

**HARRIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR SESSION**

March 6, 2012

7:00 P.M.

Commissioners Present: J. Harry Lange, Joey M. Loudermilk, Becky Langston, Jim Woods, Charles Wyatt.
Staff Present: Daniel B. Bridges, County Manager; John M. Taylor, County Attorney; Nancy D. McMichael, County Clerk.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**. Chairman Lange called the Regular Session to order.
2. **MINUTES**. The motion to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2012, Regular Session was made by Commissioner Loudermilk, seconded by Commissioner Langston, and passed unanimously.
3. **APPEARANCE OF CITIZENS**

- A. **Jim Furin: Use of Coco Hollow Property**. Jim Furin, citizen who lives on Dogwood Lane West, appeared before the Board, and said while he had signed up to speak about the use of the Coco Hollow property, he had reviewed the history of the action regarding this property, starting in 2008; that since that time, there have been many references of the Board being unfair in selective enforcement of ordinances, which was his opinion in 2008; that he has since decided that the Board, the County Manager, and the County Attorney make informed and lawful decisions to ensure that ordinances and codes are followed; that the citizens strongly encourage the Board to enforce the ordinances and codes in the fair and lawful balance method as they have thus far.

Commissioner Wyatt asked Mr. Furin why he was at the meeting, since he wanted to speak about the use of the Coco Hollow property, and was there something about Coco Hollow that the Board needed to know. Mr. Furin responded that he thought the Board knows everything about the matter, and in response to Commissioner Wyatt's comment to the negative, explained what had taken place regarding the property since the rezoning was denied in 2008 and concluded by saying that the ordinance had been violated this past weekend (referring to February 25). Commissioner Wyatt asked how Mr. Rodgers (John) broke the terms of the agreement of his nolo contendere which included that he (Rodgers) would not run a ballfield on his property, and Mr. Furin said that agreement was that Mr. Rodgers would follow the ordinances and codes and for that property zoned agricultural. Commissioner Wyatt asked if it was right that it boiled down to that Mr. Rodgers cannot have people participating in ball games on his property, and Mr. Furin said that the Board voted in July 2008 that the property could not be rezoned for CORD and the property owner told the Board that he wanted to establish a baseball or sports complex, which was voted down, so the Board told the owner that he could not have a sports complex on the 28+ acres that he owns, and the owner then made the decision to move forward with the construction of the complex. Commissioner Wyatt held up a small tape recorder and asked Mr. Furin if he knew what it was and if he would like to hear a tape of a meeting during which it was said that Mr. Rodgers can do anything he wants as long as he doesn't make money off of it, and Mr. Furin said that he knew what the device was, that he has one, and that he would like to hear the tape. Commissioner Wyatt said that Mr. Furin trespassed on Mr. Rodgers' property three weeks ago, and Mr. Furin said that was not true. Commissioner Wyatt responded by taking a photograph of Mr. Furin's with his cell phone and asking if he takes it (the photo) to the children who were practicing ball on the property three weeks ago, would Mr. Furin be recognized. Mr. Furin said that he doesn't know if he could be identified or not.

At this point, Commissioner Langston said that this should not be an inquisition of one of her constituents, and Chairman Lange said that Mr. Furin had been given the opportunity to speak. Commissioner Wyatt said that he (Mr. Furin) can break the law and trespass on another man's property and take pictures of children that is illegal in the State of Georgia. Chairman Lange said that that is not for the Board to decide, and Commissioner Wyatt asked if it was okay for Mr. Furin to "spout off accusations" of other people, to which Chairman Lange said that Mr. Furin did not "spout off" anything until Commissioner Wyatt started asking questions. Commissioner Wyatt asked Mr. Furin if he had called his Commissioner (Langston) and told her that Mr. Rodgers had children playing on his field three Saturdays ago, and Mr. Furin said that he called his commissioner two Saturdays ago to advise her of the activities on the property. Commissioner Wyatt asked Mr. Furin how he knew about the activities, and Mr. Furin said that he saw people entering and leaving the area and one of the neighbors who abuts the property invited him to their property from which he could plainly see through the trees that there was activity on the property, cars parked there, and people in the stands. Commissioner Wyatt said that at the same time he took Mr. Furin's photograph (earlier in meeting), he took Mr. (Mike) Benson's. He then asked who went on the property and took photographs. Mr. Furin said he did not know. Chairman Lange said that he wasn't sure where this conversation was leading.

Commissioner Wyatt responded by saying that we (the County) have persecuted this man (pointing to John Rodgers) from the very beginning when we (County) gave him (Rodgers) the permits to build the ballfield, and that if the Board wants to hear the tape(s), the Board can go into the back room and listen to the tapes where it was said that he (Rodgers) could build the ballfields. Chairman Lange said that this appears to be more of a legal issue, and Commissioner Loudermilk said that accusing Mr. Furin of trespass is a legal issue, and Commissioner Wyatt said that as soon as Mr. Furin's photo is identified, he (Wyatt) will be taking it to the Sheriff's Office and have him arrested. Commissioner Loudermilk asked if the property was posted, and Commissioner Wyatt said that it does not matter because all property in the state of Georgia is posted by state law. There was a brief discussion regarding the trespass law of Georgia.

Mr. Furin asked Commissioner Wyatt how permission could be given (to Mr. Rodgers) if the proper process was not followed, and Commissioner Wyatt said that Mr. Rodgers started building his ballfield on agricultural property, and at the time, the rules had not changed, that you could do anything on agricultural property as long as you didn't charge and make money; then Mr. Rodgers started building a ballfield and he was stopped due to a visit by EPD as a result of phone calls from the neighbors; that the County Attorney and County Manager met with Mr. Rodgers and the following that visit, Mr. Rodgers was issued commercial permits for everything he did; that the County and the State cashed his (Rodgers) checks; that Coco Hollow Sports Complex is written all over the plans and the checks; and that he (Rodgers) said he did everything legal except for getting mud in someone's ditch. He said the rules changed when the administration changed, that this Board does not have to live by very few of the rules that the Board made, and they changed. Commissioner Wyatt asked Mr. Furin if he thought he (Wyatt) had lied about Mr. Rodgers receiving his permits, and Mr. Furin said no. Commissioner Wyatt asked Mr. Furin if he thought what Mr. Rodgers did from the beginning was illegal, and Mr. Furin said that was the Board's decision. Commissioner Wyatt said that he has never decided, that he has spoke against it from the beginning. Mr. Furin said that the majority of the Board, based on information provided by the County Attorney, the Commissioners, the Planning Commission, and the citizens in the area, made the decision. Commissioner Wyatt said that the citizens of District 1 elected him to represent them for the whole County, and if the other four (Commissioners) don't feel that way, he's sorry, he is not going to stay out of their districts, and he has people from other districts constantly calling him. Mr. Furin said that citizens elect Commissioners to represent each district and that should a Commissioner be contacted by a citizen from another district, that citizens should be told to contact their Commissioner, and results did not occur to call back.

- B. **John Rodgers: Cease Immediately Notice on Coco Hollow.** John Rodgers, citizen who lives on Edgewater Court, Hamilton, appeared before the Board and said that this will just be a continuation of what was previously discussed, and that he is not sure where to start. Mr. Rodgers said that he has a copy of a bill showing where he, Danny Bridges, and John Taylor met at the Coco Hollow property, when the work he was doing had been stopped; that about a week later, Mr. Bridges called him to say it was okay to proceed to finish the ballfields; that about a month later, he had to stop work again because he had not done the engineering for soils disturbance, but on agricultural property you do not have to do soils disturbance, and was told that it was because he was not using it as agricultural property but as ballfields, and he agreed that was what he was using it for; then he was told the workers had to be certified (for S&E issues), so he sent them to be certified; that those drawings were submitted July 13, 2010, and checks to the County and State were submitted and the paperwork was sent off; that the drawings in the paperwork indicate Coco Hollow Athletic Complex, and the County accepted it and Mrs. (Becky) Gray signed off on it; that there was no problem accepting or cashing the checks; that he does not feel he has done anything illegal; that in February 2010, kids started practicing on the fields along with some churches whose adult softball teams practice, for which he did not receive a penny nor did he ask for payment, because that was the stipulation in that as long as he did not charge there was nothing that couldn't be done; that he then received a citation, went to Magistrate Court, and did plead nolo, which was probably the worst thing he did; that he was told by Mr. Bridges to put up a gate to stop people from going on the property and put up a sign indicating it was closed; that every time Mr. Bridges has asked him to do something, he did it; that he met with Harry (Lange) who suggested that he should probably try to rezone the property again; that after he pleaded nolo, he sent an e-mail to the Commissioners to try to make things right, that if he had stepped on toes and didn't do it right, he would start over and try to do it politically correct, which may have been the wrong thing to do; that he talked to Joey (Loudermilk) about a way to charge, but Commissioner Loudermilk said they could not charge; that there wasn't a problem with using the ballfields, but a problem with charging for the ballfields; that he (Rodgers) is not sure why he is up here again because everyone agrees that he had the permits, but no one is "stepping up to the plate" to say he was led this way, and asked that someone tell him it was a mistake as he is not going to take all the blame. Commissioner Wyatt asked why Mr. Rodgers was sent the "cease immediately" letter last week if there was no proof of anything; that if a letter is sent indicating we don't believe him, we are indicating he is a liar, but we won't send a letter to anyone else who breaks an

ordinance. Chairman Lange said that letter indicates it was reported and brought to my attention, and Commissioner Wyatt asked why the report was not substantiated. Chairman Lange said that he wasn't there, so it was based on cars being there and people playing ball. Commissioner Wyatt said that he (Rodgers) may have had only family members playing, which was okay, but we're going to send him a threatening letter and call him a liar. Chairman Lange said that the letter gives him that opportunity to explain what happened, and Commissioner Wyatt asked if Mr. Rodgers explained about it when he was called. Mr. Rodgers said that he did explain it, that he told Mr. Bridges he had leased the property.

4. **EMPLOYEE APPEAL HEARING @ 7:30 PM**

A. **Appeal of Michael Cardwell and Harmon Parker to appeal the issuance of a Letters of Reprimand by Monty Davis, 9-1-1 Director.** Chairman Lange called the Public Hearing to order and asked John Taylor, County Attorney, to explain the procedures and conduct the hearing. Mr. Taylor said that it was regarding the appeal of the issuance of the letter of reprimand, and asked that Michael Cardwell, Harmon Parker, and Monty Davis, 9-1-1 Director, to come forward. Mr. Taylor reviewed various exhibits provided in the meeting packet, which included all the letters between the parties culminating in this hearing. He then explained the procedures involved with the hearing and then asked Mr. Davis to briefly explain what led to the letters of reprimand being issued.

Mr. Davis explained that on January 21 a severe storm blew through the County, that he had been notified of the storm by the weather service, that he was out of town, but headed back this way, that he kept in contact for updates, that he called the 9-1-1 Center a couple of times and did not get an answer, that when he did talk to Mr. Parker, he understands that Mr. Cardwell and a couple of EMTs were going to the water valve concrete bunker because the wind was blowing and it was hailing, and from that he understood that Mr. Parker and Mr. Ward, the other employee on duty, were going to remain in the 9-1-1 Center; that he called again a couple of times with no answer, and then he finally got hold of Mr. Parker who said they had just come in from outside, that there were no damages in the County, and that all three employees had gone outside due to the weather. He said that he talked to all three employees and indicated he understood their concerns for their own safety in light of the tornado that occurred in November, and that he, as Director, had an obligation to keep the 9-1-1 Center up and running.

Mr. Taylor asked Mr. Cardwell and Mr. Parker if they had any questions for Mr. Davis. Mr. Parker asked Mr. Davis why he would assume one person would leave the building but the other two would not. Mr. Davis responded that based on the telephone conversation, that is what he assumed.

Mr. Taylor asked the Board if there were any questions for Mr. Davis. Commissioner Loudermilk asked specifically what the employees were charged with, and Mr. Davis said that they were charged with inefficiency, misconduct, negligence or incompetence in the performance of their duties (item 2E of Chapter X of the Harris County Personnel Policies). Commissioner Loudermilk asked if the employees were inefficient, and Mr. Davis replied that he felt the employee were inefficient because they were not in the building. Commissioner Loudermilk asked if there were any provision in such situations, and Mr. Davis said that they are now looking at having a safe room installed in the 9-1-1 Center, but at this time, there are no safety procedures in place. Commissioner Wyatt asked about the water valve concrete bunker, and Mr. Davis said that after the November tornado, he obtained a key from Jeff Culpepper, Water Works Director, but no plan was put into place because there was no way to keep someone inside to keep the 9-1-1 Center running; that to transfer calls to Columbus 9-1-1 takes anywhere from 15 to 30 minutes and another to bring the calls back on line. Commissioner Wyatt asked if the employees went "10-7", and Mr. Davis said they did. Commissioner Wyatt asked if the employees went "10-8", and Mr. Davis said he did not know, but Mr. Cardwell said that they did. Commissioner Wyatt asked if all cars and all stations were notified that they were 10-7, and Mr. Cardwell said that they were notified. Commissioner Wyatt asked Mr. Davis if he had listened to the tapes to see if the employees had gone 10-7 and 10-8, and Mr. Davis responded that he had listened to the tapes, but only to the phone calls, not the radio. Commissioner Langston asked is there are any safety plans in place for employees, and Mr. Davis said there are not. Commissioner Loudermilk asked Mr. Davis what he would have done had he been there, and Mr. Davis said he would have advised the employees to go to the bunker and he would have stayed. There being no further questions from the Board, Mr. Taylor asked Mr. Cardwell for any comments, questions or evidence.

Mr. Cardwell submitted a letter and weather notice and a photograph as evidence, which were marked as exhibit "Q". Mr. Cardwell said that the photograph is of the Agri-Center following the November tornado. He also said that included in the personnel manual, page 4.1 is a safety policy, from which he read "The health and safety of all employees through Harris County is of primary importance and each department shall endeavor to maintain a safety conscious attitude throughout its operations.... all employees are expected to adopt

the concept that the safe way to perform a task is the most efficient and only acceptable way to complete the task ... and, safety performance is an important measurement of supervisory and employee performance and will be included in the evaluation of all employees". He said that included in what he submitted are copies of the emergency messages from the November tornado and the January storm, both of which are nearly identical. He said that on January 21, it was reported a severe thunderstorm capable of producing a tornado 16 miles west of Hamilton moving east at 85 mph, and with a storm that close moving that fast does not give a lot of time to act. He then read excerpts from the letter he had submitted, which include that he, Mr. Parker and Mr. Cardwell, along with two EMTs took shelter in the water bunker; that the key to the bunker had been provided to the employees by Mr. Davis following the November tornado and told to utilize it if a tornado warning was issued for Harris County, specifically for Hamilton.

Mr. Taylor asked if anyone had questions for Mr. Cardwell. Chairman Lange asked who told the employees to use the key (to the concrete bunker) after the November tornado, and Mr. Cardwell said that Mr. Davis told them to use the key. Mr. Davis had no questions for Mr. Cardwell.

Mr. Taylor asked Mr. Parker if he had any comments, questions or evidence. Mr. Parker said there is a safety policy statement, which needs to be adhered to; that they dispatch for the whole County and like helping people; and that he understands the County is looking at a safe room for the 9-1-1 Center, but until then, direction is needed. Mr. Parker said that he had no evidence to submit since the evidence was the same as that which Mr. Cardwell submitted. Mr. Davis had no questions for Mr. Parker.

There being no questions from the Board, Mr. Taylor closed the Public Hearing and said that the Board may decide as to the request for the removal of the letter of reprimand from the personnel files.

Chairman Lange said that he appreciates the job the 9-1-1 Center employees do, that discussions are in place regarding a safe room, which is owed to the people that are being counted on to be there when needed; that four of five minutes to protect your own life was not a bad decision. Commissioner Loudermilk said that he agrees with Chairman; that if it had been he, he would have taken shelter; that he would not like to have a letter of reprimand in his personnel file for taking safety actions; and that he does not consider what the employees did a dereliction of duty or negligence. Commissioner Langston said that she appreciates what Mr. Davis does and what is expected of him; that she agrees with both Chairman Lange and Commissioner Loudermilk and probably would have done the same thing; and that she has been in a supervisory position and understands Mr. Davis' statement that he would have stayed had he been there.

Chairman Lange made the motion to have the letters of reprimand be removed from the employees' files, and Commissioner Langston seconded the motion. Commissioner Wyatt said that he agrees with what has been said by Chairman Lange and Commissioners Loudermilk and Langston, but that he will have to abstain based on a long relationship with one of the employees. Commissioner Woods said that the employees should have let Mr. Davis know they were evacuating, but when things happen, we don't always think like we should; and that having better guidelines for such situations would help. The motion to remove the letters of reprimand passed with four in favor (Lange, Langston, Loudermilk, Woods), no opposition, and one abstention (Wyatt). In response to a question from Mr. Parker, Danny Bridges, County Manager, said that the letter of reprimand would also be removed from the personnel file of Thomas Ward, who also received such a letter but had not appealed same.

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

- A. **Definition of "Civic, Social and Fraternal" Organizations**. Chairman Lange said that discussion was held during February 7 and February 21 regarding this matter, and that John Rodgers had signed up to speak on this matter.

John Rodgers, citizen who lives on Edgewater Court in Hamilton, appeared before the Board and read the definition of "fraternity".

Commissioner Loudermilk said that based on the memo from John Taylor, County Attorney, outlining the Georgia case law and County ordinances, he made the motion to use Mr. Taylor's memo as the policy to define terms not otherwise defined in our ordinances, which is to have the ordinary and everyday meaning, and to accept the definitions provided for this matter, and Commissioner Langston seconded the motion. Chairman Lange read the definitions as follows: civic organization (of or relating to a citizen, a city, a citizenship or community affairs); social (involving allies or confederates; marked by or passed in pleasant companionship with friends or associates; of, relating to or designed for sociability); fraternal organization (of, relating to, or involving brothers; friendly, brotherly); and that organization means an administrative or functional structure. The motion passed

unanimously.

- B. **Second Reading: Alcohol Temporary Special Event License.** Chairman Lange said that this was the Second Reading of this amendment to the Alcohol Ordinance. Discussion included that “per year” should be added in the appropriate location in item 5(1); that a subsequent application by the same location would be processed as if for a renewal, but if there are issues, such as revocation or the organization does not perform, the Board should possibly make the decision; that if a license is pulled and an appeal to the Board results in the license being revoked, that location would not be renewed; that having a mechanism in place for the Sheriff to suspend such a license is necessary; and that brown bagging shouldn’t be permitted.

There being no further discussion by the Board, Chairman Lange asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of or in opposition to this amendment.

Fred Dodelin, secretary of the Steeplechase at Callaway Gardens, appeared before the Board and said they are in favor of the ordinance amendment; that a very small minority of the attendees are AU students; that the event has been going on for 27 years; and that they would like to be able to continue in order to support the various charities.

There being no further comments, Chairman Lange asked for a motion. Commissioner Wyatt asked that action be tabled until March 20.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. **Tina Rust (RVRC): Broadband Project Feasibility Study and Resolution.** Tina Rust, with the River Valley Regional Commission, appeared before the Board to discuss the possibility of the County joining the Broadband Project. Ms. Rust said that Meriwether County is interested in getting fiber optics in the area; that the more counties that are involved, the less the cost will be for each County; that as part of obtaining OneGeorgia funding, a feasibility study must be conducted by a professional consultant; that if the study indicates there is a need for such infrastructure OneGeorgia would be willing fund the project; that the map provided shows the current coverage of broadband; and that a decision is needed by the end of the month. In response to questions, Ms. Rust said that she does not know who or what entity would ultimately own the system if it is funded, but that she would find out; that the cost per County for the feasibility study is not based on population; that such a system in Northwest Georgia, which was funded by OneGeorgia at a cost of \$26 million, which is 80% funding; that this would be fiber optics; that while it is mainly for businesses, residents could sign on, and that she could find out the cost to residents. Action on the resolution regarding the feasibility study was tabled to March 20.
- B. **Appointment to Development Authority.** Chairman Lange said that there is a vacancy on the Development Authority due to the resignation of a member (Will Bruner) of District 5. Commissioner Loudermilk made the motion to appoint Ryan Clements to the Development Authority to complete Will Bruner’s term, which expires December 1, 2013. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Langston, and passed unanimously.
- C. **Requests for Tax Refunds.** Chairman Lange read the Requests for Tax Refunds as follows:
- (1) **Hilton, Brenda F.(2011).** Refund amount of \$44.69 due to not having received a tax notice. Both the Tax Commissioner and the Board of Tax Assessors disagreed with the request because property tax is due December 20 of each year. The motion to disapprove this request for a refund of \$44.60 was made by Chairman Lange, seconded by Commissioner Loudermilk, and passed with four in favor (Lange, Loudermilk, Langston, Wyatt), and one opposed (Woods).
 - (2) **Durham, Jason B. (2010).** Refund amount of \$415.00 due to the mobile home on the property having burned. Both the Tax Commissioner and the Board of Tax Assessors disagreed with the request because the mobile home burned in 2010 and taxes are owed even if the mobile home was burned. The motion to disapprove this request for a refund of \$415.00 was made by Commissioner Loudermilk, seconded by Commissioner Langston, and passed unanimously.
- D. **Amend Alcohol License Fees for Temporary Special Event Alcohol License.** This matter was tabled to March 20 since the amendment to the Alcohol Ordinance has not yet been acted upon.
- E. **Proposed Amendment to Zoning Ordinance re: Definition of Special Event Facility.** Chairman Lange said that the proposed wording was distributed during the February 21 meeting, and he asked if there were any objections to moving forward with the amendment process. There were no objections. He asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of or in opposition to this proposed amendment.

Lon Marlowe, citizen and owner of Oakhurst, appeared before the Board and said that he was in favor of the amendment because it would allow him to use the Oakhurst building for more purposes than just for private functions.

Charles Blair, citizen who lives on Watkins Road, appeared before the Board and said that some of the issues being discussed are due to interpretation of the ordinances, and he would like to see the Board get back to the business of taking care of problems rather than arguing with one another or having a vendetta against someone.

- F. **Church Activities and Zoning**. Chairman Lange said that Commissioner Wyatt had asked that this be placed on the agenda. Commissioner Wyatt said that he was led to believe that festivals, fairs, carnivals, allowing little leagues to play on church fields, charging people to come on church property to use facilities, etc., are illegal, and that he would like to know if the County is going to go after churches because they allow little league teams play on their property or let a hot rod show be on their property. John Taylor, County Attorney, said that it is very specific in State law that churches, while allowed in any zoning district, are subject to zoning regulations just like any other person or entity and can be cited for violations. He said that deference is sometimes given to churches. Chairman Lange said that if someone is concerned about a church issue, it should be brought to the attention of the County Manager.

7. **COUNTY MANAGER**

- A. **Money Purchase Plan Amendment to Change Trustee and Authorizing Resolution**. Danny Bridges, County Manager, said that the Money Purchase Plan is a benefit of County employees; that it has been brought to our attention that the previous County Manager is still listed as Trustee; and that action is necessary to appoint another Trustee. The motion to approve the resolution and the amendment to remove the previous County Manager as Trustee and to add Danny Bridges, County Manager, was made by Commissioner Wyatt, seconded by Commissioner Loudermilk, and passed unanimously.
- B. **DNR Agreement: FDR State Park Pool**. Danny Bridges, County Manager, said that a revised version of the agreement from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources regarding the FDR State Park Pool was e-mailed and has been provided; that he and Chairman Lange met with State officials recently; that the State has met all their concerns; that the State will make repairs of a little over \$136,000; that it includes a thirty (30) day termination clause; that it has an initial three year term; that regarding the insurance requirements, the County has more than what is being requested; and that the County can elect to run the pool or have it run by a concessionaire. Commissioner Wyatt asked if the \$2 parking fee has to be charged, and Mr. Bridges said that he will find out about the parking fee. Chairman Lange said that part of the improvements being made by the State include making the pool more accessible by handicapped individuals. Commissioner Loudermilk said that section 5 does not specifically indicate that the State will make the improvements at its expense, and Mr. Bridges said because the State is anxious for the County to run the pool, he does not think the State will have objections to including "at the expense of the Department" in the appropriate place. The motion to approve the agreement with the change in wording was made by Commissioner Wyatt, seconded by Commissioner Loudermilk, and passed unanimously.
- C. **Public Works Dump Truck Motor Replacement**. Danny Bridges, County Manager, said that a motor has gone out in one of the Public Works dump trucks; that the truck has a little over 100,000 miles on it; and that the motor will be replaced with a rebuilt motor at an approximate cost of \$10,000.
- D. **Community Center Pool Lift Requirement**. Danny Bridges, County Manager, said that it is required by State law that all public pools are required to have a permanent lift for handicapped individuals; that this will result in a change for the Community Center pool at a cost of approximately \$15,000; and that the Community Center will have the permanent lift as well as one that is mobile.
- E. **Community Center Entrance Ceiling Suggestion**. Danny Bridges, County Manager, said that the walls in the Community Center are being painted; that the ceiling is somewhat exposed and shows duct work, pipes and wiring; and that the architect has made a suggestion that some type of ceiling camouflage, called a cloud ceiling, be attached to help dress up and cover up the exposed items; and that the cost is between \$7,000 and \$8,000. He shows a drawing depicting the type of ceiling cover and asked the Board members to visit the Community Center and look at the walls and ceiling. He concluded by saying there would be an update report during the March 20 meeting.

8. **COUNTY ATTORNEY**

- A. **Redistricting Update**. John Taylor, County Attorney, said that the redistricting bill for the

County has passed both houses in the Georgia Legislature and has been signed by the Governor, and that he is waiting for a certified copy of the paperwork so that he can file the application with the US Department of Justice for pre-clearance.

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

Attest:

J. Harry Lange, Chairman

Nancy D. McMichael, County Clerk