

**TALBOT COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

FREEMAN MONTGOMERY, CHAIRMAN
FRANKLIN HOLMES, VICE CHAIRMAN
KEN CHAPMAN, COMMISSIONER
ROBERT LANIER, COMMISSIONER
SHER'LONDA WALKER, COMMISSIONER



SANDRA HIGGINBOTHAM
COUNTY MANAGER
CAROL ISON, CLERK/ASST. MANAGER
JOSHUA BUCKNER, ROAD
SUPERINTENDENT

January 9, 2012

The Talbot County Board of Commissioners held their regular scheduled monthly Board Meeting on Monday, January 9, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the County Commission Office, located at 74 West Monroe Street, Talbotton, Georgia. All Commissioners, the County Attorney, County Manager, and the County Clerk/Assistant County Manager were in attendance.

Chairman Freeman Montgomery called the regular Board Meeting to order, and led everyone in a moment of silence, and the recitation of the "Pledge of Allegiance."

At this time, Chairman Montgomery asked if there were any additional items to be added to the agenda.

Commissioner Walker added the following two items:

- 1) Zoning Non Compliance and Penalties
- 2) Use of County Facilities

Commissioner Chapman made a motion, and Vice Chairman Holmes seconded, for the Board to approve the Minutes from the December 5, 2011 Regular Board Meeting. Vote passed 5-0-0.

Commissioner Chapman made a motion, and Commissioner Lanier seconded, for the Board of Commissioner's Officer's to remain the same for 2012. Vote passed 5-0-0.

Vice Chairman Holmes made a motion, and Commissioner Lanier seconded, for the Board to approve the reappointment of Andy Dodgen as the County Attorney, Sandra Higginbotham as the County Manager, and Carol Ison as the County Clerk/Assistant County Manager for 2012. Vote passed 5-0-0.

Commissioner Lanier made a motion, and Commissioner Walker seconded, for the Board to approve the EMC Engineering Services agreement, for Phase Two of the 2011 Community Development Block Grant. The fees will be based on ten percent of the construction cost, or \$39,982.00, whichever is greater, subject to the recommended changes by the County Attorney. Vote passed 5-0-0.

Slade Johnson approached the Board and gave a brief synopsis of the Military Zone Designation Tax Credit Incentives.

Following the discussion, Vice Chairman Holmes made a motion, and Commissioner Walker seconded, for the Board to approve sending the Department of Community Affairs a formal request to deem Talbot County eligible for Military Zone designation, and adopt a Resolution for designation. The County Attorney will draft the proposed Resolution. Vote passed 5-0-0.

W. T. Sizemore was not present. The County Attorney informed the Board that all of the parties involved in the Slaker Road easement issue had been satisfied, and Mr. Sizemore was able to obtain a building permit.

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Commissioner Walker informed the Board that she advised Izella Bryant to come to the Board Meeting to explain her situation regarding the garbage collection fees.

Ms. Bryant told the Board that she did not have much garbage, and she only put it out for pick up about twice a year. She informed them that she was on a fixed income, and could not afford the garbage fee.

Chairman Montgomery informed Ms. Bryant that the County had adopted an Ordinance mandating everyone that had a dwelling, with electricity, to pay the garbage service fee.

Commissioner Lanier informed the Board that he would like to look into Ms. Bryant's situation before making a decision. The Board verbally agreed.

Ruby Smith approached the Board with complaints on the condition of Waverly Hall Road. She told them that she would like to see something put on the road that would stay.

Chairman Montgomery directed the Road Department Superintendent to harrow up the road, and pack the gravel with a roller, to see if that will keep the gravel from washing off of the road bed.

Commissioner Walker made a motion, and Vice Chairman Holmes seconded, for the Board to approve an invoice from Moose Fire Pump Service, not to exceed \$13,500.00, for a new impeller shaft assembly for Engine 41, at the O'Neal Volunteer Fire Department. Special Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) funds will be used to repair the truck. Vote passed 5-0-0.

Colonel Ron Clark Representing Fort Benning and the 192nd Brigade updated the Board on upcoming events that are going to be held at Fort Benning.

Commissioner Lanier made a motion, and Vice Chairman Holmes seconded, for the Board to approve the Intergovernmental Contract between the Middle Flint Regional E9-1-1 Authority and Talbot County, for Talbot County to become an equity member of the Authority. Vote Passed 5-0-0.

Commissioner Walker made a motion, and Vice Chairman Holmes seconded, for the Board to approve the proposed Promissory Note to Middle Flint Regional E9-1-1 Authority in the amount of One Hundred Ten Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty-One Dollars (\$110,751.00). Payments shall be made in ninety-six (96) monthly payments of \$1,299.06. Vote passed 5-0-0.

Chairman Montgomery directed the County Manager to schedule a workshop to discuss the address signage for E9-1-1.

Commissioner Lanier made a motion, and Vice Chairman Holmes seconded, for the Board to appoint Ms. Shirley Cook to fill the unexpired term of Reverand McManious, on the Talbot County Department of Family and Children Services (DFACS) Board. The term will end June 30, 2012. Vote passed 5-0-0.

Commissioner Lanier made a motion, and Vice Chairman Holmes seconded, for the Board to approve the proposed agreement between Talbot County and the Board of Water Commissioners of Columbus, Georgia. The Agreement authorized them to perform analytical tests in their laboratories according to and in conformance with methods by the Environmental Protective Services (EPA), Environmental Protections Division (EPD), or other regulatory agencies or bodies. Vote passed 5-0-0.

The Road Department Superintendent, Josh Buckner informed the Board that he received a written notification from the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) that the Gorman Road (CR 17) Bridge over CSX Railroad required immediate closing due to the deterioration of the timber member structure. He informed them that the bridge was in the City Limits of Talbotton.

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Chairman Montgomery told Josh to help with closing the Gorman Road Bridge if the City requested his help.

Josh also informed the Board that he spoke with Dane Bishop at Georgia Department of Transportation (DOT) regarding the culverts on Cartledge Road.

Commissioner Walker informed the Board that she would like to discuss problems related to the use of county facilities in Executive Session.

Commissioner Walker informed the Board that Sammy Sizemore was still in violation of the Talbot County Zoning Ordinance, she told them that she was still receiving complaints from some of her constituents. She asked Paul Higginbotham, the Building, and Zoning Director if he would issue Mr. Sizemore a citation.

Mr. Higginbotham told Commissioner Walker that he would issue Sammy Sizemore a citation,for violating the Talbot County Zoning Ordinance.

The County Manager informed the Board that the Inmate Medical Program now includes an additional savings when a county inmate requires emergency medical care.

Commissioner Lanier made a motion, and Commissioner Walker seconded, for the Board to appoint Sandra Higginbotham to serve on the Regional Transportation Board. Vote passed 5-0-0.

The County Attorney informed the Board that the title to the property in Oak Mountain Estates that Robert Corbett wants to donate to Talbot County appears to be clear.

Vice Chairman Holmes made a motion, and Commissioner Lanier seconded, for the Board to approve the travel request for Carol Ison to attend Clerks Training in Athens, February 5-7. Vote passed 5-0-0.

Commissioner Lanier made a motion, and Commissioner Chapman seconded, for the Board to go into Executive Session at 7:05 pm, to discuss real estate, possible litigation, and personnel matters. Vote passed 5-0-0.

Chairman Montgomery left during Executive Session.

Vice Chairman Holmes called the Regular Meeting Back to order at 8:25 pm.

No decisions were made in Executive Session.

Commissioner Lanier made a motion, and Commissioner Chapman seconded, for the Board to authorize the County Manager to proceed with obtaining bids for security cameras for the Tax Assessor's Office, Senior Center, Recreation Department, and the County Commission Office. Vote passed 4-0-0.

Commissioner Walker is going to research surrounding counties to see what their policies are for use of Public Facilities.

There being no further business, Commissioner Walker made a motion for the Board Meeting to adjourn. Commissioner Lanier seconded the motion. Vote passed 4-0-0.

Freeman Montgomery, Chairman

Date

Carol Ison, County Clerk