

Bryan County Board of Commissioners - December 5, 2006

The regular meeting of the Bryan County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, December 5, 2006. The following members were present: Chairman Jimmy Burnsed, Commissioner Blondean Newman, Commissioner Ed Bacon, Commissioner Rick Gardner, Commissioner Toby Roberts and Commissioner Glen Willard. Also present: County Administrator Phillip Jones, County Clerk Donna Waters and County Attorney George Rountree.

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

The agenda was discussed and the agenda was accepted as amended.

A discussion was held on the *minutes* of the November 7, 2006 regular meeting. A motion was made by Blondean Newman and seconded by Rick Gardner to approve the minute of the November 7, 2006 regular meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

A discussion was held on the *consent agenda*. A motion was made by Rick Gardner and seconded by Glen Willard to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

The following items were listed on the consent agenda:

1. ***Approval of New Occupational Tax Certificates***
 - *William J. Ryle, Jr.....J. Ryle Electric Co.
 - *Dixie “Mark” Roberts.....Roberts Tile
 - *Benjamin Harden.....Southeastern Fence

2. ***Approval of Tax Refunds***
 - *Bobbie Krompack - \$96.48
 - *Jimmy Crosby - \$389.61

A discussion was held on a proposal from ***Hussey, Gay, Bell & DeYoung*** to conduct a ***transportation study*** for the county. A transportation study will be required to complete the Impact Fee Study that is being conducted. The commissioners requested the engineering firm present periodic updates to the board during the conduct of the study and they requested the study be extended out to 2028. The study will consider arterial, collector and the need for new roads. A motion was made by Glen Willard and seconded by Toby Roberts to appoint Hussey, Gay, Bell & DeYoung to prepare a Transportation Study for Bryan County for a cost of \$47,500 with funds to come from contingency. Motion carried unanimously.

A discussion was held on an ***assignment and assumption of water & sewer agreement (Genesis Point)***. The board previously approved an assignment from Fountainhead Development Corporation to Genesis Partners, LLC and new Genesis Partners, LLC wants to

assign the water and sewer agreement to Savannah Land Holding, LLC. A motion was made by Toby Roberts and seconded by Ed Bacon that the Board of Commissioners approve the assignment and assumption of the water and sewer agreement from Genesis Point, LLC to Savannah Land Holding, LLC and authorize the Chairman to sign the agreement. Further when the letters of credit for sewer and water are received, the board authorizes the Chairman to sign the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority Loan Application for the construction of the water treatment facility. Motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Roberts also stated the county needs to receive a letter from Savannah Land Holding, LLC in regards to their understanding the conditions for the PUD rezoning and them assuming the responsibilities for providing and meeting all elements specified (such as purchasing a ladder fire truck, etc.).

A public hearing on the setting of the *county millage rate* was called to order. The County Administrator gave an overview on the proposed millage rate for 2006. There being no one present to speak on the millage rate, the public hearing was declared closed. A motion was made by Toby Roberts and seconded by Ed Bacon to set the millage rate for 2006 at 6.473 mills for the unincorporated areas of Bryan County; 5.773 mills for the incorporated areas of Richmond Hill; 6.243 for the incorporated areas of Pembroke; an additional 2.438 mills for the Cove Subdivision; and an additional 3.132 mills for the Jerico Subdivision; the State is .25 mills and the School Board at 13.614 mills. The total millage rate for the unincorporated areas of Bryan County will be 20.337 mills; 19.637 mills for the incorporated areas of Richmond Hill; 20.107 mills for the incorporated areas of Pembroke; 22.775 mills for the Cove Subdivision; and 23.469 mills for the Jerico Subdivision. Motion carried unanimously.

A discussion was held on the declaration of *county surplus equipment*. A motion was made by Toby Roberts and seconded by Blondean Newman that the list of equipment presented before us be declared as surplus to be disposed of with three (3) items (front end loader, motorgrader and excavator) being sealed bids. Motion carried unanimously. The board also stated that if vehicles such as automobiles and trucks are not disposed of in a future auction, they be donated to Good Will.

The following items were listed as county surplus equipment:

1994 Ford Crown Victoria	2FALP71W4RX201392
1994 Ford Crown Victoria	2FALP71W7RX132617
1988 Ford E350 Van	1FBJS331M2JH821394
CAT 926 Front End Loader	94Z02982
1993 John Deere 770 Motorgrader	DW770BH541664
1994 CAT 320L Excavator	1KL00305
1984 Ford 6610 Tractor	C719522
1991 Ford F150 Pickup	1FTDF15N9MNA57025
1984 Ford F250	1FDHF27G9FNA26975
1991 Ford Ranger	1FTCR10A7MUD79157
1994 Ford F150 4x4	1FTEX14N3RKB28151
1986 Ford F150	1FTCF15Y9GLA28761
2000 Ford Crown Victoria	2FAFP71W11X124112

2002 Ford Crown Victoria	2FAFP71W63X106384
1997 Mercury Marquis	2MELM74W3VX740318
1985 Ford Crew Cab	1FTCF15Y9GLA28761
Air Curtain Burner	
Bush Hog Bat Wing Mower	
3 Lawn Jenny's	
Yellow Air Compressor	
Miscellaneous Wheels & Tires	
Miscellaneous Parts & Filters	
2 Recycling Freon Machines	
Brake Washer	
Center Boat Console W/Controls	

A discussion was held on a **lease purchase agreement** for the upgrade of the system for our **E-911**. The cost to update the system is \$1,049,919. Motorola stated the system upgrades could be funded via a lease purchase agreement extending over a seven year period at 3.95% interest rate. This new system will be located in the new sheriff's complex in Richmond Hill. The system in Pembroke will remain functional should the need arise to evacuate to that site. A motion was made by Rick Gardner and seconded by Blondean Newman to accept the resolution to update the E-911 system and to pay for the upgrade in the amount of \$1,049,919 through a lease purchase agreement extending over a seven year period at 3.95% interest. Voting for: Gardner, Roberts, Willard and Newman. Voting against: Bacon. Motion carried.

A discussion was held on a **high power transmission line** in South Bryan along Highway 144. The construction of this line was supposed to cross Rayonier's land in route to the Genesis Point Tract. We are seeing survey stakes along Highway 144 almost to Keller before the transmission line crosses to Oak Level Road. The County Administrator was directed to contact Georgia Transmissions for further information on this matter.

A public hearing was held on the **proposed 2007 annual operating budget**. The County Administrator gave an overview on the budget. There being no one present to speak on the budget, the public hearing was declared closed.

A discussion was held on the need to have the **tax digest** by August 1 of next year. This is done through the Tax Assessors Office and this matter will be discussed with the Board of Assessors.

A discussion was held on a **budget amendment** in the Roads Department. Commissioner Bacon discussed the need to use excess funds in this department to complete the resurfacing of **Wilma Edwards Road**. He stated this department was likely to have approximately \$100,000 additional funds at year end. These funds are due to this department not hiring new employees authorized in the budget. A motion was made by Ed Bacon and seconded by Toby Roberts to review excess funds for resurfacing of Wilma Edwards Road. Motion carried unanimously. The County Administrator was directed to determine what excess funds exist and bring back to the board for potential reallocation for resurfacing projects.

A discussion was held on **Mill Hill Road**. The County Administrator reported all the patching has been completed and the guard rail work has started over the canal.

A public hearing was held on the creation of a **special tax district for Belfast Pines Subdivision** for the purpose of paving the road in this subdivision. Ben Harden was present to speak in favor of the special tax district. The public hearing was declared closed. A motion was made by Glen Willard and seconded by Toby Roberts that we approve the creation of a special tax district for Belfast Pines Subdivision as requested by the majority of the property owners, debt service the loan through the county and we recoup costs via a fee per lot for the next ten years. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Burnsed called the planning & zoning public hearing to order.

1. **Case Z #0325-06 - Kandi R. Drew Rezoning** of 2 acres out of a 69.27 acre tract located at 523 Shumantown Road in Ellabell. No one other than the applicant was present to speak on this rezoning.

Chairman Burnsed declared the public hearing closed.

Brian Harvey, Zoning Administrator, met with the board with planning & zoning issues.

1. **Case Z #0325-06 - Kandi R. Drew** makes application to rezone 2 acres (for 2 - 1 acre lots) out of 69.27 acres. The property is located at 523 Shumantown Road, Ellabell, tax parcel number 030-020. The current zone is A-5 and the requested zone is AR-1.5. A motion was made by Blondean Newman and seconded by Glen Willard to approve the rezoning of Case Z#0325-06, Kandi R. Drew, of 2 acres (2 1 acre tracts) out of a 69.27 acre tract from A-5 to AR-1.5. Motion carried unanimously.

Joy Wilkins of Georgia Tech met with the board to give a presentation on the draft findings of the **Economic Diversification of Bryan County Study**. This study was based on research, interviews with local people and with others from the State and surrounding counties. Ms. Wilkins indicated that Bryan County does not have any major shortfalls, has many positive attributes and some areas of opportunity. The attributes evaluated were: community growth, fiscal capacity, self-sufficiency, economic base, existing workforce, youth development, workforce development, civic spirit and social capital, community health, and innovation potential.

George Rountree, County Attorney, met with the board to give an update on several issues.

***Yates Paving Case** - This case has been dismissed in the county's favor.

***Fire Arms Ordinance** - The board was provided an updated version of the proposed ordinance for review. The ordinance will come before the board in January for a final reading

and adoption.

Sheila Galbreath met with the board to comment on several issues. She requested consideration be given to the site location of the new administrative complex in Richmond Hill. She feels, for several reasons, the location should be on Highway 17. She also requested consideration be given to accelerating the resurfacing of the Belfast Keller Loop Road.

Lynda Morse met with the board to comment on several issues. She questioned why the commissioners have not been actively pursuing a Stephens Day Bill for Bryan County. She also commented that people with money got different consideration than the “average Joe” with the enforcement of planning & zoning.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.