

**TALBOT COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

FREEMAN MONTGOMERY, CHAIRMAN  
FRANKLIN HOLMES, VICE CHAIRMAN  
KEN CHAPMAN, COMMISSIONER  
RAINES JORDAN, COMMISSIONER  
SHER'LONDA WALKER, COMMISSIONER



CAROL ISON, COUNTY MANAGER

JOSHUA BUCKNER, ROAD  
SUPERINTENDENT

November 2, 2015

The Talbot County Board of Commissioners held their regular scheduled monthly Board Meeting on Monday, November 2, 2015 at 6:00 pm, at the County Commission Office, located at 74 West Monroe Street, Talbotton, Georgia. Chairman Freeman Montgomery, Vice Chairman Franklin Holmes, Commissioners, Raines Jordan, Ken Chapman and Sher'Londa Walker attended the meeting. Also in attendance was the County Attorney, Andrew Dodgen, and the County Manager, Carol Ison.

Chairman Montgomery called the meeting to order and led everyone in a moment of silence and the recitation of the "Pledge of Allegiance".

The following item was added to the agenda:

- 1) Proposed Jail Construction

Commissioner Chapman made a motion for the Board to approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner Jordan seconded the motion. The vote passed 5-0-0.

Vice Chairman Holmes made a motion, Commissioner Chapman seconded, for the Board to approve the Minutes from the October 5, 2015 Regular Meeting, October 8, 2015 Called Meeting, October 5th and October 8th, 2015 Executive Session Minutes. The vote passed 5-0-0.

A discussion was held with Doug Spitznagel, Project Manager with CSX Transportation in reference to repairing the bridge trestle over CSX, on Old Alabama Road (CR21). Mr. Spitznagel asked the Board if they would consider using LMIG funds to repair the bridge. CSX Transportation would contribute the required 10% county match if the Board was in agreement to repair the bridge, take over the maintenance and assume ownership of the bridge.

After a brief discussion, the Board informed Mr. Spitznagel that they would like for CSX Transportation to repair the bridge to its original state so the road could be re-opened.

Mr. Spitznagel is going to contact the CSX Transportation Maintenance Crew and put in a work order to repair the bridge.

Commissioner Jordan made a motion, Commissioner Walker seconded, for the Board to approve the Addendum to the Agreement between the Talbot County Board of Commissioners, the Talbot County Board of Health and Lorraine Brown, DO, PC, obligating Lorraine Brown, DO, PC, to add the Health Department as an additional insured to the physicians general liability insurance. The vote passed 5-0-0.

Vice Chairman Holmes made a motion, Commissioner Chapman seconded, for the Board to approve the 2016 Georgia Department of Transportation Federal Transit Authority 5311 Operating Contract, for \$211,265.00. The vote passed 5-0-0.

The Resolution regarding delegating authority to correct errors on the tax digest was tabled until the December Board Meeting.

Commissioner Walker made a motion, Vice Chairman Holmes seconded, for the Board to approve the proposed Resolution authorizing the filing of an application with the Georgia Department of Transportation for Public Transit Assistance under Section 5311 of the Federal Transit Authority. The vote passed 5-0-0.

A discussion was held in reference to a request from Joseph Owens, a Disabled Veteran to be granted the Disabled Veteran's Exemption for 2015 and be reimbursed for the 2015 property taxes that he has already paid. The County Attorney reiterated his opinion expressed in the regular meeting of October 5, 2015.

Following the discussion, Commissioner Jordan made a motion, Commissioner Walker seconded, for the Board to approve issuing a refund to Mr. Owens, as if he was granted the Disabled Veteran's Exemption for 2015. The vote passed 5-0-0.

Vice Chairman Holmes made a motion, Commissioner Chapman seconded, for the Board to approve the 2015 Special Revenue Budget as follows:

- Law Library \$12,244.00
- E-911 \$11,147.00
- TIA Funds \$939,745.00
- Jail Fund \$165,766.00
- Date Fund \$34,736.00
- Drug Fund \$1,173.00

The vote passed 5-0-0.

Commissioner Jordan made a motion, Commissioner Walker seconded, for the Board to approve the Fiscal Year End 2015 Auditor Budget Amendments, for \$393,335.00. The vote passed 5-0-0.

The Bids to repair the library roof was tabled until the December Board Meeting.

A discussion was held in reference to a request from Michael Key to refund \$1,996.48, to Ben Key Inc., for erroneously charged property taxes, dating back to 2007. The County Attorney advised that the applicable statutory case law authorized a refund for payments made within three years of the appeal date.

Following the discussion, Commissioner Chapman made a motion, Vice Chairman Holmes seconded, for the Board to grant Michael Key a refund for \$1,996.84. The vote passed 5-0-0.

Repairs to the Old EMS building were tabled until the December Board Meeting.

Commissioner Jordan made a motion, Commissioner Walker seconded, for the Board to approve the purchase order request from Election Supervisor, Marjorie Howard to Mascot Metropolitan, for \$1,200.00. The vote passed 5-0-0.

Vice Chairman Holmes made a motion, Commissioner Chapman seconded, for the Board to approve the purchase order request from the Tax Assessors Office to Design Soft, for \$3,181.33. The vote passed 5-0-0.

Commissioner Walker made a motion, Vice Chairman Holmes seconded, for the Board to approve the following purchase order request for O'Neal Volunteer Fire Department:

- 1) All-American Fire Equipment Inc.: \$888.00
- 2) Mobile Communications of America \$1,857.00
- 3) Tires 1<sup>st</sup> of Miller Road: \$1,443.04

The vote passed 5-0-0.

Commissioner Chapman made a motion, Commissioner Walker seconded, for the Board to approve the purchase order request from Road Department Superintendent Josh Buckner, to Tires 1<sup>st</sup> for \$1,944.12. The vote passed 5-0-0.

A discussion was held with Road Department Superintendent Josh Buckner regarding the 2016 Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant (LMIG) project. Mr. Buckner told the Board he would like to resurface the remainder of Dennis Creek Road. The approximate cost would be \$334,830.00.

No decision was made. The Board directed Mr. Buckner to assess the roads in the county to determine which roads meet the criteria for the proposed project.

Mr. Buckner gave the Board an update on Carlisle Gap Road.

Vice Chairman Holmes made a motion, Commissioner Walker seconded, for the Board to approve the purchase order request from the Road Department Superintendent, to Nextran for \$1,810.59. The vote passed 5-0-0.

The Road Department Superintendent informed the Board, the service truck was in need of repairs.

The Timber Harvesting Ordinance was tabled until the December Board Meeting.

A discussion was held in reference to a citation that was issued to Sammy Sizemore of AACR Recycling Center for noncompliance of the Talbot County Zoning Ordinance.

A hearing on the above citation was held at 11:00 A.M. November 2, 2015 in the Magistrate Court of Talbot County. Mr. Paul Higginbotham appeared on behalf of the Talbot County Board of Commissioners and Mr. Sammy Sizemore also appeared.

Judge Terry ruled to continue the county ordinance violation against Mr. Sizemore until the Talbot County Board of Commissioners decides by vote what expectations the Board has of Mr. Sizemore as far as specifications of a fence for both properties.

Mr. Sizemore wanted the following statement documented in the minutes "Judge Terry did not say anyone called him, he stated it was not clear in the minutes".

Mr. Sizemore informed the Board that he installed a six foot concrete fence, and asked if this would be sufficient.

Mr. Sizemore is in agreement to plant a barrier of Leyland Cypress, but he is concerned that Georgia Power will cut them down, since they will be planted under the power lines. He asked the Board if they would allow him to plant pampas grass in place of the Leyland Cypress.

The County Attorney is going to research the Talbot County Zoning Ordinance and contact Paul Higginbotham to discuss the matter.

The County Manager was directed to contact Judge Terry to let him know the County Attorney is researching the Zoning Ordinance and the Board will reach a decision at the December 7, 2015 Board Meeting.

Vice Chairman Holmes made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:30 pm. Commissioner Chapman seconded the motion. The vote passed 5-0-0.

Chairman Montgomery called the meeting back to order at 8:17 pm.

No decisions were made in Executive session, personnel and real estate were discussed.

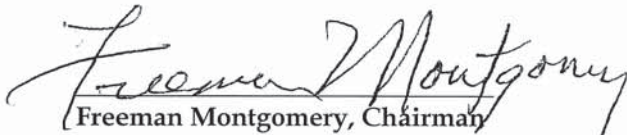
Vice Chairman Holmes left the meeting at 8:35 pm.

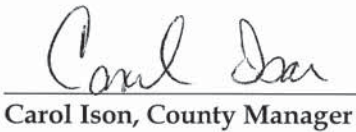
Commissioner Walker informed the members of the Board that areas in her district need the bushes cut on the county right of way, and the side arm mower is not in service.

The Chairman informed Ms. Walker that the Road Department has two side arm mowers. He is going to contact the Road Department Superintendent and get him to cut the bushes in her district.

A discussion was held with Sheriff Gates in reference to the proposed jail construction. The Board authorized Commissioner Jordan to meet with Sheriff Gates, the project engineer, Tom Wright and the County Manger to come up with a workable plan for the proposed jail.

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

  
Freeman Montgomery, Chairman

  
Carol Ison, County Manager

12-7-15  
Date