

January 15, 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 guests and called the meeting to order. Chairman Nevil 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, and Vice-Chairman 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, and Statesboro-Bulloch Parks and Recreation Director Mike Rollins.

After Roll Call, Chairman Nevil asked for amendments or modifications of the General Agenda. Hearing none, Commissioner Gibson offered a motion to approve the General Agenda as presented. Commissioner Mosley seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Mosley, and Commissioner Ethridge voting in favor of the motion.

Next, Chairman Nevil asked for public comments from the audience at large or in writing. Ms. Elizabeth Dewester was present to speak on the ditches being cleaned up at the Luetta Moore Building. She stated it is an eyesore and there is going to be a Fair in April held on the property and she would like to have it cleaned up before the event. County Manager Tom Couch stated the Luetta Moore Building is owned by the County but as far as maintaining the ditches and right of ways that is the City of Statesboro's responsibility. Statesboro-Bulloch Parks and Recreation Director Mike Rollins stated he knew that the city had received a recreational trail grant and planned to start Phase I of that in the near future but did not think it would be done by April. County Manager Tom Couch suggested to Ms. Dewester that she attend a Statesboro City Council meeting to see if they could give any additional information on the project.

Doctors Alvin and Gail Jackson, President of the Willow Hill Schools, wanted to thank the Commissioners for their participation and support for the past few years during

the Annual Willow Hill Festival. They updated the Commissioners on the progress that has been made in the last few years and on future programs and projects. 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 no further comments Chairman Nevil moved to the next item of business.

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 January 3, 2013; (2) To approve a renewal for an Alcoholic Beverage License to Tybrds # 2 (3) To approve a carpet cleaning contract to All Star Carpet Cleaning (See Exhibit # 2013-007). Commissioner Mosley offered a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Ethridge seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Mosley, 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 for an Amendment to Section 8-26(1) e.2. Of Article II of Chapter 8 of the Code of Ordinances of Bulloch County, Georgia. Chairman Nevil called on County Attorney Jeff Akins to initiate discussion on the matter. County Attorney Jeff Akins stated the amendment was deleting one sentence in the Ordinance that states "The use of the six foot bed system will not be allowed on such an existing lot requiring more than 24 inches of fill material." He stated this had been discussed at a previous meeting and he had spoken with Environmental Health County Manager Brad Wiggins who was in agreement with the amendment. Chairman Nevil asked Mr. Wiggins if there were any current systems that have used the six foot bed system that required more than 24 inches of fill material. Mr. Wiggins stated there were currently not any in Bulloch County. After hearing no further discussion, Commissioner Ethridge made a motion to approve the amendment to Section 8-26(1) e.2. Of Article II of Chapter 8 of the Code of Ordinances of Bulloch County, Georgia as presented (See Exhibit # 2013-008). Commissioner Mosley seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Mosley and Commissioner Ethridge voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil stated the second item under New Business was for Discussion only on the Business and financial Issues regarding Splash in the Boro. Chairman Nevil called on Statesboro-Bulloch Parks and Recreation Director Mike Rollins to initiate discussion on the matter. Mr. Rollins went over the progress of Splash in The Boro since it opened in April of 2003. He stated the attendance along with revenue had gradually increased every year and they had only one increase in admission charges which had a minor affect on the revenue but not an extreme amount. Mr. Rollins went over the future plans and what is needed for Splash to continue being successful. After additional discussion, Chairman Nevil moved to the next item on the agenda.

Chairman Nevil stated the third item under New Business was for Discussion/Action to authorize the administrative staff to proceed with disposition of property at the former site of Bulloch Memorial Hospital. Chairman Nevil called on County Manager Tom Couch to initiate discussion on the matter. Mr. Couch stated the property known as the "old hospital" was purchased several years ago by the County with intentions to build an administrative building but since then the County has purchased other property for the building and now the property is just sitting without any use. He stated he would like to proceed with trying to sell it. County Attorney Jeff Akins stated the Commissioners could either choose to do seal bids or have an Auction but suggested setting a minimum amount. Commissioner Ethridge asked if they would need to get an appraisal done before proceeding to sell. County Attorney Jeff Akins suggested just using the tax assessors' value on the property. After no further discussion, Commissioner Gibson offered a motion to authorize the Administrative Staff to proceed with disposition of the property at the former site of Bulloch Memorial Hospital. Commissioner Mosley seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Mosley, and Commissioner Ethridge voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil stated the fourth item under New Business was for Discussion/Action to authorize the use of SPLOST 2013 Bond proceeds for acquisition of 31 additional radios for Georgia Southern University Public Safety. Chairman Nevil called on County Manager Tom Couch to initiate discussion on the matter. Mr. Couch stated that in November 2012 the Board of Commissioners authorized the purchase of approximately two hundred (200) radios using bond proceeds. It has been determined

that thirty-one (31) additional radios would be needed for Georgia Southern Public Safety. However, this acquisition would close out Tier I and Tier II funding of the 2013 funds for category PS-16 in the preliminary SPLOST CIP schedule. Chairman Nevil asked if they are the same price as the radios that were purchased in November. Public Safety Director Ted Wynn stated that they were the same price. After hearing no further discussion, Commissioner Mosley made a motion to authorize the use of SPLOST 2013 Bond proceeds for acquisitions of thirty-one (31) additional radios for Georgia Southern University Public Safety. Commissioner Ethridge seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Mosley, and Commissioner Ethridge voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil stated the fifth item under New Business was for Discussion/Action to adopt a resolution to amend the FY 2013 General Appropriations Budget for position control and to accept state funds to establish the Bulloch County Mental Health Court through agreement with the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council of Georgia. Chairman Nevil called on County Manager Tom Couch to initiate discussion on the item. Mr. Couch stated that in October, the Chief Judge of the Superior Court applied for funds to establish a Mental Health Court as a result of criminal reform legislation adopted by the General Assembly in the 2012 session. He stated that similar to the DUI court the program is designed to divert clients from incarceration, and provides case management for treatment options and monitoring primarily through an assigned staff person from Pineland Mental Health. Mr. Couch stated that the grant agreement offset up to \$146,366 from October 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013. It provides reimbursement for staffing, provider contracts and resources. The established position will have the status of being grant funded and continued contingent upon sufficient funding from the State. Commissioner Ethridge asked if there is adequate room at the Superior Court Building for a Mental Health Coordinator. County Manager Tom Couch stated Judge Woodrum assured that there was enough office space. After hearing no further discussion, Commissioner Ethridge made a motion to adopt a Resolution to amend the FY 2013 General Appropriations Budget for positions control and to accept state funds to establish the Bulloch County Mental Health Court through agreement with the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council of Georgia. (See Exhibit 2013-009) Commissioner Gibson

seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Ethridge, Commissioner Mosley, and Commissioner Gibson voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil stated the sixth and final item under New Business was for Discussion/Action to authorize the administrative staff and County Attorney to negotiate with US Bancorp to provide Equipment Master Lease financing for recent and anticipated purchases for heavy equipment at the Road Department and for EMS ambulances based on the lowest and most advantageous proposal. Chairman Nevil called on County Manager Tom Couch to initiate discussion on the matter. Mr. Couch stated the request for proposal were released in November 2012 for \$615,000 in anticipated purchases for boom-axe tractors, road harrows, and two EMS Ambulances. He stated the road equipment purchases was approved at the January 3, 2013 Commissioners meeting. Mr. Couch stated the ambulance bids will be released in January and that the master lease will authorize up to an additional \$1, 0000.000 in equipment purchases, if needed, at the prevailing rates and terms. Mr. Couch stated the proceeds will be taken from the 2007 SPLOST roads and public safety and available funds are sufficient. He stated with the favorable bids on road equipment, and pending ambulance bids, the amount to be financed may fall below \$615,000. Commissioner Ethridge asked to recused herself from voting on the matter. After hearing no further discussion, Commissioner Gibson made a motion to approve the administrative staff and County Attorney to negotiate with US Bancorp to provide Equipment Master Lease financing for recent and anticipated purchases for heavy equipment at the Road Department and for EMS ambulances based on the lowest and most advantageous proposal (See Exhibit 2013-010). Commissioner Mosley seconded and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson and Commissioner Mosley voting in favor of the motion.

Next, 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. Commissioner Ethridge, Commissioner Mosley, and Commissioner Gibson thanked the staff for all their hard work and thanked Doctor Alvin & Gail Jackson for coming and giving the presentation on Willow Hill School. Commissioner Gibson asked about the striping contract and County Attorney Jeff Akins went over the procedures of how a contract has to be terminated. County

Manager Tom Couch added that a local citizen Pasty Bobo has some concerns on striping in front of her house on Country Club Road where there have been several accidents and the staff is looking into it.

Next, Chairman Nevil asked for comments from the Staff, and Mr. Couch went over the work that is left to be completed in the Community Room and said that by the February 7, 2013 meeting the audio system should be ready. Clerk of the Board Christy Strickland stated the 2013 ACCG Capitol Connector Conference is February 4 & 5 in Atlanta and the 2013 Community Retreat is in Savannah on February 22 & 23 and that if anybody would like to attend to please let her know. Statesboro-Bulloch Parks & Recreation Director Mike Rollins gave a brief update on the design plans for the Arena and Administrative Annex and stated they would be setting up meetings in the next few weeks with the architects to start on the plans if any of the Commissioners would like to attend; Mr. Rollins also stated that the Greenway has been a success and they are looking at further ways to improve it.

Hearing no further comments from the Board or Staff, Chairman Nevil asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Gibson offered a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Mosley seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Mosley, and Commissioner Ethridge voting in favor of the motion.

J. Garrett Nevil, Chairman

Attest: Christy Strickland, Clerk of the Board