

December 16, 2008  
Statesboro, GA

### Regular Meeting

The Board of Commissioners met at 8:30 a.m. in the Community Room of the North Main Annex. Chairman Nevil welcomed guests and called the meeting to order. County Manager Thomas Couch gave the invocation and the pledge of allegiance.

Ms. Maggie Fitzgerald, Clerk of the Board, performed the roll call of the commissioners and staff. The following commissioners were present: Chairman Nevil, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Tankersley, and Commissioner Simmons. The following staff were present: County Manager Thomas Couch, Staff Attorney Jeff Akins, Statesboro Bulloch County Parks and Recreation Director Mike Rollins, Transportation Director Eddie Smith, County Planner Andy Welch, and Public Safety Director Ted Wynn.

Chairman Nevil asked for changes or modifications of the General Agenda. County Manager Thomas Couch asked to address the Board and stated that the General Agenda needed to be modified. Mr. Couch asked to remove the only item of Old/Unfinished Business, which was the discussion and/or action to approve the Statesboro Fire Tax District contract. Mr. Couch stated that the City of Statesboro had not completed the agreement, but he expects to have the completed agreement for the first meeting in January. Commissioner Simmons offered a motion to approve the General Agenda with one modification. Commissioner Gibson seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

The next item of business was the approval of the minutes for the Regular Meeting held on December 2, 2008. Commissioner Tankersley offered a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting as presented. Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Chairman Nevil asked for a motion to open a Public Hearing to discuss an Installment Sale Agreement with the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia for the purpose of securing financing for the Splash in the Boro expansion. Commissioner Thompson offered a motion to open the Public Hearing. Commissioner Gibson seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. Chairman Nevil asked if there

were any public comments from the audience. Hearing none, Chairman Nevil asked for a motion to close the Public Hearing. Commissioner Tankersley offered a motion to close the Public Hearing. Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Next, Chairman Nevil asked for public comments from the audience at large or in writing. There were no petitions received in writing and no comments from the public. With no public comments, Chairman Nevil moved on to the next item on the Agenda.

A Presentation of Proclamations to honor four long-time serving County public servants, who are leaving their positions due to retirement or for other reasons, was the next item on the Agenda. Before proceeding with the presentation, Chairman Nevil requested a motion to recess for a public reception, honoring the individuals, with the expectation of reconvening at approximately 9:30 a.m. to proceed with the Regular Meeting. Commissioner Simmons offered a motion to recess after the presentation. Commissioner Tankersley seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. County Manager Thomas Couch read each Proclamation and Chairman Nevil handed out the Proclamations to the Honorable Sherri Jo Akins, Clerk of Court, the Honorable Lamar Reddick, County Surveyor, Janice Gracen, former 911 Director and Emergency Management Specialist, and Joette Lord, Administrative Assistant for the County Extension Service. Chairman Nevil thanked each employee for their service, and asked all attendees to meet in the Lobby of the Annex for the reception.

The Regular Meeting reconvened at 9:23 a.m. for a Presentation from Linwood McNure of the Georgia Forestry Commission. Mr. McNure presented the Annual Report and answered several questions from the Commissioners regarding Burn Permits.

The next item on the agenda was to approve the Consent Agenda as presented:

- (1) To authorize the County Manager to execute an amendment to the Bulloch County Retirement Plan to change and update the name of the Trustee (See Exhibit #2008-147);
- (2) To dispense with the reading and adopt a Resolution to the County Personnel Policy and Handbook (See Exhibit #2008-148);
- (3) To authorize the County Manager to execute a sole source procurement and installment payment agreement with Motorola, Inc., of Chicago, Illinois, for the installation of inter-operable communications equipment subject to the Spring 2008 award of the State of Georgia PSIC Grant; and
- (4) To dispense with

the reading and adopt a Resolution to authorize the County Manager to execute a project agreement with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources to accept \$100,000.00 in grant funds for the acquisition and development of a trail head for phase II of the S & S Greenway (See Exhibit #2008-149). Commissioner Gibson offered a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Tankersley seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

With the only item of Old/Unfinished Business removed from the agenda, Chairman Nevil moved to the New Business Agenda. The first item of New Business was the discussion and/or action to dispense with the reading and adopt a Resolution authorizing, among other things, the execution of documents relating to improvements to Splash in the Boro. Without any discussion, Commissioner Thompson offered a motion to approve the Resolution authorizing, among other things, the execution of documents relating to improvements to Splash in the Boro (See Exhibit #2008-150). Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

The second item of New Business was the discussion and/or action regarding the grant of an alcoholic beverage license for package beer and wine sales to Mrs. Shirley Reed at Lakeview Mart, which is located at 898 Lakeview Road, Statesboro, Georgia, in Unincorporated Bulloch County. Without any discussion, Commissioner Simmons offered a motion to approve the alcohol license. Commissioner Tankersley seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

The next item of business on the General Agenda was a Workshop with a presentation by the Transportation Director, Eddie Smith, followed by the discussion and/or action regarding the submission of a grant application for State Aid for Fiscal Year 2010 funding from the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT). County Manager Thomas Couch stated that GDOT has a new system for state aid that no longer includes resurfacing projects. Mr. Couch stated that road resurfacing projects will now be handled through the LARP program, and that State Aid is now applicable to Bulloch County for dirt road paving. Mr. Couch concluded that each county or jurisdiction within each county is eligible for \$750,000.00 in State Aid each year, and that all submitted projects will be rated against other similar projects within each district. Transportation Director Eddie Smith stated that he would like to submit 3 projects to GDOT for State Aid

including: (1) Johnny Brannen Road (\$240,000.00 from GDOT), (2) Jerry Hall Road (\$150,000.00 from GDOT), and (3) Bridge maintenance at Ogeechee River on Lakeview Road (\$30,000.00 from GDOT). Mr. Smith stated that these projects are ready to start and that all the necessary right-of-ways have been obtained. After some discussion, Chairman Nevil called for a motion to submit the recommended projects to GDOT. Commissioner Thompson offered a motion to authorize the submittal of the State Aid application to GDOT for Johnny Brannen Road, Jerry Hall Road, and Lakeview Road. Commissioner Tankersley seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Chairman Nevil stated that the next item of business was to adjourn the Regular Meeting and enter into Executive Session. Commissioner Rushing offered a motion to close the Regular Meeting and enter into Executive Session to discuss Personnel Matters. Commissioner Gibson seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously. Commissioner Tankersley, Commissioner Simmons, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Thompson, and Commissioner Gibson voted in favor of the motion. (See Exhibit #2008-151). When the Executive Session was complete, Commissioner Thompson offered a motion to close the Executive Session and reconvene the Regular Meeting. Commissioner Tankersley seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Chairman Nevil asked if there were any comments from the staff or Board. Staff Attorney Jeff Akins asked to address the Board to update the Commissioners on the progress with the abandoned house in Parkway Place. County Manager Thomas Couch asked to address the Board, and stated that he will be out of the office for about two weeks for the Christmas holidays.

Chairman Nevil asked for further discussion or comments from the staff or the board. Hearing none, Commissioner Tankersley offered a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

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J. Garrett Nevil, Chairman

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Attest: Maggie Fitzgerald, Clerk of the Board