

November 16, 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 Walter Gibson 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 Rushing, Commissioner Ethridge, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons, Commissioner Thompson, and Commissioner Gibson. The following staff were present: County Manager Thomas Couch, Staff Attorney Jeff Akins, Development Services Director Andy Welch, Chief Financial Officer Harry Starling, County Engineer Kirk Tatum, Statesboro Bulloch County Parks and Recreation Director Mike Rollins, and Deputy Clerk Christy Strickland.

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 requested that the following amendment be made to the General Agenda: (1) To remove Item #2, the reading and adoption of a resolution to accept the roads in Brook Run Subdivision for public dedication and acceptance, from the Consent Agenda. Hearing no further amendments or modifications, Commissioner Ethridge offered a motion to approve the General Agenda as amended. Commissioner Rushing seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

The next item of business was the approval of the Minutes for the Regular Meeting that was held on November 2, 2010. Chairman Nevil called for corrections or modifications to the Minutes. Without hearing any corrections or modifications, Commissioner Gibson offered a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Mosley 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. Mr. Kevin Deal

asked to address the Board, and apologized for missing the Zoning and Land Use Meeting that was held on November 2, 2010. Mr. Deal stated that he would like for the Board to vote in favor of his request that will be heard on December 7, 2010. Hearing no further comments from the public, Chairman Nevil moved forward to the scheduled Presentations.

The first scheduled Presentation was petitioned by Mr. Allen Burns, Executive Director of the Coastal Regional Commission, and Commissioner Gibson to posthumously present a resolution to Mrs. Theresa Jackson on behalf of former Commissioner George Jackson. Mr. Burns presented the resolution to Mrs. Jackson in honor of former Commissioner Jackson's service to the Coastal Regional Commission Board. After further discussion, Chairman Nevil thanked Mrs. Jackson, Mr. Burns, and Commissioner Gibson for honoring the late Commissioner Jackson.

The second scheduled Presentation was petitioned by County Manager Thomas Couch regarding the future development of the proposed industrial park at U.S. Highway 301 and Interstate 16. Mr. Couch stated that Mr. Bill Ross, of Ross & Associates, would be the first presenter and Mr. Philip Fletcher of Merchants Capital would be the second presenter. First, Mr. Bill Ross and Mr. Ken Blakely discussed planning and funding options, primarily the use of Tax Allocation Districts for the future industrial park. Second, Mr. Philip Fletcher and Mr. Brian Husky discussed available debt financing options for the future industrial park. Chairman Nevil thanked all the presenters for the valuable information.

The third scheduled Presentation was petitioned by Mr. Ben Thompson regarding the Coastal Region Water Council. Mr. Thompson discussed the water plan policy statement, vision and goals of the council, the forecast of demand, resource assessments, management practices, and a few other concerns of the Council. Former Mayor of Statesboro, Bill Hatcher, who also serves on the Council, stated that Mr. Thompson has done a great job representing Bulloch County. After further discussion, Chairman Nevil thanked Mr. Thompson for the presentation regarding the Water Council.

Chairman Nevil stated that the Board would recess for ten minutes before proceeding with the next two Staff presentations. Commissioner Ethridge offered a

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

The meeting was reconvened, and Chairman Nevil stated that the fourth scheduled Presentation was petitioned by County Manager Thomas Couch concerning the Q1-Fiscal Year 2011 fiscal review. Mr. Couch reviewed the first quarter of fiscal year 2011 of the following seven funds: General Fund, 1997 SPLOST, 2002 SPLOST, 2007 SPLOST, Employee Health Insurance, Rural Fire District, and Agribusiness Center. Mr. Couch stated that revenue recovery would be unlikely to visibly occur until Calendar Year 2010, and that the Staff can attempt to offset some projected revenue loss by following recommended strategies and re-engineering the work processes. Mr. Couch reviewed the recommended Q1 re-alignment strategies for operating and capital costs

Chairman Nevil stated that the fifth scheduled Presentation was petitioned by Commissioner Simmons concerning progress and other issues regarding the five year Surface Transportation Program. Chairman Nevil deferred to County Manager Thomas Couch, and Mr. Couch gave the Board a brief reminder about the importance of this presentation in relation to the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan. Mr. Couch updated the Board on the Five-Year 2015 Transportation Improvement Program, the current issues, and future issues. After further discussion, Chairman Nevil thanked Mr. Couch for his presentations, and moved on to the next item on the Agenda.

The next item on the Agenda was to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: (1) To authorize the County Manager to execute a contract based on the Staff recommendation for the lowest and most responsible bid for the restriping of 148.45 miles of paved road (See Exhibit #2010-188); (2) To dispense with the reading and adopt a resolution to accept the roads in Leefield Station Subdivision for public dedication and acceptance (See Exhibit #2010-189); and (3) To dispense with the reading and adopt a resolution to declare certain vehicles and equipment as unserviceable and to authorize for sale as surplus (See Exhibit #2010-190). Without discussion, 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 dispense with a reading and adopt a resolution to approve the issuance of a recovery zone facility bond. Chairman Nevil called on County Manager Thomas Couch to initiate the discussion regarding the matter, and Mr. Couch stated that the Development Authority proposed to issue a Recovery Zone Facility Bond, Series 2010, in an amount not to exceed \$34,500,000.00 to finance capital costs for the Great Dane Project. Mr. Couch stated that the bond would be payable solely from proceeds to be paid or provided by Great Dane and will not be an obligation of Bulloch County. Mr. Couch deferred to Mr. Steve Rushing of the Development Authority, and Mr. Rushing stated that Great Dane would be eligible to receive Federal assistance and tax exemption through the Recovery Zone Facility Bond. After further discussion, Commissioner Thompson offered a motion to adopt a resolution to approve the issuance of a recovery zone facility bond (See Exhibit #2010-191). Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Chairman Nevil stated that the second item of New Business was the discussion and/or action with regard to schedule a Special Called Meeting to consider items where time is of the essence. Chairman Nevil called on County Manager Thomas Couch to initiate the discussion regarding the matter, and Mr. Couch stated that the meeting was needed in order for the Board to vote on bids for the Mill Creek Tennis Center. After further discussion, Commissioner Gibson offered a motion to hold a Special Called Meeting on Monday, November 22, 2010, at 5:30 pm. 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 Ethridge and then proceeding down the bench accordingly. With no comments from the Commissioners, Chairman Nevil discussed several upcoming ribbon cuttings. Chairman Nevil also stated that the citizens seem to be very happy with the lower home owner's insurance rates due to the County's lower ISO rating.

Without further comments from the Board, Chairman Nevil asked for comments from the Staff. Clerk of the Board Maggie Fitzgerald reminded the Board of the

Employee Committee Christmas Breakfast. County Manager Thomas Couch discussed his vacation schedule for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Hearing no further comments from the Board or Staff, 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 and then most likely move for adjournment. Chairman Nevil called for a motion to adjourn into Executive Session in accordance with the provisions of O.C.G.A. 50-14-2, O.C.G.A. 50-14-3 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 #2010-192). Commissioner Mosley seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. Commissioner Ethridge, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Thompson, and Commissioner Gibson voted in favor of the motion.

The meeting was reconvened, and hearing no further comments from the Board or Staff, Chairman Nevil asked for a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Commissioner Rushing offered a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Ethridge seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

J. Garrett Nevil, Chairman

Attest: Maggie Fitzgerald, Clerk of the Board