

**MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
MAY 8, 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:

Jackie Kesler, Deputy 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 Agenda Setting Meeting of April 24, 2017. Minutes have been distributed.

On motion by Commissioner Bettis and second by Commissioner Strickland the Board voted to approve the minutes of the April 24, 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 acknowledged that May 21 through May 27 is National Emergency Medical Services Week. He encouraged everyone to recognize the life-saving efforts of the Madison County EMS practitioners. He stated that the EMS staff responds to approximately 4,500 calls per year, easing suffering and frequently making the difference between life and death.

Chairman Scarborough acknowledged Commissioner Bettis for being named teacher of the year at Colbert Elementary.

Chairman Scarborough said he has been meeting with all department heads to go over budgets and the budget session meeting is on track for May 31st.

Chairman Scarborough advised the Board that Transfer Station Director Sandra Webb secured an EPD grant for tire amnesty.

Chairman Scarborough said that he has been in communication with Georgia Department of Transportation regarding the grant money for road safety projects. He stated that the approximate amount we will be receiving is between \$300,000 and \$500,000 for safety improvements and a local funding match is not required. He stated that some of the money will likely go towards the widening of Jones Chapel Shiloh road.

Chairman Scarborough said the Recreation Department has potential donors who would like to build a gymnasium in Madison County. He spoke with Oconee Soil and Water Conservation who will be trying to find money to match donations given.

Chairman Scarborough advised the Board of the EMA Mitigation Plan bid status.

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

1. Athens Cellular Inc. is requesting that Sandra Smith's 12.73 acre property be rezoned from A2 to A1 with a Conditional Use for a cell tower. The property is located on Map 106 Parcel 55 on Highway 72 in District 5.

Chairman Hughston explained the rezone request and stated that the Planning and Zoning Commission voted 6-0.

Chairman Scarborough asked if anyone would like to speak in favor of the request. Vincent Nelan, representative for Verizon Wireless, spoke in favor of the request.

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

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

On motion by Commissioner Escoe and second by Commissioner Bettis the Board voted to approve the request to rezone the 12.73 acre property on Map 106 Parcel 66 from A2 to A1 with a Conditional Use for a cell tower. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

2. Reliant Homes is requesting that Fish Property LLC's 54.50 acre parcel be rezoned from A1 to R1 for a major subdivision. The property is located on Map 31 Parcel 154 on Piedmont Road in District 3.
3. Reliant Homes is requesting that Fish Property LLC's 17.23 acre parcel be rezoned from A1 to R1 to combine with adjoining property for a major subdivision. The property is located on Map 32 Parcel 62-A off of Piedmont Road in District 3.

Chairman Hughston explained the rezone requests and stated that the Planning and Zoning Board combined the two requests and voted 6-0.

Chairman Scarborough asked if anyone would like to speak in favor of the requests. Ned Butler, representative for Reliant Homes, spoke in favor of the request.

Chairman Scarborough asked if anyone would like to speak in opposition to the requests. None came forward.

Chairman Scarborough asked if anyone would like to speak in favor of the requests. None came forward.

On motion by Commissioner Allen and second by Commissioner Bettis the Board voted to approve the requests to rezone Map 31 Parcel 154 and Map 32 Parcel 62-A from A1 to R1 for a major subdivision with the condition there will be a minimum of 1,600 sq. ft. for a one story house, 1,800 sq. ft. for a two story house and minimum of 5/12 roof pitch. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

4. Any new zoning amendments.

Zoning administrator Linda Fortson presented the Planning and Zoning By-Laws and requested they be codified.

On motion by Commissioner Strickland and second by Commissioner Allen the Board voted to codify the Planning and Zoning By-Laws. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

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.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Item No. 6. Consider seeking sealed bids for road maintenance equipment. (Chairman Scarborough)

Chairman Scarborough informed the Board that Public Works and Road Superintendent Alan Lapczynski has discussed with him the need for a boom mower at the Road Department. The equipment they have now has many hours on them and is often in need of repair.

On motion by Commissioner Escoe and second by Commissioner Pethel the Board approved the consideration for sealed bids for a boom mower. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

**Item No. 7. Consider provision in Beer and Wine License Application for potential store owners.
(Chairman Scarborough)**

Chairman Scarborough informed the Board that as of now there is no provision for perspective store owners to start the Beer and Wine License process before the store changes hands. The new application will allow perspective store owners to have the application ahead of time.

On a motion by Commissioner Bettis and second by Commissioner Allen the Board voted to approve the new Beer and Wine License Application allowing potential store owners to apply. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis and Pethel voted YES. Commissioner Escoe voted NO.

**Item No. 8. Consider amending Section 46-1 of Parks and Recreation in Code of Ordinances.
(Chairman Scarborough)**

Chairman Scarborough informed the Board that as of now smoking is prohibited in the field areas at the Recreation Department, but smoking is permissible in the parking lots. The Recreation Department Board voted to approve amending Section 46-1 of Parks and Recreation in Code of Ordinances stating that all of the Recreation Department is a smoke free zone.

On motion by Bettis and second by Commissioner Escoe the Board voted to approve amending Section 46-1 of Parks and Recreation in Code of Ordinances making the Recreation Department a smoke free zone. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 9. Consider updated Recreation Department fee structures. (Chairman Scarborough)

Chairman Scarborough informed the Board that the Recreation Department is requesting the increase of fees for sports registration, fitness classes, summer camp, etc. The Recreation Department Board voted to approve the fee increase.

Commissioner Strickland made a motion to postpone the vote until more information is provided. After discussion Commissioner Strickland amended his motion to approve the fee increase for summer day camp, but to postpone the other fee increases until more information is provided. Commissioner Pethel seconded the motion. The Board voted to approve the fee increase for summer day camp and postpone the other fee increases until more information is provided. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

**Item No. 10. Consider amending Section 2-29 of Administration in Code of Ordinances.
(Chairman Scarborough)**

Chairman Scarborough informed the Board he would like for the County Clerk to record minutes during Executive Session meetings.

On a motion by Commissioner Bettis and a second by Commissioner Allen the Board voted to approve amending Section 2-29 of the Code of Ordinances allowing the County Clerk to record minutes during Executive Session meetings. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland and Bettis voted YES. Commissioners Pethel and Escoe voted NO.

Item No. 11. Roads Update

Commissioner Allen informed the Board he has been receiving calls from citizens regarding maintenance of private roads.

Item No. 12. Urgent Matters

There were no urgent matters.

Item No. 13. Statements and Remarks from Citizens.

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

Item No. 14. Executive Session to discuss land acquisition, personnel matters and/or potential litigation (if needed).

There was no need for executive session.

Item No. 15. Adjourn

On motion by Commissioner Allen and second by Commissioner Strickland the Board unanimously agreed to adjourn at 7:57 p.m.