

**HARRIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR SESSION**

May 17, 2016  
7:00 P.M.

Commissioners Present: J. Harry Lange, Martha Chewning, Becky Langston, Joey Loudermilk.  
Commissioner Absent: 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, Jimmy Carver, EMS Chief, led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **MINUTES.** The motion to approve the minutes of the May 3, 2016, Regular Session was made by Commissioner Chewning, seconded by Commissioner Langston, and passed with three in favor (Chewning, Langston, Lange), no opposition, and one abstention (Loudermilk, due to being absent from the May 3 meeting).
4. **OLD BUSINESS**
  - A. **Requests for Tax Refund (2).** Chairman Lange said that two requests for tax refund had been tabled from the May 3 meeting in order to obtain evidence regarding the request or reasons as to why the Tax Commissioner disagreed with the requests. Vickie Jamerson, Tax Commissioner, appeared before the Board and said that she did not originally provide a reason or comment because her office has been recommending denial of such requests for many years; that regardless of what she indicates, the Board of Commissioners has the final decision; that in the case of Mr. Allison, she does not appreciate citizens calling her office and saying their commissioner agrees the request should be approved; that with such requests, a copy of the tag receipt has always been provided, but a bill of sale or other documentation has not; and that she will provide whatever documentation the Board desires. Consensus was for Mrs. Jamerson to provide either a bill of sale or sworn affidavit from the requestor in such events. Chairman Lange read the two requests:
    - (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, and a copy of the bill of sale had been provided. The motion to approve the refund of \$38.04 was made by Commissioner Chewning, seconded by Chairman Lange, and passed with three in favor (Chewning, Lange, Loudermilk) and one opposed (Langston).
    - (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; no bill of sale or other documentation had been provided. The motion to disapprove the refund of \$61.50 was made by Commissioner Loudermilk, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed unanimously.
  - B. **Insurance Renewal (Medical, Dental & Vision).** Chairman Lange said that the Board had heard from the County's insurance agent of record, John Leggett with MSI, during the May 5 Work Session regarding the County's medical, dental and vision insurance; and that the Board had four options from which to choose regarding the insurance: (1) no changes; results in 10.01% increase with annual net increase of \$133,938.24; (2) increase deductible and out-of-pocket from \$6,350 to \$6,600; results in 8.91% increase with annual net increase of \$119,210.88; (3) increase deductible and out-of-pocket from \$6,350 to \$6,600 as well as the amount employees pay bi-weekly (per pay period); results in 4.00% increase with annual net increase of \$53,517.39; and (4) change to Humana; results in 4.24% increase with annual net increase of \$57,545.28. Following discussion, the motion to approve option #3 was made by Chairman Lange, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed with three in favor (Lange, Chewning, Loudermilk) and one opposed (Langston).
  - C. **Springsted Job Classification Revisions.** Chairman Lange said that the job classification revisions had been discussed during the preceding Work Session regarding job grades and/or job titles. Nancy McMichael, County Clerk, said that the only other change would be to leave her title as is and not change it to "Clerk to the Board". Chairman Lange said that approval is only regarding the job classifications

or grade changes so that same can be provided to Springsted to finalize the Salary Compensation & Classification Study, which the Board will then review and take action. The motion to approve the job classification/grade changes discussed during the Work Session and to not change the title of County Clerk, was made by Chairman Lange, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed with three in favor (Lange, Chewning, Langston), no opposition, and one in support (Loudermilk) but abstaining from voting for Sheriff's Office, Court Services, Superior Court, and District Attorney (due to his association with same as Juvenile Court Judge).

5. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **Bid Award: Tandem Truck w/16' Dump Body for Public Works.** Greg Wood, County Manager, said that bids had been received for a tandem dump truck for Public Works, as follows:

	<b>Peterbilt of Albany Albany, GA</b>	<b>TransPower Albany, GA</b>	<b>TransPower Albany, GA</b>	<b>MHC Kenworth McDonough, GA</b>
Make/Model of Cab/Chassis	2017 Peterbilt 365	2017 Kenworth T800	2017 Mack GU713	Kenworth T800
Make/Model of Dump	Ox Bodies OR Godwin	Ox Bodies Maverick	Ox Bodies Maverick	Godwin 600T
<b>BID AMOUNT</b>	\$ 121,382.00	\$ 125,539.00	\$ 130,959.00	\$ 143,841.00

Mr. Wood said that Mike Brown, Public Works Director, had reviewed the bids and has recommended the award be made to Peterbilt of Albany for the low bid of \$121,382; and that funds are in this year's Public Works budget. The motion to award the bid to Peterbilt of Albany as recommended was made by Commissioner Langston, seconded by Commissioner Loudermilk, and passed unanimously.

B. **COPS Grant Application.** Chairman Lange said that this was discussed during the preceding Work Session. The motion to approve the application was made by Commissioner Langston and seconded by Chairman Lange. Discussion included that if awarded, it would be a 75/25 grant for the hiring of two (2) new deputies for 36 months with the County paying the 25%; that following the 36 months, the County must retain the positions for another 12 months at 100%; and the deadline to apply is June 23. The motion passed with three in favor (Langston, Lange, Chewning), no opposition, and one abstention (Loudermilk) due to conflict of interest.

C. **Financial Statement: March 2016.** The motion to approve the March 2016 financial statement was made by Commissioner Chewning, seconded by Chairman Lange, and passed unanimously.

D. **Radio System Network Upgrade Invoice.** Greg Wood, County Manager, said the upgrade, which includes a Gateway and Google map license, was discussed during the last planning session (in February 2016), with consensus being to move forward with the upgrade but not action had been taken regarding same; and that the invoice includes \$21,000 for the Gateway, which was matched by Diverse Power, and \$5,000 for the Google map license. Nancy McMichael, County Clerk, said that the \$21,000 is a one-time fee but the \$5,000 is an annual recurring cost. Following discussion, which included that the consoles at 911 should be in place by June 1, the motion to approve the invoice was made by Commissioner Chewning, seconded by Commissioner Loudermilk, and passed unanimously.

6. **COUNTY MANAGER**

A. **Projects Status Update.** Greg Wood, County Manager, brought the Board up to date on various projects, as follows:

- (1) **Hudson Mill Circle Water Line.** 4,000 feet of pipe is in place.
- (2) **Goat Rock Road Water Line.** Boring has been completed. Jeff Culpepper, Water Works Director, said that material is on hand and that they intend to get started as soon as their work load permits.
- (3) **Hadley Road Water Line.** In response to a question from Greg Wood, County Manager, Jeff Culpepper, Water Works Director, said that materials are not yet on hand for this project, but that they plan on doing the project this fall.

- (4) Water Treatment Plant Improvement Project. Pre-construction meeting was held May 16 with the Notice to Proceed issued effective June 5.
  - (5) Airport Septic System. The two septic tanks were put in place last week.
  - (6) Airport Taxiway Project. The Taxiway lights should be completed in about a week.
  - (7) Airport Hangar Floor Issues. Due to issues regarding the hangar floors, which have not yet been resolved, we are moving forward with pulling the Performance Bond of the contractor.
  - (8) FEMA. The secondary survey has been completed so we should know what we will be receiving from FEMA as a result of the December 2015 storm damage soon.
  - (9) CDL for Vehicle Maintenance Mechanic. Mike Brown, Public Works Director, will be getting with Bobby Ammons, Vehicle Maintenance Director, about obtaining commercial drivers licenses for the mechanics.
- B. **Surplus Property**. Greg Wood, County Manager, said that the Board has been provided with a list of surplus vehicle parts that are of no value to the County as they don't fit any of the vehicles in service; that the parts cost a little over \$5,000; and that a request is being made to declare the parts as surplus to sell on GovDeals or other means. The motion to declare the parts as surplus and to authorize the sale on GovDeals or other means was made by Commissioner Loudermilk, seconded by Commissioner Langston, and passed unanimously.
- C. **County Manager**. Chairman Lange took the opportunity to announce that this would be the last meeting for Greg Wood in his capacity as County Manager, and thanked Mr. Wood for his contributions to the County and wished him well.

7. **COUNTY ATTORNEY**

- A. **Resolution: Bid Award to Schmidt Environmental Construction Agreement**. John Taylor, County Attorney, reviewed the resolution and said that the document is a requirement of GEFA from whom funding has been obtained for the project. The motion to approve the resolution was made by Commissioner Langston, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed unanimously.
  - B. **Request for Executive Session**. John Taylor, County Attorney, requested an Executive Session for the purpose of discussing real estate acquisition and personnel matter.
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 8:07 PM by Chairman Lange, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed unanimously.
9. **RECONVENE & RECESS REGULAR SESSION**. The motion to go back into Regular Session and to recess the Regular Session to go into Work Session was made by Commissioner Chewning, seconded by Commissioner Langston, and passed unanimously.
10. **RECONVENE REGULAR SESSION**. The motion to go back into Regular Session was made by Commissioner Loudermilk, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed unanimously.
11. **OTHER**
- A. **EMS Vacation Accrual**. Based on the discussion during the preceding Work Session, the motion to change the way vacation is accrued for EMS personnel, who work 96 or 120 hours in a two-week period, effective July 1, was made by Commissioner Langston, seconded by Commissioner Loudermilk, and passed unanimously. Accrual will be as follows: 0-1 year at 2.31 hours/pay period; 1-10 years at 4.62 hours/pay period; 10-20 years at 6.46 hours/pay period; and 20+ years at 8.31 hours/pay period.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**. There being no further business to discuss, the motion to adjourn was made by Chairman Lange, 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