

**HARRIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION**

January 19, 2016

7:00 P.M.

Commissioners Present: J. Harry Lange, Joey Loudermilk, Martha Chewing, Becky Langston, Jim Woods. 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. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** At the request of Chairman Lange, Greg Wood, County Manager, led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **MINUTES.** The motion to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2016, Regular Session was made by Commissioner Loudermilk, seconded by Commissioner Woods, and passed unanimously.
4. **APPEARANCE OF CITIZENS**
 - A. **Scott Moyer: JCG/Koch Foods.** Scott Moyer, citizen, appeared before the Board and said that he has heard nothing in the recent months from his commissioner regarding anything about JCG/Koch Foods; that the noise seems to have increased; that the odor is still in the air; that the trash is still accumulated in the parking lot and roads; and that due to the recent heavy rainfall the accumulation of trash, oils, and whatever else, washed onto his property; and that he wants to know if the County is going to do anything about it. Both Commissioner Chewing and Chairman Lange reiterated that the County has done all it can do regarding the issues; that JCG/Koch is not in violation of any rules or regulations of the County or EPD; that JCG/Koch cannot be required to make changes; that the permit regarding the methane burning has not yet been issued by EPD; that GDOT has indicated it will not make alterations to Georgia Highway 116; and that the County will continue to have conversations with JCG/Koch representatives regarding the issues. Mr. Moyer was advised to contact Greg Wood, County Manager, about specific concerns so that Mr. Wood could relay same to JCG/Koch Foods.
 - B. **Bobby Haralson: JCG/Koch Foods.** Bobby Haralson, citizen, appeared before the Board and echoed Mr. Moyer's comments and included that JCG/Koch is allowed to do whatever they want; that around Christmas, they poured concrete on the right of way without a permit; that as a result of the recent heavy rainfall, the odor was not present for seven days, but came back on the eighth; and that trucks are still using C Street (fka Georgia Highway 354) to access the chicken plant.
5. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. **Appointments: Board of Zoning Adjustments.** Commissioner Loudermilk made the motion to appoint Matt Wyatt to the Board of Zoning Adjustments to the position formerly held by Douglas Bryant, who did not wish to be reappointed. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Woods, and passed with four in favor (Loudermilk, Woods, Chewing, Lange) and one in opposition (Langston). Mr. Wyatt's term will expire September 30, 2018.
6. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. **Resolution of Appreciation: County Employees.** Chairman Lange read the resolution thanking employees of Public Works (Mike Brown, Daniel Colvin, Jeffrey Cotton, Ricky Culpepper, Norman Evans, Eugene Kite, Ricky Ponder, and Chris Witherspoon) and Water Works (Jeff Culpepper, Allen Floyd, David Laney, Brant Milner, Nick Moyer and Meredith Williams) for their exemplary efforts, hard work, and personal sacrifice in making repairs to public roads and water lines due to damage as a result of recent heavy rainfall. Chairman Lange then made the motion to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chewing, and passed unanimously.
 - B. **Pet Coalition: Kathryn Genova, Harris County Humane Society.** Kathryn Genova, of Harris County Humane Society, and Drale Short, of Columbus Animal Care & Control, appeared before the Board. Ms. Genova discussed the recently organized Pet Coalition comprised of Harris County Humane Society (HCHS), Harris County Animal Control, Columbus Animal Care & Control, PAWS, and Animal Ark to include that its purpose is to reduce the euthanizing of animals; that HCHS recently received a grant of \$25,000 which

will be used to help with the adoption program of taking animals to PetSmart seven days a week. She also said that Harris County Animal Control has done an excellent job this past year regarding the reduction of animals being euthanized thus bringing the save rate to 72%, and that the goal is to reach 90%. Commissioner Langston then read a letter from the Board of Directors of the Harris County Humane Society expressing their appreciation to the Board of Commissioners and Harris County Animal Control.

- C. **First Reading: Application of John Kalvelage of Butts Mill Farm for Special Events Facility Alcohol License at three (3) locations - Carriage House, Covered Bridge and Hoedown Barn, 2280 Butts Mill Road, Pine Mountain.** Chairman Lange said that this is the First Reading; that the three locations are the Carriage House, Covered Bridge and Hoedown Barn; that the Sheriff's Office and Community Development had recommended approval of the application; that a recommendation was not necessary from the Health Department. He asked if anyone wished to speak in favor or in opposition to the application. There being none, he asked Lisa White, representing Butts Mill Farm, if she had comments. Ms. White said that she understood from Troup County that the Covered Bridge was actually in Troup County. Nancy McMichael, County Clerk, said that the drawing used in connection with the application clearly showed the Covered Bridge as being in Harris County, but that she would contact Troup County tomorrow regarding same. Chairman Lange said that Second Reading is scheduled for the February 2 meeting. (Note: Ms. White emailed Mrs. McMichael and confirmed that the Covered Bridge is actually in Harris County, not Troup.)
- D. **Financial Statement: November 2015.** In response to questions from Commissioner Langston, Paul Glick, Finance Officer, said that the Airport expense of \$91,970 is fuel which will be charged out as it is sold, and that the transfer to the Public Improvements Authority (PIA) is regarding moving funds from the General Fund to the PIA in order for the PIA to make the bond payment regarding the Community Center. The motion to approve the November 2015 financial statement was made by Commissioner Woods, seconded by Commissioner Langston, and passed unanimously.
- E. **Airport Status.** Jack Mayfield, Airport Consultant, was in attendance and asked to make a status report as to the progress of the Airport projects. Mr. Mayfield said that the Taxiway project is about 35% complete, and once the stone and asphalt are in place, it will be 65 to 75% complete; that the 10-unit Jumbo T-Hangar has been completed and the Certificate of Occupancy received from the County on December 28; that the first of the two Corporate hangars is 95% complete and should be completed next week; that the second of the Corporate hangars is scheduled for completion by February 24; and that stone was scheduled to be put on the apron Friday, but due to the expected inclement weather may be delayed until next week. In response to questions, Mr. Mayfield said that the west side of the Jumbo T-Hangar is not yet paved, which prevents access, but the east side is paved. Chairman Lange commented that planes are in the new hangar.

7. **COUNTY MANAGER**

- A. **SPLOSTS of 1999 and 2004: Closeout.** Greg Wood, County Manager, said that there is \$235,000 remaining in the 1999 SPLOST and \$301,611 remaining in the 2004 SPLOST. Regarding the 1999 SPLOST, Mr. Wood recommended the allocation of \$63,443 for Pine Mountain to finish their recreation plans and \$171,557 for Roads. Commissioner Langston said that there is an additional \$260 according to the financial information that should be included in the remaining funds for 1999. With that, Mr. Wood corrected the balance to \$235,260 and the recommended allocations to \$63,443 for Pine Mountain and \$171,817 for Roads. Regarding the 2004 SPLOST, Mr. Wood recommended the allocation of \$48,029 for Fire/EMS but noted that it would really be just for Fire since EMS had used its share of the fund, \$192,000 for Pate Park, and \$61,582 for Roads. Mr. Wood said that the funding from both SPLOSTs for roads would be used towards the Washington Road improvements and then on other roads as funds allow. There was discussion regarding a different type of radio to replace the Hyteras, for which the mobile repeater has not been made available; that the approximate cost to make the change out to include mobile radios with a Gateway repeater option and the trade-in of Hytera radios for new (Sepura) radios would be \$32,400. Consensus among the Board was to not expend any funds regarding the radio system until an assurance is obtained from Dean Ginn that if the new radios do not work, they can be returned and a refund obtained. Mr. Wood said that he will arrange for Mr. Ginn to be at the upcoming work session of the Board (scheduled for February 8). Discussion also included Commissioner Langston relaying fire department communication issues that occurred on January 17 at Mulberry Creek Elementary where there is a radio tower behind the school. Following discussion, the motion to approve the recommended allocations (1999: \$63,443 for Pine Mountain and \$171,817 for Roads, and for 2004: \$48,029 for Fire, \$192,000 for Pate

Park, and \$61,582 for Roads) to close out these two SPLOSTs was made by Commissioner Loudermilk, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed unanimously. Mr. Wood is to let the Board know as to the assurance regarding a refund should the new radios not work.

8. **COUNTY ATTORNEY**

- A. **Request for Executive Session**. John Taylor, County Attorney, requested an Executive Session for the purpose of discussing real property, personnel, and pending or potential litigation.
9. **RECESS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**. The motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing real property, personnel, and potential or pending litigation was made at 8:06 PM by Chairman Lange, seconded by Commissioner Langston, and passed unanimously.
10. **RESUME REGULAR SESSION**. The motion to go back into Regular Session was made at 8:45 PM by Commissioner Loudermilk, seconded by Chairman Lange, and passed unanimously.
11. **ADJOURNMENT**. There being no further business to discuss, the motion to adjourn was made by Chairman Lange, seconded by Commissioner Loudermilk, and passed unanimously.

Attest:

J. Harry Lange, Chairman

Nancy D. McMichael, County Clerk