

**REGULAR MEETING  
FLOYD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MARCH 08, 2016                    2:00 P.M.**

**PRESENT:** Commissioners Irwin Bagwell, Garry Fricks, Scotty Hancock, Larry Maxey, and Rhonda Wallace.

## OTHERS

**PRESENT:** County Manager Jamie McCord, Assistant Manager Gary Burkhalter, County Attorney Wade Hoyt, and Interim County Clerk Jaime Armstrong.

## CALL TO

**ORDER:** Chairman Maxey called the meeting to order.

**INVOCATION:** Commissioner Hancock led the Invocation.

## PLEDGE OF

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Commissioner Bagwell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION·

Mr. Willie Green, Elections Supervisor, presented a handout providing a post-analysis of the Presidential Preference Primary Election. He stated some of the challenges they experienced was the construction going on in polling areas as well as the number of individuals that showed up. He reported that they nearly had a forty-six percent turnout. They had to get more voter certificates because they only predicted a thirty percent turnout as it was the prediction across the country, and it exceeded expectations. He stated going forward, the Board of Elections plan to prepare for a sixty to seventy percent turnout to avoid being caught off guard. He noted that the General Primary is in May and the General Election is in November. He stated during the absentee and advance voting in February, they moved the voting machines from the Caucus Room to the Community Room. Moving the machines should reduce poll labor by \$2,500.00. He stated that in doing that for the next two elections, they should save the county taxpayers \$5,000.00 to \$6,000.00. In addition to that, they purchased six new computers that should help them to be more efficient as voters come in. He stated he is looking forward to possibly opening up an additional location in unincorporated areas to provide service to unincorporated taxpayers also. The Chain of Custody form, which is page three of the handout, is what they used to record arrival times of the precincts as they came back to the office. He stated the earliest precinct came in at 7:30 p.m., and the latest was at 9:00 p.m. They are hoping to reduce those times even more in the future. He stated that the last sheet in the handout referred to the uploading of actual votes. The first votes came in at 19:65, and the last one was at 20:46. He stated he hopes to gain more efficiency there as well through poll worker training with the advances in technology.

Commissioner Hancock asked Mr. Green when the results get back, using Everett Springs as an example, were the poll workers having to physically drive them back and give elections something that they then put in their computer. Mr. Green stated yes, two official poll workers in accordance with state law brought the memory cards in from the poll locations. Commissioner Hancock asked if there was any way or anywhere that it could be done electronically. Mr. Green stated that the voting machines are not attached to the internet to reduce issues, so the information was delivered from each precinct in order to upload the data. Commissioner Hancock asked if this was a normal practice. Mr. Green replied that there were a number of other states moving towards electronic voting, and all-mail ballot voting. He stated the current way was the practice in the state of Georgia, but changes could be made.

Commissioner Fricks asked about the Chain of Custody forms. He asked how they determine the range in the arrival times, and what they were going to be. He stated that it was interesting because one of the closest precincts was last with some of the farthest precincts coming in first. Mr. Green stated that they had a change in one of the polls, which could have caused some of the delay due to the training of the poll manager and his or her staff. He stated the arrival times were determined when the precinct officials arrived in office with the information. Commissioner Fricks stated that he was thinking the times listed were assigned times to determine when they came in, but realized it was the actual times that they arrived.

Commissioner Bagwell asked if there was any way to speed up the process. He added that the public is always anxious to get the right results as soon as possible. He asked Mr. Green if there was anything he could do to speed up the process. Mr. Green stated they are taking the data and processing it to see what can be done in regards to training as well as studying some of the best practices throughout the country that are being done. Commissioner Bagwell stated that this was a concern of his, and the other Commissioners mentioned Everett Springs, the farthest poll, had the same arrival time as the closest poll. He stated he knows that there were probably more voters in the town of Rome, but at the same time, there should be more poll workers.

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Commissioner Hancock expressed to Mr. Green that he should not take their questions or comments as criticism; they know he is doing a good job. In the past, they have always been one of the last counties in the state to get the results and they had run into issues. He stated that with Mr. Green being the new Elections Manager, he is hoping to see things change, and to let them know if there was anything the Board could do to help.

Mr. Green thanked the Board. He stated they have increased their communication with the media and tried to provide them with hourly updates of the numbers that came in during the early voting as well as the updates during the Presidential race. He noted that when looking at the Secretary of State's website, and the term green to yellow, that they were still up there. He will create a chart of the data to see where they came out in regards to reporting, and see if they can get it down.

Commissioner Bagwell stated it seemed like the website was not updated with results as often, and he heard more from the media than the actual website. He stated many people called with the same complaint and concerns that they were not able to get the results from the Rome-Floyd County webpage. It was not necessarily bad that people had to get the results through the news media, but since it originates in office, the results should be on the website first. He stated that he had received some good comments, and they appreciate what Mr. Green is doing, how he is running his office, and his hard work.

## **ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

Chairman Maxey asked County Attorney Wade Hoyt if the minutes were in order. County Attorney Hoyt stated the minutes have been reviewed and are in order. MOTION made by Commissioner Bagwell to adopt the minutes of the Caucus and Regular Meeting of February 23, 2016. SECOND by Commissioner Wallace. VOTING:

Commissioner Wallace  
" Fricks  
" Bagwell  
" Hancock  
Chairman Maxey

## Motion Carried

## PROCLAMATIONS:

**PROCLAIM RICHARD B. RUSSELL REGIONAL AIRPORT/ADMIRAL J.H. TOWERS FIELD AS A PURPLE HEART AIRPORT.**

Chairman Maxey presented Mr. Alfred Carnes and members of Chapter 525 of the Military Order of the Purple Heart with a Floyd County Proclamation declaring Richard B. Russell Regional Airport/J.H. Towers Field as a Purple Heart Airport.

Mr. Carnes stated that this was only the second airport in the country that has been proclaimed as a Purple Heart airfield. He stated the first one was John Wayne Airfield in Orange County, California. He and Mr. Mike Mathews, Airport Manager, started working on this in August of 2015. He stated Richard B. Russell Regional Airport/J.H. Towers Field would have been the first airfield, but the paperwork was tied up somewhere in South Georgia. He stated now, when people come to the airfield, they will look at it and say Floyd County is on the right track. He does not know what else to say except he is proud that they decided to do this. He thanked Mike Mathews, the Airport Commission, and whoever else assisted to make this happen. He added that Chairman Maxey is also a Purple Heart recipient. He thanked the Board for the recognition and their support.

(Proclamation/Resolution Book, Page 99)

## **FIRST READINGS (PUBLIC HEARINGS TO BE HELD MARCH 22, 2016)**

## **REQUESTS FOR REZONING & SPECIAL USE PERMITS**

1. FILE # 31-2016Z. REQUESTS REZONING FROM SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL (S-R) TO COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL (C-C) TO MARKET FOR COMMERCIAL USE PROPERTY LOCATED ON WHAT IS COMMONLY KNOWN AS CEDARTOWN HIGHWAY. TAX MAP I17X, PARCEL 043. (PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION: APPROVE WITH THE CONDITION THAT A 35' WIDE BUFFER BE MAINTAINED ON THE NORTH PROPERTY

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LINE, AND THE EXISTING MATURE VEGETATION BE LEFT IN PLACE WITHIN THE BUFFER. [VOTE: 7-0].)

2. FILE #32-2016Z REQUESTS REZONING FROM DUPLEX RESIDENTIAL (D-R) TO SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL (S-R) FOR A SINGLE-FAMILY DWELLING (MANUFACTURED HOME) ON PROPERTY LOCATED ON WHAT IS COMMONLY KNOWN AS DUGGAR DRIVE. TAX MAP J11X, PARCEL 082. (PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION. APPROVE. [VOTE 8-0].)

Chairman Maxey stated the Public Hearings on these items would be held on March 22, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:**

**1. Administrative/Finance Committee**

No report.

**2. Public Safety Committee**

No report.

**3. Public Works Committee**

No report.

**4. Water Committee**

No report.

**5. Judicial Services Committee (CJIS)**

No report.

**6. Floyd County Library Board**

No report.

**7. Special Committee Reports.**

**a. Fire Overview Committee**

No report.

**b. Joint Services Committee**

No report.

**c. Joint Development Oversight Committee**

No report.

**d. Joint Solid Waste Oversight Committee**

No report.

**e. SPLOST Project Overview Committee**

Assistant Manager Burkhalter provided an update on the SPLOST Projects to date. He stated that the HVAC at the Health Department is eighty percent complete. Construction on the Forum roof is complete, and final inspections are being done for the project. He stated they are still waiting for the weather to dry so the pad for the Animal Control facility can be poured, but the demolition work for the Special Operations facility had been completed. As far as energy efficiency, they are getting ready to start work on the cooling towers at the Judicial and Forum facilities. He stated engineering is underway at Everett Springs. They have requested some clarification from some of the responders on the case management software. He stated once they receive that information, they will have their second meeting with the committee to continue the process with the software.

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County Manager McCord provided an additional update on the grading work on the 100-acre site, which is the industrial site on Highway 140 stating that they would open bids on April 04, 2016. He stated that Purchasing Director Nancy Lam had indicated that there has been a lot of interest in the project within the last week. He stated that though not related to SPLOST, the Highway 140 waterline relocation is part of the project, and they would open those bids on April 05, 2016.

**f. RFPRA Task Force Committee – Commissioners Maxey & Fricks**

No report.

**g. Transportation Policy Committee (TPC) – Commissioners Bagwell & Fricks**

No report.

**CLERK'S REPORT:**

**Consent Agenda**

Interim Clerk Armstrong stated there was one item on the Clerk's Consent Agenda, which had been reviewed and submitted for approval.

Chairman Maxey called for a Motion. MOTION made by Commissioner Bagwell to Approve and Authorize Execution of items submitted under the Clerk's Consent Agenda as presented. SECOND by Commissioner Wallace. VOTING:

	YES	NO
Commissioner Wallace		
" Fricks		
" Bagwell		
" Hancock		
Chairman Maxey		

Motion Carried

- 1. Approve request from Tax Commissioner for removal of bills from the Tax Commissioner's Roll, in the amount of \$31,200.09, and that the taxes for uncollectable accounts be relieved from the books as outlined in the memo from the Tax Commissioner and attached list dated February 23, 2016.**

**MANAGER'S REPORT:**

**1. APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE AWARD OF BID FOR MICROSOFT EXCHANGE SERVER SOFTWARE AND LICENSES.**

County Manager McCord stated that six vendors responded to the bid request for the Microsoft Exchange Server software and licenses. He stated they are recommending the low bid with En Pointe Technologies in the amount of \$23,477.20. The Microsoft Exchange Server would greatly improve calendar and e-mail capabilities utilized by all employees on a daily basis. He stated that this would be a three-year commitment with the financing option of paying on it for a three-year period. He recommended awarding the Microsoft Exchange Server to Enpoint Technologies for the low bid amount of \$23,477.20.

Chairman Maxey called for a Motion. MOTION was made by Commissioner Wallace to Approve and Authorize Award of Bid for Microsoft Exchange Server Sofware and Licenses to En Pointe Technologies in the amount of \$23,477.20. SECOND by Commissioner Hancock. VOTING:

	YES	NO
Commissioner Wallace		
" Fricks		
" Bagwell		
" Hancock		
Chairman Maxey		

Motion Carried

- 2. APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE AWARD OF BID FOR ONE (1) TOYOTA TACOMA PICKUP TRUCK FOR THE FLOYD COUNTY WATER DEPARTMENT.**

County Manger McCord stated this pickup truck would replace the one that was totaled back in

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2015. He stated only one bid was submitted from Marietta Toyota in the amount of \$25,648.00. The Purchasing Department tried to solicit local agencies, local dealerships, and even a regional dealership but no one was able to provide the vehicle as specified. He recommended approving and authorizing the award of bid for one (1) Toyota Tacoma pickup truck for the Floyd County Water Department to Marietta Toyota at a cost of \$25,648.00. He stated there would be some additional up fitting needed including LED lights for the safety of the vehicle. The budgeted amount for the vehicle was \$30,000.00. He stated due to the bid coming in under budget, the up fitting would be covered by the remaining funds.

Chairman Maxey called for a Motion. MOTION was made by Commissioner Bagwell to Approve and Authorize Award of Bid for one (1) Toyota Tacoma Pickup Truck for the Water Department to Marietta Toyota in the amount of \$25,648.00. SECOND by Commissioner Fricks. VOTING:

YES	NO
Commissioner Wallace	
" Fricks	
" Bagwell	
" Hancock	
Chairman Maxey	

Motion Carried

**3. CONSIDER MAINTENANCE REORGANIZATION PLAN AT FLOYD COUNTY JAIL.**

County Manager McCord stated the Jail Maintenance Reorganization Plan at Floyd County Jail would be brought back before the Board at the next meeting. He stated that they had a good conversation with Sheriff Burkhalter during Caucus, and he mentioned that the plan would include hiring a Jail Maintenance Supervisor. The position would be paid for out of their inmate benefit fund in two payments annually, which would be June and December of each year. He stated that they would also look at providing them funding and prioritize their needs a little bit more. As the Sheriff mentioned, Ryan Davis, Facilities Manager, has more than one facility to manage. He stated they want to work together, and hiring of a maintenance supervisor would help in prioritizing their needs. They would be bringing this back to the Board at the next meeting with more details and what to anticipate. He noted that compensation for the contract employee would be completely funded by the inmate benefit fund for maintenance at the jail. He stated he would like to commend Sheriff Burkhalter on his communications over the last three to four months. He stated Sheriff Burkhalter has been meeting with him at least every other week to discuss their priorities and what needs to be done. He feels that they have been doing a good job communicating and getting on the right track to hopefully improve maintenance activities in the coming year.

**4. DISCUSS UPDATED MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) FOR TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT (TE) PROJECT, PI #0009045.**

County Manager McCord stated the proposed updated Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) pertains to the Transportation Enhancement (TE) Project known as the Redmond Trail Project. He stated County Engineer Bruce Ivey, who has been the preliminary lead on this project, provided them with an update in Caucus. He stated the document submitted, with updated language, is from the Department of Transportation, and incorporates the current version of their specifications. It also brings to light some issues with the railroad. He stated they have to cross under the railroad, and the railroad lease or railroad easement needs to be at least a twenty-year agreement to prevent any potential reimbursements from being owed on this project. If the project did not move forward or if local priorities changed, they would be responsible for repayment for any expendable federal funds. He stated they have made some progress on the project, and the County Engineer believes that they would be somewhere in the neighborhood of six to eight months from being in line for the federal funding. They feel the amount of funding they are asking for, which is approximately \$400,000.00, is a workable amount. He stated that he felt good about where they are in the project. He noted that the trail would go from the end of the levy trail to Little Dry Creek, and cross over the creek. He recommended approving the revised Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Department of Transportation otherwise known as the Redmond Trail.

Chairman Maxey called for a Motion. MOTION was made by Commissioner Wallace to Approve the Updated Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Transportation Enhancement (TE) Project, PI #0009045. SECOND by Commissioner Bagwell. VOTING:

YES	NO
Commissioner Wallace	
" Fricks	
" Bagwell	
" Hancock	
Chairman Maxey	

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**Motion Carried**

Commissioner Fricks asked County Manager McCord if he mentioned that it would be six to eight months before the funding. County Manager McCord stated that it would be six to eight months before they would be in line to apply for the funding. The funding is there, but you have to get in line, and they did not have all their due diligence done at this point. He stated the Memorandum of Understanding, the right-of-away acquisition, and the right-of-away easement is all part of it. Commissioner Fricks stated he was not trying to beat this up. He stated he is just questioning if they had to be on there for four months before they could even ask. Four years ago, they were told that the request was in urgency and they had to make a vote that day because it was crucial that they get in line for the money. He stated here they are four years later still six months from being in line. County Manager McCord stated that is correct. He stated the one thing that has changed, as far as the funding goes, is the transportation bill from last year has freed up the Department of Transportation with some of their state funds to be moved around to do other things where they are not applying for federal money. According to what they were being told by their consultant, a project at that level is more attractive for funding. He stated if they were asking for ten million it would potentially be a different story. Commissioner Fricks stated that even when they voted four years ago, they had already been working on it for two years. He stated they were having to wait a six year period just to get in line for the money. County Manager McCord stated that is basically correct. He stated the federal funds came with strings and it did create timing issues.

Commissioner Bagwell stated that he was frustrated with the project though he voted for and supported it. He stated he was led to believe that if they did not vote for it that day, they were going to miss out on half a million dollars; how irresponsible they would be for not taking a half a million dollars and just throwing it away. Now they are just sitting there with the trail not built and nowhere closer to its being built than they were four years ago. He stated they are maybe a little bit closer, but they still have red tape to go through. He felt misled when they voted on it that day. He pointed out that he was not blaming anyone. He stated they were led to believe the day that they voted on it in January of 2012 that they were going to get half a million dollars pretty quick, and would be walking on it by the end of the year. He guessed that this would be going into the fiscal year of 2017. He asked if he was correct. County Manager McCord stated that he was correct. He stated he does not think there is any way under the current process that they could be ready until after July 01, 2016.

Commissioner Fricks asked if it would be under another budget year. County Manager McCord stated that it would be under another budget year. Commissioner Fricks stated that he was just trying to get some understanding of this thing. County Manager McCord stated he shares their frustration. He stated they literally could have built this internally with probably twenty percent of the money expended. The one big thing that they probably could not have done internally was the bridge. He stated they were probably looking at \$300,000.00 of the \$400,000.00 they are asking for.

Commissioner Bagwell stated that this needed to be a learning lesson for all of them that just because there is federal money out there, half a million dollars or more, does not mean that it is the best option. He stated it slowed the project down, and in the end, it would cost them more money to get it built. He appreciates the County Manager's diligence on this and Bruce Ivey for attending Caucus to provide them with an update because he had no idea what the status was until it was explained. He stated hopefully they can complete the project, but he felt very frustrated.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Commissioner Bagwell introduced Mr. Jonathan Pearson with Boys Scout Troop 30 based out of Shannon. Jonathan Pearson thanked the Board for all that they do for the county to make it better. Commissioner Bagwell stated he understands that it was part of his project to come to a government meeting. Mr. Pearson stated that part of his project was to go to a county commission meeting and talk to a commissioner or a chairperson. Commissioner Bagwell stated they would be available after the meeting if he would like to interview them or ask them questions. He thanked Mr. Pearson for his service to the community on behalf of the Board.

Chairman Maxey recognized the Leadership Rome Participants in attendance.

Commissioner Fricks stated that he also had something to add. He stated he was not going to send a formal notice, but if anyone noticed his absence in registering for qualifications, it is because his intentions were not to register. The past month he has been working on a new opportunity in his career that he has enjoyed. He stated he has discussed the opportunity with his family and bosses. They feel that it is a great opportunity, but he is going to have to press hard on it the next couple of years. He stated due to that, he would not be qualifying this year. He has enjoyed serving on the Board the last eighteen years. He stated he appreciates everything everyone has done for him and appreciates those who have worked with him.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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There being no further business to come before the Board, a MOTION was made by Commissioner Wallace, SECOND by Commissioner Hancock, that the meeting be adjourned. VOTING:

Commissioner Wallace

" Fricks

" Bagwell

" Hancock

### Chairman Maxey

## Motion Carried

## **FLOYD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

## **LARRY N. MAXEY, CHAIRMAN**

## **FLOYD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

## CAUCUS

**MARCH 08, 2016 2:00 PM**

Present: Commissioners Irwin Bagwell, Garry Fricks, Scotty Hancock, Larry Maxey, and Rhonda Wallace, County Manager Jamie McCord, Assistant Manager Gary Burkhalter, County Attorney Wade Hoyt, and Interim County Clerk Jaime Armstrong.

Public Works Director Michael Skeen, NWGRC Community and Economic Development Representative Delmos Stone, and Ron Sitterding were present to discuss the Lindale Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Urban Redevelopment Plan (URP).

Commissioners and staff reviewed items on the agenda for the meeting of March 08, 2016.

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## **LARRY N. MAXEY, CHAIRMAN**