

Baldwin County Commissioners
Regular Meeting
July 2, 2019
6:00 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Baldwin County Commissioners was held Tuesday, July 2, 2019, at 6:00 p.m., Baldwin County Courthouse, Suite 319, 121 North Wilkinson Street, Milledgeville, Georgia with Chair John Westmoreland presiding.

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

Also Present: Carlos Tobar
Dawn Hudson
Cindy Cunningham
David McRee

Call to Order

Chair John Westmoreland called the July 2, 2019 Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Statement of County's Position on the Twin Lakes Library System

Chair John Westmoreland read a statement regarding the funding for Twin Lakes Library system.

Approval of Minutes

Vice Chair Henry Craig made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2019 Regular Meeting as submitted. Commissioner Sammy Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Juvenile Judge Health Insurance

Superior Court Judge William Prior and Judge Amanda Petty presented information regarding costs for health insurance premiums for the Juvenile Court Judge. They stated the District Chairman of the Circuit had been notified in February 2019 that the circuit was being billed \$46,454.40 by the County for back premiums. Judge Petty requested consideration from the County to reduce the amount for back premiums to \$30,000; thereby, forgiving \$16,000. If this is not agreed upon, a payment plan must be established.

Commissioner Emily C. Davis recommended the Judges work with the County Manager and Finance Director to come to a resolution of this matter. She asked that the minutes reflect "it is not acceptable to tell Judges no". Commissioner Tommy French agreed that the County Manager and Finance Director should work with the Judges to come up with a solution.

Vice Chair Henry Craig made a motion for Mr. Tobar and Ms. Hudson to work with Judge Prior and Judge Petty regarding a resolution to the issue. Commissioner Emily C. Davis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Appointment to Board of Health

Chair Westmoreland stated an additional name has been submitted for consideration for appointment to the Board of Health. He stated the appointment to the Board of Health will be moved to a future meeting after the 20 day vetting period on this individual has taken place.

Amendment to Moratorium on Development

County Manager Tobar stated a Work Session was held earlier today on Performance Based Community Development. He stated the County has been contacted by DCA for comments on a proposed 60 unit multi-family development on Dunlap Road. Mr. Tobar recommended amending the County's current moratorium on developments to include: no construction of multi-dwelling units (multiple dwelling units in one structure) until the new Performance Based Community Development standards are in place.

Mr. James Dean, on behalf of residents in the Dunlap area, addressed the Board opposing the development. Ms. Tracy Butts also addressed the Board opposing the development.

Vice Chair Henry Craig made a motion to amend the Moratorium on Development to include no construction of multi-dwelling units (multiple dwelling units in one structure). Commissioner Emily C. Davis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Repurposing Old Jail for Animal Shelter

County Manager Carlos Tobar reported different options have been looked into for an Animal Shelter facility. After meeting with Commissioners and staff about the proposed options, he stated his recommendation is to repurpose the old jail for the Animal Shelter. He presented cost estimates for various options. He requested authorization to allow him to value engineer the project.

Commissioner Sammy Hall expressed his concern about the project coming in over budget. Mr. Tobar assured him the project would be within the budget.

Vice Chair Henry Craig made a motion to move forward with repurposing the old jail per option 6 as presented. Commissioner Tommy French seconded the motion and the motion failed by the following vote:

Aye: Craig, French

Nay: Hall, Davis, French

Commissioner Sammy Hall made a motion to repurpose the old jail for an Animal Shelter with a maximum expenditure not to exceed \$220,000. Commissioner Emily C. Davis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Old Business

Commissioner Davis requested an update on the grass cutting schedule, especially cutting around fire hydrants.

New Business

There was no new business to come before the Board.

County Manager's Report

County Manager Carlos Tobar presented an update on various County projects.

Public Comment Period

The following people addressed the Board requesting continued library funding: State Librarian Julie Walker; Twin Lakes Library System Director Steven Houser; Sherrill Jones; Pam Beer; Millie Cosme; Kell Carpenter; Allison Vande Voort; Marshall Ivey and Danielle Johnson.

Mr. Harry Keim presented an update on Swim Baldwin.

Executive Session

Vice Chair Henry Craig made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session at 7:00 p.m. to discuss potential litigation. Commissioner Tommy French seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Regular Meeting

Commissioner Tommy French made a motion to reopen the Regular Meeting at 8:25 p.m. Commissioner Sammy Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Library Funding

Vice Chair Henry Craig made a motion to authorize County Manager Tobar to contact the Twin Lakes Library Board to obtain an actual figure to keep the Lake Branch of the Twin Lakes Library System open. Commissioner Sammy Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Commissioner Sammy Hall made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Commissioner Tommy French seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

John H. Westmoreland
Chair

Cynthia K. Cunningham
County Clerk