

LAMAR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Work Session Minutes

January 26th, 2018

9:00 A.M

I. Call to Order

Chairman Charles Glass called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m. Present for the meeting was Vice-Chairman Heiney, Commissioner Horton, Commissioner Traylor, Commissioner Thrash, County Administrator Zellner, and County Clerk Davidson. County Attorney Mayfield was absent for the meeting.

II. Financial Update

Finance Director Townsend gave a report on the County finances for 2017. The overages that were reflected in the 2017 budget included the Commissioners training and travel budget which was 22 percent over budget, the Board of Elections Part-Time and Board payroll which was over by 9 percent, the Inmate Medical and Meals which was over by 14 percent, Auto Liability which was over by 10 percent, Towaliga Increase & Traverse Jury which was over by 6 percent, EMA personnel which was over by 16 percent and Public Works Disaster Relief which was over by 66 percent. The EMA and Public Works Department was over due to the Hurricane Storm in 2017. The board reviewed the expenditures and the revenues for each department. The 2017 total budget was \$9,574,900.00 with actual expenditures at \$9,052,846.00. The revenue side budgeted was \$9,594,709.00 with actual revenues at \$9,603,485.07. Financial Analyst Townsend explained that the numbers are subject to change as journal entries into the system are completed during the end of year process. The board reviewed the 27 percent decrease in the Public Works budget which was attributed to the fact that the amount originally budgeted for paving actually came from the Local Maintenance Improvement Grant (LMIG). County Administrator Zellner stated that the Departments budget is better than five years ago because they have controlled their expenses but federal and state unfunded mandates has had an effect on the overall budget expenditures. The current budget for all departments is attached to the minutes.

III. Department Briefings

Code Enforcement

Code Enforcement Director Vaughn stated that he will be retiring on January 30th, 2018. He has agreed to contract with the County for his services by the hour on a need to basis and he also announced that the Public Works Department will take over Animal Control. In the year 2017, Code Enforcement Director Vaughn reported that he had picked up 108 dogs, 48 cats, 1 pig and 1 goat. He issued 203 permits, 41 Site Built Homes, and had performed 738 inspections. Code Enforcement Director Vaughn stated that he would like to see the International Property Code adopted in the future for Lamar County. This will give the Code Enforcement Officer more authority. The data for all permits issued since the year 2000 is attached to the minutes.

Recreation Department

Recreation Director Lanier briefed the board on the Recreation Department. The first concern he said that he had was with the Gym and the roof that is in need of repair. The roof is being patched but continues to leak. Recreation Director Lanier stated that the harvesting of timber on Hwy 36 has begun. This is a part of Phase I of the new park. Recreation Director Lanier stated that the long-term goal is to build soccer fields on the property. In the year 2017 there was an issue with room to practice. They had 34 teams and used every practice field available. They have one to two practices a week with three to four games a week. They were able to shift around the age groups to various locations on Gordon Road to accommodate the need. The age groups effected were the three four year old's and the seven to eight year old's. Recreation Director Lanier reported that the biggest concern is losing the sport due to the redo of Aldora Village. Last year they received a yearly grant for \$25,000.00 from Aldora which kept the registration fees down. Recreation Director Lanier reported that he never turns kids down and that currently there is around \$14,000.00 of uncollected monies. Recreation Director Lanier said that they had one kid that brought in a pocket full of change just to play ball. Recreation Director Lanier said that if they raise the registration fees then around 65 percent of the kids won't play ball. Recreation Director Lanier said that they spent around \$25,750.00 and this did not include donations or fund raisers. Recreation Director Lanier stated that he doesn't know how to make everyone accountable for the uncollected portion. The board suggested that he get some numbers together for his 2018 budget. The board suggested that he put in two scenarios, case one with and case two without the Aldora Funding. The board concluded by congratulating Recreation Director Lanier on the Lamar County soccer program.

Tax Assessor

Tax Assessor Haddock addressed the board stating that building is up and that commercial prices are good. In 2017, the ratio was projected to be 39 percent and was actually at 40 percent. Tax Assessor Haddock said that by the year 2019 everything should be evaluated and she has contracted with Norman and Associates for residential and commercial appraisals. Commissioner Thrash said that the data in December showed that home sales were down by 9 percent and this is lower than what was evaluated. Tax Assessor Haddock reported that Tammy Cannon who is new to the Tax Assessors board will be sworn in sometime in February. The Chairman for the Tax Assessors Board is Andy Bush and the Vice-Chairman is Brad Bryan.

EMA

Emergency Management Agency (EMA) Director Campbell addressed the board stating that his budget is over due to the Hurricane Storms. He said that 8 sirens had been purchased since the 2011 Tornado and that 2 more sirens had been applied for. EMA Director Campbell stated that Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) money is getting short because of all of the storms. He reported that all counties in Georgia had applied for additional sirens. EMA Director Campbell said that he is proud of his CERT Team members and that they work hard and do a good job. There are 50 members and 20 active members. They have a new command center with additional training. They are working on the Hazard Mitigation Plan which is a five-year plan. They are up to date with completed certifications and they continue to work with the CERT team in performing necessary trainings. They even go into the woods. EMA Director Campbell reported that the roof in the building leaks and that the building could use a facelift. He said he realizes that this will take money and could take tax payer dollars to fix it. EMA

Director Campbell reported that City Manager Harold Wilson, who recently passed, was a good friend of his as well as an asset to EMA. They currently have 12 volunteers and realizes that the First Responders are busy and they don't have extra people to assist the EMA. According to EMA Director Campbell February 15th is Storm Ready day and April 24th is the National Weather Service training day. At the EMA office they have a food pantry, new tables and chairs, and a new training room. They meet once a month for training.

Building and Zoning

Building and Zoning Director Gunter addressed the board. He stated that in 1995 127 permits for Single-Family Homes were issued and in 2017 194 permits had been issued. He foresees it getting busier as the economy grows. For the year 2017 every Business License was renewed except for one. For 2018, he stated that he is already ahead of schedule. The deadline for a business license is March 31st. Building and Zoning Director Gunter stated that over the last several years he has been working on the re-zoning map for Lamar County. As of December 19th, the re-zoning map for Lamar County was approved and the printed copy was signed on January 11th, 2018. The official map is in the Building and Zoning Office and there is a copy in the Administration Building. Building and Zoning Director Gunter reported that a shape file, which will overlay on the Tax Assessors website, is in the works. There will be an icon that you can click on to see what zoning is assigned to the property. Building and Zoning Director Gunter stated that they receive a lot of road and address calls in their office. Working with the Census Data, he keeps the roads and address files up to date. The last Census was 2010 and he is attending training for the 2020 Census. The goal is to match the Lamar County files with the Census Data. The board discussed the fact that not everyone in the County has Street Numbers on their house but in the Lamar County Code Book it is a requirement. The Fire Department has Street number signs for sale. Building and Zoning Director Gunter stated that the next Comprehensive Plan for Lamar County is due by 2019 and a Committee is needed for this. The board discussed advertising options including speaking to local groups, putting in the local paper and on the website.

SENIOR CENTER

Senior Center Director Michele Stuart addressed the board with a list of accomplishments, Needs, Wants and Goals.

Accomplishments:

Survived Christmas
Freshened Senior Center Brochure
Started the Monthly Newsletter back up in January
Weight Watchers Meetings at the Center on Tuesday Nights

Needs:

Meals on Wheels Vehicle
Floors Need Stripping, Waxing and Polishing
Larger Sinks in the Kitchen-Apply for the Round Up Grant with Southern Rivers in September of 2018.
Part-Time Lamar County Employee-Receptionist-20 Hours Starting in 2019

Wants:

Storage Building

Dumpster-It's Pitch Black Dark at Night and Not Safe. They Need a Utility Light.

More Money for Activities

Goals:

Hire New Silver Sneakers Instructors- Cynthia wants to quit and Joan is sick and hasn't been there.

Complete and Pass the ServSafe Class Next Month

Increase Attendance at the Center

Offer Activities in the Afternoon

Solicit Donations from Businesses

Participate in Barnesville Buggy Days

Increase Participants in the Meals on Wheels Program-The Goal is to Cook Meals at the Facility.

Establish the Lamar County Senior Center Advisory Board and Meet Quarterly

Members

Michele Stuart-Senior Center

Shari Imberger-Senior Center

Jean Buchanan-Congregate Meals

Sherry Farr-Lamar County Health Department

Kelly Hughes-Lamar County Library

Kellie Mercer-Family Connection Collaborative

Sheriff's Office

Sheriff White addressed the board and Commissioner Thrash inquired about their auto liability. When Finance Director Townsend presented the Financial Update, it was brought to the boards attention that the Sheriff's Office had the most claims. In 2017 there were 7 reported claims. Commissioner Thrash inquired about the Defensive Driving Course that was offered to all Employees. Sheriff White stated that it was cost efficient to run them through the post program and that 7 claims aren't a lot in law enforcement. Sheriff White stated that he couldn't think of a claim that wasn't work related and most of the claims are when they were chasing people. Commissioner Thrash inquired about a Speed Chase Policy and Sheriff White responded that it is the nature of the officer related to the chase and when you are driving at high speeds things happen. Sheriff White said they are putting around 28,000 miles on them per month. Sheriff White reported that the Jail is in bad shape and that the exterior walls, the roof, the wiring, and the bathrooms all need to be upgraded. Sheriff White said that it is easy for the inmate to escapes through the roof and into the parking lot and then they are gone. They can get through the fence because of the holes. It is bad when the Federal Court System forces you to get a new jail. Sheriff White spoke about needing new vehicles and thanked County Administrator Zellner for working out a deal with United Bank to get 10 new vehicles. Sheriff White stated that all of the vehicles have between 160,000 to 300,000 miles on them and it is a continuous cycle. The board discussed with Sheriff White that the Control Panel and the switches being patched is included in SPLOST III. There is \$87,000.00 allocated in the first part of the project. Sheriff White again said that the wiring in the jail is old. He would like to see the County move forward with the Jail and the Justice Center Project. Sheriff White stated that the Grand Jury in December didn't do them any favors due to who was on the jury. Sheriff White reported that the E911 Center is doing well and was able to give them a pay raise. Sheriff White stated that he is competing with City of Barnesville

when it comes to Health Insurance. For family insurance with the County it cost \$1200.00 whereas with the City of Barnesville it only cost \$80.00 for family insurance. The jail base pay is \$13.00 an hour. Sheriff White stated that he has 7 people in the E911 Center and only 2 people working at a time. Sheriff White reported that in Cobb County they are contemplating a 1 percent sales tax just for Public Safety. This will reduce the burden of the Tax Payers. Commissioner Thrash stated that this is a brilliant idea and they need to speak to the Legislators regarding this. Sheriff White stated that he appreciated all the help with Mr. Greene's house and that the Sheriff's Office provided food for three to four weeks and they were helping with the house construction until an inmate fell off a ladder. Sheriff White stated that regarding the Animal Shelter, inmate labor is not free. If the inmate is convicted of a crime you can make them work and if they are not convicted you can't make them work. Commissioner Traylor asked Sheriff White what the board could do for him and Sheriff White replied that the salaries at the Sheriff's Office need to be higher. Sheriff White stated that the starting pay in Spalding County is \$16.80 an hour. He would like the pay in Lamar County to be high enough to get the employees off of food stamps.

Maintenance Department

Maintenance Director Beverly stated that he left the Public Works Department and moved over to the Maintenance Department and it was good to get out and see the public. He said he worked for the Housing Authority for five years. Maintenance Director Beverly said that one big issue that he sees is with the Courthouse and the plumbing is one of those. Maintenance Director Beverly and Finance Director Townsend told the board that they are prioritizing each building and trying to be proactive rather than reactive. He stated that the Courthouse window sills are rotted and that the Air Conditioner is a 1992 Model. The Service Center is leaking in every office. Maintenance Director Beverly said that he has not had any heater issues thus far. Maintenance Director Beverly stated that there are changes to the Freon maintenance and you have to be certified to change the Freon in the air conditioners. Maintenance Director Beverly stated that he learns something new every day. At the Jail he recently replaced toilets and a busted 2-inch pipe. He also learned to roll on his back on a make shift dolly under the jail.

Elections

Board of Elections Board member Harold Ivey stated that last year their budget was over since poll workers were needed for extra Elections. Mr. Ivey stated that the Board of Elections is concerned with the Legislative Bill which is considering going to paper receipts. The cost for Lamar County would be around 2 million dollars and he doesn't know where they would find that kind of money. Mr. Ivey said that they can't afford to replace the ballot machines. Commissioner Thrash stated that she and Chairman Glass had meet with Elections Superintendent Anita Reid regarding this and requested that she notify Secretary Kemp about this issue. Commissioner Thrash stated that they need to respond with a board consensus. Mr. Ivey stated that early voting is also an expense to the budget and 3 poll holders are required. Mr. Ivey stated that they had requested 8 more machines and a raise for their part time workers. Mr. Ivey stated that a lot of work goes into elections. They work long days including the day before and the day of an election. Mr. Ivey said that there are some things that he personally pays for. He doesn't feel right putting in a reimbursement. He says it's the small stuff like batteries that have to be purchased and they cost around \$100.00. Mr. Ivey says if he is in Macon, he picks it up and he doesn't charge for mileage because if he is already there then why make another trip. Mr. Ivey said that sometimes you just use your own money because everybody does. Mr. Ivey stated that they didn't want to go over budget but that they couldn't help it because of the Federal and State mandates.

Public Works

Public Works Director Rigdon commended his employees for their hard work. He said he especially appreciated Steve Perdue for stepping up to the plate in the Superintendent position and that he is doing an awesome job. Public Works Director Rigdon said that it is hard to hire experienced equipment operators unless you pay them \$18.00 to \$20.00 an hour. Public Works Director Rigdon stated that in the year 2017 they had put out 101 signs and worked on 114 vehicles. He stated that they always get compliments and he tries to recognize his workers when they get compliments. He has a board at the shop that he writes on so that the employees can see them. Public Works Director Rigdon said he has 2 employees on the bush cutter and you can't get any better than them. County Administrator Zellner suggested that they get a plaque and maybe a gift card to Long Horn or something to show them that they are appreciated. Commissioner Thrash commended the Public Works Department for all of their hard work during the recent snow storm.

IV. Industrial Road

County Administrator Zellner gave a report on Industrial Drive:

- 8/15/17 Awarded the Contract to Blount Construction for \$1,558,940.39
- 9/28/17 Delayed the Start until March 2018
- 1/16/18 Utilities Pre-Construction Meeting

County Administrator Zellner stated that the big concern was with relocating the water and power lines. Public Works Director Rigdon stated that around 85 trucks travel that road per day and with the Landfill Project there will probably be close to 200 trucks traveling that road per day. The board discussed the shape of the road and the issues associated with the pot holes filling up with water. Commissioner Traylor stated that in 2018 his goal is to have the Departments submit news to the paper in regards to the good things that are going on in the County. County Clerk Davidson stated that if they Department Heads would send the news to her that she would submit them to the paper.

V. Road Striping

County Administrator Zellner stated that the County had received the Local Maintenance Improvement Grant (LMIG) extra grant monies for 2017 in the amount of \$35,000.00 This is in addition to the regular LMIG money that was received in 2017. The extra money will go towards striping and signs. Two Rivers has the machines, but they can't start until after Saint Patrick's Day in March. Two Rivers charges \$315.00 a mile per line for 4 lines. Mid-State Striping charges \$ 2500.00 a mile per line for 4 lines. County Administrator Zellner showed a list of roads below included in the road striping plan and went over the list of roads for the Districts that he had received. He stated that the list of roads needs to be narrowed down so that it is a manageable number.

1. Piedmont Rd
2. Johnstonville Rd
3. Liberty Hill Rd
4. Chappel Mill Rd

5. Parker Branch Rd-English & Chappell Mill
6. City Pond Rd-SR36&Van Buren Rd
7. City Pond Rd-English & EOP
8. Grove Street-City Limits & Old Milner Rd
9. South Sixth St- US 41 & Spalding Co Line
10. Trice Rd
11. Walton Rd
12. Midway Rd
13. Etheridge Mill Rd
14. McKneely Rd
15. Roberts Rd
16. Jones Rd
17. Zellner Rd-Ramah Church & Forsyth Yatesville

District 1 Striping

1. Adkins Rd
2. Barnesville Ave
3. Church Street
4. Liz Acres
5. Aldora Street
6. Oak Ridge Drive
7. Walton Rd
8. Lanette Circle-State
9. Robinson Rd
10. Banks Rd
11. Brooks Rd
12. Grove Street-State

District 2 Striping

1. Parker Branch Rd-State
2. High Falls Park Rd
3. High Falls Rd from 1-75 North to Van Buren
4. Bottoms Rd From Top of Hill Off 36 to City Pond
5. Chappell Mill-State

District 3 Striping

1. South Sixth Street-State
2. City Pond Rd-State
3. Trice Rd-State
4. Ethridge Mill Rd-State
5. McKneely Rd-State
6. Liberty Hill Rd-State

7. Old Hwy 41
8. Zebulon Rd
9. McKenzie Rd
10. Morgan Dairy Rd
11. Martin Dairy Rd
12. Old Milner Rd
13. Fellowship Rd
14. Philip Weldon Rd
15. Camp Rd
16. Five Points Rd

VI. Repaving Priorities

County Administrator Zellner went over a list of repaving priorities. The board discussed Hwy 36 and the entrance into the City of Barnesville. Chairman Glass suggested that they setup a meeting with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) in conjunction with Industrial Drive. County Administrator Zellner stated that if they resurface Line or Berry Road it will stop the pot hole issue but they need to go in with Plant Mix. The board and Public Works Director discussed the option regarding surface treatment for the roads. Public Works Director Rigdon stated that the patching machine works but that it is 8 years old and it has patched 4 million holes. The parts to fix the patching machine are expensive. The board discussed getting a new patching machine.

Repaving Priorities Plan Mix-LMIG

County Administrator Zellner

1. Jackson Hwy
2. Crawford Rd Phase II
3. Johnstonville Rd Needs Widening
4. Van Buren
5. Grove Street
6. Cannafax Rd
7. Trice Rd
8. Martin Dairy Rd
9. Barnesville Avenue
10. Church Street

Repaving Priorities Surface Treatment

1. Line Rd
2. Buffington Rd
3. Berry Rd
4. Williams Rd
5. Ponderosa Lane
6. Midway Rd
7. Crane Rd with Leveling

8. McLean Rd
9. Shadowmore Drive
10. Yancey Rd

Paving Surface Treatment

1. Norris Rd
2. Brinkley Rd
3. Brown Spring Rd
4. Pleasant Rd
5. Yancey Rd
6. Allen Rd
7. Dean Rd
8. Reeves Rd
9. Ingram Rd

VII. Health Department Overview

County Administrator Zellner shared a map of the Health Department and gave an overview of a tentative timeline of events for the New Health Department.

- 10/1/17 Awarded the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
- 12/1/17 Received funds
- 3/18/18 Bidding
- 4/18 Contract Award & Approval
- 6/18 Construction
- 1/19 Grand Opening
- 2/19 Project Closeout

VIII. Liberty Hill Park

County Administrator Zellner shared a map of the Liberty Hill Park and the Phase I Project. He stated that the project cost had been reduced to \$548,000.00. The survey & topo have been completed and they received the GDOT permit for the driveway. The entrance to the park was moved slightly and they have left a 50 ft. buffer undisturbed. In the spring, Public Works will begin work on the decel lane clearing and grading. The paving will be contracted out. The drive and the entrance will cost about \$248,300.00. The turning lane with 4" asphalt will cost \$16,853.00. The gravel from the entrance to the end of Phase I will cost \$13,576.00. The gravel for the turning lane will cost \$9,702.00. The cost of the pipe is \$8,940.00. The entrance cost is \$49,071.00. The fuel cost will be added later. County Administrator Zellner explained that there is a cemetery on the property that needs to be cleaned up and Recreation Director Lanier is working on getting in touch with the people that live next door to the property where the cemetery is located.

IX. SPLOST III Timeline

Chairman Glass shared a timeline of the SPLOST III project with the board. The Town of Aldora was paid \$93,664.09 for their portion of SPLOST III. The City of Milner will be paid in February. Their portion is \$374,656.32. The City of Barnesville is projected to receive \$3,559,235.04 and Lamar County is

projected to receive \$5,338, 852.56. County Administrator announced the he is working on a lease purchase agreement with United Bank to purchase 10 vehicles for the Sheriff's Office. The lease agreement is for three years with an annual payment of \$100,000.00 and at the end of the least they will pay \$1.00. They will use SPLOST III monies to pay off the lease. County Administrator Zellner stated that Public Work needs a patching machine and that would come out of SPLOST III. Public Works Director Rigdon stated that the spreader barely made it through the snow storm and is 20 years old. He has no backup to replace it. Vice-Chairman Heiney inquired about the Animal Shelter and Chairman Glass stated that by February of 2023 there has to be an Animal Shelter built.

X. LUNCH

The board took an hour break to have lunch in the Gordon State College Cafeteria. Chairman Glass treated everyone present to a delicious lunch. The board came back into the work session and continued with the meeting.

XI. Service Delivery Plan

Chairman Glass stated that the Service Delivery Plan for Lamar County is due February 2019 and there are 13 months left to work on it. A "Kick Off" date needs to be decided on and Chairman Glass stated that he would like to begin in February of 2018. Chairman Glass asked the board who was going to negotiate for them and they decided for it to be County Administrator Zellner, Commissioner Thrash and Chairman Glass. Chairman Glass stated that they needed to decide when the Commissioners should be briefed on progress and suggested that they send out a quick summary after each session.

XII. Financial Plan

Chairman Glass stated that he would like to see quarterly budget amendments because if the budget needs to be changed then he wants to see amendments. There doesn't need to be a budget amendment for line item changes within the department. Only budget amendments when it is department to department. Chairman Glass stated that he would like to see actual comparison rather than projected comparisons. The board discussed looking at the actual comparisons at their workshops. County Administrator Zellner stated that he provides them a "State of Condition" each month reflecting the month before. Chairman Glass stated that accurate data is needed in order to track the budget.

County Administrator mentioned to the board that they are taking the Animal Control out of Building and Inspection and putting it back into Public Works unless the board can come up with another solution. County Administrator Zellner said that they receive around a hundred calls a year for Animal Control.

Commissioner Thrash inquired about the building project. County Administrator Zellner stated that it is more involved than fixing an air conditioner. The ramp in the back of the Administration Building is settling. They poured concrete but it settled back down and is worse than it was before. The building is shifting and sinking. If you sit in a chair in the conference room it will roll to the other side of the room. Chairman Glass stated that this is a 5 to 10-year plan and can't get to it this year and it will take more staff to handle this project.

The board discussed eliminating the Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) over the next 10 years. County Administrator Zellner stated to the board that we may not have to borrow until March. County Administrator Zellner stated that the contingency in the budget helps and is used for unforeseen things but it really should be used for debt reduction. Vice-Chairman Heiney stated that 10 years sounds like a reasonable plan to reduce the TAN note. He also said that the Animal Shelter is going to cost a lot of money and other things have a higher priority.

XIII. Bottoms Road

County Administrator gave a cost estimate for Bottoms Road.

Deep Reclamation of \$318,750.08.

Build Up of \$209,215.07.

Reroute of \$178,744,99 plus land.

County Administrator Zellner gave the board options for fixing Bottoms Road. The board discussed the differences between the three options.

Build Road UP

Eight Pole Need to be Moved at \$8,000 per pole = \$64,000.00

City Water Line or Approximately 70 Years Old and Needs to be Addressed

Build of 2 Feet or 10K tons of dirt=\$55,000.00

Surface Treatment of 1.9 miles =\$90,215.72

Total Cost = \$209,215.07

Reroute

Cost of Land=\$5,000.00 to \$7,000.00 per Acre

Grading and Clearing Est.= \$50,000.00 (don't know of any rock)

Cost of Paving Surface Treatment =\$128,744.00

Land-4-6 acres at \$5,000-7,000 acre= \$25,000.00 -\$40,000.00 total

Surveys=\$10,000.00

Total Cost =\$215,000.00-\$230,000.00

Deep Reclamation

\$10,000 for every 528 ft.

Road is 1.9 miles long or 10,032.00 feet

\$18.94 per lft x 10,032 =\$190,006.08

Cost of Asphalt=\$128,744.00 for 1.5"

Total Cost =\$318,750.08

Note: Completing as Road is Now

Chairman Glass stated that they would need to meet with GDOT and the Property Owners concerning these options. County Administrator Zellner stated he would work on this and Public Works Director agreed to look at the property lines with the owners. Chairman Glass and the board agreed that this could be a 10 to 20-year project and they need to pick the best option.

XIV. Crawford Road-Unpaved Portion

The board discussed the unpaved portion of Crawford Road from Brooke Road to Northridge Road. Vice-Chairman Heiney stated that people have been complaining that they are the stepchildren of the County. County Administrator Zellner and Public Works Director Rigdon both said that the rock is the issue with paving this portion of Crawford Road. They can't pave over it and they can't get a base. The options are to blast out the rock, raise the road or re-route that portion of the road. There is no easy solution. The blast option will cost the County at least one million dollars. Vice-Chairman Heiney stated that he wanted to give the property owners a good answer as to why we can't fix the road. The board agreed that maybe the property owners need to come up with a million dollars to blast the rock.

XV. Building Facility Update-Jail and Courthouse

County Administrator Zellner stated that the money is an issue with this project. There has been a lot of work put into this project and it has not been wasted effort but at this point they need to decide what is the direction that the board wants to go. They need to decide if they want to use private funding, public funding, or both options. One option could be a referendum like the School Board did. This would be put on the tax bill. If they don't collect enough money they would need to increase the millage rate to pay the loan back. County Administrator stated that if they get a General Obligation (GO) Bond then it is paid for in 20 years. County Administrator Zellner shared with the board that Carmen Westerfield with the Lamar County Soil and Water Conservation located on Hwy 41 North told him that they are paying \$4,000.00 a month for rent. This agency could be added to the Building Facility and the County could charge them rent. The board discussed the Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) and putting the Transportation Special Local Option Sales Tax (TSPLOST) back on the ballot. Then the money that is allocated in SPLOST III for roads could come out of the TSPLOST. They could split it with the City of Barnesville. County Administrator Zellner stated that this was another option to look at. TSPLOST could also help with Bottoms and Crawford Road. Commissioner Thrash and Commissioner Horton both stated that this would take citizen buy-in and that they may question what will happen to the other buildings. County Administrator Zellner stated that Mallory and Evans had done the energy study on the windows and the air conditioners and the analysis for cost that they gave may not be good in two to three years from now. Chairman Glass stated that this needs to be rolled into the Comprehensive Plan as well as how much money is being spent on repairs now. Chairman Glass stated that he would have Financial Director Townsend provide them with a report to show the maintenance cost for the Jail, Courthouse and the Service Center. The board continued to brainstorm options for the building facility and the priorities set for the building. They continued to talk about what buildings to include in the project. The board discussed the City of Barnesville taking on the Courthouse and the issues that the Courthouse has with the wiring and the plumbing. The board discussed the Service Center Building. County Administrator Zellner stated that the building isn't worth much and there isn't a lot of land but that the Recreation Department needs the gym. County Administrator Zellner stated that the County doesn't have a lot of options. Chairman Glass said that they need an approach as to where they want to go and in what direction. County Administrator Zellner said that we can't just sit around and wait for the walls to collapse and then someone gets hurt. County Administrator Zellner said that eventually Sheriff White will either have to send the inmates to Crawford or Spalding County or build a new jail. The board suggested that the Building Committee meet again to set priorities and find more ways of funding.

XVI. Towaliga Courts Circuit Plan

The board discussed the following plan for the Towaliga Courts Circuit.

1. Anything to keep Growth in Check
2. What we can do with the Other Counties to get everyone on board
3. Can the Accountability Courts Pay for themselves?

XVII. Goals and Priorities for Lamar County-5 to 10 Year Plan

What do we want Lamar County to look like in 5 to 10 Years? Chairman Glass gave his views on this plan and addressed the board with his thoughts.

1. Facilities- The Justice Center is 10 Years out.
The Animal Shelter-SPLOST says we have to have something called an Animal Shelter but the county doesn't have to spend the \$250,000.00. SPLOST can't be closed until we have some sort of Animal Shelter.
2. Roads-Bottoms and Crawford Road. Reduce the number of dirt roads. The board discussed Upgrading versus Surface Treatment. They discussed saving money by using County owned asphalt and contracting out the service with neighboring counties. County Administrator Zellner stated that he spoke with the Chairman in Pike County and he wasn't really excited about doing any work outside of Pike County. The board discussed whether or not to invest in County owned equipment or partnering with another County and if they did they both get use of the new equipment.
3. Policies-Animal Control. County Administrator Zellner said that with the drafted Animal Control Ordinance the citizens harped on if we would go on their property and steal their dogs. He said that those animals would not be the ones that you have a problem with. It's the stray dog that you would go get off of their property. They also were concerned with the issue of buying a license, having to get a tag or neuter their dogs. Vice Chairman Heiney suggested that they adopt certain sections of the State Law for Local Government and make minor changes to it. Commissioner Traylor stated that he didn't want to see dogs tied up in trees where they can't reach the water bowl. The board discussed State laws that are in place already preventing this from happening. Vice-Chairman Heiney agreed to make some phone calls investigating the laws that are in place regarding animal control.

XVIII. Priorities for the Future of Lamar County-5 to 10 Year Plan

Based on the Goals Discussed, What is the Priority For?

1. One Year
2. 5 Years
3. 10 Years

Vice-Chairman Heiney stated that he had been approached by a citizen about planting wildflowers in the Johnstonville area. Vice-Chairman Heiney stated that he explained to them that maybe the County could rough out an area with our machines and then they would plant the seeds and maintain the wildflowers on a volunteer basis. The board discussed the pros and cons of maintaining the wildflowers and the right of way on the County roads. Commissioner Traylor stated that he had seen wildlife projects on his way to Athens, Georgia and agreed this would be beneficial to Lamar County. The board discussed seeking help and assistance from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, and the County Extension Agency.

The board discussed the fact that a small County can't build a true Animal Shelter but recognized the fact that some type of Animal Shelter will need to be built.

Chairman Glass stated that along with the Comprehensive and Service Delivery Plan that he would like for the County to create a logo for the County and make it something catchy. Chairman Glass said that he heard that Gary Black, Commissioner for the Georgia Department of Agriculture, tells his employees “Make Life Better for Every Georgian Everyday”. Chairman Glass stated that somehow we need to get employee feedback and maybe some type of citizen involvement. Maybe some type of contest. When deciding about this logo he suggested that two things be thought of. What is Lamar County Known for and the History of Lamar County both Present and Future? Chairman Glass requested that County Clerk Davidson spear head this project.

XIX. Adjournment

Vice-Chairman Heiney made a motion to adjourn the planning session at approximately 3:30 p.m. and Commissioner Thrash seconded the motion. The motion passed 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