

The Brooks County Board of Commissioners met for its Regular Monthly Meeting on Monday, March 1, 2010 at 5:0 p.m. in the Commissioners Meeting Room located at the Brooks County Office Building. Commissioners present were: Mr. Claude Butler, Vice Chairman; Mr. James Maxwell; Mr. Howard Lawson; and Mr. David Ragsdale. Mr. S. L. Jones, Chairman was not present. Others present were: Mr. Robert O'Barr, County Administrator; Ms. Patricia Williams, County Clerk; Mr. Vann Parrott, County Attorney; Mr. Mark Deatcher, Public Works Director; Mr. Ben DeVane, County Engineer; and various residents.

Call to Order/Prayer & Pledge

Vice Chairman called meeting to order and asked Mr. Maxwell to lead all in attendance in Prayer. Mr. Maxwell acknowledged presence of Rev. George Allen and asked him to lead all in Prayer. County Administrator led all in pledge of allegiance.

Amendments to Agenda

On motion by Mr. Ragsdale, seconded by Mr. Lawson, the Board unanimously accepted the amended agenda to include under New Business: Hazardous Waste Resolution and Board of Health Appointment; and under Appearances: Brooks Service Center and Museum and Cultural Center.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Lawson made a motion to approve the following minutes as presented, Mr. Maxwell seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Monthly Workshop and Regular Monthly Meeting	February 1 , 2010
Workshop	February 9, 2010
Special Called Meeting	February 11, 2010
Special Called Meeting	February 19, 2010

Road Projects

Board designated Kennedy Hill Road as a SPLOST #4 project, with a budget of approximately \$23,000.00 for improvement.

Appearances

a. Ernest Cain - Kennedy Hill Road Improvement Update

Mr. Cain was updated during workshop session.

b. Linda Jenkins - Dog Restraint

Ms. Jenkins appeared to request the Board to put into place a policy for dog restraint. She stated on one occasion, she has been pinned in her garage by her neighbor's animal ; and another occasion someone was with her. She also informed the Board the neighbor's dog dug

a hole at her niece's residence; got into her dog's pen, killed her dog; and devoured it. Ms. Jenkins emphasized there needs to be more responsibility than restraints, dog owners need

to be held accountable. County Administrator presented a draft copy of an ordinance. County

Attorney will review the same, make more comprehensive and bring back to the Board for review. Mr. Ragsdale advised Ms. Jenkins to report the incidents to Sheriff's Department.

c. James Foy - Fritzke Farm Lease

Mr. Foy appeared to request Board approval to sublease the Fritzke Farm. County Attorney stated there is no problem with lease agreement to prevent the sublease. Mr. Foy has sub-lessee for the remainder of lease term. On motion by Mr. Ragsdale, seconded by Mr. Lawson, the Board approved the request by Mr. Foy to sublease the Fritzke Farm to Chris Exum for remainder of term of current lease.

d. Tyrone Terrell - Uplift Homeless Shelter

Mr. Terrell was not present.

e. Tiffany Holmes - Economic Development

Mr. Corey Cottle appeared in place of Ms. Holmes to provide the Board information and to make aware of situation involving tourism. The Tourism Product Development Office of the Georgia Department of Economic Development is offering a tourism product development resource team visit to Quitman-Brooks County during March 2010. The offer stems from a presentation made to the Quitman Brooks Leadership Class in fall of 2009. Tentative dates for team visit are Monday March 29 - Wednesday March 31st. The purpose of the resource team visit will be to prepare an inventory of heritage and cultural tourism assets and work with local leadership in developing an 18 month strategy for the initiation of a multi-phased tourism based economic development plan. Team will be composed of approximately nine members. The study is free, it will identify strengths, and will benefit Brooks County as a whole, not just the City. On motion by Mr. Lawson, seconded by Mr. Ragsdale, the Board unanimously supports the tourism product development resource team visit to Quitman-Brooks County.

f. Brooks Service Center

Brooks Service Center again appeared to request assistance. They would like to purchase gas from the County at cost. Since there is a conflict with County Attorney's opinion and County Auditor's opinion, the Board would like opinion from Attorney General. On motion by Mr. Maxwell, seconded by Mr. Lawson, Board authorized County Administrator to contact Attorney General's office to seek an opinion regarding Brooks County providing funds and/or assistance to Brooks Service Center.

g. Brooks County Museum and Cultural Center

Mr. Joe Wingate appeared to update Board on what they are doing for community and to request fund assistance during budget preparation. Board stated the Museum and

Cultural Center will both be looked at during budget process.

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Old Business

a. DFACS - Position Opening - Ms. Jefferson

Ms. Gracie Jefferson will continue to serve until new appointment. Board will continue to look for a replacement for Ms. Jefferson on the DFACS Board.

b. TTL - Air Sparging Installation Contract

During February regular monthly meeting, Mr. Keith Reaves, Principal Engineer, TTL, Inc., presented an outline of TTL's proposed tasks to clarify the tasks needed to complete the project and what entity will be performing individual tasks. Estimated cost for eight SVE wells installation, provide well installation documentation; install four AS wells; provide well installation documentation, estimated cost is \$33,241.00. Tasks to be completed by Brooks County: electrical, piping, soil vapor extraction and air sparge piping and soil vapor extraction and air sparge wells, based on preliminary budget, County tasks are expected to cost approximately \$130,500.00. Estimated cost is \$163,741.00, City 65% and County 35%. On motion by Mr. Lawson, seconded by Mr. Ragsdale, the Board approved the Client Project Services Agreement from TTL, Inc. to install air sparging system pending review of Agreement by County Attorney.

New Business

a. Authorizing Resolution - GA DOT Public Transportation Gant Application

On motion by Mr. Maxwell, seconded by Mr. Ragsdale, Board authorized Chairman to sign the Authorizing Resolution to be included in the GDOT Public Transportation Grant Application.

b. ACCG Defined Benefit Plan Adoption

On motion by Mr. Lawson, seconded by Mr. Maxwell, Board authorized Chairman to sign ACCG Defined Benefit Plan Adoption Agreement for Brooks County Employees. Vice Chairman called for the vote. Vote was 2 to 1, Mr. Maxwell and Mr. Lawson voted yes. Mr. Ragsdale voted no, stating he has concerns regarding Constitutional Officers (Tax Commissioner and Staff) receiving two retirement funding (double retirement) and other employees only receiving one.

c. ACCG Defined Benefit Retirement Program-Member Program Agreement

On motion by Mr. Maxwell, seconded by Mr. Lawson, Board authorized Chairman to sign the Defined Benefit Retirement Program Member Program Agreement from ACCG. Vote

was unanimous.

d. County Nepotism Policy

Board looked at a more restrictive nepotism policy to implement for employees. State law prohibits public officers from advancing, employing, or advocating the employment of immediate family members. Board agreed the County needs to follow state law as defined in

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O.C.G.A. Section 45-10-80. On motion by Mr. Ragsdale, seconded by Mr. Lawson, Board authorized County Attorney to draft nepotism policy that is more restrictive and consistent with State law and bring back to Board for review.

e. Hazardous Waste Trust Fund Resolution

On motion by Mr. Maxwell, seconded by Mr. Ragsdale, Board authorized Chairman to sign Hazardous Waste Resolution to submit with application to Georgia Department of Natural Resources requesting reimbursement of funds expended on the closed land fill.

f. Board of Health Appointment

Dr. Lynne Feldman, District Health Director, Georgia Department of Community Health, submitted a request to appoint Board member. Ms. Gracie Jefferson is currently in the County appointed position and does not wish to be re-appointed. Two names were submitted: Mr. Alex Patterson and Ms. Nancy Whitfield Dennard. Each has been contacted and willing to serve on the Board if appointed. On motion by Mr. Maxwell, seconded by Mr. Ragsdale, Board unanimously appointed Ms. Nancy Whitfield Dennard to serve on the Brooks County Board of Health for a six-year term.

Board recognized and introduced Councilwoman for City of Quitman, Ms. Nikki Bradley.

County Administrator Comments

- a. County Administrator provided Board a copy of proposed calendar for upcoming FY 2011 Budget process.
- b. FY 2011 Revenue Estimate
- c. SPLOST #5 revenue down by 28%; average monthly revenue \$72,469.25.
- d. Options on Tax Levy - revenue needed for FY 2011 to maintain no tax increase is \$771,164.00
- e. School Board Bonds

On motion by Mr. Maxwell, seconded by Mr. Ragsdale, Board closed regular monthly meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Mr. Claude R. Butler, Vice Chairman
Mr. Robert D. O'Barr, County Administrator
Ms. Patricia A. Williams, County Clerk

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