

The Agenda Setting Meeting of the Oconee County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, April 22, 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
Emil Beshara, Public Works Director
Rusty Haygood, Econ Development Director

Media Present: Vinnie Williams, The Oconee Enterprise

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

Transfer of Development Rights Study Committee: Chairman Davis reported ten applications were received for appointment to the Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Study Committee. He noted there was concern that no applications were received from the local planning consultants or legal community. There is also a need for more representation from property owners in both the sending and receiving areas. By consensus, the Board agreed to extend the application period and advertise for additional applications. Any additional applicants will be asked to attend the May 27, 2008 meeting for interviews.

The Board interviewed Bob Allen, Sarah Bell, Gene Higginbotham, Penny Mills, Sam Mitchell, Russ Page, Ed Perkins and Thomas Verner for appointment to the TDR Study Committee. Applicants Anthony Glenn and Chuck Williams were unable to attend.

Metal Siding on a Residential Home: Administrative Officer Alan Theriault reported Frederick Cartey submitted a request to deviate from the Unified Development Code standards to allow the installation of metal siding on a private residence he is constructing at 1541 Jerusalem Road. Mr. Cartey would like to use a metal siding that gives the appearance of board and batten lumber and is maintenance-free.

Mr. Theriault explained the Unified Development Code prohibits metal siding, except for manufactured homes in the M-H zoning district (UDC Section 304.03). He noted, however, UDC Section 304.06 allows for the Board of Commissioners to approve deviations from the standards on a case by case basis.

On motion by Commissioner Horton and second by Commissioner Hale, the Board unanimously approved Mr. Cartey's request to deviate from the Unified Development Code to allow for metal siding on a residential home located at 1541 Jerusalem Road.

Oconee County Utility Department Awards: Utility Director John Hatcher reported the Oconee County Utility Department has recently received awards by the Georgia Water and Pollution Control Association for 2007. The Oconee County – Watkinsville Groundwater System was the recipient of the 6-year Platinum Award. The Oconee County Calls Creek Wastewater Reclamation Facility was the recipient of the Gold Award for the 3rd consecutive year.

Mr. Hatcher expressed his appreciation to Retired Utility Director Gary Dodd for his role in Oconee County's designation as a WaterFirst Community by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs.

May 6, 2008 Agenda: The agenda for the May 6, 2008 meeting was read by County Clerk Gina M. Lindsey.

Citizen Remarks: Tracy Carson addressed the Board of Commissioners on the recent approval of the ordinance regulating the sale of wine and malt beverages in Oconee County.

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

County Clerk

Chairman

Date