

**MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
SEPTEMBER 12, 2016
6:30 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commission Chairman Anthony Dove
District 1 Commissioner Stanley Thomas
District 2 Commissioner Dewitt "Pete" Bond
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 Pruett, County Attorney

Chairman Dove called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and read the meaning of the POW/MIA articles located on the table by the American flag in the Public Meeting Room. Chairman Dove led in the pledge to the American Flag and asked for a moment of silence for the passing of Beverly Hardy, the sister of Tracy Dake and for Buddy Logan who is dealing with serious health issues.

Item No. 1. Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of Agenda Setting Meeting of the Public Hearing of August 29, 2016 and the Agenda Setting Meeting of August 29, 2016. Minutes have been distributed.

On motion by Commissioner Bond and second by Commissioner Thomas the Board voted to approve the minutes of the August 29, 2016 Public Hearing and Agenda Setting Meeting. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Bettis and Escoe voted YES. Commissioner Pethel abstained.

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

None

Item No. 3. Chairman's Report.

Chairman Dove read a proclamation naming September 17 through September 23 Constitution Week in Madison County.

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

Chairman Dove presented a permit application from Atlanta Gas Light for utility encroachment on Moriah Church Road and Johnny McElroy Road.

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

Chairman Dove stated that the SPLOST and LOST figures are up about five percent from this time last year.

Chairman Dove stated that this past week was his birthday and next week will be his best friend and mentor's birthday and he wanted to wish him, his dad, Johnson Dove, a happy 88th birthday. He walked into the audience and gave his dad a hug and had Zach take a photo.

Item No. 4. Hearings and Actions on Rezone Matters, Special Use Permits, Etc. (Linda Fortson and Wayne Douglas)

1. Sharon Keller is representing Brendel King's Estate. She is requesting to rezone 2 acres with the existing home from A1 to RR. The 28 acre property is located on Wildcat Bridge Road on Map 65 Parcel 35 in District 4.

Zoning Administrator Linda Fortson explained the rezone request and stated that the Planning and Zoning Board voted seven (7) to zero (0) to approve.

Chairman Dove asked if anyone would like to speak in favor of the request. The applicant, Sharon Keller, stated that she was in favor of the request.

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

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

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

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.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Item No. 6. Consider hiring Kyle Ford to fill a vacant full time EMS position. (Bobby Smith)

In Mr. Smith's absence, EMS Supervisor Frankie Crane presented the name of Kyle Ford for consideration to fill a vacant full time EMS position.

On motion by Commissioner Escoe and second by Commissioner Pethel the Board voted to hire Kyle Ford. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 7. Consider hiring Kristen Spires, Taylor Holloman, Wendy Ryan and Robert Lockwood for EMS part time call in list.

EMS Supervisor Frankie Crane presented the names of Kristen Spires, Taylor Holloman, Wendy Ryan and Robert Lockwood for consideration to add to the EMS part time call in list.

On motion by Commissioner Thomas and second by Commissioner Bettis the Board voted to hire Kristen Spires, Taylor Holloman, Wendy Ryan and Robert Lockwood. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 8. Consider hiring Brittany Daniel to fill a vacant dispatcher position. (David Camp)

911 Director David Camp presented the name of Brittany Daniel for consideration to fill a vacant dispatcher position.

On motion by Commissioner Bettis and second by Commissioner Bond the Board voted to hire Brittany Daniel. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 9. Consider hiring for two vacant Road Department positions. (Alan Lapczynski)

In Mr. Lapczynski's absence, Chairman Dove presented the names of Corey Parker and Troy Woodruff for consideration to fill vacant positions at the Road Department.

On motion by Commissioner Escoe and second by Commissioner Bond the Board voted to hire Corey Parker and Troy Woodruff. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 10. Consider hiring for a vacant Building and Grounds position. (Alan Lapczynski)

Chairman Dove presented the name of Steven Moss for consideration to fill a vacant position in the Building and Grounds Department.

On motion by Commissioner Bettis and second by Commissioner Bond the Board voted to hire Steven Moss. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 11. Discuss Employee Wellness Program. (Chairman Dove)

Commissioner Bettis opened the discussion with her belief in the benefits of having employee participation in a wellness program.

Commissioner Bettis made a motion to implement a wellness program with a 2017-2018 premium discount to employees who participate. Commissioner Bond seconded the motion.

After further discussion, Commissioner Escoe made a motion to have the county pay 90% of employees' 2017-2018 health insurance premium unless the employee gets a physical and completes the online Health Risk Assessment survey, then the county will pay 100% of the employee's health insurance premium. Commissioner Bettis seconded the motion.

After further discussion regarding the Board's wishes to not bind the next Board with this decision, Commissioner Escoe withdrew his motion and Commissioner Bettis withdrew her second.

Chairman Dove asked for a vote on Commissioner Bettis' initial motion, which Commissioner Bond seconded, to implement a wellness program with a 2017-2018 premium discount to employees who participate. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond and Bettis voted YES. Commissioners Pethel and Escoe voted NO.

Discussion continued regarding the exact wording of the motion as to not bind the next Board.

On motion by Commissioner Bond and second by Commissioner Thomas the Board voted to rescind the previous action regarding their vote for a 2017-2018 health incentive program. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

The Board sought County Attorney Mike Pruett's advice on the wording of the motion. Mr. Pruett wrote and read a suggested motion based on the numerous discussions. The Board agreed with the wording and Commissioner Bettis read it as her motion.

On motion by Commissioner Bettis and second by Commissioner Bond the Board voted that effective immediately, all county employees are offered the opportunity to, at no cost to themselves, (1) complete the CIGNA online Health Risk Assessment survey and (2) have an annual physical, and submit proof to the Board of Commissioners' Office. Further, it recommends that the Board taking office as of January 1, 2017, offer incentive for the 2017-2018 health plan year to employees who complete these activities. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 12. Discuss selling county owned parcels of land acquired after auctions. (Chairman Dove)

Chairman Dove stated that some of the properties that are owned by the county are land locked or off of main roads and citizens have asked if they may be purchased. County Attorney Mike Pruett said that normally county owned property has to go to auction or sealed bid to be sold, but if the land is odd shaped or land locked it may be offered to abutting property owners.

Commissioner Bond made a motion to have the county attorney look at all county properties that are unusable and could be sold. The motion failed for a lack of second.

Item No. 13. Roads Update

Commissioner Thomas said that the grass needs to be cut on Sanford Road.

Commissioner Pethel said that Newtown Church Road has been grubbed and graded for months and he made a motion to ask for bids to pave Newtown Church Road. Commissioner Escoe seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Thomas, Bond, Bettis, Pethel and Escoe voted YES.

Item No. 14. Urgent Matters

There were no urgent matters.

Item No. 15. Statements and Remarks from Citizens.

Chairman Dove asked if there were any statements or remarks.

Karen Hitchcock of Stone Stewart Road addressed the Board regarding a problem with water run-off from the road into the yard. Chairman Dove said that he would have Road Superintendent Alan Lapczynski look at alternative paving methods and give the Board a cost estimate.

Chairman Dove asked if anyone else would like to address the Board.

Hoke Strickland addressed the Board regarding a water problem on C.O. Draper Road. Chairman Dove said that he would have Road Superintendent Alan Lapczynski look into the problem.

**Item No. 15. Executive Session to discuss land acquisition, personnel matters and/or potential litigation
(if needed)**

There was no need for executive session.

Item No. 16. Adjourn

On motion by Commissioner Pethel and second by Commissioner Bond the Board unanimously agreed to adjourn at 7:55 p.m.