

## MINUTES

### WORTH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

March 4, 2008

8:00 A.M.

The Worth County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday March 4, 2008 in the Commission Board room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Courthouse.

#### Chairman Miller called the meeting to order.

**PRESENT:** Commissioners Tony Hall, Fred Dent, Bettye Bozeman, Jerry Childree, Chairman Dan Miller, Attorney Clarence Miller, Lavern Watkins Accounting Payroll/Personnel Clerk Buffy Walker.

#### Invited Guests.

- A. Dan Bollinger, Sr., Executive Director.  
Southwest Georgia RDC.

Mr. Bollinger introduced himself and Mr. Marvin Reynolds to the Board of Commissioners. They explained in detail the "USS Georgia Flag Project."

Once the presentation of the project was over Chairman Dan Miller signed a "Log Book" this entry was going to be kept in the Log Book in the Library of the "USS Georgia"

Present for this ceremony were all of the Worth County Commissioners along with Sylvester Mayor Bill Yearta, Sylvester Manager Debbie Bridges and Hollie Jones from the Chamber of Commerce.

Pictures were taken by The Sylvester Local News.

- B. Tommy Collins had requested to be on the agenda to discuss "Animal Control",  
Not present:

## Reports from Commissioners, Department Heads & Committees.

### Attorney Clarence Miller

Attorney Miller reference Project Number BRG 00-0005-00 (880). He stated that Donnie Robbins, consultant for the GA. D.O.T. claimed the documents were not complete and there for were unacceptable. Attorney Miller said if we gave him the number for Mr. Robbins that he would call him and work with Mr. Robbins to solve the issues.

### **Chaiman's Report**

#### **For your information:**

- (1) A copy of the sign in sheet for the office is available now so that we can see how the traffic comes in and out of the office.
- (2) Invitation to "March Night to Remember" The American Cancer Society.
- (3) Documentation concerning Tommy Collins submitted from Marilyn Mimms – Animal Control Officer.
- (4) Church of God – Need to put in a holding pond to stop their water from running onto County property. Chairman Miller stated he would talk with Mayor Yearta and Sandy Almand Building, Planning & Zoning Administrator for the City in reference to this matter.

### **District 1 – Tony Hall**

Commissioner Hall asked if there was any gravel available as he had several complaints from residents on Lake Side Road. Mr. Hall was going to be meeting with some of the residents this coming Wednesday. Chairman Miller said he would speak with Clay Smith in reference to taking some gravel out there, that it would be a gravel/sand mix.

Commissioner Hall motioned that Nell Ford be appointed to the EDA Board.

Motion died for lack of a second.

### **District 2 – Fred Dent**

#### **Garbage Bins:**

Commissioner Dent mentioned that he thought some one should ride the County and look to see what properties are missing a Garbage Bin. He felt that there were a lot of people with out a Garbage Bin, who were not paying a Garbage Bill and this problem

needed to be addressed. Attorney Miller mentioned getting a list from the School Board as well as the Survey from the E-911 Department, that these should be helpful instruments for this project.

### **Personell {Building & Zoning}**

Commissioner Dent also mentioned that the Administrator for the Building & Zoning Department was not in her office very much, that just about every time he called down there she was out of the office. Ms. Bozeman also said that she had also noticed this. Commissioner Dent went on to say that once we have a County Administrator in place that this would be something for us to look at more closely and monitor.

### **Part-Time Pay Scale:**

Commissioner Dent also spoke of the need for having different categories in reference to part time help instead of just a flat fee. He thought we should have skilled and unskilled rates of pay. And although this was something to discuss at budget time we could be getting some figures together pertaining to what levels of pay would be put to the different categories.

### **SPLOST FUND issues:**

Commissioner Dent had some concerns on how much money had been spent on the Governmental Building, that we should have a Work Session in regards to this and identify how much money had been spent, what it was spent on, how much was left and how many accounts we had for SPLOST FUNDS.

A Work Session was set for Tuesday March 11, 2008 at 6P.M.

### **District 3 – Bettye Bozeman**

#### **EDA - Move to Old Post Office Building:**

Commissioner Bozeman informed the Board that the EDA had looked at the Old Post Office Building and that the Chamber of Commerce was also interested in moving to this building, Ms. Bozeman stated that we should use the SPLOST monies that was set aside for the renovation of the old post office and move forward in getting this building renovated. Chairman Miller said that they would have to fill out the application, and that once we get the application put in we could go ahead and get things started. Attorney Miller made reference to the records that were being stored in that building, Ms. Bozeman said that once the EDA moved out of the Governmental Building there would

be room for storage. Chairman Miller stated he did not have a problem with any of this but thought that at the meeting scheduled for Tuesday would be a good time to discuss this further.

### **Drain Ditches At Worthy Manor:**

Commissioner Bozeman informed the Board that last February she discussed the fact that the drain ditches at Worthy Manor needed cleaning out. Ms. Bozeman stated that she was told by Clay Smith that they had to get a locator on all utility lines. Ms. Bozeman also stated that 1 year and 1 month later and still nothing had been done.

Chairman Miller commented that holding ponds should have been put in, in the beginning to avoid this problem with the water, however that he would go with Ms. Bozeman and Clay Smith after the meeting was over and take a look at the situation to see just what we can actually do out there.

### **EDA Board Appointment.**

Commissioner Bozeman motioned to appoint Morris Bryant to the EDA Board. Commissioner Dent seconded.

**Discussion:** Tony Hall stated that he had submitted 3 names of business minded people to the Board of Commissioners for appointment to the EDA Board but could not get a second on any of them, Mr. Hall asked why? He also stated that there was no diversity on the EDA Board, that there had not been the Work Session that was originally planned to discuss the EDA Board appointments. He went on to say that he felt like Mr. Dent, Ms Bozeman and Mr. Childree had already decided between them selves who they wanted on the EDA Board.

Commissioner Dent reminded everyone that there had been some very serious problems with some of the past EDA members and of how this Board of Commissioners had to step in and correct the issues. He went on to say that now was the time to make sure that the same kind of issues did not happen again, that we had somebody now who was working hard to do something for Worth County and that he would not then or now put some body on that Board who was not going to move forward and work to better the County.

Commissioner Hall asked the Board if they thought that the 3 names he had submitted were not capable of working hard for this County by being on the EDA Board.

Commissioner Bozeman responded stating that was not so, but asked why had Mr. Hall submitted the name of some one that had been fired by the County. Mr. Hall responded by saying that Amanda Parr had never worked for the County and that she was also a banker. Mr. Dent said that he did not know who Amanda Parr was and that he would not vote for some one he did not know. Mr. Hall recalled the time when he had bought information on Amanda Parr to the rest of the Board to review and stated that information should be in the records, but how no body had even looked at it. Mr. Dent denied the fact that any information had been given to him.

At this time Commissioner Bozeman stated that there was a motion and a second on the floor and things should move along. Chairman Miller informed Ms. Bozeman that you have to have a reasonable amount of time for discussion.

There was no further discussion from the Board.

Motion carried with yes vote from Commissioner Childree.

Commissioner Halls NO vote was noted for the record.

### **AG. Pavilion Board.**

Commissioner Bozeman motioned to nominate Tom Cary to replace Dyce Roberts on the AG. Board. Commissioner Childree seconded. Commissioner Bozeman stated that we were going back to the 7 Member Board as on the original Bi-Laws.

After some discussion it was decided to look at the original Bi-Laws on Tuesday Night.

Commissioner Dent asked if Dyce Robert's term was over, Ms. Bozeman's reply was that they were all over. Chairman Miller disagreed stating that with the new appointments they had all come back on Board. Mr. Dent said he did not have a problem with Tom Cary or Dyce Roberts, but that he was not going to vote to take somebody off of the Board.

With no further discussion,

Motion did not carry.

Commissioner Hall NO vote. Commissioner Dent NO vote. Chairman Miller NO vote.

## **Public Works.**

Commissioner Bozeman wanted to inform the Board of some issue's at the Public Works Dept, Lack of good leadership, employees sitting around doing nothing, possible gas stealing each morning at 7:00A.M.

Commissioner Bozeman also stated that ditches are not being cleaned out completely, especially CR 164 P.T. Salter Road, CR 231 Pearson Road and CR 31 Jodie Hobby Road.

There was a brief discussion in reference to the road leading to the Reese Components Building.

## **District 4 – Jerry Childree.**

Commissioner Childree brought to the attention of the Board that County vehicles are being used for personal business, transporting family members to school and places of work. Chairman Miller thought a memo should be sent to all County employees referencing this issue.

Daniel Nesbitt, Chairman of the EDA Board approached the commissioners to talk about the Old Post Office Building, stating that they would definitely need the top floor and that some storage space can still be provided for the Court House records.

## **District 3 - Bettye Bozeman**

Commissioner Bozeman had an item that she had forgot to mention earlier and that was the issue with cooking taking place at the community center. After a brief discussion some of the Commissioners decided to visit the Community Center to see if there was an area outside they could designate for people to put grills on to use for cooking.

Chairman Miller suggested taking a 5 minutes recess and reconvening in executive session. Commissioner Hall motioned to do so. Commissioner Dent seconded. Motion carried with yes votes from all.

Meeting re-opened at 9:16 a.m.

Commissioner Bozeman motioned to approve the minutes with corrections.

Commissioner Childree seconded.

Motion carried with yes votes from Commissioner Hall and Dent.

## Consent Docket

### A. Waiver of Fees Application – Garbage Pick-Up.

1. Shirley Crosby.

Commissioner Dent motioned to approve. Commissioner Hall seconded.

Motion carried with yes votes Commissioners Bozeman and Childree.

2. Cathleen H. Truman

Ms. Truman did not meet the criteria. Not approved.

### B. Worth County Coroner, Johnny Johnson is requesting to operate in arrears for the remainder of the FY 2007 Budget for the following:

Line Item # 100-21-3700-52-3500-01 (Coroner Case Fees)

Commissioner Bozeman motioned to approve. Commissioner Childree seconded.

Motion carried with yes votes from Commissioners Dent and Hall.

### C. Sheriff Freddie Tompkins is requesting to operate in arrears for the following:

Line Item # 100-07-3300-53-1700-01 (Officer Uniforms)

Commissioner Dent motioned to approve. Commissioner Hall seconded.

Motion carries with yes votes Commissioners Bozeman and Childree

## Action Docket

### A. RESOLUTION to close a N.E. portion of CR 88 Cuffie Town Road. (526 feet)

Commissioner Bozeman motioned to approve. Commissioner Childree seconded.

Motion carried with yes votes from Commissioners Hall and Dent.

**B. Proclamation USS GEORGIA (ASSGN 729)**

WORTH COUNTY/CITIES OF POULAN, SUMNER AND WARWICK.

Commissioner Dent motioned to approve the Board of Commissioners to sign the documents. Commissioner Hall seconded.

Motion carried with yes votes from Commissioners Bozeman and Childree.

**C. TTL Proposal No. 0608-018E. Hazardous Waste Trust Fund Application Request for Reimbursement Client Project Services Agreement.**

After a brief discussion.

Commissioner Dent motioned to approve. Commissioner Bozeman seconded.

Motion carried with yes votes from Commissioners Hall and Childree.

**Unfinished Business.**

**A. CR 146 Jones Road – Bridge Replacement – None of the residents will sign deeds for donations due to large amount of property being requested. Suggested Road to be closed.**

NO ACTION TAKEN

**B. Replace Alex McCoy as the Non-Public Representative for the Southwest Georgia RDC Board of Directors. (Tabled Meeting of February 21, 2008)**

NO ACTION TAKEN

**C. Clay Smith met with Mr. Stevens and Donnie Robbins ROW Coordinator with the GA DOT on Friday, February 22, 2008 at 10:00a.m. and finalized the project on CR 91 Cane Mill Road. Attorney Clarence Miller was given all files pertaining to this project on Monday, February 25, 2008. He will prepare deeds and issue checks for this property. Beadles Lumber Company will receive \$3,015.00 for Parcel 1. Robert R. Stevens will receive \$3,405.00 for Parcel 2 and 3. Allen D. Crosby will receive \$500.00 for Parcel 4. Andrew W. Dumas will receive \$1,560.00 for Parcel 5 and Armando & Gwendolyn Greaves donated Parcel 6.**

No action at this time. Waiting to hear from Attorney Clarence Miller.

D. Fay Forrester is the new Area Engineer for the DOT located in Albany, Georgia replacing Tony Cravey. Ms. Forrester is requesting the status on the overpayment of \$33,175.37 on PR 413-2(321) C1 for the work done on CR 412 Sledge Road. Adjustment was to be made on P.T. Salter Bridge but was never adjusted.

Commissioner Dent motioned to pay the overpayment. Commissioner Hall seconded.

Motion carried with yes votes from Commissioners Bozeman and Childree.

### **New Business.**

A. Colony Bank is offering direct deposit accounts for the Worth County employees.

After a brief discussion.

Commissioner Bozeman motioned to approve. Commissioner Childree seconded.

Motion carried with yes votes from Commissioners Hall and Dent

## **PERSONNEL CONSIDERATIONS**

### **E-911 Department**

- Recommend status change for Clint Dean from full-time to part-time Communication Officer at \$9.50. Status change effective March 3, 2008.

Commissioner Bozeman motioned to approve. Commissioner Dent seconded.

Motion carried with yes votes from all.

- Recommend separation of employment for Pam Helms, Non-Certified Communication Officer at \$8.50 an hour. Last day worked was November 4, 2008.

Acknowledged by the Board.

- Recommend hiring the following for part-time Non-Certified Communication Officers at \$8.50 an hour.
  - Nancy Harrington
  - Lesia Jackson
  - Ericka White
  - Wesley Chambless
  - Adam Celinski
  - Wanda Culpepper
  - Morris Rouse
  - Tammira Leuatt

- Recommend hiring the following part-time Certified Communication Officers at \$9.50 an hour.
  - Kermit Coker
  - Rosia Alford

Commissioner Dent motioned to approve. Commissioner Bozeman seconded.  
Motion carried with yes votes from all.

Commissioner Bozeman motioned to hire Mr. Robert Zellner as the County Administrator. Commissioner Childree seconded.

Motion carried with yes votes from Commissioners Dent and Hall.

The Board asked Ms. Walker to call Mr. Zellner to see when he would be available to interview the two candidates for the County Clerks position.

At 9:45 p.m. Commissioner Hall motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Dent seconded.

Motion carried with yes votes from all.

County Clerk

Deborah Robinson

Chairman

Dan E. Miller