

Baldwin County Commissioners
Regular Meeting
March 17, 2009
6:00 p.m.

A Meeting of the Baldwin County Commissioners was held Tuesday, March 17, 2009 at 6:00 p.m., Baldwin County Courthouse, Suite 319, 121 North Wilkinson Street, Milledgeville, Georgia, with Chair Bubba Williams presiding.

Members Present: Emily C. Davis
Linda Fussell
Sammy Hall
Faye Smith
Bubba Williams

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

Call to Order

Chair Bubba Williams called the March 17, 2009, meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Linda Fussell made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 3, 2009, Meeting as presented. The motion was seconded, and it passed unanimously.

Departmental Report

Golf Course Director Kyle Wall addressed the Board and gave a presentation on Little Fishing Creek Golf Course and its operations.

Grant Application for Day Reporting and Treatment Program

Solicitor General Maxine Blackwell addressed the Board regarding the establishment of a day reporting and treatment program for drug and alcohol abuse. Ms. Blackwell reported the STEP program she is proposing is a very community intensive day treatment program that encompasses a number of levels of treatment for drug and alcohol abuse. She outlined proposed costs and stated the program could serve as alternatives to violators serving jail time which would assist in preventing jail overcrowding.

Solicitor General Blackwell requested the Board's approval to pursue funding for a day reporting and treatment program for substance abuse. She reported economic stimulus program funds have been targeted for new programs to address substance abuse, and a request has been sent to the Regional Development Center to assist with applications. At the time any funds are received, she will then address matching funds to be paid through court fines.

Commissioner Emily C. Davis made a motion for the Solicitor General to proceed with pursuing funding for a day reporting and treatment program for substance abuse. The motion was seconded, and it passed unanimously.

Stimulus Program Report and Grant Applications

County Manager Joan Minton presented information on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 or economic stimulus program. She stated that based on meetings and staff assistance from the Middle Georgia RDC the County's shovel ready projects need to be prioritized. She presented a list of potential projects that would be eligible under the various funding programs which included projects for the Solicitor's Office, Sheriff's Department, Fire Department, energy programs, economic development, water / sewer, and road projects. County Manager Minton requested approval for the County, with technical assistance from the Middle Georgia RDC, the County's grant consultant and engineer, to develop applications to pursue funding under the various programs.

Commissioner Emily C. Davis made a motion for the County to proceed, with the assistance from the Middle Georgia RDC, the County's grant consultant and engineer, to develop applications to pursue funding under the various programs. The motion was seconded, and it passed unanimously.

Assistant County Manager Ralph McMullen presented information on a program through the Middle Georgia Consortium where the Consortium will be providing employees to work in various departments in the County which will save funding from hiring summer employees needed in the County.

Proclamation for Master Gardner Day

On behalf of the Board of Commissioners, Chair Bubba Williams presented a Proclamation to Mr. Jim Davis and Mr. Ernest Yearwood proclaiming March 21st as Master Gardner Appreciation Day in Baldwin County.

Solid Waste Collection and Disposal RFP Update

Assistant County Manager Ralph McMullen stated that at the February 3rd Commissioners meeting the Board voted to allow staff members to develop a request for proposals for residential solid waste collection and disposal. He stated the proposal has now been finalized and legal advertisements published for the solicitation of proposals due in April. He reported residential collection will provide a higher level of service to citizens, will allow the County to better manage its resources and will assist in preventing litter along roadways as well as improve the appearance of convenience centers. He also stated he will make a presentation on this at the March 26th Keep America Beautiful meeting.

Letter of Support for Jones County

Assistant County Manager Ralph McMullen stated Jones County Commissioners have requested a letter of support in their submission of an application for emergency water assistance for residents on Hitchcock Road. He stated Hitchcock Road begins in Baldwin County at an intersection with Nelson Road and extends approximately 2,112 feet where it enters into Jones County. He stated there are approximately 12 residential homes within the Jones County portion of Hitchcock Road that have experienced contamination problems with their well systems. In addition, the Baldwin County residents on Hitchcock Road are in need of continuous water service during drought periods. He reported, if approved by Commissioners, Baldwin County will allow Jones County to connect to our existing waterline located along Nelson Road and will enter into an agreement with Jones County in order for Jones County to be the service provider for their area.

Commissioner Emily C. Davis made a motion to provide a letter of support to Jones County for an application for emergency water assistance for residents on Hitchcock Road. The motion was seconded, and it passed unanimously.

Appointments to Milledgeville / Baldwin County Development Authority

Chair Bubba Williams stated a letter has been received from the Chair of the Development Authority regarding vacancies on the Board of the Development Authority of Milledgeville and Baldwin County. He stated the Development Authority is recommending the reappointment to their Board of Mr. Paul Dean as a joint City / County representative and Mr. Earl Seagle as a County representative.

Vice Chair Faye Smith made a motion to accept the recommendation from the Development Authority to reappoint Mr. Paul Dean to serve as a joint representative and Mr. Earl Seagle to serve as a County representative on the Board of the Development Authority. The motion was seconded, and it passed unanimously.

Accounts Payable List Dated March 17, 2009

Commissioner Emily C. Davis made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable list dated March 17, 2009. The motion was seconded, and it passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Commissioner Emily C. Davis made a motion that the Board of Commissioners meeting be adjourned at 6:55 p.m. The motion was seconded, and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Bubba Williams
Chairman

Cynthia K. Cunningham
County Clerk