

COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
MARCH 10, 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, March 10, 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.

Everyone said the pledge of allegiance.

Commissioner Bennie Horton Jr., said the invocation.

Commissioner Bennie Horton Jr. made a request first to add the Bright from the Start to the agenda. The Chairman asked if he would put it through a motion. Commissioner Bennie Horton Jr. made a motion to add Bright from the Start Summer Food Program to the agenda. Vice-Chairman George R. Brown seconded the motion. Unanimous decision. Vice-Chairman George R. Brown made a request to add random personal property audit to the agenda. The Chairman asked him to put it through a motion. Vice-Chairman George R. Brown made a motion to add random personal property audit to the agenda. Commissioner Bennie Horton Jr., seconded the motion. Unanimous decision. Chairman Jay Matthews asked for a motion to close the agenda. Vice-Chairman George R. Brown made a motion to close the agenda. Commissioner Nancy M. Thrash seconded the motion. Unanimous decision.

County Administrator Wayne Patterson informed the Commissioners that on February 24, 2009 two sealed bids were received. They were Duraco, Inc. of P.O. Box 6127, Jackson, GA 39288, with a bid price of \$59,800.00 and Adams Equipment Company of 1431 Lanier Road, White Plains, GA 30678 with a bid amount of \$52,919.00. The two sealed bids were opened on February 25, 2009 and viewed to see if they met all of the requirements. They were put on a spreadsheet listing the requirements of both vendors. After careful consideration of viewing the requirement specifications; Adams Equipment Company, Inc. met all of the bid requirements for RFB Package Number 2009-01. The sales representative is Mr. Tim Conger. They can deliver this pull type-patching machine within 3 to 5 days to the County Maintenance Shop located on Grove Street. The payment terms are net 30 days. SPLOST money will be used to pay for this pull type-patching machine. Commissioner Bennie Horton Jr. made a motion to accept the bid request from Adams Equipment Company for the pull type-patching machine. Vice-Chairman George R. Brown seconded the motion. Unanimous decision.

The first reading of Ordinance Number 2009-01 to change the Board of Commissioners meeting from meeting twice a month to one time a month was read by Office Manager Gretchen Ellerby. The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Commissioners will be held on the second Tuesday of each month beginning at 7:00 p.m. and continue until all business of the Board is concluded. Commissioner Jimmy Hearn made a motion to accept the first reading of Ordinance Number 2009-01. Commissioner Nancy M. Thrash

seconded the motion. Commissioner Jimmy Hearn, Commissioner Nancy M. Thrash and Commissioner Bennie Horton Jr. voted yes in favor of this motion. Vice-Chairman George R. Brown voted no. He was not in favor of this motion. The motion passed.

Office Manager Gretchen Ellerby read Proclamation Number 2009-03 proclaiming April as Lamar Arts Month. Vice-Chairman George R. Brown made a motion to accept this proclamation. Commissioner Bennie Horton seconded the motion. Unanimous decision. Vice-Chairman George R. Brown made a motion to approve the minutes of February 24, 2009. Commissioner Nancy M. Thrash seconded the motion. Unanimous decision.

Ms. Lynn McCullough of 190 Potts Pond Road came before the Board to ask if Potts Pond Road will be paved or is it on the paving list. Vice-Chairman George R. Brown stated that it is on the paving list but he doesn't know when it will be paved. He also stated that right now funding is a problem for paving roads in the county.

Vice-Chairman George R. Brown brought up the added agenda item for the personal property audit for discussion. The Tax Assessors Board wants an increase in their budget in the amount of \$3300 to \$7300 to contract the services to audit thirteen businesses for personal property. Tailored Business Solutions can assist with this audit and train the staff as to how this audit is to be done. There is already approximately \$6100.00 to \$8100.00 allocated in the Assessors Budget and now they are under their budget amount. Chairman Jay Matthews wanted to know why the Assessors office could not do this audit in-house since it is only 13 businesses. Vice-Chairman George R. Brown made a motion to add the money to the budget. Commissioner Bennie Horton stated that he would second the motion if it were already in the budget. The motion died for lack of a second. Commissioner Nancy M. Thrash made a motion to table the added agenda item until the next meeting. Commissioner Jimmy Hearn seconded the motion. There was more in depth discussion. Mr. John Peavy was asked his opinion as to what he thought the problem was or if the Assessors Board had approved this money in their meeting. He stated that he did not attend the last meeting and Ms. Doris Jackson had tried to get the training in the Assessors office when she was the Chief Assessor. Commissioner Jimmy Hearn stated that due to the condition of the economy the personal property should be delayed for a while. Another motion was made by Vice-Chairman George R. Brown to add the money to the Assessors budget. Commissioner Bennie Horton seconded the motion. The vote was 2 to 2 without the tie being broken by the Chairman. Commissioner Nancy M. Thrash made a motion to oppose adding more money to the Assessors budget. Commissioner Jimmy Hearn seconded the motion. Chairman Jay Matthews broke the tie. Vice-Chairman George R. Brown and Commissioner Bennie Horton voted no. The vote passed by 3 to 2.

Ms. Roberta P. Jones presented information to the Board about what the Summer Food Program is all about and informed the Board about how many years she had been with this program. It is about providing nutritious meals for low to moderate-income children during the summer. Commissioner Bennie Horton Jr. made a motion to approve this program. Commissioner Nancy M. Thrash seconded the motion. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Bennie Horton, Jr. stated that he had attended two meetings recently. They were for the Pandemic Flu and McIntosh Trail. Commissioner Nancy M. Thrash informed everyone about the beautiful display at the Lamar County Library by the Humane Society. Vice-Chairman George R. Brown made a motion to adjourn for the executive session at 7:30 p.m. to discuss personnel and litigation. Commissioner Nancy M. Thrash seconded the motion. Unanimous decision. An Affidavit of the closed business session is attached as a part of these minutes. The closed meeting executive session adjourned at 7:55 p.m. Commissioner Bennie Horton Jr. made a motion to return from the executive session and go back into the regular session at 7:56 p.m. Vice-Chairman George R. Brown seconded the motion. Unanimous decision. Vice-Chairman George R. Brown made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Commissioner Nancy M. Thrash seconded the motion. 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