

**Baldwin County Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
March 17, 2015  
6:00 p.m.**

The Regular Meeting of the Baldwin County Commissioners was held Tuesday, March 17, 2015, 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 Hall called the March 17, 2015, Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Vice Chair Emily C. Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 3, 2015 Work Session and March 3, 2015 Regular Meeting as submitted. Commissioner Henry Craig seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Amendment to Agenda

Vice Chair Emily C. Davis made a motion to amend the Agenda in order to address the Timber Ordinance and Ethics Ordinance during the agenda item for Old Business. Commissioner Henry Craig seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Grant Applications

Judge Phil Spivey introduced Program Director Amy Michaud to discuss Baldwin County's Adult Treatment Court Collaborative (ATCC) and Family Dependency Treatment Court (FDTC) grant applications.

Ms. Michaud reported Baldwin County Adult Treatment Court Collaborative (ATCC) is requesting approval to submit an application to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council for continued state funding through the Accountability Courts Funding Program for FY 16. She stated Baldwin County would serve as fiscal agent if the award is received. Ms. Michaud stated no County funding is being requested; the required cash match of ten percent (10%) has been secured through the existing DATE funds account held by the 8<sup>th</sup> Judicial Administrative District and the Bureau of Justice Assistance grant.

Commissioner Henry Craig made a motion to authorize the submission of a grant application by the ATCC for continued state funding as requested. Vice Chair Emily C. Davis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Ms. Michaud stated the Baldwin County Family Dependency Treatment Court (FDTC) is requesting approval to submit an application for continued state funding through the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council Accountability Courts Funding Program for FY 16. She stated Baldwin County would serve as fiscal agent if the award is received. Ms. Michaud stated no County funding is being requested; a match waiver of the ten percent (10%) cash match will be submitted with the grant application.

Vice Chair Emily C. Davis made a motion to authorize the submission of a grant application by the FDTC for continued state funding as presented. Commissioner Henry Craig seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Ms. Michaud discussed the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration – Treatment Drug Court Grant Application. She stated consideration is being given to a joint application between the Family Dependency Treatment Court and the Adult Treatment Court Collaborative for federal funds in the amount of \$395,000 for a three year period. Ms. Michaud stated Baldwin County would serve as fiscal agent for the grant if awarded; no County funding is being requested. She requested a letter of support from the Chair of the Commissioners, a technical assistance letter to the Regional Commission for help with the preparation / submission of the application and authorization for the Chair to execute the Memorandum of Understanding and other necessary documents.

Judge Spivey and Ms. Michaud explained the ATCC currently serves eight counties in the area, and they would like to expand the FDTC to serve all eight counties rather than the four counties being served now. Transportation for participants is an issue; many can not participate because they do not have transportation. Judge Spivey stated this is a pilot program; and if funded, could be duplicated by other programs throughout the country.

Vice Chair Emily C. Davis made a motion to authorize the submission of the application and to authorize the Chair to execute MOU and other necessary documents. Commissioner Westmoreland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Program Director Michaud reported the Baldwin County Drug Lab and JAG are in negotiations for the Drug Lab to provide testing for all JAG probationers. Discussions are being held for the Lab to provide testing for other agencies which will help make the Lab self-sufficient.

#### Annexation Notifications from the City of Milledgeville

County Manager Ralph McMullen presented notifications of annexation from the City of Milledgeville for three properties: 131 Roberson Mill Road; 133 Roberson Mill Road; and 310 Meadow Ridge Circle.

County Attorney David McRee discussed the process of notification and response for the annexation of property.

Mr. McMullen stated owners of the three properties have requested these annexations into the City.

Commissioner Henry Craig made a motion to notify the City of Milledgeville there is no opposition to the annexation of these properties into the City. Commissioner Tommy French seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### Alcoholic Beverage Catering License Fee

County Attorney David McRee discussed the County Catering License Fee which is currently \$500.00. He stated Commissioners felt this fee should be revisited in order to bring it in line with the fee of \$100.00 charged for alcoholic beverage catering in the

City. Mr. McRee presented Ordinance 6-32 which would amend the alcoholic beverage catering license fee of the County so that Section 6-32(c) (1) shall read as follows:

(1) Class G . . . . \$100.00

Vice Chair Emily C. Davis made a motion to approve the amendment to Ordinance 6-32 to amend the alcoholic beverage catering license fee to \$100.00. Commissioner John Westmoreland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A copy of Ordinance 6-32 is herewith attached and made an official part of the minutes at pages \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

#### Financial Policies: Operating Budget and Equity Reserve

Finance Director Dawn Hudson presented Section 1 – Operating Budget and Equity Reserve Policies for the Board’s consideration. She stated Commissioners have reviewed these Policies, and recommendations presented at the previous meeting have been incorporated.

She discussed the following revisions:

Page 2. Financing Current Costs (C) - remove the words “shall avoid” and replace with “shall not” in second sentence so as to read “The County shall not balance current expenditures by obligating the use of future year’s resources”.

Page 5. Budget Amendments (I) - insert the following in first paragraph “the County Chair will be notified”.

Page 8. Budget Stabilization Resources (B) – an amount which represents 10% of the subsequent years’ budgeted expenditures is amended to read “2 months or 16.6% of the subsequent years’ budgeted expenditures”.

Commissioner Henry Craig made a motion to approve Section 1 – Operating Budget and Equity Reserve Policies as presented. Commissioner John Westmoreland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A copy of the Financial Policies is on file in the Finance Department of the Board of Commissioners Office.

#### County Manager’s Report

County Manager Ralph McMullen reported he had received an email from Jim Lidstone, Live Healthy Baldwin, requesting a contribution of \$2,500.00 for the Fishing Creek Community Trail Concept Plan. He stated an invoice will be presented at the April 7<sup>th</sup> meeting for the Board’s consideration.

Mr. McMullen stated copies of the International Property Maintenance Code were distributed to Commissioners for their review. He asked Commissioners to thoroughly review the document and contact him or Steve Owens with comments. Meetings with individual Commissioners will be scheduled to discuss the Code and answer questions.

#### Old Business

Chair Hall stated the Agenda was amended at the beginning of the meeting in order to address the Timber Harvesting and Removal Ordinance and the Ethics Ordinance. He stated public hearings were held on each ordinance and opened the floor for comments and discussion on the proposed ordinances.

### Ethics Ordinance

Commissioner Henry Craig made a motion to adopt the Ethics Ordinance as presented at the public hearing. Commissioner John Westmoreland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A copy of the Ordinance is herewith attached and made an official part of the minutes at pages \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

### Timber Harvesting Ordinance

Commissioner John Westmoreland made a motion to adopt the Timber Harvesting and Removal Requirements as presented at the public hearing. Commissioner Henry Craig seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A copy of the Ordinance is herewith attached and made an official part of the minutes at pages \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

### Sale of Property on Hopewell Church Road

County Attorney David McRee presented information regarding property owned by the County located on Hopewell Church Road adjoining the Hopewell Water Tank. He stated the County will sell a portion of the property, will square up property boundaries and will fence the property around the water tank as required by Homeland Security. Mr. McRee stated all legal requirements have been met of notifying property owners around this parcel of the offer to purchase the property. One property owner responded to purchase the parcel; other property owners rejected the offer to purchase the property. The County will sell .48 acre as described for \$2,500. County Attorney McRee presented a quitclaim deed between Baldwin County Board of Commissioners and D & C Milledgeville, Inc.

Commissioner Henry Craig made a motion to approve the sale of property as described in quitclaim deed between Baldwin County and D & C Milledgeville, Inc. for the amount of \$2,500. Vice Chair Emily C. Davis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A copy of the quitclaim deed is herewith attached and made an official part of the minutes at pages \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

### New Business

Commissioner Henry Craig asked the status of the proposed increase in hotel / motel tax. County Attorney McRee responded the bill was introduced by Representative Kidd. Mr. McRee stated he anticipates no problems with passage of the bill.

Vice Chairman Emily C. Davis encouraged everyone to visit the Water Department Warehouse on Allen Memorial Drive to see improvements that have been made.

Commissioner John Westmoreland asked County Manager McMullen to look into an issue of a citizen being turned down for using the transit program.

Commissioner Westmoreland stated he has received complaints regarding the lack of parking at the Courthouse. After discussion, the County Manager and the County Attorney were instructed to review the parking agreement with the City and to contact City Manager Jarrett and City Attorney Jordan regarding a resolution.

### Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

Mr. Douglas Chambers of 110 Twin Lakes Road, SE addressed the Board regarding nuisance dogs. He stated the dogs bark excessively which is very disturbing.

Chair Hall asked County Manager McMullen to investigate this complaint; he asked County Attorney McRee to review the County's Animal Control ordinance regarding barking dogs and nuisance animals.

Ms. Carolyn Dallas of Congressman Jody Hice's office introduced herself and stated Congressman Hice and his staff are available to assist citizens of Baldwin County.

Adjournment

Vice Chair Emily C. Davis made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 6:45 p.m. Commissioner Tommy French seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sammy Hall  
Chair

Cynthia K. Cunningham  
County Clerk