

**MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
AUGUST 7, 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. Chairman Scarborough asked that we remember Rhonda and her family as her mom passed away and the family of the child who was struck by a car.

Item No. 1. Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of the Special Called Meeting and Agenda Setting Meeting of July 31, 2017. Minutes have been distributed.

On motion by Commissioner Allen and second by Commissioner Bettis the Board voted to approve the minutes of the July 31, 2017 Special called Meeting. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

On motion by Commissioner Allen and second by Commissioner Strickland the Board voted to approve the minutes of the July 31, 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.

Jennifer Ivey, Madison County Library Branch Manager, came to discuss library updates and activities and involvement going on there. She also informed the Board they are looking for other grant programming and there is also a part time opening at the library.

Steven Smith, Director of the Oconee River Development Authority, introduced himself to the Board and explained how he assists other Counties and Cities with projects and helps locate grants for those projects.

Item No. 3. Chairman's Report.

None

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

There were no rezones.

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. The following people came forward: Garrett Verrier, Scott Edwards, Sarah Owens, Bill Hodges, Jackson Parham, David Ray Dockery, Eddie Carea, Tom Krobot, James Tipton, Rosemary Griggs, Jack Schotz and James MCook.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Item No. 6. Consider Property and Casualty Insurance Policy. (Dan Horne)

Dan Horne from Chastain and Associates came to discuss the renewal of the Property and Casualty Insurance Policy. He informed the Board of the changes to the policy and what changes they made to get the policy to a lower rate.

Dan Horne also addressed the Board about the Hired Vehicle Agreement the Sheriff's Department was requesting that would allow them to borrow cars from a local dealership and have those vehicles be insured.

On a motion by Commissioner Allen and second by Commissioner Bettis the Board voted to sign the Hired Vehicle Agreement for the Sheriff's Department. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 7. Consider potential watercraft ordinance. (Commissioner Pethel)

Commissioner Pethel stated there have been problems going on at the river for many years and the property owners need to be protected. He also stated that the outfitters that use that river aren't located in Madison County and don't pay Madison County taxes. The Board discussed the changes that need to be made to the proposed Ordinance. The following changes were made: change the permissible amount of fluid from 1.5 liters to 2 liters, add terminology to allow those with special medical needs to bring coolers for supplies needed, remove the sentence listing additional holidays.

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

Item No. 8. Discuss 2018 LMIG application.

Chairman Scarborough discussed the need to form a list of roads/projects to be considered for LMIG funds and completing the LMIG application. The board discussed the possibility of taking on new roads and in turn abandoning some roads that are rarely used. They also discussed Oglethorpe County's desire to be considered when there are resurfacing needs in the County.

Item No. 9. Roads Update

Commissioner Bettis stated she would like to see the speed limit on Old Danielsville Rd. be lowered from 45 mph to 35 mph.
Commissioner Pethel stated there are no speed limit signs on Cheek Pulliam Rd. and some citizens are requesting the speed limit be lowered to 35 mph.
Chairman Scarborough informed the Board Watson Mill is requesting we add speed bumps near the bridge.

Item No. 10. Urgent Matters

Chairman Scarborough informed the Board he was approached by a State Senator, Superior Court Judge and the State Property Commission to see if the Board would reconsider voting on the Probate lease. The consensus of the Board was to stay with the decision they made earlier in the year.

Item No. 11. Statements and Remarks from Citizens.

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

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 Escoe and second by Commissioner Strickland the Board unanimously agreed to adjourn at 8:12 p.m.