

**HARRIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION**

June 18, 2013
7:00 P.M.

Commissioners Present: J. Harry Lange, Joey M. Loudermilk, Becky Langston, Jim Woods, Charles Wyatt.
Staff Present: Greg Wood, County Manager; John Taylor, County Attorney; Nancy D. McMichael, County Clerk.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**. Chairman Lange called the Regular Session to order.
2. **MINUTES**. There was discussion regarding the minutes reflecting that the cost of the AWOS would be included in the upcoming SPLOST, and following same, the motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Session of June 4, 2013, was made by Commissioner Loudermilk, seconded by Commissioner Woods, and passed with four in favor (Loudermilk, Woods, Lange, Wyatt) and one opposed (Langston).
3. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. **Budget FY 13/14 Public Hearing II**. Chairman Lange called the Public Hearing to order. Discussion included that the changes previously discussed had been included; that the rate of pay for the part-time Airport Attendant needed to be changed to \$10.50; and that while the County does not anticipate an increase in the Millage Rate, the Board has no control over any such increase by the Board of Education. [Budget includes the part-time position for the Tax Commissioner's office; four (4) new Jailer slots were added with one to be hired in July, one in October, one in January and one in April; the moving of six (6) Crew Supervisor slots from Public Works to Prison; one new lead Mechanic slot for Vehicle Shop; a part-time Assistant for Animal Control at \$9.50 for 24 hours per week; one Assistant District Attorney at \$67,000 with hiring on January 1, 2014; the part-time Attendant position for Airport @ \$10.50 for 16 hours per week; a 3% across the board increase for employees (full and part-time, out of their work test period of six months; and a 10% (rather than 3%) increase for Sherrail Jarrett, Office Assistant and Registrar). Not included are the part-time attendant for Community Center, the part-time clerk for Magistrate, one Assistant District Attorney at \$48,000, and two deputies for Sheriff's Office.] Chairman Lange asked for comments from those in attendance. There being none, he closed the Public Hearing
 - B. **Budget FY 13/14 Adoption**. The motion to approve the budgets (General Funds, Solid Waste, Water Works, Airport and Small Funds), which also included a ten (10) percent increase for Lisa Culpepper, Accounting Tech (rather than a 3%), was made by Commissioner Loudermilk, seconded by Commissioner Wyatt, and passed unanimously.
 - C. **Requests for Tax Refund**. Chairman Lange read the requests for Tax Refunds, as follows:
 - (1) Thomas, Dillon M. & Judy: Refund amount of \$120.46 due to tax on vehicle having been paid prior to due date and then traded in vehicle. Tax Commission agreed with the request.
 - (2) Woods, M. Troy: Refund amount of \$638.97 due to having sent payment for taxes on February 11, which included late fees and penalties, but payment was never received in Tax Commissioners' office; therefore, on May 3, he made payment again, which included an additional \$638.97 in late fees and penalties. Tax Commissioner disagreed and indicated that her office does not control the mail and that payment was received on May 7 (\$5,652.47), and the Board of Assessors also disagreed.

The motion to approve the refund of \$120.46 to Dillon M. & Judy Thomas was made by Commissioner Loudermilk, seconded by Commissioner Woods, and passed unanimously. The motion to disapprove the refund of \$638.97 to M. Troy Woods was made by Commissioner Wyatt, seconded by Commissioner Langston, and passed with four in favor (Wyatt, Langston, Lange, Woods), and one opposed (Loudermilk).
 - D. **Reappointment to New Horizons Community Service Board**. Chairman Lange said that the term of Kittye Crockett expires June 30 and that New Horizons has requested that Ms. Crockett be reappointed as the County's representative for another term, which would expire June 30, 2016. The motion to reappoint Kittye Crockett to the New Horizons Community Service Board for the new term ending June 30, 2016, was made by Commissioner Wyatt, seconded by Commissioner Langston, and passed unanimously.

- E. **First Reading: Application of Nadeem Chaudhrey for Beer & Wine Off Premises at Midway Grocery located at 10016 Georgia Highway 315, Cataula (new owner).** Chairman Lange read the specifics of the application. The applicant nor his representative were in attendance. There was discussion regarding the business because a Beer Off-Premises license was approved on May 21, which included that it turned out that the person who made the application was not the owner or did not purchase the business and did not appear to purchase the license upon approval, and that when businesses change ownership, a copy of the sales contract agreement is to be provided with the application. Chairman Lange said that the second reading is scheduled for July 2.

4. **COUNTY MANAGER**

- A. **Report to the Commissioners.** Greg Wood, County Manager, reported that he had recently met with the Home Builders Association in Columbus, that he has directed the Recreation Department to develop a Facebook page; that he has attended council meetings of Pine Mountain, Waverly Hall, and West Point, but has not yet attended the meetings of Hamilton or Shiloh; and that he has started looking into a self-insured program for County medical benefits.

5. **OTHER**

- A. **Agreements with New Horizons: Mental Health Center and Harris-Talbot Service Center (both in lieu of rent).** Nancy McMichael, County Clerk, said that these two agreements were for \$500 each, for a total of \$1,000 a month in lieu of rent, from New Horizons; and that they are the usual annual agreements containing no changes. The motion to approve both agreements was made by Commissioner Wyatt, seconded by Commissioner Loudermilk, and passed unanimously. (Documents can be found in "Contracts & Agreements" file as C&A #13-13 for the Mental Health Center and as C&A #13-14 for the Service Center.)

6. **COUNTY ATTORNEY**

- A. **Resolution to Call for SPLOST Referendum.** John Taylor, County Attorney, said that he had prepared two Resolutions in connection with the SPLOST Referendum, one that included general obligation debt and one that did not. He then explained both Resolutions and responded to questions from the Board, whose consensus was to move forward with the Resolution that does not contain wording regarding the general obligation debt. Following discussion, the motion to approve the Resolution to Call for the SPLOST Referendum without the general obligation debt was made by Commissioner Wyatt, seconded by Commissioner Woods, and passed unanimously.

7. **RECESS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION.** Commissioner Wyatt made the motion, at 8:30 PM, to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation and the acquisition of real estate. The motion was seconded by Chairman Lange, and passed unanimously.
8. **RESUME REGULAR SESSION.** The motion to go back into Regular Session was made by Commissioner Wyatt, seconded by Chairman Lange, and passed unanimously.
9. **ADJOURNMENT.** There being no further business to discuss, the motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Wyatt, seconded by Commissioner Loudermilk, and passed unanimously.

J. Harry Lange, Chairman

Attest:

Nancy D. McMichael, County Clerk