

Baldwin County Commissioners
Regular Meeting
October 14, 2008
6:00 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Baldwin County Commissioners was held Tuesday, October 14, 2008 at 6:00 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
Scott Deason

Call to Order

Chairman Bobby Blizzard called the October 14, 2008, Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Geneva Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2008, Regular Meeting as presented. The motion was seconded, and it passed unanimously.

Victim's Program

Solicitor General Maxine Blackwell could not attend the meeting; therefore, County Manager Joan Minton presented the Solicitor General's request regarding the victim's program. County Manager Minton stated the Solicitor's office has received funding for a victim's advocate position through a Violence Against Women's grant for the past four years with the current grant ending in December of this year. Since funding was only available for four years under the program, Ms. Blackwell applied for funding under the Victims of Crime Act; however at this point, the new grant for the upcoming calendar year has been denied. Solicitor General Blackwell has appealed the grant denial. Ms. Minton stated the Solicitor's Victims program has funding from both the victims' community service fine money in addition to the regular victims fine fund.

County Manager Minton reported Solicitor General Blackwell is requesting that the Board appropriate \$25,000.00 from the Victims Community Service Reserve fund for January through June, 2009 to fund six months of the Victim's advocate position which includes the costs of full benefits. She reported this will not affect the General Fund since these funds are held in reserve to fund the Victim's Program.

Commissioner Dale Epps made a motion to approve the appropriation of Victims Community Service funds as requested by the Solicitor General for the Victims Program. The motion was seconded, and it passed unanimously.

Purchase of Services for Juvenile Offenders Program

Finance Director Linda Zarkowsky presented a grant renewal from the Council of Juvenile Court Judges of Georgia for the Purchase of Services for Juvenile Offenders Program which provides counseling and evaluation of juvenile offenders. She stated the grant award is \$5,000.00 and requires no matching funds.

Commissioner Bubba Williams made a motion to accept the Purchase of Services for Juvenile Offenders Program award in the amount of \$5,000.00 as presented. The motion was seconded, and it passed unanimously.

Jail Project and Financial Updates

Finance Director Linda Zarkowsky discussed the very conservative budget that was adopted in June for this fiscal year. She stated cost saving measures such as freezing vacant classified positions and limiting purchasing are currently being implemented. She reported County Departments have also implemented their own cost saving measures.

Ms. Zarkowsky reported a revenue analysis has been done to compare the first quarter of fiscal year 2009 with the first quarter of fiscal year 2008, and total revenues are down by approximately 30% which equates to about \$500,000.00. She stated this is not due to the delay in tax collections and hopefully this trend will turnaround for the remainder of the fiscal year. She also stated since the State is delaying their revenue distributions, further budget decisions and cuts could be forthcoming.

Finance Director Zarkowsky reported there is another cost containment process that the Sheriff wants to utilize for inmate medical bills which is an administrative services program through the Association County Commissioners of Georgia. She stated ACCG, working with a Blue Cross/Blue Shield affiliate, would negotiate discounts on medical bills, and a small fee would be paid if the negotiations resulted in a savings on particular charges for services.

Commissioner Bubba Williams made a motion to approve the Agreement for the administrative services program for inmate medical bills as presented and to authorize the Chairman to execute necessary Agreement documents. The motion was seconded, and it passed unanimously.

Proposed State Aid Projects

Assistant County Manager Ralph McMullen discussed updated information from the DOT regarding the 2010 State Aid Grant program for the period October 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008. Mr. McMullen stated County staff members are reviewing potential projects for the State Aid program which will be presented for the Board's consideration at a later meeting. He also presented a status report on current road projects.

Update on Codification Project

County Manager Joan Minton reported that the process of putting together the massive amount of information of County ordinances, laws and regulations for the codification process has been completed. She stated Municipal Code Corporation has received the information, and they will compile the ordinances in a comprehensive document which should be finalized by the Board's December meeting.

Accounts Payable List Dated October 14, 2008

Commissioner Bubba Williams made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable list dated October 14, 2008. The motion was seconded, and it passed unanimously.

Appearances

Mr. James Yocum addressed the Board regarding the condition of roads in Waters Edge.

Ms. Joanne Ogden addressed the Board regarding a permit for a C & D Landfill.

Adjournment

Commissioner Linda Fussell made a motion that the Board of Commissioners meeting be adjourned at 6:45 p.m. The motion was seconded, and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

William R. Blizzard
Chairman

Cynthia K. Cunningham
County Clerk