

**REGULAR SESSION MEETING
BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, MARCH 6, 2018
6:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman, Doc Sumner called the regular session meeting of the Berrien County Board of Commissioners to order on Tuesday, February 6, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. Members of the Board of Commissioners present were, Commissioners Robert Griner, Jimmy Parker, Commissioner John Nugent and Pixie Harrod.

Invocation: Ben Warren

Pledge: Commissioner Jimmy Parker

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Commissioner Jimmy Parker made the motion to approve the February 6, 2018 Regular Session Minutes, seconded by Commissioner Pixie Harrod. The motion carried unanimously.

INVITED GUESTS:

Danny Studstill – Addressed the Board about potential opioid litigation. This initiated with a law firm out of Athens regarding a large scale lawsuit that they are planning to file in Federal Court against certain drug manufacturers of opioids. He addressed the Board about him representing on behalf of the County if the Board chooses to be a part of this. This is contingency fee based and could take 1 to 2 years. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to adopt the Resolution and sign the Agreement with Studstill Law Firm pending approval of the county attorney, seconded by Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

Nick Lacey – Addressed the board about being recognized as a Great American Defense Community. He has a Proclamation that the Board would sign if they are in agreement. Commissioner Jimmy Parker made a motion to sign the Proclamation saying South Georgia recognized as a Great American Defense Community

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Proclamation - Administration received a request to approve a Proclamation which will provide an opportunity for South Georgia to celebrate its designation as a Great American Defense Community with region wide activities highlighting the relationship among our communities and our service members. Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to approve the Proclamation, seconded by Commissioner Pixie Harrod. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Map Amendment – Planning Commission – Administration received a request from the Planning Commission recommending a map amendment for TBK. The request is changing from BG (general business) to HI (heavy industrial). The Planning Commission held a public hearing and is recommending this map amendment be approved. Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to approve the map amendment to change from GB to HI, seconded by Commissioner Pixie Harrod. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Special Care Giver Application – Planning Commissioner – Administration received a request from the Planning Commission to approve a Special Care Giver Application for Jason Clement. The property is located at 497 Patricia Lane in Ray City. The property owner is Jason Clement, his mother, Jeannette Whitley, is in need of care. The Planning Commission is recommending approval. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to approve the Special Care Giver Application, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Board Appointment – Development Authority - Administration received a request from the Economic Development Board to reappoint Elna Bragdon to another 4-year term. If reappointed this will be her third term. She has completed the necessary Economic Development training mandated by the Department of Economic Development. The term will expire March 2022. Commissioner Jimmy Parker made a motion to reappoint Elna Bragdon to the Economic Development Board for a 4-year term which will expire March 2022, seconded by Commissioner John Nugent. The motion carried unanimously.

E. Board Appointment – Development Authority - Administration received a request from the Economic Development Board to reappoint Robert Griner to another 4-year term. He has completed the necessary Economic Development training mandated by the Department of Economic Development. The term will expire March 2022. Commissioner Jimmy Parker made a motion to reappoint Robert Griner to a 4-year term which will expire March 2022, seconded by Commissioner John Nugent. Commissioner Robert Griner abstained. All other were in favor. The motion carried.

F. 2018 Tan Resolution – Administration requested quotes for a \$2,000,000.00 Tan Anticipation Note for 2018. County Administrator Brenda Ferrell presented bids as follows:

South Georgia Banking Company	3.29%
Bank of Alapaha (\$1,500,000.00)	3.90%
Farmers and Merchants Bank	4.70%
Guardian Bank	3.75

Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to approve the bid from South Georgia Banking Company with the percentage rate of 3.29% on a \$2,000,000.00 TAN and approve the Resolution, seconded by Commissioner Robert Griner. The motion carried unanimously.

G. Drug Testing Supplies – Drug Court – Administration received a request to purchase drug testing supplies from Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics Web Shop in the amount of \$3,143.40. They order these online with this being the only quote. Commissioner Jimmy parker made a motion to approve the purchase through Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics Web Shop in the amount of \$3,143.40, seconded by Commissioner Pixie Harrod. The motion carried unanimously.

H. Uniform Purchase – Recreation – Administration received a request to purchase uniforms for the baseball/softball season through two local vendors. Recreation proposed to purchase softball uniforms through Dixie Sales and Graphics and baseball, coach pitch and T-Ball through Red & Gray Athletics. Total costs for those invoices have not been determined due to registration still on-going. Quotes were provided per piece of uniform. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to approve the charges through Dixie Sales and Graphics and Red & Gray Athletics, seconded by Commissioner Robert Griner. The motion carried unanimously.

I. Sign Purchase – Fire Departments - Administration received quotes for signs at the four new fire stations. There are quotes for a reflective sign as well as a non-reflective sign.

SOGA Graphics (Non-Reflective)	\$200.00 ea.
(Reflective)	\$350.00 ea.
Dixie Sales & Graphics (Non-Reflective)	\$300.00 ea.
(Reflective)	\$380.00 ea

James Watson stated that Georgia Correction Institutional will not be able to provide a definite quote until Wednesday morning but stated that it should be around \$150.00 for a reflective sign.

Commissioner John Nugent made a motion to approve GA Correctional reflective sign not to exceed \$200.00. Commissioner Pixie Harrod asked if it would not be better to approve up to \$250.00.

Commissioner John Nugent rescinded his motion, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried. Commissioner John Nugent made a motion to approve the reflective sign order through GA Correctional Industry in the amount of \$250.00 or less, seconded by Commissioner Pixie Harrod. The motion carried unanimously.

J. Oil & Hydraulic Fluid Purchase – Road – Administration received a request from the Public Works Shop to purchase 250 gallons engine oil and 250 gallons hydraulic fluid for a total of \$3,787.50 from Fausett Oil. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to approve the purchase, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

K. Boat Landing vs. Boat Ramp – WWALS Watershed Coalition - Administration received a request from WWALS (Withlacoochee, Willachoochee, Alapaha, Little and Suwannee River Watersheds) to rename Sheboggy Landing to the Sheboggy Boat Ramp and the Berrien Beach Landing to the Berrien Beach Boat Ramp. By doing this it will keep the names consistent throughout the counties. Commissioner Jimmy Parker made a motion to approve the boat landings to be named Sheboggy Boat Ramp and Berrien Beach Boat Ramp, seconded by Commissioner John Nugent.

L. Tire Purchase – Road – Administration received a request from the Road Department to purchase 4 recapped motor grader tires for a total of \$2,200.00 from Southeastern Tire. Commissioner Jimmy Parker made a motion to approve the purchase, seconded by Commissioner Pixie Harrod. The motion carried unanimously.

M. Ratification Items - Administration is requesting ratification on the following items:

Southeastern Tire (Road)	\$2,500.00
Flint Equipment (Road)	\$1,035.75
GA Correctional (Road)	\$1,125.00
Cherokee Culvert (Road)	\$7,507.36
Paris Heating & Air (Cty Bldg – Jail)	\$1,163.00

Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to ratify the items as listed, seconded by Commissioner Robert Griner. The motion carried unanimously.

N. Equipment Acquisition – EBFD – Administration received a request from East Berrien Fire Department to purchase 2 nozzles and two deck guns for the engine purchased from South Carolina. James Watson provided three quotes. He is asking to purchase the two deck guns from FireLine, Inc. in the amount of \$6,762.00 because they are an E-1 dealer. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to approve the deck guns to be purchased from FireLine, Inc. in the amount of \$6,762.00, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to purchase the two nozzles through Vitco in the amount of \$1,260.00, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker.

The motion carried unanimously. James Watson also discussed a surplus forestry vehicle and tank that East Berrien Fire Department would like to get. It is a 1991 International Truck with flatbed on it. We can remove the flatbed and put the tank on. Forestry can do it for us but it will take about 6-8 months or we can have our shop do it. This could replace the tuck West Berrien gave to East Berrien. All we have to do is complete the paperwork to lease this truck from Forestry. Commissioner Harrod asked what it will cost to plumb the truck. Mr. Watson said that there will be no cost. All we will have to do is put the tank on it. Ben Warren said can do the work but they will have to work it in their schedule. Commissioner Jimmy Parker made a motion to move forward with getting the truck and tank through Forestry, seconded by Commissioner Pixie Harrod. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Watson also gave an update on the ISO ratings for the new fire stations. Premiums should be reduced within 90 – 120 days.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND DEPARTMENTS:

Beth Carter – Addressed the Board about purchasing a Case Management System. This will save time and reduce overtime in the Magistrate and Sheriff’s Office. She explained the process of warrants and how the software would save time on the warrant process. She does not have three quotes and stated if she needs to get three she will start working on those but that most are very expensive. She did obtain a lower quote which was \$12,000.00. Sheriff Ray Paulk also spoke on the overtime savings and feels it is well worth the money. Chairman Doc Sumner said that the board will discuss and get back with her.

COMMISSIONERS’ ITEMS:

John Nugent –

- The City of Alapaha had a repair on a city fire truck which cost \$2,400.00. They are asking we pay for 50% of the cost since they use it in the county. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to pay half of the cost, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

Jimmy Parker –

- The steer show is next week. In the past each Commissioner donates \$50.00 is that something we want to do this year. Everyone was in agreement. This is personal money, not county funds.
- Commended Commissioner Nugent and James Watson on the work they have done to get the new stations going. Good job!

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS:

Brenda Ferrell –

- Asked the board if they wanted Watkins & Associates to handle the bid process for the 2018 LMIG and if so, do we want to go ahead and move forward with putting the bid package out and resurface in the fall. The Board was in favor of Watkins & Associates handling the project and moving forward with the bids and resurfacing in the fall.
- Wayne Chin, Enigma Fire Chief, asked if the Board would consider paying half the cost of a thermal camera. The cost was \$1,440.00. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to pay half the cost of the thermal camera, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.
- Retreat – We normally have a work session retreat in April. Does the board want to

move forward with schedule this? The Board does want a Retreat and one will be scheduled.

- County Administrator has a new signature card that needs to signed for the new SPLOST account.

Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to move into executive session for personnel and legal at 7:09 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Jimmy Parker made a motion to move out of executive session at 7:41 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Pixie Harrod. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to move into Regular Session at 7:41 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to raise the mileage rate and base rate for EMS fees based upon EMS Consultants recommendation, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to approve the starting pay of the paramedics, EMTs and existing employees as discussed in executive session, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to allow County Administrator to make a budget amendment and move some salary from the jail salary line to the sheriff salary line based on a termination. Salary move will not exceed that of former employee and a new hire and then increases will be given at the discretion of the Sheriff, seconded by Commissioner Robert Griner. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN

With no other business to come before the Board, Commissioner Pixie Harrod made the motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Chairman, Doc Sumner

Commissioner, Robert Griner

Commissioner, Jimmy Parker

Commissioner, Pixie Harrod

Commissioner, John Nugent

ATTEST _____
County Clerk