

**HARRIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**REGULAR SESSION**  
September 3, 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.** The motion to approve the Regular Session minutes of August 20, 2013, was made by Commissioner Loudermilk, seconded by Commissioner Woods, and passed unanimously.
3. **OLD BUSINESS**
  - A. **Storage Building for Friends of Library.** Chairman Lange said that this had been discussed during the August 20 meeting with a motion made by Commissioner Wyatt but tabled by Commissioner Woods. He asked Commissioner Wyatt for comments. Commissioner Wyatt reminded the Board that the building is 12' x 12', would cost \$1,950, would be owned by the County, would be located northeast of the library, and would be used by the Friends of the Library to store books left from book sales. He also said that he understands that there will be some type of insulation put in the building, and that the cost of the building includes delivery and set-up. Discussion included that the Friends of the Library has yet to attain its non-profit status and still has to raise \$500,000 toward the new library, and that Greg Wood, County Manager, is to find out more about the non-profit status. Following discussion, the motion to approve the purchase of the 12' x 12' building at a cost of \$1,950, was again made by Commissioner Wyatt. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Loudermilk and passed unanimously.
  - B. **Bid Award: Airport Hangar Apron.** Chairman Lange said that this had been tabled from the August 6 meeting due to questions and concerns of Commissioner Wyatt. He said that Phil Eberly, airport consultant with WK Dickson, was present to respond to questions. Commissioner Woods said that Scott Stokes, of Southeastern Site Development, was also present. Mr. Eberly said that Southeastern Site Development, the low bidder in the amount of \$384,242.25, has experience in doing such work on airport projects. In response to questions Mr. Eberly said that the asphalt in this project will utilize DOT criteria rather than FAA, which is more expensive; that there is no wetland in the project area, but further west, and the project does include a retention pond; and that soil erosion requirements must be met. Following discussion, the motion to award the bid to Southeastern Site Development for the low bid of \$384,242.25 was made by Commissioner Wyatt, seconded by Commissioner Woods, and passed unanimously.
  - C. **LMIG and Bridge Repairs.** Chairman Lange said that this had been discussed during the August 20 meeting, and he asked Greg Wood, County Manager, for his comments. Mr. Wood said that he had contacted both Farner Barley and Carter Sloop about such and neither firm can do bridge work, however, Carter Sloop recommended Sastry & Associates; that he and James York, Public Works Director met with Sastry to do an onsite inspection of the bridges; that he has revised the bridge list to include seven bridges (Bethany Church Road over Turkey Creek; Sunnyside Road over House Creek; Mayo Road over Ossahatchie Creek; Ridgeway Road over Boyd Branch; Jordan Road over Mulberry Creek; Fortune Hole Road over Williams Creek; and O Street over Palmetto Creek) and would like to delete the bridge on Ridgeway Road over Boyd Branch since that is almost in Talbot County, on a dirt road, and has very little traffic; and that he is requesting authorization to work with Sastry & Associates to obtain engineering estimates for bridge repair, which will be brought back to the Board for consideration in order to request bids for the work. Discussion included that while there were no objections to deleting the bridge on Ridgeway Road over Boyd Branch, the bridge on the paved portion of Ridgeway Road and in the city limits of Waverly Hall should be added; and that Mr. Wood could proceed with Sastry & Associates. The motion to delete the bridges on the unpaved portion of Ridgeway Road, to add the bridge on the paved portion of Ridgeway Road in Waverly Hall and to authorize the County Manager to work with Sastry & Associates to obtain engineering and repair cost estimates to bring back to the Board for consideration was made by Commissioner Woods, seconded by Commissioner Langston, and passed unanimously.
4. **NEW BUSINESS**
  - A. **Chief Juvenile Court Judge Warner Kennon: Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant & the Benefits to Harris County.** Superior Court Judge Art Smith introduced Chief Juvenile

Court Judge Warner Kennon who gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding changes to the juvenile court system, the receipt of the juvenile justice incentive grant, and concluded by saying that the grant will benefit Harris County in several ways, to include, funds earmarked for local community-based programming in lieu of State Corrections, new and more accessible resources for the community to address at-risk youth, reduction in recidivism with resulting increase in public safety, and reduction in county transportation costs to and from juvenile detention centers. Chairman Lange thanked Judge Kennon for the presentation and Judge Smith for attending the meeting to introduce Judge Kennon.

- B. **Ordinance to Amend Outdoor Entertainment Ordinance.** Chairman Lange said that an amendment to the Outdoor Entertainment Ordinance had been discussed during the August 6 and 20 meetings; that a consensus had been reached during the August 20 meeting regarding the appropriate wording of the amendment; and that the amendment was before the Board tonight for action. He then read the amendment, which is to add as the ninth exclusion “amplified vocal and non-amplified acoustical musical instruments which do not exceed 70 decibels when measured at a distance of 100 feet from the termination of any area included in the definition of “outdoor”; such exclusion shall be valid until 9:00 PM Sunday through Thursday, and until 11:00 PM Friday and Saturday; and at no time will such an exclusion be effective prior to 10:00 AM.” He then asked if anyone in attendance wished to speak in favor of or in opposition to the amendment. Brian Williams, Community Development Director, said that with the discussion during the last meeting regarding the decibel meter, he would prefer the sound to be an audible sound rather than decibel, to which John Taylor, County Attorney, said that audible can be more subjective. There was a brief discussion as to whether or not the County has a decibel meter (it does) and the need to have the appropriate equipment to calibrate same. There being no other comments or discussion, the motion to approve the amendment was made by Commissioner Langston, seconded by Commissioner Loudermilk, and passed unanimously.

5. **COUNTY MANAGER**

- A. **Airport Taxiway Crack Seal and Rejuvenator.** Greg Wood, County Manager, said that the County is required to move the Airport taxiway to meet FAA requirements, but until such time as that project is underway, the taxiway asphalt is losing its flexibility and is cracking; that should any of the loose asphalt get sucked up into a jet, it would not bode well for the Airport; and in addition to the crack seal, rejuvenator is recommended to put elasticity and flexibility back into the asphalt. Phil Eberly, airport consultant with WK Dickson, said that until the taxiway is moved, the FAA will allow improvements to the taxiway as a means of extending the life of same; that the FAA will reimburse the County 90% of the costs for the crack seal, but will not reimburse any monies expended for the rejuvenator. Discussion included that having the AWOS may be more important; that the permitting for the AWOS is underway, but the equipment won’t go in until after the first of the year; and that it may be possible for the County to apply the rejuvenator. Following discussion the motion to move forward with bidding the taxiway crack seal and to include a separate bid for the rejuvenator process was made by Commissioner Woods, seconded by Chairman Lange, and passed with four in favor (Woods, Lange, Langston, Loudermilk) and one opposed (Wyatt).
- B. **Bid Award: Pate Park Lighting of Fields.** Greg Wood, County Manager, said that bids were received for the lighting of the multi-use field, the two tennis courts, and the two basketball courts at Pate Park, as follows:

COMPANY	BID AMOUNT
Middle Georgia Outdoor Lighting, Macon, GA	\$ 154,360
S Electrical Contractors, Phenix City, AL	\$ 140,430

Mr. Wood said that John Magazu, Recreation Director, had reviewed the bids and has recommended that the bid be awarded to S Electrical Contractors for the low bid of \$140,430. He also said that the fund for same will be taken from Pate Park SPLOST. The motion to award the bid to S Electrical Contractors for the low bid of \$140,430 was made by Commissioner Wyatt, seconded by Commissioner Loudermilk, and passed unanimously.

- C. **Update on James York, Public Works Director.** Greg Wood, County Manager, said that James York was to have had surgery this morning, and that he has not been able to reach the family yet, but will do so tomorrow morning and let the Board know of Mr. York’s status.

6. **OTHER**

- A. **Reappointment to West Central Georgia Region 7 EMS Council.** The motion to reappoint Jimmy Carver to the WCGR7EMS Council for the new term of July 1, 2013, to

June 30, 2016, was made by Commissioner Wyatt, seconded by Commissioner Langston, and passed unanimously.

7. **COUNTY ATTORNEY.** John Taylor, County Attorney, brought the Board up to date on the status of recent real estate acquisition approvals, as follows:
  - A. **Harris Property on Highway 116.** The survey has been prepared and recorded, and the closing date for the .91 acres is set for September 6.
  - B. **Willis Property on Highway 85.** The survey has been prepared and recorded, but there are title work issues, so the closing has been rescheduled for November 1.
  - C. **MeadWestVaco Property on Highway 103.** The survey is being prepared and the phase I environmental study is underway, and the closing has been scheduled for October 15.
  - D. **Blackwell Property on Highway 103 at Davidson Road.** The survey is being prepared and the phase I environmental study is underway, and the closing has been scheduled for October 1.
8. **RECESS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION.** The motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing real estate acquisition and personnel matters was made by 8:20 PM by Chairman Lange, seconded by Commissioner Woods, and passed unanimously.
9. **RESUME REGULAR SESSION.** The motion to resume Regular Session was made by Commissioner Loudermilk, seconded by Chairman Lange, and passed unanimously.
10. **REAL ESTATE**
  - A. **Property Owned by Board of Education on Georgia Highway 208.** Chairman Lange said that the Board of Education had purchased property several years ago in anticipation of building a school in connection with an increase in the school population due to BRAC at Fort Benning; that BRAC has not resulted in the need for another school; that the Board of Education has proposed that the property be jointly developed with the County; that a portion of the property will be designated as a future school site, but will be used as some type of recreational field until the need for a school arises; that other field, such as football/soccer, baseball, and T-ball, will be developed by the County; and that the County would construct the access road. He then made the motion to authorize the County Manager and County Attorney to work on the documents to move forward with the joint use and development by the Board of Education and the County. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Loudermilk, and passed unanimously.
11. **ADJOURNMENT.** There being no further business to discuss, the motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Wyatt, seconded by Commissioner Woods, and passed unanimously.

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J. Harry Lange, Chairman

Attest:

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Nancy D. McMichael, County Clerk