

Baldwin County Commissioners
Regular Meeting
August 19, 2008
6:30 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Baldwin County Commissioners was held Tuesday, July 15, 2008 at 6:30 p.m., Baldwin County Courthouse, Suite 319, 121 North Wilkinson Street, Milledgeville, Georgia, with Chairman Bobby Blizzard presiding.

Members Present: Bobby Blizzard
Geneva Davis
Dale Epps, Sr.
Linda Fussell
Bubba Williams

Also Present: David Waddell
Joan Minton
Ralph McMullen
Cindy Cunningham
Linda Zarkowsky

Call to Order

Chairman Bobby Blizzard called the August 19, 2008, Regular Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Geneva Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 15, 2008, Regular Meeting as presented. The motion was seconded, and it passed unanimously.

Fall Line Regional Development Authority

Ms. Angie Gheesling, Executive Director of the Milledgeville-Baldwin County Development Authority discussed the creation of the joint Fall Line Regional Development Authority between Baldwin County and Wilkinson County. She stated the purpose of the Authority is to maximize economic development opportunities at or near the intersection of U.S. Highway 441 and the proposed Fall Line Freeway by obtaining a site to attract industrial and business concerns that would provide employment opportunities, further economic development of existing businesses and provide additional revenue to both County governments.

Ms. Gheesling reported State property has been identified for this purpose, and appraisals have been received with the cost of the property being slightly under \$1,000,000. She stated a joint application in the amount of \$1,000,000 will be submitted to the OneGeorgia Authority to assist with the purchase of the property and supplying necessary infrastructure to the site. Ms. Gheesling stated, if funded, \$500,000 would go to purchase the property and the remaining \$500,000 for infrastructure, entrance road and signage.

Ms. Gheesling discussed an Intergovernmental Agreement between Baldwin County, Wilkinson County and the Fall Line Regional Development Authority. She reported the agreement outlines the commitment of both counties for the project to fund the acquisition and preparation of site and states that all costs will be shared equally by both counties 50 – 50 each. She stated the agreement has been reviewed by attorneys for all parties.

County Manager Joan Minton stated the adoption of this agreement indicates the County's commitment to purchase the land with each county funding one-half the cost which will be \$250,000 if OneGeorgia funding is received and the full cost of \$500,000 each if the grant is not funded.

Commissioner Dale Epps made a motion to adopt the Intergovernmental Agreement, in substantial form, supporting the Fall Line Regional Development Authority. The motion was seconded, and it passed unanimously.

A copy of the Agreement is herewith attached and made an official part of the minutes at pages _____ and _____.

Presentation by Middle Georgia Regional Development Commission

Middle Georgia RDC Director Ralph Nix introduced Board members of the Middle Georgia Regional Development Authority in attendance for the presentation to the family of the late Collins P. Lee.

Middle Georgia RDC Board Vice-Chairman, Mayor John Reid, read and presented members of the Lee family with a Proclamation honoring Mr. Lee for his service to his community.

Resolution for Property Deannexation

Assistant County Manager Ralph McMullen presented a Resolution regarding the deannexation of approximately 20 acres located off Blandy Road. He stated the property was previously annexed into the City; however, the property owner subsequently requested the County oppose the annexation. The property owner has now requested the property be deannexed from the City which requires approval by the County.

Commissioner Dale Epps made a motion to adopt the Resolution as presented. The motion was seconded, and it passed unanimously.

A copy of the Resolution is herewith attached and made an official part of the minutes at pages _____ and _____.

CJCC Grant Award for Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force

Finance Director Linda Zarkowsky presented the grant award package in the amount of \$187,451 for the renewal of the Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force. Ms. Zarkowsky stated required matching funds in the amount of \$62,484 are shared by the fourteen jurisdictions belonging to the task force. She reported Baldwin County's share will not exceed \$15,000, and this amount is included in the current budget.

Commissioner Bubba Williams made a motion to accept the grant award and to authorize the Chairman to execute necessary documents. The motion was seconded, and it passed unanimously.

2009 LARP List

Assistant County Manager Ralph McMullen presented the proposed 2009 LARP list for submission to the Georgia Department of Transportation for approximately 22 miles of road resurfacing. He reported DOT officials will ride each road and grade each one according to their requirements for the LARP. He stated this list is not prioritized and is in the same format as in previous years.

Commissioner Bubba Williams made a motion to accept the 2009 LARP List as presented for submission to the Georgia Department of Transportation. The motion was seconded, and it passed unanimously.

A copy of the 2009 LARP List is herewith attached and made an official part of the minutes at pages _____ and _____.

Update on New DOT Funding Procedures

County Manager Joan Minton reported on the new procedures for applying for DOT funds for State aid projects. She stated the application process is from October 1st to December 31st of each year with funding available after July 1st. She stated a maximum of eight applications, with only one road per application, for maximum funding possible of \$750,000 per year. She reported funding is based on available State funds and each project submitted will be scored and will compete with other projects by category type within the defined district. Ms. Minton reported local governments are grouped together according to congressional districts into three major areas. The DOT funding allocation will be 80% of DOT funds divided equally between grouped congressional districts with the remaining 20% put into a contingency fund for emergency projects. Ms. Minton reported counties will now be responsible for costs that DOT had funded in the past such as project cost estimates, surveys, plans, right-of-way certification, and construction supervision. County Manager Minton said projects for the Board's consideration will be presented at a future meeting for the funding cycle of December 31, 2008.

Community Development Block Grant Award

Finance Director Linda Zarkowsky stated a letter has been received from Governor Perdue notifying Baldwin County of the award of \$378,883 in Community Development Block Grant funds with a required County match of \$41,435 in cash and in-kind services. Funds will be used for a water improvements project to replace existing 2" lines to provide improved water distribution and fire protection in the Harrisburg area including Loretta Lane, Bonner, Cranford, Davis and Peacock Drives. She stated the official grant award will be formally presented at a workshop in Savannah September 15th and 16th.

Commissioner Linda Fussell made a motion to accept the 2008 Community Development Block Grant award and to authorize the Chairman to execute necessary documents. The motion was seconded, and it passed unanimously.

Accounts Payable List Dated August 19, 2008

Commissioner Bubba Williams made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable list dated August 19, 2008. The motion was seconded, and it passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Commissioner Bubba Williams made a motion that the Board of Commissioners meeting be adjourned at 7:05 p.m. The motion was seconded, and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

William R. Blizzard
Chairman

Cynthia K. Cunningham
County Clerk