

**Baldwin County Commissioners
Public Hearing and Regular Meeting
May 17, 2016
6:00 p.m.**

A Public Hearing on Rules and Regulations of Body Art and the Regular Meeting of the Baldwin County Commissioners were held Tuesday, May 17, 2016, 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
John Westmoreland

Also Present: Ralph McMullen
David McRee
Dawn Hudson
Cindy Cunningham

Call to Order

Chair Sammy Hall called the May 17, 2016, Public Hearing and Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Public Hearing

Chair Sammy Hall opened the public hearing for Rules and Regulations for Body Art. He reported that at the March 1st meeting Environmental Health County Manager Colin Duke presented information on Rules and Regulations for Body Art and Portable Sanitation. He stated these were adopted by the Baldwin County Health Department. Mr. Duke reported the Portable Sanitation Rules are a State of Georgia rule, and the Health Department is asking for local adoption for the ease of enforcement. He stated Environmental Health fees must be formally adopted by the Board of Commissioners, and presented fees associated with Body Art and Portable Sanitation regulations.

Chair Hall stated a notice of this public hearing has been published and copies of the Rules and Regulations were made available for public review and comment.

He opened the floor for public comment on the Rules and Regulations for Body Art. There were no comments from the public.

The Public Hearing was closed at 6:05 p.m.

Regular Meeting

Chair Hall opened the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Henry Craig made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 3, 2016, Regular Meeting as submitted. Vice Chair Emily C. Davis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Healthy Cities and Counties Grant

Mr. Daniel Dobbins of the Middle Georgia Regional Commission stated technical assistance letters have been received from Baldwin County and Jones County for assistance in applying for a joint Healthy Cities and Counties grant. He stated neither county would have been eligible individually due to population requirements. Mr. Dobbins discussed the purpose of the program which is to support a project that will develop community health, achieve a measureable impact toward the goal and identify a model that will be collaborative, innovative and repeatable. The project must be a new project; but, it may build on existing activities. For Tier 1 applicants, there will be four (4) winners of \$25,000 each and one (1) winner of \$250,000. He stated representatives from both Baldwin and Jones counties will meet with Middle Georgia RC staff to discuss potential projects for the application which must be submitted by May 31st.

Chair Hall asked if the program required a local match. Mr. Dobbins reported there is no local matching requirement.

County Manager Ralph McMullen stated Commissioner French, Dr. Jim Lidstone and Bill McNair will be Baldwin County's representatives for this project.

FY 17 Budget for Public Defender's Office

Finance Director Dawn Hudson presented the Public Defender's FY 17 Budget for the period July 1, 2016 – June 31, 2017 which falls in two budget years for the County. She reported the budget request is an increase of \$12,500, less the anticipated refund for Baldwin County for the current year of approximately \$7,500, resulting in a net increase of \$5,000.

Ms. Hudson stated this will not require a County budget increase for 2016, and the 2017 portion of the Public Defender's budget will be addressed during the upcoming County budget process.

Ms. Hudson presented the Indigent Defense Services Agreement as well as Attachment B – Personnel & Operating Expenditures for Baldwin County's Public Defender services.

Commissioner Henry Craig made a motion to approve the Agreement and FY 17 Budget for the Public Defender's office. Vice Chair Emily C. Davis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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

Rules and Regulations for Body Art

County Manager Ralph McMullen stated a public hearing was held on the proposed Rules and Regulations for Body Art including related fees. He stated no comments were received.

Vice Chair Emily C. Davis made a motion to adopt the Rules and Regulations for Body Art and related fees as presented. Commissioner Henry Craig seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A copy of the Rules and Regulations for Body Art is herewith attached and made an official part of the minutes at pages _____ and _____.

Rules and Regulations for Portable Sanitation

County Manager McMullen reported no public hearing is required for the Portable Sanitation Rules since this is a state rule; however, the Board of Health has requested adoption of these rules for ease of enforcement. He also presented associated fees for the Board's consideration.

Vice Chair Emily C. Davis made a motion to adopt the Rules and Regulations for Portable Sanitation and related fees as presented. Commissioner Henry Craig seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A copy of the Rules and Regulations for Portable Sanitation is herewith attached and made an official part of the minutes at pages _____ and _____.

Bids for Re-Appraisal of Real Property

Finance Director Dawn Hudson stated that in the 2013 review, Baldwin County was cited by the Georgia Department of Revenue (DOR) for not being in compliance with the residential Coefficient of Dispersion (COD) which is one method of showing uniformity of values. She stated the acceptable range cannot exceed 15%, and the County had a 2013 COD of 16.53%. Therefore, the County was cited and was given until the 2016 digest to correct this deficiency. If not corrected by 2016, the Georgia DOR Commissioner is authorized to offer a consent agreement which may waive the \$5.00 per parcel penalty. She reported that generally a consent agreement requires that the deficiencies are corrected on the next digest review year (2019). Since the County has over 21,500 parcels, the penalty could amount to over \$107,500.

Finance Director Hudson stated the Board of Assessors requested that a Request for Proposals for reappraisal services be issued. One bid was received from Georgia Mass Appraisal Solutions in the amount of \$633,000 with additional costs of \$550 per day for appeal assistance and \$125 per parcel for timer review. She reported this cost will span two budget years with approximately \$265,000 coming from the 2016 budget and will be funded from the Tax Assessors' budget allocation for hiring additional staff which will not be needed due to a contract for reappraisal services. The remainder of the cost will come from contingency. The balance of the contract cost will need to be budgeted in FY 2017.

Ms. Hudson stated the Board of Assessors is requesting Commissioners' approval of the proposal and contract in order for the process to begin as soon as possible.

Commissioner Henry Craig made a motion to approve the contract with Georgia Mass Appraisal Solutions as presented. Commissioner John Westmoreland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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

Commissioner Craig asked that Chair Hall and County Manager McMullen request a plan and timeline from the Tax Assessors office for the reappraisal process.

Old Business

Commissioner John Westmoreland requested an update on Oconee Regional Medical Center. Chair Hall and Commissioner Craig stated things are moving forward, and CEO Johnson will come before the Board with specifics at a later date. They both stated they are very optimistic the hospital will remain open.

New Business

There was no new business to come before the Board.

County Manager's Report

County Manager McMullen had nothing further to report.

Public Comment Period for Non-Agenda Items

Ms. Carolyn Dallas, representative of Congressman Hice invited everyone to coffee with the Congressman. She stated details will be provided through an upcoming press release.

Adjournment

Commissioner Henry Craig made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 6:25 p.m. Commissioner Tommy French seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sammy Hall
Chair

Cynthia K. Cunningham
County Clerk

