

May 18, 2010  
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 Ray Mosley 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 Robert Rushing, Commissioner Simmons, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Thompson, and Commissioner Gibson. The following staff were present: County Manager Thomas Couch, Staff Attorney Jeff Akins, Chief Financial Officer Harry Starling, Development Services Director Andy Welch, Statesboro Bulloch County Parks and Recreation Director Mike Rollins, Statesboro Bulloch County Parks and Recreation Operations Division Manager Chad Avret, Transportation Director Eddie Smith, Purchasing Director Kenneth Trapnell, Public Safety Director Ted Wynn, and Zoning Administrator Randy Newman.

After Roll Call, the first item of business was the approval of the Minutes for the Regular Meeting and the Executive Session that were held on May 4, 2010. Chairman Nevil asked for corrections or modifications. Without hearing corrections or modifications, Commissioner Gibson offered a motion to approve the minutes of the meetings as presented. Commissioner Rushing seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

The next 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 requested that the following amendments be made to the General Agenda: (1) To add a Presentation Agenda after Public Comments to hear, first, a petition by Commissioner Simmons on behalf of Ms. Donna Whit in regards to the Bulloch County Commission on Human Services; (2) To add a second Presentation by the Parks and Recreation Department to introduce the findings of an Economic Impact Study prepared by Georgia Southern University; and (3) To Transfer Item #3 under the Consent Agenda to the New Business Agenda to consider the

discussion and/or action concerning a Resolution to approve Stop-Loss Insurance and Premium Contributions to the Employee Health plan. Hearing no further amendments, Commissioner Mosley offered a motion to approve the General Agenda as amended. Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

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. Hearing no public comments, Chairman Nevil moved forward to the Presentations that were added to the Agenda.

The first Presentation was petitioned by Ms. Donna Whitt, Chairman of the Bulloch County Commission on Human Services, to ask the Board to renew their support of the Commission. Ms. Whitt summarized the history and purpose of the Commission, and discussed the grants received by the Commission. Executive Director Katherine Hendrix discussed the FY 2010 programs and accomplishments of the Commission. Ms. Whitt stated that she would be leaving Statesboro this summer, and asked the Board to re-endorse the Bulloch County Commission on Human Services. Chairman Nevil thanked Mrs. Whitt for her presentation, and stated that the Commission on Human Services has the Board's support.

The second Presentation was petitioned by Chad Avret, Statesboro Bulloch County Parks and Recreation Operations Division Manager, to discuss Splash in the Boro. Mr. Avret reviewed the 2009 Splash season, and gave the Board a summary of Georgia Southern University's Bureau of Business Research and Economic Development's Economic Impact Study for Splash in the Boro. Mr. Avret stated that the study revealed that the 2009 Season contributed 161 jobs and \$8.6 million dollars to the Bulloch County Economy. Chairman Nevil thanked Mr. Avret for his presentation.

Commissioner Simmons asked Chairman Nevil to call for a motion to endorse the Bulloch County Commission on Human Services. Chairman Nevil asked for the motion, and hearing no further comments, Commissioner Simmons offered a motion endorse the Bulloch County Commission on Human Services. Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

The next item on the Agenda was to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: (1) to approve a Quit Claim Deed authorizing the transfer of the abandoned portion of J.C. Cannady Road to the Development Authority of Bulloch County (See Exhibit #2010-78); (2) to authorize the County Manager to execute a contract renewal with Riggs Pharmacy of Statesboro, Georgia, for inmate drugs to be used at the Correctional Institute (See Exhibit #2010-79); and (3) to authorize an alcoholic beverage license for package retail beer and wines sales to Mitul Patel at Zip N Food #11 located at 7462 Stilson-Leefield Road, Brooklet, Georgia, in unincorporated Bulloch County. Without discussion from the Board, Commissioner Thompson offered a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Gibson 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 authorize the County Manager to execute an agreement with W.K. Dickson Engineering for Grant and Program Administration concerning the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant award. Chairman Nevil called on County Manager Thomas Couch to initiate the discussion regarding the matter, and Mr. Couch stated that W.K. Dickson assisted the County in the preparation of the EECBG in exchange for compensation for allowable administrative costs for the grant. Mr. Couch stated that because GEFA (Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority) directed that funding be used for “hard” projects or energy retrofits rather than energy facility auditing and planning, a recommendation was made to utilize FY2010 SPLOST funds to compensate W.K. Dickson to perform auditing, planning and program-grant administration pursuant to the contract. Mr. Couch stated that the County could then use the remaining SPLOST funds and \$152,000.00 of the \$215,000.00 in expected EECBG money for “hard” projects. After further discussion, Commissioner Simmons offered a motion to authorize the County Manager to execute an agreement with W.K. Dickson Engineering for Grant and Program Administration concerning the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant award (See Exhibit #2010-80). Commissioner Gibson seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

The second item of New Business was the discussion and/or action with regard to an assessment by Ross and Associates on Temporary Event Signage Issues. Chairman Nevil called on County Manager Thomas Couch to initiate the discussion regarding the

matter, and Mr. Couch stated that Ross and Associates were asked to review the County's Sign Ordinance because of several complaints regarding Temporary Event Signage Issues. Mr. Couch called on Development Services Director Andy Welch, and Mr. Welch summarized the memo from Ross and Associates and stated that the City of Statesboro's new Sign Ordinance would be a good model to follow if the Board decides to revise the Sign Ordinance. Zoning Administrator Randy Newman discussed the multiple issues with signs and temporary signs and enforcing the Sign Ordinance. Staff Attorney Jeff Akins discussed the content based constitutionality issues with the Sign Ordinance. After further discussion, Chairman Nevil stated that the Sign Ordinance does need to be revised, but that it does not need to be too strict that it limits businesses from being recognized by patrons. Mr. Couch stated that the Staff would continue to work on revising the Sign Ordinance. No action was taken regarding this matter.

The third item of New Business was the discussion and/or action to authorize a resolution to approve Stop Loss Insurance for the Employee Group Health Plan based on the lowest and most advantageous proposal and premium contributions for the Employee Group Health Insurance Plan. Chairman Nevil called on County Manager Thomas Couch to initiate the discussion regarding the matter, and Mr. Couch summarized the Stop Loss Insurance Resolution and a memorandum regarding the FY 2011 Health Care Benefits Recommendation. Mr. Couch stated that over the last three years the County has not increased premium contributions or co-pays for plan participants. Mr. Couch explained that the annual cost of the County's group insurance plan continues increase and will be approximately \$3.9 million in the next fiscal year, while current employee and County contributions stand at approximately \$3.1 million dollars. Mr. Couch stated that he recommended increasing the general premiums rather than restructuring the plan by raising deductibles or co-pays, or establishing new surcharges. Then, Mr. Couch presented and explained the proposed changes in the premium contributions for FY 2011. After further discussion, Commissioner Thompson offered a motion to authorize a resolution to approve Stop Loss Insurance for the Employee Group Health Plan based on the lowest and most advantageous proposal (See Exhibit #2010-81). Commissioner Mosley seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. Next, Commissioner Gibson offered a motion to approve the premium increase regarding the FY 2011 Employee

Group Health Insurance Plan as presented (See Exhibit #2010-82). Commissioner Mosley seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

With no further items of New Business, Chairman Nevil asked if there were any comments from the Commission or Staff. Chairman Nevil asked each Commissioner to take thirty seconds for any general comments or statements, beginning with Commissioner Simmons and then proceeding down the bench accordingly. Commissioner Simmons did not have any comments, but Commissioner Mosley stated that he supported Lamar Reddick's family. Next, Chairman Nevil thanked Eddie Smith and the Transportation Department for the quick response and cleanup from Sunday's storm. Commissioner Rushing did not have any comments, but Commissioner Thompson requested using the unspent funds in the Transportation Department's budget to survey Clark Farm Road, Harmony Church Road, Martin Road, and Twin Forks Road which would cost approximately \$24,400.00. After further discussion, Mr. Couch stated that he would put Commissioner Thompson's request on the next meeting's agenda for approval of the surveys for the estimated cost of \$24,000.00. Commissioner Gibson did not have any comments. Without further comments from the Board, Chairman Nevil asked for comments from the Staff. County Manager Thomas Couch stated that a Budget Workshop will be held on Thursday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, at 8:30 am.

Chairman Nevil asked for any further comments from the Board or Staff. Hearing no further comments from the Board or Staff, Chairman Nevil asked for a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Commissioner Simmons offered a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Gibson seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

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J. Garrett Nevil, Chairman

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Attest: Maggie Fitzgerald, Clerk of the Board