

The Brooks County Board of Commissioners met for its Monthly Workshop and Regular Monthly Meeting on Monday, November 7, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Meeting Room located at the Brooks County Office Building. Commissioners present were: Mr. S. L. Jones, Chairman; Mr. James Maxwell; Mr. Willie Cody; and Mr. Joe Wingate. Mr. Howard Lawson, Vice Chairman was not present. Others present were: Ms. Patricia Williams, County Clerk; Mr. Vann Parrott, County Attorney; Mr. Mark Deatcher, Public Works Director; and various residents.

Call to Order

Chairman called workshop to order.

Workshop – Road Issues

Public Works Director, Mr. Mark Deatcher, reported:

Drainage has been taken care of by Road Department on Bryan Lane. Road Department went out and ditched using the Excavator; both families were very pleased with end result.

Mr. Deatcher requested he and County Administrator have authority/empowerment to utilize responsibility to repair items. As it stands now, repairs must be put on hold for the month until the next Board meeting if equipment breaks down and needs repair and the cost exceeds the \$2,000.00 required by the County's Purchasing Policy. Policy needs to be changed to reflect what he wants to do. This issue will be discussed in regular session.

Mr. John Ard, Representative for NaturChem, appeared to present a proposal for roadside brush spraying; mowing vs. spraying. The roadside vegetation program for roadside turf consists of three applications per year in order to reduce to one mowing per year. NaturChem can design a vegetation control program to eliminate costly mowing and side trimming along roadsides. Board discussed doing a few roads to see how good program works.

County Engineer, Mr. Ben DeVane, provided Board with a copy of a list of ten roads for DOT Local Maintenance program for review. After discussion, Board will schedule a work session to discuss this issue.

Chairman closed workshop at 5:41 p.m. to go into regular meeting.

Call to Order/Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman called regular meeting to order. Mr. Cody led all in attendance in Prayer and pledge of allegiance.

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Approval of Regular Meeting Proposed Agenda

On motion by Mr. Maxwell, seconded by Mr. Cody, Board unanimously approved to amend the proposed agenda to include under Old Business: Roadside Spraying,

Equipment Repairs, and Purchasing Policy.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Wingate made a motion to approve following minutes as written, Mr. Maxwell seconded:

Workshop	October 6, 2011
Workshop & Special Called Meeting	October 10, 2011
Public Hearing	October 18, 2011

Public Hearing – None

Appearances

1. Destination Brooks Tourist Initiative – Monthly Update

Ms. Lauren Basford presented the monthly update and upcoming events for Destination Brooks. Annual Christmas parade will be held downtown December 10th at 11:00 a.m.; Second Annual Tour of Historical Churches will be extending throughout Brooks County. Website will be completed by end of year. State of Georgia Historical Concepts created plan for downtown, Ms. Basford stated a copy is at the Development Authority office for anyone who would like to stop by and review. Ms. Basford also informed Board of telephone call from TV Series that will highlight five small towns in a series titled Hidden Gems: Places to Live, Work and Play coming in March 2012. Out of the five, Quitman was the only one featured in the south.

2. Noise Ordinance Variance

Mr. Greg Cain submitted request for a noise ordinance variance for charity benefit with proceeds going to Georgia Sheriff's Boys Ranch. Mr. Maxwell made the motion to approve the request of Mr. Cain for noise ordinance variance to 2:00 a.m. for a charity benefit on November 19, 2011, Mr. Wingate seconded. Vote was unanimous.

3. Garbage Pickup

Ms. Donna Fuller, requested to appear to discuss garbage pickup, but was not present. County Attorney, Mr. Vann Parrott, informed Board Ms. Fuller had spoken with him regarding the problem; and it is being worked out through County Administrator and Thomasville Solid Waste.

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4. Concert and Noise Ordinance Variance

Mr. Ray Gene Williams, JAR Productions, LLC, appeared to request authorization to hold a concert on December 31, 2011 at 1100 Highway 122, Pavo, GA at Seldom Seen Farm; and noise ordinance variance. On motion by Mr. Wingate, seconded by Mr. Maxwell, Board unanimously authorized the concert to be held December 31, 2011 by JAR Productions, LLC, and approved the noise ordinance variance until 2:00 a.m. for said concert.

5. Hodges Road Paving

Mr. Charles Wyche, requested to be on agenda to discuss paving of Hodges Road. Instead, Mr. Wyche presented his Pastor, Pastor Fudge, to request Board consideration of paving Hodges Road. He stated road has been improved, but it is in bad condition, and wants Road Department to continue to maintain road regular. Board advised Pastor Fudge they will look at Hodges Road again at the work session to be scheduled.

Old Business

a. Solid Waste Contract

County Attorney stated contract has been completed and signed by Chairman.

b. Equipment Repairs

After discussion from workshop, Mr. Wingate made a motion to amend Brooks County Purchasing Policy from \$2,000.00 to \$12,000.00 so repairs can be done without having to wait for Board authorization if equipment breaks down and needs repair and the cost exceeds the \$2,000.00 required by the County's Purchasing Policy, Mr. Maxwell seconded. Vote was unanimous.

c. Roadside Spraying

On motion by Mr. Maxwell, seconded by Mr. Wingate, Board unanimously approved 60 miles of roadside spraying on paved and dirt roads by NaturChem. Road Department will provide list of roads; funds not to exceed \$10,000.00.

d. Purchasing Policy

Mr. Maxwell made the motion for Administrator and County Attorney to look at Purchasing Policy Manual and make recommendations for Board review at upcoming workshop, Mr. Cody seconded. Vote was unanimous.

New Business - None

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County Administrator Comments:

Administrator informed Board of establishing a Committee for Recreation Department to recommend policy and procedures; will report recommendations back to the Board. On motion by Mr. Cody, seconded by Mr. Maxwell, Board unanimously approved establishing Committee/Advisory Board to recommend policy and procedures for Recreation Department. Recreation Committee members:

1. Willie Cody
2. Joe Wingate
3. Donny O'Barr
4. Carl Rose

5. Mike Smith
6. Casey Knight

Executive Session – None

Mr. Cody made the motion to adjourn regular meeting at 6:15 p.m.; Mr. Wingate seconded.

Mr. S. L. Jones, Chairman
Mr. Robert D. O'Barr, Administrator
Ms. Patricia A. Williams, Clerk

