

The Brooks County Board of Commissioners met for its Monthly Workshop and Regular Monthly Meeting on Monday, August 3, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Meeting Room located at the Brooks County Office Building. Commissioners present were: Ms. Myra Exum, Chairperson; Mr. Joe Wingate, Vice Chairman; Mr. James Maxwell; Mr. Willie Cody; and Mr. S. L. Jones. Others present were: Mr. Justin DeVane, County Administrator; Ms. Patricia Williams, County Clerk; Mr. Vann Parrott, County Attorney; and various residents.

### **PUBLIC HEARING – 5:00 P.M.**

#### **A. Request for Special Exception – Randy Merwin**

Planning and Zoning received a request from Randy Merwin for a Special Exception, in order to establish a beauty salon as a Rural Home Occupation on a 10.6 acre parcel within the Agricultural zoning district, located at 10810 Troupeville Road in unincorporated Brooks County, more specifically described as Map No. 146, Parcel No. 0039, of Brooks County.

Mr. Ariel Godwin, Planner, SGRC, presented the request; and informed the Board of Staff recommendations for approval. The SGRC staff recommended approval of Application for Petition by Randy Merwin for a Special Exception to establish a beauty salon as a Rural Home Occupation. Brooks County Planning and Zoning Board approved the request during their meeting on July 21, 2015.

A sign-in sheet was prepared; but no one in attendance signed to speak for or against. Chairperson asked if any one present wanted to speak for or against the request. There were none. The public hearing closed at 5:03 p.m. to go into the Monthly Work Session.

### **WORK SESSION**

#### **Reports from Committees/Departments**

**A. Corey Hull – SGRC Valdosta-Lowndes County MPO** – Corey Hull, SGRC, presented the 2040 Transportation Vision Plan of the Valdosta-Lowndes Metropolitan Planning Organization. There is a public comment period from July 7 to August 7, 2015. There is \$1 billion for transportation. The vision is to use for improved roads and public transit, affordable and accessible transportation for all people and freight: roadways, bridges, bike lanes, sidewalks, and public transit. The strategies are common community vision, performance-ready plan, complete street policy, intersection improvement policy, active, healthy lifestyles policy and transportation planning strategies. The challenges are regional connectivity, multi-modal infrastructure, ongoing maintenance, funding public transit, and transportation safety. The 2040 Transportation Plan will only include the Troupeville portion of Brooks County.

**B. Stephanie Hollifield – Extension/4-H** – Provided copy of Brooks County Ag Connection highlighting July in review and August at a glance. An In Season-Grower Inset Update was held on June 30<sup>th</sup>, Extension Office continued with evaluation and implementation of applied research projects, conducted the second quarter Extension

Leadership System/AG Program Development Team, which met on July 8<sup>th</sup>. Several UGA specialists visited Brooks County during the month of July. A copy of the Brooks County Extension Community Connection newsletter was also provided.

**C. Tom Fields – Fire Department**

- Buildings are in for the Training Center.
- ISO will return on August 18, 2015 to review department again. They will continue to come back whenever something is completed for the fire departments
- Trees have been cleared for the Pavo Fire Station; getting ready for groundbreaking; building was ordered by contractor.

**D. Public Works – Glenn Walker, Road Superintendent, reported on work completed for month of July:**

- 77 work orders completed; new side arm is in; and now have two operating.
- 29-911 calls for trees down.
- The Dump Truck is down; side arm is good.
- Receiving and reviewing employment applications for positions.

**F. Ben DeVane – County Engineer**

- Right-of way plans complete for CR 61 (Son Wright Road), maps are done.
- CR 76 survey is complete; and topography is done.
- CR 39, Burton Road, high water elevation. Needs to regrade ditch; enlarge driveway pipes and keep cleaned. Safety hazard being created; ditch needs grading. Plans are drawn; needs direction from Board as to whether or not to put out for bid or if Road Department will handle.
- Contractor for Guard Rail project will move in this week; will start at Old Madison first.
- Had meetings/discussions with Sabal Trail regarding what permits are required for road crossing.
- 2014 LMIG change order request for Ferris Road, Change Order #3.

Chairperson closed work session to go into the Regular Meeting at 5:40 p.m.

**1. Call to Order – Ms. Exum called meeting to order.**

**A. Prayer & Pledge** – Pastor James Huewitt, Simmon Hill Missionary Baptist Church, led all in attendance in prayer and pledge of allegiance.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

**A. August 3, 2015 Regular Monthly Meeting** –Mr. Cody made the motion to approve the agenda as is, Mr. Wingate seconded. Vote was unanimous.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

On a motion by Mr. Cody, seconded by Mr. Wingate; the Board unanimously approved

the minutes as presented for:

Work Session & Regular Monthly Meeting  
Special Called Meeting

July 6, 2015  
July 9, 2015

#### 4. Appearances

##### A. **Harlie Bodine – Requesting Zoning Change (Brooks County Industrial Park)**

Administration received a request from Mr. Harlie Bodine, resident of Brooks County, to request Board consideration to take steps to re-zone the undeveloped section of the Brooks County Industrial Park back to Agricultural zoning use. The land is currently zoned Heavy Industry, and was don back in April of 2012. Mr. Bodine is also requesting zoning to be changed at the developed portion of the park. However, the land is titled to the Development Authority and lies within the City of Quitman limits. Therefore, a request to change the zoning would need to be supported by the Authority and handled by the City's planning and zoning. Ms. Exum asked Mr. Bodine to give the Board time to consider his request; and get back to him by way of a special called meeting or regular monthly meeting, he agreed.

#### 5. New Business

##### A. **Request for Special Exception – Randy Merwin**

Mr. Wingate made the motion to approve the request of Randy Merwin for a Special Exception on a 10.6 acre parcel within the Agricultural zoning district to establish a beauty salon as a Rural Home Occupation located at 10810 Troupeville Road; Mr. Jones seconded. Vote was unanimous.

**B. FY2014 LMIG Change Order Request #3 –** County Engineer was asked to study possible solution(s) for Ferris Road, where two houses remain at the end of the paving project. Mr. DeVane prepared two possible options. One, using existing ROW and following the centerline of the road would cost approximately \$16,925.85. Second option would cost \$28,921.71 and require additional engineering and design fees of \$5-\$6,000. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Maxwell to approve option two to keep project as is with 80 feet of ROW rather than 40 feet at the approximate cost of \$28,921.71, including additional engineering and design fees of \$5,-\$6,000; and funds will come from SPLOST #5, seconded by Mr. Wingate. Vote was unanimous.

**C. New Contract for State Court – Georgia Probation Management -** Administration received a new contract from State Court Judge, William Folsom, regarding a new contract with Georgia Probation Management Services. Judge Folsom requested the County's authorization to execute the agreement. On a motion by Mr. Wingate, seconded by Mr. Maxwell, the Board unanimously approved the new contract with Georgia Probation Management Services.

#### 6. Unfinished Business

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**A. Appointment to Behavioral Health Board** - Administration received a letter from Leland Johnson, Coordinator of the Behavioral Health Department Board requesting a new appointment to the Board. Appointees will serve three year terms. Previously, Ms. Peggy Wilson was appointed; but asked Board to re-appoint the position due to conflict with her work schedule. Mr. Wingate made the motion to table this item to search for another appointment by the regular meeting next month, Mr. Cody seconded. Vote was unanimous.

**7. County Administrator Notes/Comments - None**

**8. Commissioners Notes/Comments**

**A. Joe Wingate - District 1** – No comments.

**B. S. L. Jones, District 2** – Commented to Glenn Walker of good job done on potholes; and there are new ones since last week on Nankin Road.

**C. Willie Cody, District 3** – Commented on continuing work on Old Thomasville and Son Wright Road.

**D. Myra Exum, District 4** – No comment.

**E. James Maxwell, District 5** – Thanked the Board for approving FY2014 LMIG Change Order #3 on Ferris Road.

**9. Executive Session – None**

**10. Adjournment**

Mr. Maxwell made the motion to adjourn regular meeting at 6:16 p.m.; Mr. Cody seconded.

Ms. Myra Exum, Chairperson

Mr. Justin DeVane, Administrator

Ms. Patricia A. Williams, Clerk