

**APPLING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2007
6:00 P.M.**

The Regular Meeting of the Appling County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Virgil Carter on Tuesday, September 4, 2007. Present were Commissioners Sarah Boatright, H. Mike Dyal, John Elbert Tillman, Ronnie Rentz, Theodore Wilkerson and Chairman Virgil Carter. Also present was County Manager Michael Phillips and County Clerk Chrissy Harris. Present from the news media was Joe Taylor of the TSA (Technology Student Association) videoing for ATC Cable Company and Jamie Gardner of the Baxley News Banner.

Chairman Carter welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Hallie Hardwick led the pledge to the flag.

Brittany Hardwick gave the invocation.

Commissioner Dyal made a motion seconded by Commissioner Boatright to approve the minutes of the Public Hearing held on August 21, 2007 and the Regular Meeting held on August 21, 2007. Motion carried unanimously.

RECOGNITIONS

RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE BB TEAM – CHAIRMAN CARTER

Mr. Tim Toler, representing the 4-H Club BB Team, addressed the Board reporting the accomplishments of the 4-H Club BB Team also known as the Bulldawgs. Mr. Toler expressed the hard work and dedication that the members of the BB Team and the coaches have shown over the past years. Unfortunately, the BB Team does not have an adequate place to practice and hold competitions in Appling County.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dyal and seconded by Commissioner Boatright to approve a Resolution extending their support to the Bulldawgs to raise funds to build their own shooting range so that the BB Team can have an adequate place to practice and hold shooting matches in Appling County in the future. Motion carried unanimously.

(Insert Resolution)

A motion was made by Commissioner Wilkerson and seconded by Commissioner Tillman to erect signs at the four main entrances into Appling County recognizing the Bulldawgs 4-H Club BB Team as National Champions. Motion carried unanimously.

DISBURSEMENTS

There were no Disbursements for approval at this time.

OLD BUSINESS**APPROVAL TO PAVE VERNON WILLIAMS ROAD (.8 MILES)**

The Commissioners received a handout with the following information:

Vernon Williams Road

<i>.5 miles</i>	<i>\$ 60,000</i>
<i>.8 miles</i>	<i>\$ 95,000</i>

Grading, Drainage, Base and Paving

<i>.5 miles</i>	<i>\$ 25,000</i>	<i>Grading and Drainage</i>
	<i>\$ 34,615</i>	<i>Cement and Rock Surface</i>
<i>.8 miles</i>	<i>\$ 40,000</i>	<i>Grading and Drainage</i>
	<i>\$ 55,384</i>	<i>Cement and Rock Surface</i>

Commissioner Boatright made a motion seconded by Commissioner Dyal to pave .8 miles of Vernon Williams Road. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Dyal asked the Board to consider adding the paving of Shady Acres Road to the Road Priority List after Vernon Williams Road is paved.

NEW BUSINESS**REQUEST FOR PAUPER BURIAL ASSISTANCE**

A letter was received from the Baxley Funeral Home requesting support of Appling County for a pauper burial for Deidre Latice Andrews.

A motion was made by Commissioner Boatright and seconded by Commissioner Wilkerson to approve the pauper burial request for \$400 from the Baxley Funeral Home. Motion carried unanimously.

RESCIND ORDINANCE GOVERNING RUNNING AT LARGE OF DOGS

The current Ordinance that governs the Running at Large of Dogs is not functioning. No funds have been allocated in the budget to pay for this service.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dyal and seconded by Commissioner Wilkerson to rescind the Ordinance governing the Running at Large of Dogs. Motion carried unanimously.

(Insert Running at Large of Dogs Ordinance)

APPOINTMENT OF DELEGATE FOR ACCG FALL POLICY CONFERENCE

Commissioner Wilkerson offered to represent the Board at the upcoming ACCG Fall Policy Conference.

The Commissioners had no opposition for Commissioner Wilkerson to represent the Board at the Fall Policy Conference as the voting delegate.

DOT BRIDGE AGREEMENT CR 530 SATILLA CREEK BRIDGE

The Commissioners agreed to wait on further information before making a decision on this issue.

DOT EASEMENT PURCHASE FOR US #1 EXPANSION

The GA DOT has offered \$20,800 for the easement purchase for the expansion of US # 1.

Commissioner Rentz made a motion seconded by Commissioner Dyal to accept the \$20,800 for the easement purchase for the expansion of US # 1 offered by GA DOT. Motion carried unanimously.

REQUEST TO PURCHASE THE OLD JR HIGH SCHOOL PROPERTY

Commissioner Wilkerson asked the Board to table this issue until the next Work Session so that it could be discussed with the parties involved such as the Progressive Club.

Commissioner Tillman suggested that the County Attorney be present at the Work Session to make his recommendation on this issue.

Commissioner Boatright brought up that there had been discussion in a previous meeting concerning the presence of asbestos in the Old Jr. High School Building.

The Commissioners agreed to discuss this issue further at the next Work Session on September 25, 2007 at 5:00 p.m.

LANDFILL USER FEES INCREASE

The County Manager gave the Commissioners a handout on this issue and asked the Commissioners to consider this issue in the future. In the past, the Landfill has had to take money from the General Fund to operate.

REQUEST FOR DEDICATED PHONE LINE FOR WEATHER MONITORING STATION – COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT (\$350 PER YEAR)

The Board of Commissioners received a memo from the County Extension Office asking the Board to consider approving a request for a dedicated phone line for weather monitoring station.

(Insert Request Memo)

Commissioner Rentz made a motion seconded by Commissioner Wilkerson to approve the request for a dedicated phone line for weathering monitoring station for the County Extension Office in the amount of approximately \$350 per year. Motion carried unanimously.

CITY OF SURRENCY REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE WITH FIRE DEPARTMENT CONSTRUCTION

Commissioner Tillman made a motion seconded by Commissioner Dyal to offer Surrency the same amount of money (\$13,000) on the construction for their Fire Department as the county spent on the other Fire Department Buildings. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL TO PROCEED WITH SPLOST FUNDS FOR ERNEST J. PARKER PARK

County Manager Michael Phillips suggested borrowing \$ 170,000 from General Fund and set aside in a special account to be used with the \$ 80,000 already collected for the North Side SPLOST Project. He also suggested that the Commissioners consider hiring an architect for this project

A motion was made by Commissioner Tillman and seconded by Commissioner Wilkerson to borrow \$ 170,000 from General Fund to complete this project. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Wilkerson questioned where the money would come from to pay the architect if hired. Commissioner Wilkerson also expressed that he felt that for a building of that size that a general contractor would be sufficient.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wilkerson and seconded by Commissioner Dyal to not hire an architect for the North Side SPLOST Project. Commissioner Dyal expressed his concern on hiring an architect to ensure that things are done properly even if the architect is paid out of General Fund.

Commissioner Wilkerson withdrew this motion.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dyal and seconded by Commissioner Tillman to hire an architect for the North Side SPLOST Project with the provision that if the funds are not available in the \$250,000 allocated for this project funds will be used from the General Fund not to exceed \$5,000. Motion carried unanimously.

ROADS/BUILDING AND GROUNDS

ROADS-TOMMY DAVIS

Road Superintendent Tommy Davis reported that because of the excessive amount of rain over the weekend and Labor Day Holiday that a lot of roads had been washed out. The Road Department has been working all weekend and the holiday so that the roads would be able to be used by the school buses on Tuesday morning.

Mr. Davis also reported that while working on Highway #203, Road Department Employee Lonnie Weaver came upon a car accident. A car with a woman inside was overturned in the water filled ditch. Mr. Weaver saved the woman's life by helping her get out of the car.

Mr. Davis suggested looking into cleaning out some of the older canals in the county.

Commissioner Wilkerson questioned the status of Doc McTier Road.

Mr. Davis reported that they are waiting on the contractors to come.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS-TROY RUSHING

Mr. Rushing reported that a few of the County Buildings leaked due to the excessive amount of rain over the weekend and Labor Day Holiday.

(The following has been inserted.)

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

The County Manager will be meeting with various departments during their regular monthly staff/safety meetings. This will provide a forum for staff to get to know the County Manager and be more comfortable in communicating issues and concerns with him. It has been recommended to all Departments to have a Personnel Manual available and accessible in the work area for employees to be at least generally familiar with.

The Administration staff participated in some training with the website vendor and is working on adding pages and information, keywords, maps, photos, and graphics to the website area for Appling County. This effort will provide more detail and "dress up" the Appling County pages for Internet visitors.

The Appling County Tax Commissioner has a letter and advised that the 2006 Ad Valorem Tax Digest has been approved by the Georgia Department of Revenue for 2007 tax notices.

Chrissy Harris will be in Clerk's Training, September 9-13.

Community Group information displays are planned for set up in the Annex from Monday, October 1 through Friday, October 12. The County will provide a limited number of tables.

Upcoming Meetings:

The next regularly scheduled Board of Commissioners Meeting is Thursday, September 18, with Public Input at 5:30 pm.

The first Tuesday Commissioner's Meeting in October is scheduled for October 2nd but is in conflict with the ACCG Fall Conference in Atlanta, and probably will be re-scheduled by the Board of Commissioners for Tuesday, October 9, 2007.

The County Manager has planned to be out of town on vacation October 13th through October 17th which will include the Tuesday, October 16th Board meeting. He should still be accessible by phone.

The ACCG Fall Conference is scheduled for Monday, October 1st through Wednesday, October 3rd in Atlanta. Contact Yvonne as soon as possible for registration and lodging. Please be reminded to keep and turn in any receipts.

The Chamber of Commerce Community Retreat is scheduled for Thursday, October 4th and Friday, October 5th at Jekyll Island. Contact Yvonne, or the Chamber, as soon as possible for registration and lodging. Please be reminded to keep and turn in any receipts.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no need for Executive Session at this time.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

The Chairman announced that the next Regular Meeting would be held on September 18, 2007 with Public Input beginning at 5:30 p.m. and the Regular Meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m. The next scheduled Work Session on Tuesday, September 25, 2007 beginning at 5:00 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting of the Appling County Board of Commissioners was adjourned.