

LAMAR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Commissioner Meeting Minutes
March 15th, 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.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by everyone. Commissioner gave the invocation.

III. Approval of Agenda

Chairman Matthews requested that the agenda be amended with the motion to change the Proclamation from Drug Task Force to Ice Team and to remove Three Rivers Commission from the Board Appointments. Commissioner Hearn made the motion to amend the agenda and Commissioner Glass seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

IV. Presentation of Proclamation's

Commissioner Thrash presented Sheriff Waller and the Interstate Criminal Enforcement (ICE) Team with a Proclamation to express Lamar County's gratitude for their outstanding service and for risking their lives to make Lamar County safe.

V. Discussions

A. Bright from the Start: Summer Food Program

Mrs. Roberta P. Jones shared with the commissioner's information about the Summer Feeding Program. This is a Grant whereby The Board of Commissioners has sponsored this program for over 20 years feeding around 350 children that are 18 or under lunch and supper during the summer months. Those children eligible for the program qualify for free and reduced meals within the public school system. The Board of Commissioners office maintains the financial and payroll records and all monies are reimbursed from the Georgia Department of Early Care

and Learning Department. Commissioner Horton made the motion to approve the program and Commissioner Hearn seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

B. Board Appointments

Commissioner Glass motioned to re-appoint Billy McAllister to the Board of Appeals and Commissioner Thrash seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0. Commissioner Horton motioned to appoint Patsy Mann to the Department of Human Services (DHS) due to the resignation of Sidney F. Cheatham. Commissioner Hearn seconded the motion and the motion passed 4-0. Chairman Matthews shared with the citizens present that there are at least five vacancies on the senior center board that need to be filled. Senior Center Department head Marsha Clark urged anyone that is interested in helping with policy and procedures to contact her to discuss becoming a member of the board.

C. Three Rivers-TSPLOST County Projects

Missy Kendrick with the Industrial Authority shared a presentation on State Route 36 improvements. Ms. Kendrick addressed the commissioners with a list of projects requiring official action. Ms. Kendrick presented an overview of all the roads that would be affected by the project and explained how the improvements would impact the county. Commissioner Hearn made the motion to approve the projects presented and Commissioner Horton seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

D. Building Permit Fees

Chairman Matthews brought to the table discussion on the building permit fees charged for barns, poll barns, and other types of structures on properties. Wimpy Vaughn from Building and Zoning addressed the commissioners with questions that they had concerning the fees. Commissioner Hearn motioned to table until they could determine if a resolution and/ or an ordinance needs to be written to change the building permit fees. Commissioner Thrash seconded and the motion passed 4-0.

VI. Approval of Minutes

Chairman Matthews called for a motion to approve the regular business meeting minutes dated February 15th, 2011 and the workshop meeting minutes dated March 2nd, 2011. Commissioner Horton motioned to approve and Commissioner Thrash seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

VII. Public Comments

Beverly Eskridge of Holmes Street, Barnesville gave a monthly report from the human society. She shared with the commissioners that the Human Society is a Pet Smart partner and will participate with them during the Cherry Blossom Festival in Macon, Ga. Ms. Eskridge reminded all of the citizens to get their pets spade or neutered.

VIII. Round Table

Commissioner Horton shared with the citizens his feelings toward stealing and stated that with state reporting and disclosures that it would be almost impossible to do this. He urged the citizens to give the commissioners a chance and not listen to everything that they hear.

Commissioner Glass shared that Enercon has closed on their property and completed their loan and is also hiring. Also, PGP is on schedule and are expecting a boiler and other equipment in the fall. They brought in 52 people from Texas and everyone else that has been hired is local from surrounding counties. We are looking into improving the website and we've been trying to find an intern that could be funded through the state colleges. One candidate for the position is Mr. Gage Faulkner, from Lamar County High School, who is very good with databases and web design and is bringing a proposal to the commissioners in the near future.

Commissioner Hearn stated that the commissioners are still working on the fire and ambulance fee system and will continue to research the fairest way to charge the citizens.

Commissioner Thrash asked everyone to keep in her in their prayers as she will undergo major heart surgery in the coming weeks.

IX. Adjournment and Executive Session

Chairman Matthews made a motion to go into executive session to discuss litigation and personnel at approximately 7:50 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Thrash and passed unanimously. The Chairman and the Commissioners returned out of executive session at approximately 8:39 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, Financial Analyst