

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Charles W. Oddo, Chairman
Randy Ognio, Vice Chair
David Barlow
Steve Brown
Charles D. Rousseau



FAYETTE COUNTY, GEORGIA

Steve Rapson, County Administrator
Dennis A. Davenport, County Attorney
Floyd L. Jones, County Clerk
Tameca P. White, Chief Deputy County Clerk

140 Stonewall Avenue West
Public Meeting Room
Fayetteville, GA 30214

MINUTES

June 7, 2016
7:00 p.m.

Call to Order

Chairman Oddo called the June 7, 2016 Board of Commissioners meeting to order at 6:59 p.m. Commissioner Brown and Chief Deputy Clerk Tameca White were absent from the meeting.

Invocation by Vice Chairman Randy Ognio

Vice Chairman Ognio offered the Invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Oddo led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Acceptance of Agenda

Commissioner Ognio moved to accept the Agenda. Commissioner Rousseau seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0 with Commissioner Brown being absent.

PROCLAMATION/RECOGNITION:

There were no proclamation / recognition items on the Agenda.

PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Public Hearing on the County's proposed annual budget for Fiscal Year 2017 which begins July 1, 2016 and ends June 30, 2017.

Chief Financial Officer Mary Parrott gave a six-minute PowerPoint presentation on the county's proposed annual budget for Fiscal Year 2017. She explained that the presentation included information providing a comparison of the recommended budget for Fiscal Year 2017 compared to the current Fiscal Year 2016 budget.

No one spoke in favor of or in opposition to the proposed annual budget.

County Administrator Steve Rapson stated this is the second year that Fayette County is doing a full rollback in the General Fund. He explained that from the taxpayers' perspective that is equivalent to not getting tax bills for \$1.4 million. He further explained that over the course of the last four budget cycles the county has rolled back about \$3 million to the taxpayers.

Commissioner Ognio pointed out that challenges to the budget included the Fair Labor Act. Mr. Rapson replied that it included about \$92,000 for the labor act that is currently under consideration. Commissioner Ognio added that another issue challenging the budget was the Title Ad Valorem Tax resulting in less money coming to Fayette County. Mr. Rapson replied that the expected shortfall was also incorporated in the proposed budget.

Commissioner Ognio stated that it was a challenge to balance the budget due to certain challenges beyond anyone's control and he commended staff for doing a good job. Chairman Oddo agreed.

This was the first Public Hearing and the Board did not vote on the proposed budget, but is expected to vote on the proposed budget after the second Public Hearing concludes on June 30, 2016. Copies of the request and PowerPoint presentation, identified as "Attachment 1," follow these minutes and are made an official part hereof.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Commissioner Barlow moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Ognio seconded the motion. Discussion followed. The motion passed 4-0 with Commissioner Brown being absent.

- 2. Approval of staff's recommendation to provide funding of \$75,000.00 from General Fund Contingency for Fayette County's Criminal Justice Center's sidewalks to ensure compliance with Title II of the American Disabilities Act; and to award Mallett Consulting \$10,000.00 for project construction management and construction oversight, for an aggregate amount of \$85,000.00.**

Commissioner Ognio said it bothered him that sidewalks were not already connected when they built the Justice Center, and he said it was like backing up and working on issues that were not addressed in the past. County Administrator Steve Rapson agreed with that assessment and added that it was an issue due to findings based on the American Disabilities Act. It is noted that there were no sidewalks along Jimmie Mayfield Boulevard or along Lee Street at the time the Justice Center was constructed meaning there was no reason to construct sidewalks from the Justice Center to those public right-of-ways since neither Jimmie Mayfield Boulevard nor Lee Street had pedestrian facilities at that time. A copy of the request, identified as "Attachment 2," follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

- 3. Approval of staff's recommendation to award Fiscal Year 2017 property and casualty insurance coverage to OneBeacon in the amount of \$532,856.00, and to award both the Sheriff's Office accidental death and dismemberment insurance and Commissioners' travel accident insurance to The Hartford in the amount \$2,785.00, at an aggregate amount of \$535,641.00. A copy of the request, identified as "Attachment 3," follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.**
- 4. Approval of staff's request to apply for a Georgia Emergency Management Agency grant in the amount of \$776,698.00 to mitigate the flooding of Antebellum Way and potential damage to surrounding homes and property.**

Commissioner Ognio stated he had visited the site on Antebellum Way and it definitely needs repair. He said the county is fortunate to get help in making the repair. He asked if the site was on the county's stormwater list and he was informed that it is on the stormwater list. A copy of the request, identified as "Attachment 4," follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

5. **Approval of staff's request to renew the contract with Midwest Employers Casualty Company in the amount of \$98,121.00, as outlined in "Option 1," for a one-year period beginning July 1, 2016 and ending June 30, 2017, and authorization for the Chairman to sign the contract and any associated documents. A copy of the request, identified as "Attachment 5," follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.**
6. **Approval of staff's recommendation for the Fayette County Library to accept a Maintenance Repair Renovation Grant, in the amount of \$75,000.00, for converting outdoor globe lights to LED lighting, to utilize up to \$37,500.00 from the LED CIP project budget for the grant's 50 / 50 required match, and to authorize the County Administrator to signed the grant documentation and any related documents.**

Commissioner Ognio stated that there was a lot of money requested for outdoor LED lighting at the Library. He said he understood that the request was bid out but it was still very expensive. A copy of the request, identified as "Attachment 6," follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

7. **Approval of the disposition of tax refunds, in the aggregate amount of \$2,640.46, as recommended by the Tax Assessor's Office. A copy of the request, identified as "Attachment 7," follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.**
8. **Approval of the May 26, 2016 Special Called Meeting Minutes.**
9. **Approval of the May 26, 2016 Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes.**

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no Old Business item on the Agenda.

NEW BUSINESS:

10. **Consideration of a recommendation from the Selection Committee, comprised of Commissioners David Barlow and Charles D. Rousseau, to appoint Stephen Cox and Bradley Klinger to the Fayette County Recreation Commission for four-year terms each beginning April 1, 2016 and expiring March 31, 2020.**

Commissioner Barlow spoke about the qualifications of both Mr. Klinger and Mr. Cox to serve on the Recreation Committee.

Commissioner Rousseau moved to approve the recommendation from the Selection Committee, comprised of Commissioners David Barlow and Charles D. Rousseau, to appoint Stephen Cox and Bradley Klinger to the Fayette County Recreation Commission for four-year terms each beginning April 1, 2016 and expiring March 31, 2020. Commissioner Barlow seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0 with Commissioner Brown being absent. A copy of the request, identified as "Attachment 8," follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No one spoke during Public Comment.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS:

- A. **Notice to Proceed for Bid #1123-A (Mid State Construction and Striping, Inc.):** County Administrator Steve Rapson briefed the Board on the Notice to Proceed for Bid #1123-A. He mentioned that this bid pertained to a Fiscal Year 2016 LMIG project. A copy of a letter pertaining to Invitation to Bid #1123-A, identified as "Attachment 9," follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

Second Public Hearing of the Fiscal Year 2017 Budget to be Held on June 30, 2016: County Administrator Steve Rapson reminded the Board that the second Public Hearing prior to adopting the proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Budget will be held on Thursday, June 30, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. He mentioned that the meeting was going to be held on an off-week from the regularly scheduled meetings and, therefore, it would be a Special Called Meeting.

Hot Air Balloon Festival to be Held on Saturday, June 11, 2016: County Administrator Steve Rapson stated that the Hot Air Balloon Festival would be held at McCurry Park on Saturday, June 11, 2016. He stated that Recreation Director Anita Godbee anticipates a large number of participants based on the numbers of calls she is receiving from people wanting to attend from other states.

ATTORNEY'S REPORTS:

Notice of Executive Session: County Attorney Dennis Davenport notified the Board that he had one item of Pending Litigation and review of the May 26, 2016 Executive Session Minutes for consideration in Executive Session.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS:

Chairman Oddo mentioned that Commissioner Brown was on vacation with his family and that he had sent a memo to the Board to that effect.

Commissioner Barlow:

Hot Air Balloon Festival: Commissioner Barlow thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. He said he was looking forward to the Hot Air Balloon event beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 11. He thought it would be a tremendous event and wanted to get the word out for everyone to participate. He asked who did the design and graphics for the event since the work was excellent, and he was informed that the work was done in-house. Commissioner Barlow anticipated that many people would attend and he said he would be there with his camera making a video.

Commissioner Ognio:

Voters Encouraged to Vote in July 2016 Runoff Elections: Commissioner Ognio reminded the audience that a runoff election was upcoming for a state seat, a federal seat, and the District Attorney. He stated that Fayette County could make the selections if the citizens turn out to vote. He explained that these are multi-county elections and if Fayette County turns out in high numbers then it can select who it wants in the offices. He stated that Fayette County had the highest voter turnout in the State of Georgia in 2014 and it would be nice to have that kind of turnout once again. He said he believed in the Fayette County voters and he informed the audience that early voting begins on July 5 with voting day being held on July 26, 2016.

Commissioner Barlow agreed with Commissioner Ognio stating that Judge Hankinson won three counties in the recent election but due to the large voter turnout in Fayette County, Judge Hankinson lost the election to Judge-elect Scott Ballard.

Commissioner Rousseau:

Compliments to Staff: Commissioner Rousseau gave kudos to the Finance Department for its work on the Fiscal Year 2017 budget. He further commended the various departments for working to provide quality services to Fayette County's citizens.

Remembrance of the Passing of Two Individuals: Commissioner Rousseau asked everyone to remember two people who recently passed away. He stated one person was a child who lived in Fayette County and he asked everyone to lift up the family during their prayers and moments of reflection. He also asked everyone to remember Muhammad Ali who served the nation in a different capacity by challenging the status quo based on his particular beliefs. Commissioner Rousseau stated that Muhammed Ali's actions should give everyone the courage to stand by their beliefs and to stand tall in the midst of adversity. He recognized the icon's legacy and his work for the country as a whole.

Chairman Oddo:

Recognition of the Anniversaries of D-Day and the Battle of Midway: Chairman Oddo stated that June 6, 1944 marked the Allied-invasion of Europe. He added that June 7, 1942 was the final day of the Battle of Midway that turned the tide in the Pacific resulting in the eventual defeat of Japan. He honored all the past veterans and thanked them for their service.

New Chairs for the Commissioners: Chairman Oddo stated that if it appeared that the Commissioners were sitting straighter, were more alert, and were talking faster then it had to do with their new, comfortable chairs.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Pending Litigation and Review of the May 26, 2016 Executive Session Minutes: Commissioner Barlow moved to recess into Executive Session. Commissioner Ognio seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0 with Commissioner Brown being absent.

The Board recessed into Executive Session at 7:22 p.m. and returned to Official Session at 7:35 p.m.

Return to Official Session and Authorization to Sign the Executive Session Affidavit: Commissioner Ognio moved to return to Official Session and for the Chairman to sign the Executive Session Affidavit. Commissioner Barlow seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0 with Commissioner Brown being absent. A copy of the Executive Session Affidavit, identified as "Attachment 10," follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

Approval of the May 26, 2016 Executive Session Minutes: Commissioner Ognio moved to approve the May 26, 2016 Executive Session Minutes. Commissioner Barlow seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0 with Commissioner Brown being absent.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Ognio moved to adjourn the June 7, 2016 Board of Commissioners meeting. Commissioners Barlow seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0 with Commissioner Brown being absent.

The June 7, 2016 Board of Commissioners meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Floyd L. Jones, County Clerk

Charles W. Oddo, Chairman

The foregoing minutes were duly approved at an official meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Fayette County, Georgia, held on the 23rd day of June 2016. Referenced attachments are available upon request at the County Clerk's Office.

Floyd L. Jones, County Clerk