

April 2, 2013
Statesboro, GA

Regular Meeting

The Board of Commissioners met at 5:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the North Main Annex. Chairman Nevil welcomed guests and called the meeting to order. Vice-Chairman Walter Gibson 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 Simmons, Commissioner Ethridge, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Thompson, and Vice-Chairman Walter Gibson. The following staff were present: County Manager Thomas Couch, County Attorney Jeff Akins, Developmental Services Director Andy Welch, Chief Financial Officer Harry Starling, Transportation Director Dink Butler, Public Safety Director Ted Wynn, Chief Deputy Jared Akins, Fire Chief Christopher Ivey, County Engineer Kirk Tatum and Zoning Administrator Randy Newman.

After Roll Call, Chairman Nevil opened the meeting for Public Hearings regarding Zoning and Land Use matters. Chairman Nevil called on Zoning Administrator Randy Newman to present the first item of business. Zoning Administrator Randy Newman presented Item #1 which was an application submitted by Terry Patray for a Conditional Use to allow a personal care home. Mr. Newman stated the property consists of .46 acres and is located on Longwood Drive, Tax Map # MS93 000098 000. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the request. Mrs. Wendy Sherriff was acting as agent for the request and stated she owns and operates a personal care home across the street and wants to expand to be able to help those who are getting out of the nursing home. She stated she would have to meet all the state requirements. Mr. Antonio Morales of Meadow Drive was signed up to speak in opposition to the request. He stated his residence is adjacent to the property and has issues with the request such as, traffic, noise and safety. Mr. Morales stated he had spoken with a few of the neighbors and they also had concerns but could not attend the meeting. He asked the Board if they would defer the request to allow him and the neighbors to attend the next meeting. Mrs. Sherriff apologized for any issues he had with the patients or staff at the personal care home. Commissioner Simmons stated he has worked with Mrs. Sherriff on the Aging Advisory Board and she has always operated a reputable

business and he felt if the neighbors spoke with her she would address any issues they may have. Hearing no further discussion, Commissioner Simmons offered a motion to approve the Conditional Use Request to allow a Personal Care Home. Commissioner Mosley seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Ethridge, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Thompson and Commissioner Gibson voting in favor of the motion.

Sign-in sheets for Zoning Matters are shown in Exhibit #2013-027.

Chairman Nevil closed the Public Hearing regarding Zoning and Land Use matters, and asked for amendments or modifications of the General Agenda. County Manager Tom Couch requested to modify the General Agenda by adding a "Rodeo Days" Proclamation under Item # 1 of Presentations; and to move Consent Agenda Item # 4, Approval to accept the lowest bid for two Ambulances, under Item # 2 of New Business. Commissioner Gibson offered a motion to approve the General Agenda with the modifications recommended by the County Manager. 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.

Next, Chairman Nevil stated the first item under presentation is for a Proclamation for the 2013 Kiwanis "Rodeo Days." Mr. Bill Anderson and Miss Rodeo USA Lauren Terry were present to accept the Proclamation.

Next, Chairman Nevil stated the second item under presentation was concerning the Noise Ordinance. He called on Ms. Danielle Blanchard to make her presentation. Ms. Blanchard stated she lived on Hayes Lake Road and for the past three (3) weeks there has been a crew cutting timber and they start at 6:00 A.M. and work until dark. She said the machinery is very loud and disturbs her household. She stated she would like the Board to consider amending the Noise Ordinance that addresses Hours of Operation for loud equipment. County Attorney Jeff Akins stated the Georgia Code states timber harvesting is considered an agricultural activity, and that legitimate agricultural activities are exempt from the Bulloch County Noise Ordinance. Ms. Blanchard stated she attempted to talk to the person in charge at the site and was told they had to work while it was daylight. Ms. Blanchard also stated she contacted the Sheriff's Department and they said there was not anything they can do. Chairman Nevil stated it is an agricultural operation and unfortunately there is nothing that can be done. Mr. Akins stated that the Georgia Code is protective of

agriculture being deemed a nuisance. Chairman Nevil thanked Ms. Blanchard for presenting her concerns.

Next, Chairman Nevil stated the third item under presentation was for the Paving Assessment done by Blair Barnhardt. He called on County Manager Tom Couch to initiate discussion on the presentation. Mr. Couch stated Mr. Barnhardt was hired several months ago to assess 130 roads throughout the county and is going to give a presentation on his assessment. Mr. Blair Barnhardt showed a video of his assessment and gave a handout of scenarios for different treatments to the roads (See Exhibit # 2013-028). Chairman Nevil thanked Mr. Barnhardt for his presentation.

Next, Chairman Nevil asked for public comments from the audience at large or in writing. County Manager Tom Couch and Clerk of the Board Christy Strickland both stated that there were no formal requests or petitions received in writing. Hearing none, Chairman Nevil moved on to the next item.

Chairman Nevil stated that the next item was to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: (1) To approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on March 19, 2013; (2) To authorize the County Manager and City Manager to appoint voting proxies for absent members of the Technical Review Committee; (3) To approve a Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a First Amendment to Installment Sale Agreement (See Exhibit # 2013-029). Commissioner Simmons offered a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Mosley 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.

Chairman Nevil stated the first item under New Business was for Discussion/Action for approval of a contract for AJ Riggs Road. He called on County Manager Tom Couch to initiate discussion on the matter. Mr. Couch stated there are several grants that will help with the cost of the project and he recommends approving the contract with Ellis Wood Contracting, Inc. who came in at the lowest bid. Hearing no further discussion, Commissioner Gibson made a motion to approve the contract with Ellis Wood Contracting in the amount of \$1,597,894.35 for the widening of A.J. Riggs Road (See Exhibit # 2013-030). 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.

Chairman Nevil stated the second item under New Business was for Discussion/Action for approval to accept the lowest bids for Ambulances. He called on County Manager Tom Couch to initiate discussion on the matter. Mr. Couch stated the Board was previously advised that EMS would require two (2) ambulance replacements which were bid out but the low bidder did not comply with the RFP and was rejected for not meeting the specifications. He stated the recommendation is to accept bid with Custom Truck and Body Works in Woodbury, Georgia. Mr. Couch stated the add alternates to equip the ambulances with related emergency medical equipment were rejected due to the cost being higher than what could be purchased separately. He stated however, due to recent circumstances, there is a need for a third ambulance to be purchased. Mr. Couch stated if the board approved to add a third ambulance with Custom Truck and Body works they would give the county a loaner ambulance. He also stated concerning the rescue truck a refurbished one would cost about \$120,000 in which the funding could come from either amending the Master Lease if they allowed or from the proceeds of the 2013 SPLOST. He called on Public Safety Director Ted Wynn to explain. Mr. Wynn stated in the past two (2) weeks a rescue truck was involved in an accident with a log truck while responding to an accident and the ambulance, which was the newest one, burnt while transporting a patient to Savannah. He stated there is not a back up right now if they have more than one call. After some discussion, Commissioner Thompson offered a motion to approve three (3) ambulances in the amount of \$364,242.00 to Custom Truck and Body Works (See Exhibit # 2013-031). 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.

Next, Chairman Nevil asked each Commissioner to take thirty seconds for any general comments or statements. Commissioner Ethridge, Commissioner Simmons, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Thompson and Vice-Chairman Gibson thanked the staff for all their hard work and dedication. Mr. Nevil stated there was an Open House for Ogeechee Hospice on Thursday, April 4th at 5:30 P.M. if anyone would like to attend.

Next, Chairman Nevil asked for comments from the Staff. Mr. Couch thanked Mr. Barnhardt for his presentation; and also stated Kathy Todd has requested a meeting with a few Commissioners and staff concerning Kendricks Road. He asked if anyone would be available to attend the meeting. Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing and

Commissioner Ethridge offered to attend the meeting if they were available when a date and time was scheduled.

Chairman Nevil asked if there were any further comments from the Commissioners or Staff. Hearing none from the Board or Staff, Chairman Nevil asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Gibson offered a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Rushing 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.

J. Garrett Nevil, Chairman

Attest: Christy Strickland, Clerk of the Board