

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**  
**BIBB COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**July 21, 2009**

The regular monthly meeting of the Bibb County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, July 21, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Boardroom at the Bibb County Courthouse.

Board Members present were Chairman Samuel F. Hart, Sr., Vice Chairman Joe O. Allen, Commissioner Elmo A. Richardson, Jr., Commissioner Bert Bivins, III and Commissioner Lonzy Edwards.

Staff in attendance was Steve Layson, Chief Administrative Officer; Virgil Adams, County Attorney; Ken Sheets, County Engineer; Sam Kitchens, Director of Buildings and Properties; Doug Furney, Director of Lake Tobesofkee; Marilu Cowan, Director of Human Resources and Risk Management; Tony Rousey, Director of Information Technology; Deborah Martin, Director of Finance; Shelia Thurmond, Clerk of the Board, and Janice Ross, Administrative Assistant – BOC.

News media in attendance: Jennifer Burk of The Telegraph.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Sam Hart announced that several members of the Board of Commissioners will be attending the 2009 NACo Annual Conference and Exposition which is scheduled for July 24 – 28, 2009 in Nashville, Tennessee.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

***On motion of Commissioner Richardson, seconded by Commissioner Edwards and carried, the Minutes of the regular meeting on July 7, 2009.***

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS**

Chairman Hart recognized Mr. Craig Ross, Member of the Macon-Bibb County Transit Authority, for an Introduction. Mr. Ross introduced Mr. Rick Jones as the new Executive Director of M-BC Transit Authority. Mr. Jones is from Savannah, Georgia and prior to that he was with MARTA of Atlanta. He stated that the Transit Authority is real pleased to have him and are looking forward to some great things.

Chairman Hart welcomed Mr. Jones and stated that they look forward to working with him.

## **REFERRALS:**

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

1. Correspondence from Frederick P. McKinney, Wilcox State Prison, seeking assistance in an endeavor to reduce recidivism in Bibb County.

## **RECORD AND INFORMATION:**

1. Correspondence from Darryl Johnson, General Manager, Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., Return Center 9194 giving notice that its Return Center located at 3220 Avondale Mill Road in Macon will permanently close on September 13, 2009, and at present, they anticipate that associated employment losses may meet the thresholds of the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification (WARN) Act.

## **ACTION:**

1. Ratification of the following Resolutions:
  - presented to Ms. Sandra Williams upon her retirement from Bibb County on July 1, 2009 after rendering 25 years and three months of dedicated service to the Tax Assessor's Office.

**On motion of Commissioner Edwards, seconded by Commissioner Richardson and carried, the before noted resolution was ratified.**

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

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

1. The Committee recommends that the petition to pave Reese Drive be approved on an assessment basis with the abutting property owners incurring 2/3 of the cost and the County incurring the remaining 1/3. The Committee further recommends that work begin when prior commitments have been fulfilled and monies become available.

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

2. The Committee recommends that the CAO and his Staff investigate the cost of maintaining Interstate Highways and Interchanges in the unincorporated area and that the Chairman talk with the Mayor Reichert regarding the same within the Macon City Limit.

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

3. The Committee recommends that the Traffic Engineer perform a study on Mosely Dixon Road at the entrance to Claystone Park to determine improvements needed to enhance safety at the intersection. The Committee further recommends that, in the meantime, temporary warning signs be installed on both sides of the intersection to include light flashers.

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

4. The Committee recommends approval of an ordinance establishing a program in Bibb County for the use of speed tables on County Roads. County Attorney Virgil Adams read the ordinance by the following caption:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BIBB COUNTY, GEORGIA TO AMEND CHAPTER 18 OF THE CODE OF BIBB COUNTY, GEORGIA BY ADDING A NEW ARTICLE THREE ADOPTING A PROGRAM FOR THE INSTALLATION OF SPEED TABLES ON COUNTY RESIDENTIAL STREETS; 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 as read.**

Commissioner Edwards requested that said ordinance be posed the County's website so that constituents who may be interested in this program will have access to the information in a timely manner. There was no objection to the request and Mr. Rousey stated it would be no problem.

**TOBESOFKEE COMMITTEE** – No Report.

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

1. The Committee recommends the approval of the continuation of the Dependent Eligibility Audit.

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

2. The Committee recommends approval to adjust the position of Probation Officer Aid to Probation Officer at a salary of \$35,910.00 in the Adult Probation and Parole Department

Commissioner stated that this does not violate the budget policy the Board adopted. He added that the financial impact is fairly minimal (around \$300 - \$400).

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

3. The Committee approves the Employee Arrest; Indictment; Conviction Policy with changes indicated by the County Attorney.

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

**RISK MANAGEMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE** – No Report.

**ORDINANCE & RESOLUTION COMMITTEE** – No Report.

**PROPERTIES COMMITTEE** – Committee Chairman Commissioner Bivins reported the following:

1. The Committee recommends authorizing the Director of Building and Properties to proceed with submitting a RFP in order to make repairs to the Health Department Energy Wheels.

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

**MACON WATER AUTHORITY** – No Report.

**LAND BANK AUTHORITY** – No Report.

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT** – Commissioner Bivins reported that the 5<sup>th</sup> District Health Office is setting up another Table Top Exercise for the Pandemic Flu which should occur around September. He stated that parties from all over the community will come and look at where they are and where they stand as far as preparation.

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

1. The Committee recommends that Chairman Hart be authorized to negotiate a lease with the Bibb County Board of Education for the lease of Henderson Stadium and the Ed Defore Sports Complex.

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

2. The Committee recommends that \$20,000 from Hotel/Motel Tax originally designated in the FY 2010 budget for transfer to the Tobesofkee Fund be used for support of the Georgia Music Hall of Fame.

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

3. The Committee recommends renewing the term contract with Pro Power Systems covering Generator Maintenance for the term of September 1, 2009 through August 31, 2010 at the same unit prices.

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

4. The Committee recommends approval of a negative budget adjustment in the amount of \$43,000 to the Tax Commissioner's budget to account for an employee that was terminated.

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

**LICENSE & TAX COMMITTEE** – Committee Chairman Richardson reported the following:

1. The Committee recommends approving the New 2009 alcoholic beverage license applications for the following establishments:
  - Margaritas Mexican Grill #2 Inc. located at 5451 Bowman Road
  - Andy's Liquor Mart located at 6251 Zebulon Road

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

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE** – Chairman Hart reported the following:

1. Ratification of action of the Committee of the Whole recommending that the Telegraph site remains in consideration as one of the sites for the possible location of the Justice Center and authorizes the architectural firm to proceed with a Phase 1 Environmental Study. The Committee further recommends that at no time more than four sites be considered as possible locations for the new Justice Center.

**On motion of Commissioner Bivins, seconded by Commissioner Allen and carried, the before mentioned action was ratified by a 3 to 2 vote. Commissioners Richardson and Edwards cast the dissenting votes.**

2. Ratification of action of the Committee of the Whole authorizing the Chairman to sign the necessary documents and resolution for the Joint Application on behalf of the City of Macon and Bibb County to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs for a CDBG-Disaster Grant.

**On motion of Commissioner Allen, seconded by Commissioner Richardson and carried, the before mentioned action was ratified.**

**NEW BUSINESS** – None.

There being no further business and on motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

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Shelia Thurmond, CCC  
Clerk of the Board