

LAMAR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Commissioner Meeting Minutes
June 17th, 2014
7:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order

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

II. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

The pledge of allegiance was said by everyone. Commissioner Horton gave the invocation.

III. Agenda Amendment

Vice-Chairman Charles Glass called for an amendment to the agenda with the addition of a presentation from Parent Accountability Program -Towaligia Judicial Circuit. Commissioner Thrash made a motion to approve the agenda with the additions and Commissioner Baker Horton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Minutes Approval

Vice-Chairman Glass called for a motion to approve the May 20th, 2014 regular business meeting minutes and the June 4th, 2014 workshop meeting minutes. Commissioner Baker made a motion to approve the minutes and Commissioner Thrash seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Parent Accountability Program Presentation-Towaligia Judicial Circuit

Stacey Sitten, Coordinator for the parent accountability court and Jennie Kelly, Office Manager for the Towaliga Judicial Circuit gave a presentation to the board on their vision, mission and core values for having a parent accountability court in Lamar County. Ms. Sitten shared a power point presentation outlining the statistics, the positive outcomes, the role players, and the resource services and providers. Ms. Sitten and Ms. Kelly both shared the different phases of the program from cradle to grave. Currently, there are 24 Children being served in the program and 19 total cases. The current child support owed of the 19 cases is \$2873.16 in which \$752.68 of child support was paid out in May of 2014. Ms. Sitten stated that the percentage that has been paid thus far is 26 percent and that the incarceration savings to the county is \$17,555.00 dollars per month. Ms. Sitten stated that the kick off for the Parent Accountability Court will be held Wednesday, June 18th, 2014 at the Lamar County Superior Court. Ms. Sitten expressed to

the board that the program is not asking for funds but for support from the board and the county.

VI. McIntosh Trail Community Service Board Appointment

Commissioner Horton made a motion to approve Nancy Anderson to the McIntosh Trail Community Service Board. Commissioner Thrash seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Purchase of Equipment and Vehicles

County Administrator Robert Zellner requested commission action on three pieces of equipment for the Public Works Department. The equipment includes the purchase of a ½ ton truck, a 1 ton truck and a 10'wide, 35 Ton Detach Lowboy Trailer to transport an excavator, for the Public Works Department. Administrator Zellner and Public Works Director James Rigdon looked at several vendors including the State Contractor, Alan Vigil, Bellamy Strickland and local dealer Stuckey's. Commissioner Thrash made a motion to approve the purchase of a ½ ton truck, 4x4 Double Cab V6, for \$28,325.00 from Bellamy Strickland. Commissioner Horton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Horton made a motion to approve the purchase of a 1 ton truck, steel platform bed, for \$27,510.00 from Bellamy Strickland. Commissioner Baker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Baker made a motion to approve the purchase of a 35 ton detach lowboy trailer for \$33,500.00 from B&B Fabrication. Commissioner Thrash seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

County Administrator Zellner explained that the Sheriff's office is in need of a new vehicle. The State Contract is with Akins Dodge Jeep Chrysler. The purchase price for a new Dodge Charger is \$23,800.00 dollars. The Sheriff's Office recently lost one car and had to supply 2 others to new employees. Once the car is purchased there will need to be equipment such as light boxes and sirens added to the car which will cost about \$4500.00 dollars. Commissioner Thrash made a motion to approve the purchase of a Dodge Charger for \$23,800.00 dollars. Commissioner Baker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Vice-Chairman Glass called for a motion to table the purchase of a trailer for the recreation department. Commissioner Thrash made a motion to table the trailer for the recreation department and Commissioner Horton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Administrator's Report

Administrator Zellner gave his monthly report to the Board. He stated that over the past month the Public Works Department has been doing some resurfacing. The Public Works Department resurfaced 5 miles of roads and the cost is about \$76,000.00 dollars. The cost covers the stone and the emulsion. Resurfacing was done at the Recreation Department,

O'Neal Road, City Pond Road, Moore Road, Skinner By-Pass Road, Sardis Church Road, Zellner Road and Old Alabama Road. Administrator Zellner stated that Public Works Department has resurfaced these roads and will continue to re-surface more roads in the coming year. Administrator Zellner also reported that the radar sign on Community House Road has been moved to Fellowship Drive. For the week of May 8th thru May 25th, 2014, 3807 vehicles were counted with 1600 speeders reported on Community House Road. The traffic reported on Wednesday was 238 vehicles and on Saturday there were 240 vehicles. The peak time for traffic was 1800 hours on Thursday, May 22nd, 2014. Commissioner Baker asked if this was considered as a speed trap if we used this device. Administrator Zellner stated that you are not actually catching the speeder just reporting the data. Administrator Zellner stated that the speed ranges reported were 1051 vehicles traveling at a speed of at 45-50 miles per hour and 1004 vehicles traveling at a speed of 40-45 miles per hour. The data showed one vehicle clocked at a speed of 75-80 miles per hour, 2 vehicles clocked at a speed of 75-80 miles per hour and 11 vehicles clocked at a speed of 65-70 miles per hour. Vice-Chairman Glass stated that first responders could be the ones traveling at a higher rate of speed. Administrator Zellner stated that he should have data to report for Fellowship Drive at the next business meeting.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Beverly Eskridge of 130 Holmes Street, Barnesville, Georgia reported that all of the puppies that were left in Joyce Farmer's driveway have been adopted. The Humane Society had a National pet adoption weekend at PetSmart in Macon, Georgia. Ms. Eskridge stated that Lamar County Human Society had the most adopted animals with 3 adoptions. Ms. Eskridge stated that there are lots of kittens at the pound and that 1 rescue group adopted 14 kittens. Ms. Eskridge stated that the longer they stay in the pound the more likely they are to pick up a disease. Ms. Eskridge recommended that any kittens or cats adopted from the pound be quarantined away from other animals. Ms. Eskridge stated that they received a call about a cat that was going to be shot if someone didn't take it and that she got very upset with this sort of reference. Ms. Eskridge showed the Board her arm that was scratched severely from taking in the stray cat. Ms. Eskridge ended up having to go to the emergency room and was administered a tetanus shot and had already developed cellulitis. Ms. Eskridge wanted to remind the public to be careful when you are out there messing with animals that you do not know. Ms. Eskridge also shared with the Board that the kitten had a broken leg with the bone sticking out of its leg. Ms. Eskridge stated that sometimes you have to say no and that this has been a painful experience and that she is on a lot of antibiotics and pain medication and she probably will have a pretty good size hospital bill. Ms. Eskridge shared with the board about getting cellulitis due to bacteria that lives in a cat's mouth that can cause infection very quickly. Ms. Eskridge shared a story from Henry County about a lady who was going on vacation and it was too expensive to board the animal so she wanted the animal shelter to dispose of it. Ms. Eskridge said that we live in a society where we think that animals are disposable and that is not true. Ms. Eskridge said that animals have feelings and emotions and that they are good to people. Ms. Eskridge reminded people to have

your cats spayed or neutered and that there are a lot of low cost places to have your animal spayed or neutered.

Preston Thompson of Hwy 36 East, Milner, Georgia addressed the board saying that he read an article in the paper about the widening of Hwy 36. Mr. Thompson said that one of the Commissioners stated that there has not been much input or comments from the citizens on the project. Mr. Preston said that he does not know what to comment on because he does not know what is going on nor does he know which way the road is going to be widened. Mr. Preston did not understand why the City of Barnesville would approve the project when they don't know either which way the road is going to be widened. Mr. Preston stated that he wanted to congratulate everyone that has recently won and those that had lost in the elections. Mr. Preston stated that he wanted to say that the dog pound project is a good thing to have and we need it. Mr. Preston stated that the lowboy trailer that was approved by the board will take a road tractor to pull it and asked if the county has one. Administrator Zellner replied that the county does have a road tractor to pull the lowboy trailer. Mr. Preston wanted to know if 10ft wide trailers have to be permitted. Administrator Zellner stated that it does not have to be permitted unless it is outside the county. Mr. Preston questioned the legality of having a 10 ft. wide trailer that is not permitted.

X. Round Table

There were no round table comments.

XI. Adjournment

Commissioner Thrash made a motion to adjourn the Regular Business meeting at approximately 8:00 p.m. Commissioner Horton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

THE LAMAR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

_____ Absent _____
Jay Matthews, Chairman

Charles Glass, Vice-Chairman

Bennie Horton, Commissioner

Van Baker, Commissioner

Nancy M. Thrash, Commissioner

Attest: _____ Carlette Davidson, County Clerk