

**HARRIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION**

April 18, 2017
7:00 P.M.

Commissioners Present: J. Harry Lange, Jim Woods, Susan Andrews, Martha Chewning, Becky Langston. Staff Present: Randy Dowling, 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, Commissioner Andrews led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **MINUTES.** The motion to approve the minutes of the April 4, 2017 Regular Session was made by Commissioner Woods, seconded by Commissioner Andrews, and passed unanimously.
4. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. **Recreation Board Request for Study.** Chairman Lange said that during the April 4 meeting, the motion to disapprove the request of the Recreation Board (to have a study performed on Recreation Department facilities to determine whether they meet the growth of the county and the number of youth sports programs that fall under the Recreation Department) had been made by Commissioner Langston, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and tabled by Commissioner Woods, who requested information regarding the scheduling of fields. John Magazu, Recreation Director, was present and responded to questions from the Board regarding the availability of ball fields and the usage of same, for which the schedules for the last two weeks had been provided. Discussion included that Highway 208 ballfield project, for which there is an agreement between the Board of Commissioners and the Board of Education, has not been budgeted but could possibly be considered part of the next SPLOST. The motion to disapprove the request of the Recreation Board passed unanimously. Commissioner Andrews asked Mr. Magazu to provide the Recreation Board with the ball fields schedules that had been reviewed by the Commissioners.
 - B. **TUSA Report.** In response to questions from Commissioner Langston, Randy Dowling, County Manager, responded that the tower in Manchester, while not in Harris County, will be part of the communications system for the County, and that because only our ambulances can communicate with an air ambulance, but fire departments cannot, research is taking place regarding the requirements of adding such communication capability in fire trucks.
5. **COUNTY MANAGER**
 - A. **Project Updates.** Randy Dowling, County Manager, brought the Board up to date on various projects, as follows:
 - (1) **Ellerslie Park.** Will be discussed later in the meeting (see item 6B).
 - (2) **Library.** Work is progressing; utility work is underway; and construction meetings will take place every two weeks.
 - (3) **Website.** Work is progressing but has been delayed due to focus on the upcoming budget process.
 - (4) **LMIG 2016.** Will be discussed later in the meeting (see item 6B).
 - (5) **LMIG 2017.** Will be discussed later in the meeting (see item 6B).
 - (6) **High-Speed Internet.** Preparation of the necessary agreements involved with this project are still underway and will hopefully be before the Board soon. One agreement has been sent to Hamilton, and their response will be forthcoming.
 - (9) **911 Radio System Improvements.** Project ongoing with results of radio study expected soon.
 - (7) **Rails to Trails Project (Recreation Railroad Trail).** Continued interest; possible use of T-SPLOST funds in next year's budget to extend project as far as possible; it is projected that the current phase will go as far as Callaway Gardens purchasing office. Chairman Lange said that there is a group beginning to form to possibly assist in obtaining funding for the trail and the contact info will be provided to Mr. Dowling.
6. **COUNTY ATTORNEY**
 - A. **Agreement w/DBT Transportation Services: AWOS Maintenance.** John Taylor, County Attorney, said that the company currently maintaining the AWOS at the airport is

divesting its business to DBT Transportation Services. He then reviewed the agreement, suggested changes to section 6 (Contract Pricing Adjustments), to section 7 (Total Contract Agreement), the addition of section 8 (Termination for Convenience), the addition of section 9 (Multi-Year Contract) as an addendum, and recommended approval of the agreement. Following discussion, the motion to approve this agreement with the suggested changes and the addendum was made by Commissioner Langston, seconded by Commissioner Woods, and passed unanimously. (Document can be found in "Contracts & Agreements" file as C&A #17-14.)

Chairman Lange asked Bill Champion, Airport Manager, for comments as to the status of the Airport. Mr. Champion reported that all hangars are occupied due to the occupation of one of the corporate hangars (Hangar #5) by a jet and two turbo props.

- B. **Agreement w/EMC Engineering: Task Order #2.** John Taylor, County Attorney, said that in December 2016, the Board entered into a Master Agreement with EMC Engineering regarding road projects to be undertaken, as needed, by Task Orders; that this is Task Order #2 and includes three parts for a total of \$24,000; that it covers (A) LMIG Resurfacing Project (at \$2,000); (B) Bridge over Hickory Creek (at \$7,000); and (C) Ellerslie Park Construction Administrative Services (at \$15,000); and that he recommended approval of same. Following discussion, the motion to approve this agreement was made by Commissioner Andrews, seconded by Commissioner Woods, and passed unanimously. (Document can be found in "Contracts & Agreements" file as C&A #17-15.) Note: There was discussion regarding Fortson Road (included in part A), which turned out to be a typographical error - the road name should be Hunter Road and will be corrected on the document.
- C. **Agreement w/GDC: Care & Custody of State Prison Inmates.** John Taylor, County Attorney, said that this is the usual annual agreement with the Georgia Department of Corrections (GDC) regarding the care and custody of up to 150 inmates at the Prison. He then reviewed the agreement to include that it is for one year beginning July 1, 2017, expiring June 30, 2018, and that the State will pay the County \$20/inmate/day. Following review he recommended approval of the agreement. Following discussion, the motion to approve this agreement was made by Commissioner Woods, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed unanimously. (Document can be found in "Contracts & Agreements" file as C&A #17-16.)
- D. **Request for Executive Session.** John Taylor, County Attorney, requested an Executive Session for the purpose of discussing pending and potential litigation.

7. **OTHER**

- A. **Radar List.** Commissioner Woods said he wanted to let citizens know that the Board recently approved the updated Radar List, on which roads must be listed with a speed limit in order for the Sheriff's Office to run radar on same, that the County added quite a few roads for which the Georgia Department of Transportation set the speed limits, that the County must agree to those limits or the road would not be included on the list, and that some of speed limits were raised higher than what was suggested by the County.
- 7. **RECESS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION.** The motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing pending and potential litigation was made at 7:37 PM by Chairman Lange, seconded by Commissioner Langston, and passed unanimously.
- 8. **RESUME REGULAR SESSION.** The motion to go back into Regular Session was made by Commissioner Woods, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed unanimously.
- 9. **ADJOURNMENT.** There being no further business to discuss, the motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Andrews, seconded by Commissioner Chewning, and passed unanimously.

J. Harry Lange, Chairman

Attest:

Nancy D. McMichael, County Clerk