

**HARRIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION**

April 4, 2017
7:00 P.M.

Commissioners Present: J. Harry Lange, Jim Woods, Susan Andrews, Martha Chewning, Becky Langston. Staff Present: Randy Dowling, 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, Monty Davis, EMA/911 Director, led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **MINUTES.** The motion to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2017 Regular Session was made by Commissioner Woods, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed unanimously.
4. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. **Request for Tax Refund: William A. & Barbara A. Creech, Jr.** Chairman Lange said that action on this request for a refund of \$221.44 for fines, penalties and interest due to late payment of real estate taxes of \$217.5 for 2015 and \$3.86 for 2016 was tabled pending information regarding the address to which bills had been sent and the address reflected on the 2014 transfer tax form. He said that the information regarding the address on the tax bills and transfer tax form had been provided. The motion to approve this request was made by Commissioner Woods, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed with four in favor (Woods, Chewning, Andrews, Lange) and one opposed (Langston).
5. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. **Proclamation: Donate Life Month.** Chairman Lange read the document proclaiming April as Donate Life Month in Harris County. The motion to approve was made by Commissioner Langston, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed unanimously.
 - B. **Resolution: County Legislative Coordinator.** Chairman Lange said that a Resolution is necessary in order to appoint Randy Dowling, County Manager, as the County Legislative Coordinator, to act as the County's contact for ACCG regarding legislation. The motion to approve the Resolution was made by Commissioner Andrews, seconded by Commissioner Langston, and passed unanimously.
 - C. **Recreation Board Request for Study.** Chairman Lange said that the Recreation Board has requested, by a vote of 4 to 3 on February 22, that the County have a study performed on Recreation Department facilities to determine whether they meet the growth of the county and the number of youth sports programs that fall under the Recreation Department. Following discussion, during which John Magazu, Recreation Director, responded to various questions from the Board, the motion to deny the request was made by Commissioner Langston, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and tabled by Commissioner Woods, who requested information regarding the scheduling of fields.
 - D. **LMIG 2017 Off-System Safety Program Application & List.** Chairman Lange said that the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) is accepting applications for striping of roads, guard rails, etc., until April 28; that Mike Brown, Public Works Director, had prepared a list of projects with an estimated total of \$153,691; and that the County would be responsible for the 10% match. The motion to approve the list and send the application was made by Commissioner Woods, seconded by Commissioner Andrews, and passed unanimously.
 - E. **Public Hearing and Resolution: Abandonment of Portion of Old H Street (aka Dunn Road).** Chairman Lange called the Public Hearing to order and said that during the March 7 meeting, the Board approved a Resolution of Intent to Abandon a small section of Old H Street, also known as Dunn Road; that it had been determined that that section of the road has ceased to be used by the public; and that the adjacent property owners have been notified and the public hearing was advertised on March 23 and March 30. He asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of or opposed to the abandonment. There being none, he closed the Public Hearing. John Taylor, County Attorney, explained that all requirements of the law regarding the abandonment of section of the road, which is in two parts, have been made; that two Quit Claims have been prepared to deed the two parts to the adjacent property owners; and that he recommended approval of the Resolution and Quit Claim deeds. The motion to approve the Resolution and to Quit Claim the abandoned portion to the adjacent property owners was made by Commissioner Chewning, seconded by Commissioner Woods, and passed unanimously.

6. **COUNTY MANAGER**

A. **Project Updates.** Randy Dowling, County Manager, brought the Board up to date on various projects, as follows:

- (1) **Library.** Construction is on schedule with completion planned for early 2018.
- (2) **Website.** Work is progressing on the new website, which should be up and running soon.
- (3) **SPLOST 14.** The initial checks (the accumulated funds, January's allotment, and February's allotment) have been mailed and received by the municipalities, and they will now begin to receive their pro-rata share each month.
- (4) **Hardage Road.** On track with bidding scheduled this month or next.
- (5) **High-Speed Internet.** Preparation of the necessary agreements involved with this project are underway and will hopefully be before the Board during the next meeting.
- (6) **911 Radio System Improvements.** Results of the assessment evaluation of the 9-1-1 System and CAD findings will be discussed during tonight's meeting.
- (7) **Ellerslie Park.** Bid documents are in the process of being prepared and should be completed soon.

B. **TUSA: Strategic Report of CAD and 9-1-1 Needs Assessment** Randy Dowling, County Manager, introduced Wendy Bradford, of TUSA, who provided a PowerPoint presentation of the needs assessment report regarding the CAD and 9-1-1 System. Ms. Bradford reviewed the report, which included findings and recommendations. Findings included that the county cannot receive data from medical alert systems (i.e. On-Star), cannot provide 9-1-1 services at accepted industry standards, needs a better backup/alternative routing plan, and that the county's generator is approaching end of life. Recommendations included procuring a new telephony 9-1-1 and CAD/GIS MAP system, hire a person or outsource to a third party to clean up and maintain the GIS/MAP data, a fourth dispatch console be added, and make plans to replace the generator.

At this point, Chairman Lange recessed discussion in order to hold the advertised public hearings.

7. **PUBLIC HEARINGS @ 7:30 PM**

A. **Conflict of Interest Forms.** The Conflict of Interest forms were completed at the request of Chairman Lange.

B. **Public Hearing Procedures.** These were not reviewed in light of the fact that action will be taken regarding the request to withdraw both rezoning applications.

C. **Applications of Edgar Hughston Builder, Inc. to Rezone:**

- (1) **155.88 acres** of a 175.06 acre tract on Maps 062 & 067, Parcels 014, 029-017 & 029-018, Land District 18, Land Lot 183, from A-1 (Agricultural & Forestry) to PRD (Planned Residential Development); current use recreation/residential/ farm; proposed use residential lots; property located at 13870 GA Hwy 315, Cataula.
- (2) **19.18 acres** of a 154.16 acre tract on Map 062, Parcel 014, Land District 18, Land Lot 183, from A-1 (Agricultural & Forestry) to R-1 (Single Family Residential); current use recreation/residential farm; proposed use residential lots; property located at 13870 GA Hwy 315, Cataula

Chairman Lange called the Public Hearing to order, announced that a request had been made to withdraw both of applications, closed the Public Hearing, and asked for a motion. The motion to approve the request to withdraw both rezoning applications was made by Commissioner Andrews, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed unanimously.

8. **COUNTY MANAGER (CONTINUED)**

B. **TUSA: Strategic Report of CAD and 9-1-1 Needs Assessment (Continued)** Ms. Bradford continued her review of the assessment by reviewing the cost estimates to update the 9-1-1 telephone system and the CAD/GIS MAP system, which included for the 9-1-1 telephone system \$127,000 to \$217,000 for the system plus \$12,000 to \$20,000 annually for maintenance beginning the second year; for the CAD/GIS MAP system \$80,000 to \$200,000 for the system plus \$15,000 to \$18,000 annually for maintenance beginning the second year. Ms. Bradford said that the first year's maintenance is included with the installation and that some vendors can provide both systems, for which cost estimates are \$260,000 to \$297,000 for the systems plus \$25,000 to \$35,000 annually for maintenance beginning the second year. Following the presentation and discussion, the motion to move forward with the RFP process was made by Commissioner Chewning, seconded by Commissioner Andrews, and passed unanimously.

9. **COUNTY ATTORNEY**

- A. **Agreement w/GDOT: 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 GDOT provides the necessary equipment, tools and vehicle, and pays the County \$39,500, and he recommended approval of same. The motion to approve this agreement was made by Commissioner Woods, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed unanimously. (Document can be found in “Contracts & Agreements” file as C&A #17-12.)
- B. **Maintenance Easement w/GDOT: Passing Lane on SR 103.** John Taylor, County Attorney, said that the Georgia Department of Transportation is adding a passing lane on SR 103 near the Northwest Harris Business Park and a construction and maintenance easement is being requested from the County. He then reviewed the documents and recommended approval of same. The motion to approve the easement was made by Commissioner Langston, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed unanimously. (Document can be found in “Contracts & Agreements” file as C&A #17-13.)

10. **OTHER**

- A. **Request to GDOT: Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons at Callaway Gardens Country Store.** Nancy McMichael, County Clerk, said that when the Radar List was updated, Commissioner Chewning had requested signage near the Callaway Country Store, but the request was not approved by the Georgia Department of Transportation. Mrs. McMichael said that GDOT is willing to install Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs) at the crosswalk at the Callaway Gardens Country Store, which will be solar operated resulting in no monthly electrical cost to the County, but the County has to make the request for same. Following discussion, there were no objections from the Board to submit the request for the RRFBs to GDOT. (Document can be found in “Miscellaneous Documents” file as MD #17-04.)
11. **ADJOURNMENT.** There being no further business to discuss, the motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Chewning,, seconded by Commissioner Woods, and passed unanimously.

J. Harry Lange, Chairman

Attest:

Nancy D. McMichael, County Clerk