

**MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
DECEMBER 4, 2017
6:30 P.M.**

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 Pruet, 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 November 27, 2017 Agenda Setting Meeting. Minutes have been distributed.

On motion by Commissioner Allen and second by Commissioner Strickland the Board voted to approve the minutes of the November 27, 2017 Agenda Setting 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.

None

Item No. 3. Chairman's Report.

Chairman Scarborough said that tomorrow, December 5, 2017, will mark the 206th year that Madison County was formed and Commissioner Allen will be celebrating this at our nation's capitol as he attends the Georgia Local Elected Officials' White House Conference.

Chairman Scarborough discussed the EPD requirements for storm water management in the urbanized area. He said that the county has switched from Triple Point Engineering to Fox Environmental to help with the requirements and find that there is a fair amount of work to be done.

Item No. 4. Hearings and Actions on Rezone Matters, Special Use Permits, Etc. (Linda Fortson & Lamar Hughston)

There were no rezone matters.

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.

Item No. 6. Consider reappointment of Lynn Hix to Board of Assessors. (Robin Baker)

Commissioner Allen made a motion to reappoint Lynn Hix to the Board of Assessors. Commissioner Bettis seconded the motion.

Commissioner Escoe said that he would like to have five members on the Board of Assessors so that there can be a member for each district. Commissioner Pethel agreed.

After discussion, the Board voted to reappoint Lynn Hix to the Board of Assessors. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis and Escoe voted YES. Commissioner Pethel voted NO.

Item No. 7. Consider 2018 Beer & Wine License applications. (Chairman Scarborough)

Commissioner Escoe made a motion to approve the renewal of a Beer and Wine License for the listings numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12 and 13 and to approve a new Beer and Wine License for the listings numbered 1, 2 and 3.

Commissioner Escoe asked for the address for applicant number eleven. Mrs. Wooten provided the address.

Commissioner Escoe made an amended motion to approve the renewal of Beer and Wine License for the listings numbered one through thirteen and a new Beer and Wine License for the listings numbered one and two. Commissioner Bettis seconded the motion and the vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

On motion by Commissioner Escoe and second by Commissioner Strickland the Board voted to deny a new Beer and Wine License for Food Mart at 9029 Highway 29 South. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Attorney Victor Johnson came forward and questioned the Board regarding their reason for denial. Commissioner Strickland addressed the lease amount being greater than the value of the building. Commissioner Allen addressed the previous applicant's lease and asked for the reason that he is no longer running the business.

County Attorney Mike Pruett said that reasons for denial can be given during the meeting or provided later in writing.

Item No. 8. Consider changes to Fire Protection and Emergency Rescue Services Agreement. (Chairman Scarborough)

Chairman Scarborough explained the changes to the agreement and pointed out the January 1, 2018 effective date as well as the county's agreement to provide the state mandated cancer insurance.

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

Item No. 9. Consider 2018 Board of Commissioners meetings. (Chairman Scarborough)

On motion by Commissioner Allen and second by Commissioner Escoe the Board voted on the dates for the 2018 Board of Commissioners meetings. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 10. Consider 6:00 p.m. Board of Commissioners meeting time to be effective January 29, 2018. (Chairman Scarborough)

On motion by Commissioner Strickland and second by Commissioner Bettis the Board voted to change the meeting time to 6:00 p.m. to be effective January 29, 2018. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis and Escoe voted YES. Commissioner Pethel voted NO.

Item No. 11. Consider dates for 2018 holidays. (Chairman Scarborough)

On motion by Commissioner Bettis and second by Commissioner Allen the Board voted on the dates for the 2018 holidays. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 12. Consider selecting a 2018 vice-chairman. (Chairman Scarborough)

On motion by Commissioner Bettis and second by Commissioner Strickland the Board voted to name Commissioner Lee Allen the 2018 vice-chairman. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 13. Consider amending donated sick leave policy. (Chairman Scarborough)

Chairman Scarborough said that a cap of 120 hours of donated sick time was in previous years' policies and should not have been deleted. He explained the financial hardship on the county in paying for two salaries when replacement help is needed while an employee is receiving donated time.

On motion by Commissioner Strickland and second by Commissioner Bettis the Board voted to amend the personnel policy to include that an employee may use no more than 120 hours of donated sick leave within a calendar year. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 14. Roads Update

Chairman Scarborough advised the Board that a pipe has been installed on B Gaulding Russell Lane and dirt is being hauled from there to Waggoners Grove Church Road.

Commissioner Escoe said that all of the right-of-way deeds have been received for Hope Drive with the exception of two.

Item No. 15. Urgent Matters

There were no urgent matters.

Item No. 16. Statements and Remarks from Citizens.

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

Item No. 17. Executive Session to discuss land acquisition, personnel matters and/or potential litigation (if needed).

There was no need for executive session.

Item No. 18. Adjourn

On motion by Commissioner Strickland and second by Commissioner Pethel the Board unanimously agreed to adjourn at 7:22 p.m.