

**CAMDEN COUNTY, GEORGIA  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
MAY 3, 2016, 6:00 PM**

**Present:** Chairman James H. Starline; Commissioner Willis R. Keene, Jr.; Commissioner Chuck Clark; Commissioner Tony Sheppard; County Administrator Steve Howard; County Attorney John S. Myers and County Clerk Kathryn A. Bishop .

**Absent:** Commissioner Tony Sheppard

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

Finance & Budget Director Mike Fender delivered the invocation.

Chairman Starline led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Agenda Amendments:**

**Added under Presentations:**

- Proclamation recognizing the week of May 15 - 21, 2016 as National Peace Officers' Week
- Proclamation Recognizing the week of May 1 - 7, 2016 as National Correctional Officers' Week

**Added item under Regular Agenda:**

**Tax Assessor 's Office - Deputy Chief Appraiser Brian Bishop**

4. Consideration of approval of Tax Release Applications

Vice-Chairman Blount made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Keene to approve the agenda amendments as presented.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion to Adopt the Agenda:**

Vice-Chairman Blount made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Keene to adopt the agenda as amended.

**The motion carried unanimously .**

**Approval of the Minutes**

- April 19, 2016 Public Hearing & Regular Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Clark made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Keene to approve the April 19, 2016 Public Hearing & Regular Meeting Minutes.

**So Voted:**

**Chairman Starline - Yes**

**Vice-Chairman Blount - Abstain**

Commissioner Clark - Yes  
Commissioner Sheppard - Absent  
Commissioner Keene - Yes

The motion carried 3-0. Vice-Chairman Blount abstained from the motion due to his absence during the April 19, 2016 public hearing and regular meeting.

## Presentation

- Proclamation recognizing Employee of the Quarter

County Clerk Katie Bishop presented the Employee of the Quarter Proclamation to Amber Hardman of the Tax Assessor's Office.

**WHEREAS**, the Employee Recognition Committee is pleased to announce that Amber Hardman has been named Employee of the Quarter for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of Fiscal Year 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, Amber's commitment to the Camden County Tax Assessor's Office began on May 9, 2011; where her willing attitude, and diligent work ethic have played an important role in the growth and success of this organization; and

**WHEREAS**, Amber has been described by her peers as compassionate, hardworking, and always brings a sense of team spirit to the job; and

**WHEREAS**, this quarter Amber has given extra effort, going above and beyond her daily duties, by assisting a disoriented elderly citizen in distress. In February, while conducting property reviews in the Owen's Ferry area, north of Woodbine, Amber noticed an elderly woman in the road walking alone. Concerned, she stopped to ask if she needed help; and

**WHEREAS**, Amber sensed something was not right as its miles back to Woodbine, and the woman seemed unable to determine where she was **living**. Ms. Hardman contacted the Sheriff's Office and was informed to stay there until a deputy could arrive; and

**WHEREAS**, while waiting Amber observed that the woman continued to walk down the dirt road; after a few minutes she got too close to the edge of the road, and slipped into the ditch. Ms. Hardman immediately assisted her and offered her some water. She was soon able to locate the disoriented woman's home where she lived with her daughter who had been frantically looking for her mother; and

**WHEREAS**, Amber's actions in this incident and how she conducts herself at work on a daily basis exemplifies her kindheartedness and her ability to go the extra mile to get the job done. She understands the impact her performance has on the citizens of Camden County and her department;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE CAMDEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS** that the members of this body recognize Amber Hardman as Employee of the Quarter for Camden County Government, and, we hereby express our gratitude for her continued efforts and commitment.

- Proclamation recognizing the week of May 6 -12, 2016 as National Nurses Week.

County Clerk Katie Bishop presented the Proclamation recognizing the week of May 6 - 12, 2016 as National Nurses Week and announced that this Proclamation will be recorded into the official record of Camden County.

**Whereas**, the nearly 3.1 million registered nurses in the United States comprise our nation's largest health care profession, and

**Whereas**, the depth and breadth of the registered nursing profession meets the different and emerging health care needs of the American population in a wide range of settings, and

**Whereas**, the American Nurses Association, as the voice for the registered nurses of this country, is working to chart a new course for a healthy nation that relies on increasing delivery of primary and preventive health care, and

**Whereas**, a renewed emphasis on primary and preventive health care will require the better utilization of all of our nation's registered nursing resources, and

**Whereas**, professional nursing has been demonstrated to be an indispensable component in the safety and quality of care of hospitalized patients, and

**Whereas**, the demand for registered nursing services will be greater than ever because of the aging of the American population, the continuing expansion of life-sustaining technology, and the explosive growth of home health care services, and

**Whereas**, that more qualified registered nurses will be needed in the future to meet the increasingly complex needs of health care consumers in this community, and

**Whereas**, the cost-effective, safe and quality health care services provided by registered nurses will be an ever more important component of the U.S. health care delivery system in the future, and

**Whereas**, along with the American Nurses Association, Southeast Georgia Health System has declared the week of **May 6-12** as **NATIONAL NURSES WEEK** with the theme **Culture of Safety** in celebration of the ways in which registered nurses strive to provide safe and high quality patient care and map out the way to improve our health care system, and we ask that all residents of this community join us in honoring the registered nurses who care for all of us, and

**Be it resolved**, that the residents of Camden County celebrate registered nursing's accomplishments and efforts to improve our health care system and show our appreciation for the nation's registered nurses not just during this week, but at every opportunity throughout the year, and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED THAT** the Camden County Board of Commissioners do hereby ask that all residents of this community to join in honoring the registered nurses who care for all of us, and that the we celebrate registered nursing's accomplishments and efforts to improve our health care system, and show our appreciation for the nation's registered nurses not just during this week, but at every opportunity throughout the year.

- Proclamation recognizing the week of May 15 - 21, 2016 as National Peace Officers' Week

County Clerk Katie Bishop presented the Proclamation recognizing the week of May 15 - 21, 2016 as National Peace Officers' Week and announced that this Proclamation will be recorded into the official record of Camden County.

**WHEREAS**, our Nation's Peace Officers embody the very idea of citizenship - that along with our rights come responsibilities, both to ourselves and to others. During Peace Officers' Memorial Day and Peace Officers' Week, we celebrate those who protect and serve us every minute of every day, and we honor the courageous officers who devoted themselves so fully to others that in the process they laid down their lives.

**WHEREAS**, we mourn the fallen, and we also remember how they lived. With unflinching commitment, they defended our schools and businesses. They guarded jails; patrolled borders; and kept us safe at home, on the road, and as we went about our lives. To their families, we owe an unpayable debt. And to the men and women who carry their mission forward, we owe our unyielding support.

**WHEREAS**, the members of the Camden County Sheriff's Office play an essential role in safeguarding the rights and freedoms of Camden County; and

**WHEREAS**, it is important that all citizens know and understand the duties, responsibilities, hazards, and sacrifices of their law enforcement agency, and that members of our law enforcement agency recognize their duty to serve the people by safeguarding life and property, by protecting them against violence and disorder, and by protecting the innocent against deception and the weak against oppression;

**WHEREAS**, the men and women of the Camden County Sheriff's Office unceasingly provide a vital public service;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE CAMDEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS** that all citizens of Camden County and all patriotic, civic and educational organizations observe the week of May 15 - 21, 2016, as **Peace Officers' Week** in which all of our people may join in the commemorating of our Peace Officers, past and present, who, by their faithful and loyal devotion to their responsibilities, have rendered a dedicated service to their communities and, in so doing, have established for themselves an enviable and enduring reputation for preserving the rights and security of all citizens.

It is further proclaimed that all citizens of Camden County observe the 15<sup>th</sup> day of May 2015, as **Peace Officers' Memorial Day** in honor of those Peace Officers who, through their courageous deeds, have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their community or have become disabled in the performance of duty, and let us recognize and pay respect to the survivors of our fallen heroes.

- Proclamation Recognizing the week of May 1 - 7, 2016 as National Correctional Officers' Week

County Clerk Katie Bishop presented the Proclamation recognizing the the week of May 1 - 7, 2016 as National Correctional Officers' Week, and announced that this Proclamation will be recorded into the official record of Camden County.

**WHEREAS**, Correctional Officers have the difficult and often dangerous assignment of ensuring the custody, safety and well-being of the over 600,000 inmates in our Nation's prisons and jails. Their position is essential to the day-to-day operations of these institutions; without them it would be impossible to achieve the foremost institutional goals of security and control; and

**WHEREAS**, the duties of these officers have become increasingly complex and demanding. They are called upon to fill, simultaneously, custodial, supervisory and counseling roles. The professionalism, dedication and courage exhibited by these officers throughout the performance of these demanding and often conflicting roles deserve our utmost respect; and

**WHEREAS**, the important work of Correctional Officers often does not receive the recognition from the public it deserves. It is appropriate that we honor the many contributions and accomplishments of these men and women who are a vital component of the field of corrections; and

**WHEREAS**, one of the primary goals for the Camden County Sheriff's Office is to provide its citizens with an effective criminal justice system that focuses on quality of life and safety for all our citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the men and women of the Camden County Sheriff's Office unceasingly provide a vital public service; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE CAMDEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS** that all citizens of Camden County and all patriotic, civic and educational organizations observe the week of May 1 - 7, 2016, as **Correctional Officers' Week** in which all

of our people may join in the commemorating of our Correctional Officers, past and present, who, by their faithful and loyal devotion to their responsibilities, have rendered a dedicated service to their communities and, in so doing, have established for themselves an enviable and enduring reputation for preserving the rights and security of all citizens.

## **Public Comments**

Nelson Zeringne, Kingsland

Mr. Zeringne stated that he would like to bring to the Board's attention the need for Sheffield Island Road to be paved. He urged the Board to look into this matter and the need for the paving of this road.

Rueben Gomez, Kingsland

Mr. Gomez stated that he made a public comment during the April 19<sup>th</sup> Board meeting and it was unfair of him to do so. He explained that in that comment he implied that the Board was soft in doing their business. He stated that he believes there is room for challenge in Board decisions specifically item 7 regarding the award of a contract for renovations to the Juvenile Justice building. He asked if the contract was negotiated, was given, or assigned to this company. He stated that there was a recent article in the Tribune & Georgian newspaper regarding local government salaries. He stated that he was flabbergasted by the top 25 salaries listed which totaled approximately 2 million dollars a year. He explained his concerns regarding these salaries to the Board.

Commissioner Keene made a motion seconded by Commissioner Sheppard to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 6:16 PM.

**Present: Chairman Jimmy Starline; Vice-Chairman Chuck Clark; Willis R. Keene, Jr.; Tony Sheppard; Gary Blount; County Administrator Steve Howard; County Attorney John S. Myers ; and County Clerk Kathryn A. Bishop.**

**Absent: Tony Sheppard**

SWA Chairman Starline convened the Solid Waste Authority (SWA) meeting at 6:16 PM.

### **Reorganization of Solid Waste Authority**

- Election of the Chair

Chuck Clark made a motion, seconded by Gary Blount to elect Jimmy Starline as Chairman of the Solid Waste Authority.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

- Election of the Vice-Chair

Gary Blount made a motion, seconded by Willis R. Keene, Jr. to elect Chuck Clark as Vice-Chairman of the Solid Waste Authority.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

### **Adoption of SWA Agenda**

Willis R. Keene, Jr. made a motion, seconded by SWA Vice-Chairman Chuck Clark to adopt the Solid Waste Authority agenda as presented.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

## **SWA Approval of Minutes**

- July 14, 2015 SWA meeting minutes

Willis R. Keene, Jr. made a motion, seconded by SWA Vice-Chairman Chuck Clark to approve the July 14, 2015 Solid Waste Authority meeting minutes.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

## **SWA Public Comments**

No public comments were offered during this time.

## **SWA Agenda**

1. Discussion and possible action regarding Curbside Recycling

SWA Vice-Chairman Chuck Clark made a motion, seconded by Willis R. Keene, Jr. to open this item for discussion by the Board.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

The Authority discussed the increase to the contract with Advance Disposal for Curbside Collection services.

A consensus of the Authority was to allow staff to set aside time during budget discussions to address this item further.

No official action was taken at this time.

## **SWA Reports**

- Curbside Collections

No report regarding Curbside Collections was offered during this time.

- Solid Waste

Solid Waste Director Lannie Brant gave the Board an overview of current Landfill & C & D Site operations for fiscal year 2016.

## **Additional SWA Public Comments**

No public comments were offered during this time.

## **SWA Adjournment**

Willis R. Keene, Jr. made a motion, seconded Gary Blount to adjourn the Solid Waste Authority meeting at 6:42 PM.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

Chairman Starline reconvened the Regular Meeting at 6:42 PM.

## **Regular Agenda**

1. Consideration of approval of a purchase order for the cost of remounting one ambulance patient compartment to our existing 2016 Freightliner M2 chassis.

Vice-Chairman Blount made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Keene to approve the purchase order for the cost of remounting one ambulance patient compartment to our existing 2016 Freightliner M2 chassis.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

2. Consideration of approval of a purchase order for the cost of a new 2016 Freightliner M2 chassis.

Vice-Chairman Blount made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Keene to approve the purchase order for the cost of a new 2016 Freightliner M2 chassis.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

3. Consideration of approval for the surplus of a 1997 Ford Fire Engine, and allow this truck to be donated to the Pierce County Fire Department.

Vice-Chairman Blount made a motion, seconded by Commissioner to deny the request for the surplus of a 1997 Ford Fire Engine, and allow this truck to be donated to the Pierce County Fire Department.

**The motion passed 4-0 to deny the request.**

After further discussion by the Board, Chairman Starline made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Blount to place the 1997 Ford Fire Engine in surplus for normal procedure.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

4. Consideration of approval of Tax Release Applications

Vice-Chairman Blount made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Clark t

**The motion carried unanimously.**

## **Reports**

- **Calendar - May & June 2016**

County Clerk Kathryn Bishop announced the Criminal Justice Collaboration Council will meet on Thursday, May 12 located here in the Commissioner Chambers. She also announced the Leap into Summer Event, to be held May 21<sup>st</sup> 11 AM - 2PM, Lunch provided & various events planned, 3 locations: Kingsland - REC; Woodbine - Highway 110 Park; and the St. Marys - St. Marys REC Park (adjacent to the Waterpark).

- **County Administrator Comments**

County Administrator Steve Howard announced that budget negotiations have begun with staff and preparations to present the fiscal year 2017 budget to the Board are underway.

## **Executive Session - Real Estate**

Commissioner Clark made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Blount to adjourn the regular meeting and convened an Executive Session for the purpose of discuss matters related to real estate at 6:59 PM.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**CLOSED MEETING AFFIDAVIT**

**STATE OF GEORGIA  
COUNTY OF CAMDEN**

**AFFIDAVIT OF BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

The Camden County Board of Commissioners, being duly sworn, states under oath that the following is true and accurate to the best of their knowledge and belief:

1.

The Camden County Board of Commissioners met in a duly advertised meeting on May 3, 2016.

2.

During such meeting, the Board voted to go into closed session.

3.

The executive session was called to order at 6:59 p.m.

4.

The subject matter of the closed portion of the meeting was devoted to the following matter(s) within the exceptions provided in the open meetings law:

       Consultation with the County Attorney or other legal counsel to discuss pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the county or any officer or employee or in which the county or any officer or employee may be directly involved as provided in O.C.G.A. R. 50-14-2(1);

  X   Discussion of future acquisition of real estate as provided by O.C.G.A. 111, 50-14- 3(4);

       Discussion or deliberation on the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal or periodic evaluation or rating of a county officer or employee as provided by O.C.G.A. 11L 50-14-3(6);

This 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2016

\_\_\_\_\_  
James H. Starline, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gary Blount, Vice-Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chuck Clark, Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tony Sheppard, Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Willis R. Keene, Jr., Commissioner

<p><b>Sworn to and subscribed before me this</b>  _____ day of _____, 201 6.</p> <p>_____</p> <p><b>Notary Public</b></p> <p><b>My commission expires:</b></p>
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Chairman Starline reconvened the regular meeting at 7:15 PM.

No action will be taken at this time regarding the Executive Session - Real Estate.

### **Additional Public Comments**

No additional public comments were offered during this time.

### **Adjournment:**

Commissioner Clark made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sheppard to adjourn the May 3, 2016 regular meeting. The vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 PM.