

LAMAR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Commissioner Meeting Minutes
February 17th, 2015
7:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Charles Glass called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m. Present for the meeting was Vice-Chairman Van Baker, Commissioner Bennie Horton, Commissioner Nancy Thrash, Commissioner Robert Heiney, County Administrator Robert Zellner, County Clerk Carlette Davidson and County Attorney Scott Mayfield.

II. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

The pledge of allegiance was said by everyone. Sandra Puckett gave the invocation.

III. Recess for Public Hearing

Commissioner Heiney made a motion to recess for a Public Hearing on Hazard Mitigation Planning. Vice-Chairman Baker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Reconvene Regular Meeting

Commissioner Heiney made a motion to reconvene the regular business meeting and Commissioner Thrash seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Agenda Approval

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

VI. Minutes Approval

Commissioner Thrash made a motion to approve the January 20th, 2015 Regular Business Meeting Minutes and the January 29th, 2015 Special Called Meeting Minutes. Vice-Chairman Baker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Proclamation-Black History Month

Commissioner Horton presented a Proclamation to the Lamar County NAACP declaring February as Black History Month.

VIII. Hazard Mitigation Plan

Commissioner Thrash made a motion to table the vote on the Hazard Mitigation Plan until a later date. Commissioner Horton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. Award Contract for Public Works Facility

Vice-Chairman Baker made a motion to approve the bid with Universal Steel for a contract price of \$63,737.00. Commissioner Thrash seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Horton made a motion to approve the bid with Mid-Ga Door for a contract price of \$9,287.43. Commissioner Heiney seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

X. Board Appointment-Board of Appeals

Commissioner Horton made a motion to approve Aaron Brown to fill the unexpired term of Ms. Tricia Henry which will expire in July of 2015. The term is for a period of 3 years. Commissioner Thrash seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

XI. Beer and Wine License

Commissioner Thrash made a motion to table the vote on the Beer and Wine License for C&B Convenience Store until further review. Vice-Chairman Baker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

XII. Beverly Eskridge-Hardees Cats

Beverly Eskridge addressed the board with her concerns about the feral cats at the Hardees of Barnesville. The Hardees Corporation does not want the cats on their property due to health hazards. Ms. Eskridge stated that Mr. Jim Graham of Balamo Building Supply is willing to let them put cat feeding stations on the side of their building and also sand boxes for the cats to use. Ms. Eskridge requested help with this task and also mentioned that this could be a good project for the Great Day of Service which will be held in May.

XIII. Administrator's Report

County Administrator Zellner gave a report to the Board on the following matters.

- Received a check from the DOT for the Local Maintenance & Improvement Grant (LMIG) in the amount of \$283,759.13.
- Hauled dirt in for the new pad at the Public Works facility.

- Replaced the carpet in the Grand Jury Room.
- Replaced the floor and painted the walls in the Probate Judge's office.
- Received word that a court date for the former lighthouse restaurant has been set for the following Thursday.
- Received traffic counts on Grove Street of 2793 vehicles with an average speed of 39 miles per hour in a 2 week period.
- Received traffic counts on Old 36 from the City Limit to the By-Pass of 9488 vehicles with an average speed of 52 miles per hour.

Chairman Glass addressed the citizens by stating that the LMIG money only covers about 3 to 4 miles of roadway per year. Chairman Glass also addressed the citizens stating that the radar sign acts as a calming sign and explained that if you have speeders on your road you can request that the sign be moved to that location. The radar sign is designed to collect two weeks' worth of data at a time.

XIV. Public Comments

Joyce Farmer of 159 Yatesville Road addressed the Board with a request for food goat's milk, little towels and blankets intended to be used for 10 puppies that were found on the side of the road. Joyce is caring for half of the puppies and another rescue organization is caring for the other half.

XV. Round Table

Commissioner Horton stated that he and some of the Commissioners had a fruitful meeting with the DOT Commissioners in Atlanta. Commissioner Horton said that they had proposed to them about putting up a red light at the intersection of Grove Street.

Chairman Glass added to the comments from Commissioner Horton by stating that although he DOT Commissioners are sympathetic to the accidents and fatalities at Grove Street, the State currently has no money for this project. This is a long term issue that will need to be addressed. Chairman Glass said that another issue that was proposed to the DOT Commissioners was the need for guard rails at the railroad crossing on Old 41 Highway. The DOT Commissioners stated that the Thomaston DOT office has some surplus guard rails taken from I-75 and that Lamar County could request this in writing to have the surplus materials. Chairman Glass further stated that they spoke to them about the property on Hwy 36 and the need for a turning lane. If soccer and baseball fields are ever put in on that land, the curve at the entrance is too dangerous for those vehicles turning into the site. Chairman Glass expressed sympathy to the passing of former Sheriff Larry Waller and his family.

XVI. Adjournment and Executive Session

Commissioner Thrash made a motion to adjourn the regular business meeting at approximately 7:52 p.m. to go into executive session. Vice-Chairman Baker seconded the motion. The Board went into executive session at 7:57 p.m. for personnel. The Board returned at 8:58 p.m. with no action taken.

THE LAMAR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Charles Glass, Chairman

Van Baker, Vice-Chairman

Bennie Horton, Commissioner

Robert Heiney, Commissioner

Nancy M. Thrash, Commissioner

Attest:

Carlette Davidson, County Clerk