

April 16, 2013
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 media and guests and called the meeting to order. Commissioner Ethridge gave the invocation and the pledge of allegiance.

Ms. Christy Strickland, Clerk of the Board, performed the roll call of the commissioners and staff. The following commissioners were present: Chairman Nevil, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Ethridge, Commissioner Simmons, Commissioners Rushing, Commissioner Thompson and Vice-Chairman Gibson. The following staff were present: County Manager Thomas Couch, County Attorney Jeff Akins, Chief Financial Officer Harry Starling, Developmental Services Director Andy Welch, Keep Bulloch Beautiful Director Kelly Collingsworth, Chief Deputy Jared Akins, Transportation Director Dink Butler, County Engineer Kirk Tatum, Airport Manager Jeff Herrington, and Zoning Administrator Randy Newman.

After Roll Call, Chairman Nevil asked for amendments or modifications to the General Agenda. County Manager Tom Couch asked to modify the agenda by moving Item # 4 under New Business to Item #5 and adding Item # 4 for the Discussion/Action to approve an agreement with Georgia Department of Transportation for a design of the Taxiway Lighting Replacement. After hearing no further modifications or amendments to the agenda, Commissioner Gibson offered a motion to approve the General Agenda with the modifications requested by the County Manager. Commissioner Ethridge seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons, and Commissioner Ethridge voting in favor of the motion.

Next, Chairman Nevil called on Keep Bulloch Beautiful Director Kelly Collingsworth for a presentation concerning the Great American Cleanup Day. Ms. Collingsworth stated Bulloch County's Great American Cleanup Day would be Saturday, April 20, 2013 from 9:00 A.M. until 1:00 P.M. She stated this year's co-chairs are City Councilman Phil Boyum and Congressman John Barrow. She presented two commercials that had been done to advertise for Great American Cleanup Day. She stated they already

have over 600 volunteers registered and anticipate more which is needed to cover over 334 miles of roads throughout the County. Chairman Nevil presented Ms. Collingsworth with a Proclamation on behalf of the Board of Commissioners and thanked her for all the hard work.

Next, Chairman Nevil asked for public comments from the audience at large or in writing. There was no one present for public comments and nothing had been submitted in writing.

Chairman Nevil stated that the next item on the Agenda was to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: (1) To approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on April 2, 2013. Commissioner Mosley offered a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons and Commissioner Ethridge voting in favor of the motion.

Without any items of Old Business Chairman Nevil stated the first item under New Business was for Discussion/Action to approve an ordinance regulating Pawnbrokers, Pawnshops, Secondhand Dealers, and Dealers in Precious Metals and Gems. Chairman Nevil called on the Bulloch County Sheriff's Chief Deputy Jared Akins to initiate discussion on the matter. Mr. Akins explained the current procedure on how things are being handled and the data is only being obtained every two (2) weeks from the pawnshops and the volume of the business is growing and it is getting more difficult to collect the records. He stated on some items there is no time on how long they have to hold the item(s) and this causes a lot of stolen items to go unrecovered. Mr. Akins stated with the proposed ordinance this will help regulate the time the shops/brokers have to hold the item(s) and allow for the Sheriff's Department to get more accurate information in a timely matter. He stated they had found an internet base system called Leads on Line that will help with receiving the data quicker. Mr. Akins stated they were able to pay for the first year subscription in the amount of \$4, 100.00 out of seized funds and hopes to continue doing this in the future. He stated he had presented the proposed Ordinance to the City of Statesboro so the city and the county would have the same guidelines and make it easier on everyone. Commissioner Thompson asked if any of this would cover

scrap metal operations. Mr. Akins explained that State Law does not allow local regulations of scrap metal operations. County Manager Tom Couch asked if the \$50 regulatory fee was just a Bulloch County Fee or if this was a comparable fee for the permit. Mr. Akins explained the fee is what most other counties and municipalities charge for the permit. Mr. Couch asked when this would go into effect. County Attorney Jeff Akins stated the ordinance would become effective upon its adoption but we would work toward issuing license on July 1, 2013. After hearing no further discussion, Commissioner Thompson made a motion to approve the ordinance regulating Pawnbrokers, Pawnshops, Secondhand Dealers, and Dealers in Precious Gems. (See Exhibit # 2013-031) Commissioner Ethridge seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons and Commissioner Ethridge voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil stated the second item under New Business was for Discussion/Action to approve an amended Bulloch County Fee Schedule. Chairman Nevil called on County Manager Tom Couch to initiate discussion on the matter. Mr. Couch stated the schedule is adding the regulatory fees for the ordinance that was approved under Item # 1 of New Business. After hearing no further discussion, Commissioner Gibson made a motion to approve the amended Bulloch County Fee Schedule. (See Exhibit # 2013-032). Commissioner Mosley seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons and Commissioner Ethridge voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil stated the third item under New Business was for Discussion/Action to approve revenue bonds to be issued by the Development Authority of Bulloch County for the benefit of Stadium Construction, LLC. Chairman Nevil called on Steve Rushing, Hearing Officer for the Development Authority of Bulloch County, to initiate discussion on the matter. Mr. Rushing stated Stadium Construction, LLC has filed an application with the Development Authority requesting the revenue bonds that will be used to finance construction of an expansion and new football operations at Paulson Stadium on the Georgia Southern University campus. Mr. Rushing stated the

amount of the bonds is not to exceed \$25, 0000,000 and the Bulloch County Board of Commissioners will not have any liability for reimbursement of the bonds, but that federal tax law requires approval by the Chairman of the Bulloch County Board of Commissioners in order for the bonds to have tax-exempt status. After hearing no further discussion, Commissioner Thompson made a motion to approve the revenue bonds to be issued by the Development Authority for the benefit of Stadium Construction, LLC for improvements made at Paulson Stadium. (See Exhibit #2013-033). Commissioner Gibson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons and Commissioner Ethridge voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil stated the fourth item under New Business was for the Discussion/Action to approve an agreement with Georgia Department of Transportation for the design of the Taxiway Lighting Replacement at the Statesboro-Bulloch County Airport. Chairman Nevil called on County Manager Tom Couch to initiate discussion on the matter. Mr. Couch stated there have been multiple problems with the lighting system and it needs to be replaced. He stated the cost of the design project is \$52,808.19 with federal paying \$ 50,168.00, state paying \$1,320.00, and local matching state funding at \$1,320.19. After hearing no further discussion, Commissioner Mosley made a motion to approve the agreement with the GDOT for the replacement of the taxiway lighting at the Statesboro-Bulloch County Airport. (See Exhibit # 2013-034). Commissioner Ethridge seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons and Commissioner Ethridge voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil stated the fifth item under New Business was for Discussion only on Personal Care Homes. He called on County Attorney Jeff Akins to initiate discussion on the matter. Mr. Akins stated there have been several applications submitted for a Conditional Use to allow a personal care home in different zoning districts in the county. He went over some of the state laws and definitions and stated that Bulloch County's definition for Personal Care Homes needs revisions to address the different types of "homes" that are allowed. He stated there also needs to be some clarification on single family dwellings and what the definition of "family" means. Mr. Akins stated he is

going to make a presentation to the Planning and Zoning Commission at the May meeting but would request that the Commissioners review the material that was passed out at the meeting. Mr. Akins stated these amendments could take two or three months but he wants to make sure it is a comprehensive and up-to-date revision. After additional discussion concerning definitions of “family” and reasons for approving or denying a request, Chairman Nevil moved onto the next item on the agenda.

Next, Chairman Nevil asked for any general comments or statements from the Commissioners. Commissioner Ethridge, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Thompson and Commissioner Gibson thanked Holli Bragg with the Statesboro Herald for attending the meeting; they thanked Mr. Akins, Mr. Welch and Mr. Newman for the presentation on the personal care homes; and thanked the staff for all their hard work.

Next, Chairman Nevil asked for comments from the Staff. County Manager Tom Couch gave an update on the road striping throughout the county. County Engineer Kirk Tatum asked about a follow up meeting with Kathy Todd on Kendricks Road. Mr. Couch stated there was a tentative date of Thursday, April 18, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. but he would confirm later.

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 stated that there was no further business expected 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 in all likelihood move for adjournment. Chairman Nevil called for a motion to adjourn into Executive Session in accordance with the provisions of O.C.G.A. 50-14-3 and other applicable laws, pursuant to the advice of the County Attorney, Jeff Akins, for the purpose of discussing Personnel Matters. Without further discussion, Commissioner Gibson offered a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss Personnel Matters (See Exhibit #2013-035). Commissioner Ethridge seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Ethridge, Commissioner Simmons, Commissioner

Mosley, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Thompson, and Commissioner Gibson voting in favor of the motion.

The meeting was reconvened, 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 Simmons offered a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Mosley seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Simmons, Commissioner Mosley, and Commissioner Ethridge voting in favor of the motion.

J. Garrett Nevil, Chairman

Attest: Christy Strickland, Clerk of the Board