

The Brooks County Board of Commissioners met for its Monthly Workshop and Regular Monthly Meeting on Monday, January 6, 2014 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, Ms. Myra Exum, Vice Chairman; Mr. James Maxwell; Mr. Willie Cody, and Mr. Joe Wingate. Others present were: Mr. Justin DeVane, County Administrator; Ms. Patricia Williams, County Clerk; Mr. Vann Parrott, County Attorney; and various residents.

Public Hearing – None

Work Session – Chairman called workshop to order.

Reports from Committees/Departments

A. Vacant – Public Works – Glenn Walker provided report on repairs and work completed for month of December:

- Replaced rocks on roads, cleaned pipes and drainage.
- 13 roads graded, repaired railroad tracks at Pidcock and Emerson roads.
- Purchased a used Bush Hog; and filled pot holes.
- Administrator discussed running an ad in Quitman Free Press for Laborers at Road Department within the next week.

B. Ben DeVane – County Surveyor/Engineer

- CDBG plans are complete; and approved; waiting on new requirements for ad from State to run in the Quitman Free Press.
- Ad is being prepared to run for Safety Action Plan.
- Received letter from EPD with list for landfill issues; need to respond by February 3, 2014 as to corrections; and what and when will be done.
- Clay Bank documents are complete; but not signed by owner. Need to get streets on the County list.

C. Mike Smith – Fire/EMA/911 Center – No report; sent CAD report to Administrator for distribution to Board.

D. Stephanie Hollifield – Brooks County Extension Office

- part-time position for 4-H to assist Carol Smith, Brooks County 4-H, Extension Associate, has been filled.
- Attending area and annual meetings; and timely production type meetings on a timely basis.
- 60+ attendees for the Corn meeting.

E. Mike Dewey – Sheriff’s Department – Provide Stat Report for Board; and discussed inmate health care proposals.

Chairman closed work session to go into the Regular Meeting at 5:34 p.m.

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1. Call to Order

A. Prayer & Pledge – Mr. Maxwell led all in attendance in prayer and pledge of allegiance.

Meeting turned over to County Attorney for selection of Chairman and Vice Chairman for 2014.

2. 2014 Board Appointments

A. Selection of Chairman and Vice Chairman – County Attorney called for nominations for Chairman. Mr. Maxwell made the motion to nominate Mr. Jones for one more year; Mr. Cody seconded. Vote was unanimous for Mr. Jones to serve as Chairman for 2014.

Mr. Wingate made the motion nominating Ms. Exum as Vice Chairman, Mr. Jones seconded. Vote was unanimous to appoint Ms. Myra Exum to serve as Vice Chairperson for 2014. County Attorney turned meeting over to the Chairman.

B. 2014 Board Appointments

Brooks County Library Board	Mr. Willie Cody
Brooks County Airport Authority	Mr. S. L. Jones
Brooks County Board of Health	Mr. James Maxwell
Council on Aging	Mr. Joe Wingate
Coastal Plain Area, E.O. A.	Ms. China Maxwell
Chamber of Commerce	Mr. Joe Wingate
Regional Commission Board	Ms. Myra Exum
Dept. of Family & Children Services	Ms. Myra Exum
Mid South RC&D Council	Mr. Joe Wingate
Lowndes-Valdosta MPO	Mr. S.L. Jones (Chairman)
Recreation Department	Mr. Willie Cody
South Regional Joint Development Authority Board	Ms. Myra Exum (Until 12/31/2016)
ACCG Appointment	Ms. Myra Exum

Building Assignments

County Admin Building	Mr. S. L. Jones
Agriculture Building & Annex	Ms. Myra Exum
Courthouse	Mr. S. L. Jones/Mr. Joe Wingate
Sheriff's Department (Jail & C.I.D.)	Mr. James Maxwell
Public Works	Mr. Willie Cody
Voting Precincts	Mr. Joe Wingate
E-911 Center	Mr. Willie Cody
Multi-Purpose Building (Head Start & Senior Center)	Mr. James Maxwell
Fire Department Station 1100 (Interim until Fire Chief)	Mr. Justin DeVane
Washington Street Gym (Boys and Girls Club)	Mr. James Maxwell

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On a motion by Mr. Wingate, seconded by Mr. Cody, Board unanimously approved the 2014 appoints to various Boards and Buildings.

C. Other Appointments for 2014

County Attorney	Mr. Vann Parrott
County Auditor	Mr. Gary Zeigler
County Engineer	Mr. Ben DeVane

Assistant County Engineer
ADA Coordinator
Safety Coordinator
EMA Director
Fire Coordinator
Station #1100 Chief
Private Appointment to SGRC Board (Joint w/ Quitman)

Mr. Mark DeVane
Mr. Billy Ingram
Mr. John Schick
Mr. Mike Smith
Mr. Mike Smith (Interim)
Ms. Judy Huffmaster
Vacant

Appointments made during 2013

DFACS Board Member Appointment – District 1
DFACS Board Member Appointment – District 5
Planning & Zoning Appointment – District 5

Ms. Linda Peterson (April)
Ms. Mary Thomas (June)
Ms. Jeannie Little (June)

Library Board Appointments (3 year term)
Mr. Johnnie Brown (July – until 2016)
Ms. Carolyn Laurie (July – until 2016)

Brooks, Colquitt, Grady, Mitchell, and Thomas Joint DA
Mr. Justin DeVane (Nov. – Dec 2014)
Mr. Buddy Holwell (Nov. – Dec 2015)
Ms. Tina Herring (Nov. – Dec 2016)

Tax Assessor's Board Mr. John Stalvey (Nov – Dec 2016)

Elections Board Mr. Zurich Deshazior (Dec – until 2016)

Mr. Wingate made a motion approving the appointment of Mr. Henry Burton to the District 4 position on the Development Authority's Board; Ms. Exum seconded; vote was unanimous.

On the motion by Ms. Exum, seconded by Mr. Cody, Board unanimously approved the other appointments for 2014.

Approval of Agenda

A. January 6, 2014 Regular Monthly Meeting – Mr. Maxwell made the motion to approve the agenda; Mr. Cody seconded. Vote was unanimous.

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3. Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Mr. Cody, seconded by Mr. Maxwell; the Board unanimously approved the following minutes as presented:

- A. December 2, 2013 Monthly Work Session and Regular Monthly Meeting
- B. December 9, 2013 Executive Session and Special Called Meeting
- C. December 30, 2013 Special Called Meeting

4. Appearances

A. **Bob Cooper/JSA Associates – Rural Water System-** Administration received a request from Bob Cooper to speak to Board regarding the possibility of allowing his group to research the construction of a private rural water system that would be built

from Lowndes County line on Highway 133 to Barney. The group would like to begin the project within Brooks County and needs direction on whether or not this project would be something the County would be in favor of allowing. They would begin by obtaining a required number of pre-construction sign-ups to determine if there is sufficient support for the project. Their funding would be mostly from a USDA loan over a 40 year period. They have already constructed a project like this in Florida and would like to bring to Brooks County. They are proposing elevated storage tanks and sufficient water mains to support 500 GPM fire flows; system would take three to four years to complete. Water test will be done in accordance to all EPD safe water drinking laws; and is proposed as a not-for-profit system. Mr. Wingate made the motion Brooks County will support the project provided details are worked out Mr. Maxwell seconded. Vote was unanimous.

5. New Business

A. Application for Honorary Name Change for Hook Road – Karen Rowland

Administration received a request from Karen Rowland by application for honorary name change for Hook Road. Ms. Rowland's request is for her husband, Franz Rowland, who will turn 60 in March; she would like to do this for him in his honor; and try to present to him on his birthday. One of the policy conditions under the County's Honorary Naming Policy, is the honoree shall be deceased at least two years to the date of the application; however, the policy gives the Board authorization to decide otherwise.

A motion was made by Mr. Cody to approve the honorary name change for Hook Road; to waiver the two year decease clause and the requirement to post legal notice in newspaper; and proceed with a public hearing on January 16, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. for the honorary name change to Rowland Road, Mr. Wingate seconded. Vote was unanimous.

B. Inmate Health Care Contract – Sheriff, Mike Dewey, submitted a request to Administration for consideration by the Board a new contractor for inmate health care services. Current provider is Southern Correctional Medicine, LLC (SCM) which began on September 1, 2011. Since the relationship began, the Jail has been getting fewer services from this agreement and would like the Board to consider working with a new agent. The Sheriff and Jail Administrator have met with Innovative Healthcare Solutions

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of Georgia and have provided three proposals. One option will provide the same services as the current provider at the same price; however, more equipment (EKG, X-rays, Ultrasounds) will be made available and be on hand at the Jail, which will reduce extra trips to the local ER. Mr. Maxwell made a motion to authorize approval for the new Inmate Health Care Agreement with Innovative Solutions of Georgia for same cost; and for Sheriff to provide a 60 day notice to SCM to discontinue service, Ms. Exum seconded. Vote was unanimous. On a motion by Ms. Exum, seconded by Mr. Wingate, Board unanimously approved option one from Innovative Solutions of Georgia in amount of \$96,000.00 to be effective upon termination of current contract with SCM; pending contract review by County Attorney, Mr. Vann Parrott.

C. GDOT 5311 TPO Agreement Renewal – MIDS, Inc. – The Agreement with Third Party Operator (TPO), MIDS, Inc., for the GDOT 5311 Rural Transit Program expired December 31, 2013. Administrator recommended changes to the wording of the agreement if the County chooses to renew the Agreement as follows:

- **Under what the County will provide, Section 2** – Cost of primary vehicle insurance coverage as prescribed by GDOT shall be paid for by the County; County will retain any and all reimbursement funds for insurance as paid for by GDOT reimbursements.
- TPO is not utilizing fuel from County site; remove wording from agreement.
- **Under Auditing** – Include – If TPO does not provide the County with a proper independent audit or any other required reports as specified in this Agreement, the TPO will not be eligible for GDOT monthly reimbursement until required documentation has been provided.
- **Page 6 Paragraph 1** – TPO shall receive all eligible TPO reimbursements from GDOT.
- **Business Auto Policy** – Primary coverage will be provided by TPO and paid for by Brooks County as prescribed by GDOT. TPO will not be entitled to reimbursement funds towards insurance that are paid by the County.
- **Page 7, Under Compensation** – Include – TPO will not be eligible to receive any reimbursable cost associated with the 5311 Transit Program that are incurred and paid for by the County.

The motion was made by Mr. Maxwell to approve the TPO Agreement with recommended changes for MIDS, Inc. pending approval by County Attorney, Mr. Wingate seconded. Vote was unanimous.

D. Resolution for Local TSPLOST Vote – Administration received a letter and sample resolution from Bryan County regarding their attempt to have the State to allow Bryan County and others to pass local, individual TSPLOST laws within each County's jurisdiction. After discussion, Mr. Wingate made the motion to table this issue, Mr.

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Maxwell seconded, vote was unanimous.

6. Unfinished Business

A. Sabal Trail Pipeline – After discussion during the month of December, seems there is a large interest in this project and ensuring the safety of our residents and property is kept number one. There does seem to be some areas where the County could create regulations for pipelines regarding size, depth, proximity to structures, etc. County Attorney commented he would contact Lowndes County to follow their process on the matter.

B. Budget Amendment – Fund Position for Elections Office – This item was tabled at the December meeting. The Elections Office is requesting a part-time position be created for handling issues related to the new ethics requirements expected to become the Elections Office responsibility in January 2014. Second proposal would be to make the current part-time position in Elections a full-time position. If this position was made full-time, it would be \$17,912.96; in addition, position would be eligible for health care at \$7,575.00; bringing total request to \$25,487.96 per year. To complete remainder of budget year 2014; would need \$6,250.98 from Contingency; a yearly increase of \$12,501.06. On a motion by Ms. Exum, seconded by Mr. Cody, Board unanimously

approved promoting current part-time position to a full-time position in Elections Office; and funding of \$6,250.98 will come from Contingency.

7. County Administrator Notes/Comments

A. County Certificate of Deposit Renewal - During the December meeting, Administration requested and received authorization to advertise for bids and award to the best proposal the Certificate of Deposit (CD) for Brooks County General Fund. Bids were submitted to local banks. Citizens National Bank was awarded the bid with an APR of .50%; APY of .501%, for 12 months with penalty of one month's interest for early withdrawal; and funds will be protected from loss by FDIC insurance and pledged securities.

B. Interim Appointment to Fill Vacant Public Works Position – Administration made a recommendation to appoint Glenn Walker to fill position for interim Public Works Superintendent. On a motion by Ms. Exum, seconded by Mr. Wingate, Board unanimously approved Glenn Walker to fill position for Interim Public Works Superintendent until such time Board decides if they want to advertise for the position.

8. Commissioners Notes/Comments

- A. Joe Wingate - District 1 – No comments.
- B. S. L. Jones, District 2 – No comments.
- C. Willie Cody, District 3 – No comments.
- D. Myra Exum, District 4 – No comments.
- E. James Maxwell, District 5 – No comments

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9. Executive Session - None

10. Adjournment

Mr. Maxwell made the motion to adjourn regular meeting at 7:25 p.m.; Mr. Cody seconded.

Mr. Sanford L. Jones, Jr., Chairman
Mr. Justin DeVane, Administrator
Ms. Patricia A. Williams, Clerk

