

**HARRIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR SESSION**

May 3, 2016  
7:00 P.M.

Commissioners Present: J. Harry Lange, Martha Chewning, Becky Langston, Jim Woods.  
Commissioner Absent: Joey Loudermilk. 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 and said that Commissioner Loudermilk was absent due to attending the Juvenile Court Judges Conference.
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 April 19, 2016, Regular Session was made by Commissioner Langston, seconded by Commissioner Woods, and passed unanimously.
4. **APPEARANCE OF CITIZENS**
  - A. **Richard Mix: US Congress Candidate, 3<sup>rd</sup> District.** Richard Mix, candidate for 3<sup>rd</sup> District US Congress, appeared before the Board to introduce himself and ask for the Board's support of his campaign.
  - B. **American Legion: Mark Shreve and Polly Waters.** Mark Shreve and Polly Waters, with the American Legion, appeared before the Board, and Mr. Shreve said that the American Legion will be holding a conference next week at Callaway Gardens and he wanted to let the Commissioners know that they would be seeing a lot more American Legion hats than usual in the area.
5. **NEW BUSINESS**
  - A. **Requests for Tax Refund.** Chairman Lange read the three (3) requests for tax refund, as follows:
    - (1) **Allison, Roy L.:** Refund of \$38.04 due to having paid the ad valorem tax on his vehicle and then selling it before his birthday. Both the Tax Commissioner and the Board of Tax Assessors disagreed with the request. Following discussion, Chairman Lange tabled action to May 17 asking for the reasons for disagreement from the Tax Commissioner and the Board of Tax Assessors.
    - (2) **Bickley, William & Linda:** Refund of \$61.50 due to having paid the ad valorem tax on his vehicle and then selling it before his birthday. Both the Tax Commissioner and the Board of Tax Assessors disagreed with the request. Following discussion, Chairman Lange tabled action to May 17 asking for the reasons for disagreement from the Tax Commissioner and the Board of Tax Assessors.
    - (3) **Edwards, William V., Jr.** Refund of \$28.28 due to having mailed two checks in one envelope for home and lot taxes, but the check for the home was not deposited and interest was incurred. Following discussion, the motion to approve the request for a refund of \$28.28 was made by Commissioner Chewning, seconded by Commissioner Woods, and passed unanimously.
  - B. **Insurance Renewal (Medical, Dental & Vision).** Chairman Lange said that the Board heard from the County's insurance agent of record, John Leggett with MSI, during the preceding Work Session regarding the County's medical, dental and vision insurance, and that action would be tabled until May 17 to give the Board time to consider all the options available.
6. **COUNTY MANAGER**
  - A. **Projects Status Update.** Greg Wood, County Manager, brought the Board up to date on various projects, as follows:

- (1) Storm Damages of December 2015. A meeting was held with FEMA/GEMA representatives, and tours of the areas affected by the storm damage will be assessed this week, and it appears the County may receive approximately \$100,000 as a result of the damages.
  - (2) Washington Road. Robinson Paving has indicated that, depending on the weather, it will be about eight (8) weeks before the project is completed, and the power company has indicated that they should be finished in two (2) weeks.
  - (3) Radio System. Nothing new since the last report.
  - (4) Kings Gap CDBG. Public Works is ready to put the base on the back section tomorrow and the water is 75 to 80 percent complete.
  - (5) Hudson Mill Circle. The water lines are being put in using SPLOST funds.
  - (6) Airport. Work on the taxiway lights is progressing and is about two-thirds complete; and the only issue yet to be resolved is the sealing of the concrete floors in the hangars.
  - (7) Water and Hadley Road. In response to a question from Commissioner Woods, Mr. Wood said that he had not been notified as to the progress of this particular project, but will check on it.
- B. **GEFA Loan Increase Request**. Greg Wood, County Manager, said that due to the low bid cost for the Water Treatment Plant Improvements exceeding the GEFA loan amount (of \$2,000,000), Carter & Sloope, engineers for the project, has recommended that a request to increase the loan amount to \$2,750,000 be made. Following discussion, the motion to approve the request was made by Commissioner Chewning, seconded by Commissioner Woods, and passed unanimously.
- C. **Springsted Job Classification Revisions**. Greg Wood, County Manager, said that Springsted had provided job classification revisions as a result of meeting with the Department Heads and Constitutional Officers, and that Springsted is requesting approval before finalizing the classifications. Following discussion, Chairman Lange tabled action to May 17 and requested that the memo from Springsted be forwarded to the Department Heads and Constitutional Officers for comments before the Board acts on same.
7. **COUNTY ATTORNEY**
- A. **DOT Agreement: Inmate Work Detail**. John Taylor, County Attorney, reviewed the annual agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation for a work detail, with a maximum of 10 inmates, for which DOT provides the necessary equipment, tools and vehicle and pays the County \$39,500. Following discussion, which included that the agreement is with the County and not the Prison and that “agency” in item 4, 4<sup>th</sup> line from the bottom, should be changed to “department”, the motion to approve this agreement, with the two recommended changes, was made by Commissioner Woods, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed unanimously. (Document can be found in “Contracts & Agreements” file as C&A #16-09.)
  - B. **Schmidt Environmental Construction Agreement: Water Treatment Plant Improvements**. John Taylor, County Attorney, said that the Board had awarded the bid for the Water Treatment Plant improvements on April 5. He then reviewed the document to include that the agreement amount is \$2,502,000; that the appropriate Performance and Payment Bonds have been provided; that the agreement should state the maximum legal rate of interest, show that Georgia laws apply, and that jurisdiction and venue are in the Superior Court of Harris County; and that he recommended approval of same. The motion to approve the agreement, with the three recommended changes, was made by Commissioner Woods, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed unanimously. (Document can be found in “Contracts & Agreements” file as C&A #16-10.)
8. **RECESS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**. The motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing real estate acquisition or disposal and a personnel issue was made at 7:45 PM by Chairman Lange, seconded by Commissioner Woods, and passed unanimously.

9. **RECONVENE REGULAR SESSION.** The motion to go back into Regular Session was made by Chairman Lange, seconded by Commissioner Woods, and passed unanimously.
10. **ADJOURNMENT.** There being no further business to discuss, the motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Woods, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed unanimously.

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J. Harry Lange, Chairman

Attest:

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Nancy D. McMichael, County Clerk