

**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**

December 5, 2011

The Talbot County Board of Commissioners held a Public Hearing and their regular scheduled monthly Board Meeting on Monday, December 5, 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, with the exception of Commissioner Chapman due to a previous engagement, were in attendance. The County Attorney, County Manager, and the County Clerk were also in attendance.

Chairman Montgomery called the Public Hearing to order.

Paul Higginbotham, the Building and Zoning Director, informed everyone that the Public Hearing was being held to discuss the rezoning request submitted by Lafarge Building Materials, Inc., to rezone property located on Geneva Highway from A1 (Agriculture) to I1 (Industrial), for the operation of a rock quarry.

Attorney Doug Dillard, representing Lafarge Building Materials, Inc. informed everyone that an amendment had been filed and the correct applicant for the rezoning request was J.F. Alexander Lumber Company, LLLP.

Mr. Dillard gave a brief synopsis outlining the positive impact that the proposed rock quarry would have on Talbot County.

Larry Ennis, representing Environmental Resource Development LLC, gave a presentation defining the impact of rock mining and the positive economic development it would have on Talbot County, by creating new jobs and additional tax revenue for the county.

The Chairman gave everyone the opportunity to speak in favor of, or in opposition to, the rezoning request.

The following individuals spoke in opposition to the rezoning request and voiced their concerns of possible health risk, noise, property devaluation, and water supply, etc, regarding the proposed rock quarry.

1. Tony Evans
2. Jim Thomas
3. J.M (Mac) Bennett
4. Betty Lippitt
5. Frank Jordan
6. D. Raines Jordan
7. Tom Green
8. Andy Seery
9. James Ferguson

Doug Dillard, Bud Harrison, and Larry Ennis spoke in favor of the rezoning request.

There being no further discussion, Chairman Montgomery closed the Public Hearing.

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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.

Vice Chairman Holmes made a motion, and Commissioner Lanier seconded, for the Board to approve the Minutes from the November 7, 2011 Regular Board Meeting. Vote passed 4-0-0.

The County Attorney recommended that the Board defer the rezoning application submitted by Lafarge Building Materials, Inc. until the February 6th Board Meeting, to allow time for the Building and Zoning Director to erect the zoning ordinance signs and properly advertise the Public Hearing in accordance with the law.

Following the discussion, Commissioner Walker made a motion, and Vice Chairman Holmes seconded, for the Board to approve deferring the rezoning application submitted by Lafarge Building Materials, Inc. until the February 6th Board Meeting. Vote passed 4-0-0.

Joel Womack & Chris Brazell, Representing EMC Engineering Services Inc. made a request to postpone the approval of the Engineering Services Agreement for the 2011 Community Development Block Grant Project until the January Board Meeting, due to the lengthy time of the Public Hearing.

Tom Sizemore accompanied by his Attorney, Joe Powell approached the Board regarding his previous request for a building permit. Attorney Powell informed the Board that the Slaker's were not able to attend the meeting, but if both parties were in agreement to the ingress and egress of the property they would like to be at the January Board Meeting to proceed with the building permit request.

Major Toby Moore Representing Fort Benning and the 192nd Brigade informed the Board of upcoming events that are going to be held at Fort Benning.

Vice Chairman Holmes made a motion, and Commissioner Walker seconded for the Board to approve the qualifying fees, as presented by Cheyenne Pinkston, Chairperson of the Election Board. Vote passed 4-0-0.

The qualifying fees are as follows:

- 1) Clerk of Superior Court - \$1,229.04
- 2) Probate Judge/Chief Magistrate - \$1,578.31
- 3) Sheriff - \$1,407.54
- 4) Tax Commissioner - \$1,229.04
- 5) Coroner - \$36.00
- 6) County Commissioner - \$216.00
- 7) Board of Education D-1 - \$117.00
D-2 - \$123.00
D-3 - \$108.00

Jerry Anthony, EMS Director, approached the Board with a request to proceed with the application process for an EMS Vehicle Equipment Replacement Grant.

Following the discussion, Commissioner Lanier made a motion, and Chairman Montgomery seconded, for the Board to approve for Jerry proceeding with the application process. Vote passed 4-0-0.

The Road Department Superintendent, Josh Buckner approached the Board with a request to change Mathews Road to Charlie Buckner Road, and to change Rising Sun Road back to the original name, Sun Rise Road.

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The Board told Josh that they had no objections to changing the road names, but he would need to contact Gavin Hall, the E911 director and follow the correct procedures to have the road names changed.

The Board directed the Road Department Superintendent not to deliver more than ten (10) loads of dirt to one individual in the same time frame.

Josh informed the Board that he received a petition from Ms. Reynolds requesting that speed bumps be installed on Juniper Lake Road. Following the discussion, Chairman Montgomery directed him to put up a 35 mile per hour speed limit sign and see if that will deter people from speeding on the road.

Vice Chairman Holmes made a motion, and Commissioner Lanier seconded, for the Board to approve the Board Meeting Dates and Paid Holidays for 2012. Vote passed 4-0-0.

The County Attorney informed the Board that the Zoning Ordinance Amendments were still on the table to be approved.

Chairman Montgomery informed him that they would schedule a called meeting the first of the year to discuss the amendments.

The County Attorney also informed the Board that he would check the title for the property in Oak Mountain Estates that Mr. Robert J. Corbett wants to donate to the County, and have it ready to present at the January 9, 2012 Board Meeting.

COMMISSIONER UPDATES

Commissioner Walker informed the Board that the Cheerleaders won a competition and would like to have a celebration at the gym on December 16th or 17th.

The County Manager told Commissioner Walker that she would check the calendar to see if those dates were available.

Vice Chairman Holmes made a motion, and Chairman Montgomery seconded, for the Board to go into Executive Session at 8:25 p.m. to discuss personnel, possible litigation, and real estate. Vote passed 4-0-0.

Chairman Montgomery called the regular meeting back to order at 9:35 p.m.

No decisions were made in Executive Session.

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

Freeman Montgomery, Chairman

Carol Ison, County Clerk

Date