

**CAMDEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
TUESDAY AUGUST 19, 2003 6:00 PM
WOODBINE, GEORGIA**

A regular meeting of the Camden County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, August 19, 2003, at 6:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Meeting Room at the Courthouse in Woodbine, Georgia.

Present: Commissioner David L. Rainer; Commissioner E.B. Herrin, Jr.; Commissioner Sanford S. Feller; Commissioner Stephen L. Berry; Commissioner Preston Rhodes; County Manager Charles D. Akridge; and County Attorney Brent Green.

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

Dr. William Warnock, Woodbine United Methodist Church, delivered the invocation.

Chairman Rainer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The roll call indicated all Commissioners were present.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS:

No amendments to the agenda were offered.

WORKSESSION:

- **Discussion of Joint Development Authority**

At the request of Commissioner Feller, Bob Noble suggested researching the possibility of offering incentives, such as waiving the ad valorem tax, in an effort to entice new industrial businesses into Camden County.

Commissioner Berry advised Georgia State law does not give the Board of Commissioners the authority to waive property taxes.

Commissioner Feller requested the approval of the Commissioners to work with Mr. Noble and Mr. Green to determine if incentives could be offered to new businesses.

- **Discussion of Board of Assessors and Board of Equalization**

Commissioner Feller suggested appointing a temporary panel to the Board of Assessors and the Board of Equalization next year to assist in the handling of complaints and expediting the process.

Chairman Rainer requested Mr. Green to research the legality of appointing temporary panels.

- **Discussion of Old Woodbine Elementary School/SPLOST**

Commissioner Feller suggested the staff research the possibility using SPLOST #5 funds for the renovations of buildings in the north end of the county to include providing recreation facilities for children.

Commissioner Rainer advised the Commissioners have previously voted on carrying out these projects, and the staff cannot deviate from those concepts at this time.

Commissioner Rainer and Commissioner Berry both stated that in the future it would be helpful if all Commissioners were advised of matters being placed on the agenda for discussion.

MOTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA:

Motion made by Commissioner Rhodes, seconded by Commissioner Herrin and voted unanimously to adopt the agenda as printed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES JULY 29, 2003 AND AUGUST 5, 2003

Motion to approve the July 29, 2003 work session minutes and August 5, 2003 regular meeting minutes made by Commissioner Rhodes, seconded by Commissioner Herrin and voted unanimously to approve said minutes.

REPORTS

A. Calendar

The August/September 2003 calendar was read.

B. County Manager's Report

- Mr. Akridge announced the following events:

City of Woodbine's invitation to the quarterly meeting of the Camden Elected Officials Association on Thursday, September 4, 2003, 6:00 p.m. at Incachee;

Destination Camden Retreat on Wednesday, September 17, 2003 at the Episcopal Center; and

Surplus property sale, Saturday, August 23, 2003, 9:00 a.m. at landfill.

- Mr. Akridge asked Mr. Amerson to provide the SPLOST list update. Mr. Amerson reported the following:

A site analysis between Dutch Mill and Highway 110 is currently underway for the Maintenance Facility.

The bids for Fire Station #12 opens August 20, 2003.

The renovations for Bryan Lang Library are about 40% complete.

Bid documents are being prepared for the renovations of the County Library. This work will be performed in phases.

Renovations of the branch office have not begun.

The drawings for the Records Retention Facility have been reviewed with Chairman Rainer, and the changes are being discussed with the architect.

Delineation of spaces in connection with the Historic County Courthouse renovations is being reviewed.

- Mr. Akridge asked Danny Daniels to announce the receipt of a grant award.

Mr. Daniels announced the receipt of a \$26,530.00 All Hazards Council Grant from the Office of Domestic Preparedness, Georgia Emergency Management Agency and the Region 5 All Hazards Council. This award was the result of the CCFR ODP Phase II Grant Application. Mr. Daniels advised the award of this grant and other grants will help fund the "Phase I Interoperability Funding".

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Jorene Lavender thanked the Board for the renovations of the old Woodbine Elementary School. Ms. Lavender also requested to use the extra room at the fire station for non-profit activities such as tax return preparation for the elderly and indigent residents. Chairman Rainer requested Mr. Daniels and Mr. Akridge to review this matter. Danny Daniels advised the Commissioners he would be happy to provide use of the room to Ms. Lavender for such purposes.
- George Scott stated he believed the Citizens Advisory Committee had not acted adversarially, but believes staff has not been encouraged to work with the Committee. Mr. Scott was discouraged that some of the items agreed upon were not discussed at the work session meeting such as changing the PPO provider. Mr. Scott asked the Commissioners to encourage joint efforts. Commissioner Berry asked Mr. Scott if he thought a joint work session would be beneficial. Mr. Scott stated he would encourage such a work session. Chairman Rainer and Commissioner Rhodes believed a work session would be in order after the staff has thoroughly analyzed the recommendations. Commissioner Feller and Commissioner Berry believed a work session would be in order at this time to discuss the items in an informal setting. Commissioner Rhodes would like to

have a work session after staff has made recommendations. Penny Woodard advised that a work session was previously held on this matter and staff was given until fiscal year 2005 to make recommendations. .

- Jim Keating stated it would not be an “administrative nightmare” to implement the recommendations of the Citizens Advisory Committee, and the Commissioners should get the facts, meet and make a decision.
- Doug Mounse inquired about the use of the property at Highway 17 and Harriett’s Bluff Road. Commissioner Rainer stated a possible use might be the Maintenance Facility and for Fire Rescue and Training Facility.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Authorization to advertise a rollback millage rate of 14.64 from the current rate of 17.00.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rhodes, seconded by Commissioner Herrin to advertise a rollback millage rate of 14.64 from the current rate of 17.00 and hold a Public Hearing on Saturday, September 6, 2003 at 10:00 a.m.

Commissioner Feller expressed his concerns of this being a tax increase for the citizens of Camden County.

So Voted 4 to 1

Commissioner Rainer – Yea
Commissioner Rhodes – Yea
Commissioner Berry – Yea
Commissioner Herrin – Yea
Commissioner Feller – Nay

The motion carried.

B. Consideration of settlement proposal from Southern Resources & Environmental Services, Inc. regarding unpaid landfill fees/charges.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rhodes, seconded by Commissioner Herrin and voted unanimously to accept the settlement offer from Southern Resources & Environmental Services, Inc., in the amount of \$15,000.00.

C. Approval of Local Assistance Road Program (LARP) list.

A motion was made by Commissioner Herrin, seconded by Commissioner Rhodes and voted unanimously to approve the Local Assistance Road Program list.

D. Paving of Winding Road

Commissioner Berry advised this would be the paving of Winding Road between Colerain Road and Kings Bay Road to alleviate problems on this road. The City of St. Marys has requested a formal request for its participation in the paving. Commissioner Berry further stated he would like to see the City of St. Marys participate at a 50% level. The estimated costs of paving the approximate 1.2 miles is \$550,000.00

A motion was made by Commissioner Berry, seconded by Commissioner Rhodes to formally request the City of St. Marys' participation in the paving of Winding Road.

Commissioner Rhodes stated the residents of Winding Road are anxiously awaiting the paving.

Commissioner Feller questioned the urgency of the paving and the funding for the paving. Commissioner Berry and Commissioner Rainer advised the funds are available in SPLOST. Additionally, Commissioner Feller wanted it noted that Commissioner Berry made the initial inquiry into the City's participation.

So Voted

Commissioner Rainer – Yea
Commissioner Rhodes – Yea
Commissioner Berry – Yea
Commissioner Herrin – Yea
Commissioner Feller – Abstained

The motion carried.

E. Consideration of rezoning request from A-F to A-R by Glennie Jackson and Roy Miller

A motion was made by Commissioner Rhodes, seconded by Commissioner Herrin and voted unanimously to accept the rezoning request from A-F to A-R by Glennie Jackson and Roy Miller.

F. Final plat approval requested by Burwell Russell, Sr. of replat of lots 2 and 3 at Russell's Retreat.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rhodes, seconded by Commissioner Herrin and voted unanimously to approve the final plat requested by Burwell Russell, Sr. of replat of lots 2 and 3 at Russell's Retreat.

G. Final plat approval requested by Melanie Jones, Kathryn Kuntz Revels and Gordon Ray Revels for replat of tracts 30 and 31; and tracts 16, 28, 29, 32 and 66 of Sea Island Preserve.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rhodes, seconded by Commissioner Herrin and voted unanimously to approve the final plat requested by Melanie Jones, Kathryn Kuntz Revels and Gordon Ray Revels for replat of tracts 30 and 31; and tracts 16, 28, 29, 32 and 66 of Sea Island Preserve.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Commissioner Feller, seconded by Commissioner Rhodes and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David L. Rainer
Chairman

Jodi M. Galloway
Executive Assistant