

COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
JANUARY 13, 2009  
7:00 P.M.

The Lamar County Board of Commissioners in and for the County of Lamar, State of Georgia, held a Commissioners meeting on Tuesday, January 13, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. Chairman Jay Matthews called the meeting to order. Present for the meeting was Vice-Chairman George R. Brown, Commissioner Bennie Horton, Jr., Commissioner Jimmy Hearn, and Commissioner Nancy M. Thrash.

The pledge allegiance was said by everyone.

Rev. Marion Underwood gave the invocation.

Warden F. E. Sanders of the Georgia Department of Corrections, West Central Pre-Release Center in Zebulon, Georgia gave input on how much money the County is saving by using the Women inmate detail in comparison to paid personnel. The estimated minimum annual savings is \$25,012.00.

Ms. Pat Peurifoy of Dolly Goodpuppy stated that she or her husband visit the shelter on a regular basis to take pictures of the dogs and cats in the shelter for adoption purposes. She suggested that more ordinances should be enforced and made in the county in reference to the dogs and cats in the county. She has some concern with animal cruelty, rabies, and animal spay/neuter in the County.

Mr. Robert (Bob) Warren of 437 Parker Branch Road welcomed the two new commissioners. He complimented the County Administrator and staff, Public Works Department for their professionalism. He highlighted some problems in the Tax Assessors office in regards to the letter written by the Department of Revenue to the County that need to be corrected and stated that the citizens need to gain a sense of trust in the county again.

**2009 Appointments**

It was motioned by Commissioner Bennie Horton Jr., to re-appoint George R. Brown as the Vice-Chairman of the Commission and have this appointment rotate each year. Seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Hearn. Unanimous decision. It was motioned by Vice-Chairman George R. Brown to re-appoint Wayne Patterson as County Administrator. Seconded by Commissioner Nancy M. Thrash. Unanimous decision. Vice-Chairman George R. Brown made a motion to re-appoint Smith, Welch, and Brittain as the County Attorney. Seconded by Commissioner Bennie Horton Jr. Unanimous decision. Commissioner Jimmy Hearn made a motion to re-appoint Doctors Woodall, Wilson, and Manley as the County Physicians. Vice-Chairman George R. Brown seconded the motion. Unanimous decision. Vice-Chairman George R. Brown made a motion to appoint the Lamar County Ministerial Association to be in charge of the invocation for the Commissioner meetings. The ministers of this association will rotate each month. Commissioner Bennie Horton, Jr. seconded the motion. Unanimous

decision. Chairman Jay Matthews asked for consensus from the Board to agree to do away with the Commissioner Department Appointments and the Liaison appointments for the Constitutional Officers. Everyone was in agreement with this decision except Vice-Chairman George R. Brown. The vote was 4 in favor and 1 opposed. Vice – Chairman George R. Brown made a motion to appoint Commissioner Jimmy Hearn to serve on the E911 Committee. Commissioner Bennie Horton Jr. seconded the motion. Unanimous decision. Vice-

Chairman George R. Brown made a motion to appoint Commissioner Bennie Horton, Jr. to the one year term on the McIntosh Board of Directors. Commissioner Jimmy Hearn seconded the motion. Unanimous decision. Vice-Chairman George R. Brown made a motion to appoint Nancy M. Thrash to a 4 year term to the Lamar County Regional Solid Waste Authority. Seconded by Commissioner Bennie Horton, Jr. Unanimous decision. Commissioner Nancy M. Thrash made a motion to appoint County Administrator Wayne Patterson and Ms. Cheryl Idol to a 4 year term each to the Industrial Development Authority. It was seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Hearn. A second motion was made by Commissioner Bennie Horton Jr. to appoint Mr. Aaron Brown to the Industrial Development Authority. Vice-Chairman George R. Brown seconded the motion. Two were in favor and two were opposed. Commissioner Nancy M. Thrash made a motion again for Mr. Patterson and Ms. Cheryl Idol to be appointed to the Industrial Development Authority for a 4 year term again. Commissioner Jimmy Hearn seconded the motion. It was 2 in favor of the appointments and 2 opposed. Chairman Jay Matthews broke the tie in favor Commissioner Thrash appointments. Commissioner Nancy M. Thrash made a motion to appoint Mrs. Shirley Strickler to the Tax Assessors Board for a 4 year term. Vice-Chairman George R. Brown seconded the motion. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Jimmy Hearn made a motion to re-appoint Mrs. Bonnie Martin to the Lamar County Senior Citizens Committee for a 4 year term. Commissioner Nancy M. Thrash seconded the motion. Unanimous decision. Commissioner Nancy Thrash requested the her appointment to the Lamar County Senior Citizens Committee be tabled until February. Commissioner Bennie Horton Jr. made a motion to re-appoint Ms. Florie Thomas and Mrs. Annie R. Bush each to another 4 year term to the Lamar County Senior Citizens Committee. It was seconded by Vice-Chairman George R. Brown. Unanimous decision. Vice-Chairman George R. Brown made a motion to re-appoint Ms. Julie Ann Garby and Ms. Murle Childs to another 4 year term each to the Lamar County Senior Citizens Committee. Seconded by Commissioner Bennie Horton Jr. Unanimous decision. Vice-Chairman George R. Brown made a motion to reappoint Mr. Rudolph Ogilvie and Mrs. Dee Sims to another 4 year term to the Lamar County Senior Citizens Committee. Seconded by Commissioner Nancy M. Thrash. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Jimmy Hearn made a motion to re-appoint Mr. Marvin Alspach to the Recreation Advisory Board. Seconded by Vice-Chairman George R. Brown. Unanimous decision. Chairman Jay Matthews made a motion to re-appoint Mr. Jerry Moore to a 4 year term with the Recreation Advisory Council. Seconded by Vice-Chairman George R. Brown. Unanimous decision. Commissioner Bennie Horton Jr. made a motion to

reappoint Mr. Paul Stinson to another 4 year term to the Recreation Advisory Council. Seconded by Vice-Chairman George R. Brown. Unanimous decision. Vice-Chairman George R. Brown made a motion to Re-appoint Mr. Al Smith to the Recreation Advisory Council. Seconded by Commissioner Nancy M. Thrash. Unanimous decision.

County Attorney Scott Mayfield gave the highlights for Ordinance Number 2009-01 to change the Commissioner meeting to once a month. Commissioner Nancy Thrash stated that it will allow them time to research information more instead of rushing through a decision. Commissioner Hearn stated that it will save the county money by having one meeting a month. Commissioner Horton stated that he is in support of having one meeting a month. Vice-Chairman George R. Brown stated that he is opposed to having one meeting a month. Commissioner Nancy Thrash made a motion to approve the ordinance and asked that Attorney Scott Mayfield start running the advertisement in the local newspaper. Commissioner Jimmy Hearn seconded the motion. Commissioners Thrash, Hearn, and Horton are in favor of the one meeting a month. Vice-Chairman George R. Brown is opposed to having one meeting a month. The first reading will be on March 10, 2009.

County Attorney Scott Mayfield informed us about Resolution Number 2009-01 in reference to the appointment of a County Surveyor instead of this position being an elected one. Vice-Chairman George R. Brown made a motion to approve Resolution number 2009-01. It was seconded by Commissioner Bennie Horton Jr. Unanimous decision. Attorney Scott Mayfield informed everyone about Resolution Number 2009-02 in declaring the old Grove Street Fire Station as unserviceable to the County and wants to declare it as surplus so that it can be sold by the bid process. Vice Chairman George R. Brown made a motion to accept resolution number 2009-02. Commissioner Nancy M. Thrash seconded the motion. Unanimous decision. Vice Chairman George R. Brown made a motion after receiving input from Attorney Scott Mayfield on Resolution 2009-03 which is in reference to the payment procedures of the Tax Commissioner's Office. Commissioner Jimmy Hearn seconded the motion. Unanimous decision. Commissioner Bennie Horton Jr. made a motion to approve Resolution number 2009-04 to refund taxpayers who were erroneously or illegally assessed on their taxes. Commissioner Jimmy Hearn seconded the motion. Unanimous decision. Vice-Chairman George R. Brown made a motion to disapprove Resolution Number 2009-05 for the waiver of penalties and interest in the Tax Commissioner's Office. Seconded by Commissioner Nancy M. Thrash. Unanimous decision. Vice-Chairman George R. Brown made a motion to approve Resolution 2009-06 to the Tax Commissioner as the County's Agent for the violation of mobile home decals or permits etc. Seconded by Commissioner Bennie Horton Jr. Unanimous decision.

Zoning Administrator Danny Gunter presented the Subdivision application 08-03 for Developer Bankston Properties, LLC. These lots are for single family residences located on City Pond Road and Van Buren Roads. Commissioner Nancy M. Thrash made a motion to accept this subdivision application for Bankston Properties, LLC Vice Chairman George R. Brown seconded the motion. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Bennie Horton Jr. made a motion to approve the December Fire Report, the Building/Zoning Monthly report, Fire Yearly Report for 2008 and the December 9 minutes of the Regular meeting. Vice-Chairman George R. Brown seconded the motion. Unanimous decision. Ms. Joyce Farmer informed us about the cats and kittens she has gotten adopted from the animal shelter. The City has agreed to wait before euthanizing the animals at the shelter so that she can find them some new homes. Commissioner Horton welcomed the two new Commissioners and stated that we may not all agree on everything but we can still be agreeable. Vice-Chairman George R. Brown thanked everyone for coming and complimented the Board of Election Chairman and Ms. Anita Reid for a job well done with the elections. He also thanked Mr. Alspach for a job well done. Commissioner Jimmy Hearn stated that he is looking forward to working with the people and the Constitutional Officers. Commissioner Nancy Thrash recognized Fire chief Steve Andrews for a job well done and stated that she has a lot of interest in upgrading our Fire Department buildings. Chairman Jay Matthews asked for the Board's approval to have only one meeting for the month of January, but Mr. Danny Gunter stated that it conflicted with his Zoning advertisements. Mr. Walter Geiger introduced Mr. Drew Odum to everyone at the meeting. Drew will be assisting him at the meetings.

There being no further business to discuss Vice-Chairman George R. Brown made a motion to adjourn at 8:18 p.m. Seconded by Commissioner Bennie Horton Jr. Unanimous decision.

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Jay Matthews, Chairman

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George R. Brown, Vice Chairman

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Bennie Horton, Member

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Jimmy Hearn, Member

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Nancy M. Thrash, Member

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Wayne Patterson, County Administrator