

March 15, 2011
Statesboro, GA

Regular Meeting

The Board of Commissioners met at 8:30 a.m. in the Community Room of the North Main Annex. Chairman Nevil welcomed guests and called the meeting to order. Commissioner Carolyn Ethridge gave the invocation and the pledge of allegiance.

Ms. Maggie Fitzgerald, Clerk of the Board, performed the roll call of the commissioners and staff. The following commissioners were present: Chairman Nevil, Vice Chairman Mosley, Commissioner Ethridge, Commissioner Simmons, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Thompson, and Commissioner Gibson. The following staff were present: County Manager Thomas Couch, County Attorney Jeff Akins, Chief Financial Officer Harry Starling, Development Services Director Andy Welch, Area Road Superintendent Mike Boyett, Area Road Superintendent Therman Fail, Buildings and Facilities Maintenance Director Bob Hook, Capital Projects Director and County Engineer Kirk Tatum, Statesboro Bulloch County Parks and Recreation Director Mike Rollins, Public Facilities and Environmental Management Director Bob Smith, Probation Director Christi Black, Public Safety Director Ted Wynn, BCCI Warden Billy Tompkins, Fire Chief Randy Walker, E-911 Director Kelly Barnard, EMS Director Lee Eckles, and Human Resource Director Heather McNeal.

After Roll Call, the first item of business was the approval of the General Agenda. Chairman Nevil asked for amendments or modifications of the General Agenda. County Manager Thomas Couch asked to address the Board, and stated that Elections Superintendent Pat Lanier Jones would be absent from the meeting for personal reasons. Hearing no amendments or modifications, Commissioner Simmons offered a motion to approve the General Agenda as presented. Commissioner Mosley seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

The next item of business was the approval of the Minutes for the Regular Meeting held on March 1, 2011. Chairman Nevil called for corrections or modifications to the Minutes. Without hearing any corrections or modifications, Commissioner Mosley offered a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Ethridge seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Next, Chairman Nevil asked for public comments from the audience at large or in writing. Clerk of the Board Maggie Fitzgerald and County Manager Thomas Couch both stated there were no formal requests or petitions received in writing. Without hearing any comments from the public, Chairman Nevil moved forward to the scheduled Presentation.

Chairman Nevil stated that the Board received one petition to appear before the Board for a Presentation by Mr. Danny Bennett who wishes to discuss the proposed paving of Harmony Church Road. Mr. Bennett stated that the members of Harmony Baptist Church have been trying to get the road paved for over six years, and would like for the Board to give a time frame for possible paving. County Manager Thomas Couch stated that the right-of-ways have been staked for the property owners, and that once the owners are happy with the right-of-ways, County Attorney Jeff Akins will begin the process of having each owner sign a deed. Chairman Nevil and Mr. Couch agreed that securing the funding to pave the road could take two to three years once the deeds have been signed. Pastor Troy Grubbs stated that with a growing congregation, it is important to get the road paved as soon as possible. After further discussion, Chairman Nevil thanked Mr. Bennett and Pastor Grubbs for their comments, and stated that the Staff will continue to work on getting Harmony Church Road paved.

Chairman Nevil stated that the next item on the Agenda was to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: (1) to authorize the submission of an EIP application to the Department of Community Affairs in the amount of \$500,000.00 to assist with the construction of storm water facilities to accommodate Great Dane Limited Partnership at the Gateway Industrial Park; (2) to award a bid for a fire station located on Akins Anderson Road South for construction based on the lowest and most responsible bid to Smith Steel Structures in the amount of \$19,486.00; and (3) to approve an Alcoholic Beverage License for package retail beer and wine sales to Amber Markets, Inc., doing business as the Clito Store. Without discussion, Commissioner Simmons offered a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Mosley seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Without any Old or Unfinished Business, Chairman Nevil stated that the first item of New Business was the discussion and/or action to consider funding for Concerted

Services. Chairman Nevil called on County Manager Thomas Couch to initiate the discussion regarding the matter, and Mr. Couch stated that Concerted Services came in February to request the amount of \$30,000.00 be appropriated for the remainder of FY 2011 for the Title III Meals program, and that funding for FY 2012 would be considered during the budget process. Without discussion, Commissioner Simmons offered a motion to approve the \$30,000.00 funding for FY 2011 for Concerted Services (See Exhibit #2011-26). Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

The second item of New Business was the discussion and/or action to amend the FY 2012 Major Capital Outlays Budget to assist the Town of Portal in order to perform remedial road work at the Portal Crossing subdivision. Chairman Nevil called on County Manager Thomas Couch to initiate discussion regarding the matter, and Mr. Couch stated that the Town of Portal has requested assistance from the County for force work to aid in repairing existing dirt roads after sewer installation in subdivision because Portal does not have the means or the money to perform the work. Mr. Couch stated that if approved, the work could qualify as road improvements where force work and machine costs could be paid from the 2007 Road SPLOST funds. After further discussion, Commissioner Thompson offered a motion to amend the FY 2012 Major Capital Outlays Budget to assist the Town of Portal in order to perform remedial road work at the Portal Crossing subdivision (See Exhibit #2011-27). Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

The third item of New Business was for discussion in the form of briefings from Division Directors. Chairman Nevil called on County Manager Thomas Couch to initiate discussion regarding the matter, and Mr. Couch stated that each Division Director would give a three minute update or briefing to the Board regarding their Department. Development Services Director Andy Welch discussed amending the Sign Ordinance and amending the Zoning Ordinance by rolling back the State requirements in order to save money in the FY 2012 Budget. Probation Director Christi Black stated that she is running out of room at the Probation Office, discussed the large case loads of each Probation Officer, and stated that hiring another officer would actually save the County money in the future. Area Road Superintendents Mike Boyett and Therman Fail gave an

update about the three roads that are in the process of being paved. County Engineer and Capital Projects Director Kirk Tatum discussed the paving of the interior road at Great Dane. Public Facilities and Environmental Management Director Bob Smith gave updates about special events for Keep Bulloch Beautiful, the progress of the retrofits for the energy grant, citations and complaints handled by Code Enforcement, and the new processing facility and curbside recycling. Public Safety Director Ted Wynn stated that an EMS substation is still needed for Brooklet, maintenance and fuel are expensive for EMS, maintenance and fuel are expensive for the Fire Department, millage rates should be levied on forest lands, E-911 needs more money in the training budget, and that adoption rates at the Animal Shelter are down, but that the new debit/credit card machines should improve the rate of funding collection. Statesboro Bulloch County Parks and Recreation Director Mike Rollins stated that the activities programs are staying steady with the help of funding from private organizations with sponsorships. Mr. Rollins also updated the Board about the Mill Creek Tennis Center and the Greenway Trail project. BCCI Warden Billy Tompkins stated that inmate medical costs and food costs are both rising, but with funding from the State and inmate labor crews, the BCCI hardly costs the County anything to operate. Warden Tompkins also discussed the possibility of working with Ogeechee Technical College in the future to use the facilities to train inmates for a trade. Without further discussion from the Division Directors, Chairman Nevil thanked everyone for their Presentations.

With no further items of New Business, Chairman Nevil asked each Commissioner to take thirty seconds for any general comments or statements, beginning with Commissioner Ethridge, and then proceeding down the bench accordingly. Commissioner Ethridge, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Thompson, and Commissioner Gibson all thanked the Division Directors for their presentations and for all of their hard work. Chairman Nevil also thanked the Division Directors for the presentations. Without further discussion, Chairman Nevil asked for comments from the Staff, and County Manager Thomas Couch thanked the Division Directors for their presentations.

Hearing no further comments from the Board or Staff, Chairman Nevil asked for a motion to recess for approximately ten minutes. Commissioner Ethridge offered a

motion to recess for approximately ten minutes. Commissioner Mosley seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The meeting was reconvened after the recess, and Chairman Nevil stated that there was no further business for the open session of the regular agenda, and the Board must close the meeting and enter into Executive Session to discuss Personnel Matters. Chairman Nevil stated that at the conclusion of the Executive Session, which was expected to last about fifteen minutes, the Board would reconvene in all likelihood to move adjournment. Chairman Nevil called for a motion to adjourn into Executive Session in accordance with the provisions of the Official Code of Georgia and other applicable laws, pursuant to the advice of the Chief Corporate Counsel, Jeff Akins, for the purposes of deliberating on Personnel Matters. Without further discussion, Commissioner Gibson offered a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss Personnel Matters (See Exhibit #2011-28). Commissioner Mosley seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. Commissioner Ethridge, Commissioner Simmons, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Thompson, and Commissioner Gibson voted in favor of the motion.

The meeting was reconvened after the Executive Session, and Chairman Nevil asked if there were any further comments from the Commission or Staff. Hearing no further comments from the Board or Staff, Chairman Nevil asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Rushing offered a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

J. Garrett Nevil, Chairman

Attest: Maggie Fitzgerald, Clerk of the Board