item No. 13. Consider seeking a five member Board of Assessors. (Commissioner Escoe)

Commissioner Escoe was unable to attend this meeting and requested the item be placed on the 7-29-13 meeting agenda.

Item No. 14. Consider adopting updated Internet Café ordinance to be in compliance with new state law. (Mike Pruett)

County attorney Mike Pruett pointed out a couple of changes within the new ordinance. The number of coin operated machines is reduced from nine to six and it places jurisdiction of these machines under the Lottery Commission rather than the Revenue Department.

On motion by Commissioner Youngblood and second by Commissioner Pethel the Board approved the adoption of the updated Internet Café ordinance. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Bond, Youngblood and Pethel voted YES. Commissioner Thomas abstained.

Item No. 15. Consider new law change on Coroner's salary. (Chairman Dove)

Chairman Dove explained the new law change regarding the Coroner's salary which allows for a salary every month plus death investigation fees. He has discussed the law change with County Coroner Julie Phillips.

On motion by Commissioner Youngblood and second by Commissioner Pethel the Board agreed to pay a monthly Coroner salary of \$350.06 plus death investigation fees. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Bond, Youngblood and Pethel voted YES. Commissioner Thomas abstained.

Item No. 16. Discuss City of Hull considering a petition to annex the lands of Heavenly Bound Ministries Worship Center. (Mike Pruett)

The Board did not object to the annexation.

Item No. 17. Roads Update

Chairman Dove stated that we received good news from the Department of Transportation. The LMIG letter received today awarded \$586,459.01 for 2014. The required 30% match is \$762,396.01 which equals \$152,491.80 per district.

Chairman Dove also took the following road requests from the commissioners:

Commissioner Thomas: Check water drainage on Seagraves Mill Road.

Commissioner Youngblood: Will send in a list of trash pick-up needs.

Commissioner Pethel: The wooden bridge on Noble Road needs to be checked.

Item No. 18. Urgent Matters

None

Item No. 19. Review July 1, 2013 agenda for Regular Business Meeting.

Mrs. Wooten read the items to be placed on the July 1, 2013 agenda.

Item No. 20. Statement and Remarks from Citizens.

Jail Captain Greg Sisk asked if procedures for agenda distribution had been changed. He said that he didn't get notice of the 6-24-13 agenda. Mrs. Wooten said that she would check his email address.

Item No. 21. Executive Session to discuss land acquisition, personnel matters and/or potential litigation (if needed).

There was no need for executive session.

Item No. 22. Adjourn

On motion by Commissioner Pethel and second by Commissioner Youngblood the Board agreed to adjourn at 7:48pm. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Youngblood and Pethel voted YES.