

Baldwin County Commissioners
Regular Meeting
August 5, 2014
6:00 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Baldwin County Commissioners was held Tuesday, August 5, 2014, at 6:00 p.m., Baldwin County Courthouse, Suite 319, 121 North Wilkinson Street, Milledgeville, Georgia with Chair Sammy Hall presiding.

Members Present: Emily C. Davis
Tommy French
Sammy Hall
Henry Craig
Johnny Westmoreland

Also Present: David McRee
Ralph McMullen
Dawn Hudson
Cindy Cunningham

Call to Order

Chair Sammy Hall called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Henry Craig made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 15, 2014 Work Session and Regular Meeting as submitted. Vice Chair Emily C. Davis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Recognition of 12U Boys Dixie Youth State Champions

Recreation Director Bill McNair, on behalf of the Board of Commissioners, presented a proclamation to the Dixie Youth Softball State Champions. He stated this is the first time a Baldwin team has won the State Championship in 51 years. Members of the 1963 State Champions team were present to congratulate the 2014 State Champions. Members and coaches of the 2014 State Champions and members of the 1963 State Championship team were introduced.

Recognition of Baldwin Recreation Jets Track Champions

Recreation Director Bill McNair, on behalf of the Board of Commissioners, presented a proclamation to the Baldwin Recreation Jets Track Champions. Coach Barry Havior introduced members of the Baldwin County Recreation Jets Track Team who captured State, Regional, and National Championships in running events, field events, and relay events competing with other track teams from all over the United States.

Bids for Gerald Harris Booster Pump Station Rehabilitation

Engineer Tim Ingram reported bids were opened on June 22th for the Booster Pump Station rehabilitation project. He stated two bids that were received, and Allsouth Constructors of Covington was the low bidder with a bid of \$367,492.00. Mr. Ingram recommended the award of the contract to Allsouth Constructors, Inc. in the amount of \$367,492.00.

Vice Chair Emily C. Davis made a motion to award the bid for the Gerald Harris Booster Pump Station rehabilitation to Allsouth Constructors in the amount of \$367,492.00 as recommended by the engineer. Commissioner Henry Craig seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Engineer Ingram reported the project should start shortly after September 1st and be completed within 120 to 150 days.

Appointment to Region 2 Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) Planning Board

Chair Sammy Hall reported Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Planning Boards are constituted by state law to provide representation in the planning process for stakeholders, consumers and family members of persons needing mental health, developmental disabilities and addictive services. Based on County population, Baldwin County is allocated one seat on the Region 2 DBHDD Planning Board. Chair Hall recommended the appointment of Mrs. Faye Smith to serve on the Region 2 Planning Board. He stated Mrs. Smith has experience in these type service areas, and she has agreed to serve in this capacity.

Vice Chair Emily C. Davis made a motion to appoint Mrs. Faye Smith to serve on the Region 2 DBHDD Planning Board. Commissioner Henry Craig seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Assistance to Firefighters Grant Award

Finance Director Dawn Hudson reported the County has received an Assistance to Firefighters grant award through FEMA. The federal share is \$87,931.00, 90% of the approved amount, and the County share is \$9,770.00 for a total project cost of \$97,701.00. She stated the funds will be used for 3 sets of excavation tools.

Vice Chair Emily C. Davis made a motion to accept the grant award as presented and to authorize the Chair to execute necessary documents. Commissioner Henry Craig seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Membership in the Central Georgia Joint Development Authority

Chair Hall updated the Board on information presented at the last meeting by Development Authority Director Matt Poyner. He stated Mr. Poyner asked the Board to request membership in the Central Georgia Joint Development Authority, a multi-jurisdictional development authority. The Central Georgia Joint Development Authority is not funded through its member counties; it earns fees from long-term bond financing of multi-jurisdictional projects. The Middle Georgia Regional Commission provides staffing services as a benefit to the member counties.

Vice Chair Emily C. Davis made a motion for Baldwin County to request membership in the Central Georgia Joint Development Authority. Commissioner Henry Craig seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

2014 Tax Digest and 2015 Budget Process

Finance Director Dawn Hudson reported it is time to set the millage rate in order for the county to get the digest approved and send out property tax bills. She presented history of the millage rate stating the millage rate has been decreased twice over the last 10 years. She discussed the proposed millage rate and requested the Board advertise a 2014 millage rate of 9.84. She stated a rate increase would require 3 public hearings to be held during the 3 week advertisement period. A lower rate than the advertised rate can be adopted; however, a higher rate can't be adopted without starting the process over which would delay collecting revenue needed to fund this year's budget. Ms. Hudson reported a rate increase of 1 mill would provide the County with additional revenue to fund additional state mandates and necessary requests from departments as well as increase fund balance which in turn would decrease the dependency on Tax Anticipation Notes and improve the County's financial position.

Ms. Hudson discussed the upcoming budget process and presented a budget calendar for the fiscal year January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015.

Vice Chair Emily C. Davis made a motion to approve the recommendation to advertise a 2014 millage rate of 9.84 as presented. Commissioner Tommy French seconded the motion.

After discussion, the Board voted unanimously to proceed with required documents to meet legal requirements for advertising the 2014 Tax Digest with a millage rate of 9.84.

County Manager's Report

County Manager McMullen presented an update on recreation projects: work on tennis courts has begun, parking lots will be sealed, lined and restriped, and delivery of playground equipment is expected for Coopers Park.

Old Business

Vice Chair Emily C. Davis stated during all the recent discussions regarding recreation projects there is still no mention of a pool. She stated the County must find money to build a pool facility in order to provide a safe place for swimming. Ms. Davis referenced the recent drowning of a child at the river, and she expressed great concern that the County does not have a pool. Vice Chair Davis stated she would like for her concerns about this matter to be reflected in the official minutes.

New Business

There was no new business to come before the Board.

Public Comment Period for Non-Agenda Items

Mr. Kennedy Smith addressed the Board about the condition of Stallings Road.

Ms. Mary Osley addressed the Board about the issue of a building a County swimming pool.

Ms. Thelma Livingston addressed the Board about the condition of Stallings Road.

Adjournment

Vice Chair Emily C. Davis made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:05 p.m. Commissioner John Westmoreland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sammy Hall
Chair

Cynthia K. Cunningham
County Clerk