

July 15, 2014  
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. Commissioner Mosley 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 Mosley, Vice-Chairman Simmons, Chairman Nevil, Commissioner Rushing, and Commissioner Thompson. The following staff were present: County Manager Tom Couch, County Attorney Jeff Akins, Transportation Director Dink Butler, County Engineer Kirk Tatum, Chief Deputy Jared Akins, Public Safety Director Ted Wynn, Chief Accountant Whitney Richland, County Engineer Kirk Tatum, Clerk of Court Heather McNeal, Deputy Warden Wayne Smith, Warden Chris Hill, and Purchasing Director Faye Bragg.

Chairman Nevil asked for amendments or modifications of the General Agenda. County Manager Tom Couch asked to modify the agenda by removing item # 1 under New Business for Discussion/Action to approve a purchase order of four (4) Lifepak 15 monitor/defibrillators. Hearing no further modifications, Commissioner Mosley offered a motion to approve the General Agenda removing item # 1 under New Business as requested by the County Manager. Vice-Chairman Simmons seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Mosley, and Vice-Chairman Simmons voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil asked for any public comments from the audience at large or in writing. Mr. Carlos Brown stated the church he attends had bought some property adjacent to where the church is located. He stated they assumed because it was bought for church use it was automatically exempt from property taxes, but after speaking to Tax Commissioner James Deal he found out there is a form you have to submit. Mr. Brown stated there were taxes owed on it from 2011, 2012, and 2013. He stated that Mr. Deal told him if he would pay the taxes for 2011 he would ask approval from the Board of Commissioners to waive the fees for 2012-2013. Mr. Brown stated due to Mr. Deal

being on vacation this has not been done yet but just wanted to make the Board aware and ask them to consider the request when it came before them. County Manager Tom Couch stated he was made aware of the situation and he would need to get documentation from Mr. Deal and they would put it on the agenda. Chairman Nevil thanked Mr. Brown for coming before the Board.

Chairman Nevil stated 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 July 1, 2014 and the workshop held on July 8, 2014; (2) To approve a Resolution establishing fees for FY2015 for the Rural Fire District (See Exhibit # 2014-127); (3) To approve a bid for two (2) ½ ton 4x2 pickup trucks with Wade Ford in the amount of \$36,726.00 (See Exhibit # 2014-128) ; (4) To approve a bid maintenance contract with Palmetto Fire Apparatus (See Exhibit # 2014-129); and (5) To approve a Resolution authorizing acceptance of roads in Phase II of Saddle Creek Subdivision (See Exhibit # 2014-130). Commissioner Thompson asked if there were any local vendor bids received for Consent Agenda Item #3 for the pickup trucks. Statesboro Parks and Recreation Director Mike Rollins stated no bids were received from any local vendors. Hearing no further discussion, Commissioner Thompson offered a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Mosley, and Vice-Chairman Simmons voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil stated the first item under New Business was for Discussion/Action to dispense with the reading and approve a Resolution to adopt the 2015 General Appropriations Budget. He called on County Manager Tom Couch to initiate discussion on the matter. Mr. Couch passed out the final draft of the FY2015 GAB and stated since they had held the public hearing on July 8, 2014 nothing had changed except for correcting minor mathematical errors. Chairman Nevil thanked Mr. Couch and the Department Heads for all their hard work on preparing the budget. Hearing no further discussion, Commissioner Thompson offered a motion to approve the Resolution for the Fiscal Year 2015 General Appropriations Budget (See Exhibit # 2014-131). Vice-Chairman Simmons seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with

Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Mosley, and Vice-Chairman Simmons voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil asked for any general comments or statements from the Commissioners. Vice-Chairman Simmons thanked the staff for all their hard work and dedication and stated he appreciated Mr. Brown coming before the Board because he was not aware that churches were not automatically tax exempt. Commissioner Mosley stated he was also appreciative of the staff and stated there was no one that signed up to speak at the Public Hearing for the FY2015 Budget, and he had heard comments from citizens over the weekend indicating that they trust the Commissioners and Staff to make the right decisions for the citizens of Bulloch County. He also stated that the Willow Hill Festival was approaching and asked about getting a food permit for the festival. Commissioners Rushing and Thompson thanked the staff for their dedication to the County.

Chairman Nevil asked if there were any comments from the staff. County Manager Tom Couch stated he was grateful for all the appreciation from the Commissioners and is hopeful that next year things will improve. Chairman Nevil asked if there were any other comments from the Commissioners or staff. Hearing none, he stated 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. He stated that at the conclusion of the Executive Session, 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(b)(2) and other applicable laws, pursuant to the advice of the County Attorney, Jeff Akins, for the purpose of discussion or deliberation on the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee as provided in O.C.G.A § 50-14-3(b)(2) (See Exhibit #2014-132). Vice-Chairman Simmons offered a motion to enter into Executive Session for the above-stated reasons. Commissioner Mosley seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Mosley, and Vice-Chairman Simmons voting in favor of the motion.

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Chairman Nevil asked if there were any further comments from the Commissioners or Staff. Hearing none from the Board or Staff, he asked for a motion to adjourn. Vice-Chairman Simmons offered a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Mosley seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Mosley, and Vice-Chairman Simmons 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