

November 4, 2014
Statesboro, GA

Regular Meeting

The Board of Commissioners met at 5:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the North Main Annex. Vice-Chairman Anthony Simmons welcomed guests and called the meeting to order. Commissioner Ray Mosley gave the invocation, and the pledge of allegiance.

Mrs. Maggie Fitzgerald Porter, Human Resources Director recording the minutes, performed the roll call of the commissioners and staff. The following commissioners were present: Vice-Chairman Anthony Simmons, Commissioner Walter Gibson, Commissioner Robert Rushing, Commissioner Roy Thompson, Commissioner Ray Mosley, and Commissioner Carolyn Ethridge. The following staff were present: County Manager Thomas Couch, County Attorney Jeff Akins, Developmental Services Director Andy Welch, Interim Chief Financial Officer Whitney Richland, Chief Deputy Jared Akins, Public Safety Director Ted Wynn, County Engineer Kirk Tatum, Transportation Director Hermon "Dink" Butler, Airport Manager Kathy Boykin, and Zoning Administrator Randy Newman.

After Roll Call, Vice-Chairman Simmons opened the meeting for Public Hearings regarding Zoning and Land Use matters. Vice-Chairman Simmons called on Zoning Administrator Randy Newman to present the first item of business. Mr. Newman presented Item #1 which was an application submitted by Brandon McCormick, with Don Marsh acting as Agent, requesting a Conditional Use to allow for a sand/dirt pit under the definition of a natural resource development. The property is located on Martin Road Map/Parcel #082 000028 000. Mr. Newman stated that this item was tabled at the October 7, 2014 meeting. County Manager Thomas Couch discussed a meeting that was held with the Staff and the parties involved in order to try to resolve some of the issues regarding this Conditional Use. Mr. Couch distributed copies of 9 proposed conditions that resulted from this meeting (See Exhibit #2014-185). Mr. Couch stated that the Staff recommends the approval of the Conditional Use with the 9 conditions as presented, but that Mr. McCormick had some objections to some of the conditions. Mr. Newman called on Don Marsh, and Mr. Marsh stated that Mr. McCormick agrees with most of the 9

conditions. Mr. Marsh stated that regarding Condition #1, Mr. McCormick would like to be able to work on Saturdays even though it probably won't happen much. Mr. Marsh stated that regarding Condition #7, Mr. McCormick does not want to limit the borrow pit to 10 years of operation when the EPD permit allows for 30 years. Mr. Newman stated five people signed up to speak on the request (See Exhibit #2014-186). First, Mr. Samuel G. Oliver spoke in opposition to the request, and stated that Mr. and Mrs. Josh Martin are still strongly opposed to the Conditional Use. Mr. Oliver stated that his clients do not want Saturday operations or operations that begin before 9:00 am, and they feel like the 10-year operating limit is important because that is a long time for the residents in the area to be burdened. Second, Mr. Josh Martin stated that 10 years is long enough and that he does not want to live with the borrow pit next to his property for 30 years. Mr. Martin stated that Saturday operations are a big deal for him and his wife. Mr. Newman stated that Tony Williams (opposed) and Mr. Wesley Parker (for) declined to speak on the matter even though they both signed up to speak, and that Mrs. Jessica Martin (opposed) was unable to attend. Commissioner Ethridge, County Attorney Jeff Akins, and Resident Cassie Justen discussed how a 10-year time limit would impact the 30 year EPD permit. Commissioner Rushing and Commissioner Thompson discussed Conditions #1 and #7. Commissioner Thompson stated that he would like to amend condition #1 to allow operation on Saturdays from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, and would like to amend condition #7 to limit operation to 20 years instead of 10 years. After further discussion, Commissioner Thompson offered a motion to approve Brandon McCormick's, with Don Marsh acting as Agent, request for a Conditional Use to allow for a sand/dirt pit under the definition of a natural resource development with the conditions as amended (See Exhibit #2014-187). Commissioner Rushing seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Mosley, and Commissioner Ethridge voting in favor of the motion.

Vice-Chairman Simmons closed the Public Hearings regarding Zoning and Land Use matters, and asked for amendments or modifications to the General Agenda. Hearing no amendments or modifications, Commissioner Ethridge 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 Ethridge voting in favor of the motion.

Vice-Chairman Simmons 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.

Vice-Chairman Simmons stated the next item on the agenda was a Presentation from the Hospital Authority on the Annual Tax Relief Contribution. Lee Cromley, Chairman of the Hospital Authority, thanked Kristi Burdett for everything that she does for the Hospital Authority. Mr. Cromley stated that the contribution check was presented to the County last week in the amount of \$806,494.98. After reviewing the 2014 Annual Report, Mr. Cromley stated that his term on the Authority expires in September 2015 and thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve.

Vice-Chairman Simmons stated the next item on the agenda was to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: (1) to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting and Executive Session held on October 21, 2014; (2) to approve the re-appointment of Mr. Bobby Simmons to the Division of Family and Children Services Board for a term extending through June 30, 2019; (3) to approve Resolution #2014-24 allowing abandoned items at the Airport to be listed as surplus property (See Exhibit #2014-188); (4) to approve a professional services agreement with Studio 8 of Valdosta for the Mixed Use Ag Arena (See Exhibit #2014-189); and (5) to approve a mutual aid agreement with the Metter/Candler County Fire Department (See Exhibit #2014-190). Without any discussion, Commissioner Ethridge offered a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Mosley seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Mosley, and Commissioner Ethridge voting in favor of the motion.

Without any items of Old Business or New Business, Vice-Chairman Simmons called for general comments or statements from the Commissioners. The Commissioners each thanked everyone for attending the meeting and the Staff for all of their hard work. County Manager Thomas Couch thanked the Board and the Staff for taking the time out of their day to attend the Roads Workshop.

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

Anthony Simmons, Vice-Chairman

Attest: Thomas M. Couch, County Manager