

June 1, 2011
Statesboro, GA

Special Called Meeting

The Bulloch County Board of Commissioners and the Governing Authorities of the City of Statesboro, City of Brooklet, Town of Portal, and the Town of Register met at 10:30 a.m. in the Community Room of the North Main Annex in order to discuss renewal of the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) for 2013. County Manager Thomas Couch welcomed guests and called the meeting to order.

Mr. Couch asked each Clerk to determine a quorum for each Governing Body. 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 Rushing, Commissioner Thompson, and Commissioner Gibson. The following staff were present: County Manager Thomas Couch, Chief Financial Officer Harry Starling, Development Services Director Andy Welch, County Attorney Jeff Akins, Environmental Management Director Bob Smith, Statesboro Bulloch County Parks and Recreation Director Mike Rollins, BCCI Interim Warden Chris Hill, BCCI Deputy Warden Bubba Smith, Elections Superintendent Pat Lanier Jones, Public Safety Director Ted Wynn, and Deputy Clerk Christy Strickland. Ms. Fitzgerald stated that a quorum was present. Mr. Joe Grooms, Mayor of Brooklet, stated that a quorum was not present. Mr. Mike Arrieta, Town Clerk of Portal, stated that a quorum was not present. Mrs. Doris Douzenis, Town Clerk of Register, stated that a quorum was not present. Mrs. Sue Starling, City Clerk of Statesboro, stated that a quorum was not present.

After Roll Call, Chairman Nevil called for a motion to approve the General Agenda. Commissioner Walter Gibson offered a motion to approve the General Agenda as presented. Mayor Joe Brannen, City of Statesboro, seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Mr. Couch began the Presentation by reviewing the election arrangements with the municipalities. Elections Superintendent Pat Lanier Jones stated that negotiations for elections were still ongoing, but that everything was on schedule with making arrangements to clear the elections with the Justice Department. Next, Mr. Couch stated

that the estimated revenue collected from a renewal of SPLOST for 2013 would be \$82 million dollars. Mr. Couch stated that \$9 million dollars would be subtracted from the \$82 million before the funds were distributed in order to pay for Solid Waste Air Rights. City Manager Frank Parker, City of Statesboro, stated that the number for Air Rights would need to be higher in order to pay for new equipment at the Transfer Station and the Land Fill. Senior Assistant City Engineer Jason Boyles, City of Statesboro, stated that in order to purchase the needed equipment and pay for the Air Rights, \$10.564 million dollars would be needed from the 2013 SPLOST. Council Member Clint Lovett, Town of Portal, discussed the possible procurement of the equipment and auctioning off the old equipment. Bryan Rountree, Citizen, asked when solid waste became a SPLOST paid for item instead of a regular budgeted item. Mr. Couch answered that it was sometime prior to the 1997 SPLOST. After some calculations, Mr. Couch stated that designating \$10.564 million dollars for Solid Waste would lower the allocation distribution for the County and all of the Cities by about two percent. There were no objections from the Committee of the Whole.

For the next item of Business, Mr. Couch asked which municipalities were prepared to insert the costs of their projects for their 2013 SPLOST allocations into a spreadsheet. The City of Brooklet and the Town of Portal were prepared, and proceeded to do so with Mr. Couch. After further discussion, the City of Statesboro and the Town of Register agreed to turn in their numbers to Mr. Couch within two weeks.

Next, Mr. Couch reviewed the Intergovernmental Agreement that was approved in 2006 for the 2007 SPLOST. In regards to the agreement, Mr. Couch reviewed the section regarding the procedure for distribution of SPLOST proceeds and excess proceeds. After further discussion regarding the agreement, the Committee of the Whole agreed to use the same structure for the 2013 agreement.

Mr. Couch opened the floor for discussion from the Committee of the Whole. Council Member Lovett, Commissioner Roy Thompson, and Mr. Couch discussed the costs of the landfill, air rights, solid waste, and recycling. Council Member Russell Davis, City of Brooklet, discussed processing mulch at the landfill and selling it for a profit. Mr. Couch stated that other cities and counties have tried that in the past, but the project was not a financial success. Mr. Bill Thomas, Citizen, discussed increasing the

revenue from recycling. Mr. Couch stated that the revenues from recycling offset the cost of the recycling center, but admitted that an increase in recycling would create a larger profit. Mr. Terry Patray, Citizen, stated that the tax payers want to know which SPLOST projects will save money in the future or will cost more money in the future. Mr. Patray stated that the tax payers should be able to vote on which individual projects should be funded.

Without hearing any further discussion, Chairman Nevil called for a thirty minute recess for lunch. Mr. Wynn provided the invocation.

The meeting was reconvened, and Chairman Nevil called for any further business or discussion. Hearing no further discussion, Chairman Nevil called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Roy Thompson offered a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Ethridge seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

J. Garrett Nevil, Chairman

Attest: Maggie Fitzgerald, Clerk of the Board