

**REGULAR SESSION MEETING  
BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TUESDAY, JULY 12, 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, July 12, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. Members of the Board of Commissioners present were, Commissioner Steve Sumner, Commissioner Jimmy Parker, Commissioners Robert Griner and Doc Sumner.

Invocation: Commissioner Robert Griner

Pledge: Commissioner Jimmy Parker

**Approval of Minutes:** Commissioner Jimmy Parker made the motion to approve the June 14, 2016 Regular Session Minutes and the July 5, 2016 Work Session Minutes, seconded by Commissioner Doc Sumner. The motion carried unanimously.

**Additions to Agenda:** Commissioner Robert Griner made the motion to add Items F, G and H to the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

A. General Liability Insurance Renewal – Ratification – Administration received the final quote from One Beacon Insurance for the 2016-2017 General Liability renewal. The total cost was \$210,932.00. I received this final quote on June 24<sup>th</sup> and our existing policy expired June 25<sup>th</sup>. Administration is requesting ratification on this item. County Administrator, Brenda Ferrell, stated that this is a 2.5% increase from last year's final premium. Commissioner Robert Griner made the motion to ratify the renewal with One Beacon at an annual rate of \$210,932.00, seconded by Commissioner Steve Sumner. The motion carried unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Nutrition Contract – SGRC – Administration received from Southern Georgia Area Agency on Aging the Contract to provide Operations of a Senior Center with Congregate and Home Delivered Meals. This is the annual contract that we execute. County Attorney, Jennifer Herzog, requested some changes be made to make the agreement more county friendly. Southern Georgia Regional Commission agreed to those changes. Commissioner Steve Sumner made the motion to approve this contract, seconded by Commissioner Robert Griner. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Computer Acquisition – Administration - Administration is requesting the purchase of a new computer for Human Resources/Payroll. One quote was received from Spectra Computing in the amount of \$1,353.94. Commissioner Steve Sumner made the motion to approve the computer purchase from Spectra Computing in the amount of \$1,353.94, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

C. USDA Grant/Loan – Sheriff & EMS – Administration received notification on USDA Grant Funding where we can receive \$50,000.00 towards each application. Funds will be disbursed by August 1<sup>st</sup>. County Administrator, Brenda Ferrell, prepared applications for three sheriff vehicles and an ambulance. Administration is requesting permission to move forward with the submittal of these grants/loans. Commissioner Steve Sumner stated he spoke with Sheriff Ray Paulk and he agreed to purchase Explorers and try them compared to Tahoes. That will save about \$7,000.00 per vehicle. Commissioner Jimmy Parker made the motion to approve the grant applications for submittal, seconded by Commissioner Doc Sumner. The motion carried immediately.

D. Solid Waste Contract with Rest E-Z – Administration is requesting the board review the terminated contract with Rest EZ. They currently are operating without a contract. Brenda Herring indicated that she would like to change some of her rates but she never got back in touch with Administration. Commissioner Doc Sumner made the motion to table this item until he can talk with Brenda Herring, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

E. New Benefits – Teledoc – Administration is requesting the board approve the removal of the new Benefits, which is Teledoc, from our supplemental insurances which are offered. This has proven to be a plan which is not working for most employees. Everyone who originally enrolled in the plan has cancelled it with the exception of one employee. They are now charging a fee of \$24.10 because we do not have a \$50.00 minimum. Administration is requesting we terminate this insurance effective immediately. Commissioner Steve Sumner made the motion to terminate New Benefits, Teledoc, from our supplemental insurance package effectively immediately, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

F. Disaster Agreement – Health Department – Administration received a request from the Health Department requesting the County allow the use of a refrigerator and freezer located in the E-911 building in case of an emergency and power outage. The agreement releases all liability for the Health Department’s drugs and vaccines. Commissioner Robert Griner made the motion to approve the Disaster Agreement with the Health Department, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

G. Furniture Acquisition – E-911 – Administration received a request from Angie Rutland who stated that the chairs for dispatchers are worn out. She has received complaints from the dispatchers and is requesting to purchase three 24-hour chairs. She provided one quote and is working on a second quote. County Administrator, Brenda Ferrell, stated that the chairs they currently have are under warranty and we can get the cushions replaced. Commissioner Robert Griner made the motion to approve the purchase of three 24-hour chairs for E-811 from Allseating.com for \$1,281.69. Commissioner Steve Sumner stated that Lee Office Supply brought 24-hour chairs for them to try when we purchased chairs last time and they did not like them. Commissioner Robert Griner amended his motion to replace the cushions in the current chairs and if that is not sufficient to give the County Administrator the authority to make the decision to purchase the 24-hour chairs, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

H. Ratification Items – There was one item from Cherokee Culvert to be ratified in the amount of \$8,405.37. This is was a pipe order. Commissioner Jimmy Parker made a motion to ratify the purchase from Cherokee Culvert in the amount of \$8,405.37, seconded by Commissioner Steve Sumner. The motion carried unanimously.

**REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND DEPARTMENTS:**

Crissy Staley –

- Have Façade and Easement Agreements on the Miller Building Grant that need to be executed. County Attorney Jennifer Herzog has reviewed the agreements and this is an item that was voted on previously. There are no county funds involved in this grant.
- Advised the Board that she will be visiting with the City of Alapaha to ask for proceeds of the refinancing of this building to go to the Development Authority.

**COMMISSIONER’S ITEMS:**

Doc Sumner –

- Asked Ben Warren about the Shaboggy Boat Ramp. Ben sated he has not talked any more with DNR.

Steve Sumner –

- Asked Ben Warren to look at Firetower Rd. We had two guests last month questioning the paving of that road and addressed some issues. Commissioner Sumner asked if there are some areas that would benefit by putting the fabric down and then millings.
- We had a request from Jeff Futch to put some posts down in the ditch area. Ben Warren has taken care of that.
- There was an issue by Eston Connell’s house and Ben Warren has also addressed that issue.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Roger Powell – Mr. Powell stated he was impressed by the way the meeting was conducted. He said he really did not have any questions after hearing how the meeting was conducted. He went on to say that the citizens in Berrien County would like to see the Board ask Anthony Heath to reimburse for the attorney fees expensed. Jennifer Herzog, County Attorney, explained that it is the policy of the board to pay attorney fees pre-indictments and every decision was in accordance with the law.

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS:**

Brenda Ferrell –

- Jane Knight would like to invite everyone to the opening ceremony for the Smithsonian August 13<sup>th</sup> at 11:00. You will be getting a personal invitation.
- EMS Building in Alapaha - The Headstart is moving out. Normally we pay 45% of the electric bill and no water. We will be responsible for all of water and 100% of electric starting immediately. There are concerns with A/C and the location of the return vents. If Alapaha will allow us to put up a door, it will solve the issue. The last electric bill was \$481.00 with our portion being \$216.00. The board gave the directive to proceed with getting approval to put up a door.
- There is a class for Successfully Negotiating Service Delivery Strategy Agreements if anyone is interested in attending.
- We discussed during Work Session about naming Teresa Starling as the Deputy County Clerk. She asked the Board if that is what they would like to do. Commissioner Steve Sumner made the motion to appoint Teresa Starling as the Deputy County Clerk with a \$1.00 per hour pay increase effective immediately, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.
- The Flag Pole was move successfully at the old courthouse.

**ADJOURN**

With no other business to come before the Board, Commissioner Jimmy Parker made the motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Commissioner Steve Sumner. Meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

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Chairman, John Nugent

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Vice Chairman, Steve Sumner

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Commissioner, Jimmy Parker

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Commissioner, Robert Griner

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Commissioner, Doc Sumner

ATTEST \_\_\_\_\_  
County Clerk