

March 17, 2009
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 Tankersley gave the invocation and the pledge of allegiance.

Mrs. Christy Strickland, Deputy Clerk of the Board, performed the roll call of the commissioners and staff. The following commissioners were present: Chairman Nevil, Commissioner Tankersley, Commissioner Simmons, Commissioner Jackson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Thompson, and Commissioner Gibson. The following staff were present: County Manager Thomas Couch, Staff Attorney Jeff Akins, Statesboro Bulloch County Parks and Recreation Director Mike Rollins, Chief Financial Officer Harry Starling, Public Safety Director Ted Wynn, Planning and Zoning Development Director Andy Welch.

Chairman Nevil asked for changes or modifications of the General Agenda. County Manager Thomas Couch asked to address the Board in order to amend the General Agenda by transferring item number one under the Consent Agenda to item number two under New Business for the purpose of the discussion and/or action on proposed changes in the Joint Resolution with the City of Statesboro; under New Business add item number three for the purpose of discussion and/or action for the Chairman to execute an application to the Planning and Zoning Commission regarding the airport overlay district; under the Workshop Agenda add item number one for presentation and/or discussion by Alan Burns, Executive Director of the Coastal Georgia Regional Developmental Center, regarding an internal reorganization that will impact Bulloch County Government. Without hearing any further changes or modifications, Commissioner Tankersley offered a motion to approve the General Agenda with the modifications requested by the County Manager. Commissioner Simmons 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 3, 2009. Commissioner Gibson offered a motion to approve the

minutes of the meeting as presented. Commissioner Rushing seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Chairman Nevil asked for public comments from the audience at large or in writing. There were no petitions received in writing. With no public comments, Chairman Nevil moved on to the next item on the agenda.

The next item on the agenda was to open a public hearing to discuss the submission of the Bulloch County Community Comprehensive Plan Agenda. Commissioner Gibson offered a motion to open the public hearing. Commissioner Jackson seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. Chairman Nevil deferred the item to Mr. Couch. Mr. Couch discussed the Bulloch County Comprehensive Plan, which includes Bulloch County, Brooklet, Portal and Register. The plan consists of three parts: Community Assessment, Community Participation Program, and Community Agenda. The Community Assessment and Community Participation Plan was submitted to the State for review and approved in November 2008. The final part of updating the Comprehensive Plan will be the submission of the Community Agenda. The Community Agenda was developed by the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee with assistance from MACTEC. The document includes: (1) information regarding the development of the plan, (2) goals, policies and strategies that will help achieve the Community Vision, (3) a future development guide and map, and (4) an implementation program, which includes 2003-2007 Short Term Work Program Report of Accomplishment, 2009-2014 Short Term Work Program, and a Long Term Work Program. The Submittal Resolution officially begins the State's review of the plan. Following approval by the State, the Board of Commissioners will formally adopt the Comprehensive Plan if the board so desires. Mr. Couch asked Mr. Welch if he had any additional information on the comprehensive plan. Mr. Welch explained the proposed map is similar to the one that the county is currently using. There are a couple of proposed modifications to the map: (1) Adding areas around the airport, and (2) adding residential districts on the south side of town to be current with the current land use map. After hearing no comments from the public, Commissioner Jackson offered a motion to close the public hearing, Commissioner Gibson seconded and the motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Gibson offered a motion to approve the Resolution to submit the Bulloch County

Community Agenda to the Coastal Regional Development Center for review. Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously (See Exhibit 2009-26).

The next item of business was to approve the Consent Agenda as presented: (1) To authorize the County Manager to award a purchase order and contract for an annual contract for bulk oil and grease to be used in county vehicles and equipment to Stubbs Oil Company (Mobil T. Fluid) in the amount of \$70,722.40 (See Exhibit 2009-27); (2) To approve an amendment to the Sprint-Nextel contract for a change order to the 800 MHz rebanding contract to be paid by Sprint Nextel (See Exhibit 2009-28); and (3) To approve a contract with Pyro Shows for fireworks for the Statesboro Bulloch County Parks and Recreation July 4, 2009 show in the amount of \$15,000.00 (See Exhibit 2009-29). Without discussion, Commissioner Simmons offered a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Tankersley seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

With no items of Old or Unfinished Business, Chairman Nevil stated that the first item under New Business was the approval to dispense with the reading and adopt a Joint Resolution with the City of Statesboro for the demolition and reconstruction of the Luetta Moore Community Center, and amend the FY 2009 Major Capital Outlay Budget. County Manager Thomas Couch submitted the resolution showing the passages that have been modified. He stated the City of Statesboro will pay a maximum of \$250,000 and will waive building permit and water tap fees. Mr. Couch stated the original building was to be approximately 4,000 square feet but they had to decrease it to between 3,200 and 3,600 square feet. Mr. Couch stated most of the labor would be done in-house, but will have to hire out contractors for some projects but no decision has been made on who to hire. After some discussion, Commissioner Simmons offered a motion to approve the Joint Resolution with the City of Statesboro for the Luetta Moore Project. Commissioner Tankersley seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously (See Exhibit 2009-30).

The next item under New Business was for the discussion and/or action for the Chairman to execute an application to the Zoning office for a Public Hearing to the Planning and Zoning Commission for the airport overlay district. Mr. Couch stated that due to a time issue the board needed to submit the application as soon as he spoke with

Mr. Gates Peed concerning his property. Commissioner Tankersley offered a motion to approve the Chairman to execute the application. Commissioner Jackson seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

The last item under New Business was to grant an Alcoholic Beverage License for package retail beer and wine sales to Narinder Kaur, at Mini Mart # 3 located on Highway 67 in Brooklet, Georgia. Commissioner Gibson asked if there were any gambling machines on the premises. Mr. Couch stated there were none reported by the Sheriff's office. Commissioner Simmons offered a motion to approve the alcohol license. Commissioner Jackson seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Chairman Nevil asked if there were any comments from the staff or Board. Commissioner Thompson stated he had two things to discuss. The first was he had received an email from a citizen concerning the industry that is going into Coffee County. Commissioner Thompson asked Mr. Couch if Bulloch County was considered a location for this industry. Mr. Couch responded that he and Chairman Nevil were on the Development Authority Board and were not aware of the industry being interested in locating in Bulloch County. Commissioner Thompson said the second item he needed to discuss was concerning Mr. Couch's schedule. Commissioner Thompson stated he realized that running Bulloch County Government is a time consuming job and when staff or commissioners show up without an appointment it can be distracting. Commissioner Thompson suggested an appointment policy where Ms. Fitzgerald is called first to make an appointment, what it is concerning and approximately the length it should last. Commissioner Thompson said it should help cut down on interruptions for the County Manager. Mr. Couch thanked Commissioner Thompson for his consideration and said that he and Ms. Fitzgerald have spoken about it briefly and will try and come up with a policy. Chairman Nevil thanked Mr. Couch for all of his hard work and dedication.

Commissioner Jackson stated he wanted to update the board and staff on the VA Outpatient Clinic. Commissioner Jackson said that he and Commissioner Gibson had spoken with State Director Peter Wheeler and Division 7 Director Michael Beard and they had discussed with them that there should be a VA facility in Bulloch County in the next 12-18 months. Commissioner Jackson stated he had addressed the tank issue with

Dan Coty who was once on the Environmental Clean Up Board. Mr. Coty explained that the State of Georgia will be responsible for a certain amount of clean up if there are problems and also the last agency who actively utilized the tanks was responsible for the clean up. Commissioner Jackson stated the tower was not addressed and asked Mr. Ted Wynn if he had any further information. Mr. Wynn stated he had been approached by the Department of Public Safety concerning relocating the communications tower located at the old State Patrol Building and adding it to the existing tower which stands behind the Tax Office at the Board of Commissioner's Building. Mr. Wynn advised the Department of Public Safety that would be a decision of the Commissioners and County Manager to have them relocate the communication tower. Chairman Nevil thanked Commissioner Jackson for the update and stated it would be up to the State to decide what needs to be done with the building. Chairman Nevil asked if there were any other comments from the board or staff.

Mr. Welch stated there would be an open house on the Transportation Plan on Thursday, March 19, 2009 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. and a Steering Committee meeting at 2:00 p.m. if anyone would be interested in attending.

Chairman Nevil asked for additional comments from the Staff or Board. Hearing none, Chairman Nevil stated that the Board would adjourn the Regular meeting for a ten minute recess, and then reconvene for the Workshop. Without further discussion, Commissioner Tankersley offered a motion to adjourn the Regular meeting, for a ten minute recess, and then reconvene to proceed with the Workshop at 9:32 a.m. Commissioner Jackson seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously in favor of the motion.

J. Garrett Nevil, Chairman

Attest: Christy A. Strickland, Deputy Clerk of the Board