

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, June 11, 2009, at 6:00 p.m. in the commissioners' conference room. Those present were Chairman H. Wade Johnson; Commissioner Darrel Henderson, District One; Commissioner Larry Collins, District Two; Commissioner Cooper Cliatt, District Three; Commissioner Rob Robinson, District Four; Mr. Stephen Brown, Attorney, attending in the absence of Mr. Barry Fleming, County Attorney; and Mrs. Roxanne B. Ashmore, County Clerk.

1.

Call Meeting to Order

Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order.

2.

Invocation

Commissioner Cliatt opened the meeting with prayer.

3.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed the invocation.

4.

Approval of Minutes

On motion by Commissioner Collins, seconded by Commissioner Henderson, the board voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the previous meetings.

5.

Approval of Agenda

On motion by Commissioner Cliatt, seconded by Commissioner Collins, the board voted unanimously to approve the agenda with the addition of Item #17A – Public Safety Director.

6.

Remarks

Chairman Johnson reported that the Corps of Engineers had requested that the county hold off taking over Cherokee until August because they had some stimulus money that will be used to fix the roads and fix a courtesy dock.

Chairman Johnson also reported that following some suggestions from the public, the Planning Commission will be making some suggestions for changes to the Land Development Code.

Chairman Johnson informed the board that Mr. Ernest, the low bidder for the courthouse camera system, could not provide the cameras for the price of \$6,000.

Chairman Johnson said that the FY2010 budget is ready for review. He thanked the constitutional officers and department heads for the cuts they made in their budgets. He also thanked the commissioners for their hard work.

Chairman Johnson said that as of right now, the budget is balanced without a tax increase and without furloughs, which means that as of July 1st, the county's furloughed employees can come back to work full time.

Chairman Johnson commended the board for voting to have the new eternal flame installed in front of the courthouse by a private citizen and his family. He said that he would like for the board to think about approving to set up an account for donations to the eternal flame to cover the cost of gas and maintenance for the flame.

Chairman Johnson informed everyone that there had been a good turnout at the expo.

Mrs. Nancy Blount, with Family Connection, announced that they had raised over \$6,500 for the Ferst Foundation for Childhood Literacy and that they plan to make the expo an annual event.

Mrs. Blount also announced that the summer camp is underway at the gym and that there is approximately 60 children registered for each two week session, with 30 on the waiting list.

Chairman Johnson reported on the ongoing problems with the gym floor. He said that in the future, the county representatives, the contractor, and the subcontractor will meet with an independent floor expert out of Atlanta.

Chairman Johnson welcomed Ashley Banks as the new director of the Lincoln County Development Authority.

7.

Departmental Reports

Public Safety Department

Ms. Wanda Duncan, Interim Public Safety Director, reported a total of 96 calls for the month of May.

Recreation Department

Ms. Kathie Davis, Recreation Director, reported that adult softball will begin June 16th and end August 4th.

Director Davis also reported that Thunder Over Thurmond tournament is schedule for June 25th in McCormick.

She went on to report that a three day football camp will be held in July and that swimming lessons are scheduled for the week of June 22nd.

She also reported that water aerobics will be held at the pool and that classes are scheduled to begin in July.

Finance Department

Mrs. Traci Bussey, Finance Director, submitted her written report to the board.

Public Works Department

Mr. Roby Seymour, Public Works Director, reported a total of 1,336 water customers and 491 availability customers with a monthly billing of \$49,003.95.

Director Seymour also reported that the City of Lincolnton has installed a new generator at the water treatment plant, which will also benefit the county and that the mayor and council has asked that the county pay \$700 a month to help offset the cost.

He said the county currently has a quasi-agreement in place to increase the rate we pay the city for wholesale water by seven cents per 1,000 gallons, which will take care of our portion of the generator.

He said that the new rate of \$1.38 per 1,000 gallons will go into effect July 1, 2009.

Planning and Zoning Department

Mr. Roby Seymour, Planning and Zoning Director, reported a total of 1 new and 4 renewal business licenses issued for revenues of \$315 and zoning revenues of \$400. There were 26 permits issued for revenues of \$1,346.

8.

On motion by Commissioner Collins, seconded by Commissioner Henderson, the board voted unanimously to go into a public hearing.

Public Hearing

Special Use

Applicant: Nellie McGee

On motion by Commissioner Cliatt, seconded by Commissioner Robinson, the board voted unanimously to grant a special use permit to Nellie McGee to accommodate an assisted living/personal care home.

Variance Request

Applicant: Charleston Bay, LLC

On motion by Commissioner Collins, seconded by Commissioner Robinson, the board voted unanimously to deny a request for a lot area variance to revise the 79.45 acre Charleston Bay Subdivision.

On motion by Commissioner Collins, seconded by Commissioner Cliatt, the board voted unanimously to come out of the public hearing.

9.

Maintenance Bond for Serenity Pointe Subdivision

On motion by Commissioner Cliatt, seconded by Commissioner Henderson, the board voted unanimously to release cash escrow in exchange for bonds in the amount of \$505,000.

10.

Update on August 5th Corps of Engineers Appreciation Lunch

Mr. Nelson Brooks gave the board an update on the Corps of Engineers Appreciation Lunch on August 5th at the Groves May House.

Mr. Brooks requested that the county recognize Col. Ed Kertis with the Corps of Engineers. He said that with assistance from Col. Kertis, the lake levels have risen 11 feet.

The board agreed to draft a proclamation in honor of Col. Kertis.

11.

Thunder Over Thurmond Contribution

On motion by Commissioner Collins, seconded by Commissioner Robinson, the board voted unanimously to take \$4,500 out of the Hotel Motel Tax Fund to help the Chamber of Commerce sponsor the Thunder Over Thurmond fireworks.

12.

E-911 Budget Revision

On motion by Commissioner Henderson, seconded by Commissioner Cliatt, the board voted unanimously to adjust the E-911 budget from \$118,000 to \$165,000 to allow the E-911 to finish reimbursing the General Fund for the CAD system that was purchased in 2006.

13.

Award Bid for New Tractor

On motion by Commissioner Cliatt, seconded by Commissioner Henderson, the board voted unanimously to award the bid for the new tractor to Blanchard Equipment in the amount of \$23,000.

14.

Approval to Accept Request for Proposals for New Ambulance

On motion by Commissioner Collins, seconded by Commissioner Cliatt, the board voted unanimously to issue a request for proposals for a new ambulance.

15.

DHR Coordinated Transportation Contract

On motion by Commissioner Collins, seconded by Commissioner Henderson, the board voted unanimously to approve a contract with CSRA Regional Development Center for reimbursement of trips for the transit system in the amount of \$11,558.

16.

Board Appointments

Dept. of Family and Children Services Board - District Two

Commissioner Collins was not prepared to make an appointment at this time.

Library Board - District One

Commissioner Henderson was not prepared to make an appointment at this time.

17.

Executive Session – Personnel Issues

On motion by Commissioner Henderson, seconded by Commissioner Robinson, the board voted unanimously to go into executive session at 6:58 p.m.

On motion by Commissioner Henderson, seconded by Commissioner Cliatt, the board voted unanimously to come out of executive session at 7:38 p.m.

There was on personal matter discussed and there were no actions or votes taken while in executive session.

On motion by Commissioner Cliatt, seconded by Commissioner Henderson, the board voted unanimously to authorize Chairman Johnson to sign the executive session affidavit.

17A.

Public Safety Director

On motion by Commissioner Henderson, seconded by Commissioner Robinson, the board voted unanimously to hire Danny Smith as the new Lincoln County EMA Director for a six month trial period, to work into a permanent position.

On motion by Commissioner Cliatt, seconded by Commissioner Collins, the board voted unanimously to set Mr. Smith's salary at \$40,000 and that following a six month trial period, he will receive a proposed salary increase of \$2,000 to \$3,000.

18.

Adjourn

On motion by Commissioner Cliatt, seconded by Commissioner Henderson, the board voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:44 p.m.

H. Wade Johnson, Chairman

Roxanne B. Ashmore, County Clerk