

**MINUTES
BIBB COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

November 20, 2007

The regular meeting of the Bibb County Board of Commissioners was held in the Commission Boardroom on Tuesday, November 20, 2007 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: Mr. Virgil Adams, County Attorney; Mr. Doug Furney, Director of Lake Tobesofkee; Mr. Tony Rousey, Director of Information & Technology Services; Mr. Ken Sheets, County Engineer; Mr. Tommy Brown, Human Resources Director; Mr. Sam Kitchens, Director of Buildings & Properties; Mr. Barry Smallwood, Purchasing Agent; Mrs. Shelia Thurmond, Clerk of the Board; Mrs. Janice Ross, Board of Commissioners; Mrs. Barbara Wood, Public Affairs Officer.

News Media:

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

Chairman Bishop announced that the Courthouse will be closed Thursday and Friday for Thanksgiving. He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving with lots of good food and fellowship with their families and added that we all have a lot to be thankful for during this season.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Commissioner Richardson, seconded by Commissioner Edwards and carried, the Minutes of the Regular meeting of November 6, 2007 and Special Called Emergency Meeting of November 13, 2007 were approved as written.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Chairman Bishop recognized and welcomed the following visitors:

Nettie Thomas
Clifford Johnson

Hazel Giddens
Carol Lystlund

Carolyn Bishop
Dr. Lindsay Holliday

Chairman Bishop recognized the Clerk of the Board for the reading of the Board Agenda.

REFERRALS:

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

1. Correspondence from E. M. Rigby, Jr. regarding his assessment for the paving of Britt Road.

RECORD AND INFORMATION:

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

ACTION:

1. Ratification of Resolutions of the Board of Commissioners:

- Presented to Mary Williams upon her retirement from the Bibb County Tax Commissioner's Office after 26 plus years of service;

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

- Presented to Donald McLain upon his retirement from the Bibb County Sheriff's Office after ten years of service;

On motion of Commissioner Edwards and seconded by Commissioner Allen and carried, the before mentioned resolution was ratified.

- Presented to the Nathaniel Macon Chapter, Georgia Society Daughters of the American Revolution for their efforts to recognize and celebrate American Indian Heritage Month in Bibb County;

On motion of Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioner Bivins and carried, the before mentioned resolution was ratified.

- Presented to the Macon-Bibb County Economic Opportunity Council in recognition of the value of its Foster Grandparent Program to the youth and senior citizens in Bibb County;

On motion of Commissioner Edwards and seconded by Commissioner Allen and carried, the before mentioned resolution was ratified.

- Presented to Raymond L. Wilkes in recognition of his contributions to law enforcement in Bibb County for 40 years, including 16 years as Sheriff of Bibb County.

On motion of Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioner Edwards and carried, the before mentioned resolution was ratified on a four-to-one (4-1) vote. Commissioner Bivins cast the dissenting vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – No Report.

LICENSE & TAX COMMITTEE – No Report.

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

1. The Committee recommends that the Chairman be authorized to sign the Right-of-Way Agreement between Bibb County and the Department of Transportation for the Houston Avenue Road Improvements, from Eisenhower Parkway to Newberg Avenue, PR000-S010-00(634).

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

2. The Committee recommends that the petitions to register Abington Way and Abington Court be approved and that said roads be placed 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.

3. With regards to the request of Marvin F. Peterman, 1944 Tucker Road, that he be exempt from solid waste collection service, the committee reports that service is mandatory for all occupied dwellings in the County and, therefore, recommends that the request be respectfully denied. The Committee further recommends that the County Engineer correspond with Mr. Peterman with information regarding backdoor service and financial exemptions for which he may apply.

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

4. The Committee recommends approval of the following Resolutions and Declarations of Taking to authorize certain proceedings in eminent domain for the purpose of acquiring right-of-way and temporary construction easements on the Houston Avenue Road Improvement Project, RIP#36:

- Parcel No. 165: 0.002 acres of right-of-way and 708 sq. ft. of easement
- Parcel No. 188: 1331 sq. ft. of easement
- Parcel No. 189: 0.013 acres of right-of-way and 463 sq. ft. of easement
- Parcel No. 191: 0.014 acres of right-of-way and 1915 sq. ft. of easement
- Parcel No. 193: 0.006 acres of right-of-way and 830 sq. ft. of easement
- Parcel No. 202: 0.006 acres of right-of-way and 1443 sq. ft. of easement
- Parcel No. 206: 0.012 acres of right-of-way and 1122 sq. ft. of easement
- Parcel No. 207: 0.014 acres of right-of-way and 723 sq. ft. of easement

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

MACON WATER AUTHORITY – No Report.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT – No Report.

LAND BANK AUTHORITY – No Report.

HUMAN RESOURCES AND INFORMATION SERVICES COMMITTEE – No Report.

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

1. The Committee recommends approval of a supplemental appropriation to the FY 2008 General Fund Budget in the amount of \$5,088.00 to clean a mold problem in the Higgins Building.

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

2. The Committee recommends approval of a supplemental appropriation to the FY 2008 General Fund Budget in the amount of \$29,950.00 for the purchase of ten (10) laser units for the Georgia State Patrol.

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

3. The Committee recommends approval of a payment schedule with the Middle Georgia Library System for payment of the December 2007 Health Insurance Premium.

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

4. The Committee recommends awarding requisition #53429 covering Replacement Vehicles to Riverside Ford in the amount of \$59,682.15.

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

5. The Committee recommends awarding the contract for Engineering and Design Service for Chiller Replacement to Pruett, Ford and Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$16,000.00, subject to the following changes:

Section C, 8 – ADD: “However, Engineer shall report any discrepancies or deviations from such plans and specifications to the Owner.”

Section D – The last sentence shall be changed from “by the Architect” to read “by the Owner”.

The Committee further recommends authorizing Chairman Bishop to execute the contract once the changes are incorporated.

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

6. Based on the recommendation of the Chief Appraiser, the Committee recommends that Bibb County appeal the assessment ratio penalty for 2006 property tax values. The Committee further recommends authorization for Chairman Bishop to sign any necessary documents related to the appeal.

DISCUSSION

Commissioner Edwards asked County Attorney Adams if he was in a position to give the Board an opinion on the chances of success in appealing the penalty and whether he would inform them before it gets too far down the road.

Mr. Adams stated that he would definitely be in a position to do that by the next meeting.

Chairman Bishop stated that this might be something the Board will want to bring up during the meeting with the Bibb Legislative Delegation in December in order to effect some change in that law.

On motion of Commissioner Richardson and carried, the before mentioned recommendation was approved as presented on a four-to-one (4-1) vote. Commissioner Allen cast the dissenting vote.

7. The Committee recommends awarding the bid for Tractors and Mowers to Yancey Brothers in the amount of \$46,030.00.

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

8. The Committee recommends extending the term contract for Security Guard Services with Sizemore, Inc. for the term of January 1, 2008 through December 30, 2008.

The Committee further recommends increasing the hourly rate by \$0.65 per hour effective January 1, 2008.

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

9. The Committee recommends extending the term contract for Elevator Maintenance with Kone, Inc. at the same unit prices.

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

10. The Committee recommends approval of a supplemental appropriation to the FY 2008 Commissary Fund in the amount of \$5,029.00 for the purchase of a "Man-Lift" for use at the LEC Complex.

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

TOBESOFKEE COMMITTEE – No Report.

PROPERTIES COMMITTEE – No Report.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE – No Report.

RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – No Report.

Commissioner Edwards asked why it wouldn't be a gratuity if the County is abandoning a piece of property as significant as 1.72 acres.

County Attorney Adams responded that the idea is because you've got some development that's going to be taking place as a result of them getting that abandoned right-of-way so then you're actually getting some consideration.

COUNTY ATTORNEY – No Report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

On motion of Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioner Richardson and carried, the following matter was allowed for discussion.

Authorization for Chairman Bishop to sign Contract between GDOT and Bibb County regarding Houston Avenue.

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

Vice Chairman Bivins stated that he thought they were supposed to deal with the Job Shadow Program with Renaissance Academy today.

Tommy Brown, Human Resources Director, responded that a call was made to the individual but that he has not been able to make contact and that's where it is right now.

Commissioner Edwards asked County Attorney Adams if he was in a position to give the Board an update on the Mediation procedures.

Mr. Adams responded that he has not been able to tie it down. He stated the judge they're looking at is a senior judge and that he's not always in the office and as such, he's having a difficult time trying to pin that down.

Commissioner Edwards stated he fully understands that.

Mr. Adams added that the last contact he made was this past Friday and he waiting to here. He stated if he doesn't hear, they may have to switch gears. He also stated he thinks that will be a good choice.

Commissioner Edwards stated he agrees and thanked Mr. Adams.

NEW BUSINESS

There being no further business and on motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Shelia Thurmond, Clerk of the Board