

Bryan County Board of Commissioners - November 1, 2005

The regular meeting of the Bryan County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, November 1, 2005. The following members were present: Chairman Jimmy Burnsed, Commissioner Ed Bacon, Commissioner Toby Roberts, Commissioner Glen Willard, Commissioner Rick Gardner and Commissioner Blondean Newman. Also present: County Administrator Phillip Jones, County Clerk Donna Waters and County Attorney Laura Wheaton.

Chairman Burnsed called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Invocation was given by Commissioner Roberts. Everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance. Visitors were recognized.

A discussion was held on the *minutes* of the October 4, 2005 regular meeting. A motion was made by Toby Roberts and seconded by Blondean Newman to accept the minutes of the October 4, 2005 regular meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

A discussion was held on the *consent agenda*. A motion was made by Ed Bacon and seconded by Glen Willard to accept the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

The following items were listed on the consent agenda.

1. ***Approval of New Occupational Tax Certificates***
  - \*Leonard Crosby - Crosby Seafood
  - \*Ronald Gerral - G Force Home Builders, LLC
  - \*Karen Davidson - Faith Specialty Products
  - \*Adrienne Malone - Sparkle Cleaning Service
  - \*Carol Roberts - C & C Distributors
  - \*Kevin Paterson - Black Creek Cabinets & Installation
2. ***Approval of Tax Refund***
  - \*Dr. J. Patrick Hudspeth - 0532-128 - \$1,341.67
3. ***Approval of Resolution Adopting 2006 Annual Operating Budget***
  - “Copy Resolution”
4. ***Approval of Resolution Adopting 2006 Various County Budgets***
  - “Copy Resolution”
5. ***Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement and Conveying of Property to Development Authority***
  - “Copy Agreement and Deeds”

***Jim Anderson, Director of Emergency Services***, met with the board to give a presentation on hurricane storm surge. It was suggested that the county put up a post in south Bryan County with markings showing where the water level would be if a hurricane were to hit. The post would have markings for a category 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 hurricane.

***Tara Jennings of Family Connections*** met with the board to give an update on the ***Community Resource Center Project (Youth Center)***. A committee has toured several facilities and have made recommendations for a 25,000 square foot building to be located in the Richmond Hill area. This building would be for a youth center, but would also have office space available to be rented out. Approximately 10 non-profit agencies have shown interest in this space. A building has been located in the Pembroke area on a smaller scale. The City of Pembroke has obligated land and designated SPLOST funds for this project. Ms. Jennings needs a commitment from the county for land in south Bryan County. She also needs authority for herself and anyone else necessary to meet with Sara Davis and the Department of Community Affairs to explore our options for a Community Development Block Grant. The county has five acres of property located at the end of Ballpark Road. A motion was made by Rick Gardner and seconded by Glen Willard that we designate five acres in and around Timbertrail Recreation Park as a youth center contingent upon the fact that we come up with funding to build the youth center. Voting for: Roberts, Willard, Gardner and Newman. Voting against: Bacon. Motion carried.

Ms. Jennings also stated the county was applying for the ***Georgia County of Excellence Award*** for the county's Juvenile Diversion Program. The receiving of this award is just giving the county statewide recognition for the good work we are doing. The Chairman needs to sign this application.

***Neil Smiley, Director of Engineering & Inspections***, met with the board to give an update on projects in his department.

***\*Traffic Signal at State Route 144 and I-95 Off Ramp*** - The project was let on October 21, but the contract has not been awarded yet.

***\*Otterhole Branch Road*** - Ms. Smiley has acquired six of the eight property right-of-ways. The DOT Commissioner previously committed funds for this project. We need to verify the funds from the DOT and the county will need to pay the balance. This will probably be a 50/50 contract and our funds can come from SPLOST V.

***\*Flashing Lights for school zone at Harris Trail Road*** - We have been negotiating a State Aid contract for school zone lights on the four-lane section of Harris Trail Road. The DOT will furnish the materials for this project except for the timber poles. The cost of installation will be approximately \$2,400 and we can use money that if left in the current contract.

**\*Site to relocate the Department of Family & Children Services Building** - We have acquired 1.73 acres at this time and Mr. Smiley is in the process of negotiating a final price for the remaining 6.80 acres.

**\*Interchange Lighting** - The state has completed all of the preparatory work to move this project forward and has sent this information to the Federal Aid for approval. We are waiting on Federal Aid for approval.

A discussion was held on an **appointment to the DFACS Board**. The commissioners appointed Ms. Mary Garrison to fill an unexpired term that would expire on June 30, 2007, as requested by DFACS. This appointment should have been for a full term of office to expire June 30, 2009. A motion was made by Glen Willard and seconded by Ed Bacon to appoint Ms. Mary Garrison to the DFACS Board with a full term to expire on June 30, 2009. Motion carried unanimously.

A discussion was held on an **appointment to the Planning & Zoning Board**. A motion was made by Blondean Newman and seconded by Toby Roberts to appoint Mr. Noble Boykin to a four year term on the Planning & Zoning Board. Voting for: Willard, Roberts, Newman and Gardner. Voting against: Bacon. Motion carried.

A discussion was held on the **construction work in Chatham County on Highway 17** from the Ogeechee River to Highway 204. This work has been delayed for a considerable length of time and it has created a burden on the citizens of Bryan County. It was the consensus of the board to send a letter to the Chatham County Board of Commissioners requesting this project be completed. We will also request a response to the letter or an audience before the board of commissioners.

A discussion was held on the **dog violation fines on Fort Stewart property**. The fines being charged to citizens for their dogs going onto Fort Stewart property is considerably harsh and heavy. The board feels as though the amount is too harsh for the average person that is not a habitual violator. It was the consensus of the board to write a letter to the proper person, as well as the Garrison Commander, and deliver it in person to discuss this.

**Laura Wheaton, County Attorney**, met with the board to give an update on attorney issues.

**\*Milton Smith Case** - Judge Rose had previously ruled in favor of the county on this case. After the court case, Judge Rose had a telephone conference with both attorneys and has now decided that he may want to reconsider this issue, stating he was concerned about whether Mr. Smith had "had his day in court". Charles Brown has written a letter brief to Judge Rose and is waiting to hear from him.

**\*Reno Case** - This case has been dismissed.

Chairman Burnsed called the *planning & zoning public hearings* to order.

1. Ellis A. Phillips Rezoning - No one present to speak on this rezoning.
2. Jimmy L. Hires Rezoning - No one present to speak on this rezoning.
3. Joint Heirs Rezoning - No one present to speak on this rezoning.
4. Scott Stafford/Tim Casey Rezoning - No one present to speak on this rezoning.

This public hearings were declared closed.

*Christine Stinger, Zoning Administrator*, met with the board on planning & zoning issues.

1. Case Z#0292-05(A) - *Ellis Phillips* makes application to **rezone** property consisting of 6.514 acres on Harris Trail Road in South Bryan County from A-5 to AR-2.5. The property is tax parcel number 055-57. The applicant wishes to subdivide the property into two lots. A motion was made by Toby Roberts and seconded by Glen Willard to approve the rezoning request of Ellis Phillips from A-5 to AR-2.5 with stipulations stated by the Planning & Zoning Board for a 25' buffer around the jurisdictional wetlands. Motion carried unanimously.
2. Case Z#0293-05 - *Jimmy Hires* makes application to **rezone** property consisting of 6.499 acres on Harris Trail Road in South Bryan County from A-5 to AR-2.5 from A-5 to AR-2.5. The property is tax parcel number 055-57. The applicant wishes to subdivide the property into two lots. A motion was made by Toby Roberts and seconded by Glen Willard to approve the rezoning request of Jimmy Hires from A-5 to AR-2.5 with stipulations stated by the Planning & Zoning Board for a 25' buffer around the jurisdictional wetlands. Motion carried unanimously.
3. Case Z#0295-05 - *Joint Heirs, LLC* makes application to **rezone** property consisting of 63.3 acres on Belfast Keller Road in South Bryan County from A-5 to R-1. The property is tax parcel number 062-120. The proposed development is for 64 homes. A motion was made by Glen Willard and seconded by Toby Roberts to approve the rezoning request of Joint Heirs, LLC from A-5 to R-1 with the recommendations of the Planning & Zoning Board that each jurisdictional wetland should show a 25' buffer around it; the non jurisdictional wetlands should be reserved for gardens or park; and that the developer designate fifteen feet on the rear of each lot as a vegetative buffer to provide for natural habitat, visual beauty and conservation of environmental habitats. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Case Z#0296-05 - **Scott Stafford/Tim Casey** makes application to **rezone** property consisting of 23.33 acres on Oak Level Road in South Bryan County from AR-1 to R-1. The property is tax parcel number 068-10. The proposed development is for a 32 lot subdivision (The Sanctuary). The Planning & Zoning Board recommends approval on the condition that the developer plant street trees to aid in the retention of stormwater runoff, removal of air pollutants, shade, continuation of wildlife habitat, creation of buffers, and an aesthetically pleasing landscape. A discussion was held on the need to four lane Oak Level Road in the future. A motion was made by Toby Roberts and seconded by Ed Bacon to approve the rezoning request of Scott Stafford/Tim Casey from AR-1 to R-1. Motion carried unanimously.
  
5. Case SD#550-05 - **Lloyd Murray and Jake Davis** makes application for a **preliminary plat approval (Demeries Lake Subdivision, Phase III)** for 53.9 acres on the east side of Demeries Drive. The property is tax parcel number 064-085 and is zoned AR-2.5. The proposed development is 36 lots with this phase being 17 lots. A discussion was held on a request to waive the required recreation property within this subdivision. A motion was made by Ed Bacon and seconded by Toby Roberts to approve the preliminary plat approval for Lloyd Murray and Jake Davis for Demeries Lake Subdivision Phase III for 17 lots and to approve the waiving of the recreation property with the applicant making a \$36,000 donation (recommended \$1,000 per lot as precedence has been set) to a county recreation fund. Motion carried unanimously.

A discussion was held on an **appointment to the Pedestrian Ways, Recreation and Buffer Committee**. A county commissioner needs to be appointed to this committee. A motion was made by Ed Bacon and seconded by Toby Roberts to appoint Glen Willard to the Pedestrian Ways, Recreation and Buffer Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.