The Regular Meeting of the Baldwin County Commissioners was held Tuesday, October 7, 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 September 16, 2014 Public Hearing and Regular Meeting as submitted. Commissioner Tommy French seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Update on Development Authority Activities

Development Authority Director Matt Poyner presented an update on activities for the months of July, August, and September. He discussed meetings and various activities in support of existing industries and businesses to include GMC Tailgating for employees and families. Mr. Poyner also discussed visits with economic development partners, prospective projects, industrial park improvements including signage, and landscaping. He reported the Authority is requesting funds from the Department of Community Affairs for capital improvements such as cleaning up around the pond. He reported on DOT work in landscaping the median, and work with the City of Milledgeville on side setbacks. He reported the Fall Line Regional Development Authority anticipates the closing on state property in January 2015. The FLRDA has hired the engineering firm to assist with the Fall Line development. Mr. Poyner stated he hopes to make an announcement on a new facility in the industrial park as well as the expansion of a current industry in the very near future.

Commissioner Henry Craig stated he had requests that the public be able to fish in the pond in the Industrial Park. Matt responded the Development Authority had not allowed this in the past; however, he would take this information back to his Board.

Update on 4-H Programs and County Extension

Mr. Robbie Jones, County Extension Coordinator, reported this is the 111th Anniversary of 4-H and the 100th Anniversary of County Extension. He stated this week is also National 4-H Week. He presented information about various program events including the summer “educational road trip” and urban agriculture.

Mr. Jones presented a Proclamation, on behalf of Baldwin County, to Miss Sarai Mapp who has been recognized for her many accomplishments. Ms. Mapp has been selected
by her peers to represent Baldwin County and the Northeast District 4-H on the 2014-2015 Georgia 4-H Board of Directors, serving as the Northeast District Representative.

SAFEbuilt Contract for Services

County Manager Ralph McMullen stated Mr. Dexter Sullivan of SAFEbuilt has been before the Board previously to discuss a proposal for services to provide duties of the County Code Enforcement Office. Mr. McMullen stated Commissioners have been provided with a copy of the proposed contract for services.

Mr. Dexter Sullivan of SAFEbuilt presented information on proposed services including building official and administration services; plan review services; inspection services; property maintenance inspection services and rental housing programs. Mr. Sullivan discussed time of performance of services and a fee schedule.

Chair Hall requested a meeting between SAFEbuilt and contractors to introduce the contractors to company employees and services. Mr. Hall stated all aspects of the program and inspections must be carried out consistently.

Mr. Sullivan responded he felt certain the County will be pleased with the working relationship between SAFEbuilt, contractors, and the County. He stated with the Board’s approval, SAFEbuilt will begin services November 3, 2014.

Vice Chair Emily C. Davis made a motion to approve the SAFEbuilt Contract for Services as presented. Commissioner John Westmoreland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A copy of the Contract is on file in the Commissioners Office.

Alcoholic Beverage License Application

County Manager Ralph McMullen presented an Alcoholic Beverage License Application for a retail package store located at 101 Kings Road. Mr. McMullen stated all legal requirements of the application process have been met.

Vice Chair Emily C. Davis made a motion to authorize approval of an Alcoholic Beverage License Application for retail package store on 101 Kings Road. Commissioner Tommy French seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

2014 VOCA Continuation Awards

Finance Director Dawn Hudson presented the following three (3) Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) continuation grant awards for the Board’s consideration: Ms. Hudson stated all awards are for the period October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015. The Solicitor General’s Office continuation award is $50,128 with matching funds in the amount of $12,532 to be provided from State Court victims’ fine revenue; District Attorney’s Office award is $90,389 with matching funds in the amount of $22,597 to be provided through Superior Court victims’ fine revenue and Georgia PORCH award in the amount of $94,283 with matching funds of $23,706 to be provided through in-kind services and donations.

Chair Hall requested information for explanation of victims’ fines. Finance Director Hudson stated these are fines that are add-on fines for certain violations in Superior Court and State Court. She stated in order to utilize this type funds an agency must be a certified agency with the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, and the Solicitor, DA and PORCH are certified. She stated that if these funds are not used by the Solicitor’s Office and DA’s Office the County would have to provide funds for the cash match of the victim programs. Chair Hall stated CASA is now a certified agency, and other sources have been identified and utilized for their required match.

Commissioner Henry Craig made a motion to accept the continuation grant awards as presented and to authorize the Chair to execute necessary grant documents. Vice Chair Emily C. Davis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
Drug Task Force Application

Finance Director Hudson presented an application for funding for the Ocmulgee Drug Task Force in the amount of $151,896 with matching requirements of $59,500 to be paid by participating agencies. Baldwin County meets grant matching requirements by providing in-kind contributions of building, utilities, maintenance and gasoline for three (3) agents.

Ms. Hudson presented a Memorandum of Intergovernmental and Interagency Agreement for the Task Force detailing operations of the Ocmulgee Drug Task Force.

Finance Director Hudson requested authorization for filing the application and approval of the Agreement as presented. She stated authorization is also needed for the Chair to execute related documents.

Vice Chair Emily C. Davis made a motion to authorize the application; approve the Intergovernmental and Interagency Agreement and authorize the execution of related documents by the Chair. Commissioner John Westmoreland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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

Old Business

Vice Chair Emily C. Davis made a motion to amend the public participation policy to extend the time limit for speaking for a period over two (2) minutes. Commissioner Henry Craig seconded the motion.

Vice Chair Davis stated she felt citizens should be able to be placed on the Agenda as an official Agenda item rather than during the public comment periods.

After discussion by the Board, County Attorney David McRee was asked to amend the current Public Participation Ordinance based on Commissioners’ input. Mr. McRee stated he would present a proposed amendment to the Board at their next meeting.

Commissioner Henry Craig stated he was extremely pleased with the recent resurfacing of Bass Road. Engineer Brian Wood discussed the current LMIG resurfacing project.

Commissioner Craig requested an update on the sidewalk for veterans. Engineer Wood reported the City and County staff met with GMC and DOT representatives at the site to discuss more detailed plans. He stated a survey must be completed to show utilities and easements in the affected area.

New Business

There was no new business to come before the Board.

Public Comment Period for Non-Agenda Items

Reverend Charles Reeves addressed the Board regarding the condition of Lumpkin Road. He discussed drainage problems and requested the County clean out a sand trap that was installed to keep sediment out of his pond. He stated no speed limit sign and no blind drive sign are on the road.

Chair Hall asked County Manager McMullen to provide additional information regarding the issue. Mr. McMullen reported the County must have an easement for right-of-way in order for County forces to assist with the drainage issue. He stated the County cannot work on private property to correct the situation, and Rev. Reeves has not been willing to give the County the needed easement.
After discussion, Chair Hall asked County Manager McMullen and County Engineer Wood to meet with Rev. Reeves to identify the property stake and to discuss steps needed to address the drainage issue. Chair Hall asked that the matter regarding a speed limit sign and blind drive sign be looked into as well.

Adjournment

Vice Chair Emily C. Davis made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:15 p.m. Commissioner John Westmoreland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sammy Hall
Chair

Cynthia K. Cunningham
County Clerk