

**HARRIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION**

April 2, 2019
7:00 P.M.

Commissioners Present: Becky Langston, Andrew Zuerner, Susan Andrews, Rob Grant, J. Harry Lange.
Staff Present: Randy Dowling, County Manager; John Taylor, County Attorney; Nancy D. McMichael, County Clerk.

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Chairman Langston called the Regular Session to order.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** Chairman Langston led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **MINUTES.** The motion to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2019 Regular Session was made by Commissioner Zuerner, seconded by Commissioner Grant, and passed unanimously.
4. **APPEARANCE OF CITIZENS**

A. **Kelly Reynolds: Litter Pick-Up Solutions.** Kelly Reynolds, citizen who lives on Shenandoah Drive in Cataula, appeared before the Board to discuss litter. She said there is an abundance of litter on the roads she travels; that littering fines are unenforceable; that litter deters potential home buyers, ends up in the ocean and affects future generations; that solutions include no longer permitting loose trash in cans, adopting an ordinance creating a “radius of responsibility”, adopting an ordinance for mandatory recycling, and copying the “Utica Blue Bag” method whereby citizens would purchase (from various sources) blue bags (at a cost of \$.95 for small bags and \$1.55 for large bags) in which to put their garbage; as well as having community service workers pick up litter from roadsides on a regular basis, having trash cans placed at high traffic areas, and having cameras in high traffic areas. In response to a question from Chairman Langston, Mrs. Reynolds further explained the “Utica Blue Bag” system to include that the trash collector would only pick up blue bags and no other containers of trash. Chairman Langston thanked Mrs. Reynolds for her comments.

B. **Gary Lowman: Alabama Road Right of Way Issue.** Gary Lowman, citizen who lives on Alabama Road, appeared before the Board to discuss matters pertaining to the right of way on Alabama Road, to include that neighbors have abused his side (the east side) of Alabama Road by parking their vehicles on the right of way; that such problems have been going on for several years; that he maintains the east right of way; that there are plants on the west right of way; that he is requesting a solution to the parking issues perhaps in the form of signage; that he talked to a Georgia Power representative who initially wanted the trees he had planted in the ditch on the right of way removed, but later, after seeing how he takes care of his property, indicated that Georgia Power would have no problems with the trees. Commissioner Zuerner said that he, too, had talked to Georgia Power and got a different answer regarding the trees, but would like to double-check their opinion. In response to questions, Mr. Lowman said that he had recently planted Leland Cypress trees in the ditch and they are in front of his fence.

Mike Brown, Public Works Director, said that he had received a complaint about the trees being planted on the right of way; that Alabama Road has an 80-foot right of way, with 40 feet on either side of the centerline; that he visited the property and found that the fence is about six inches inside the property line but the trees are 17 feet from the edge of pavement; that the trees should not be permitted on the right of way; that while the County has crews to keep road rights of way clear for mowing purposes, there are some roads that do have trees on the right of way but shouldn't and the crews will eventually get to those roads; that if trees or other vegetation is allowed to grow in the right of way, pretty soon there won't be a right of way; and that even though there are roads with trees on the right of way, new growth should not be allowed.

Joe Negrete, Code Enforcement Officer, said that he had also received the complaint about the trees; that he accompanied Mr. Brown to the property; and that there are ordinances prohibiting damage to rights of way and the construction of masonry mailboxes on the right of way. Mr. Brown said that the rights of way are also used for utilities such as power, cable, water, etc.

Mr. Lowman said that he is just looking for a solution to the problem.

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

A. **Second Reading: Application of Marion E. “Buddy” Wallace for Beer & Wine On Premises and Distilled Spirits by the Drink On-Premises at 219 On the Lake, located at 45 Bonnie Drive, Fortson.** Chairman Langston read the specifics of the application and said that it had been recommended for approval by the Sheriff's Office, the Health Department, and the Department of Community Development. Buddy Wallace, applicant, was in attendance at the meeting but had no comments. Chairman Langston asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of or in opposition to the application. There being none, she

said asked for a motion. The motion to approve this application was made by Commissioner Lange, seconded by Commissioner Zuerner, and passed unanimously.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. **Bid Award: Airport Runway & Taxiway Crack Seal and Remarking.** Chairman Langston said that this project is in the approved budget with funding from the Airport Enterprise Fund and that bids were received for the Airport Runway & Taxiway Crack Seal and Remarking on March 27. The bids were:

Hasco, Inc. Summerfield, NC	Axtell's Inc. Jermyn, PA	Remac, Inc. Freeman, VA	JJ Cunningham, LLC Shavertown, PA
\$ 63,745.45	\$ 96,927.50	\$ 99,791.47	\$ 131,433.50

Chairman Langston said that Pond & Co., airport consultant, reviewed the bids and has recommended the award be made to Hasco for the low bid of \$63,745.45; that the project cost breakdown is zero Federal funds, \$47,809.09 State funds, and \$15,936.36 Local funds; and that once Hasco has been provided the Notice to Proceed, the project is to be completed within 30 days. Christine Schultz, with Pond & Co., said that she had nothing to add to the explanation of the bid. The motion to award the bid to Hasco for the low bid of \$63,745.45 and to authorize execution of the related agreements and documents by the appropriate individuals was made by Commissioner Lange, seconded by Commissioner Grant, and passed unanimously.

- B. **Bid Award: Airport Fencing, Phase II.** Chairman Langston said that this project is in the approved budget with funding from the Airport Enterprise Fund and that bids were received for the Airport Fencing, Phase II, project on March 27. The bids were:

Piedmont Paving, Inc. Newnan, GA	Peed Bros, Inc. Butler, GA	Long Fence Co., Inc. Cantilly, VA	McCall Commercial Fencing Gray, TN	Pride Contracting, Inc. Bailey, NC	South East Mowing, LLC Blountville, TN
\$ 567,327.50	\$ 575,151.00	\$ 653,395.00	\$ 678,484.00	\$ 723,720.00	\$ 847,605.00

Chairman Langston said that Pond & Co., airport consultant, reviewed the bids and has recommended the award be made to Piedmont Paving for the low bid of \$567,327.50; that the project cost breakdown is \$211,225.01 Federal funds, \$261,209.51 State funds, and \$94,892.98 Local funds; and that once Piedmont Paving has been provided the Notice to Proceed, the project is to be completed within 120 days. Christine Schultz, with Pond & Co., in response to questions, said that this will completed the Airport fencing and as few trees as possible will be removed from the two areas for which easements are required. The motion to award the bid to Piedmont Paving for the low bid of \$567,327.50 and to authorize execution of the related agreements and documents by the appropriate individuals was made by Commissioner Lange, seconded by Commissioner Andrews, and passed unanimously.

- C. **Resolution: Authorization to Accept GDOT Contract Costs Associated with the Airport Perimeter Security Fencing (Airport Fencing, Phase II) and Runway & Taxiway Crack Seal and Remarking.** The motion to approve the Resolution setting out the reimbursement of costs associated with the two projects was made by Commissioner Lange, seconded by Commissioner Andrews, and passed unanimously.

7. **COUNTY MANAGER**

- A. **Project Updates.** Randy Dowling, County Manager, reviewed various projects, as follows:

- (1) Resurfacing of Lower Blue Springs Road and Barnes Mill Road. Currently underway with expected completion in May.
- (2) Road Striping Bid. Project has been completed with final payment being processed.
- (3) Repair Fencing/Backstops at Moultrie Park. Improvements are in progress.
- (4) Ellerslie Park. As a result of the March 3 tornado, the park's development has been delayed indefinitely and it has been used as a storm debris disposal site. Discussion regarding the need to close the park to prevent further depositing of inert storm debris took place with the consensus being to do so as of midnight on Sunday, April 14, 2019. Conspicuous signs are to be posted at the park as well as appropriate notices on the County's website and in the newspaper.
- (5) Rails to Trails. Received notification of funding; project to be bid out in June, awarded in July, and completed by December 2019.
- (6) Airport Security & Wildlife Fence, Phase II. Bid award made previously during tonight's meeting.

- (7) Airport Crack Seal & Runway Remarking. Bid award made previously during tonight's meeting.
- (8) Airport Open House. Event will occur May 4; flyers are being distributed. Mr. Dowling thanked Lynda Dawson, who was in the audience, for spearheading this event.
- (9) Scrap Tire Amnesty Event. Event occurs April 20 and 27; flyers are being distributed.
- (10) Comprehensive Master Plan Update. Update will be on the April 16 agenda for approval.
- (11) Daesol Stream Reroute. Project has been delayed due to weather, but is now on track to be completed in 30 to 45 days.
- (12) Clear and Grub 35+/- acres in Northwest Harris Business Park. Bid has been prepared with bids due April 18, and a called meeting will be necessary to award the bid either the afternoon of April 18 or 19.
- (13) Prison Replacement Locking System. Project should be finished by the end of this month.
- (14) Community Center Plaque. In response to a question, Mr. Dowling said that the plaque for the Community Center has been ordered and is being paid for by the architect and general contract of the facility.

8. **COUNTY ATTORNEY.**

- A. **Request for Executive Session**. John Taylor, County Attorney, said there is a need for an Executive Session for the purpose of discussing potential, pending or threatened litigation.
9. **RECESS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**. The motion to go into Executive Session for the purposing of discussing potential, pending or threatened litigation was made at 7:51 PM by Commissioner Andrews, seconded by Commissioner Grant, and passed unanimously.
10. **RECONVENE REGULAR SESSION**. The motion to go back into Regular Session was made at 8:15 PM by Commissioner Andrews, seconded by Chairman Langston, and passed unanimously.
11. **ADJOURNMENT**. There being no further business to discuss the motion to adjourn was made by Chairman Langston, seconded by Commissioner Lange, and passed unanimously.

Becky Langston, Chairman

Attest:

Nancy D. McMichael, County Clerk