

**HARRIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION**

June 1, 2010

7:00 P.M.

Commissioners Present: J. Harry Lange, Joey M. Loudermilk, Joe Manning, Charles Wyatt.
Commissioner Absent: Patrick Whearley. Staff Present: Daniel B. Bridges, County Manager;
John Taylor, County Attorney.

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Chairman Lange called the Regular Session to order.
2. **MINUTES.** The motion to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2010, Regular Session was made by Commissioner Loudermilk, seconded by Commissioner Wyatt, and passed unanimously.
3. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. **Second Reading: Ordinance Judicial in Rem Tax foreclosures.** Chairman Lange said that this was the Second Reading, and he asked John Taylor, County Attorney, to review the proposed Ordinance. Mr. Taylor said that this ordinance gives an alternate method of foreclosing on properties, and that this method includes a judicial ruling before property is sold. Chairman Lange asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of or in opposition to the proposed Ordinance. There being none, the motion to approve this Ordinance was made by Commissioner Wyatt, seconded by Commissioner Loudermilk, and passed unanimously.
4. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. **Rural State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP): Tom Queen.** Tom Queen, of Georgia DOT, appeared before the Board to review the STIP projects for 2010 through 2014 including the widening of US 27 (remainder of preliminary engineering authorized this year with right of way after 2014), the Village Green Walking Trail in Waverly Hall, the bridge replacement over Standing Boy Creek on Fortson Road, the amenities for the Hamilton/Palmetto Creek Walking Trail, the enhancement project in Pine Mountain, and bridge replacement over Flat Shoals Creek on SR 103 (preliminary engineering underway with right of way scheduled for 2012) and to respond to any questions from the Board. Mr. Queen also briefly discussed House Bill 277, which concerns future funding through a Transportation Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (TSPLOST).
 - B. **Budget Public Hearing I: FY 10/11.** Chairman Lange called the Public Hearing to order and asked Danny Bridges, County Manager, to review the budget. Mr. Bridges said that the budgets include the General Fund, Solid Waste, Water Works, Airport, and Small Funds. He said that the budget now includes the increase in woodland protection by the Georgia Forestry Commission; and that the new investigator position requested by the District Attorney's office had been removed. Chairman Lange asked if anyone wished to make comments regarding the budget. There being none, he closed the Public Hearing.
 - C. **Adoption of Budget: FY 10/11.** The motion to approve the FY 10/11 budget, which includes the General Fund, Solid Waste, Water Works, Airport, and Small Funds, was made by Commissioner Wyatt, seconded by Commissioner Loudermilk, and passed unanimously.
5. **COUNTY MANAGER**
 - A. **Blue Cross/Blue Shield Medical Insurance Renewal.** Danny Bridges, County Manager, said that during the May 18 meeting, discussion included the option of having a Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) which allows for the reimbursement of up to \$500 in medical expenses once the covered individual meets his/her deductible, the increase in premiums by 7.37%, the use of "out of network" physicians for which 80% of the costs are paid and the option to reducing that percentage to 50%. He then reviewed the various options available to the County and recommended that the County change the out-of-network coverage to 50%, change deductibles from \$1,000/\$3,000 to \$1,500/\$4,500, and create a HRA to be funded at 40% utilization, all of which would result in a 0.11% increase in premiums with additional possible savings through the HRA, and that there be no increase in the premium paid by the employee. The motion to approve the insurance renewal as recommended by Mr. Bridges, was made by Commissioner Wyatt, seconded by Commissioner Manning, and passed unanimously. (Documents related to the renewal can be found in "Contracts & Agreements" file as C&A #10-13.)

- D. **Georgia Forestry: Community Wildfire Protection Plan.** Danny Bridges, County Manager, said that during the May 18 meeting there was a brief discussion regarding the Community Wildfire Protection Plan that had been submitted by the Georgia Forestry Commission, and that he and Chairman Lange are scheduled to execute the Plan unless there are issues with same from the Board. There being no issues, Mr. Bridges said that once the final corrections have been made to the Plan, he and Chairman Lange will sign same. There were no objections. (Document can be found in "Miscellaneous Documents" file as MD #10-02.)
- E. **GEC Proposal Agreement: Stream Crossing (Morgan Copeland Road).** Danny Bridges, County Manager, said that GEC had submitted a proposal to do the necessary wetland permitting work in connection with a minor stream crossing in connection with the realignment of Morgan Copeland Road, and that the cost is \$2,300. The motion to approve this proposal agreement was made by Commissioner Wyatt, seconded by Chairman Lange, and passed with three in favor (Wyatt, Lange, Loudermilk) and one opposed (Manning). (Document can be found in "Contracts & Agreements" file as C&A #10-14.)
- F. **Georgia Forestry Commission: Forestland Assessment Fee.** Danny Bridges, County Manager, distributed an agreement from the Georgia Forestry Commission regarding the increase in forestland assessment from .04¢ to .10¢, and said that the document will be on the June 15 agenda for action.
6. **COUNTY ATTORNEY.** John Taylor, County Attorney, said that he had no business to discuss with the Board this evening.
7. **RECESS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION.** At 7:44 PM, Commissioner Wyatt made the motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter. The motion was seconded by Chairman Lange and passed unanimously.
8. **RESUME REGULAR SESSION.** The motion to resume the Regular Session was made by Commissioner Wyatt, seconded by Commissioner Loudermilk, and passed unanimously.
9. **OTHER**
- A. **County Manager Contract Extension.** Commissioner Wyatt made the motion to extend the County Manager's current contract, which expires in 2012, by an additional year, thus making the expiration date 2013. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Loudermilk and passed with three in favor (Wyatt, Loudermilk, Lange), no opposition, and one abstention (Manning).
10. **ADJOURNMENT.** There being no further business to discuss, the motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Wyatt, seconded by Commissioner Manning, and passed unanimously.

J. Harry Lange, Chairman

Attest:

Nancy D. McMichael, County Clerk