

# LAMAR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Business Meeting Minutes

April 19th, 2016

7:00 P.M

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. on April 19th, 2016. Present for the meeting were Chairman Glass, Vice-Chairman Thrash, Commissioner Horton, Commissioner Heiney, Commissioner Baker, County Administrator Zellner, County Clerk Davidson, and County Attorney Scott Mayfield.

## **I. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.**

Everyone said the pledge of allegiance. Mrs. Sherry Farr of the Lamar County Health Department gave the invocation.

## **II. Recess for Public Hearing**

Chairman Glass recessed for a Public Hearing regarding Special Exception 2016-01-Drug and Alcohol Rehab Facility.

## **III. Reconvene Regular Agenda**

Chairman Glass reconvened the regular meeting at approximately 7:26 p.m.

## **IV. Agenda Approval**

Commissioner Horton made a motion to approve the agenda and Commissioner Heiney seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **V. Minutes Approval**

Vice-Chairman Thrash made a motion to approve the following minutes with no changes. Commissioner Heiney seconded the motion.

- i. Workshop Meeting-March 10th, 2016
- ii. Regular Business Meeting-March 15th, 2016
- iii. Workshop Meeting-March 31st, 2016

Commissioner Baker requested that on the March 10th, 2016 minutes a change be made to the Animal Shelter project from \$425,000.00 to \$450,000.00. Vice-Chairman Thrash amended her motion to approve the minutes with the change to the March 10th, 2016 minutes. Commissioner Baker seconded the motion. Commissioner Heiney then requested that a typo on the March 10th, 2016 minutes listed as three billion dollars for roads be changed to three million dollars. Vice-Chairman Thrash withdrew her amended motion and made another amended motion to note both changes in the March 10th, 2016 minutes. The March 31st minutes already stated \$450,000.00 for the animal shelter therefore the amended motion will allow both the March 10th, 2016 and the March 31st,

2016 minutes to match. Vice-Chairman Thrash made a motion to approve the minutes with the two changes to the March 10th, 2016 minutes. Commissioner Baker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **VI. Proclamations**

1. Vice-Chairman Thrash presented the Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation declaring April as the Child Abuse Month. The proclamation was presented to the Department of Family and Children Services Director Ulanda Barkley, Charles Taylor, the Board Chairman for the Department of Family and Children Services, Office Manager, Christy Holliman, Tamera Copeland, Case Manager, Danielle Banks, Case Manager, and Teresa Allen, Social Services Supervisor. Ms. Barkley shared with the citizens that the 55 blue pin wheels on the Lamar County Courthouse lawn represents 55 cases of child abuse and neglect that are in Lamar County.
2. Chairman Glass read a Proclamation declaring April as Donate Life Month. The proclamation affirms that Lamar County supports the life-saving mission of LifeLink of Georgia and honors all those in Lamar County who have made the decision to give the gift of life. The proclamation focuses attention on the extreme need for organ, eye and tissue donation and encourages all residents to take action and sign up on Georgia's Donor Registry to discuss the miracle of transplantation as a family and to make a family commitment to organ, eye and tissue donation.

## **VII. Lamar County Health Department Presentation**

Sherry Farr, director of the Lamar County Health Department gave an annual report to the board. Mrs. Farr shared with the board that from 2015 to 2016 the state wide ranking out of 159 counties have improved from 85 to 68. The Lamar County Health Department provides medical and dental services to over 2500 people. The Lamar County Health Department has partnered with Morehouse Medical regarding preventive care for HIV, Hepatitis Hypertension and Diabetics. There are many socioeconomic factors but they have made a lot of progress. Mrs. Farr spoke on the operating budget for the health department and where their typical funding comes from. The Georgia Grant in Aid (GGIA) supports them with 20 to 40 percent, the County gives 20 to 40 percent and the fees for services provides 20 to 50 percent of the funding, which can be variable. The GGIA funding chart from 2011 to 2015 climbed from \$138,091.00 to \$182,744.00. The funding chart for Lamar County from 2011 to 2015 started at \$108,958.00 and dropped to \$100,000 each year from 2012-to 2015. The Lamar County Health Department Fee Income/ Expenses from 2011 to 2015 has dropped in the last five years leaving only one billable nurse for services. The cuts from the county and the state continue to make it hard for them to deliver quality services. The goal for 2016 is to deliver quality services, pilot the Telehealth, continue toward increased revenue and improve their facilities. The district wide goal is to obtain public accreditation and identify strengths and weaknesses. Mrs. Farr invited the board to their next board meeting on May 19th, 2016 at the College & Career Academy.

**VIII. Georgia Emergency Management-Statewide Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement**

Commissioner Horton made a motion to approve the Georgia Emergency Management Statewide Mutual Aid and Assistance Grant. Vice-Chairman Thrash seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**IX. Right of Way Permit from Rock Springs C.M. Church**

County Administrator Zellner reported that Lamar County had received a request from Rock Springs C.M. church for the purpose of improving their sewer system. Rock Springs C.M church is building a new building on their complex which will involve transferring and plumbing their sewer line to a drain field up the road. They will need to go approximately 1,400 ft. on the county right of way property. County Administrator Zellner stated that he recently met with the Scanlon Engineer and they also will be meeting with the City of Barnesville because of the water system that is already in place. County Administrator Zellner stated that they all reviewed the plans and as far as the county is concerned there are no issues and recommends that the permit be approved. County Administrator Zellner stated that there are other utilities on the right of way; fiber optic utilities and a water line.

County Administrator Zellner said that will be indemnified if they mess up and that is the purpose of the permit. County Administrator Zellner reported that a permit from the Health Department had not been acquired as far as approval of their plans but as soon as they give them the application they will receive the permit from the Health Department. County Administrator Zellner emphasized that the permit will state that the county will not be held liable. Commissioner Heiney made a motion to approve the request for a permit to install approximately 1,400 LF of 4” Class 150 DR 18 PVC forcemain pipe located within the easterly right of way of Chappell Mill Road. Vice-Chairman Thrash seconded the motion but requested that an amendment to the motion be made. The amendment adds verbiage about holding the county harmless to the permit and that the permit be reviewed and approved by the County Attorney. The motion passed unanimously.

**X. Special Exception 2016-01-Drug and Alcohol Rehab Facility**

Vice-Chairman Thrash made a motion to table the Special Exception 2016-01-Drug and Alcohol Rehab Facility until the Regular Business meeting in May. Commissioner Baker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**XI. Personnel Policy-Ordinance 2016-01**

Commissioner Baker made a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance 2016-01 amending Chapter 2-2 of the Lamar County, Georgia Code of Ordinances entitled “Administration” deleting Section 2-2-51 entitled “Personnel Policies and Procedures Handbook” in its entirety and adopting the Lamar County Personnel Policy

for all of the employees of Lamar County. Commissioner Horton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **XII. Financial Update**

County Administrator Zellner gave an update as to the amount of money borrowed on the Tax Anticipation Note (TAN). As of to date, \$ 1,201,930.10 has been borrowed from the TAN. At the end of March, the county has received 14.33 percent of the projected revenues and the county has spent 25.84 percent of the proposed expenditure budget. County Administrator Zellner said that the county is on target and hopefully will finish up in the black.

## **XIII. Administrator's Report**

County Administrator Zellner gave an Administrator's Report as follows.

- a) Reported that the County received \$50,000 from the Georgia Department of Transportation from the 2015 Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant (LMIG) Emergency Funds. The funds were used to make repairs from the damages to several roads including Ingram Road, Yancey Road, Turner Bridge Road, Oliver Road, MatBeth Road, Willis Road and Industrial Drive. This is due to the December, 2015 Rain Floods. All of the repairs have been completed except for pouring concrete on Industrial Drive and today they are working on replacing the cross drain on Willis Road. The total cost has been calculated and comes to \$65,886.79. The cost does not include the concrete for Industrial Drive.
- b) Reported that contracts to six paving companies have been mailed out and advertised in the local paper for the bidding of the 2016 LMIG projects. A pre-bid meeting will be held on April 21st 2016 at 3:00 p.m. with the deadline of May 13th, 2016 to receive the bids. The bids will be opened at 3:00 p.m. and then the total values of the bids will be read. The recommendations for the board to approve and award the bid will be at the May 17th Regular Business meeting.
- c) Met with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and were declared a disaster from December 22nd, 2015 to January 13th, 2016. FEMA discussed the disaster and went over the application reviewing the spreadsheets with the data that has been compiled. FEMA made a couple of site visits on the roads that we have repaired.
- d) Gave an update on Cauthen Road reported that the pipe that was washed out on April 1st, 2016 has been replaced. The road was closed and the Fire Department was notified. The appropriate companies were called to locate the utilities on the road. A 6 ft. pipe was ordered and the repairs were made on April 8th, 2016 for a total cost, including material and labor, of \$9,497.44.
- e) Reported that Recreation Director Lanier and he attended the mandatory workshop with the Department of Natural Resource (DNR) and gave them

a formal application for a grant. This is the second phase in the process of receiving a \$100,000.00 land and water conservation matching grant. Submitted the application to the State and the grants were scored. Lamar County came in high enough to receive the Federal grant. Once the paperwork is complete the State will then submit the application for Lamar County to the Department of Interior. The funds will be awarded late this fall. This is a 50 percent match and SPLOST funds will be used for the county portion. The work on the master plan for the park on Hwy 36 has begun.

- f) Reported that several issues with water drainage and water run off on county roads and residents are wanting to help with this problem. Because of the water running off of the county right of way, there is nothing that can be done. A suggestion has been made for having those issues resolved on a case by case basis. This suggestion includes having the drainage easement drawn up allowing the property owners to donate their easement to the county giving the county the authority to maintain that portion of the easement. Several residents have reported water was running off the road and going into their wells and mudding up the wells and they are still having problems with flooding on their property.
- g) Reported that there has been more discussion regarding the Crawford and Johnstonville Road intersection. County Administrator Zellner and Public Works Director Rigdon visited the intersection and made some notes. Reported that he is reviewing prices from the company that the radar sign was purchased from and is in the process of reviewing prices on flashing signs to show that this is as a dangerous intersection.
- h) Received an email from Sherry Farr, Director of the Lamar County Health Department concerning the dental clinic and the food bank.

#### **XIV. Public Comments**

Beverly Eskridge of 130 Holmes Street addressed the board with news from the Humane Society regarding the brick orders and reported that she had a former resident of Lamar County purchase 36 bricks. Reported that they took dogs to a company out of Newnan called H.E.L.P. to spay and neuter cats and dogs. Ms. Eskridge stated that she does animal rescue and she recently rescued a lady and a cat that was at the local Family Dollar. She arranged for the cat to be adopted and for the lady to receive shelter at the Barnesville Motel and breakfast at Hardees. Ms. Eskridge also arranged for the homeless lady to obtain shelter at a place in Griffin, Georgia called "Higher Calling". Higher Calling, Inc. is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit Christian organization, with public charity status, that endeavors to reduce homelessness in a community.

Stan Boseman of 138 Trice Road addressed the board with his concerns about the Special Exception 2016-01-Drug and Alcohol Rehab Facility. Mr. Boseman stated that this facility is not the best idea because there are two houses that will house both men and women. Mr. Boseman requested that he and the residents be

notified of the re-zoning/special exception so that he and the others in the community are aware of this. Mr. Boseman stated that he heard about the special exception from his neighbor Karen Stanfield. Mr. Boseman stated that Ms. Stanfield is about 300 ft. from the property. Vice-Chairman Thrash reported that the next planning and zoning meeting would be held on May 11th, 2016.

**XV. Round Table**

Commissioner Horton thanked all those that came to the meeting because they were concerned about their community.

Commissioner Baker stated that Vice-Chairman Thrash, himself and Fred Morris all toured the animal shelter in Tocca, Georgia. The Georgia Corrections inmates built the shelter and they were impressed with the facility. Commissioner Baker stated that this is the type of facility that he would be proud to have in Lamar County.

Chairman Glass said that the BBQ and Blues festival is this upcoming weekend and invited everyone to the event.

**XVI. Adjournment and Executive Session**

Commissioner Baker made a motion to adjourn the meeting and go into executive session to discuss litigation and personnel at approximately 8:20 p.m. Vice-Chairman Thrash seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Board adjourned the executive session at approximately 9:05 p.m. with no action taken. Commissioner Horton made a motion to adjourn the Regular Business meeting at 9:07 p.m. and Vice-Chairman Thrash seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

THE LAMAR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Charles Glass, Chairman

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Nancy Thrash, Vice-Chairman

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Bennie Horton, Commissioner

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Robert Heiney, Commissioner

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Van Baker, Commissioner

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Carlette Davidson, County Clerk