

**REGULAR SESSION MEETING
BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2015
6:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman, Jimmy Parker called the regular session meeting of the Berrien County Board of Commissioners to order on Tuesday, September 8, 2015, at 6:08 p.m. Members of the Board of Commissioners present were, Commissioner Robert Griner, Commissioner Steve Sumner, Commissioner Doc Sumner and Commissioner John Nugent.

Chairman Jimmy Parker introduced Stephen Delk, Attorney. Mr. Delk is here on behalf of our regular county attorney, Jennifer Herzog, who could not make the meeting.

Invocation: Commissioner Robert Griner

Pledge: Commissioner Steve Sumner

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Agriculture, Chicken Houses, Warehouse and Solar Farm Permitting – Administration received a request from Dennis Adams, Code Enforcement requesting the Board consider the attached rates for permitting of agriculture buildings, chicken houses, warehouses and solar farms. He is also proposing an amendment to the Construction Code Ordinance. Commissioner Robert Griner stated that they have received a lot of calls on this item and that there seems to be some misinterpretation on what is being proposed. Commissioner Robert Griner suggested tabling this until we get everything resolved. Commissioner Steve Sumner said he would like to discuss this. We were told during work session that we are the only surrounding county that does not charge a fee on chicken houses. We talked about several other areas to hopes to get all departments to pay for themselves. Anything with electrical has to be inspected. His personal belief is we should not give a break to just one area. We are hearing that some of the farmers are under the impression that this is going to be an annual fee or tax. We need to re-evaluate. I am not sure that there was ever any promises made that said we would never be any fees. Commissioner Doc Sumner said that other counties are charging fees. We must be doing something right based on our financials. Chairman Jimmy Parker stated he agrees with Commissioner Steve Sumner's comments. There is a lot of talk out there. We need to make sure we have this right. Dennis Adams, Code Enforcement, stated that the chicken houses that are being rebuilt right now, the contractor is out of Ashburn. The electrical is really out of square. If it would have been inspected, that would not be the case. Commissioner Robert Griner made the motion to table this item, seconded by Commissioner Doc Sumner. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Structure Improvement – Recreation – Administration received a request from Brad Wels, Recreation Director, for replacement of the shelters around the concession stand and covered bleachers. They have provided three quotes. This item was previously tabled until Commissioner John Nugent inspected the facility and gave an opinion as to whether we needed to do a complete replacement or a repair of the area. Commissioner John Nugent feels that we need to replace the complete area with new material. Commissioner Nugent recommended the bid from MJ's Construction. County Administrator, Brenda Ferrell, stated it was recommended to her that we rebid and have Commissioner Nugent prepare a spec sheet. Due to safety issues, the board wanted to proceed to current bids. Commissioner Steve Sumner made a motion to approve MJ's Construction bid of \$23,832.00, seconded by Commissioner John Nugent. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Memorandum of Understanding – Moody AFB – Administration received a request from Moody

Air Force Base to revise the Memorandum of Understanding that Berrien County approved in June 2014. This is for the JLUS (Joint Land Use Study). County Administrator, Brenda Ferrell, asked that this item be tabled as it needs to go before the Planning Commission before it comes to the Board. Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to table this item, seconded by Commissioner Steve Sumner. The motion carried unanimously.

B. General Release – Animal Control – Administration received a request from Jessica Stone, Animal Control, asking for discussion on volunteers at the animal shelter. The board was provided an Acknowledgment of Risk and General Release of Claims provided by Jennifer Herzog, County Attorney. Commissioner Steve Sumner made the motion to approve the General Release and set an age limit of 18 years old for volunteers, seconded by Commissioner Robert Griner. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Solid Waste License Application – Administration received an application for a Solid Waste License from G Waste Management LLC. They have paid the \$200.00 application fee. County Administrator stated that the City of Ray City is contracting their pick-up with G Waste Management. Commissioner Robert Griner made the motion to approve the Solid Waste License for 2015 to G Waste Management LLC, seconded by Commissioner Steve Sumner. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Saddle Club Lease Agreement – Administration requested discussion on entering into a new lease agreement with the Saddle Club. The previously lease has long expired and due to insurance we need to lease out the property with the Lessee required to cover under insurance or the county needs to pick it up under their policy. County Attorney, Jennifer Herzog, provided a new lease. Commissioner Steve Sumner stated that he suggests changing the rental from \$1.00 per month to \$1.00 per year. Commissioner Steve Sumner made the motion to approve signing of the lease subject to the County Administrator and Chairman Parker reviewing and making any changes necessary, seconded by Commissioner Robert Griner. The motion carried unanimously.

E. Tax Levy Resolution – Administration is requesting the board approve the FY 2015 Tax Levy Resolution. County Administrator, Brenda Ferrell, explained the Tax Levy Resolution with the total mills, less the rollback which keeps the millage rate of 16.71 mills. Commissioner Steve Sumner made the motion to approve the 2015 Tax Levy Resolution for 16.71 mills, seconded by Commissioner Robert Griner. The motion carried unanimously.

F. Insurance Premium Tax Resolution – Administration is requesting approval of the FY 2015-2016 Insurance Premium Tax Resolution. Insurance Premium Tax is to be used on Fire Protection, Solid Waste Management, Code Enforcement and Animal Control in the unincorporated areas of Berrien County. Commissioner Robert Griner made the motion to approve the Insurance Premium Tax Resolution, seconded by Commissioner John Nugent. The motion carried unanimously.

G. Resolution Authorizing and Approving Execution of an Equipment Lease-Purchase Agreement with Bancorpsouth Equipment Finance, a Division of Bancorpsouth Bank for the purpose of Lease-Purchasing Certain Equipment – Administration received a request from Bill Murphree, Flint Equipment, asking the Board to approve a Resolution with financing through Bancorpsouth Equipment Finance. This is for a motor grader which we received in June. In the past they would accept minutes in lieu of a Resolution. Commissioner Robert Griner made the motion to approve the Resolution Authorizing and Approving Execution of an Equipment Lease-Purchase Agreement with Bancorpsouth Equipment Finance, a Division of Bancorpsouth Bank for the purpose of Lease-Purchasing Certain Equipment, seconded by Commissioner Steve Sumner. The motion carried unanimously.

H. Veterans Memorial Parkway Resolution - CR 357 – The Board of Commissioners received a request to name a road as the Veterans Memorial Parkway. It was discussed in the August Work Session Minutes

meetings to designate CR 357, Nashville-Enigma Hwy as the Veterans Memorial Parkway. A resolution was provided for review. Commissioner Doc Sumner spoke with the Veterans' organizations and they would like to name the Tifton Hwy as the Veterans' Memorial Parkway. Commissioner Steve Sumner suggested we need to make sure we do this right. We have to consider what type of signage, who is going to pay for the signage, etc. Commissioner Steve Sumner made a motion to table this item indefinitely until we have the complete plan in place, seconded by Commissioner Robert Griner. The motion carried unanimously. County Administrator, Brenda Ferrell, asked who was going to be in charge of developing this plan. Commissioner Doc Sumner agreed to take charge of the plan.

I. Uniform Purchase – Jail – Administration received a request from Jail Administrator, Antonio Carter, to purchase 21 pairs of boots. They provided two quotes: Adel Outfitters \$1,785.00 and Galls \$2,016.00. Commissioner Robert Griner made the motion to approve the purchase of 21 pairs of boots from Galls, seconded by Commissioner Steve Sumner. The motion carried unanimously.

J. Computer Acquisition – EMS – Administration received a request from Daryel Lancaster to purchase two computers, 2 keyboards with cases and two screen covers for the ambulances. County Administrator, Brenda Ferrell, asked that this item be tabled due to some software issues. Commissioner Robert Griner made the motion to table this item, seconded by Commissioner Steve Sumner. The motion carried unanimously.

K. Consent Items – Administration requested the following items be ratified:

PO 59872	Southeastern Tire	\$2,448.20
PO 59898	Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics Web Shop	\$3,012.25
PO 59845	Spectra Computing	\$1,047.94
PO 59929	Nashville Tractor	\$1,047.45
PO 59933	Rush Truck Parts	\$3,347.78

Commissioner Robert Griner made the motion to ratify the items as listed above, seconded by Commissioner Steve Sumner. The motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND DEPARTMENTS:

Brian Shaw –

- Stated the A/C in the old courthouse is working. He said, County Administrator, Brenda Ferrell, called today and said that he could move in. He said it may be a week or so before he can move in.
- During work session Mr. Shaw asked about internet connection. He asked the status on that. Commissioner Steve Sumner explained we had a meeting with Mediacom. We are waiting on a quote from them now. We should have that within two weeks.

COMMISSIONER'S ITEMS:

Jimmy Parker –

- New Lois Fire Department is holding a fish fry. They said they know it is late notice but would like to invite all the Commissioners. It starts at 7:00 tonight.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS:

Brenda Ferrell –

- The South Georgia Regional Commission Annual Area Officials Appreciation Dinner is October 15th. We do have to RSVP.
- I received the annual Transit Contract. I will need a motion to approve it. Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to approve the Transit Contract, seconded by Commissioner Steve Sumner.

The motion carried unanimously.

- ACCG Worker’s Compensation Renewal package was received today in the mail. I would not recommend changing. Commissioner Steve Sumner made a motion to approve the ACCG Worker’s Compensation Renewal Application, seconded by Commissioner Robert Griner. The motion carried unanimously.
- Reminder we still need one more person for the Library Board. Commissioner Doc Sumner made the motion to approve Morris Sumner to the Library Board to fill the unexpired term of Paul Hamilton, seconded by Commissioner Steve Sumner. The motion carried unanimously.
- Fire Sub-Stations – County Administrator stated Angie Rutland has mailed the letters to those residents who are in districts that could possibly change. We need to schedule a public hearing when we are ready. County Administrator, provided maps of the target areas for the sub-stations for review.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

ADJOURN

With no other business to come before the Board, Commissioner Robert Griner made the motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Commissioner Steve Sumner. Meeting was adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Chairman, Jimmy Parker

Vice Chairman, John Nugent

Commissioner, Steve Sumner

Commissioner, Robert Griner

Commissioner, Doc Sumner

ATTEST _____
County Clerk