

The Agenda Setting Meeting of the Oconee County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, October 25, 2005, at 7:00 p.m. in the Commission Meeting Chambers at the Oconee County Courthouse.

Members Present:

Chairman Melvin Davis  
Commissioner Jim Luke  
Commissioner Donald H. Norris  
Commissioner Margaret Hale

Commissioner Chuck Horton was absent.

Staff Present:

Administrative Officer Alan Theriault  
County Attorney Daniel Haygood  
County Clerk Gina M. Lindsey

Jeff Benko, Finance Director  
Matt Forshee, Planning Director  
Amy Morrison, Stormwater Coordinator  
Mike Leonas, Public Works Director  
Quinton Still, EMA Director  
Wayne Provost, Strategic Plan Director

Media Present:

Vinnie Williams, The Oconee Enterprise

Chairman Davis began the meeting with a Moment of Silence. Commissioner Luke led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Street Light Tax District – The Estates at Cole Springs:** On motion by Commissioner Norris and second by Commissioner Hale, the Board unanimously approved the creation of Street Light Tax District No. A-5D-L1 for The Estates at Cole Springs Subdivision. ***See Documentation in Ordinances and Resolutions Book No. 15.***

**Street Light Tax District – Meridian:** On motion by Commissioner Hale and second by Commissioner Norris, the Board unanimously approved the creation of Street Light Tax District No. C-01AF-L1 for Meridian Subdivision. ***See Documentation in Ordinances and Resolutions Book No. 15.***

**Street Light Tax District – Rambling Rill:** On motion by Commissioner Norris and second by Commissioner Hale, the Board approved the creation of Street Light Tax District No. A-1E-L1 for Rambling Rill Subdivision. Commissioner Luke recused himself from the discussion and vote. Chairman Davis, Commissioner Norris and Commissioner Hale voted yes. ***See Documentation in Ordinances and Resolutions Book No. 15.***

**Street Light Tax District – Ryland Hills:** On motion by Commissioner Luke and second by Commissioner Hale, the Board unanimously approved the creation of Street Light Tax District No. D-1E-L1 for Ryland Hills Subdivision. ***See Documentation in Ordinances and Resolutions Book No. 15.***

**Street Light Tax District – Williams Down:** On motion by Commissioner Hale and second by Commissioner Luke, the Board unanimously approved the creation of Street Light Tax District No. A-9B-L1 for Williams Down Subdivision. ***See Documentation in Ordinances and Resolutions Book No. 15.***

**Senior Citizens Property Tax Relief:** On May 31, 2005, the Committee for Senior Citizens Property Tax Relief was created and charged by the Board of Commissioners to review the process and options available to provide some form of property tax relief directed to senior citizens with limited resources. Committee Chairman Mike Power reported on the committee's findings and recommendations.

**School Tax Exemption:**

Option 1 – Exempt senior citizens age 65 and older from all Oconee County school taxes, with no income limit.

Option 2 – Exempt senior citizens age 65 and older from 50% of Oconee County school taxes the first year and an additional 50% exemption the second year, with no income limit.

**County Tax Exemption:**

Exempt senior citizens age 65 and older with a \$20,000 county exemption the first year and \$2,000 increment increases each year up to \$26,000, with no income limit.

**Regular Homestead Exemption:**

Increase the regular homestead exemption amount in \$2,000 increments each year up to \$10,000.

The Board expressed appreciation to committee members Harriette Browning, Roger Carr, Patti Ivey, Fritzi Jackson, James Miller, Randy Morrison, Mike Power and county liaison Jeff Benko and said the recommendations would be taken under consideration.

**Stormwater Management Program Update:** Amy Morrison, Stormwater and Environmental Coordinator, presented an update on the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II Stormwater Permit. Phase II permitting requirements include six minimum control measures: public education & outreach, public involvement & participation, illicit discharge detection and elimination, construction site stormwater runoff control, post-construction stormwater management in new development and redevelopment and, pollution prevention and good housekeeping for municipal operations.

Ms. Morrison reported a public information meeting was held on Monday, October 24, 2005, where draft ordinances addressing stormwater issues were presented and citizen comments were received on the proposed Stormwater Management Plan.

Public comment will continue through November 16, 2005. The proposed stormwater ordinances will be presented to the Planning Commission on November 21, 2005. The Board of Commissioners will hold a First Reading of the ordinances on November 29, 2005, with final action scheduled for December 6, 2005.

**ExpressPoll System Agreement:** On motion by Commissioner Norris and second by Commissioner Luke, the Board unanimously approved the Agreement with the Secretary of State, Elections Division, for the receipt and maintenance of the ExpressPoll System.

**Planning Commission Bylaws:** Planning Director Matt Forshee presented the revised bylaws, rules and procedures of the Oconee County Planning Commission for consideration by the Board of Commissioners. By consensus, this item will be placed on the consent agenda for November 1, 2005.

**Rescue Vehicle – GEMA Grant Funds:** EMA Director Quinton Still presented the bids for the purchase of an Office of Homeland Security-GEMA Area 1 rescue truck to be funded with GEMA grant funds. Mr. Still recommended the bid be awarded to Custom Trucks and Body Works, Inc. for a total cost not to exceed \$143,728. By consensus, this item will be placed on the consent agenda for November 1, 2005.

**Jennings Mill Parkway Extension Project – ROW Acquisition:** Administrative Officer Alan Theriault reported Wilbur Smith Associates failed to include pricing for the required appraisal work in their Jennings Mill Parkway Extension Project right-of-way acquisition proposal. Therefore, they have rescinded their proposal for right-of-way acquisition services.

Mr. Theriault noted that because the Board of Commissioners had voted to award the contract to Wilbur Smith Associates, the appropriate course of action would be for the Board to rescind that action and award the contract to the next lowest vendor, Moreland-Altobelli. By consensus, this item will be placed on the consent agenda for November 1, 2005.

**November 1, 2005 Agenda:** The agenda for the November 1, 2005 meeting was reviewed by the County Clerk.

**Statements and Remarks from Citizens:** Kate McDaniel asked the Board to design and implement a year-long program for outreach and education to the general public on the stormwater management program prior to adopting any stormwater ordinances.

John Duffett said the Planning Commission needed a better balance of homeowner representatives and representatives from the development community.

Don Lawhorn stated he was in favor of the proposals for property tax relief to senior citizens.

There being no further business, on motion by Commissioner Hale and second by Commissioner Luke, the meeting was adjourned.

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County Clerk

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Chairman

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Date