

**HARRIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION**

March 17, 2009

7:00 PM

Commissioners Present: J. Harry Lange, Charles Wyatt, Joey M. Loudermilk, Joe F. Manning, Patrick Whearley. Staff Present: Daniel B. Bridges, County Manager; John M. Taylor, County Attorney, Nancy D. McMichael, County Clerk.

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Chairman Lange called the Regular Session to order.
2. **MINUTES.** The motion to approve the minutes of the March 3, 2009, Regular Session was made by Commissioner Loudermilk, seconded by Commissioner Wyatt, and passed unanimously.
3. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. **Safety Discount Verification for ACCG-IRMA (Property & Liability Insurance).** Danny Bridges, County Manager, explained the requirements that the County must meet in order to qualify for the discount. The motion to approve was made by Commissioner Loudermilk, seconded by Commissioner Wyatt, and passed unanimously.
 - B. **Second Reading: Ordinance for Uses and Restrictions for the Railroad Recreation Trail.** Chairman Lange said that this was the second reading, read sections of the proposed Ordinance, and asked if anyone in attendance wished to comment in favor of or in opposition to this Ordinance. There being none, John Taylor, County Attorney, reviewed the three changes he had made based on the discussion during the First Reading. The motion to approve was made by Commissioner Loudermilk and seconded by Chairman Lange. There was a brief discussion regarding the prohibition of the use of tobacco products on the trail and consensus was that with the prohibition the document mirrored other County Ordinances. The motion passed with four in favor (Loudermilk, Lange, Whearley, Wyatt) and one opposed (Manning).
 - C. **County Road Railroad Crossings.** Commissioner Whearley said that he continues to get calls regarding County roads where the railroad rails and/or ties have been removed. During discussion, Danny Bridges, County Manager, said that he would contact the people removing the rails and ties to see if something could be done, and if not, that the County would make the crossings better.
 - D. **Enrichment Services Appointment.** Danny Bridges, County Manager, said that he had been contacted this afternoon by someone regarding this appointment, and that he recommended tabling any action until the next meeting regarding the individual interested in the appointment or an individual any Commissioner may have. There were no objections to placing this matter on the April 7 agenda.
4. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. **Error & Release Requests.** Chairman Lange read the Error & Release requests as follows:
 - (1) Hampton, Katie B.: Digest total of \$4,591 corrected to zero (mobile home burned in November 2008; confirmed by Fire Department report)
 - (2) Hudson, Charlie: Digest total of \$8,198 corrected to \$4,099 (mobile in poor condition and in process of being repaired)
 - (3) Townsend, Kenneth & Terri M.: Digest total of \$192,431 corrected to \$188,406 (Adjustment not made when DOT obtained 2.49 acres for right-of-way)

The motion to approve all three Error & Release requests was made by Commissioner Wyatt, seconded by Commissioner Manning, and passed unanimously.
 - B. **Financial Statement: January 2009.** The motion to approve the January 2009 Financial Statement was made by Commissioner Wyatt, seconded by Commissioner Whearley, and passed unanimously.

5. COUNTY MANAGER

- A. **Health/Medical Insurance.** Danny Bridges, County Manager, provided a brief overview of the proposal results for medical insurance to include that for an employee with family coverage, it will cost approximately 25% of their gross pay for medical insurance, and for a new employee, it is 31%. He recommended that the County renew its coverage with Evergreen; that the County pay the premium difference for the employees at least until July at an approximate cost of \$66,570; that the County work with an insurance consultant for six months at no cost to the County; and that the County continue to shop, via the consultant, for insurance that is more affordable to the employees. He also said that the contract agreement with Evergreen can be terminated with a sixty (60) day notice; that should the County wish to continue using the consultant, the Board would have to approve the fee for same; and that regarding the \$66,570, the County has collected approximately 93% of its taxes and approximately \$79,000 more than budgeted in collection fees. Following a brief discussion, the motion to renew with Evergreen, for the County to pay the premium difference for employees at least until July, for the County to work with an insurance consultant for six months at no cost to the County, and for the County to continue to shop for better insurance was made by Commissioner Manning, seconded by Commissioner Wyatt, and passed unanimously. (Document can be found in "Contracts & Agreements" File as C&A #09-18.)
- B. **Well at Solid Waste.** Danny Bridges, County Manager, said that there have been problems with both wells at the Solid Waste Transfer Station; that a proposal has been received for a drilled well, with a guarantee to hit water, at a cost of \$15,000; and that he recommended that only one new well be drilled. Following discussion, consensus was to go out on bid for a drilled well.
- C. **Fortson Road Repairs.** Danny Bridges, County Manager, reminded the Board that the resurfacing of Fortson Road was on the LARP list, but that DOT has indicated they will not resurface the road until repairs are made; and that an estimate from C.W. Matthews indicates the repairs will cost approximately \$180,000. Following discussion, the motion to go out on bid for this work in the hopes of getting a better price was made by Commissioner Wyatt, seconded by Commissioner Manning, and passed unanimously.
- D. **Farner Barley Proposal Agreement: Review of Storm Water and Parking Layout for Daehan Site.** Danny Bridges, County Manager, said that the review needed to be done to make sure that the money going to Daehan for the site preparation wasn't "overkill" and that the cost is \$2,500. Following discussion, the motion to approve this agreement was made by Commissioner Wyatt, seconded by Chairman Lange, and passed with four in favor (Wyatt, Lange, Loudermilk, Manning) and one opposed (Whearley). (Document can be found in "Contracts & Agreements" file as C&A #09-19).
- E. **Motor Grader Repair.** Danny Bridges, County Manager, said that one of the motor graders leased from Yancey in 2005 needs to have the transmission repaired/replaced at an approximate cost of \$10,000. The motion to approve the work was made by Commissioner Manning, seconded by Commissioner Wyatt, and passed unanimously.
- F. **Andras Allen Starr: Contract Change Order #1 re: Health Department CDBG.** Danny Bridges, County Manager, said that this Change Order was in connection with the Davis-Bacon Act which requires certain wages to be paid in connection with Federal funding and that it was only recently discovered that the rates provided in the bid were incorrect. He said that the correction to the bid results in an increase of \$7,850.01 making the total contract \$354,371.01, and he reminded the Board that the County has a \$500,000 grant for this project. The motion to approve this Change Order was made by Commissioner Wyatt, seconded by Commission Lange, and passed unanimously. (Document can be found in "Contracts & Agreements" file as C&A #09-20.)
- G. **Budget Schedule for FY 09/10.** Danny Bridges, County Manager, said that one of the dates on the proposed schedule is not a regular meeting date and asked the Commissioners to review their calendars regarding same and to take action during the April 7 meeting. There were no objections.

6. COUNTY ATTORNEY

- A. **Resolution: Intent to Abandon a Portion of Old Mt. Airy Road.** John Taylor, County Attorney, reviewed the Resolution which includes the process for abandonment and recommended approval of same. The motion to approve this Resolution was

made by Commissioner Loudermilk, seconded by Commissioner Whearley, and passed unanimously.

- B. **L&T, Inc., Contract Agreement: Fuel Farm at Airport.** John Taylor, County Attorney, reviewed the contract to include that the cost is \$280,000, includes removal of the below ground tanks, installs AV Gas and Jet Fuel tanks, and that while the Performance and Payment Bonds are in order, the wording to indicate that they are subject to Georgia Law needs to be added. Discussion included that there are no below ground tanks. The motion to approve the agreement, pending the wording on the bonds and verification of the tanks, was made by Commissioner Manning, seconded by Commissioner Whearley, and passed unanimously.
7. **ADJOURNMENT.** There being no further business to discuss, the motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Manning, seconded by Commissioner Wyatt, and passed unanimously.

Attest:

J. Harry Lange, Chairman

Nancy D. McMichael, County Clerk