

Meeting Summary
Budget Workshop Meeting of the Lamar County Board of Commissioners
November 15th, 2018
12:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m. on November 15th, 2018. Present for the meeting were Chairman Glass, Vice-Chairman Heiney, Commissioner Horton, Commissioner Traylor, Commissioner Thrash, County Administrator Zellner and County Clerk Davidson. County Attorney Mayfield was absent for the meeting.

The Board heard a report from Julie Wilson and Mary Alice English regarding a monument to be placed at the Lamar Courthouse at the expense of the Lamar Lafayette Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The application and the approval will need to be granted by the National Daughters of the American Revolution. It is a very long process as a form for every patriot will need to be filled out. The ancestry has to be proved and the fact that they are buried in Lamar County. A lot of documentation is involved and it will take at least a year to complete everything. It will have to be submitted to Washington, D.C. and the historian will have to approve the application. The designated location, the front lawn of the Courthouse, will need to be approved by the Lamar County Board of Commissioners. Upon research, five Revolutionary War soldiers have been identified and are proposed to be included in the Memorial upon final approval from the National Daughters of the American Revolution. Only five names can be submitted at a time. The five soldiers that will be submitted first are John P. Brown, Thomas Green, John Jenkins, Thomas Nelson and William Ogletree. John Bloodworth, Mark Ray and Ludwell Malone will be added at a later date. Mrs. English stated that the proposed monument will have room for eight men. Commissioner Thrash asked if the monument can be moved because in the future there are plans for Lamar County to build a new Administration Center. Mrs. English stated that George Moore with Barnesville Marble and Granite Company, who will build the monument, stated that he can move it and clean it. A letter of approval from the Lamar County Board of Commissioners will need to be submitted to the National Daughters of the American Revolution. Mrs. English stated that Tim Turner is working with them and has identified them in various cemeteries. They are also working with Kelly Hughes at the Barnesville Lamar County Library to put it on microfiche so that those coming into town will have an idea of where the Revolutionary War Soldiers identified are buried.

The Board heard a report from Tom Wellner and Fred Morris concerning the Animal Shelter and the number of dogs that had been reclaimed, adopted, rescued and euthanized in the County and in the City of Barnesville from January to September. There have been 300 plus dogs and cats that have been euthanized. Both men spoke on the need for the new Animal Shelter that is more convenient and better run. The smaller shelters are more efficient to run and are more affordable. Mr. Wellner stated that he had studied several needs analysis regarding animal shelters. Mr. Wellner stated that 2 dozen dog runs should be enough for Lamar County. Vice-Chairman Heiney asked what would change compared to what Barnesville and Lamar County has now. Vice-Chairman Heiney said that he was pretty sure that once the new Animal Shelter is built they will close down the current shelter. Mr. Wellner said that this was a huge question and one that he couldn't answer. He said that some of the jurisdictions have built new shelters and kept the old one open and used it for Animal Control. If the Barnesville Shelter continues to operate all the way from Animal Control to Adoption then you are looking at half as many at the County level. The City will end up paying a fee to the County to handle Animal Control. Vice-Chairman Heiney said that if the old shelter does close then how is the new shelter going to make things better. Mr. Morris answered and said that the thing that is going to improve is location which will help the adoption. They have to have a director that is soliciting adoption from the rescue groups. Building a large shelter isn't the answer to the problem. The number one solution is to spay and neuter. The number two solution is to reach out to the rescue groups. Vice-Chairman Heiney asked if the Barnesville Animal Shelter does this. Mr. Morris said that they don't because they pick them up and put them down. Mr. Wellner said that the ratios in other counties are vastly higher. Mr. Wellner said that the idea is to have an inviting facility. Mr. Wellner said that all this is re-hashing the argument that have been made all these years. Vice-Chairman Heiney asked if he should not ask these questions. Mr. Wellner said no but that Mr. Morris had spoken on euthanizing again and he thought that all those arguments had

already been made and the vote was cast and now they are on the SPLOST budget. Commissioner Thrash said the location of the shelter is bad and that people don't even want to take their cars to the Barnesville Animal Shelter. The adoption rate at the new Animal Shelter will be huge based on her prediction. Commissioner Traylor stated that his wife went to the Barnesville Animal Shelter when his dog got picked up and she didn't feel safe going down there. County Administrator Zellner stated that there is a bridge that is not safe to cross at the Barnesville Animal Shelter and one bridge was closed. Mr. Morris stated that the biggest problem that you have with Animal Shelters is drainage, air quality and ventilation. Mr. Morris stated that the plans, drawn up by Tom Albritton in Thomaston, for the New Animal Shelter in Lamar County will have two levels. They will have a large ceiling fan and the air will be circulated because you can't have dogs and cats breathing the same air. There will be bird feeders outside. Mr. Morris presented a slide show with several Animal Shelters in the State of Georgia. The slide show showed various kennels in Animal Shelters in the State of Georgia. The slide show included cages for both cats and dogs, plumbing and kitchens. Mr. Wellner said that the construction cost for some of these Animal Shelters is extremely high. Mr. Wellner stated that they are looking at about 4000 square feet. Mr. Morris stated that he is speaking with Superintendent Jute Wilson about salvaging glass and windows, doors and maybe the brick from the current Lamar County High School. Mr. Wellner stated that every single Animal Shelter they visited is closely affiliated with the Sheriff's Department. It is either run by the Sheriff's Department or their deputies are involved. They are all close to the Sheriff's Department. Mr. Wellner stated that the designated location for the new Lamar County Animal Shelter is superb. Mr. Wellner stated that they do not need all three acres to build the new Lamar County Animal Shelter because they probably could get by with two. The other acreage could go back to the Sheriff's Department. Mr. Morris stated that the total operating cost is \$113,000.00 and there was discussion about decreasing this amount. Chairman Glass stated that you can't do this because Animal Control still has to be in the budget. Commissioner Thrash inquired about the private portion of the donations and asked if this would pay for the new Lamar County Animal Shelter. Chairman Glass stated that Community Foundation controls the donations. Commissioner Thrash noted that the building of the new Lamar County Animal Shelter will have to go out for bid. Mr. Morris stated that they hoping to use inmate labor to build the new Lamar County Animal Shelter.

The Board heard information regarding two Public Hearings and a Special Exception.

1) Minor Sub-Division App #2016-02 by Tom & Shereen Crowley

Building and Zoning Director Gunter stated that the property is located on Trice Road and the plan is to subdivide the property into five lots with each one being a little over two acres. The planning commission approved the application with stipulations that they all be site-built homes at least 1600 square feet and that there be vegetative screening between lots 1 and 2 and the neighbor's property. The neighbor was present and objected because he didn't want to see the constructed houses off his back porch. Building and Zoning Director Gunter stated the neighbors name is Mr. Thornberry. The rezoning of the property is to R2.

2) Special Exception App #2018-04 by Kent Kingsley

Building and Zoning Director Gunter stated that this is for a radio tower. The property with the radio tower on Forsyth Street is up for sale. The owner of the radio station wants to put a new radio tower in the northern portion of the County with a little higher elevation so that he will have better coverage. This is for a 500-watt antenna. There were two people who showed up at the Planning Commission meeting and they objected because of radiation that may cause sickness. Building and Zoning Director Gunter explained that he was a radio specialist in the Navy and if you are 300 ft. away from the tower you will never know it is there. Kent Kingsley owns the property and he is cutting out five acres to place the radio tower on. Commissioner Thrash inquired about the cables that hold the tower and if it will hold hurricane strength. Building and Zoning Director Gunter stated that it would. The setback in the County code is at least 200 ft. and the tower are only 190 ft. so if it fell it would stay within the confines of the property. Commissioner Traylor inquired about issues with the road. Building and Zoning Director Gunter explained that it is a dirt road and if you have ever traveled it is narrow. The school bus flies down the road and the neighbors complain about this and stated that they are creating pot holes. The

construction of the tower will take about 3 weeks. The visits to the tower will be once a month with a car or a pickup truck. There will be no more damage to the road than is already being done by the school bus. County Administrator Zellner stated that the road is in terrible shape. It is on Thomas Road. Building and Zoning Director Gunter said that the family does not want the road paved. The Planning Commission recommended approval.

Building and Zoning Director said that there are three rezoning requests from the County and one from the City of Barnesville. One is a development that will be about 19 million dollars and the building itself is over 19,000 square feet with a 3-million-dollar cost. This will be a big boost for the County tax wise. The property was zoned M2 but when they got rid of the split zoning it was all zoned C2. They will cut the property and the property towards High Falls Road will be M2 and the property towards Hwy 36 will be C2 because there has been some request in building a motel in that area. This is across from Peterbilt. One of the rezoning, is for the expansion of what used to be the Mayor of Milner's trailer park. This will be rezoned PR for the installation of more manufactured homes. One of the benefits to this is that they have put in a sewage lift station since we require any PR of plant manufactured home to have manufactured homes to have sewer services. The last rezoning is 266 Hwy 34 South. There is a green metal building that the person wants torn down so that one of the Aldora Homes can be moved in there. They want to rezone the property to R4 for an 800 square ft. home. Chairman Glass stated he will have to have access on Clark Road because the State will probably not grant access onto Hwy 341. Chairman Glass stated that Public Works will need to work with him on a drainage issue on Hwy 341.

The Board discussed the Regular Meeting agenda for November 20th, 2018

- A. The Board reviewed 4 sets of minutes.
- B. The Board discussed the request for approval for a monument honoring the Revolutionary War soldiers.
- C. The Board reviewed a Proclamation for the Gordon Lady Highlanders Georgia College Athletic Soccer Championship.
- D. The Board reviewed a Proclamation for West Mount Sinai Baptist Church
- E. The Board discussed two Board Appointments.
 - 1) The Barnesville Lamar County Library
 - 2) The Barnesville Lamar County Industrial Development Authority
- F. Chairman Glass stated that they are still working on the Intergovernmental Agreement between Butts County and Lamar County.
- G. The Board reviewed Ordinance 2018-07 (1st Reading) for Minor Subdivision App # 2018-02 by Tom and Shereen Crowley
- H. The Board reviewed Ordinance 2018-08-Use of County Property Prohibited.
- I. The Board reviewed Special Exception App # 2018-04 by Kent Kingsley
- J. The Board discussed the Air Conditioner Replacement bids for the Courthouse. County Administrator Zellner stated that there was only one vendor thus far that had been submitted. County Administrator Zellner stated that an air conditioner in the Administration Building will also need to be replaced. There are 4 air conditioners that will need to be replaced so whoever gets the bid, will replace all 4 units.
- K. The Board reviewed the Execution of the Boundary Line Agreement with the Estate of Betty Bowman Childs which is for the Johnstonville Community Club. Chairman Glass stated that when they did the title search there wasn't a clear enough designation as to where the boundaries are located. The title will be issued based upon approval of this agreement from the Lamar County Board of Commissioners. Chairman Glass stated that there are no records in the plats to show specifically where the boundary was. This will

establish that record. Attorney Mayfield has reviewed the Boundary Line Agreement with the Estate of Betty Bowman Childs.

- L. The Board reviewed Resolution 2018-16 for the Adoption of the 2019 budget. Chairman Glass reported that he had heard no comments since the Public Hearing was held.
- M. The Board reviewed Resolution 2018-17 for the General Obligation Bond for the new jail. Commissioner Thrash stated that she and County Administrator Zellner had discussed having Dave Wills with ACCG review the verbiage for the General Obligation Bond. County Administrator Zellner stated that John Parnell put together this document and he did the Bond for the school. He also did the legal work on the facility authority. Chairman Glass stated that if they don't approve this then they can't put it on the March ballot. This is to put the referendum question on the ballot. If it passes the referendum, then they can issue the bonds and go into debt. The Board reviewed Resolution 2018-18 Sunday Alcohol Sales Referendum. Chairman Glass said that if they don't approve to put the General Obligation Bond for the new jail on the referendum, he is not in favor of putting the Sunday Alcohol Sales on the referendum. He said that it cost too much money to hold a special election. Chairman Glass explained that if the bond referendum passes in March, the sales will begin in April or May. He further explained that this is not using today's interest rates. The current amortization table shows \$850,000 per year for 30 years. Once the new jail is built it will save operating and maintenance cost on the current jail. Chairman Glass stated that some of the money will come through millage rate increases because it won't all come from the bonds. It won't take quite a 2 mill increase but about a mill in a half or a mill and a third. Chairman Glass stated that in the first year you sell the bonds and you have 15 million dollars to pay back. To make that first payment you don't have to have debt service at that point but you will have to cover debt service at some point through taxes or some other revenue. You will also have a chance to re-negotiate the bonds. Chairman Glass said that if the Solid Waste Authority ever gets going, there will be revenue on the char and then we can pay the debt off early. Commissioner Thrash stated that there could be the potential of getting rid of the millage rate. Chairman Glass stated that if there is revenue from this then it could offset the sale of the bonds. County Administrator Zellner stated that on the tax bill it will show the M&O and the GO Bond separately. Chairman Glass stated that they can always use GO funds to pay back debt millage. They have the authority to put it on the tax bill as just debt millage. Chairman Glass stated that there are many options as to how they want to cover that debt. If they want to put the Local Options Sales Tax (LOST) money towards it or property tax or they can. If the citizens agree to take on the debt, they can put a debt millage on the tax bill. This way it is more transparent. If that first year, they decide not to put the millage in place, because they have enough cash, and they defer those payments for another year, then they cover that money that they have on hand and not put anything on the tax bill. Chairman Glass stated that both of the referendums had been approved by Attorney Mayfield. Chairman Glass stated that the ballot language is very specific. Chairman Glass stated that on the Sunday alcohol sales referendum, the language on that mentions spirits, but we don't sell spirits in Lamar County only beer and wine by the package and by the drink. Chairman Glass stated that you first vote on Sunday Sales, then if you want to sell earlier than 12:30 p.m. you have another referendum for that. The board reviewed the referendum from Attorney Mayfield.

- N. The board reviewed an Ordinance for Use of County Property Prohibited. Commissioner Thrash stated that she was disappointed in this Ordinance. She stated that it is very vague and open. County Administrator Zellner stated that if someone was caught that it needs to be at the digression of the Commissioners. Commissioner Thrash agreed that each situation is looked at individually. Chairman Glass stated that if the board wants to change anything in the Ordinance that they would need to give Attorney Mayfield some different guidance. Chairman Glass stated that this was created in lieu of the investigation. Commissioner Thrash stated that they could leave it as is but add that each situation be reviewed by the Lamar County Board of Commissioners on a case by case basis. Chairman Glass disagreed and stated that it should stay simple because they always have the option of not enforcing a particular thing. They have the option of saying they are not going to deal with situations or cases regarding pens and paper without putting in the Ordinance. County Administrator Zellner stated that he thought that the Ordinance covered about everything necessary because it boils down to the intent. Commissioner Thrash stated that she has a MiFi. It connects to her phone and if she responds to her own business call then she is using County resources. The same for the County laptop which is dead. The board all agreed that this usage is at the digression of the board.
- O. County Administrator Zellner reported that Brenda Joyce Farmer was requesting a refund on property taxes due to a veteran discount. However, before he died he never came in an applied for it. Ms. Farmer complained to Tax Assessor Haddock and requested that she be given a refund for tax years 2016 and 2017. Tax Assessor Haddock said that Ms. Farmer can't get this refund because Mr. Farmer never applied for it before his death. She applied for it for 2018 and she will receive it for 2018 in 2019. The board agreed that if she wants to go on the agenda it will have to be in December or she can sign up for Public Comments in November because we are awaiting on legal opinion from Attorney Mayfield.
- P. County Administrator Zellner shared pictures of the records in the basement of the Courthouse that need destruction or in need of being moved. If the record is a part of the long-term record retention schedule and can be saved then it will need to be moved offsite. County Administrator Zellner stated that he has a quote from Wimpy Vaughn of \$90,000.00 for an offsite storage building. County Administrator Zellner stated that it needs to be a 20 x 20 fire proof building. This would include the Administration, Tax Commissioner and Tax Assessors records. County Clerk Davidson stated that when you move records there is supposed to be a process for record destruction. Technically you are supposed to record all records of destructions showing it was destroyed on a particular date. You are also to record how you destroyed the records whether or not they are burned or shredded. You can't just have someone go down to the basement of the Courthouse and throw it in a truck and take off with it. There needs to be some kind of procedure. County Administrator Zellner stated that once it is moved off site you have to have someone to watch it and make sure it is actually destroyed. It has to be officially verified. Chairman Glass requested that they proceed with getting a cost to build an offsite building. Commissioner Thrash inquired about whether or not the County would be interested in purchasing Milner's Police Department as a records storage building. County Administrator Zellner suggested using a portion of the Service Center Building once the Health Department is built. County Clerk Davidson stated that the building would have to be free of leaks and mold. Chairman Glass stated that they could use a portion of it and

repair that piece of the roof or building that you are using as a storage area. You could use a 20 x 25 area for the records. This would be cheaper than pouring a pad and building a brand-new building. Chairman Glass stated that the records in the courthouse basement could be destroyed before then.

- Q. The Board discussed the need for an additional list of priority roads for LMIG. County Administrator Zellner stated that Lamar County's portion has to have some more added to it and that he needs for the board to come up with some more. The total grant is \$512,000.00. The LMIG is \$394,000.00. The match is 70 percent State and 30 percent County. We designated \$443,000.00 and we need to come up with \$68,000.00 more worth of paving. County Administrator Zellner stated that he needed to add to the list to send to the Georgia Department of Transportation. Commissioner Thrash suggested a portion of Eady Creek Road. Vice-Chairman Heiney suggested a section of Crawford Road. Commissioner Traylor suggested Rogers Circle. Chairman Glass requested that the board send their list to County Administrator Zellner before the Tuesday night meeting.
- R. County Administrator Zellner reported that in talking with the Georgia Department of Transportation there is an "Off System Date Safety Grant" for \$50,000.00 to do some striping, marking, edge lines, signage, etc. County Administrator Zellner stated that he needs a list of roads from the board for this. This will be for about 25 miles. This will need to be approved Tuesday night so that it can be turned in by December 31st. The State will pay \$30,000.00 and the County will have to pay \$15,000.00.
- S. Chairman Glass stated that the main water supply runs down from City Pond to Bottoms Road. There are 2 24-inch pipes that run-down Bottoms Road. If it was paved, and there was a rupture they would have to dig up the road to fix the pipe. There is no way to get around this unless you remove the road or remove the pipe. Moving the pipe means you have to have more right of way or more easement. Both of these options are expensive. Chairman Glass said that the plan right now is that County Administrator Zellner is going to coordinate a town hall meeting regarding this issue and what ideas that the citizens have. Chairman Glass asked if they were better off going back to having just a dirt road because to him it makes no sense to pave it. Commissioner Thrash stated that at one point the board discussed moving the road. County Administrator Zellner stated that this was just a portion of the road. Commissioner Thrash asked if this portion of the road could be closed. Chairman Glass stated that the whole road is over the pipes. County Administrator Zellner stated that the pipe was put in about 40 years ago and it will continue to break and it will continually have to be repaired. Chairman Glass stated that there is not enough population or justification to receive a Community Development Grant Block (CDBG) money to move the road. Chairman Glass stated that all of the citizens out there need to be educated about the pipe under the road and there are no plans to repair that road. Commissioner Thrash said that if they go back to just having a dirt road that they are still going to have the same issues. Chairman Glass stated that a lot of maintenance will still have to be done on it but it will be easier to maintain a dirt road than to go back and put down pavement. Chairman Glass said that they could theoretically do a deep reclamation and use concrete but the next time they have to repair the pipe it will have to be busted up. Chairman Glass said that the next step is to hold a town hall meeting to explain the problem.
- T. Commissioner Thrash reported on the Milner Library. She stated that for three years the Milner City Council has been requested documents from the Milner Library board and they

have been told it is none of their business. Mrs. Betty Wilson made a motion that no further funds will go towards the Milner Library and she isn't using it to strong arm them to get the documents. Commissioner Thrash said that her argument was that when they received the Grant money, \$785,000.00 they all voted to support the Milner Library. The Resolution states that you are going to support the Milner Library and now they are saying that they don't want to support the Milner Library. Commissioner Thrash said that Milner is having their own financial issues and they are looking for money. The grant stipulates that they have to use it for a library for 20 years once it is built. Commissioner Thrash reported that she and Senator Marty Harbin are going to meet with Senator Jack Hill in the next two weeks to see if the State will authorize the City of Milner to use half of the building as their Administrative Offices, their City Hall, and the other half for the Milner Library. Commissioner Thrash stated that the former Regional Library Director reeled them in and the architect in the program really has screwed them over. The Regional Library Director has really got them in a bind so now the situation is that they have two choices. They can give the property and the building back to the State or they can pay the \$785,000.00 back to the State. Commissioner Thrash said that the State is not really keen on this because they are saying that they used their money for the last five years. Commissioner Thrash stated that she cautioned the Milner Council about this and stated that if they do any of this they will never receive any more State or Federal Grant funds. Commissioner Thrash stated that hopefully they have everyone on the same page with working it out. Commissioner Thrash said that she believes that the Library Board is now going to produce the document. If they can get Senator Hill to help then everyone will be happy. Commissioner Thrash stated that the Milner City Council voted on the Resolution and it is what it is. Vice-Chairman Heiney inquired about the operating cost and Commissioner Thrash stated that since Wayne Patterson has agreed to be the City Manager for the City of Milner, he has found that the operating cost is \$49,000.00 and it will cost about \$38,000.00 to operate. This is basically a 2 mill increase to operate the library. Commissioner Thrash said two years ago they spelled out a very well laid out plan on how they were going to operate the library with volunteers. They were going to have a part time director and now no one seems to know where that business plan is. Vice-Chairman Heiney said, "Doesn't this sound like the Animal Shelter." Commissioner Traylor said he was waiting for this. Vice-Chairman Heiney said this is the same thing and he can see this going forward and in two years the same thing in turns of cost. Commissioner Thrash said that she has concerns about the animal shelter committee building the new Animal Shelter and then donating it back to the County. She said that there are a lot of things being done with this that they can't do. Vice-Chairman Heiney said that right now you are talking about a mill and a half to two mills guaranteed going forward to build a jail. That is the starting point out of the gate as the jail is built. The people are going to see this and when you add on an animal shelter and all the other stuff you are talking about some big tax increases. County Administrator said that the jail is needed and the Animal Shelter but reminded them that the Courthouse is in terrible shape. Chairman Glass said that the people need to understand what the Grand Jury is reporting to the Board of Commissioners and if they go to court, because of some prisoner, a judge is going to ask what the plan is and if it isn't built now it could cost as much as two to three mills to build a new jail to their specifications. There is no good choice just what is the best solution. Vice-Chairman Heiney said that we are piling on now

and people are on fixed incomes. County Administrator Zellner stated that this is because the problems and issues have been ignored and inflation has not been kept up with. The buildings haven't been kept up with because we don't want a tax increase. Commissioner Thrash said that this had been discussed in the committee meetings and they were going to move forward with the new Administration Building and the new Jail Building. This was going to be one big bond.

- U. Vice-Chairman Heiney made a motion to recess the workshop meeting around 2:30 p.m. to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Horton left the workshop meeting earlier in the meeting and was not present for the Executive Session. The board came out of executive session around 2:54 p.m. and resumed the workshop meeting.
- V. Commissioner Thrash reported that Rock Springs Church gave a report on a park that is being built with a pavilion and walking trails being built at Rocks Springs Church.
- W. The Board discussed the Service Delivery Strategy (SDS) between the City of Barnesville and the County. Chairman Glass said that he wants to talk to the City about what is acceptable and hammer out the final wording. He stated that he would send something out to the Barnesville Mayor Banks and Barnesville City Manager Rose regarding this after the Thanksgiving holidays.
- X. The Board discussed the new Animal Shelter and whether or not they will actually close the Barnesville Animal Shelter. Chairman Glass stated that if they have an Animal Shelter up and running, they may be in agreement to get rid of the Barnesville Animal Shelter. Chairman Glass explained that the new Animal Shelter for Lamar County is a SPLOST III project and is at the end of the project, which is a six-year project. High priority projects come first and money will have to be in hand before an animal shelter is built. The SPLOST III project can't be closed until it is built. Chairman Glass explained that the SPLOST I project wasn't closed out for two years and this was after the Fire Station was built. SPLOST, I had to stay open until the Fire Station was built. After it is closed, then the excess funds were transferred into the General Fund. Commissioner Thrash asked if anyone had shared this with the Animal Shelter Committee. Chairman Glass stated that he had explained this and had showed them his excel spread sheets with the high priorities including the fire trucks and the roads. He explained that this priority is the lowest one on the list. Chairman Glass said that the concern from Mr. Morris and Mr. Wellner is that people are going to forget about it if they put it on the end. Mr. Morris is trying to keep something going the whole time. This is why they have gotten the architectural drawing and a plan to use so that they use it to solicit donations and keep the interest up. Chairman Glass said he doesn't think they are worried about the money right now. Chairman Glass stated that he feels like that there are people that will put between \$100,000.00 to \$150,000.00 into this project if the boards pull the trigger. They haven't promised him that but that seems to be there plan. Mr. Wellner told him that anything that they put into that foundation earns no interest. It does no good for them. Chairman Glass said that if they wanted to put \$100,000.00 into the project, they would be better putting it somewhere that

it draws interest. Mr. Wellner isn't pushing people to donate to the foundation. Chairman Glass stated that there are lots of people that have put money into this project and Mr. Wellner's main focus is the operating cost. Chairman Glass said that the budget is \$148,000.00 and this includes the animal control officers time as the Administrator. They were taking it out at the end but you still have to have this in the budget for Animal Control. Chairman Glass said that \$31,000.00 is being paid out for Animal Control. Whether or not they have a new Animal Shelter they will need to keep paying this amount for Animal Control. If you are going to have an Animal Shelter you are going to have someone to supervise it. Chairman Glass said he believes that he remembers putting in another \$40,000.00 for this position. They also have veterinarian bills and food. They used a lot of their numbers for the donation amount. Chairman Glass said that for utilities, including water and sewer were grossly underestimated. Chairman Glass stated that \$150,000.00 is a better projected operating cost. Chairman Glass said that Mr. Wellner had spoken to him about a year ago about building the shelter. Mr. Wellner told him that he wants to setup an endowment to kept the funding of the operations going forward. Chairman Glass stated that to make this actually work this will be more helpful. Mr. Wellner is more focused on how to operate it than getting it built. Chairman Glass stated that there are probably 24 people in the County that will put \$1,500.00 into 24 Dog Runs. When it comes down to actually building the new Animal Shelter you have the plan, you have the actual cost laid out, they can probably get there. If Mr. Wellner takes on a major portion of this helps a lot. Vice-Chairman Heiney said that once you tell the tax payers that they are locked into funding the operation of it that is one more thing that the people have to pay for. There are a lot of people on fix incomes in this County. People can't afford it. They can't afford tax increases now. Building a new jail is going to be a big increase and that is with nothing else. Vice-Chairman Heiney said that in four years he predicts that they will have to raise taxes and people will be mad and glad to see him go. County Administrator Zellner said that people moving in from Henry County are used to higher taxes. Vice-Chairman Heiney heard from a citizen that said that they are on board with paying more taxes because they want more services. Commissioner Thrash said that this is because that person sees the big picture. The big picture is that you have to pay for those services.

Commissioner Thrash made a motion to adjourn the workshop at 3:45 p.m. Vice - Chairman Heiney seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

THE LAMAR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Charles Glass, Chairman

Robert Heiney, Vice-Chairman

Bennie Horton, Commissioner

Ryran Traylor, Commissioner

Nancy Thrash, Commissioner

Attest: _____ Carlette Davidson, County Clerk