

**MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES  
AGENDA SETTING MEETING  
AUGUST 29, 2011  
6:30 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Commission Chairman Anthony Dove  
District 1 Commissioner Stanley Thomas  
District 2 Commissioner John Pethel, Sr.  
District 3 Commissioner Mike Youngblood  
District 4 Commissioner Dewitt Bond  
District 5 Commissioner Jim Escoe

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

**MEDIA PRESENT:**

Zach Mitchem, Madison County Journal

**STAFF PRESENT**

Linda Cox, County Clerk  
Robin Baker; Gary Venable; Sandra Webb; David Camp

Chairman Dove called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and led in the pledge to the American flag. Chairman Dove gave the invocation.

**Item No. 1. Chairman's Report. (Chairman Dove)**

Chairman Dove stated he received a request to sign a proclamation for Constitution Week 2011. He asked for a motion to allow him to sign the proclamation.

On motion by Commissioner Youngblood and second by Commissioner Bond, the Board unanimously approved for Chairman Dove to sign the proclamation.

Chairman Dove informed the Board that Collins VFD had contacted him regarding assistance from the Board to purchase a 2008 F550 brush truck. The Board has assisted several VFDs in their purchasing of trucks. The cost would be approximately \$60,000 and Collins VFD would make a down payment of \$10,000. The lease would be with First Citizens Bank. Chairman Dove asked for a motion.

Chairman Dove, Mike Pruett, county attorney and Brian Kirk, First Citizens will work together on the process.

On motion by Commissioner Pethel and second by Commissioner Bond, the Board unanimously approved for the county to enter into a lease with Collins VFD for the purchase of the truck.

Chairman Dove informed the Board that we have been working with the county attorney on the new immigration bill which has caused a lot of issues. One is the people we work with on an as needed basis. This could be a single dump truck owner. Several different things they must comply with. If they are a single operation there is not much to comply with but where there are employees there is more to comply with.

Mike Pruett, county attorney has drawn up a contract which basically ask if you have any employees and, if not, how to proceed. Mr. Pruett stated that a sole proprietor would have to sign the SAVE affidavit and provide a copy of his driver's license in order to be in compliance.

Chairman Dove stated that ACCG is providing more training on immigration next month in Gainesville on the new things that have been added. Some employee(s) will be attending this training. Chairman Dove stated he would like for the Board to put this as part of the BOC's process to work people as needed and to sign the SAVE affidavit in order to be in compliance.

On motion by Commissioner Bond and second by Commissioner Youngblood, the Board unanimously approved the above.

**Item No. 2. Business Involving Guests, Groups or Multiple Visitors.**

**Carl Varnadoe – Madison County Cooperative Extension – Will introduce the new County Extension Agent, Adam Speir.**

Carl stated that Adam comes from the college of agriculture at UGA and will begin his new position Thursday. He officially welcomed Adam to Madison County.

Adam thanked Chairman Dove and the BOC for the opportunity to come to Madison County. He grew up in southwest Georgia in a rural county and it is good to be in a county that supports agriculture.

**Item No. 3. Report from IDA – Marvin White.**

Mr. White gave an update of the activities of the IDA since the last meeting.

**Item No. 4. Statements and remarks from Citizens on agenda items.**

Burton "Chip" Chandler personally thanked the Board for the 2012 budget. He appreciates the Board keeping us out of the red for the last couple of years. Regarding the budget, Mr. Chandler spoke about the Animal Shelter's needs. He also spoke on Watson Mill State Park which is being demoted to a State Recreation Park. This means the office will close and cabin rentals for six (6) months will be lost. Commissioner Thomas said Senator Ginn was working on this. Chairman Dove stated that Marvin White is very involved and has been in contact with our representatives. Chairman Pittard, Oglethorpe County, is also involved. They are attempting to get a group together to go to Atlanta and try to get the governor involved.

**Item No. 5. Consider Watershed Protection Plan. (Marvin White)**

Mr. White presented the Plan which was compiled by UGA. He went over the Plan in detail and funding was paid by the IDA. Mike Pruett, county attorney, felt that the Plan should spell out IDA's responsibility as to water testing, etc. After further discussion, Chairman Dove asked for a motion.

On motion by Commissioner Bond and second by Commissioner Youngblood, the Board unanimously approved to move forward with the Plan with the stipulation to allow Mike Pruett, county attorney, and Marvin White to make any necessary changes.

**Item No. 6. Discuss and open bids for Recreation Department. (Robin Pendleton)**

**The bids for the soccer field were as follows:**

**Soccer Lighting Fixtures:**

Stuart C. Irby Co., Marietta, GA	\$40,080.00
All Phase Electric Supply Co., Athens, GA	\$28,800.00
Lowe Electric Supply Co., Athens, GA	\$27,282.00
J&S Electrical Supply, Athens, GA	\$34,372.00
Consolidated Electrical Dist., Inc., Athens, GA	\$26,688.00

**Poles and Cages**

Stuart C. Irby Co., Marietta, GA	\$40,080.00
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**Installation of Lighting Fixtures**

Perry's Plumbing & Electric, Danielsville, GA	\$30,000.00
Matt Porterfield Electrical Contractor, Hull, GA	\$40,875.00

**Soil – Approximately 150 loads**

211 Inert Landfill	\$90.00 per load
Howard Goss	\$75.00 per load
Haley Trucking & Grading	\$80.00 per load

Copies of the above bids will be given to Robin Pendleton, Recreation Dept. Director, for review and put on the September 6, 2011 agenda to consider their recommendation.

**Item No. 7. Discuss a RFP for 9-1-1 county notification system (David Camp)**

Mr. Camp explained the RFP dates and all criteria involved. He could receive a grant if he gets everything ready to go.

On motion by Commissioner Youngblood and second by Commissioner Thomas, the Board unanimously agreed to allow Mr. Camp's RFP.

**Item No. 8. Consider hiring a will call list applicant for the Transfer Station. (Sandra Webb)**

Ms. Webb presented Janice Eberhart to be hired as a will call employee for the Transfer Station. The Board had received a copy of the application.

On motion by Commissioner Youngblood and second by Commissioner Thomas, the Board unanimously approved to hire Ms. Eberhart as part-time on the will-call list.

**Item No. 9. Discuss reappointment of John Steudeman to the P&Z Board.  
(Chairman Dove)**

Chairman Dove stated that Mr. Steudeman's term ends this year and would like to be reappointed.

The Chairman said this item would be placed on the September 6, 2011 agenda for consideration.

**Item No. 10. Discuss reappointment of Todd Higdon to the P&Z Board.  
(Commissioner Bond)**

Mr. Higdon's term ends this year and Commissioner Bond would like to reappoint him for another term. Mr. Higdon has agreed to serve another term.

This item will be placed on the September 6, 2011 agenda for consideration.

**Item No. 11. Consider flashing "Truck Entering Highway" sign for Collins VFD.  
(Chairman Dove)**

Chairman Dove stated that this issue is unique and that the Harrison Community may have the same issue. The Collins VFD is in a bad curve and requests the BOC to purchase two (2) solar powered flashing signs with remotes. Jackson Parham, Collins VFD, said the flashing lights would get the drivers' attention and cause them to slow down. The speed limit is 35 mph but there have been several accidents due to speed in front of the VFD. This would caution the drivers to slow down for the fire trucks to enter the roadway. This is a very dangerous situation. They asked for quotes and the most favorable was from Starcom for two (2) signs which include the remotes. Mr. Parham request that the Board pay for the signs which would be approximately \$4500 and Collins VFD agreed to pay for the upkeep.

Chairman Dove said the Board would have to ask the State for a permit. Chairman Dove asked for a motion.

On motion by Commissioner Pethel and second by Commissioner Bond, the Board unanimously approved purchasing the signs and remote for the Collins VFD.

The Board agreed to take a break at 7:35 pm and returned at 7:45 pm.

**Item No. 12. Consider contract agreement with Pictometry. (Commissioner Youngblood)**

Commissioner Youngblood presented information on Pictometry. Gary Steele, representative from Pictometry, Robin Baker, Chief Appraiser and Gary Venable commented and answered questions from the Board. Mike Pruett, county attorney, commented on the agreement along with questions which Mr. Steele responded.

Commissioner Youngblood asked that the city mayors and councils be contacted for a meeting on Pictometry to see if they would like to participate with the county on this agreement. They will be contacted for a meeting during the first two weeks of September and for now this item is tabled until the Agenda Setting Meeting of September 26, 2011 per Commissioner Youngblood.

**Item No. 13. Consider traffic study at Hwy 29 and First Citizens Bank & Ingles for traffic light. (Commissioner Youngblood)**

Commissioner Youngblood presented the item. There were various discussions between Board members. The DOT had completed a traffic study at this location some time ago and the traffic light was refused. However, since that time there has been several accidents at this location and the VA center has gone to full speed. Commissioner Escoe asked if there was a price for the study. Chairman Dove stated that if the DOT charges for the study, it would come back to the Board and sometimes it is sent out.

On motion by Commissioner Youngblood and second by Commissioner Thomas, the Board approved the study by a four (4) YES vote and one (1) NO vote submitted by Commissioner Escoe.

**Item No. 14. Consider acceptance of Stapler Road into the county. (Commissioner Youngblood)**

Commissioner Youngblood stated that he has not received all the right-of-ways for Stapler Road and requests this item be placed on the September 26, 2011 agenda.

Chairman Dove stated that bids for Pittman Matthews Road are due on September 15, 2011 and he would like to schedule a road work session and open the bids for Pittman Matthews Road on Friday, September 16, 2011 at 9:00 am. The Board was agreeable with this date and time.

**Item No. 15. Consider resurfacing of Thomas Rd. (.4 miles) (Commissioner Youngblood)**

Commissioner Youngblood stated that Thomas Rd. is in terrible shape. The road has been patched many times and still is in bad shape.

On motion by Commissioner Youngblood and second by Commissioner Thomas, the Board unanimously approved to take bids to resurface Thomas Road.

**Item No. 16. Consider paving Old Church Rd. (.3 miles) (Commissioner Youngblood)**

Commissioner Youngblood presented this item and stated the road department extended the width of the road and other things to get it ready to be paved last year. There was discussion by the Board regarding this and other roads.

On motion by Commissioner Youngblood to pave Old Church Rd. with the county to do the grubbing and grading and second by Commissioner Bond, the Board failed to approve the paving by two (2) YES votes and (3) NO votes. The votes were: Commissioners Youngblood and Thomas, YES; Commissioners Pethel, Bond and Escoe, NO.

**Item No. 17. Consider equipment recommendations from the Road Dept.  
(Chairman Dove)**

Chairman Dove stated the Board had received a check from Caterpillar for the county's trade in of equipment. The trade in amount was \$315,000 and from that amount we received a Caterpillar Bobcat leaving a balance of approximately \$271,000. The road department would like to trade their 140G motor grader for a 140H motor grader upon the Board's approval. The price of the 140G is \$169,000 and the county's 140G trade in would be \$29,000 leaving the total purchase to be \$140,000. Chairman Dove said that would leave the county approximately \$44,000 in the equipment account.

On motion by Commissioner Bond and second by Commissioner Youngblood, the Board unanimously approved to move forward with the trade and purchase of equipment for the road department.

**Item No. 18. Discuss the 2011 and 2012 budget. (Commissioner Thomas)**

Commissioner Thomas discussed the Animal Shelter and he had spoken with the supervisor and employees. In reviewing the audits, Commissioner Thomas stated that the Sheriff's Office had received seized funds for the years 2006 through 2009 ranging from a low of \$47,000 to a high of \$105,000. The average over the four years is \$50,000. The Board recently approved the purchase of vehicles in the amount of \$130,000. He would like for the Board to ask the Sheriff to use some of the \$30,000 for the Animal Shelter and pay for the striping and other equipment for the vehicles from seized funds.

**Item No. 19. Roads Update. (Chairman Dove)**

Chairman Dove took requests from the Board for maintenance on the roads in their districts.

**Item No. 20. Urgent Matters. (Chairman Dove)**

There were none.

**Item No. 21. Review September 6, 2011 agenda for Business Meeting.**

The county clerk read the items to be on the September 6, 2011 agenda.

**Item No. 22. Statements and Remarks from Citizens on any matter.**

There were no statements from the citizens.

Commissioners Thomas and Youngblood left their board seats and took the citizens' podium to address an article in the local paper pertaining to them.

**Item No. 23. Executive Session to discuss land acquisition, personnel matters and/or potential litigation (if needed).**

There was no need for executive session.

**Item No. 24. Adjourn.**

On motion by Commissioner Pethel and second by Commissioner Youngblood, the Board unanimously agreed to adjourn at 9:40 pm.