



TALBOT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
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SHER'LONDA WALKER, CHAIRMAN
FRANKLIN HOLMES, VICE CHAIRMAN
KEN CHAPMAN, COMMISSIONER
FREEMAN MONTGOMERY, COMMISSIONER
RAINES JORDAN, COMMISSIONER
CAROL ISON, COUNTY MANAGER

January 4, 2016

The Talbot County Board of Commissioners held their regular scheduled monthly Board Meeting on Monday, January 4, 2016 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".

Commissioner Walker made a motion, Vice Chairman Holmes seconded, for the Board to approve the agenda. The vote passed 5-0-0.

Vice Chairman Holmes made a motion, Commissioner Chapman seconded, for the Board to approve the Minutes from the December 7, 2015 Regular Meeting and the Executive Session Minutes.

The vote passed 4-0-1. Commissioner Walker abstained, due to the fact that she was not present at the December 7, 2015 Board Meeting.

Chairman Montgomery relinquished his position as Chairman of the Board.

Following a discussion, Vice Chairman Holmes made a motion for the Board to appoint Sher'Londa Walker as the Board Chairperson. Commissioner Freeman Montgomery seconded the motion. The vote passed 5-0-0.

Commissioner Montgomery made a motion, Commissioner Chapman seconded, for the Board to reappoint Franklin Holmes as Vice Chairman for 2016. The vote passed 5-0-0.

Commissioner Montgomery made a motion, Commissioner Chapman seconded, for the Board to reappoint Carol Ison as the County Manager. The vote passed 5-0-0.

Commissioner Montgomery made a motion, Vice Chairman Holmes seconded, for the Board to reappoint Andrew Dodgen as the County Attorney. The vote passed 5-0-0.

Commissioner Montgomery made a motion, Commissioner Chapman seconded, for the Board to reappoint Josh Buckner as the Road Department Superintendent. The vote passed 5-0-0.

Vice Chairman Holmes made a motion, Commissioner Montgomery seconded, for the Board to adopt the Title VI Plan that is required by the Georgia Department of Transportation for sub recipient transit providers. The vote passed 5-0-0.

Commissioner Jordan made a motion, Commissioner Montgomery seconded, for the Board to adopt the Natural Resources Protection Policy. The vote passed 5-0-0.

Commissioner Montgomery made a motion, Vice Chairman Holmes seconded, for the Board to approve increasing the purchasing limits as follows:

- Department Heads: \$500 (remain the same)
- County Manager: \$2,000
- Chairperson: \$3,000

The vote passed 5-0-0.

Vice Chairman Holmes made a motion, Commissioner Montgomery seconded, for the Board to approve the bid from Josh Mitchell/Town and Country Contracting, for the Health Department Building Repairs. The cost for the repairs is \$42, 450. The vote passed 5-0-0.

A discussion was held in reference to obtaining financing for the proposed jail construction. The County Attorney is going to research and get more information on pursuing financing for the proposed project.

The County Manager reported that there was an increase in the Columbus Water Works Rates. She explained that the County is charging the residents \$1.75 less than what the county is paying for water. She recommended that the Board consider increasing the residential water rates.

Commissioner Jordan commented that after his review of the audits, he noticed the Water Department has been operating in a deficit since 2010. He stated "we should be preparing for future operation and maintenance cost".

No decisions were made.

The County Manager and Commissioner Jordan will continue to work together to come up with a workable plan.

Marjorie Howard, Election Supervisor presented the 2016 Qualifying Fees to the Board for their review and approval.

Following the discussion, Commissioner Jordan made a motion, Commissioner Chapman seconded, for the Board to approve the 2016 Qualifying Fees, subject to the County Attorney's review and approval. The vote passed 5-0-0.

A brief discussion was held in reference to relocating the Talbottton Voting Precinct to the Talbotton Volunteer Fire Department. It will be discussed further at the February 1st Board Meeting.

Josh Buckner, Road Department Superintendent updated the Board on the bad road conditions throughout the county, as a result of the heavy rains that occurred over the last couple of weeks.

The Timber Harvesting Ordinance was postponed until the February 2016 Board Meeting.

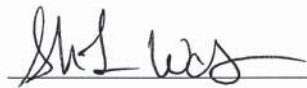
Commissioner Montgomery made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:25 pm. Commissioner Chapman seconded the motion. The vote passed 5-0-0.

Chairperson Walker called the meeting back to order at 9:02 pm.

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

Commissioner Montgomery made a motion, Commissioner Chapman seconded, for the Board to accept the proposal from Howard Estate Management Group, LLC, to acquire land for right of way to widen Baker Road. The vote passed 5-0-0.

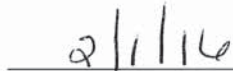
There being no further business, Vice Chairman Holmes made a motion for the Board Meeting to adjourn. Commissioner Jordan seconded the motion. The vote passed 5-0-0.



Sher'Londa Walker, Chairperson



Carol Ison, County Manager



Date