

**CAMDEN COUNTY, GEORGIA  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
FEBRUARY 7, 2017, 6:00 PM**

**Present: Chairman James H. Starline; Vice-Chairman Chuck Clark; Commissioner Gary Blount; Commissioner Lannie E. Brant; Commissioner Ben L. Casey; County Attorney John S. Myers and County Clerk Kathryn A. Bishop**

County Administrator Steve Howard was absent.

Chairman Starline called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioner Lannie Brant delivered the invocation.

Chairman Starline led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Agenda Amendments:**

**Removal of item under Presentations**

- Proclamation recognizing Georgia Small Business Week
  
- Camden Film Alliance Report presented by Camden County Film Commissioner Doug Vaught

**Addition under Presentations:**

- Update regarding recent tornado damage presented by Public Works Director Harvey Amerson

**Addition of Item 5 under Regular Agenda:**

**County Attorney John S. Myers**

6. Approval of Condemnation Resolution for Fisher-Massey Road Project.

Commissioner Blount made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Brant to approve the agenda amendments as presented.

**The motion carried unanimously .**

**Motion to Adopt the Agenda:**

Commissioner Blount made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Brant to adopt the agenda as amended.

**The motion carried unanimously .**

**Approval of the Minutes**

- January 24, 2017 Regular Meeting minutes

Vice-Chairman Clark made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Blount to approve the January 24, 2017 Regular Meeting minutes.

**The motion carried unanimously .**

## **Presentation**

- Update regarding recent tornado damage presented by Public Works Director Harvey Amerson

Public Works Director Harvey Amerson presented an update regarding the recent tornado damage in the Horseshoe Cove area. He presented a PowerPoint presentation with pictures of the clean-up efforts taking place in this area of the County.

- Presentation regarding options pertaining to a Combined Board of Elections & Registrars presented by Shannon Nettles & Adam Kabasakalian.

Management Analyst Shannon Nettles & Program Manager Adam Kabasakalian presented a PowerPoint presentation to the Board regarding options pertaining to a Combined Board of Elections & Registrars.

## **Public Comments**

Attorney Bill Sapp, Southern Environmental Law Center

Attorney Sapp introduced himself and stated that he was the Senior Attorney at the Southern Environmental Law Center. He explained that the Center practices in six (6) states with seventy-five (75) attorneys on staff. He stated that he is representing clients in opposition of the Cumberland Island Hardship Variance request. He stated that currently discussions with the applicant Lumar, LLC are progressing and there have been two (2) meetings so far; one (1) which took place in Atlanta and one (1) which took place in Camden County today. He stated that his firm, along with the National Park Conservation, would be meeting with the National Park Service representatives and talk further with Lumar, LLC later this week. He explained that the ultimate goal is to jointly come to an agreement to preserve natural and cultural aspects, yet still respect the interest of the holders. He stated that he hopes to work together and move forward as quickly as possible to a resolution.

Don Barger, National Park Conservation Association

Mr. Barger stated that he is the Southeast Regional Director for the National Park Conservation Association. He stated that the southeast is home to a quarter of the most beautiful national parks in our country, one of which is Cumberland Island. He stated that this is a controversial issue and he looks forward to continued discussions to find a resolution.

Attorney Stephen Kinney, on behalf of Lumar, LLC

Attorney Kinney stated that as Attorney Sapp indicated all parties are involved with trying to resolve this issue. He stated that the discussions are going well and he is very hopeful this matter can be resolved. He stated that he appreciates the Commissioners' attention to this matter.

Kathleen Worthing, Woodbine

Mrs. Worthing stated that she is a member of the Woodbine Library Association. She stated that the Commissioners' should have a valentine's gift from the Woodbine Elementary thirds (3<sup>rd</sup>) and fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) grade students at their seats. She stated that

included in the gift is a book from the “BigRead Program” coordinated by the Public Libraries of Georgia. She stated that she is a library fan which stems back to her childhood. She explained why she believes libraries are important to both children and adults. She stated that there is a rumor that the Woodbine Library Association wants the Commissioners to fund the establishment of a library in Woodbine. She explained that they would like for the County to fully fund the Camden County Library so that a Library Service Outlet may be established in Woodbine. She stated that the City of Woodbine has already offered a building to house the outlet. She explained why a good high speed internet access is so important for youth to access information in a short time. She stated that a majority of homework is now done on computers. She urged the Board to consider this matter during budget time.

Linda Victory, Kingsland

Mrs. Victory stated that she is part of the group that brought the Registrars item to the attention of the Board. She explained that she was a poll watcher for many years and she believes the budget presented previously for this department needs some refining.

Janet Heath, Woodbine

Mrs. Heath stated that her property received extensive tornado damage and she was curious why a complete report of all damage was not compiled. She stated that her property sustained more than \$10,000.00 worth of damage. She explained that they had many trees down, one of which fell on her barn. She asked that a better reporting system for storm damage be looked into in the future.

Tom Wolfes, teacher, CCHS

Mr. Wolfes stated that he is a teacher at Camden County High School and he agrees with the previous speaker that there is a need for a library with internet access in the north end of the County. He stated that a lot of his students have both lack of internet access and transportation to the south end of the County.

Ruben Gomez, Kingsland

Mr. Gomez stated that he saw something on the screen during the tornado damage presentation, and he feels that tree damage is both foreseeable and preventable. He stated that the board needs to implement rules to prevent tree damage, and determine how high a tree goes. He stated that it was the County’s obligation to educate people, set up rules, and make tree falling preventable.

Robin Mainor, Chief Registrar

Ms. Mainor stated that she would like to correct a previous comment that was made. She explained that the Registrar’s office does provide training that is paid for by the County.

Commissioner Blount made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Brant to adjourn the regular meeting and convene a public hearing at 6:48 PM.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

Chairman Starline convened the public hearing at 6:48 PM.

### **Public Hearing (1)**

- To consider and receive public comments from the public on amendments to the Official Code of Camden County, Georgia, Chapter 50 Solid Waste, Article I - Residential Curbside Collection, Section 8 Exemptions.

No public comments were offered either in favor or in opposition of this item during this time.

Commissioner Blount made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Clark to adjourn the public hearing at 6:59 PM.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

Chairman Starline convened the next public hearing at 6:59 PM.

## **Public Hearing (2)**

To consider and receive public comments from the public on amendments to the following:

- Request for Special Use approval to allow a place of assembly, with the maximum of 100 guests. Property is zoned A-R and is 3.5 acres. Tax Map 094 020M, 148 Jimmy Court. **District 2 - Vice-Chairman Clark**

No public comments were offered either in favor or in opposition of this item during this time.

- Amendment to Section 1412 “Violations and Penalties” of the Unified Development Code.

No public comments were offered either in favor or in opposition of this item during this time.

Commissioner Blount made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Clark to adjourn the public hearing and reconvene the regular meeting at 7:05 PM.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

Chairman Starline reconvened the regular meeting at 7:05 PM.

## **Regular Agenda**

1. Consideration of request by Chris & Melonie Kolgaklis, Owners, for a Special Use approval to allow a place of assembly, with the maximum of 100 guests. Property is zoned A-R and is 3.5 acres. Tax Map 094 020M, 148 Jimmy Court. **District 2 - Vice-Chairman Clark**

Vice-Chairman Clark made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Blount to approve the by Chris & Melonie Kolgaklis, Owners, for a Special Use approval to allow a place of assembly, with the maximum of 100 guests. Property is zoned A-R and is 3.5 acres. Tax Map 094 020M, 148 Jimmy Court.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

2. Consideration of amendment to Section 1412 “Violations and Penalties” of the Unified Development Code.

Commissioner Blount made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Clark to adopt the amendment to Section 1412 “Violations and Penalties” of the Unified Development Code.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

3. First reading of amendments to the Official Code of Camden County, Georgia, Chapter 50 Solid Waste, Article I - Residential Curbside Collection, Section 8 Exemptions.

Commissioner Blount made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Clark to waive the first reading of amendments to the Official Code of Camden County, Georgia, Chapter 50 Solid Waste, Article I - Residential Curbside Collection, Section 8 Exemptions.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

4. Approval of University of Georgia Cooperative Extension Contract

Commissioner Blount made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Brant to approve the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension Contract amendment as presented.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

5. Approval of Condemnation Resolution for Fisher-Massey Road Project.

Commissioner Brant made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Clark to approve the Condemnation Resolution for Fisher-Massey Road Project.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

## **Reports**

- **Calendar - January & February 2017**

County Clerk Katie Bishop stated there were no changes to the calendar at this time.

- **County Administrator Comments**

County Attorney John Myers announced that a successful meeting of the St. Marys River Management Committee was recently held, and he thanked Commissioner Casey for serving in this capacity as a member of this Board.

Finance Director Mike Fender announced that a budget calendar would be sent out soon and if there are any conflicts to please let him know so the calendar can be adjusted.

## **Additional Public Comments**

No comments from the public were offered during this time.

## **Adjournment:**

Commissioner Blount made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Clark to adjourn the February 7, 2017 regular meeting. The vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 7:09 PM.

**The motion carried unanimously.**