

**Houston County Commissioners Meeting
September 20, 2016
Warner Robins, Georgia**

The Houston County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday September 20, 2016 at the Houston County Annex building in Warner Robins, Georgia with Chairman Stalnaker presiding and Commissioners Walker, McMichael, Robinson and Thomson present. Also present were County Attorney Tom Hall, Director of Administration Barry Holland, Director of Operations Robbie Dunbar, Director of Personnel Ken Carter, Chief Building Inspector Tim Andrews, Director of Purchasing Mark Baker, Elections Superintendent Beverly Nable, former Elections Superintendent JoAnn Shipes, Registration Election Assistant Andy Holland, Board of Elections Chair Barbara Waddle, Board of Elections Member Tony Robbins, ACCG Associate Legislative Director Todd Edwards, Representative Heath Clark, Lindsey Clark, Representative Shaw Blackmon, Walton and Becky Wood, Ansel Peck, Flint Energies Senior VP Jimmy Autry, and Clarence Long.

Commissioner McMichael led the audience in the Invocation.

Capt. John McKinney, USAF led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and detailed his 18-year military career. He was born in W. Virginia but grew up in South Carolina. After joining the service in 1998 he was trained as an aircraft maintainer and has had many duty assignments including eight different deployments to the Middle East. Capt. McKinney currently serves as Col. Jeff King's Executive Officer at the 78th Air Base Wing Robins AFB and is married with three children. He remarked that he has been received amazingly well by the community and that the support shown for the military is very evident here.

Chairman Stalnaker recognized Todd Edwards, Associate Legislative Director for the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG), who presented Representative Heath Clark with one of the ACCG's 2016 Legislative Service Awards for his diligent efforts in crafting sound policy on behalf of all counties and citizens of the State of Georgia. He thanked Representative Clark specifically for assisting with the passage of HB772. He explained that HB772 fixed the problem of a 'second Saturday' of advanced primary runoff voting falling on a holiday. This situation did occur last year with the second Saturday falling on the 4th of July not only making it hard to staff polling places but the voter turnout was extremely low. With the passage of this bill, if the Second Saturday of advance voting in any general, primary, or runoff election falls on a holiday or holiday weekend, then the third Saturday prior to these elections will become the Saturday for advanced voting. Mr. Edwards also commended Representative Clark for staying in frequent contact with his county commissioners and playing a key role in addressing ACCG's concerns on many other bills impacting county taxpayers. Representative Clark

accepted the award and credited the other members of the Houston delegation for their help during the process. He also thanked Chairman Stalnaker, Mr. Edwards and the ACCG, and the Board of Elections members and staff. He acknowledged and thanked his wife, Lindsey, for her love and support. Board of Elections Chair Barbara Waddle and member Tony Robbins both thanked Representative Clark for his efforts on behalf of the Board of Elections and staff. Chairman Stalnaker acknowledged former Elections Superintendent JoAnn Shipes for helping to initiate this action.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to approve the minutes from the meeting of September 6, 2016.

Mr. Walker presented a request for annexation into the City of Warner Robins, by GSL Investment Holdings, LLLP., an 18.59-acre property located at Statham's Landing. The property is currently zoned County PUD and the proposed zoning upon annexation is City of Warner Robins PDR (Planned Development-Residential).

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to concur with a City of Warner Robins annexation request for the property known as Tax Parcel No. 001230 040000 or all that tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being in Land Lots 47 and 50, Eleventh Land District, Houston County, Georgia, containing 18.59 acres and being known as Parcel "M" according to a plat entitled "Complied Plat The Highlands at Statham's Landing" prepared by Christopher A. Branscom, G.R.L.S. No. 3164 and dated August 18, 2016.

Mr. Thomson presented a request to abandon a portion of Houston Lake Road near its intersection with State Route 49/State Route 11/US Highway 41 that has been realigned as part of the State Route 49/State Route 11/US Highway 41 road improvement project and this portion has ceased to be used by the public such that no substantial public purpose is served by it and pursuant to O.C.G.A § 32-7-2(b)(1) the adjoining property owner has been notified and a public notice of intent to abandon has been advertised in the Houston Home Journal once a week for two weeks.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to approve Chairman Stalnaker signing the resolution abandoning a portion of a Houston County Right of Way on Houston Lake Road described as follows:

All that tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being in Land Lot 80 of the Fifth Land District of Houston County, Georgia, being known and designated as Parcel 1, Parcel 2 and Parcel 3, according to a drawing done by the Houston County Public Works Department.

Mr. Thomson presented a request for Chairman Stalnaker to sign Quit Claim deeds on the portion of Houston Lake Road near its intersection with State Route 49/State Route 11/US Highway 41 having just been abandoned and conveying them to Catherine Vinson Pullen and Eric B. Pullen the adjacent property owners. The abandoned right of way is of a size and shape that cannot be improved according to the planning and zoning regulations of Houston County. The purchase price of the property was paid in the nature of a trade, Mrs. Pullen previously having granted an easement for the location and display of an historical highway marker.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to authorize Chairman Stalnaker signing the Quit Claim deeds to Mrs. Catherine Vinson Pullen and Mr. Eric B. Pullen for the abandoned right of way for Houston Lake Road near its intersection with State Route 49/State Route 11/US Highway 41 described in the previous abandonment resolution.

Chairman Stalnaker encouraged everyone who had not yet seen the historic highway marker to take the time to do so.

Mr. Walker thanked Robbie Dunbar for his part in preserving the historical marker.

Mr. Thomson presented a change order on the Scott Road and Kersey Road Water System Improvements project that reduces the original contract price of \$274,240.87 by \$17,851.41 making the final contract price \$256,389.46.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to authorize Chairman Stalnaker signing Change Order #1 (Final) with Complete Sitework Services on the Scott Road and Kersey Road Water System Improvements project decreasing the contract amount by \$17,851.41 from \$274,240.87 to the final contract price of \$256,389.46, with no increase in contract days.

Mr. McMichael presented a request to authorize the increase in the current tipping fee for tire disposal of \$90 per ton charged to Landfill customers to \$180 per ton due to a recent increase to the disposal rate that the County pays to vendors for tire disposal. The adjustment will help cover the County's actual cost for disposal and transportation.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to authorize raising the current Landfill tipping fee for tire disposal from \$90 per ton to \$180 per ton.

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Chairman Stalnaker remarked that it had been many years since the tipping fee on the disposal of tires was increased and that this action would help to cover the actual cost incurred by the County for recycling the tires.

Mr. McMichael presented a bid for one new Ford F-450 truck (cab & chassis only). Bids were solicited with five vendors responding. Staff recommends award to the low bidder Perry Ford for a 2017 Ford F-450 truck in the amount of \$36,895.40. The utility body and crane from another truck will be mounted to this new vehicle. Funding for this vehicle is from the 2012 SPLOST.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve the award of one new 2017 Ford F-450 truck (cab & chassis) for use in the Roads Department from Perry Ford in the amount of \$36,895.40. This is a 2012 SPLOST funded vehicle purchase.

Mr. McMichael presented a request for one new Ford T-350 Transit cargo van with a Havis Prisoner Transport System. Bids were solicited with two vendors responding. Dealers were asked to bid on a van with a V6 engine and, as an option, a van with a V6 EcoBoost engine. Staff recommends award to the low bidder Brannen Motor Company for a 2017 Ford T-350 Transit cargo van with the transport system insert and a V6 engine in the amount of \$44,713. The Sheriff will reimburse the County for 100% of the cost with Inmate Funds.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to approve the award of one new Ford T-350 Transit Cargo Van (V6 engine) with a Havis Prisoner Transport System installed for use at the Detention Center from Brannen Motor Company of Unadilla in the total amount of \$44,713. This vehicle will be reimbursed 100% by Sheriff Inmate Funds.

Both Chairman Stalnaker and Mr. Thomson thanked Sheriff Talton for his willingness to reimburse the County for the cost of this vehicle.

Ms. Robinson presented a request for Chairman Stalnaker to sign a Memorandum of Agreement. The purpose of this Georgia Search and Rescue (GSAR) Memorandum of Agreement between the County and the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency (GEMHSA) is to provide mutual aid assistance when called upon.

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By virtue of GEMSHA's creation, equipping, training and exercise of GSAR teams for use as special regional response teams, Houston county responds at their request to emergencies or disasters declared by the governing authority of any political subdivision that is a participating party. These events could be natural disasters, technological hazard, human-caused disasters, civil emergency regarding resource shortages, community disorders, insurgency, enemy attack, acts of terrorism or other significant events.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to approve Chairman Stalnaker signing the Georgia Search and Rescue Team (GSAR) Memorandum of Agreement with the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency (GEMHSA). The agreement will expire on January 31, 2020.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to approve the payment of bills totaling \$1,077,383.89

Chairman Stalnaker then opened the meeting for public comments.

Mr. Ansel Peck, 109 Latham Drive, Warner Robins remarked that he was pleased that the Chairman recognized Barbara Waddle and Tony Robbins. He also commended Mr. Walker and especially Mr. McMichael for their dedicated service to the County.

There being no further public comments the meeting continued.

Chairman Stalnaker then asked for comments from the Commissioners.

Chairman Stalnaker recognized Mr. Clarence Long who remarked that he has a lot in common with Capt. McKinney in that he also served as the exec for several high-ranking officers while in service himself.

Chairman Stalnaker also recognized 13WMAZ reporter Madison Cavalchire who is new to the area and covering her first Board meeting for the station.

Ms. Robinson thanked everyone for attending the meeting and congratulated Representative Clark on his award.

Mr. Walker also congratulated Representative Clark and thanked Todd Edwards for making the presentation on behalf of ACCG.

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Mr. Thomson thanked Representative Clark and his wife Lindsey for their service to the community.

Mr. McMichael thanked Mr. Peck for his kind remarks and also Representative Clark, Capt. McKinney and Todd Edwards.

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

Barry Holland
Director of Administration

Chairman

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner