

**LAMAR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**WORKSHOP MINUTES**  
February 16th, 2017  
1:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 1:42 p.m. on January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Present for the meeting were Chairman Glass, Vice-Chairman Horton, Commissioner Heiney, Commissioner Traylor, Commissioner Thrash, County Administrator Zellner and County Clerk Davidson.

**Health Services Agreement -Sheriff White**

Sheriff White addressed the board regarding a Health Service Agreement between Lamar County and Southern Correctional Medicine, a Georgia corporation. Sheriff White stated that if they go with the Health Services agreement the nurse for the Sheriff's Office will be a part of the Health Services Contract and will no longer be employed by the county. The savings to the county would be around \$20,000.00. Sheriff White was concerned about the nurse at the Sheriff's office and stated that the salary and benefits for the nurse is an issue because once they pass the agreement the nurse will be employed by Southern Correctional Medicine. Once the county signs the agreement, all of the health services will be handled through them. The Sheriff stated that this agreement doesn't save a lot of money and that the main reason for not approving the agreement is that the nurse could have a lower salary and would lose her current benefits. The agreement is attached to the minutes. The board agreed to not include this item on the agenda until further investigation.

**Agenda Discussion**

- 1) Reviewed the following minutes.
  - i. Workshop Meeting-January 12th, 2017
  - ii. Public Hearing-January 17th, 2017
  - iii. Regular Business Meeting-January 17th, 2017
  - iv. Special Called Meeting-January 31st, 2017
- 2) Reviewed the McIntosh Trail Community Service Board. Vice-Chairman Horton was appointed to take Nancy Anderson's place at the January meeting however, Vice-Chairman Horton is currently on the Three Rivers Regional Commission Board and this would be a conflict of interest. Chairman Glass requested that County Clerk Davidson contact Reverend Garth Forster of First Baptist Church Barnesville to see if he knew of anyone that could serve On this board. Commissioner Thrash requested that County Clerk Davidson send them the criteria for serving on this board.
- 3) Reviewed a Resolution for the ACCG Lease Purchase Agreement-Motor Grader.
- 4) Reviewed a Resolution for an Inmate Contract between the Sheriff Office and the Police Department. This Resolution allows for the county to impose a 10% add on fee to court fines. Sheriff White shared with the board that it cost the county money to house inmates from the city and that this fee would help offset this cost. Sheriff White stated that Upson county charges 10 percent or \$ 25.00 a day to house inmates and currently it is costing the City of Barnesville zero dollars to house their inmates. This is a loss of revenue for the county.

Sheriff White said that Spalding County is paying Lamar County \$35.00 a day to house inmates but Spalding County charges \$68.00 a day to house inmates. Sheriff White stated that the City of Barnesville hasn't paid for inmate housing since 1999 and the county has lost approximately \$340,000 in revenue dollars because of this.

- 5) County Administrator Zellner gave a brief Administrator's Report.
  - i. Reported that the county may have to resume paying Mid Georgia Ambulance their monthly contract fee sometime next year.
  - ii. Reported that Ruffner Road will be closed starting March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

**Other Discussions from the Board**

- 1) Chairman Glass heard that some citizens are working on re-opening Cottage Road.
- 2) Chairman Glass reported that the Health Department is working on a new floor plan for the new Health Department Building and that there is a new Financial Advisor from Macon with the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program and that there may be some opportunities for funding from them which will go toward leverage for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). The CDBG grant is worth \$750,000.00 and it will cost a little over 1 million dollars to build the new Health Department. Chairman Glass is working on securing in kind funds from the City of Barnesville and the Town of Aldora.
- 3) Chairman Glass requested to add a Resolution 2017-05-Certified Assurance stating that the Commission assures that the CDBG being applied for is in compliance with Lamar County's Service Delivery Strategy.
- 4) County Administrator Zellner shared with the board a Source and Use Distribution for the CDBG project.

	CDBG FUND	Other Funds	Total
Building & Construction	\$627,882.00	\$187,418.00	\$815,300.00
Site Work		\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00
Contingencies	\$30,000.00		
Architectural Engineer	\$ 54,618.00		\$54,618.00
Administration	\$ 37,500.00		\$37,500.00
Permits Testing		\$8,500.00	
			\$1,015,918.00

- 5) Chairman Glass reported that the county is offering a driving course to all employees of the county. This course will allow the employee to save as much as 10 percent on their vehicle through their private insurance company.
- 6) Chairman Glass reported that the Lamar County Department of Health is hosting a Community Health and Wellness event on February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.
- 7) Chairman Glass reported that himself, County Administrator Zellner and IT Director Whitlock has been working with AT&T on finding a solution to the Tax Commissioners internet access issues and other departments within the county. The solutions offered are very expensive. There is the option of installing a direct fiber line and allotting a set number of

megabytes for the Tax Commissioner's office and other offices tied to the line to use. The cost of this would be approximately \$1787.00 a month. There are other solutions that are more expensive. By the end of this year, Lamar County will have a system in place and from the AT&T cell towers, they can connect to your house, something like a mi-fi or a jet pack, and then there would be something installed on the outside of your house that faces the cell tower. That would come into a router in your house and then you would setup a wireless connection in your house. This would be 10 megabytes per second and virtually unlimited access for the vast majority of Lamar County. Another option would be to do an area network with a 100 megabytes per second for around \$50,000.00 a year with a four year agreement. AT&T would connect all of the county facilities by fiber and we would have a 100 megabyte per second. If they go with Voice Over IP (VOIP), it would be more than a 100 megabyte package and this would be triple the cost.

- 8) Commissioner Thrash requested that they present a Proclamation to Mary Duffee in honor of her service to the Lamar County Fire Department. Ms. Duffee has cancer and may not be at the board meeting therefore the board agreed that they may need to take the Proclamation to her home after the board meeting.
- 9) Commissioner Thrash announced that she has been elected to represent the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG) on the Board of Managers for the National Association of Counties (NACO).
- 10) Chairman Glass reported that as a part of the criminal justice bill, a criminal doesn't have to pay the penalties associated with the crime if he/she can't afford the fine. The Probate Court issues community service in lieu of a fine.
- 11) Commissioner Thrash reported that ACCG is continuing to work on the E911 system and a cancer policy for the Fire Fighters in Georgia.

Vice Chairman Horton made a motion to adjourn the workshop meeting at 3:02 p.m. and Commissioner Thrash seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

THE LAMAR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Charles Glass, Chairman

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Bennie Horton, Vice-Chairman

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Robert Heiney, Commissioner

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Ryran Traylor, Commissioner

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Nancy Thrash, Commissioner

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ Carlette Davidson, County Clerk