

MINUTES

BIBB COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

July 15, 2008

The regular meeting of the Bibb County Board of Commissioners was held in the Commission Boardroom on Tuesday, July 15, 2008 at 6:00 p.m.

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

Vice Chairman Bert Bivins, III, was absent.

Staff present: Steve Layson, Chief Administrative Officer; Virgil Adams, County Attorney; Christy Iulucci, Assistant Finance Director; Sam Kitchens, Director of Building and Properties, Doug Furney, Director of Lake Tobesofkee; Tony Rousey, Director of Information & Technology Services; Ken Sheets, County Engineer; Shelia Thurmond, Clerk of the Board, Janice Ross, Administrative Assistant and Barbara Wood, Public Relations Officer.

News Media: Jennifer Burk, The Telegraph.

PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Chaplain Jim Waters of the Methodist Children's Home rendered the prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

ANNOUNCEMENTS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There being no objection to the minutes of the regular meeting of July 1, 2008, Chairman Bishop stated they were approved as written.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Chairman Bishop recognized and welcomed the following visitors:

Wade Horton
Vennis Horton

Nettie Thomas
Mason Smith

Hazel Giddens

REFERRALS:

The following items were referred to the **Engineering/Public Works Committee:**

1. Correspondence (*dated January 21, 2008*) from Stephen L. Smith, Moon Family Properties, Inc., requesting that the County partner with Hartley Properties, LLC, in accomplishing a number of road improvements along Hartley Bridge Road and Mt. Pleasant Church Road as it relates to Hartley Station, a south Bibb County development.
2. Petition from Rose Goette for the registration of Richard Ivey Drive as a public road of Bibb County.

The following item was referred to the **License and Tax Committee:**

1. Correspondence from J. C. Postell, Sr., requesting that the penalties assessed due to the late purchase of his car tag be refunded.

The following item was referred to the **Risk Management and Public Safety Committee:**

1. Correspondence from the Macon-Bibb County Board of Tax Assessors requesting that the County approve the funding for a security analysis of the first floor of their building and the necessary funding to install adequate security measures for their office.

RECORD AND INFORMATION: None.

ACTION: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ENGINEERING/PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE – No Report.

LICENSE & TAX COMMITTEE – No Report.

MACON WATER AUTHORITY – No Report.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT – No Report.

LAND BANK AUTHORITY – No Report.

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

1. The Finance Committee recommends approval to proceed with the PILOT Agreement and tax exempt financing for Project Kumho.

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

2. The Finance Committee recommends awarding the bid for Safety Shoes and Boots to Red Wing Shoes for the term of July 16, 2008 through June 30, 2009 at the unit prices bid.

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

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

1. Risk Management and Public Safety Committee accepts the recommendation of the County Attorney as it relates to the subrogation request of United Services Automobile Association (USAA).

ORDINANCE & RESOLUTION COMMITTEE – Committee Chairman Allen reported the following.

1. With regard to the Business Occupation Tax rate changes, the Ordinance and Resolution Committee recommends approval to raise the general license fees to \$39 per employee and \$65 for the administrative fee. These increases will be effective January 1, 2009.

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

County Attorney Adams asked to be heard on this issue. He stated that it's a little bit confusing the way it's set up. He stated that it was his understanding that the Board wants to raise the occupation tax not the license fee. The Board members concurred. He stated that Commissioner Allen asked him if there had to be any advertisement to raise license fees. He stated there was nothing in the code that deals with that. However, he did say there is a general provision that says any time you make a change, whatever the change is or pass an ordinance dealing with the occupation tax, you have to have a public hearing. He stated what he would suggest on that is that it be deferred and that they go ahead and set a public hearing. He added that it could be done before the next Board meeting.

On motion of Commissioner Edwards and seconded by Commissioner Richardson and carried, the matter was deferred.

Mr. Adams stated that he would get with the Clerk on setting up the public hearing.

2. The Ordinance and Resolution Committee recommends approval of the Bibb County Five Year Short Term Work Program.

Commissioner Allen read the resolution by the following caption:

A Resolution of Bibb County submitting the Bibb County Five Year Short Term Work Program to the Middle Georgia RDC for Compliance Review.

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

PROPERTIES COMMITTEE – No Report.

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

1. The Human Resources and Information Services Committee recommends the appropriation of \$39,888 which will be finalized in the Finance Committee for the reorganization of the Tax Assessors Office for the purpose of efficiency.

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 to waive fees for admission and shelter/picnic use for the Recruit Sustainment Program of the Georgia Army National Guard on Saturday, July 26, 2008.

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

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – No Report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS – Chairman Bishop stated that he was getting a lot of compliments on quickness and response of the County in regards to the Mother's Day Tornado Debris Clean-up. He stated Engineering and Public Works played a key part in that and as such, the Board had talked about doing something to show its appreciation. He stated that they had been given a day off. He stated that the Board had also talked about giving them a small token of appreciation. He suggested that the Board consider giving them an Employee Appreciation Day at Lake Tobesofkee to include hamburgers and hotdogs.

Commissioner Edwards asked if this event would be for all employees.

Chairman Bishop responded that he doesn't have a problem doing it for everybody, but he especially thinks it should be done for Engineering/Public Works employees since they had to cancel their annual "Public Works Week" activities. He added that these employees are the ambassadors for Bibb County, the ones that make the County look good and it's only because of their work that he got the compliments he did.

Chairman Bishop then called for a motion to offer the Board congratulations and appreciation to these employees. **The motion was made by Commissioner Edwards and seconded by Commissioner Richardson and carried unanimously.**

Commissioner Allen added that the Tobesofkee employees did a good job, too, getting the park cleaned up and he'd like for them to be a part of the Appreciation effort. Chairman Bishop stated that he doesn't have a problem with that.

There being no further business and on motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Shelia Thurmond, Clerk of the Board