

April 19, 2016
Statesboro GA

Regular Meeting

The Board of Commissioners met at 8:30am in the Community Room of the North Main Annex. Chairman Nevil welcomed guests and called the meeting to order. Commissioner Rushing gave the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Olympia Gaines, Clerk of the Board, performed the roll call of the commissioners and staff. The following commissioners were present: Chairman Nevil, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Mosley, and Commissioner Simmons. Commissioner Ethridge was absent. The following staff was present: County Manager Tom Couch, County Attorney Jeff Akins, Assistant County Manager Andy Welch, Chief Financial Officer Whitney Richland, Chief Accountant Kristie King, County Engineer Kirk Tatum, Solid Waste Director Fred White, Transportation Director Dink Butler, Management Analyst Cindy Steinmann, Statesboro Airport Director Kathy Boykin, Warden Chris Hill, Deputy Warden Wayne Smith, and Chief Deputy Jared Akins.

Chairman Nevil asked for changes or modifications to the General Agenda. Hearing none, he called for a motion to approve the General Agenda as presented. 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 all voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil called for public comments from the audience at large or in writing. Bill Thomas stated that he is concerned with information he requested through the Open Records Act concerning the increase in salaries for sheriff's deputies through overtime payment. Chairman Nevil thanked Mr. Thomas for his comments and input and informed him the Board will research and report back to him concerning this matter. He asked the Board to look into the management of overtime usage and respond back with their findings. Arthur Williams wanted an update on the paving of Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church Road. Mr. Tatum stated he will follow up and provide an update to Mr. Williams.

Phyllis Thompson, Mandi Cody, and Bob Mikell made a presentation on behalf of the Statesboro Downtown Committee regarding the America's Best Communities competition finals to be held in North Carolina. They discussed strategies to strengthen the community's economy

and improve the quality of life for residents of Bulloch County. The Board thanked them for their presentation.

Chairman Nevil stated the next item on the agenda was a presentation concerning a proposal from Joiner-Anderson Funeral Home & Crematory regarding the disposition of the remains of deceased indigent persons. Commissioner Gibson offered a motion to table until the next meeting on May 3, 2016 since Coroner Jake Futch, who was scheduled to make the presentation, was not in attendance at this meeting. Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Mosley, and Commissioner Simmons all voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil stated the next item on the agenda was a Proclamation presented in honor of Manufacturing Appreciation Week to be celebrated April 18th-22nd, 2016.

Chairman Nevil stated the next item on the agenda was approval of the Consent Agenda as follows: (1) to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting and Executive Session held on April 5, 2016 and the minutes of the Special Called Meeting held on April 8, 2016; (2) to approve Waste Services Agreement with Briggs & Stratton Corporation (See Exhibit #2016-33). Commissioner Gibson 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 Simmons all voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil stated the first item under New Business was for Discussion and/or Action to approve a resolution to acquire an avigation easement of 5.620 acres by eminent domain. Chairman Nevil called on Mr. Akins to initiate discussion. Mr. Akins reminded the Board of previous discussions concerning the land acquisitions and easements for the Airport. He stated negotiations were not successful for the Hendley property and this acquisition is required by the County's contract with the Georgia Department of Transportation. Mr. Akins stated the acquisition is necessary to protect the Airport from obstructions and to assure continued compliance with federal and state regulations. Both Chairman Nevil and Commissioner Thompson stated that in order to continue to receive state and federal grants for the operation of the Airport, the County must comply with FAA requirements and acquire this avigation easement through eminent domain since negotiations with Mrs. Hendley were unsuccessful. Without further discussion, Commissioner Mosley offered a motion to approve the resolution to acquire an avigation easement of 5.620 acres by eminent domain (See Exhibit #2015-34).

Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Mosley, and Commissioner Simmons all voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil called for general comments from the commissioners and staff. The commissioners thanked everyone for attending the meeting, the staff for all they do, and the citizens for their comments and input. They thanked the Statesboro Downtown Committee for their presentation and wished them success in the America's Best Communities competition. Commissioner Gibson saluted Great Dane for bringing jobs to the community. Commissioner Mosley thanked Mr. Thompson and the Development Authority for the work that is done to facilitate economic growth for the community.

Hearing no further comments from the Board or staff, Chairman Nevil 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 to discuss Personnel Matters. 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 County Attorney Jeff Akins, for the purpose of discussing and deliberating on Personnel Matters. Without further discussion, Commissioner Thompson offered a motion to adjourn and enter into Executive Session to discuss and deliberate on Personnel Matters (See Exhibit #2016-35). Commissioner Rushing seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Ethridge, Commissioner Simmons, Commissioner Mosley, and Commissioner Thompson voting in favor of the motion.

The meeting was reconvened, and Chairman Nevil asked if there were any further comments from the commissioners or staff. Hearing no further comments from the Commissioners or staff, Chairman Nevil asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Simmons offered a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Gibson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Simmons, and Commissioner Mosley all voting in favor of the motion.

J. Garrett Nevil, Chairman

Attest: _____

Olympia Gaines, Clerk