

**CAMDEN COUNTY, GEORGIA
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 1, 2011, 6:00 PM**

A regular meeting of the Camden County Board of County Commissioners was held at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 1, 2011, in the Board of County Commissioners' Meeting Chambers of the Government Services Building, Woodbine, Georgia.

Chair Rainer called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Finance & Budget Director Mike Fender delivered the invocation.

Chair Rainer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Chair David L. Rainer; Vice-Chair Willis R. Keene, Jr.; Commissioner Chuck Clark; Commissioner Jimmy Starline; Commissioner Gary Blount; County Administrator Steve Howard; County Attorney Brent Green; and County Clerk Kathryn Bishop.

Agenda Amendments:

No agenda amendments were offered.

Motion to Adopt the Agenda:

Vice-Chair Keene made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Clark to approve the Agenda as presented.

The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

- October 18, 2011 Regular Meeting minutes

Vice-Chair Keene made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Clark to approve the October 18, 2011 regular meeting minutes.

The motion carried unanimously.

Presentation

- Presentation of Employee of the Quarter for the 1st Quarter Fiscal Year 2012

Julie Swick presented the Employee of the Quarter Matthew Turner & County Clerk Katie Bishop read the Proclamation.

- Citizen's Academy Graduation

Julie Swick presented certificates to the participants graduating from the Camden County Citizen's Academy class of 2011.

Public Comments

County Clerk Katie Bishop stated that the following public comment, submitted via the online speaker request form, would be incorporated into the official record:

Sherry Walker, St. Marys

Dear board of county commissioners, I am a citizen of Camden County, GA and have been for 10yrs now! I have always felt this was a great place to raise my kids and put down permanent roots; until this plan hit national news and comes up on every search you do online for anything to do with firefighters in Camden County, as an option to save money. I have 2 boys 12 and 6 who look up to and LOVE firefighters!! My 12 year old wants to become a fireman when he goes up and so does my 6 yr old!! Great honorable profession for many, many years!! All have CLEAN backgrounds no drug usage, no jail time, no records. This is a requirement when you fill out the application to get the job!! People trust these men and woman with their lives their belongings and the families!! To cut costs you're willing to pervert the job title and give these honest hard working men and woman the name by association of Convict!! We have standards for a reason for this job, the same reason we don't allow them into our government offices and daycares, banks etc... They made their choices in their lives and went down the road they chose!! Our fireman on staff currently chose the opposite life and to overcome that scene some of them were raised in for what just to be labeled and that anyway!! I'm sorry but this is a HUGE mistake and whoever came up with it should be ashamed of him for even recommending it as an option!! Yes we all make mistakes but running off assumptions and sacrificing moral values to gain a buck is not honorable or upstanding!! I am begging you please do not corrupt this honorable profession with convicts, training our fire fighters to be guards is not going to salve anything and they need to be focused on their jobs not babysitting your excuse to save money!! If they wanted to be prison guards they would have chosen that profession!! You are opening up every resident of Camden County to convicts including the elderly, and our children!! Its unsafe and just not smart, and a grand way to lose some population and cost you more in the long run!!! I mean really our fire fighters and police officers are currently underpaid now as it is, and now we are going to say thank you again by slapping them in the face again with degrading their name and reputation!! That sounds like a winning idea NOT!! You are here to work for the people of Camden County, So, consider this one person you represent saying NO TO INMATES IN THE FIRE STATIONS!!! NO and again NO, very disappointed by this attempt.

Greg Moore, St. Marys

Mr. Moore stated that he was a participant of the Citizen's Academy and the Sheriff's Office Academy. He stated that he would like to commend Sheriff Gregory as well as Julie Swick for the outstanding work they put in to each of these programs. He stated that he would like to personally applaud Julie Swick for all of her hard work.

Convene Public Hearing

Chair Rainer convened the Public Hearing at 6:10 PM.

- Introduction of public hearing item by County Attorney Brent Green & Strategic Initiatives Director Adam Kabasakalian and receive public comments on amendments to Part I Related Laws, Article I Administration, Section 102 District Boundaries of the Official Code of Camden County, Georgia.

Adam Kabasakalian stated that there has been no input or negative feedback from the public regarding the redistricting. He confirmed that everything meets State requirements and the next hearing will be at 6:00 PM December 13, 2011.

Chair Rainer asked if any Commissioners had questions or comments. There being none he asked for comments from the public at this time.

No comments were offered from the public regarding these items.

Chair Rainer adjourned the Public Hearing at 6:18 PM.

Convene Public Hearing

Chair Rainer convened the Public Hearing at 6:19 PM.

- Introduction of public hearing item by County Attorney Brent Green and receive public comments on amendments to Chapter 50, Solid Waste, of the Official Code of Camden County, Georgia.

County Attorney Brent Green gave a brief introduction regarding the amendments to Chapter 50, Solid Waste and asked if there were any questions from the Commissioners.

Chair Rainer asked for comments from the public at this time:

Vernon Copeland, Waverly

Mr. Copeland stated that he had studied the proposed changes to the Solid Waste Ordinance and under the impression that garbage was waste from food not paper. He stated that if you read the ordinance it states that citizens are required to haul leaves and yard waste to the landfill. He stated that incurs a lot of hardship and money to the taxpayer. He stated that he has always burned his trash and he is going to continue to do so. He stated that he does not want to pay for the trash service as required by the ordinance. He explained that he does not produce enough trash to have to be required to use the service. He stated that the service ought to be a privilege and this is all about power of authority and more money to the County. He stated that he has always paid his taxes and is a law abiding citizen. He explained that he and his wife made a lot of sacrifices to have what they have. He stated that he never wanted the trash service to begin with. He stated that he believes it is a sin to waste food when something can eat it and food and paper are two different things.

County Attorney Brent Green stated that the next public hearing regarding this item will be at 6:00 PM on December 13, 2011.

Chair Rainer adjourned the Public Hearing at 6:27 PM.

Convene Public Hearing

Chair Rainer convened the Public Hearing at 6:27 PM.

- Introduction of public hearing item by County Attorney Brent Green and receive public comments regarding the addition of Chapter 10, Electronic Game Promotions to the Official Code of Camden County, Georgia.

County Attorney Brent Green gave an overview of Chapter 7, Electronic Game Promotions to the Board.

No comments were offered from the public regarding these items.

Chair Rainer adjourned the Public Hearing at 6:32 PM.

Chair Rainer reconvened the Regular Meeting at 6:32 PM.

Regular Agenda

1. Consideration of request by Terry P. Harrell for a Special Use allowance (#SU2011-7) for his property located on Field Creek Circle, Waverly, GA to place a manufactured home on this property, located on Tax Map #125A, Parcel #035P. (District 1 - Commissioner Keene)
2. Consideration of request by Wade and Cheri McKinnon for a Special Use allowance (#SU2011-8) for their property located on Field Creek Circle, Waverly, Kingsland, GA to place a manufactured home on this property, located on Tax Map #0125A, Parcel #035O. (District 1 - Commissioner Keene)

Vice-Chair Keene made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Clark to table items 1 and 2 until the December 13, 2011 regular meeting.

The motion carried unanimously.

3. First Reading of the amendment to the Official Code of Camden County, Georgia, Part I Related Laws, Article I Administration, Section 102 District Boundaries

Vice-Chair Keene made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Blount to waive the first reading of the amendment to the Official Code of Camden County, Georgia, Part I Related Laws, Article I Administration, Section 102 District Boundaries

The motion carried unanimously.

4. First Reading of the amendment to the Official Code of Camden County, Georgia, Chapter 50, Solid Waste.

Commissioner Blount made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Starline to waive the first reading of the amendment to the Official Code of Camden County, Georgia, Chapter 50, Solid Waste.

The motion carried unanimously.

5. First Reading of the amendment to the Official Code of Camden County, Georgia, addition of Chapter 10, Electronic Game Promotions.

Commissioner Starline made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Keene to waive the first reading of the amendment to the Official Code of Camden County, Georgia, addition of Chapter 10, Electronic Game Promotions.

The motion carried unanimously.

6. Waive the County ad valorem tax bill for the St. Marys Machinist Club.

Vice-Chair Keene made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Blount to Waive the County ad valorem tax bill for the St. Marys Machinist Club.

The motion carried unanimously.

7. Appointment to the St. Marys River Management Committee (*At-Large*)

Commissioner Blount made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Keene to appoint John Myers to the St. Marys River Management Committee (*At-Large*)

The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Rainer adjourned the Regular Meeting at 6:39 PM.

Convene Work Session

Chair Rainer convened the Work Session at 6:39 PM.

- SPLOST VII (*Presented by Finance & Budget Director Mike Fender*)

County Administrator Steve Howard gave the Board a brief introduction highlighting the methods for which to move forward with SPLOST VII.

Finance & Budget Director Mike Fender went over the packet provided to the Board.

The consensus of the Board was to move forward with SPLOST VII appearing on the Presidential Primary ballot, March 6, 2012.

Chair Rainer adjourned the Work Session at 7:03 PM.

Chair Rainer Convened the Regular Meeting at 7:03 PM.

Reports

- Calendar - October & November 2011

County Clerk Kathryn Bishop read the calendars for November & December 2011.

- County Administrator's Report

County Administrator Steve Howard stated that the 2012 meeting date and holiday calendar was provided to the Board to gather input regarding the dates.

He stated that a request has been received for the Board of Family and Children Services notifying a vacancy on that Board.

He stated that he would like to echo the applause to Julie Swick for the hard work she did with the Citizen's Academy.

He stated that he received good feedback at the retired teachers event and it was a splendid effort.

Additional Public Comments:

No additional public comments were offered during this time.

Adjournment:

Commissioner Blount made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Clark to adjourn the November 1, 2011 meeting. The vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 7:05PM.

Respectfully submitted,

David L. Rainer, Chair

Kathryn A. Bishop, County Clerk

