

LAMAR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Business Meeting Minutes

March 15th, 2016

7:00 P.M

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. on March 15th, 2016. Present for the meeting were Chairman Glass, Vice-Chairman Thrash, Commissioner Horton, Commissioner Heiney, Commissioner Baker, County Administrator Zellner, County Clerk Davidson, and County Attorney Scott Mayfield.

I. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.

Everyone said the pledge of allegiance. Rev. Robert L. Releford from the New Hope Missionary Baptist Church gave the invocation.

II. Agenda Approval

Commissioner Heiney made a motion to approve the agenda and Commissioner Horton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Minutes Approval

Vice-Chairman Thrash made a motion to approve the following minutes.

- i. February 11th, 2016, Workshop Minutes
- ii. February 16th, 2016, Public Hearing Minutes
- iii. February 16th, 2016, Regular Business Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Baker requested that on the February 16th, 2016 minutes two changes be made to his comments under Round Table. He requested that the word “almost” be added to “hit by a dog” and that the word “they” be changed to “the County”. Commissioner Horton seconded the motion with the 2 changes to the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Proclamation-SGES Boys Cross Country State Champs Proclamation

Vice-Chairman Thrash presented a Proclamation to New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, Rev. Robert L. Releford and the members of the congregation recognizing and congratulating New Hope Missionary Baptist Church on their 145 year anniversary.

V. Volunteer Firefighters Insurance Policy (VFIS)

Vice-Chairman Thrash made a motion to approve a Volunteer Firefighters Insurance Policy (VFIS) for a yearly amount of \$4438.67. Commissioner Heiney seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Approved Resolution 2016-07-Hazardous Waste Trust Fund

Commissioner Baker made a motion to approve the 2016-07- Hazardous Waste Trust Fund authorizing the Executive Director of the Lamar County Regional Solid Waste Authority to execute on behalf of the County of Lamar, the reference agreement and any other related documents necessary to obtain funding. Commissioner Horton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Personnel Policy-Ordinance 2016-01

Vice-Chairman Thrash made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2016-01 amending Chapter 2-2 of the Lamar County, Georgia Code of Ordinances entitled “Administration” deleting Section 2-2-51 entitled “Personnel Policies and Procedures Handbook” in its entirety and adopting the Lamar County Personnel Policy for all employees of Lamar County. Commissioner Horton seconded the motion. County Attorney Mayfield pointed out that this is an Ordinance that has two readings. Vice-Chairman Thrash then made a motion to amend her motion approving the first reading of Ordinance 2016-01. Commissioner Horton also amended his motion and seconded the first reading of Ordinance 2016-01. The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Financial Update

County Administrator Zellner gave an update as to the amount of money borrowed on the Tax Anticipation Note (TAN). As of to date, \$ 1,012,000.00 has been borrowed from the TAN with \$ 2,488,000.00 left to carry through till the end of the year. The annual percent of the budget, as of February, is 14.444 percent which includes the revenue/expenditures.

IX. Administrator’s Report

County Administrator Zellner gave an Administrator’s Report as follows.

- a) Jordan Lumber agreed to pave the shoulders, outside of the facility, on Industrial Drive. This is a result from truckers having to stop on the roads to strap down their loads when they come out of Jordan Lumber.
- b) Received the Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant (LMIG) money in the amount of \$282,611.04. This will be used to resurface Silver Dollar Road, Fredonia Church from 41 Hwy to Johnstonville Road, Abbott Road, Wilmot Road and Bypass Road. The cost for resurfacing these roads is \$650,316.00 and it will take the LMIG money along with approximately \$367,705.00 from SPLOST to complete the paving of these roads.
- c) The process for requesting bids for the resurfacing project will start soon and the plan is to receive the bids on May 13th with the board approving the bids at the May 17th Regular Business meeting.

- d) Met with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to discuss the disaster from the December rain storms. FEMA will be making site visits next Thursday. The forms for reimbursement have been mailed but there is lot of detailed paperwork that has to be filled out.
- e) Dane Bishop with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) said that there is more money available for striping. A list from the Commissioners and Public Works Director Rigdon has been compiled. This is supplemental money of about \$250,000.00 and is a part of the “Off Road Safety Grant.” The supplemental LMIG money is used for striping, signs, guard rails and rumble strips. This money will pave approximately 33 miles of road way.
- f) The Tax Commissioners Office’s internet is up and running. The license has been renewed. The Sheriff’s office has a contract with Charter and that construction will begin soon. Down the road, the plan is to piggy back off of the Sheriff’s Office and connect to the Tax Commissioners Office.

X. Public Comments

Ralph Jones of 204 Redbud Drive, Barnesville addressed the board stating that he is a member of the Lamar Arts. Mr. Jones said that he is proud of the art building and the caboose that they rent from the city. Some of the members feel like they could do more to draw people into the club. The members are looking into other shows other than the Art Gallery. Mr. Jones said that they need support from the county and the city so that they can keep the doors open. Mr. Jones passed out membership cards and an invitation to the Art Gallery that is open until April 30, 2016. A membership for a Student is \$5.00, an Individual is \$20.00, a Family is \$35.00, a Patron is \$50.00 and a Business/Donor is \$100.00. Mr. Jones thanked the Board for the work on Hwy 341 and Redbud Drive regarding the improvements and the additional turn lanes. Mr. Jones also inquired about the impending U-Turn installment at Grove Street and State Route 7 and why a traffic light at the Grove Street intersection was not considered. Chairman Glass explained that because of the cross traffic you would have to wait forever to get across therefore, a U-Turn was the safer alternative. Chairman Glass stated that the model shows that the travel time is no more than 90 seconds.

Beverly Eskridge of 130 Holmes Street addressed the board with news from the Humane Society regarding the brick orders for pets placed at the City Park. There have been 52 bricks already set at the park and it will take another 50 orders of bricks before another order can be placed. Ms. Eskridge stated that the money from the bricks is controlled by her and that it goes towards spaying and neutering. Currently, the Humane Society is using a company out of Newnan called H.E.L.P. to spay and neuter cats and dogs.

XI. Round Table

Commissioner Heiney said that he appreciated the New Hope Missionary Baptist Church which was founded in 1871 and thanked the church and the congregation for all that they do.

Commissioner Baker welcomed and recognized Ryran Traylor whose name will appear on the ballot as his replacement.

Vice-Chairman Thrash said that she had something that had been on her heart regarding the Firefighters. Vice-Chairman Thrash said that she thinks that we sometimes don't really recognize or really know the things that our firefighters do for this community. Vice-Chairman Thrash said that she wanted to recognize the firefighters because many of them work 24 hours or more and are away from their families. Vice-Chairman Thrash said that she appreciates what they do for the community because if they didn't do that, when someone calls 911 they wouldn't be available to be first responders and if someone is having a heart attack the first responders wouldn't be able to be the first ones on the scene. Vice-Chairman Thrash said that she could go on and on but she wanted to say again how much she appreciates what the firefighters do for this community and she hopes that everyone will spread the word. Vice-Chairman Thrash said that the firefighters are a great group and that it was a no brainer to approve the volunteer fire fighters supplemental insurance.

Chairman Glass echoed what Vice-Chairman Thrash had said about the firefighters and said that if anyone has not been out to see the new fire station he wanted to encourage everyone to go out there. Chairman Glass said that there is someone always out there and they would be glad to show it off. Chairman Glass said that they have some pretty good food out there a lot of times and they may be willing to share a snack or two. Chairman Glass said that the fire station is impressive and if you have some time, stop in and say hello. The firefighters are very proud of the fire station and they have done some good work out there. Chairman Glass also thanked Mr. Jones for sharing the Lamar Arts with the board and said that he is proud of this organization. He also said he was proud of New Hope Missionary Baptist Church and stated that it is a wonderful place filled with a rich heritage and church members who do good work.

XII. Adjournment and Executive Session

Commissioner Horton made a motion to adjourn the meeting and go into executive session to discuss litigation and personnel at approximately 7:40 p.m. Commissioner Heiney seconded the motion. The Board adjourned the executive session at approximately 8:17 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

THE LAMAR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Charles Glass, Chairman

Nancy Thrash, Vice-Chairman

Bennie Horton, Commissioner

Robert Heiney, Commissioner

Van Baker, Commissioner

Attest: _____

Carlette Davidson, County Clerk