

LAMAR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Commissioner Meeting Minutes
May 15th, 2012
7:00 P.M.

I. Call to Order

Present for the meeting was Chairman Matthews, Vice-Chairman Thrash, Commissioner Horton, Commissioner Glass, Commissioner Hearn, County Administrator Zellner, Financial Analyst Davidson and Attorney Mayfield.

Chairman Matthews called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Josh Moore from Lamar County Comprehensive High school led the Pledge of Allegiance. Moore called on Commissioner Horton to give the invocation.

Vice-Chairman Thrash introduced a group of students from Lamar County Comprehensive High School who are interested in Local Government. Vice-Chairman Thrash also introduced the Guidance Counselor, Holly Cantrel, who organized the group for tonight's meeting. Each student introduced themselves as follows.

- 1) Zatonia Thrash-Senior- Plans to join the United States Air Force
- 2) Rudy Tyus-Senior- Plans to join the United States Air Force
- 3) Joshua Moore- Junior-Plans to attend Gordon and then Georgia Southern
- 4) Brittany Marrero-Sophomore-Plans to go into law and work with child malpractice
- 5) Ravon Elam-Sophomore-Plans to go to college and study civil engineering or international business.

III. Approval of Agenda

Chairman Matthews welcomed everyone and requested that the agenda be amended with the addition of the 2nd Reading-Ordinance 2012-03-Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance and the Surplus of a 1997 Ford Taurus belonging to the Magistrate Court. Commissioner Horton made the motion to approve the agenda with the addition to the agenda and Vice-Chairman Thrash seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

IV. Minutes Approval

Chairman Matthews called for the approval of the following minutes.

- i. April 12th, 2012 –Workshop Meeting
- ii. April 17th, 2012-Regular Board Meeting

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

V. Ordinances

a) Ordinance 2012-03

Chairman Matthews called for a motion to approve the 2nd Reading of Ordinance 2012-03 amending the Zoning Ordinance of Lamar County, Georgia to allow only one reading for re-zonings as an exception to two readings for ordinance changes. Commissioner Glass made a motion to accept the 2nd reading of Ordinance 2012-03 amending the Zoning Ordinance. Vice-Chairman Thrash seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

b) Ordinance 2012-04

Chairman Matthews called for a motion to deny the Ordinance 2012-04 Emergency Management. Commissioner Horton made a motion to deny the 2nd reading of Ordinance 2012-04 Emergency Management and Vice-Chairman Thrash seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

c) Ordinance 2012-05

Chairman Matthews called for a motion to approve Ordinance 2012-05 which dissolves the Senior Center Advisory Board from being under the County Commissioners authority. Vice-Chairman Thrash made a motion to pass the 2nd Reading of Ordinance 2012-05 dissolving the Senior Center Board and Vice-Chairman Hearn seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

VI. Discussions

a) Beer & Wine License

Commissioner Glass made a motion to approve the Beer and Wine License for C& B Convenience Store and Commissioner Horton seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

b) Conservation Use Refund

Commissioner Hearn made a motion to approve the Conservation Use Refund to Gary and Marion Sears. The refund amount for 2010 tax year will be \$723.02 and the refund amount for 2011 tax year will be \$ 778.28. Vice-Chairman Thrash seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

d) Purchase Road Paving Equipment

Vice-Chairman Thrash made a motion to approve the purchase of a Chip Spreader and Tar Distributor from TEC for the total 60 month pay out amount of \$307,535.60 with an

interest rate of 2.39% for five years. Commissioner Horton seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

e) Open Records-Appointment of Custodian

Vice-Chairman Thrash made a motion to appoint the Office of County Attorney as the Custodian for Open Records. Commissioner Hearn seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

f) Surplus 1997 Ford Taurus –Magistrate Court

Commissioner Horton made a motion to surplus the 1997 Ford Taurus belonging to the Magistrate Court and Commissioner Glass seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

VII. Public Comments

- a) Beverly Eskridge of 138 Holmes Street Barnesville, Georgia addressed the Chairman and the Commissioners with an update on the Human Society. Eskridge reported that in the month of May, Joyce Farmer had transported 7 animals to Fort Valley to be spayed and neutered. The weekend of May 4th and 5th was Pet Adoption week at Pet Smart in Macon, Georgia. Farmer and Eskridge went both days. Eskridge stated that the Human Society had participated in the Great Day of Service this past weekend. Farmer took animals to the Ritz Park while Eskridge and Lynda Lee weeded and replaced pine straw outside of the City's animal shelter. Lamar County Elementary students walked the dogs at the shelter. Eskridge thanked the City of Barnesville and Animal Control Officers, especially William Perdue and Thomas Holder, for allowing them to work at the Shelter. Eskridge reported that this Thursday is kill day at the Animal Shelter. Eskridge requested that the Commissioners spread the word that there are good animals to be adopted.
- b) Jere Moore of Rose Avenue, Barnesville, Georgia addressed the Chairman and the Commissioners stating that he appreciated the opportunity to speak to the Commissioners because in other countries people don't have the opportunity to do this. He took the opportunity to thank the Chairman and the Commissioners for their service to the county. He thanked the Chairman and the Commissioners for denying the Emergency Management Ordinance. Moore said, "We have been warned to not give up on Liberty for a sense of security" and read a list to the Chairman and the Commissioners. Moore stated that over the past years much has been forced on the American people. Moore read a list to the Chairman and the Commissioners including the Patriot Act in the name of 9/11, suspension of free speech, suspension of due process, suspension of Habeas Corpus, warrantless wire taps, self-written search warrants, and a rise from liberty detention without due process. Moore said, "The Feds could come in and take every one of us" and no one would ever know what happened except for God a few federal agents. He stated that the County should have clean hands so they can stand between us and the Federal Government. He stated that what we don't need is for our county to partner with the Federal

Government. The Emergency Management Ordinance would have given the County the authority to suspend the sale of fire arms, gasoline, and diesel fuel if an Emergency was declared by the County or the State. Moore stated that this is not the first Ordinance we will see and he predicts more Ordinances of this type to be seen. He concluded by thanking the Commissioners for denying the Emergency Management Ordinance.

- c) James Brown 149 Main Street, Milner, Georgia thanked the Chairman and the Commissioners for denying the Emergency Management Ordinance and encouraged everyone to maintain vigilance. Brown stated that if it would not have been for the Bill of Rights that was added to the Constitution the Constitution would never have been accepted by the American people or by the Patriots who fought in the American Revolution. Brown encouraged the Chairman and the Commissioners to continue to oppose any aspect which would grant individual or a group of individuals the power to make void my Bill of Rights.

VIII. Round Table

Commissioner Horton thanked the Lamar County High School Students and encouraged the young people to stay in the books. He told the students that if they make a career in Government that they could go all the way to the Senate, the Governor's office and even to the United States President.

Commissioner Glass thanked the Lamar County High School students for coming. He stated that it gives him faith for the future of America. Glass shared three upcoming community events to the public.

- 1) Blood drive Thursday at First Baptist Church from 2-7 p.m.
- 2) Twist of Fate- to celebrate the anniversary of the Tornado.
- 3) T-SPLOST town hall meeting on May 24th, 2012.

Commissioner Hearn also thanked the Lamar County High School students for coming.

Vice-Chairman Thrash thanked the Lamar County High School students for coming. She stated they did a great job and she too has faith in the future when we have students such as these moving forward. Vice-Chairman Thrash gave condolences to the family in the loss of former Commissioner Gene Hardwick.

Chairman Matthews thanked the Lamar County High School students for coming and echoed Vice-Chairman Thrash. The Chairman stated that without citizens Government does not work. The Chairman thanked everyone for coming.

IX. Adjournment

Chairman Matthews called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Horton made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Hearn seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

THE LAMAR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Jay Matthews, Chairman

Nancy Thrash, Vice-Chairman

Bennie Horton, Member

Charles Glass, Member

Jimmy Hearn-Member

Attest:

Robert Zellner, County Administrator