

CAMDEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2000, 6:00 P.M.
WOODBINE, GEORGIA

A regular meeting of the Camden County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, January 4, 2000, at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room at the Courthouse in Woodbine, Georgia.

Present: Chairman Robert G. Becker; Vice Chairman E. B. Herrin, Jr.; Commissioner Lemon Dawson; Commissioner James H. Foddrell; Commissioner Kenneth G. Hase; County Administrator Barrett T. King; County Attorney J. Grover Henderson; and Assistant County Administrator Nancy C. Weisensee.

Chairman Becker convened the work session at 6:00 p.m.

During discussion of the Resolution supporting proposed legislation for RDC and CADDA, the Board agreed to table this matter until the next Commissioners' meeting.

After discussion of the proposals for the Woodbine Fire Agreement, it was decided to table this matter until the County Administrator sends two proposals from the Commissioners: 1.) The County would pay \$15,000 per year to stay in the Woodbine Fire Station, or 2.) The County would buy the Mitchell Building for \$150,000. The Commissioners also agreed to request the City of Woodbine to extend the current agreement for another month, January 9 – February 9, at a cost of \$1,000.00. The Commissioners agreed to pay the City of Woodbine for July 1, 1999 through September 30, 1999, and to pay the \$1,000.00 for December 9 – January 9 as per the current agreement.

The request from the St. Marys Firefighter volunteers for a \$3,000 loan for pagers was deleted from the agenda because Danny Daniels reported that he had recently purchased, programmed, and delivered the pagers to the volunteers.

Mr. Daniels handed out a letter from the Insurance Services Office (ISO) notifying the County that they had received a letter from the City of Kingsland which stated that the County is not allowed to use City of Kingsland fire hydrants to fight fires in the Harrietts Bluff area. Mr. Daniels stated that the County would need three additional tankers at a cost of \$375,000 if we are not allowed to use City of Kingsland hydrants. Mr. Daniels believes the ISO at Harrietts Bluff could decrease from and 9 to a 7 if the hydrants were available to fight fires. Attorney Henderson sent a letter to ISO stating that, according to OCGA 25-3-2, the City of Kingsland cannot stop firefighters from using city water. Under the code section, in the event of a fire, Camden County can use the fire hydrants in the Harrietts Bluff area.

Chairman Becker concluded the work session at 7:00 p.m.

Chairman Becker called the meeting to order at 7:10 o'clock p.m.

Nancy Weisensee delivered the invocation.

Chairman Becker led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Roll Call revealed that all Commissioners were present.

1. Adoption of Agenda:

Motion by Commissioner Hase, seconded by Commissioner Foddrell, and voted unanimously to adopt the agenda as amended by tabling Item 6. Resolution to support State legislation LC90142 in regard to RDC and CADDA Board, and Item 9. Fire Station Agreement with City of Woodbine; and deleting Item 14. Request to loan firefighters \$3,000 for purchase of pagers; and re-number agenda accordingly.

2. Approval of minutes for December 7, 1999:

Motion by Commissioner Foddrell, seconded by Commissioner Dawson, and voted unanimously to approve the minutes for December 7, 1999.

3. Election of Chairman:

Commissioner Foddrell nominated Commissioner Becker for Chairman of the Board of Commissioners.

There were no other nominations.

Motion by Commissioner Foddrell, seconded by Commissioner Hase, and voted unanimously to elect Commissioner Becker as Chairman.

4. Election of Vice Chairman:

Commissioner Dawson nominated Commissioner Foddrell as Vice Chairman of the Board of Commissioners.

There were no other nominations.

Motion by Commissioner Dawson, seconded by Commissioner Herrin, and voted unanimously to elect Commissioner Foddrell as Vice Chairman.

5. Adoption of Parliamentary Procedure:

Motion by Commissioner Hase, seconded by Commissioner Foddrell, and voted unanimously to accept the same parliamentary procedure as 1999, as amended by deleting Sec. 1-04 Abstentions, and correcting error in first sentence of second paragraph of Sec. 1-09 Minutes, by changing the word “than” to “they”, and re-number Sections accordingly.

A Resolution Establishing Rules and Procedures for the Conduct of County Commission Meetings

WHEREAS, well organized meetings allow a Board of Commissioners to reach decisions in a fair and consistent manner; and
WHEREAS, efficiency is served when the process of planning for and conducting public meetings is clearly stated and understood by public officials and citizens; and
WHEREAS, public participation and access to the governmental decision-making process is a key element of our democratic system;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that all meetings of the Board of Commissioners of Camden County shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of this meetings organization ordinance.

Section 1-01. Open Meetings. All meetings of the Board of Commissioners shall be held in accordance with the provisions of 50-14-1 et seq. of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated. The public shall at all times be afforded access to all meetings other than executive sessions.

Section 1-02. Quorum. A quorum must be present for conducting meetings of the board. A quorum is a majority of all of the members of the board then in office. It is the duty of the Chairman to enforce this rule. Any Commissioner may raise a point of order directed to the Chairman if he believes that a quorum is not present. If, during the course of a meeting, a Commissioner leaves and a quorum no longer exists, the meeting cannot continue. If a quorum is not attained within thirty minutes, the meeting will be rescheduled by the Chairman with the approval of the Commissioners present.

Section 1-03. Voting: Majority. Passage of a motion shall require the affirmative vote of a majority of Commissioners present and voting at a meeting at which a quorum is present. Unless otherwise specified in these procedures, a majority shall mean at least one-half of the Commissioners present excluding abstentions.

Section 1-04. Chairman. The Chairman of the Board of Commissioners is responsible for the orderly conduct of the meeting. In order to fulfill this duty, the Chairman must enforce the rules of procedure that are adopted by the Board of Commissioners. In accordance with the Charter of Camden County, the Chairman shall make motions and vote.

Section 1-05. Minutes. The clerk of the board shall promptly record the minutes for each board meeting. The minutes serve as the official written record of the board meeting and shall be open for public inspection once approved as official by the board, but in no case later than immediately following the next regular meeting of the board. The minutes shall specify the names of Commissioners present at the meeting, a description of each motion or other proposal made at the meeting, the Commissioner who proposed each motion, the Commissioner who seconded each motion, and a record of all votes. In the case of a roll call vote, the name of each Commissioner voting for or against a proposal shall be recorded. It shall be presumed that a Commissioner has voted in the affirmative unless the minutes show otherwise. More detailed information may be included in the minutes at the request of the board.

The board must approve the minutes before they can be considered as an official record of the board. A copy of the minutes from the previous meeting shall be distributed to the Commissioners at least one business day before the following meeting. The minutes of the previous meeting shall be corrected and approved by the board at the beginning of each meeting. A majority vote is required for approval. Conflicts about the content of the minutes shall be decided by majority vote. Upon being approved, the minutes shall be signed by the Chairman and attested to by the clerk of the Board of Commissioners.

(Cross Reference: OCGA 50-14-1(e))

Section 1-13 Parliamentarian. The County Attorney shall serve as the parliamentarian for board meetings.

Section 1-21. Visual and Sound Recordings. Visual, sound, and visual and sound recordings shall be permitted for all public meetings.

(Cross Reference: OCGA 50-14-1©)

Section 1-22 Rules and Procedures. Except for the rights of the Chairman to make motions and vote, Roberts Rules of Order will be used to conduct meetings.

Adopted in legal assembly this 4th day of January, 2000.

6. Resolution to support State Legislation LC 9 0142. (Relates to separation of RDC's from their lending organizations and allows the County Commission to make direct appointments to the CADDA Board.)

Motion by Commissioner Hase, seconded by Commissioner Foddrell, and voted unanimously to table this item.

7. Request for right-of-way on Linda Street:

The Board of Commissioners received a letter from Mr. Marshall (Mitch) Eby requesting that the County close the Linda Street right-of-way between his two lots on Fourth Street. Mr. Eby obtained permission from adjacent property owners who have no objection to the closing. Attorney Henderson stated that the County could quit claim this property to Mr. Eby.

Motion by Commissioner Herrin, seconded by Commissioner Dawson, and voted unanimously to approve a quit claim deed to Mr. Mitchell Eby for right-of-way on Linda Street.

8. Planning Commission Business:

Tish Watson stated that there were no controversial items in the Planning Commission minutes.

Motion by Commissioner Herrin, seconded by Commissioner Dawson, and voted unanimously to accept the Planning Commission decisions as recommended.

New Business:

1. Gowen, Ronald P. – rezone from A-F to C-G, 2.4 acres located at 7010 Highway 17 (the northeast intersection of Highway 17 and Harrietts Bluff Road), map 81, parcel 41. (Approved)
2. Humphries, Faye B. – rezone A-R to R-2 of 1 acre located at 125 Kinlaw Road, map 80, portion of parcel 36. (Approved)
3. McSwain, Joe – variance from the requirements of Section 105(3) access from public street, and Sections 301 and 302 of the subdivision regulations – lot size and width, map 44, portion of parcel 45-B. (Approved)
4. Vann, Jimmy – variance from requirements of Section 501A(1) of the Zoning Ordinance – number of residences per parcel, map 40, parcel 2. (Approved)

As Appropriate:

1. Coastline Properties, Inc. – preliminary plat approval for Misty Harbor Subdivision – Phase II. One hundred ninety-seven (197) lots located on the Harrietts Bluff Road, map 131, portion of parcel 1. (Approved with stipulation that no construction begins until copies of all required permits are on file with the Planning and Building Department and the Engineering has been approved by the Director of the Road Department.)
2. Shiver, Allene – preliminary y and final plat approval for five acre tract located on Old Red Bluff Road, map 75, portion of parcel 12. (Approved)

9. Fire Station Agreement with City of Woodbine:

Motion by Commissioner Hase, seconded by Commissioner Foddrell, and voted unanimously to table this item until the Board hears from the City of Woodbine regarding the latest proposals from the County. (Please see work session notes.)

10. Request to use County property at Old Woodbine Elementary School for parking during Crawfish Festival:

Motion by Commissioner Herrin, seconded by Commissioner Hase, and voted unanimously to allow the use of property at the Old Woodbine Elementary School for parking with the stipulation that there is no interference with construction of the new Courthouse.

11. Approval of revised fee schedule for Environmental Health:

Mr. Hamp Howell, Environmental Health Director, requested that the Board approve the new environmental health fee schedule as recommended district-wide.

Motion by Commissioner Herrin, seconded by Commissioner Dawson, and voted unanimously to approve the revised fee schedule for Camden County environmental health fees.

(A copy of the revised fee schedule is on file in the County Administrator's Office.)

12. City of Woodbine request for Storm Water Drainage Easement:

The City of Woodbine has received a Community Development Block Grant to make needed improvements for storm water drainage.

John Peterson, Road Department Director, recommended that the Commissioners grant the request from the City of Woodbine for the storm water drainage easement. This easement will allow for better drainage on county property during heavy rainfall.

Motion by Commissioner Dawson, seconded by Commissioner Herrin, and voted unanimously to approve the City of Woodbine's request for a Storm Water Drainage Easement as recommended by staff.

(A copy of the Easement is on file in the County Administrator's Office.)

13. Acceptance of deed for Colerain Road property:

Attorney Henderson stated that we have the deed for the fire station property on Colerain Road, and it should be officially accepted by the Board of Commissioners.

Motion by Commissioner Foddrell, seconded by Commissioner Herrin, and voted unanimously to accept the deed for the property at the Fire Station on Colerain Road.

14. Tax refund requests:

Two requests were received for motor vehicle ad valorem tax refunds.

Hugh Ronald requested refund in the amount of \$27.04, and Gaila Brandon requested refund in the amount of \$34.55. Both requests were due to value change because of condition of vehicles and high mileage.

Motion by Commissioner Herrin, seconded by Commissioner Dawson, and voted unanimously to grant the tax refunds to Hugh Ronald in the amount of \$27.04 and to Gaila Brandon in the amount of \$34.55.

15. Reappointments to St. Marys River Management Committee and Tax Assessor's Board:

Motion by Commissioner Hase, seconded by Commissioner Dawson, and voted unanimously to table the appointment to the St. Marys River Management Committee.

Motion by Commissioner Foddrell, seconded by Commissioner Dawson, and voted unanimously to reappoint Mr. James A. LuCree to the Tax Assessor's Board for a six-year term.

16. Tax Commissioner's request for Resolution to allow correction of clerical errors:

Motion by Commissioner Dawson, seconded by Commissioner Foddrell, and voted unanimously to approve the following Resolution:

Resolution

RESOLVED BY THE CAMDEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, this 4th day of January, 2000:

WHEREAS, the Official Code of Georgia Annotated 48-5-380(e), permits a county by resolution to permit the Tax Commissioner to approve or disapprove certain claims where the reason for the claim is based on an obvious clerical error.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Camden County Commission, in lawful assembly, duly assembled, that the Tax Commissioner of Camden County may correct any errors where payments made to that office were obviously made in error and clerical errors on tax digest which involves any homestead exemptions without intervention of the governing authority of Camden County. The Tax Commissioner will make quarterly reports to the governing authority of Camden County of any activities permitted by her pursuant to this resolution.

Adopted in lawful assembly this 4th day of January, 2000.

17. Tax Commissioner's request for waiver of interest and penalty:

The Tax Commissioner requested a waiver of interest and penalty for Mr. Terry Stover because a search of records indicated that property owned by Mr. Stover had been sold in error. The tax bills were mailed to the owner recorded on the digest. Mr. Stover was not aware the property had delinquent taxes. Mr. Stover would pay the base amount of taxes due.

Motion by Commissioner Hase, seconded by Commissioner Herrin, and voted unanimously to waive the interest and penalty for Mr. Terry Stover as requested by the Tax Commissioner.

18. Recess until Tuesday, January 18, 2000, at 6:00 p.m.:

Motion by Commissioner Dawson, seconded by Commissioner Herrin, and voted unanimously to recess the meeting until Tuesday, January 18, 2000, at 6:00 p.m. (Recessed 7:20 o'clock p.m.)

Respectfully submitted,

Robert G. Becker
Chairman

Nancy C. Weisensee
Assistant County Administrator