

The Agenda Setting Meeting of the Oconee County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, March 25, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. in the Commission Meeting Chambers at the Oconee County Courthouse.

Members Present:

Chairman Melvin Davis
Commissioner Jim Luke
Commissioner Donald H. Norris
Commissioner Margaret Hale
Commissioner Chuck Horton

Staff Present:

Administrative Officer Alan Theriault
County Attorney Daniel Haygood
County Clerk Gina M. Lindsey

Jeff Benko, Finance Director
John Hatcher, Utility Director
Wayne Provost, Strategic Planning Director
BR White, Planning Director
Steve Hansford, Code Enforcement Director
Bruce Thaxton, Fire Chief
John Gentry, Parks and Recreation Director

Media Present:

Vinnie Williams, The Oconee Enterprise
Adam Thompson, Athens Banner Herald

Chairman Davis began the meeting with a Moment of Silence. Commissioner Norris led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Animal Control Advisory Board: The Board interviewed John Caudill, Maria Caudill, Steve Holzman and Ed Kennedy for appointment to the Oconee County Animal Control Advisory Board. Two 2-year terms will expire on June 30, 2008. The Board will take action on these appointments at the April 1, 2008 meeting.

Family and Children Services Board: The Board interviewed Jean Downs Branton for appointment to the Oconee County Family and Children Services Board. One 5-year term will expire on June 30, 2008. Applicant Mary Jo Gerlach was unable to attend. The Board will take action on this appointment at the April 1, 2008 meeting.

Keep Oconee County Beautiful Commission: The Board interviewed Monica Ali, Susan Harris, Mary Mellein and Penny Mills for appointment to the Keep Oconee County Beautiful Commission. Four 3-year terms will expire on June 30, 2008 and two vacancies will expire on June 30, 2010. Applicant Esther Porter was unable to attend. The Board will take action on these appointments at the April 1, 2008 meeting.

Impact Fees Study Committee: On motion by Commissioner Hale and second by Commissioner Norris, the Board voted unanimously to accept Jon William's application for appointment to the Impact Fees Study Committee. Mr. William's application was received 17 minutes after the deadline due to problems with his fax machine.

The Board interviewed Ken Beall, Bob Cain, William Crozier, Doug Dickens, Amrey Harden, Mary Mellein, Penny Mills, Russ Page, Mike Power, Flynn Warren and Jon Williams for appointment to the Study Committee. Applicant Chuck Williams was unable to attend. The Board will take action on these appointments at the April 1, 2008 meeting.

Hard Labor Creek Reservoir Bond Resolution: Bryce Holcomb of Citigroup reported the Walton County Water and Sewerage Authority Revenue Bonds (Oconee – Hard Labor Creek Reservoir Project), Series 2008, in the aggregate principal amount of \$19,535,000, were successfully issued on the morning of March 25, 2008. The bond proceeds will finance Oconee County's portion of construction costs for the 1,370-acre Hard Labor Creek Reservoir, a water treatment facility and storage and transmission infrastructure.

Mr. Holcomb noted that given the high demand by retail and institutional investors, Citigroup was able to secure an average interest rate of 4.996%. He commended the Board of Commissioners on the assignment of a Aa3 rating by Moody's Investors Service.

Commissioner Norris made the motion to adopt the Hard Labor Creek Bond Resolution and the Bond Purchase Agreement. Commissioner Luke seconded the motion. Commissioners Norris, Luke and Hale voted yes. Commissioner Horton vote no. The motion passed to

approve the Hard Labor Creek Bond Resolution and the Bond Purchase Agreement. ***See Documentation in Ordinances and Resolutions Book No. 18.***

Joint Comprehensive Plan Community Agenda: On motion by Commissioner Hale and second by Commissioner Horton, the Board unanimously approved the adoption of the Joint Comprehensive Plan Community Agenda for Oconee County and the Cities of Bishop, Bogart, North High Shoals and Watkinsville. ***See Documentation in Ordinances and Resolutions Book No. 18.***

Burglar and Fire Alarms Ordinance Amendment: Fire Chief Bruce Thaxton requested an amendment to the Ordinance Regulating the Operations and Maintenance of Burglar and Fire Alarms to enact more stringent penalties for false alarms in an effort to reduce calls for service to false alarms. Chief Thaxton requested an increase in the fines for violations of over four false alarms per calendar year as follows: \$100 for the fifth alarm violation, \$200 for the sixth alarm violation, \$400 for the seventh alarm violation and \$800 for any additional alarm violations. Sheriff Scott Berry had previously communicated his support of the proposed amendment.

By consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda for April 1, 2008.

Surplus Pumper Truck: Fire Chief Bruce Thaxton requested the Board deem a 1985 Ford C800 Pumper Truck located at Fire Station No. 1 as surplus and authorize its disposal. Chief Thaxton said he would like to give the Oglethorpe County Fire Departments the first option to buy the Pumper, valued at \$5,000. If the Oglethorpe County Fire Departments are not interested, the truck will be placed out for sealed bids.

By consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda for April 1, 2008.

Oconee Community Complex Change Orders: Lance Large of W.K. Dickson & Company and Ed Czyncon presented Change Orders No. 9 and No. 10 to the contract with F.E. Sims Enterprises for the Oconee Community Complex.

Change Order No. 9, in the amount of \$66,103.78, is to provide roof drain systems for both the Senior Center and Community Center buildings. Mr. Czyncon said that although the roof drains were in the specifications, they were not shown on the architectural plans.

Change Order No. 10, in the amount of \$153,193.73, is to make changes required by the Fire Marshall regarding occupancy calculations; address structural issues stemming from the designed use of tapered columns to construct the gymnasium; and, miscellaneous steel used in both the Senior Center and Community Center buildings not detailed in the contract drawings.

Finance Director Jeff Benko stated funds are available from investment earnings of the General Obligation Bonds.

By consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda for April 1, 2008.

Abandoned Well – Tramlin Acres: Utility Director John Hatcher requested the Board deem the well lot off Creek Hollow Run (Tramlin Acres) as surplus and authorize its disposal by sealed bids. Mr. Hatcher said the well has been out of service for 10+ years due to poor quality water. EPD has requested the well be filled in and demolished in order to comply with regulations for “abandoned” wells.

By consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda for April 1, 2008.

Rocky Branch Water Reclamation Facility – Construction Manager at Risk: Utility Director John Hatcher presented a proposal by Precision Planning, Inc. to assist with the preparation and administration of a Request for Proposals for Construction Manager at Risk for the Rocky Branch Water Reclamation Facility project. In addition to the preparation and advertisement of the RFP, PPI proposes to administer the proposal review process with county staff and review team members, coordinate interviews and verify references and relevant experience of each firm as required.

By consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda for April 1, 2008.

Water Line/Fire Protection – Elder Heights, Laurel Chase, Pleasant Hill Subdivisions: Utility Director John Hatcher requested authorization to advertise for the engineering of fire protection water lines to be extended to Elder Heights, Laurel Chase and Pleasant Hill Subdivisions, as part of the Board of Commissioners’ approved policy to extend water lines into areas served by private water systems.

By consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda for April 1, 2008.

Jennings Mill Parkway - Renaming: Strategic and Long-Range Planning Director Wayne Provost presented a recommendation by the Land Use and Transportation Planning Committee to name the road extending from the intersection of Mars Hill Road and Daniells Bridge Road north to GA 316, continuing over GA 316 to the new Loop 10 interchange, to Epps Bridge Parkway at Lowes, across to Home Depot, over Loop 10 at the proposed flyover and ending at Daniells Bridge Road as “The Oconee Connector”. The recommendation also includes renaming the section of Hollow Creek Lane that runs in front of Oak Ridge Subdivision as “Old Mars Hill Road”.

By consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda for April 1, 2008.

Ordinance Regulating the Sale of Wine and Malt Beverages: On motion by Commissioner Horton and second by Commissioner Luke, the Board voted unanimously to hold the First Reading of an Ordinance Regulating the Sale of Wine and Malt Beverages in Oconee County on Tuesday, April 1, 2008, with the Second Reading and Final Action to be held at a Called Meeting on Tuesday, April 8, 2008.

Rezone Request No. 5639, Rezone Request No. 5640, Rezone Request No. 5641, Rezone Request No. 5642 and Variance Request No. 5647 – Barber Creek Land Company: On motion by Commissioner Luke and second by Commissioner Horton, the Board voted unanimously to postpone the public hearing and action on Rezone Request No. 5639, Rezone Request No. 5640, Rezone Request No. 5641, Rezone Request No. 5642, and Variance Request No. 5647 by Barber Creek Land Company, LLP to the May 6, 2008 meeting as requested by the applicant’s representative.

April 1, 2008 Agenda: The agenda for the April 1, 2008 meeting was read by County Clerk Gina M. Lindsey.

Executive Session: On motion by Commissioner Luke and second by Commissioner Norris, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters and litigation. No action was taken.

On motion by Commissioner Horton and second by Commissioner Norris, the Board adjourned Executive Session.

On motion by Commissioner Luke and second by Commissioner Norris, the Board adjourned back into Regular Session.

There being no further business, on motion by Commissioner Horton and second by Commissioner Hale, the meeting was adjourned.

County Clerk

Chairman

Date