

**Houston County Commissioners Meeting**  
**May 21, 2019**  
**Warner Robins, Georgia**

The Houston County Board of Commissioners met in regular called session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 21, 2019, at the Houston County Annex in Warner Robins, Georgia, with Chairman Stalnaker presiding and Commissioners Thomson, Walker, Robinson and McMichael present. Also present were Attorney Tom Hall, Director of Administration Barry Holland, Director of Operations Robbie Dunbar, Director of Personnel Ken Carter, Director of Purchasing Mark Baker, Fire / HEMA Chief Chris Stoner, District Attorney George Hartwig, Administrative Assistant Jessica Hehs, Perry-Houston County Airport Manager Jim Marquardt, Flint Energies VP of Member Solutions Rogee Roberson, Walton and Becky Wood and Ansel Peck.

Commissioner McMichael led the audience in the Invocation.

Major Shayla Canty Smith, US Air Force led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and briefed the Board on her 15-year military career. Born and raised in the Savannah area she moved with family to Washington D.C. as a sophomore in high school. She recognized that education was the key to improving her quality of life and after going through JROTC and four years at the Air Force Academy she was commissioned a 2nd lieutenant with her first duty assignment being in Washington D.C. as a contracting officer. During her service she also was stationed at Wright-Patterson AFB, OH with the F-15 program office; Ramstein AB, West Germany for two years on her staff tour; Dyess AFB, TX as a commander with the B-1 program; and, currently, at Robins AFB as a contracting officer. She deployed one time in her career to Iraq. Major Canty Smith is married with a son and a daughter and really enjoys and appreciates the support she and her family receive from the community.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve the minutes from the regular scheduled meeting of May 7, 2019.

Mr. Walker presented a request from the Roads Department to hire Larry Jolly for the vacant Heavy Equipment Operator position.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to approve the hiring of Larry Jolly at a Grade 13-B for the vacant Heavy Equipment Operator position in the Roads Department effective May 22, 2019.

Mr. Walker presented a request from District Attorney Hartwig to eliminate two part-time law clerk positions so that he can hire a part-time investigator. The current funding level in his Temporary Employees line item will accommodate this change with no additional cost to the budget.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to authorize the elimination of two paid part-time law clerk positions in the District Attorney's office and the creation of one part-time investigator position at a Grade 18-A.

Ms. Robinson presented a request from the City of Warner Robins for annexation of property located at 200 Hwy. 247.

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**Houston County Commissioners Meeting Continued from Page 1639**

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to concur with a City of Warner Robins annexation request for the property described as:

Property totaling 4.73 acres (Tax Parcel 001220 005000) located at 200 Hwy 247, Warner Robins, GA.

Ms. Robinson presented a request from the City of Warner Robins to annex property totaling 4.52 acres located at the northwest corner of Cohen Walker Drive and Karl Drive.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to concur with a City of Warner Robins annexation request for the property described as:

Property totaling 4.52 acres (Tax Parcel 000780 05G000) located at the northwest corner of Cohen Walker Drive and Karl Drive.

Mr. Thomson presented a drainage issue that impacts the County's right-of-way on Coosa Drive in Riverbend Plantation Subdivision.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to authorize Chairman Stalnaker signing the storm drainage improvements agreement with Riverbend Plantation Development, Inc. and Anthony and Kimberly M. Robinson concerning the drainage issue that impacts the County's right-of-way on Coosa Drive, the developer's drainage easement and the owners' southeasterly lot line.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve the payment of the bills totaling \$1,590,887.96.

Chairman Stalnaker closed the regular meeting and opened the Public Comment portion of the meeting.

District Attorney Hartwig thanked the Board for their approval of his request for a part-time investigator and introduced his assistant Jessica Hehs.

Chairman Stalnaker thanked District Attorney Hartwig for all the good work that his office has accomplished this year and assured him that the Board understands the needs of his office as it relates to personnel issues.

Ansel Peck commended District Attorney Hartwig for the work he and his staff accomplish on behalf of the County's citizens.

Jim Marquardt, Perry-Houston County Airport Manager, briefed the Board on the airport's progress this year stating that over 100,000 gallons of fuel has been sold as compared to 99,924 gallons last year; 50% of the fuel sold was jet fuel versus av gas as compared to 40% from last year which is significant because jet fuel is more expensive; the GSP completed their auto-rotation training at the airport; and a scissor-jack for t-hangar maintenance was acquired through the FedEx surplus program. Mr. Marquardt thanked the County for their work on the drainage

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**Houston County Commissioners Meeting Continued from Page 1640**

improvements and, in particular, Mr. Robbie Dunbar for his efforts. He stated that the waiting list for hangar space was currently at seventeen. Finally, he asked that the Board consider the possibility of pursuing a redrawing of the county line so that the entire airport would fall within the confines of Houston County. Currently a good portion of the runway and some of the corporate hangars are in Peach County.

Chairman Stalnaker replied that the Board could open a dialogue with Peach County officials about the matter to see if they would concur. Chairman Stalnaker also asked Mr. Marquardt when the airport might consider building additional hangars to alleviate the waiting list and capture that lost revenue in hangar rents, fuel sales and taxes. He also reminded him that the County stands ready to assist the airport in that endeavor.

Mr. Marquardt suggested that new hangar construction would depend on the availability of 2018 SPLOST funds that were dedicated to airport improvements.

Carlotta Redd, 135 Whitley Drive, Warner Robins brought forth multiple issues concerning blight in her neighborhood presenting the Board with a list of addresses, concerns and pictures. She stated that she recently spoke with Chief Building Inspector Tim Andrews about several of these issues and was not satisfied with his response or demeanor.

Chairman Stalnaker commented that the County was actively working on several of these issues but that the process was not a speedy one. He asked Mr. Walker to meet with Mr. Holland, Mr. Hall, Ms. Redd and Mr. Elkins to discuss the neighborhood code enforcement issues and then to report back to the Board within the next 30 days.

Ray Elkins, 118 Whitley Drive, Warner Robins reiterated much of what Ms. Redd had to say about the state of the neighborhood. He also stated that he was frustrated with the apparent lack of follow-up by the County on the ongoing issues.

Walton Wood, 426 Sandefur Road, Kathleen shared his frustration with the Board after seeing that the residential development at the corner of Sandefur Road and Danny Carpenter Drive, previously annexed into the City of Perry, now has a deceleration lane constructed on the north side of Sandefur Road apparently for access to the development. Mr. Wood stated that the City of Perry had promised a restriction for all vehicular access from Sandefur Road to help limit the adverse impact on houses on the opposite side of the road. He stated that we can do better following-up with the cities on matters such as this. He also stated his concern that the Perry City limits sign was apparently moved after the widening of Sandefur Road to some point west of its intersection with Danny Carpenter Drive. He then expressed his frustration after having been recently told by Houston County Public Works staff that they did not know how many master meters were in place or where they may be located on the County's water system.

Chairman Stalnaker asked Mr. Thomson and Mr. McMichael to seek some resolution to Mr. Woods' concern over the City of Perry's residential development access points and to report back to the Board in the next 30 days.

There being no further comments Chairman Stalnaker closed the Public Comment portion of the meeting.

Houston County Commissioners Meeting Continued from Page 1641

Chairman Stalnaker closed the regular meeting and opened the Commissioners Comments.

Mr. Walker thanked everyone for coming.

Ms. Robinson thanked everyone for coming and participating in the meeting.

Mr. Thomson thanked Deputy Kamens for providing security for the meeting and thanked DA Hartwig and his assistant for attending and Major Canty Smith for speaking to the Board about her service.

Mr. McMichael thanked Major Canty Smith and everyone who had public comments and concerns.

Chairman Stalnaker thanked DA Hartwig and Jim Marquardt. He also asked Mark Baker to remind everyone about his upcoming auction.

Mr. Baker said that the County's surplus auction for vehicles and miscellaneous equipment would be held on Thursday, June 6th at 10:00 a.m. at the County Warehouse at 2020 Kings Chapel Road in Perry. Items for sale can be inspected prior to the auction on Wednesday, June 5th from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and on Thursday, June 6th from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

There being no further comments Chairman Stalnaker closed the Commissioners Comment portion of the meeting.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to enter into Executive Session for Attorney/Client matters per O.C.G.A. §50-14-2(1).

Upon reconvening the regular scheduled meeting Chairman Stalnaker announced that there would be no action taken as a result of the Executive Session.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all. Meeting adjourned.

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Barry Holland  
Director of Administration

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Chairman

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Commissioner

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Commissioner

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Commissioner

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Commissioner

**Houston County Commissioners Meeting Continued from Page 1642**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION AFFIDAVIT**

STATE OF GEORGIA  
COUNTY OF HOUSTON

**AFFIDAVIT OF PRESIDING OFFICER**

Tommy Stalnaker, Chairman of the Houston County Board of Commissioners, being duly sworn, states under oath that the following is true and accurate to the best of his knowledge and belief:

1.

The Houston County Board of Commissioners met in a duly advertised meeting on May 21, 2019.

2.

During such meeting, the Board voted to go into executive session.

3.

The executive session was called to order at 7:18 p.m.

4.

The subject matter of the closed portion of the meeting was devoted to the following matter(s) within the exceptions provided in the open meeting law:

  X   Consultation with the county attorney or other legal counsel to discuss pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the county or any officers or employee or in which the county or any officer or employee may be directly involved as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(1);

       Discussion of tax matters made confidential by state law as provided by O.C.G.A.

§ 50-14-2(2) and (insert the citation to the legal authority making the tax matter confidential) \_\_\_\_\_;

       Discussion or voting on:

       Authorizing a settlement as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(1)(A);

       Authorizing negotiations to purchase, dispose of, or lease property as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(1)(B);

       Authorizing an appraisal as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(1)(C);

       Entering a contract for the purchase, disposal of, or lease of property as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(1)(D);

       Entering into an option to purchase, dispose of, or lease property as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(1)(E);

       Discussion or deliberation on the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a county officer or employee as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(2);

       Interviewing candidates for executive positions as provided in O.C.G.A.

Houston County Commissioners Meeting Continued from Page 1643

§ 50-14-3(b)(2);  
\_\_\_\_ Other (describe the exemption to the open meetings law):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ as provided in (insert the citation to the legal authority exempting the topic) \_\_\_\_\_.

5.  
\_\_\_\_ During the course of the closed session devoted to exempt topics, an incidental remark regarding a non-exempt topic or an attempt to discuss a non-exempt topic was made.

\_\_\_\_ The attempt was immediately ruled out of order and attempts to discuss same ceased immediately.

\_\_\_\_ The attempt was immediately ruled out of order. However, the comments did not cease, so the closed/executive session was immediately adjourned without discussion or action being taken regarding any non-exempt topic.

6.  
Minutes were taken of this meeting and will be filed and held for in camera inspection only.

This \_\_\_\_\_ day of May, 2019.

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Tommy Stalnaker, Chairman  
Houston County Board of

Commissioners

Sworn to and subscribed  
before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of  
May, 2019.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public  
My commission expires:

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