

**WORK SESSION MEETING
BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2016
6:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman, John Nugent called the work session meeting of the Berrien County Board of Commissioners to order on Tuesday, February 2, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. Members of the Board of Commissioners present were, Commissioner Robert Griner, Commissioner Steve Sumner, Commissioner Doc Sumner and Commissioner Jimmy Parker.

INVITED GUESTS:

Donny Roberson - Bike Friendly Roads – Mr. Roberson stated he was hit by a vehicle on Old Valdosta Rd. He asked the board to considering making the rural roads bike friendly.

Pat Ashley – Meeks CPA – Mr. Ashley works with Meeks, CPA who completes the County’s annual audit. Mr. Ashley provided a draft copy of our audit ending June 30, 2015. All funds had a positive balance at close of year. All grants were audited. He stated that the county is improving every year and commended the county for the good job in reducing the overall debt.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Election – Discussion – Administration requested discussion on the Election Office. Christina Allen former Election Supervisor and now Probate Judge addressed the Board about fulfilling duties within the Election’s Office. Christina provided Code 21-2-76 – Eligibility of person to serve as county election superintendent. They discussed that with her being appointed as Probate Judge no one is in the Election Office. They start early voting next week. Christina Allen is a Certified Election Official. If the County chooses to contract with her she can supervise the election. Once she qualifies to run for Probate Judge, she would not be able to serve as the Certified Election Official. Commissioner Steve Sumner asked if no one qualifies then can she continue with elections. We do not have a clear answer on that and will seek county attorney advice. Commissioner Steve Sumner stated that the county does not have to have a certified person in place if we get a waiver. He asked Christina Allen if she has a recommendation. Christina recommended contract with her as a Certified Election Official for the supplement rate that Probate would get if probate held the elections which is approximately \$3800.00. Commissioner Steve Sumner stated that the advertisement will come out in the paper this week for the Election Supervisor position and the Election Board will do the interviews and then make a recommendation to us. We could also interview if we choose to do so because that person is a county employee. Commissioner Steve Sumner recommended having the county attorney do a contract to assist in the training and certifying elections up to the point she cannot. Christina Allen stated she is comfortable with that recommendation. Chairman Nugent asked that if we wanted to put elections under Probate then we would have to take it is legislation, which is correct. Christina Allen also asked the board for permission to bring in her temp help three days early due to the fact of early voting starting and her trying to keep elections and probate offices going. The board agreed to her request.

B. Equipment Acquisition – Recreation – Administration received a request from Recreation Director, King Bridges, to purchase a scoreboard. He provided two quote: Varsity Scoreboard (4X8) \$2,787.03 and ElectroMech Scoreboard (5X3) \$3,381.00. There is an installation fee of \$1,100.00 from South GA Graphics.

C. Equipment Acquisition – Recreation – Administration received a request from Recreation Director, King Bridges, to purchase baseball and softball equipment a listed in the quotes provided. He provided two quotes: R&S Sports \$7,745.15 and BSN Sports \$8,091.13. Commissioner Steve Sumner asked if there is anyone local that can quote these items. There is not. County Administrator, Brenda Ferrell, stated that this is a budgeted item.

D. Equipment Acquisition – Recreation – Administration received a request from Recreation Director, King Bridges, to purchase a new zero turn mower. He has provided two quotes on different sizes of mowers. The quotes are:

Nashville Tractor	New 60 inch Kubota	\$7,500.00
	Used 60 inch Kubota	\$6,750.00
	New 54 inch Kubota	\$7,200.00
	Used 48 inch Kubota	\$6,600.00
Powerhouse Outdoor Equipment	New 60 inch Exmark	\$7,314.23
	New 52 inch Exmark	\$6,929.23
	New 48 inch S Series	\$7,468.23
	New 48 inch Exmark	\$6,698.23

County Administrator, Brenda Ferrell, stated this is not a budgeted item but we have money under our capital line that can be moved.

E. SPLOST RESOLUTIONS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT - Administration requested the board approve the Resolution Approving a SPLOST Intergovernmental Agreement and Authorizing the Chairman to Execute the Agreement on Behalf of the County, the Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of Berrien County, Georgia Imposing a County One Percent Sales and Use Tax as Authorized by Part I of Article 3 of Chapter 8 of Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, Specifying the Purposes for Which the Proceeds of Such Tax are to be Used; Specifying the Period of Time for Which Such Tax Shall be Imposed; Specifying the Estimated Cost of the Facilities to be Funded from the Proceeds of Such Tax; Requesting the Board of Elections to Call an Election of the Voters of Berrien County to Approve the Imposition of Such Sales and Use Tax; Approving the Form of Ballot to be Used in Such an Election and for Other Purposes and an Intergovernmental Agreement for the Use and Distribution of Proceeds From the 2018 Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax Capital Outlay Projects. County Administrator, Brenda Ferrell, stated that she made the changes that Ray City and Enigma requested on their projects.

F. Equipment Acquisition – EMS – Administration received a request from EMS Director, Daryl Lancaster, to purchase two Smart Power Complete Kits (batteries) for the stretchers. The cost is \$1,997.98.

G. Intergovernmental Agreement w/BOE – Fuel Farm – Administration is requesting the Board review the Intergovernmental Agreement between the Berrien County Board of Commissioners and the Berrien County School District – Fueling Station. Term of agreement is one year with it automatically renewing for four successive one year terms for a total of five years. There is a 90 day termination clause in the Agreement. Commissioner Board stated they have reviewed the Agreement and are in agreement with presenting it to the Board of Education.

H. Ratification Items – Administration is requesting ratification on the following items:

West Plumbing and Electrical Service (hot water heater for jail)	\$35,500.00
Tri-State Technical & TLC Equipment Co.	\$ 1,189.43
Physio Control	\$ 1,680.20

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND DEPARTMENTS:

Crissy Staley –

- The joint grant with the City and County on the Sewer Expansion for Winfab was approved.
- Airport Terminal Grant will be applied for in April.
- There was discussion on hanger leases at the Airport. Our current leases are very vague. The leases all need to be between the tenant and the county in the future. She said there is someone who wants to build a hanger and the best place is next to MR. Blevins. The airport board proposed buying out the remainder portion of Mr. Blevin’s lease and then execute a new lease with the new tenant.
- The Chamber was awarded a grant and will be using those funds to advertise for the rodeo. They asked if they could paint the windows at the Administration Building at no cost to the county. The board was in agreement.

COMMISSIONER’S ITEMS:

Doc Sumner –

- Stated that Ben Warren, Public Works Director, will need more rock. We have someone local that we can purchase from and feels we need to buy Berrien. Commissioner Steve Sumner stated that last month at our meeting we told Ben Warren to get a list of roads and the amount of rock he needs and give to us. He has not done that. This is expensed to SPLOST Funds which are all allocated. If there is a problem with a specific road, then we need to address that. Commissioner Doc Sumner said he talked with Ben Warren and that Ben said he needs the rock. Commissioner Steve Sumner said to go back to Ben and have him get a list to us. Commissioner Doc Sumner said that he is concerned the rock available now may get sold. Commissioner Steve Sumner said if it is not available then we can purchase from someone else when we need it. Commissioner Jimmy Parker said that we can get it for \$20.00 per ton delivered to the job site. That would be crush and run. Commissioner Steve Sumner said if he remembers correctly when we did Pineland Place the millings were approximately \$24.00 per ton.

Steve Sumner –

- Commissioner Steve Sumner state he did a little research on the bike lane request brought up earlier. The Regional Commission did a bike lane study in 2005. DOT also completed a study and decided not to do bike lanes. There would have to be a minimum of 5 feet wide lane on the side of the road. The approximate cost for that alone is \$150,000.00. The study also stated that under no circumstances should you put a bike lane on a rural road with the speed limit over 50 mph.
- Commissioner Steve Sumner asked the Board if they have been out to Old Coffee Road recently. The machine we use to the cut trees back, made the roads look really bad .

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS:

Brenda Ferrell –

- Review of Airport Inspection
- Letter from the Knight Law Firm addressing damage to a vehicle on a county road. Board gave direction to send a return letter stating the Board is not responsible for the damage.
- Review of Coastal Plain Letter on the Headstart Building
- Brenda Ferrell reminded everyone that she is in school Monday and Tuesday next week. Teresa

- Starling may have to attend the Regular Meeting in my place if I do not make it back in time.
- Received a request from the Ag Center for the floors to be buffed and waxed, the carpet shampooed and baseboards cleaned. I will get with Rodney Stone, Maintenance, and see when we can schedule this.

ADJOURN

With no other business to come before the Board, Commissioner Jimmy Parker made the motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Commissioner Robert Griner. Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Chairman, John Nugent

Vice Chairman, Steve Sumner

Commissioner, Jimmy Parker

Commissioner, Robert Griner

Commissioner, Doc Sumner

ATTEST _____
County Clerk