

January 5, 2016
Statesboro, GA

Regular Meeting

The Board of Commissioners met at 5:30 pm 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 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 Simmons, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Gibson, and Commissioner Ethridge. The following staff were present: County Manager Tom Couch, County Attorney Jeff Akins, Assistant County Manager Andy Welch, Chief Accountant Kristie King, Zoning Administrator Randy Newman, Solid Waste Director Fred White, Management Analyst Cindy Steinmann, Transportation Director Dink Butler, Public Safety Director Ted Wynn, Fire Chief Christopher Ivey, and Chief Deputy Jared Akins.

Chairman Nevil stated the first item of business was the approval of the Zoning Agenda. Commissioner Mosley offered a motion to approve the Zoning Agenda as presented. Commissioner Ethridge seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons and Commissioner Ethridge all voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil called on Zoning Administrator Randy Newman to present the first item of business. Mr. Newman stated Mrs. Hendrix submitted an application for a conditional use to allow a plumbing business to be located on the property under the definition of a cottage industry. The property consists of 5 acres and is located at 3599 Highway 119, parcel number 196 000079 000. Mr. Newman stated that he received a call from a neighbor of the applicant concerning possible zoning violations. Mr. Newman stated that he visited the property and confirmed that the applicant is in violation of multiple provision of the zoning ordinance. He asked that this item be deferred until the February 2, 2016 meeting. Commissioner Thompson offered a motion to defer the conditional use application until the February 2, 2016 meeting. Commissioner Gibson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons and Commissioner Ethridge all voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil asked for changes or modifications to the General Agenda. Mr. Couch asked to modify the agenda by adding the appointment of Dean Allen Amason to the Coastal Regional Commission as item #1 under New Business. Commissioner Ethridge offered a motion to approve the General Agenda with the modification requested by Mr. Couch. Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons and Commissioner Ethridge all voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil asked for public comments from the audience at large or in writing. Mr. Doug Chassereau, Chief Ranger with the Georgia Forestry Department, provided a July 1, 2014-June 30, 2015 annual update for the Georgia Forestry Commission. Mrs. Carrie Mitchell, president of the Humane Society of Statesboro and Bulloch County, Inc., asked the Board for an update on the discussions surrounding the Animal Shelter and Dr. Marz's recommendations. Commissioner Thompson stated at the meeting held on December 15, 2015 a request was made for workshops to discuss the issues surrounding the Animal Shelter as well as the Volunteer Fire Department, Roads, and TAD #1. Mr. Couch stated that a schedule is being arranged and he is currently looking at the meetings scheduled for January 19, 2016 or February 16, 2016 as possible times to discuss these topics. Chairman Nevil thanked Mr. Chassereau for the annual update and the audience for their input and attendance.

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 and Executive Session held on December 15, 2015; (2) to approve a resolution for an annual salary supplement in the amount of \$857.41 for Appointed Magistrate Judge Karen C. Jones (See Exhibit #2016-001); and (3) to authorize the appointment of Commissioner Rushing as Vice-Chairman for Calendar Year 2016. Without further discussion, Commissioner Gibson offered a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Ethridge seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons and Commissioner Ethridge all voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil stated the first item under New Business was for Discussion and /or Action to approve the appointment of Dean Allen Amason to the Coastal Regional Commission as the Bulloch County private sector representative to replace the position held by Mr. Russell

Keen. Commissioner Simmons offered a motion to approve the appointment of Dean Allen Amason to the Coastal Regional Commission. Commissioner Gibson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons and Commissioner Ethridge all voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil called for general comments or statements from the commissioners and staff. The commissioners thanked everyone for their hard work, attendance at the meeting and wished everyone a Happy New Year. They also welcomed Commissioner Rushing in his new role of Vice-Chairman. Commissioner Simmons provided a tribute and offered condolences to the family and friends of Staff Sgt. Chester McBride, III. The commissioners also extended thanks and appreciation to the Sheriff's Department, Statesboro Police Department, Fire Department, community veterans groups and the citizens of Bulloch County. Commissioner Thompson thanked the Humane Society for their attendance and input. Commissioner Gibson thanked Commissioner Thompson for his service as Vice-Chairman during the previous year. Mr. Couch thanked the Commissioners for their continued leadership, the Finance Department for a successful audit and all employees for the work they do. He reminded the Board of the upcoming District Day at the Capitol scheduled for February 17th. Chairman Nevil thanked the Commissioners, the staff and all departments for the work they do.

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

J. Garrett Nevil, Chairman

Attest: _____
Olympia Gaines, Clerk