

April 8, 2016
Statesboro, GA

Special Called Meeting

The Board of Commissioners met for a called meeting at 8:30 am in the Community Room of the North Main Annex. Chairman Nevil called the meeting to order and welcomed staff. He 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 Simmons, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Gibson, and Commissioner Ethridge. Commissioner Rushing was absent. The following staff were present: County Attorney Jeff Akins, Assistant County Manager Andy Welch, Chief Accountant Kristie King, Athletics Director Darryl Hopkins, and Captain Nesmith.

Chairman Nevil asked for changes or modifications of the General Agenda. Hearing none, he called for a motion to approve the General Agenda as presented. Commissioner Mosley offered a motion to approve the General Agenda as presented. Commissioner Ethridge seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Simmons, Commissioner Ethridge, and Commissioner Mosley all voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil called for public comments from the audience at large or in writing. Hearing none, he stated the first item of New Business was for Discussion and/or Action to approve a Special Event permit for the Georgia Southern Athletic Foundation. He called on Mr. Akins to initiate discussion on the matter.

Mr. Akins stated that the GSU Athletic Foundation has an annual fundraiser that is usually held at the Bishop Building on the GSU campus, but due to construction the fundraiser had to be moved to Ogeechee Technical College. The fundraiser is scheduled for April 16, 2016 and raffle tickets have been sold. However, the Foundation was unaware until yesterday that it needs special event permits from both Bulloch County and the Georgia Department of Revenue in order to serve alcohol at the fundraiser. In order to apply for the special event permit from the Georgia Department of Revenue, the Foundation must first be issued a local special event permit from Bulloch County. Mr. Akins stated that Bulloch County's alcohol ordinance usually requires the application for a local special event permit to be submitted at least 4 weeks prior to

the date of the event and that various corporate documents evidencing nonprofit status be included with the application. The reason for the 4-week time period is because the Department of Revenue requires submission of its application at least 10 days prior to the event, and the 4-week local application requirement gives Bulloch County time to review and approve the application and still allows the applicant to meet the Department of Revenue's 10-day application requirement. Mr. Akins further stated that the Foundation is asking Bulloch County to waive these requirements and approve its application for the local special event permit on an exigent basis due to the oversight in not realizing a permit was required. Mr. Akins stated that he recommends waiving the requirements because the GSU Athletic Foundation is a well-known and credible nonprofit organization, the Foundation will nonetheless have to furnish its corporate documentation to the Department of Revenue, this event has been held for a number of years on the GSU campus, and the local permit is needed today in order to have a chance of obtaining the permit from the Department of Revenue prior to the already scheduled event. Mr. Akins concluded by stating that these exigent circumstances were the reason for having this special called meeting on less than 24 hours' notice, and that the nature of the notice provided to the media was the agenda presented by Mrs. Gaines.

Without further discussion, Commissioner Thompson offered a motion to approve the special event permit for the GSU Athletic Foundation (See Exhibit #2016-33). Commissioner Gibson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons, and Commissioner Ethridge all voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil called for general comments from the commissioners and staff. The commissioners thanked everyone for their attendance. Hearing no further comments from the commissioners or staff, Chairman Nevil asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Ethridge offered a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Simmons and Commissioner Ethridge all voting in favor of the motion.

J. Garrett Nevil, Chairman

Attest: _____

Olympia Gaines, Clerk