

October 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. He 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: Commissioner Ethridge (came in at 8:35 A.M.), Commissioner Simmons, Commissioner Mosley, Chairman Nevil, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Thompson and Vice-Chairman Gibson. The following staff were present: County Manager Tom Couch, County Attorney Jeff Akins, Transportation Director Dink Butler, Chief Deputy Jared Akins, County Engineer Kirk Tatum, Statesboro Bulloch County Parks and Recreation Director Mike Rollins, and EMS Director Doug Vickers

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

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 October 1, 2013; (2) To authorize the County Manager to approve a Contract with Trinity Electrical to replace the Papi Lighting on Runway 32 (See Exhibit # 2013-117); (3) To approve Amendment # 326-2012-01 to the Employee Health Care Plan (See Exhibit # 2013-118); (4) To approve a bid for replacement of gutters and downspouts on five (5) buildings at Mill Creek Park (See Exhibit # 2013-119); (6) To Approve the lowest and most advantageous bids to the County for three different road projects for resurfacing of

approximately 42 miles of local roads; (7) To Approve an agreement with Georgia Department of Transportation for use of an inmate work detail (See Exhibit # 2013-120). Commissioner Thompson asked to move Consent Item # 6 to Agenda Item # 1 under New Business. Hearing no further modifications, Commissioner Gibson offered a motion to approve the Consent Agenda with the modification to move Item # 6 to Item # 1 under New Business. Commissioner Mosley seconded the motion, and it carried with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons and Commissioner Ethridge voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil stated the next item on the agenda was a presentation by EMS Consultants on a sole-source proposal to provide third party billing for county ambulance services. He called on County Manager Tom Couch to initiate discussion on the matter. Mr. Couch stated that an analysis by the administrative staff has determined the current in-house billing has been underperforming and is frequently behind without adequate justification. He stated currently we have EMS Consultants who provide the billing software but they also provide services to other cities and counties. Mr. Couch stated they have submitted a proposal (See Exhibit # 2013-121) and are present to give an overview and answer any questions. Mr. Grant Patterson, COO for EMS Consultants, stated with the company doing the billing he estimated net collections of \$1,847,626 and currently the collections are \$1.3 - \$1.5 million a year. He stated their fees for collecting would be 5.2% of the collections. After additional discussion on employment and the process on collections, Chairman Nevil thanked Mr. Patterson for the presentation.

Chairman Nevil stated the first item under New Business was for Discussion/Action to approve the lowest and most advantageous bids to the County for three different road projects for resurfacing of approximately 42 miles of local roads. Commissioner Thompson stated he was concerned that the lowest bid on the Subdivision Road Project is significantly lower than the second lowest bid, and he wanted to make sure the low bidder had not made a mistake. After additional discussion on the bids, Commissioner Rushing offered a motion to approve the lowest and most advantageous bids to the County for the three road projects for resurfacing of approximately 42 miles of local roads, contingent upon the low bidders' compliance with bonding and other

requirements, as follows: (1) Subdivisions – Millcreek Construction with a bid of \$151,470.00; (2) Chip Seal Overlays – RB Baker Construction with a bid of \$3,010,500.00; and (3) Kennedy Bridge Road & Others – Everett Dykes Grassing with a bid of \$1,057,200.00 (See Exhibit # 2013-122). 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 second item under New Business was for Discussion/Action to approve a request to purchase an Emulsion Tank for the Transportation Department. He called on Transportation Director Dink Butler to initiate discussion on the matter. Mr. Butler stated in the past six (6) months there have been problems with storage and he would like to purchase another tank. After some discussion on tanks, Commissioner Simmons offered a motion to approve the request to purchase an emulsion tank from Adams Equipment Company in the amount of \$25,975.00 (See Exhibit # 2013-123). 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 third item under New Business was for Discussion/Possible Action to approve the FY 2014 SPLOST Authorization Budget. He called on County Manager Tom Couch to initiate discussion on the matter. Mr. Couch submitted a memo (See Exhibit # 2013-124) and stated that his intentions were to ask for approval of the FY 2014 Project Schedule but that he is not satisfied that there is sufficient information on various projects for the Board to make a decision. He stated he would like to get some additional information and bring this back at the next meeting.

Chairman Nevil stated that because of the county's recent bad experiences with road striping contractors, it may be a good time to look into purchasing a road striping machine and to have a crew stripe the roads. After additional discussion on the cost of road striping machines, Chairman Nevil moved to the next item on the agenda.

Chairman Nevil asked for any general comments or statements from the Commissioners. Commissioners Ethridge, Simmons, Mosley, Rushing, Thompson and Gibson thanked the staff for their hard work and dedication.

Chairman Nevil asked for comments from the staff. County Manager Tom Couch thanked the Board for their patience and understanding in trying to get through the budget issues. Hearing nothing further, Chairman Nevil asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Gibson offered a motion to adjourn the meeting. 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.

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J. Garrett Nevil, Chairman

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Attest: Christy Strickland, Clerk of the Board