

CAMDEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, May 21, 2002, 6:00 P.M.
WOODBINE, GEORGIA

A regular meeting of the Camden County Board of Commissioners held on Tuesday, May 21, 2002, at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room at the Courthouse in Woodbine, Georgia.

Present: Chairman Stephen L. Berry; Vice Chairman David L. Rainer; Commissioners Kenneth G. Hase; Robert G. Becker; and Preston Rhodes; County Attorney O. Brent Green; County Administrator Barrett T. King and Assistant County Administrator Bill Shanahan.

Chairman Berry called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
Rev. Bob Hughes, Camden Ministerial Alliance, delivered the invocation.
Chairman Berry led the Pledge of Allegiance.
The roll call indicated that all Commissioners were present.

PRESENTATION: No Presentations

AGENDA AMENDMENTS:

Motion by Mr. Becker, seconded by Mr. Hase, and voted unanimously to amend the agenda to add "Intergovernmental Agreement: City of St. Marys and Camden County Board of Commissioners" as Item b., Old Business.

WORK SESSION:

Mr. Becker opened the floor concerning the County Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) by discussing the purposes of LOST; changes in the laws concerning LOST; and making a comparison between the present, Kingsland, and population formulas for distribution of LOST funds. A general discussion on LOST ensued, with varying points of view as to the designation of LOST funds. Upon request, Mr. King provided the Board with an overview of the LOST time-line, as required by law.

Mr. Berry initiated a discussion concerning the County Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) by stating the county and municipality lawyers are working on a contract and asking the Board if they were ready to call for a referendum. A general discussion on SPLOST distributions ensued, with varying points of view as to the designation of SPLOST funds. In addition, a discussion on how specific SPLOST project descriptions should be was conducted.

Mike Fender, Finance Director, presented a Current Year Budget Report. (FY 02 – July 1, 2002 to April 30, 2002.) Mr. Fender discussed County Revenues and Expenditures. He also stated that the Sheriffs Department, Jail, and 911 Center had not replied to the Board's mandate to cut expenditures by 7% and that he predicted a \$264,849 total county shortfall by the end of the fiscal year.

Doug Miles, Chief Appraiser, reported on the 2002 Digest. Mr. Miles stated the Tax Digest was currently waiting for the end of the 45-day appeal period for delivery to the Tax Commissioner on July 1, 2002. Mr. Miles advised the board they were currently working on approximately 4 to 5 appeals. (Deadline for appeals is June 27, 2002.) Based on the current numbers, Mr. Miles felt the total digest should increase by 4.2% from last year. Finally, Mr. Miles said the county should start seeing increased timber revenues in the very near future based on new cuttings in Camden.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Don Koski, 1450 Clarks Bluff Road, presented a petition requesting the speed limit on Clarks Bluff Road be reduced and asked the Board to address the county noise ordinance. Mr. King briefed Mr. Koski he had contacted DOT and was waiting for notification of when they would evaluate Clarks Bluff Road. Mr. Koski informed the

Board that there was no speed enforcement on Clarks Bluff Road and was advised to contact the Sheriff and advise him of this.

Faith Copeland-Pitman, Harrietts Bluff Community, advised the Board that she felt there was a lack of parks in the Harrietts Bluff Community. She also stated that she felt the lack of parks reduced children safety, as they had to play in the streets.

Mr. & Mrs. Clifford and Kathy Manning, P.O. Box 84, Woodbine, GA 31569, presented the Board a letter stating their hunting dog had been picked up by Animal Control on May 14, 2002 and euthanized May 15, 2002. (Less than 24 hours after pick up.) Chairman Berry requested that Mr. King find out why the dog was kept less than 24 hours before it was euthanized and respond with an answer to the Board and Mr. and Mrs. Manning.

Ms. Juanita Johnson, 217 Plantation Pt. Rd, requested the Board not reduce the SPLOST funds designated for improving/moving the Health Care Center. She also requested to see an approved prioritized list of future roads and drainage projects. Mr. King explained how state funding affects county road improvement priorities.

Mr. Jack Sutton, 77 Sutton Court, requested SPLOST funds, designated for the park in the Harrietts Bluff Community, not be reduced. He also stated the quality of the roadwork completed on Harrietts Bluff Road was very poor. Mr. Sutton also advised the Board to review the county vehicle policy as he felt county vehicles are being used for personal use.

Mr. Sanford Feller, 103 Nelson Place, informed the Board that he feels the SPLOST list is too large and general to be approved. He stated he would rather see a three (3) year, smaller, more specific SPLOST list with a veteran's memorial civic center added to the list. (Use funds designated for other projects to fund the memorial civic center.)

Mr. Bryan Fewox, 100 Nancy Drive, informed the Board it is the right of county residents to accept or reject SPLOST and LOST. He stated that residents would rather pay "pennies" on sales tax than "dollars" on property tax.

1. Approval of Minutes for April 2, 2002:

Motion by Mr. Becker, seconded by Mr. Rhodes, and voted unanimously to approve the minutes for May 7, 2002, with the adding of the words "emergency siren" to item 4. New Business, after the word easement.

2. Reports:

Mr. King reviewed the Board Calendar for May and June.

3. OLD BUSINESS:

a. SPLOST – Resolution to call for a referendum.

Motion by Mr. Hase, seconded by Mr. Rainer, and voted to proceed with the SPLOST process as previously planned with the substitution of the new City of Kingsland list, dated May 14, 2002.

So Voted 3 – 2 to Accept

Mr. Berry – Nay
Mr. Becker – Yea
Mr. Rhodes – Nay
Mr. Hase – Yea
Mr. Rainer – Yea

b. Intergovernmental Agreement: City of St. Marys and Camden County Board of Commissioners.

Motion by Mr. Hase, seconded by Mr. Becker, and voted unanimously to approve the contract to allow the Probate Judge, Judge Gillette, to oversee City of St. Marys' elections.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

a. LOST Resolution:

Motioned by Mr. Hase, seconded by Mr. Becker, and voted unanimously to table the resolution.

b. Bids, Public Reading: Harriett's Bluff Bulkhead and Floating Dock Installation

The bids for the Harriett's Bluff Bulkhead and Floating Dock Installation were opened at 2:00 P.M. Wednesday, May 8, 2002. The two bids received were Myrick Marine Contracting, Corp. Savannah, Ga, \$113,877 and Alpha Construction, Inc. Savannah, Ga, \$71,848. These bids will be forwarded to PSA with a recommendation to accept the lowest bid.

c. Bids, Public Reading: New Post Storm Drain Pipe and Rip Rap

Motioned by Mr. Rhodes, seconded by Mr. Rainer, and voted unanimously to accept the lowest bid by Seaboard Construction, Brunswick, GA for \$79,384.10 for the new post storm drainpipe and rip rap installation.

d. Bids, Public Reading: Bridge Replacements

Motioned by Mr. Becker, seconded by Mr. Rhodes, and voted unanimously to accept the lowest bid by Southern Concrete for \$483,000 to replace the following four (4) bridges and one minor project:

- CR 139, New Post Bridge over White Oak Swamp(Paved Road);
- CR 41, Old Dixie Highway Bridge over White Oak Creek Tributary excluding approach slab (Paved Road);
- CR 19, Old Dixie Highway Bridge over Waverly Creek (Unpaved Road);and
- CR 6, Lampadoshia Bridge over Sparkman Creek (Unpaved Road).
- Place a guardrail at CR 20, Providence Church Bridge over White Oak Swamp.

e. Tax Billing Appeal: Thomas Evagash III

Motioned by Mr. Becker, seconded by Mr. Hase, and voted unanimously to refund Mr. Thomas Evagash III a total of \$68.33.

f. Road Department: Quitclaim Deeds, Right-of-Way Deeds, and Borrow Pit Lease

Motioned by Mr. Rhodes, seconded by Mr. Becker, and voted unanimously to accept the Right-of-Way on Lampadoshia Road. (Legal description and map is on file in the County Clerks office.)

Motioned by Mr. Rhodes, seconded by Mr. Becker, and voted unanimously to accept the Borrow Pit Lease to give/grant all earthen material within the limits of a .98 acre borrow pit of unspecified depth with location and dimensions as shown on drawing, dated May 3, 2002 and ending May 3, 2005 on file in the County Clerks office.

Motioned by Mr. Rhodes, seconded by Mr. Becker, and voted unanimously to accept the Borrow Pit Lease to give/grant all earthen material within the limits of a .98 acre borrow pit of unspecified depth with location and dimensions as shown on drawing, dated May 3, 2002 and ending May 3, 2005 on file in the County Clerks office.

Motioned by Mr. Rhodes, seconded by Mr. Becker, and voted unanimously to approve the Quitclaim Deed to Ms. Joyce C. Holloway all of the lot, tract, or parcel of land lying and being in the 31st and 32nd G. M. District of Camden County, along a Rural Post Road Known as Old Jefferson Road (aka Westlight Church Road).

g. Planning Commission Business

Motioned by Mr. Rainer, seconded by Mr. Becker, and voted unanimously to adopt the Planning Commission's recommendations as stated.

Approve a rezoning from Residential – 2 (R – 2) to Agriculture – Residential (A – R) of 2 – acres located at 26076 Highway 17. The property is identified as Parcel 2 on Zoning/Tax Map 73.

Approve a special use permit to operate a commercial kennel at 26076 Highway 17. The property is identified as Parcel 2 on Zoning/Tax Map 73.

Approve a rezoning from Agriculture – Residential (A – R) to Residential – 1 (R – 1) of 20.9 acres located in the Mush Bluff Area. The property is identified as Parcel 52 – A.

Approve a preliminary plat approval for a 22 – lot subdivision to be known as Davis Bluff Estates. The property is identified as parcel 52 – A on Zoning/Tax Map 132 – A.

Approve a Preliminary and final plat approval for a 3 – lot subdivision located at the end of Clarks Bluff Road. The property is identified as Parcel 1 on Zoning/Tax Map 58.

h. Executive Session to Discuss Pending Litigation. (8:30 p.m.)

Motion by Mr. Becker, seconded by Mr. Hase, and voted unanimously that this Board now enter into closed session as allowed by O.C.G.A. Sec. 50-15-4, and pursuant to advice by the County Attorney, for the purpose of discussing pending litigation.

That upon the conclusion of the discussion or deliberation in the closed session portion of the meeting that this body enter back into open session, open to the public, at which point an announcement will be made in the Commissioners' Meeting Room that this Board is back in session.

That upon coming back into open session, this body confirms that the actions of the Board in Closed Session were as required by law and approved by the County Attorney.

i. Reconvene: (8:50 p.m.)

Motioned by Mr. Hase, seconded by Mr. Becker, and voted unanimously to reconvene the meeting.

Chairman Berry signed the affidavit as required by O.C.G.A. Sec. 50-14-4(b). The original copy of the affidavit is on file in the County Clerks office, and a copy is attached to these minutes.

Chairman Berry announced that no action is necessary as a result of the executive session.

j. Recess: (8:55 p.m.)

Motion by Mr. Becker, seconded by Mr. Hase and voted unanimously to recess the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen L. Berry
Chairman

Bill Shanahan
Assistant County Administrator