

Baldwin County Commissioners
Work Session
September 7, 2017
5:00 p.m.

A Work Session of the Baldwin County Commissioners was held Thursday, September 7, 2017, at 5:00 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: David McRee
Ralph McMullen
Cindy Cunningham
Dawn Hudson

Call to Order

Chair Sammy Hall called the Work Session to order at 5:00 p.m.

Property Maintenance Ordinance

Chair Hall stated the County has discussed property maintenance issues many times over the years. He stated a Safe Property Standards Ordinance was adopted by Commissioners in 2014 to address vacant, dilapidated, uninhabitable and unsafe structures as well as swimming pools. However, property maintenance issues continue in Baldwin County. He stated tonight's Work Session will afford Commissioners the opportunity to again discuss this issue during a presentation by Safebuilt Representative Cassandra Huntley.

Ms. Huntley discussed the International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC) as a baseline tool that would give Baldwin County guidance in carrying out the directives of the Board to ensure compliance in property management. She presented information about how the IPMC would work to the County's benefit to address property management issues citing issues she has dealt with in other cities/counties and how they were resolved. She reported the main objective of adopting the code is to encourage voluntary compliance. She stated program would be complaint driven not proactive enforcement, and it has been very successful in other jurisdictions. She stated the Commissioners can set parameters that are best suited for this County and would work best in conjunction with other agencies such as the health department, DFCS, senior citizens agencies to name a few.

Ms. Huntley discussed her experience with the process used to address such issues. She recommended the Commissioners establish a process for Baldwin County and present it to the Solicitor for her feedback as to how it will work best from the initial complaint to resolution.

Members of the audience asked questions about the IPMC and the overall process of compliance and enforcement. Ms. Huntley recommended having community meetings to provide information to citizens.

Commissioners commended Ms. Huntley for her informative presentation.

Adjournment

Commissioner Emily C. Davis made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 p.m.
Commissioner John Westmoreland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sammy Hall
Chair

Cynthia K. Cunningham
County Clerk