

September 16, 2014
Statesboro, GA

Regular Meeting

The Board of Commissioners met at 8:30 a.m. in the Community Room of the North Main Annex. Chairman J. Garrett Nevil welcomed guests and called the meeting to order. Commissioner Roy Thompson gave the invocation, and the pledge of allegiance.

Mrs. Maggie Fitzgerald Porter, Human Resources Director recording the minutes, performed the roll call of the commissioners and staff. The following commissioners were present: Chairman Garrett Nevil, Commissioner Walter Gibson, Commissioner Robert Rushing, Commissioner Roy Thompson, Commissioner Ray Mosley, and Commissioner Carolyn Ethridge. The following staff were present: County Manager Thomas Couch, County Attorney Jeff Akins, Developmental Services Director Andy Welch, Transportation Director Hermon "Dink" Butler, Chief Accountant Whitney Richland, Chief Financial Officer Harry Starling, Chief Deputy Jared Akins, Public Safety Director Ted Wynn, County Extension Coordinator Bill Tyson, County Engineer Kirk Tatum, Statesboro Bulloch County Parks and Recreation Director Mike Rollins, and Zoning Administrator Randy Newman.

After Roll Call, Chairman Nevil asked for amendments or modifications to the General Agenda. County Manager Thomas Couch asked that the General Agenda be amended by: (1) adding Item #3 as New Business for the discussion and/or action to award purchase contracts for two multi-function copier devices for the Sheriff's Department and the Tax Commissioner's Office and (2) adding an Executive Session for Potential Litigation. Hearing no further amendments or modifications, Commissioner Gibson offered a motion to approve the General Agenda as amended. Commissioner Mosley seconded the motion and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Mosley, and Commissioner Ethridge voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil asked for public comments from the audience at large or in writing. There was no one present for public comments and nothing had been submitted in writing.

Next, Chairman Nevil stated that the Board received a petition for a Presentation by the new County Extension Coordinator, Mr. Bill Tyson. Mr. Tyson introduced himself to the Board and stated that he worked in Effingham County for 15 years. Mr. Tyson stated that he is looking forward to the impact that the Extension office can make in Agriculture in Bulloch County. Mr. Tyson also discussed the Peanut Tour that would be visiting local farms in Bulloch County. Chairman Nevil welcomed Mr. Tyson to Bulloch County and stated that the Board looks forward to working with Mr. Tyson in the future.

Chairman Nevil stated the next item on the agenda was to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: (1) to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on September 2, 2014. Commissioner Mosley offered a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Ethridge seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Mosley, and Commissioner Ethridge voting in favor of the motion.

Without any items of Old Business, Chairman Nevil stated the first item under New Business was for the discussion and/or action regarding an application for a Special Event Alcohol Beverage Permit for Benjamin Powell. Chairman Nevil called on County Attorney Jeff Akins to initiate discussion on the matter. Mr. Akins stated that Mr. Powell has applied for a one-day Special Event Alcohol Beverage Permit to host an Alumni Ball at the National Guard Armory on October 11, 2014. Mr. Akins stated that the permit must be approved by the local jurisdiction before the State of Georgia Revenue Department will issue a permit for the event. Mr. Akins further stated that alcohol purchased for the event by Mr. Powell must be purchased from a licensed wholesaler. Mr. Powell stated that he would provide security for the event and would be checking identification to ensure that no one under 21 would be consuming alcohol at the event. Commissioner Thompson stated that he had spoken to Sergeant Deen, at the Armory, who stated that alcohol cannot be sold on the premises. Mr. Powell stated that he would implement a cover charge for the event and give the alcohol away to patrons. Mr. Akins stated that the State of Georgia considers a cover charge the same as selling alcohol. After further discussion, Commissioner Ethridge offered a motion to table this item of business until Chief Deputy Jared Akins could reach someone at the Armory to get the

Armory's rules and regulations regarding alcohol and events confirmed. Commissioner Rushing seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Ethridge, and Commissioner Mosley voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil stated the second item under New Business was for discussion and/or action to appoint a voting delegate for the upcoming Association of County Commissioners of Georgia's (ACCG) Fall Conference. Chairman Nevil called on County Manager Thomas Couch to initiate discussion. Mr. Couch stated that Commissioner Walter Gibson and Vice-Chairman Anthony Simmons were the only two Commissioners registered to attend the conference, and that Commissioner Gibson has acted as the voting delegate for Bulloch County at past conferences. Commissioner Gibson stated that he would be willing to act as the voting delegate. Without further discussion, Commissioner Thompson offered a motion to appoint Commissioner Walter Gibson as the voting delegate for the ACCG Fall Conference. Commissioner Rushing seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Ethridge, and Commissioner Mosley voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil stated the third item under New Business was for discussion and/or action to award purchase contracts for two multi-function copier devices for the Sheriff's Department and the Tax Commissioner's Office. Chairman Nevil called on County Manager Thomas Couch to initiate discussion. Mr. Couch stated that the first allotment of copiers have been solicited for the Sheriff and Tax Commissioners offices to replace aging copiers that have exceeded service agreements and leases. Mr. Couch stated that for the last several years, the County has sought to purchase copiers out of Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax funds, thus lowering the cost to the operating budget by paying for only service agreements based on usage. Mr. Couch also stated that this relieves the County from paying for financing costs associated with a lease. Mr. Couch stated that for the Sheriff's Office, Canon Solutions America offered the lowest bid with a capital cost of \$1,900.00 and a service agreement cost (cost per copy) of 0.0045, so the probable five year life cycle cost would be \$3,615.99. Mr. Couch stated that for the Tax Commissioners Office, Digital Office Equipment offered the lowest bid

with a capital cost of \$8,499.99 and a service agreement cost (cost per copy) of 0.0048, so the probable five year life cycle cost would be \$10,330.37. With no further discussion, Commissioner Thompson offered a motion to award purchase contracts for two multi-function copier devices for the Sheriff's Department and the Tax Commissioner's Office (See Exhibit #2014-163). Commissioner Gibson seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Gibson, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Thompson, Commissioner Ethridge, and Commissioner Mosley voting in favor of the motion.

Chairman Nevil stated that the Board would finish the New Business Agenda with the tabled first item for the discussion and/or action regarding an application for a Special Event Alcohol Beverage Permit for Benjamin Powell. Chairman Nevil called on Chief Deputy Jared Akins to initiate discussion. Chief Deputy Akins stated that he had spoken to Sergeant First Class Chavers who stated that anyone using the National Guard Armory could not sell alcohol, but could charge a cover charge. County Attorney Jeff Akins reminded the Board that to the State of Georgia, charging a cover charge is considered to be selling alcohol. After further discussion, Commissioner Ethridge offered a motion to approve the application for a one-day Special Event Alcohol Beverage Permit for Mr. Powell contingent on written documentation from the National Guard Armory regarding their policies and procedures regarding the sale of alcoholic beverages for events (See Exhibit 2014-164). Commissioner Mosley seconded the motion and it carried with a vote of four to one. Commissioner Ethridge, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Rushing, and Commissioner Thompson voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Gibson voted against the motion.

Without any further items of New Business, Chairman Nevil called for general comments or statements from the Commissioners. Commissioner Ethridge thanked Mr. Powel for doing his due diligence and thanked Mr. Bill Tyson for introducing himself to the Board. Commissioner Mosley stated that the community needs to be educated regarding the County's Ordinances. Commissioner Thompson thanked the citizens in the room for coming to the meeting. Commissioner Gibson stated that it is a privilege to serve as a Commissioner.

After some further discussion, Chairman Nevil asked for comments from the staff. County Manager Thomas Couch discussed the importance of having the Board fill out Georgia Department of Transportation Comment Forms for the intersection of Harville Road and Burkhalter Road. Mr. Couch stated that the County has pledged to pay twenty percent for the project and that the comment forms could speed up the project. Mrs. Porter informed the Board of the upcoming Catface Turpentine Parade. Commissioner Thompson offered his 1928 fire truck for the Board to use in the Parade instead of the Courthouse Float. Hearing no further comments from the Board or Staff, Chairman Nevil called for a three minute recess before the upcoming Executive Session.

After reconvening from the recess, Chairman Nevil asked if there were any further comments from the Commission or Staff. Hearing no further comments from the Board or Staff, Chairman Nevil stated that there was no further business expected for the open session of the regular agenda, and the Board must close the meeting and enter into Executive Session to discuss Potential Litigation. Chairman Nevil stated that at the conclusion of the Executive Session, which was expected to last about fifteen minutes, the Board would reconvene and in all likelihood move for adjournment. Chairman Nevil called for a motion to adjourn into Executive Session in accordance with the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(1) and other applicable laws, pursuant to the advice of County Attorney Jeff Akins, for the purposes of deliberating on Potential Litigation. Without further discussion, Commissioner Ethridge offered a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss Potential Litigation (See Exhibit #2014-165). Commissioner Mosley seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Ethridge, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Gibson, and Commissioner Thompson voting in favor of the motion.

The meeting was reconvened, and Chairman Nevil stated that Board must close the meeting to enter into Executive Session again to discuss Personnel Matters. Chairman Nevil stated that at the conclusion of the Executive Session, which was expected to last about five minutes, the Board would reconvene and in all likelihood move for adjournment. Chairman Nevil called for a motion to adjourn into Executive Session in accordance with the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(2) and other applicable laws, pursuant to the advice of County Attorney Jeff Akins, for the purposes of

deliberating on Personnel Matters. Without further discussion, Commissioner Mosley offered a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss Personnel Matters (See Exhibit #2014-165). Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Ethridge, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Gibson, and Commissioner Thompson voting in favor of the motion.

The meeting was reconvened, and Chairman Nevil asked if there were any further comments from the Commission or Staff. Hearing no comments from the Board or Staff, Chairman Nevil asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Rushing offered a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Mosley seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously with Commissioner Ethridge, Commissioner Mosley, Commissioner Rushing, Commissioner Gibson, and Commissioner Thompson voting in favor of the motion.

J. Garrett Nevil, Chairman

Attest: Thomas M. Couch, County Manager