

**CAMDEN COUNTY, GEORGIA
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 13, 2011, 6:00 PM**

A regular meeting of the Camden County Board of County Commissioners was held at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 13, 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.

Planning and Development Director John Peterson 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:

Added item under regular agenda:

18. Amend the official minutes of February 17, 2005, Item N, to reflect the correct parcel number, parcel 22, in the approved rezoning shown on tax map 131-C.

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

Motion to Adopt the Agenda:

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

The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

- November 1, 2011 Regular Meeting minutes

Vice-Chair Keene made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Blount to approve the November 1, 2011 regular meeting minutes.

The motion carried unanimously.

Presentation

- Joint Proclamation designating November 28th, 2011 as VT Group Day in Camden County.

County Clerk Katie Bishop read the Joint Proclamation designating November 28th, 2011 as VT Group Day in Camden County into the official record.

- Presentation of Showcase Camden County Photo Contest winners

Julie Swick presented the Showcase Camden County Photo Contest winners:

Landscapes - Deborah Baird

Nature & Wildlife - Terry Ross

People - Ron Williams

Transportation - Michelle Preston

Overall Winner - Ron Williams

Public Comments

Sheriff Tommy Gregory, Woodbine

Sheriff Gregory stated that he is pleased to inform the Board that he has received a letter from the Department of Justice informing that Camden County has been allowed back in the Federal Seized Asset Program. He explained that the program allows funds confiscated from criminals to be returned back to Camden County to help fight crime.

Daniel Keller, Kingsland

Mr. Keller stated that he has grave concerns regarding the Smart Meter installations throughout our community by local power companies. He explained that his concerns are related to recent studies finding that the smart meters can be known to cause higher electric bills, pose fire hazards, explosions, power surges, hacking and adverse health effects.

Terri Keller, Kingsland

Mrs. Keller explained how the smart meters function and played a clip of radio frequency from a voice recording device. She stated that the plant that is located near the meter on her house is dyeing and she believes it is from the smart meter. She stated that she has concerns that the power company can provide no long term data regarding the smart meters when requested. She stated that she has reports finding lower sperm counts in males, damage to other bodily cells and the smart meters can cause class 2 carcinogens. She stated that her neighbor had the meter removed due to having a heart related condition and a pace maker. She stated that she urges the public to refuse the smart meter from the local power companies. Due to health and safety reasons.

Mary Hart, Kingsland

Ms. Hart stated that her son is eight (8) years old and very active in cub scouts, participating in the distribution of over one hundred (100) Thanksgiving dinners to the needy this year. She asked everyone to think of the children in their lives who are exposed to the health and safety risks associated with these smart meters.

Convene Public Hearing

Chair Rainer convened the Public Hearing at 6:26 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.

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

Public Comments:

Robert Cummings, Woodbine

Mr. Cummings stated that the current redistricting plan does not allow for a minority to be elected. He urged the Board before the County spends any more time on this plan to form a committee and make a district where a minority has a chance of being elected.

Adam Kabasakalian stated that this was taken into consideration and it was determined that it would not work out. He confirmed that everything meets State requirements and the next step is to forward this information on to Representative Jason Spencer.

Chair Rainer adjourned the Public Hearing at 6:36 PM.

Convene Public Hearing

Chair Rainer convened the Public Hearing at 6:36 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.

There being none, Chair Rainer asked for comments from the public at this time:

No comments were offered from the public regarding this item.

Chair Rainer adjourned the Public Hearing at 6:37 PM.

Convene Public Hearing

Chair Rainer convened the Public Hearing at 6:37 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 and asked if there were any questions from the Commissioners.

There being none, Chair Rainer asked for comments from the public at this time.

No comments were offered from the public regarding this item.

Chair Rainer adjourned the Public Hearing at 6:38 PM.

Chair Rainer reconvened the Regular Meeting at 6:38 PM.

Regular Agenda

1. Consideration of Chair to execute Tax Release Applications.

Chair Rainer explained that the tax release application from Bayer Crop Science would be removed from the approval and sent back to the Board of Assessors.

Vice-Chair Keene made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Clark to approve the Chair to execute the Tax Release Applications with the removal of Bayer Crop Science.

The motion carried unanimously.

2. Appointment to the Board of Department of Family and Children Services.

Vice-Chair Keene made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Blount to appoint Richard Bradham to the Board of Family and Children Services.

The motion carried unanimously.

3. Appointment of Solid Waste Authority members.

Commissioner Clark made a motion seconded by Vice-Chair Keene to confirm the appointments of Lannie Brant, David Rainer and Willis R. Keene to the Solid Waste Authority. .

The motion carried unanimously.

4. Appointment to the Board of Tax Assessors.

Vice-Chair Keene made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Clark to table this item.

The motion to table this item carried unanimously.

5. Approval of Board of County Commissioners 2012 Meeting and Holiday Calendar.

Commissioner Starline made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Keene to approve the Board of County Commissioners 2012 Meeting and Holiday Calendar.

The motion carried unanimously.

6. Approval of ADA Transition Plan.

Commissioner Starline made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Clark to approve the ADA Transition Plan.

The motion carried unanimously.

7. Approval of the Non-discrimination Agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation.

Commissioner Clark made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Starline to approve the Non-discrimination Agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation.

The motion carried unanimously.

8. Second Reading and adoption of the amendment to the Official Code of Camden County, Georgia, Part I Related Laws, Article I Administration, Section 102 District Boundaries

Commissioner Starline made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Clark to waive the second reading and adopt the 2011 Redistricting Plan and direct staff to present the proposed redistricting plan to Representative Spencer and Senator Ligon for the purposes of drafting and the presentation of special legislation in the Georgia Legislature 2012 Session approving the 2011 Redistricting Plan.

The motion carried unanimously.

9. Second Reading and adoption of the amendment to the Official Code of Camden County, Georgia, Chapter 50, Solid Waste.

Vice-Chair Keene made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Starline to waive the second reading and adopt the amendments to the Official Code of Camden County, Georgia, Chapter 50, Solid Waste to be effective January 1, 2012.

The motion carried unanimously.

10. Second Reading and adoption of the amendment to the Official Code of Camden County, Georgia, addition of Chapter 10, Electronic Game Promotions.

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

The motion carried unanimously.

11. Approval of the Georgia Department of Transportation LMIG contract for construction of three (3) County roads.

Vice-Chair Keene made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Clark to approve the Georgia Department of Transportation LMIG contract for construction of three (3) County roads.

The motion carried unanimously.

12. Approval to apply for the Georgia Trauma Commission FY 2012 EMS Vehicle Equipment Replacement Grants Program

Commissioner Starline made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Keene to approve to allow staff to apply for the Georgia Trauma Commission FY 2012 EMS Vehicle Equipment Replacement Grants Program

The motion carried unanimously.

13. Consideration of requests for relief regarding ad valorem taxes.

Lisa Bennett, Kingsland, *speaking on behalf of Bonnie Dietrich*

Ms. Bennett stated that when the mobile home was purchased Ms. Dietrich went through procedures at Planning and Development. She stated that Planning and Development has no record of this trailer now and what this boils down to is a breakdown in the system.

Commissioner Blount made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Clark to table this item.

Chair Rainer adjourned the meeting for a short recess at 7:13 PM.

Chair Rainer reconvened the regular meeting at 7:16 PM.

Commissioner Blount rescinded his previous motion, Commissioner Clark rescinded his second to that motion.

Commissioner Blount made a motion to grant the request by Bonnie Dietrich for a refund of interest and penalties paid on the ad valorem tax bills 2008, 2009, and 2010.

The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Blount made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Clark to deny the request by Lucy Horne.

So voted:

Chair Rainer - No

Vice- Chair Keene - Yes

Commissioner Clark - Yes

Commissioner Starline - Yes

Commissioner Blount - Yes

The motion carried 4-1.

Commissioner Blount made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Keene to deny the request by Bruce and Jody Sweeny.

The motion carried unanimously.

14. Consideration of approval of 2012 Alcohol License Renewals.

Commissioner Clark made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Keene to approve the 2012 Alcohol License Renewals.

The motion carried unanimously.

15. Consideration of request in change of type of Alcohol Beverage License from Retail Dealer of spirituous liquors, beer and wine to Retail Consumption of spirituous liquors, beer and wine at Reeds Grocery and Ponderosa. ***(District 1 - Commissioner Keene)***

Vice-Chair Keene made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Clark to approve the request in change of type of Alcohol Beverage License from Retail Dealer of spirituous liquors, beer and wine to Retail Consumption of spirituous liquors, beer and wine at Reeds Grocery and Ponderosa.

The motion carried unanimously.

16. Resolution to amend UDC Sec. 228 NAICS Code 5172, includes the amendment of the term to "Wireless Telecommunications Antennae and Towers", to show that a Special Use is required to meet UDC Sections 330 & 1249, and to amend Sec. 228 NAICS Code 71312 to clarify by adding *Electronic Gaming Promotions* as a Special Use approval required and reference the Gaming Ordinance.

Commissioner Blount made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Keene to approve Resolution to amend UDC Sec. 228 NAICS Code 5172, includes the amendment of the term to "Wireless Telecommunications Antennae and Towers", to show that a Special Use is required to meet UDC Sections 330 & 1249, and to amend Sec. 228 NAICS Code 71312 to clarify by adding *Electronic Gaming Promotions* as a Special Use

approval required and reference the Gaming Ordinance.

The motion carried unanimously.

17. Request to advertise for public hearings for Special Use request by Harrell and McKinnon to place a manufactured home on their R-1 zoned property located on Tax Map #125A, Parcel #035P and Parcel # 035O. (***District 1 - Commissioner Keene***)

Vice-Chair Keene made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Clark to approve the request to advertise for public hearings for Special Use request by Harrell and McKinnon to place a manufactured home on their R-1 zoned property located on Tax Map #125A, Parcel #035P and Parcel # 035O.

The motion carried unanimously.

18. Amend the official minutes of February 17, 2005, Item N, to reflect the correct parcel number, parcel 22, in the approved rezoning shown on tax map 131-C.

Commissioner Clark made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Starline to amend the official minutes of February 17, 2005, Item N, to reflect the correct parcel number, parcel 22, in the approved rezoning shown on tax map 131-C.

The motion carried unanimously.

Reports

- Calendar - ***December 2011 & January 2012***

County Clerk Kathryn Bishop read the calendars for December 2011 & January 2012.

- County Administrator's Report

County Administrator Steve Howard announced that Camden County has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$1.2 million dollars for Communications upgrades. He congratulated staff for the hard work in securing that grant funding.

He stated that ACCG, Georgia Trend Magazine has chosen Camden County for a statewide award with the AED Project. He stated that the County will be recognized publicly for this award.

He stated that staff lobbied hard with GDOT for the purchase of right-of-way needed for Kingsland By-pass, Phase I has been granted.

He stated that Kingsland is currently a front runner for a possible television show being filmed in our community called Lovetown USA produced by BBC and the Oprah Winfrey Network. He stated that Kingsland would like the County to sign off on a possible agreement to allow photos and filming to take place on or around County properties.

He stated if the Board has no objections he will execute this agreement.

The Board consented to the agreement being executed by the County Administrator.

He stated that Horsestamp Church Bridge has reopened and the project is on time for completion March 2012.

Additional Public Comments:

Bill Sheffield, Kingsland Cemetery Road

Mr. Sheffield stated that he is trying to get electricity to his property and he has documentation showing a sixty (60) foot right-of-way that would allow the electric company to run the lines needed to provide power to his home and property.

County Attorney Brent Green explained that the County is looking to verify these documents at this time and will be in touch with Mr. Sheffield upon that determination.

Adjournment:

Commissioner Clark made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Keene to adjourn the December 13, 2011 meeting. The vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

David L. Rainer, Chair

Kathryn A. Bishop, County Clerk