

MINUTES

BIBB COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

May 6, 2008

The regular meeting of the Bibb County Board of Commissioners was held in the Commission Boardroom on Tuesday, May 6, 2008 at 6:00 p.m.

Board Members present: Chairman Charles W. Bishop, Vice Chairman Bert Bivins, III, Commissioner Joe O. Allen, Commissioner Elmo A. Richardson, Jr. and Commissioner Lonzy Edwards.

Staff present: Virgil Adams, County Attorney; Barry Smallwood, Purchasing Agent; Doug Furney, Director of Lake Tobesofkee; Tony Rousey, Director of Information & Technology Services; Ken Sheets, County Engineer; Sam Kitchens, Buildings & Property, Shelia Thurmond, Clerk of the Board; Janice Ross, Administrative Assistant, Barbara Wood, Public Affairs Officer; Bel Wall, Human Resources, Deborah Booker, Human Resources.

News Media present: Keich Whicker, The Telegraph.

PRAYER FOR THE DAY

In the absence of a guest minister, Commissioner Lonzy Edwards rendered the prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

ANNOUNCEMENTS – None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Commissioner Edwards and seconded by Commissioner Richardson and carried, the regular meeting Minutes of April 15, 2008 were approved as written.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Chairman Bishop presented a resolution and print of the Courthouse to:

- The Honorable Ed DeFore, Macon City Council, on the occasion of changing the name of the Bibb County Sports Complex to the Ed DeFore Sports Complex.

Mr. DeFore thanked all of the commissioners for the special recognition and honor.

Next, Chairman Bishop presented a check from the Association County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG) in the amount of \$3,500.00 representing a Health Promotion and Wellness Incentive Grant for 2008 to Mrs. Bel Wall and Mrs. Deborah Booker of Human Resources, who he thanked for their efforts in securing the grant.

Next, Chairman Bishop presented a resolution and print of the Courthouse to:

- Mrs. Teresa Watkins on the occasion of her past membership on the Macon-Bibb County Planning & Zoning Commission.

Mrs. Watkins thanked the Board for the special recognition and stated that it was a pleasure to serve on the Planning and Zoning Commission and that she still loves Macon and Bibb County.

Next, Chairman Bishop presented a resolution to:

- Mr. Don Mince, Manager, Office of Child Support Services, Macon Judicial Circuit, in recognition of the month of May as "Child Support Services Month" in Bibb County.

Chairman Bishop recognized and welcomed the following visitors:

Hazel Giddens	Johnny Mae Dawkins	Jacqueline West
Donald Richardson, Jr.	Damon King	Don Bradford
Nettie Thomas	The Hon. Ed DeFore	Edwina Barnes
Lindsay Abernathy	Don Mince	Janice Jordan
Judy Hopkins	Emma Dell White	Vernon Ryle
Theresa Watkins	James Thomas	Arthur Hubbard
Chan Layson	Clifford Johnson	Don Banks

Ms. Johnnie Mae Dawkins addressed the Board stating that she was requesting that a two sided sign be placed at the corner of Jeffersonville and Mogul Roads indicating the Kings Park Subdivision.

Chairman Bishop stated that Ms. Dawkins' request will be referred to the Engineering/Public Works Committee.

REFERRALS:

The following item was referred to **Engineering/Public Works Committee:**

1. Correspondence from Mr. F. Bradford Wilson, Jr., Attorney at Law, on behalf of his client, Mr. Henry W. Arrington, II, requesting a variance or an exemption as authorized by Bibb County Code § 15-30 from the service charges due to inaccessibility or other good cause.

The following items were referred to **Ordinances and Resolutions Committee:**

1. Consideration of a resolution in support of the Georgia Music Hall of Fame and the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame specifically, levying an additional one percent (1%) hotel and motel excise tax to fund the maintenance of these venues.

2. Correspondence from Mrs. Nancy White, Macon City Council, respecting a public/private partnership for Animal Control & Shelter. Specifically, she would like the City/County to contract with Humane Services for the shelter, sterilization, adoption & euthanasia of the animals. Also, the County is asked to partner with the City to collect pet licensing fees, with the condition that the collected licensing fees are dedicated to the animal shelter.

The following item was referred to **Pension Committee:**

1. Correspondence from Mr. Cliff Howard, Public Works Operations, requesting a hearing on the matter of reinstatement of his service time.

The following item was referred to **Properties Committee:**

1. Correspondence from Ms. Alison Souther, Macon-Bibb County Land Bank Authority, Inc., requesting the transfer of several Bibb County Sheriff's Deed properties for purposes of supporting the HOPE VI grant application to redevelop Tindall Heights public housing.

RECORD AND INFORMATION:

1. Monthly departmental reports and agency activities received for record; Clerk of State Court.

ACTION:

1. Ratification of the following resolutions of the Board of Commissioners:
 - declaring the month of April 2008 as "*Fair Housing Month*" in Bibb County;
 - declaring April 12th as "*Miracle League Day*" in Bibb County;
 - declaring the week of April 13-19 as "*National Crime Victims' Rights Week*" in Bibb County;
 - declaring April 28th as "*Workers Memorial Day*" in Bibb County.
 - designating May 1st as "*Law Day*" in Bibb County;
 - designating Sunday, May 4th as "*Inter-Faith Community Choir Day*" in Bibb County;

On motion of Commissioner Richardson and seconded by Commissioner Edwards and carried, the before mentioned resolutions were ratified.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – No Report.

ENGINEERING/PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE – Committee Chairman Bivins reported the following:

1. The Committee recommends that a traffic signal be installed on Columbus Road at Harrison Road/Interstate Drive. The Committee further recommends that the County Engineer be authorized to order materials for the signal and that the Traffic Engineer present a cost estimate for installation labor at the next meeting.

On motion of Commissioner Bivins and carried, the before mentioned recommendation was approved as presented.

2. The Committee recommends that the Chairman be authorized to sign the Joint Funding Agreement between Bibb County and the US Department of the Interior for the operation and maintenance of the stream flow gauging station on Tobesofkee Creek

On motion of Commissioner Bivins and carried, the before mentioned recommendation was approved as presented.

3. The Committee recommends that the petitions for the registration of Willow Cove, Tobee Drive, Big Pine Drive, Little Hickory Drive and Big Oak Circle be approved and that said roads be entered on the Official Road Register for maintenance by County forces.

On motion of Commissioner Bivins and carried, the before mentioned recommendation was approved as presented.

LICENSE & TAX COMMITTEE – Committee Chairman Bivins reported the following:

1. The License and Tax Committee respectfully denies the request of Mrs. Lillian Davis requesting a refund of the late charges (\$6.50) for the late payment of her business license fee and exemption from garbage service fees.

On motion of Commissioner Bivins and carried, the before mentioned recommendation was approved as presented.

MACON WATER AUTHORITY – No Report.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT – Commissioner Bivins reported that the 5th District of the Georgia Department of Human Resources has recommended that they do what's called a tabletop exercise on the Pandemic Flu. He stated that the exercise is scheduled for May 13, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 Noon, with lunch provided. He also stated there is some funding that should come to the County to cover the cost or funding that may be used. He added that the money can only be granted if there are three (3) elected officials attend the exercise. He stated that he plans to be there and that Leon Jones plans to be there. He asked if anybody else could attend, it would be helpful.

LAND BANK AUTHORITY – No Report.

FINANCE, TAX AND REVENUE COMMITTEE – Committee Chairman Richardson reported the following:

1. Finance Committee recommends extending the Term Contract with Mitchell's Automotive covering Vehicle Maintenance and Repair for the period of July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009 at the same unit prices.

On motion of Commissioner Richardson and carried, the before mentioned recommendation was approved as presented.

2. Finance Committee recommends extending the Term Contract with Macon Communications covering Radio Maintenance for the period of July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009 at the same unit prices.

On motion of Commissioner Richardson and carried, the before mentioned recommendation was approved as presented.

3. Finance Committee recommends extending the Term Contract with Macon Communications covering Emergency Warning Siren Maintenance for the period of July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009 at the same unit prices.

On motion of Commissioner Richardson and carried, the before mentioned recommendation was approved as presented.

4. Finance Committee recommends extending the Term Contract with Southern Safety Supply covering Fire Extinguisher Maintenance for the period of July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009 at the same unit prices.

On motion of Commissioner Richardson and carried, the before mentioned recommendation was approved as presented.

5. Finance Committee recommends extending the Term Contract with Amercare covering Dentifrice for the period of July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009 at the same unit prices.

On motion of Commissioner Richardson and carried, the before mentioned recommendation was approved as presented.

6. The Finance Committee recommends approval of authorization for Chairman Bishop to sign the lease agreement with A.T. Holt for parking spaces in Walnut Street Lane for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009 at a rate of \$225 per month.

On motion of Commissioner Richardson and carried, the before mentioned recommendation was approved as presented.

7. The Finance Committee recommends approval of a Supplemental Appropriation to the FY 2008 Tobesofkee Recreation Area Fund in the amount of \$4,650.00.

On motion of Commissioner Richardson and carried, the before mentioned recommendation was approved as presented.

8. Finance Committee recommends awarding the bid for Air Handlers to Conditioned Air, Inc. in the amount of \$329,560.00. Finance Committee further recommends approving a supplemental appropriation from the Commissary Fund in the amount of \$77,160.00.

On motion of Commissioner Richardson and carried, the before mentioned recommendation was approved as presented.

9. Finance Committee recommends awarding the bid for a New Vehicle to Carl Gregory Dodge in the amount of \$21,348.00.

On motion of Commissioner Richardson and carried, the before mentioned recommendation was approved by a 4-1 vote. Commissioner Bivins cast the dissenting vote.

10. Finance Committee recommends awarding the bid for (one) Early Warning Siren to Macon Communications in the amount of \$19,992.00.

On motion of Commissioner Richardson and carried, the before mentioned recommendation was approved as presented.

11. The Finance Committee recommends approval of authorization for Chairman Bishop to sign a resolution authorizing the submission of an EIP Grant with regard to development for Kumho Tire in the Sofkee Industrial Park.

On motion of Commissioner Richardson and carried, the before mentioned recommendation was approved as presented.

RISK MANAGEMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY – Committee Chairman Richardson reported the following:

1. The Risk Management and Public Safety Committee authorized the chairman to sign the necessary documents for the Inmate Health Insurance Program through the Association County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG) and Blue Cross Blue Shield.

On motion of Commissioner Richardson and carried, the before mentioned recommendation was approved as presented.

PROPERTIES COMMITTEE – No Report.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE – Committee Chairman Allen reported the following:

1. The Ordinance and Resolution Committee recommends amending Chapter 4 of the Code of Bibb County to include an Anti-tethering Ordinance.

Commissioner Allen read the Ordinance by the following caption:

An Ordinance Of The Board Of Commissioners Of Bibb County, Georgia, To Amend Chapter 4 Of The Code Of Bibb County, Georgia Entitled "Animals;" To Provide An Effective Date; To Repeal Conflicting Ordinances; And For Other Purposes.

On motion of Commissioner Allen and carried, the before mentioned ordinance was adopted.

HUMAN RESOURCES AND INFORMATION SERVICES COMMITTEE – Committee Chairman Edwards reported the following:

1. The Human Resources and Information Service committee ratifies the previous action taken by the board to eliminate the definition under the Personnel Policy Pay Administration Section D-2 second paragraph:

"A person promoted more than one pay grade must always receive more than he or she would have received if he or she would be granted one grade promotion."

On motion of Commissioner Edwards and carried, the before mentioned recommendation was approved as presented.

TOBESOFKEE COMMITTEE – Committee Chairman Edwards reported the following:

1. The Tobesofkee Committee recommends approval of a contract with Pyrotecnico to provide fireworks for the July 4th "Sparks Over the Park" fireworks display.

On motion of Commissioner Edwards and carried, the before mentioned recommendation was approved as presented.

2. The Tobesofkee Committee recommends approval of the request from the American Red Cross to use the Lower Pavilion at Sandy Beach on June 8, 2008 for their Annual Donor Recognition Picnic. The Committee further recommends that all fees be waived.

On motion of Commissioner Edwards and carried, the before mentioned recommendation was approved as presented.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS – Commissioner Edwards stated there was one item he'd like to raise. He stated that in the packets they received, there was a request regarding two appointments to River Edge. He then asked if that was something the Board needed to act on now.

Chairman Bishop responded that the matter will be taken up at a future meeting and the appointees at that time can either be voted up or down.

Commissioner Edwards raised a second item. He stated that the matter listed under tonight's Referrals having to do with a resolution for the Georgia Music Hall of Fame and Sports Hall of Fame and the raising of an additional one percent hotel and motel excise tax to fund the maintenance of these venues. He stated that his question, just for information, is where did this come from? He added that he knows the Tubman Museum is there as well as the Children's Museum.

Chairman Bishop responded that the matter would be addressed in committee that now was not the proper time to bring it up.

Commissioner Edwards countered that he thinks it is a fair and reasonable question.

Chairman Bishop reiterated that it was out of order.

Commissioner Edwards responded that if he was ruling it out of order he disagrees but accepts the ruling.

Before the discussion ended, Chairman Bishop recalled that the document was submitted by Newtown Macon.

Commissioner Edwards stated that his question had been answered.

Next, Commissioner Allen reported that earlier today, they had an elderly lady to come in about a matter she was having with her finances. He stated that he has been on the Board a long time and that he's only seen this happen twice. He stated that the commissioners came out of their pockets to help this citizen, who did not have the means to take care of what she had to. He congratulated his fellow Board members for providing her the assistance. He added that was what government was all about---taking care of people who need help.

Next, Chairman Bishop asked for everyone's thoughts and prayers, particularly the Commissioners, for the family of Charles Moate. He stated that Mr. Moate was his friend for 59 years and had been the plumbing inspector for the City of Macon. Chairman Bishop stated that he was hit, head-on, on Gray Highway about a week ago and that he passed away today as a result of those injuries. He again asked for everyone's prayers for the family.

There being no further business and on motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Shelia Thurmond, Clerk of the Board