

**MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
AGENDA SETTING MEETING
SEPTEMBER 27, 2010
6:30 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

District 1 Commissioner Stanley Thomas
District 2 Commissioner John Pethel, Sr.
District 3 Commissioner Mike Youngblood
District 5 Commissioner Bruce Scogin

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Commission Chairman Anthony Dove
District 4 Commissioner Dewitt Bond

MEDIA PRESENT:

Zach Mitchem, Madison County Journal
Erin France, Athens Banner

STAFF PRESENT

Linda Cox, County Clerk

Vice Chairman Thomas called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and led in the pledge of allegiance to the American flag. Commissioner Scogin gave the invocation.

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

Vice Chairman Thomas recognized Probate Judge, Cody Cross, to update the Board on the Indigent Defense attorney and Prosecutor for Probate Court. Judge Cross stated they had reached an agreement with two (2) local attorneys for these positions. Mike Pruett, County Attorney, stated that Clark E. Gulley would serve as prosecutor and Warren Caswell would serve as the indigent defense attorney.

Vice Chairman Thomas asked for a motion on the indigent defense attorney contract with Warren Caswell.

On motion by Commissioner Scogin and second by Commissioner Youngblood, the Board unanimously approved Warren Caswell as the indigent defense attorney.

Vice Chairman Thomas asked for a motion on the prosecutor's contract with Clark E. Gulley.

On motion by Commissioner Youngblood and second by Commissioner Pethel, the Board unanimously approved Clark E. Gulley as the prosecutor.

Vice Chairman Thomas stated that the city of Colbert would like to give Judge Cross the power to conduct elections in Colbert. Mike Pruett, County Attorney, stated that the contract has been signed by the Colbert city council and the Board would need to approve for Chairman Dove to sign the contract for the elections.

On motion by Commissioner Scogin and second by Commissioner Youngblood, the Board unanimously approved for Chairman Dove to sign the contract with the city of Colbert.

Vice Chairman Thomas stated that the city of Carlton would like to enter into an agreement with the county to purchase a fire truck. Mike Pruett, County Attorney stated that he had not been given an update from the city as of today.

On motion by Commissioner Scogin and second by Commissioner Pethel, the Board unanimously agreed to put this item on the next agenda of October 4, 2010.

Vice Chairman Thomas informed the Board of the Outdoor Landscape Watering (SB 370) which the General Assembly of the State of Georgia has required all counties in Georgia to adopt an ordinance to be in effect no later than January 1, 2011. Vice Chairman Thomas suggested that this item be placed on the next agenda in order to give the Board more time to access the contents.

On motion by Commissioner Pethel and second by Commissioner Scogin, the Board unanimously approved to place this item on the agenda of October 4, 2010.

Vice Chairman Thomas informed the Board that the city of Colbert would like to enter into an agreement with the county for animal control. Mike Pruett, county attorney, stated that the city council had approved the agreement and the Board needed to approve this.

On motion by Commissioner Scogin and second by Commissioner Youngblood, the Board unanimously approved the contract with the city of Colbert for animal control.

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

Mike Moak, Chairman, Madison County Library Board. Update regarding the progress of the library project. Also, present a potential member to the Board of Trustees for approval.

Mr. Moak presented the Board with documents entailing the progress of the library board and explained in detail. Mr. Moak also presented Victor Johnson, attorney, of Madison County as a potential member to the Board of Trustees with copies of his application and other civic organizations he has served on.

On motion by Commissioner Youngblood and second by Commissioner Scogin, the Board unanimously approved Victor Johnson to the Board of Trustees.

Jill McElheney, update on pipeline safety in Madison County.

Ms. McElheney presented information to the Board regarding the above. The organization is known as COPS, Citizens Organized for Pipeline Safety. There were various questions to Ms. Elheney from the Board. The Board requested that she provide them with COPS findings and the impact that pipelines impose on areas where they are located. She agreed to email the information to the County Clerk for distribution.

Johnny Smith to discuss paving of Young Harris Road.

Mr. Smith did not attend the meeting.

Item No. 3. Report from IDA. (Marvin White)

Mr. White gave an update of the activities of the IDA since the last Agenda Setting Meeting.

Item No. 4. Statements and Remarks from Citizens on agenda items.

None.

Item No. 5. Consider approval to enter into a consulting contract with ITOS for GIS/Mapping services. (Robin Baker)

Mr. Baker discussed the Letter of Agreement between Madison County and IOTS which is a division of the University System of Georgia. The Board had been provided a copy of this agreement. Mr. Baker stated that our soil maps would be done free of charge and each parcel would cost an average of \$12.00 whereas the bids received were in the range of \$33.00 to \$35.00 per parcel. Also, unlimited training would be free.

Vice Chairman Thomas commented that he appreciates Robin looking into other alternatives rather than just taking one of the bids received. Mike Pruett, county attorney, stated that the intergovernmental agreement was all in order and just needed approval from the Board

On motion by Commissioner Youngblood and second by Commissioner Scogin, the Board unanimously approved to enter into the intergovernmental agreement IOTS.

Item No. 6. Consider software recommendation for patient care reporting. (Jason Lewis)

Mr. Lewis stated that he received five (5) proposals and he recommends Sansio. He and Gary Venable, IT Director, agree that Sansio meets all criteria. The term is for five (5) years. There were various questions from the Board which Mr. Lewis answered regarding the recommendation. Commissioner Scogin questioned the five (5) year term. Mike Pruett, county attorney, stated that we normally go year to year on contracts and agreements. Commissioner Scogin suggested that Mr. Lewis get with the IT director on the technical costs and he would like for Chairman Dove to review the proposal before a vote is taken. He recommends that this item be placed on the October 4, 2010 agenda.

On motion by Commissioner Scogin and second by Commissioner Pethel, the Board unanimously approved this item be placed on the October 4, 2010 agenda.

Item No. 7. Consider allowing the Recreation Dept. reopening of bids for running main water line to concession stand, restrooms and irrigation at new Soccer complex. (Dick Perpall)

Mr. Perpall asked the Board's permission to open the two (2) bids he received for the main water line in order to review and bring his recommendation to the Board at the next meeting on October 4, 2010.

On motion by Commissioner Scogin and second by Commissioner Youngblood, the Board unanimously agreed to open the bids at the meeting.

The two bids were from Perry Plumbing and Wayne Chandler Plumbing.

Item No. 8. Consider 2010 holiday pay. (Commissioner Youngblood)

Commissioner Youngblood stated that last year, during our budget woes, the Board asked the department heads and employees to make drastic cuts in their departments and they did so and it has paid off for us and by doing that the Board did not have to raise taxes. Also, the Board asked them about cutting their holiday pay in half thus taking five (5) holidays from them. The Board did that and they have been very generous about it. We were at the point to do that or either furlough or whatever we needed to do to get the budget in line. I stated it and I think Commissioner Scogin and several more stated that this year the county itself as a whole is in very good shape. Again, we did not have to raise taxes and I would like to put a motion on the floor for the November holiday, that we reinstate one (1) of those paid holidays for the employees. We've got employees and I don't like to talk about this but we've got employees that make better money than other employees. One day's pay to a lot of employees is a lot of money especially around the holidays. One day's pay to some employees is not a lot of money but as a whole what they did for us as a Board and the rest of the county by allowing us not to have to raise taxes to make ends meet. I think that if we are coming out a little bit ahead this year we can reinstate one (1) of those holidays and what I would like to do to give them a little

more incentive towards the Christmas holidays is that we will look at this between now and Christmas whether this passes or not if there is anything available then maybe give them another one. We've got a lot of good employees in the county and they have done everything we have asked them to do by cutting their budgets and remaining as loyal as they have. It's amazing what they have done. You can read the paper everyday and many surrounding counties are chopping heads and furloughing and whatever just to get through.

I put a motion to reinstate November 26, 2010 as a paid holiday. The motion was second by Commissioner Scogin. Vice Chairman Thomas stated that there was a motion to reinstate one (1) holiday pay on November 26, 2010 and this is basically giving back a holiday that was taken due to economic times.

There was discussion if a budget amendment would need to be done for this. Mike Pruett, County Attorney, stated he was not sure if there is still enough money in the personnel line item to cover the funds. He suggested that this should be verified with Kathy Clark, Finance Director. Commissioner Scogin stated that he is in favor of this and it would not increase the budget but would only shift funds within the budget. In order to verify funding with the Finance Director, Commissioner Youngblood withdrew his motion. Vice Chairman Thomas asked if there were any objections. There were none. The motion was withdrawn.

On motion by Commissioner Youngblood and second by Commissioner Scogin, the Board unanimously agreed to put this item on the October 4, 2010 agenda.

Item No. 9. Roads Update.

Vice Chairman Thomas took requests from the Board for maintenance on roads in their districts. Commissioner Scogin requested a 4 way stop sign at Sorrow Patterson and Foote McClellan Rd. be placed on the October 4, 2010 agenda for consideration.

On motion by Commissioner Scogin and second by Commissioner Pethel, the Board unanimously approved this item for the October 4, 2010 agenda.

Vice Chairman Thomas requested a speed limit sign on Sailors Rd. be placed on the October 4, 2010 agenda for consideration.

On motion by Commissioner Pethel and second by Commissioner Scogin, the Board unanimously approved this item for the October 4, 2010 agenda.

Item No. 10. Urgent Matters.

None.

Item No. 11. Review October 4, 2010 agenda for Business Meeting.

The County Clerk read the items to be on the October 4, 2010 Business Meeting.

Item No. 12. Statements and Remarks from Citizens.

None.

Item No. 13. Executive Session to discuss land acquisition, personnel matters and/or potential litigation (if needed).

There was no need for executive session.

Item No. 14. Adjourn.

On motion by Commissioner Pethel and second by Commissioner Youngblood, the Board unanimously agreed to adjourn at 8:20 pm.