

**CAMDEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 2005 6:00 PM
WOODBINE, GEORGIA**

A regular meeting of the Camden County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, August 2, 2005, at 6:00 p.m. in the Courtroom of the Historic Camden County Courthouse, Woodbine, Georgia.

Present: Chairman David L. Rainer; Vice-Chairman E.B. Herrin, Jr.; Commissioner Preston Rhodes; Commissioner Stephen L. Berry; Commissioner Sanford S. Feller; and County Attorney Brent Green.

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

Mr. Lannie Brant delivered the invocation.

Chairman Rainer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The roll call indicated all Commissioners were present.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS:

Chairman Rainer proposed the following agenda amendments:

- Add Item 12G. Consideration of Approval of Timber Sale for Landfill
- Add Item 12H. Consideration of Request by Judge Amanda Williams
- Add Item 12I. Consideration of Quit Claim Deed between Camden County and Melvin Deese
- Add Item 12J. Consideration of Proclamation for Camden County Fire Fighter Appreciation Week.

Commissioner Feller made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Herrin to make the change proposed by Chairman Rainer to the agenda.

The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA:

Commissioner Feller made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Herrin and voted on unanimously to adopt the agenda as amended.

The motion carried unanimously.

WORK SESSION:

➤ Sheriff Bill Smith's Request for Additional Personnel

Captain Wesley Walker addressed the Board of commissioners regarding the need for additional patrol deputies in Camden County. Captain Walker asked the Board for seven additional deputies for the Sheriff's Office. He asked that three (3) be hired this fiscal year at a cost of \$82,751.76 plus equipment at a cost of \$11,585.34 and two (2) additional deputies each year for fiscal years 2006/2007 and 2007/2008. He stated that the patrol division now operates with four deputies per shift that cover the entire county. He stated that if there is a domestic call in the north end of the county it is necessary for two deputies to respond, leaving two deputies to cover the rest of the county while they answer that call. Captain Walker stated that St. Marys and Kingsland operate five officers per shift for the city limits which is considerably less in square miles that what is covered by the deputies. He stated that the added positions will allow the deputies to respond to calls in a timelier manner and cut down on overtime. Captain Walker stated that it is also the responsibility of the deputies to serve papers in the municipalities.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Rhodes made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Herrin to approve the regular meeting minutes of August 2, 2005

The vote was unanimous to approve the regular meeting minutes of August 2, 2005.

REPORTS:

A. Calendar

The August/September 2005 calendar was read.

B. County Manager's Report:

Chairman Rainer stated that the three cities and county are applying for a Signature Program grant through the Department of Community Affairs which does not require matching funds.

Chairman Rainer then introduced EMA Director Mark Crews to discuss the upcoming drill that will be taking place.

EMA Director Mark Crews introduced Captain White to give a presentation on the upcoming military drill.

Captain Dough White, Commanding Officer of the Strategic Weapons Facility Atlantic addressed the Board and stated that there would be an exercise/drill at the Kings Bay

Naval Submarine Base and that they would be utilizing county and city resources as well. This will be a major disaster drill that will last from August 22 through August 26. he stated that the base will be locked down for some of that time but that people will be able to access the base and leave the base for emergency reasons. Captain White stated that this drill will benefit all involved in that it will allow them to see where additional training is needed and where each department does well.

Mr. Crews stated that he will be on the base until he is relieved by a GEMA Representative, at which time he will then assume any needed duties in the county. He stated that this is a great opportunity for everyone to test their skills and determine areas that need improvement.

Chief Gailey stated that the Camden County Fire & Rescue Department will be involved in any aspect deemed necessary during this drill and that it will be great training for the men and women in the department.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Rick Winters:

Mr. Winters addressed the Board regarding the At-Will policy that is being considered. Mr. Winters stated that he is against the At-Will policy. He stated that he works part-time for the Camden County Fire & Rescue Department and is concerned that if a supervisor decides that he or she does not like you or anything you may say that they can fire you without recourse. He stated that he does not think that this is good for the county employees and that some employees will quit if it is enacted.

Robert Pauk:

Mr. Pauk works for Century 21 and represents Willie Sauls, a landowner who has been affected by the six month moratorium. Mr. Pauk asked the Board if anything could be done to lift this moratorium so that Mr. Sauls can sell his remaining property. He asked how this area could be changed as modular homes were previously allowed in the area that Mr. Sauls owns.

The Board expressed to Mr. Pauk that they could not lift the moratorium until Attorney Green was finished his research into the matter.

Chairman Rainer:

Chairman Rainer asked Commissioner Feller to explain how in a recent statement on his web BLOG regarding At-Will employment he stated this was reminiscent to Nazi Germany in the 1930s and 1940s. He asked Mr. Feller if this is what he really meant, that he is accusing the other four Board members of acting like those in this time period. He stated that it is his recollection that during this time Adolph Hitler took the chancellorship of Germany. He stated that this is crude and un-American to refer to the Board members as people who act like those in Germany in the 1930s and 1940s.

Commissioner Feller stated that he did not have the text and could not respond exactly, but he would respond at the next meeting and that he would need to review his statement.

Commissioner Berry asked how he could not remember such a crude and disrespectful statement.

Commissioner Feller stated again that he would review the statement and respond at the next meeting.

THIS CONCLUDED PUBLIC COMMENTS

Commissioner Rainer called for a recess beginning at 7:00 p.m. and reconvened at 7:10 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Consideration of Contract for Housing Municipal Prisoners in County Jail.

Vice-Chairman Herrin made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Rhodes to enter into a Contract for Housing Municipal Prisoners in the County Jail with the cities of St. Marys and Kingsland.

So Voted:

Chairman Rainer – yea

Vice-Chairman Herrin – yea

Commissioner Rhodes – yea

Commissioner Berry – yea

Commissioner Feller – nay

NEW BUSINESS

A. Consideration of Proclamation for Habitat for Humanity

Commissioner Feller made a motion, seconded by Chairman Rainer to approve the Proclamation for Habitat for Humanity

The vote was unanimous to approve the Proclamation for Habitat for Humanity.

B. Consideration of Rezoning Request by John Adams (#R-018-05) from Commercial-General (C-G) to Residential-1 (R-1) of 3 acres located at 23415 Highway 17. The property is located between the bridges south of Waverly and is identified as parcel 35 on zoning/tax map 74.

Commissioner Rhodes made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Herrin to approve the rezoning request of John Adams at 23415 US Highway 17 to Residential-1.

The vote was unanimous approve the rezoning request of John Adams at 23415 US Highway 17 to Residential-1.

- C. Consideration of The Landings at Catfish Creek (#035-04-F) for Final Plat Approval for 69 lots on approximately 298.5 acres in the A-R zoning district. The property is located on Clarks Bluff Road approximately 1.5 miles from Vacuna Road. It is identified as parcel 38 on zoning/tax map 71.**

Chairman Rainer made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Herrin to approve the Final Plat for The Landings at Catfish Creek for 69 lots on approximately 298.5 acres on Clarks Bluff Road approximately 1.5 miles from Vacuna Road.

The vote was unanimous to approve the final plat for The Landings at Catfish Creek on Clarks Bluff Road of 69 lots on approximately 298.5 acres.

- D. Consideration of Michael Fender (R-024-05) of 53.89 acres from Manufactured Home Park (MHP) to 6 acres of Neighborhood Commercial (N-C), 47.89 acres to Agriculture-Forestry (A-F) and Conservation-Preservation (C-P). The property is located on Highway 17 just south of Harrietts Bluff Road and is identified as parcel 67 on zoning/tax map 81.**

Commissioner Rhodes made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Herrin to approve the rezoning request of Michael Fender of 53.89 acres on Highway 17 just south of Harrietts Bluff Road.

The vote was unanimous to approve the rezoning request of Michael Fender of 53.89 acres on Highway 17 just south of Harrietts Bluff Road.

- E. Consideration of Sheriff's Request for Additional Personnel.**

Vice-Chairman Herrin made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Rhodes to approve the request of the Sheriff's Office for 3 additional officers for FY 05/06, 2 additional officers in FY 06/07 and two more additional officers in FY 07/08.

The vote was unanimous to advertise approve the request of the Sheriff's Office for 3 additional officers for FY 05/06, 2 additional officers in FY 06/07 and two more additional officers in FY 07/08.

F. Consideration to Authorize Inmate Work Detail Contract Between State Prison and Road Department.

Vice-Chairman Herrin made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Rhodes to authorize the Inmate Work Detail Contract between the State Prison and the Road Department.

The vote was unanimous to authorize the Inmate Work Detail Contract between the State Prison and the Road Department.

G. Consideration of Approval of Timber Sale for Landfill.

Commissioner Rhodes made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Herrin to award the bid by Paulk Timber Company for timber sale.

The vote was unanimous to award the bid by Paulk Timber Company for timber sale.

H. Consideration of Request by Judge Amanda Williams.

Vice-Chairman Herrin made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Rhodes to provide \$50,000.00 to the Drug Court.

The vote was unanimous to provide \$50,000.00 to the Drug Court

I. Consideration of Quit Claim Deed between Camden County and Melvin Deese.

Commissioner Rhodes made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Herrin to approve the Quit Claim Deed between Camden County and Melvin Deese.

So Voted:

Chairman Rainer – yea

Vice-Chairman Herrin – yea

Commissioner Rhodes – yea

Commissioner Berry – yea

Commissioner Feller – nay

I. Consideration of Proclamation for Camden County Fire Fighter Appreciation Week.

Commissioner Feller made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Herrin to approve the Proclamation for Camden County Fire Fighter Appreciation Week.

The vote was unanimous to approve the Proclamation for Camden County Fire Fighter Appreciation Week.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion made by Commissioner Rhodes, seconded by Vice-Chairman Herrin to adjourn the August 16, 2005 meeting. The vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting 7:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David L. Rainer, Chairman

Diana Smith, Executive Assistant/Clerk