

LAMAR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Commissioner Meeting Minutes
July 19th, 2011
7:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Matthews called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m. Present for the meeting was Chairman Matthews, Vice-Chairman Hearn, Commissioner Horton, Commissioner Glass, Commissioner Thrash, Financial Analyst Davidson and Attorney Scott Mayfield.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by everyone. Rev. Ken Page of from Impact Christian Ministries gave the invocation.

III. Approval of Agenda

Chairman Matthews requested that the agenda be approved. Commissioner Hearn made the motion to approve the agenda and Commissioner Horton seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

IV. Discussions

Ordinance-2: 911 Change on Pre-paid Wireless Transactions-2nd Reading- The General Assembly passed a change as to how 911 fees are collected from a pre-paid wireless carrier and as a result ACCG has created a model ordinance for counties to adopt. The counties get to keep the proceeds collected otherwise the proceeds go straight to the state general funds. Commissioner Thrash made a motion to pass Ordinance-2 as presented in the 2nd reading. Commissioner Hearn seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0.

Ordinance-3: Senior Citizens Advisory-1st Reading-This ordinance is created to amend Chapter 2-2 of the Lamar County Code of Ordinances entitled "administration" to amend article V entitled "boards, commissions and authorities, to create a new division 6 entitled "Senior Citizens Advisory Board" to repeal conflicting ordinances. The board shall consist of five (5) members and shall be appointed each year and serve a term of four years. The Board shall elect one member to serve as Chairman of the Board and another member to serve as Vice-Chairman. Commissioner Horton made a motion to approve the 1st reading of Ordinance-3 and Commissioner Glass seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

Minutes Approval

Commissioner Hearn made a motion to approve the following minutes and Commissioner Horton seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

- Regular Business Meeting June 28th, 2011
- Budget Workshop Meeting June 27th, 2011

- Workshop Meeting Minutes July 7th, 2011
- Special Called Meeting July 11th, 2011

V. Public Comments

Joyce Farmer of Yatesville Rd, Barnesville voiced her opinion in regards to the tax increase vs. the Fire and Ambulance fee system. She further voiced her concerns about the Recreation Department cuts and others not being cut such as the Health Department and the Senior Center. She also stated she heard that Constitutional Officers could not have cuts to their budgets and Chairman Matthews interceded with the fact that Constitutional Officers are given a bottom line budget to work with. Citizen Farmer was under the impression that there would be a Fire and Ambulance collection as well as a millage increase. Chairman Matthews explained that there would not be a 2011 Fire and Ambulance collection and that the millage increase would actually be less to most of the average tax payers than the Fire and Ambulance fee. Chairman Matthews also stated that those that had not paid their 2010 Fire and Ambulance fee were still responsible and about 200,000.00 parcels were still to be collected on.

Beverly Eskridge of Holmes Street, Barnesville reminded the Commissioners that the Youth Programs at the Recreation Department may be the only Adult interaction the kids would have. She also addressed the Commissioners with what problematic issues such as what happens to those that don't pay the Fire and Ambulance fee. She requested that the Commissioners look at further ways to cut costs such as employee insurance cuts and furlough days. Eskridge also gave a human society monthly report to the Commissioners.

Julia Heidbrink of Hwy 36 West, Barnesville, Ga. urged the Commissioners' to find some way to hold the line and not go up on the millage rate.

VI. Round Table

Commissioner Horton stated he agreed with Farmer in regards to the Fire and Ambulance fee and that those 2010 fees would be collected.

Commissioner Glass stated that the Commissioners had aggressively worked to cut the budget line item by line item and if anyone wanted to see these cuts they should have come to the Budget Workshops.

Commissioner Hearn stated that they are not doing away with the Recreation Department but there were cuts to the budget. He stressed that the parents have to get more involved in program activities by having fund raisers to support the teams.

Commissioner Thrash also stated that the fund raisers would make the kids more responsible as this would help them to not expect something but to work for something. She also stated that there had been cuts to the Senior Center budget but many State Programs actually fund the Senior Center.

VII. Executive Sessions and Adjournment

Commissioner Horton made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel at approximately 9:15 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hearn and passed

unanimously. The Chairman and the Commissioners returned out of executive session at approximately 9:45 p.m. and adjourned the meeting.

THE LAMAR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Jay Matthews, Chairman

Jimmy Hearn, Vice-Chairman

Bennie Horton, Member

Charles Glass, Member

Nancy M. Thrash-Member

Attest:

Carlette Davidson, County Clerk