

**HARRIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION**

March 1, 2016

7:00 P.M.

Commissioners Present: J. Harry Lange, Joey Loudermilk, Martha Chewning, Becky Langston, Jim Woods. Staff Present: Greg Wood, County Manager; John Taylor, County Attorney; Nancy D. McMichael, County Clerk.

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Chairman Lange called the Regular Session to order.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** At the request of Chairman Lange, Andy Cunningham, member of Boy Scout Troop 109, led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **MINUTES.** The motion to approve the minutes of the February 16, 2016, Regular Session was made by Commissioner Loudermilk, seconded by Commissioner Woods, and passed unanimously.
4. **APPEARANCE OF CITIZENS**
 - A. **Charles Blair: Request for Return of Unused Rights-of-Way on Watkins Road.** Charles Blair, citizen, appeared before the Board and said that in 2002, the County obtained rights-of-way from him and his neighbors on Watkins Road in connection with the paving of Watkins Road and Hart Road; that the cul-de-sac ended short of the rights-of-way obtained; that he and his neighbors would like to install decorative gates since a subdivision is being developed in the area; and that the request is to have the unused portion of the rights-of-way deeded back to the property owners. Following discussion, consensus was for the County to have survey performed to determine the road layout, the right of way, the unused right of way, and other information necessary. The motion to move forward with the survey was made by Commissioner Langston, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed unanimously.
5. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. **Appointment to Recreation Board.** With action having been tabled from the February 2 meeting, the motion to appoint Michael Grant to complete the term of Johnny Kuykendall, who resigned, was made by Commissioner Langston, seconded by Commissioner Woods, and passed unanimously. Mr. Grant's term will expire December 31, 2016.
 - B. **JCG/Koch Food.** Chairman Lange said that he, County Manager Greg Wood, and Commissioner Chewning met with the new plant manager of JCG/Koch Food and discussed the issues that have been raised by residents. He said that the manager indicated they had received their permit to burn off methane, which will be done from time to time when there is sufficient methane gas to burn; that a curb had been constructed to somewhat reduce the amount of water going across the road; and that it is their intention to be good neighbors.
6. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. **Enrichment Services Program Update: Belva Dorsey.** Belva Dorsey, with Enrichment Services Programs, Inc., appeared before the Board, distributed information, and reviewed the documents regarding the services provided by the Enrichment Services Program in Harris County.
 - B. **Eagle Scout Project: Adam Cunningham.** Adam Cunningham, Boy Scout of Troop 109, appeared before the Board to request approval of his Eagle Scout project, which is to construct two seating areas on the lower field at Moultrie Park. Discussion included that a cost estimate has not yet been done for the project, pending approval of same, and that financing will come from fund raising and donations. The motion to approve the request was made by Commissioner Loudermilk, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed unanimously.
 - C. **Second Reading: Application of Trevor Morris for Beer & Wine On Premises at Trevioli, located at 5171 Georgia Highway 219, Fortson.** Chairman Lange said that this was the Second Reading and read the specifics of the application. Trevor Morris, applicant, appeared before the Board and said that he has plans to move his residence to Harris County, from Columbus; that he has a restaurant in Columbus; and that this would be his second restaurant. Chairman Lange asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of or in opposition to this application. There being none, he asked for a motion. The motion to approve the

application was made by Commissioner Woods, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed unanimously.

- D. **Tax Refund Request Hearing: Joseph M. & Caroline S. Pate.** Chairman Lange called the hearing to order and said that the request is for a total refund of \$2,492.26 for 2015 (\$506.63), 2014 (\$492.43), 2013 (\$394.21), 2012 (\$366.88), 2011 (\$356.53), and 2010 (\$375.58) due to incorrect soil productivity rating by the Tax Assessor's office. Wayne Morris, Tax Assessor, was present and said that an error had been made in coding; that the correct soil type is on the fair market value, but was not carried over for conservation purposes; that the error has been corrected. In response to questions, Mr. Morris explained about the soil productivity rating, said that the error originally started in 2004. Mr. and/or Mrs. Pate were not in attendance. Following discussion, which included that State law allows refunds for the most recent three years, the motion to approve the refund requests for 2015, 2014 and 2013 and to deny the refund requests for 2012, 2011 and 2010 was made by Commissioner Chewning, seconded by Commissioner Loudermilk, and passed unanimously.
- E. **Financial Statement: December 2015.** The motion to approve the December 2015 financial statement, which includes the SPLOST report, was made by Commissioner Woods, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed unanimously. In response to a question from Commissioner Langston regarding the donation from a citizen to go toward the cost of the salary survey, Chairman Lange confirmed that the donation had been received.
- F. **Bluebird Boxes on Carol A. Silva Walking Trail.** Commissioner Chewning said that bluebird boxes had been donated and installed along the Carol A. Silva Walking Trail by Anthony Burns.

7. **COUNTY MANAGER**

- A. **Surplus Property.** Greg Wood, County Manager, said that the list of surplus vehicles, equipment and parts before the Board consists of vehicles with high mileage and no longer used due to age or condition, equipment that is not feasible to repair, and parts for vehicles no longer serviced by the County. He asked that authorization be given to sell the items on GovDeals or other means. Following a brief discussion, the motion to declare the list of vehicles and equipment as surplus and to authorize the sale of same via GovDeals or other means was made by Commissioner Woods, seconded by Commissioner Langston, and passed unanimously.
- B. **Corporate Hangar at Airport.** Greg Wood, County Manager, said that a charter aircraft service is interested in occupying the second corporate hangar at the Airport; that a letter of intent has been received; that the business will use the hangar for the maintenance of its own aircraft; that they will employ about 10 people; and they are requesting an addition be made to the hangar for office use. He said that the estimated cost to construct the addition will range from \$44,803 to \$53,355; and that because the business needs to be out of their current location within 45 days, he is requesting the bid process be waived and for the airport consultant (Pond & Co.) to obtain quotes for same. Following discussion, the motion to waive the bid process, to construct the addition to the hangar, and to use the lowest and best quote for the addition was made by Commissioner Woods and seconded by Commissioner Langston. Commissioner Chewning asked if the addition would be constructed only after confirmation has been received from the business, and Mr. Wood said that was correct. The motion passed unanimously.

8. **COUNTY ATTORNEY**

- A. **Radio Tower Co-Locate Agreement: Dean's Commercial Two-Way.** John Taylor, County Attorney, said that this agreement is regarding a radio tower located on Seldon Street in Waverly Hall. He then reviewed various aspects of the agreement to include that it is for five (5) years; that there are two five (5) year renewal terms; and that the rent is \$500 per month. Following discussion, the motion to approve this agreement was made by Commissioner Loudermilk and seconded by Commissioner Woods. In response to a question from Commissioner Langston, Mr. Taylor said that Dean Ginn actually owns the land on which the property is located, does not own the tower, but leases the tower. Commissioner Chewning commented that she had several minor corrections and revision suggestions, some of which she reviewed, and to which Mr. Taylor said could be made following approval. Commissioner Loudermilk amended his motion to include the corrections and revisions and Commissioner Woods amended his second for same. The motion passed unanimously. (Document can be found in "Contracts & Agreements" file as C&A #16-03.)

9. **ADJOURNMENT**. There being no further business to discuss, the motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Loudermilk, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed unanimously.

Attest:

J. Harry Lange, Chairman

Nancy D. McMichael, County Clerk