

**HARRIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR SESSION**

June 5, 2018  
7:00 P.M.

Commissioners Present: J. Harry Lange, Susan Andrews, Martha Chewning, Becky Langston, Jim Woods. Staff Present: Randy Dowling, County Manager; Mark DeGennaro, Acting County Attorney in the absence of John Taylor, County Attorney; Nancy D. McMichael, County Clerk.

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Chairman Lange called the Regular Session to order. Chairman Lange then introduced Mark DeGennaro as acting County Attorney during John Taylor's absence.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** At the request of Chairman Lange, Commissioner Woods led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **MINUTES.** The motion to approve the minutes of the May 15, 2018, Regular Session, the May 29, 2018 Budget Work Session III, the May 22, 2018 Budget Work Session II, the May 15, 2018 Budget Work Session I, the May 4, 2018 Planning Session, and the April 24 Comprehensive Plan Public Hearing & Kick-off was made by Commissioner Woods, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed unanimously.
4. **APPEARANCE OF CITIZENS**
  - A. **David Gray: Property Values.** David Gray, citizen, was not in attendance.
5. **OLD BUSINESS**
  - A. **Agreement w/Correctional Resource Group: Jail Inmate Food Service.** Chairman Lange said that this was tabled from the May 15 meeting pending research as to whether or not the Sheriff has the authority to enter into such a contract. Mark DeGennaro, acting Attorney, said that the Sheriff does have the authority to enter into contracts for such service and no action is required by the Board.
  - B. **Melody Lake Dam Meeting with Residents.** In response to a question from Commissioner Andrews, Chairman Lange said that once the legal options related to property owners is determined, a public meeting will be scheduled.
6. **NEW BUSINESS**
  - A. **Proclamation: Recognizing Myra Stevens Brown, ABWA District 1 Vice President.** Chairman Lange read the document recognizing Myra Stevens Brown, Harris County citizen, for her service to the American Business Women's Association (ABWA) and proclaiming July 28, 2018, as Myra Stevens Brown Appreciation Day in Atlanta.
  - B. **Valley Partnership Joint Development Authority Quarterly Report & Update.** Brian Anderson, President & CEO of the Columbus Chamber of Commerce, and Brian Sillitto, Executive Vice President of Economic Development for Columbus Chamber of Commerce, appeared before the Board to give an update as to the status of the Valley Partnership Joint Development Authority. Information was distributed and reviewed by Mr. Anderson and Mr. Sillitto. Mr. Anderson reviewed the key objectives of the Columbus 2025 Targeted Economic Growth, and Mr. Sillitto reviewed the prospect activity, which included the Northwest Harris Business Park was recommended to one of the 26 prospective leads. Following discussion, Chairman Lange thanked Mr. Anderson and Mr. Sillitto for their comments.
7. **PUBLIC HEARING @ 7:30 PM**
  - A. **Request to Withdraw the Application of Madeline Condrey to amend the Zoning conditions on 10.43 acres located on Land Lots 47 & 48, Land District 19, Map 045, Parcels 063 & 029C at 78 Mulberry Drive, Cataula, currently zoned C-4 with conditions and properly advertised.** Chairman Lange called the Public Hearing to order, said that the applicant had requested to withdraw application, and that action is needed regarding same. There being no comments, Chairman Lange closed the Public Hearing and asked for a motion. The motion to approve the withdrawal of the application of Madeline Condrey was made

by Commissioner Langston, seconded by Commissioner Woods, and passed unanimously.

8. **NEW BUSINESS (CONTINUED)**

- C. **Financial Statement: March 2018.** The motion to approve the March 2018 financial statement was made by Commissioner Woods and seconded by Commissioner Chewing. Clint Chastain, CFO, appeared before the Board and said that the Department Heads have shown restraint in spending. In response to a question from Chairman Lange, Mr. Chastain said that the implementation of the new accounting software is on schedule and should be completed in September or October. The motion to approved passed unanimously.
- D. **Budget FY 18/19 Public Hearing I.** Chairman Lange called the Public Hearing to order and said that there have been four Budget Work Sessions and several changes have been made to the proposed budget. He asked Clint Chastain, CFO, to review the changes, thus far, to the proposed budget. Mr. Chastain said that the following changes have been made: Community Center - reduce \$12,000 for patio furnishings to \$1,600; Community Center - reduce \$16,000 for fitness equipment to \$8,000; IT - eliminate \$25,000 for courthouse security camera upgrade but add \$5,000 for small equipment; Non-Departmental - eliminate \$33,000 for Valley Partnership Joint Development Authority dues; Probate Court - add \$200 to education and travel, \$700 to dues and fees, and \$3,050 to travel expenses; Public Works - add \$40,000 for a tractor/mower; Recreation - eliminate \$16,000 for portable mounds in small equipment, but add \$16,000 for backstop fencing repairs at Moultrie Park; Solid Waste - add \$54,000 for new scales at Scale House; and SPLOST 2019 - add \$600,100 for first year proceeds. Chairman Lange asked if anyone wished to comment on the proposed budget. There being none, he closed the Public Hearing and said that the second Public Hearing on the FY 18/19 budget will be on June 19 and is scheduled to be followed by adoption of same.
- E. **GRPA Playground Grant Application.** Stephen Waskey, Recreation Director, appeared before the Board to request permission to apply for a \$60,000 playground equipment grant for recreation equipment for Ellerslie Park; that it is a 100% match, with the County to match at \$60,000 plus another \$20,000 for installation, which is not covered by the grant; that a donation to cover the County's \$60,000 match has been obligated with the condition that the equipment is in place and open to the public by the November 1 deadline, which is also the deadline for the grant; that discussion is underway for another donation to cover the \$20,000; and that the deadline to apply for the grant is Friday, June 8. Following discussion, the motion to approve applying for the grant, with donation proceeds to cover the match and installation was made by Commissioner Andrews. Chairman Lange asked that the requirement of monthly progress reports be added to the motion. Commissioner Chewing agreed with Chairman Lange's request, seconded the motion to include his request, and she then requested that if there are not sufficient donations that the balance be taken from SPLOST 2014 funds. Commissioner Andrews amended her motion to include the two requests. The motion passed unanimously.
- F. **Community Center & Recreation Facilities Fee Schedule Revisions.** Stephen Waskey, Recreation Director, appeared before the Board to review his proposed changes to fees related to the Community Center and Recreation Facilities, which included opening the Community Center on Wednesday. Following discussion, which included that cleaning performed by inmates and normally done on Wednesday, could possibly be done before or after hours or on weekends. Commissioner Langston tabled action to the June 19 meeting in order to further review the proposed changes.

9. **COUNTY MANAGER**

- A. **Ambulance Purchase.** Randy Dowling, County Manager, said that with the approval of the 2019 SPLOST, the County will start receiving those funds in April 2019; that included in the first year of the new SPLOST were two ambulances; that because it takes 100-plus days to receive a new ambulance, he requested permission to move forward with the bid, which the Board would have to award, place the order, and borrow the funds from either the General Fund or Solid Waste to pay for the ambulances until the SPLOST proceeds are received. He said that a reimbursement resolution had been prepared to reflect that the SPLOST proceeds would be used to repay the funding source. Following discussion, the motion to approve borrowing from the General Fund to pay for two new ambulances and to approve the

Reimbursement Resolution regarding same and reflecting that reimbursement to the General Fund, but no later than June 30, 2019, and to include interest as may be permissible by law, was made by Commissioner Chewning, seconded by Commissioner Langston, and passed unanimously.

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

- (1) County Radio System. Contact has been made with Diverse Power and discussion is underway.
- (2) Fire Trucks and SPLOST 2014. Funds for the Cataula fire truck will be moved to the FY 18/19 budget.
- (3) Hamilton Business Park Road Improvement. Project is in progress but has been slowed due to recent weather conditions.
- (4) Holland Drive. Attorney is working on the two outstanding deeds, which have title issues.
- (5) Pate Park Playground. Project is in progress.
- (6) Pate Park Tennis Courts. Project is underway and should be completed by late June.
- (7) Reroute Stream for Daesol. Project is out on bid, pre bid conference is scheduled for June 29, bids are due by July 10, award by the Board is tentatively scheduled for July 17, and 90 days for completion from the Notice to Proceed.
- (8) Comprehensive Plan Update. The first meeting, to discuss Needs and Opportunities is scheduled for June 21 from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the new Library.
- (9) SPLOST 2014. Down slightly from last month and same time last year.
- (10) LOST Collection. Down slightly from last month and same time last year.
- (11) Single Family Building Permits. Total of 191 thus far this year, which is well over the 137 for the same time last year.
- (12) Solid Waste. Tonnage is slight above last month and the same time last year; with slightly over 11,000 tons so far this year.

10. **COUNTY ATTORNEY**

A. **Agreement w/Town of Pine Mountain for Inmate Work Detail.** Mark DeGennaro, Acting County Attorney in the absence of John Taylor, County Attorney, briefly reviewed the agreement, which included that it is for an initial one-year term with automatic renewal and a termination clause, and recommended approval of same. Robert Larson, Deputy Warden, said that because Pine Mountain had not sent anyone to attend the training class regarding inmate supervision, the agreement cannot move forward. No action was taken by the Board.

B. **Memorandum of Understanding w/Troup County for Inmate Work Detail.** Mark DeGennaro, Acting County Attorney, briefly reviewed the agreement, to include that it is for a two-month term, and recommended approval of same. Following discussion, which included the possibility of charging a fee for inmate labor and the number of inmates that can be supervised by an individual, Commissioner Woods tabled action to the June 19 meeting.

C. **Agreement Renewal w/OnSolve for CodeRED Service.** Mark DeGennaro, Acting County Attorney, reviewed the renewal agreement and recommended approval of same. The motion to approve this agreement was made by Commissioner Langston, seconded by Commissioner Andrews, and passed unanimously. (Document can be found in "Contracts & Agreements" file as C&A #18-15.)

- D. **Agreements w/New Horizons: Mental Health Center & Harris-Talbot Service Center**. Mark DeGennaro, Acting County Attorney, reviewed the annual agreements, which are identical to the ones approved in previous years, whereby New Horizons pays the County \$500/month/building for use and maintenance in lieu of rent, and recommended approval of same. The motion to approve both agreements was made by Commissioner Woods, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed unanimously. (Documents can be found in “Contracts & Agreements” file as C&A #18-16 (MR Center) and C&A #18-17 (Service Center).)
- E. **Agreement w/Clerk of Superior Court: Technology Funds**. Mark DeGennaro, Acting County Attorney, reviewed the document to include that this agreement is an addendum to an agreement entered into in 2014 regarding the use and retention of certain filing fees by the Clerk of Superior Court; that this addendum covers the filing fees associated with a new State law regarding the eFiling of Court documents; and that he recommended approval of same. The motion to approve was made by Commissioner Chewning, seconded by Commissioner Langston, and passed unanimously. (Document can be found in “Contracts & Agreements” file as C&A #18-18.)
11. **ADJOURNMENT**. There being no further business to discuss, the motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Langston, 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