

The Agenda Setting Meeting of the Oconee County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, June 29, 2004, at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Meeting Chambers at the Oconee County Courthouse.

Members Present:

Chairman Melvin Davis
Commissioner Johnny Pritchett
Commissioner Donald H. Norris
Commissioner Margaret Hale
Commissioner William E. Wilkes

Staff Present:

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

Wayne Provost, Planning Director
Matt Forshee, Senior Planner
Gary Dodd, Utility Director
Chris Thomas, Assistant Utility Director
Mike Leonas, Public Works Director

Media Present:

Vinnie Williams, The Oconee Enterprise

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

MACORTS Long Range Transportation Plan: Sherry Moore, Transportation Planner for the Madison Athens-Clarke, Oconee Regional Transportation Study (MACORTS) presented a draft of the MACORTS Long Range Transportation Plan. Oconee County has a total of 20 projects in the plan.

Ms. Moore explained in order to qualify for federal funding and urban funds from the state for any of its transportation projects, a Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) of all projects that are anticipated to be necessary in the next 20 years is produced by MACORTS and updated every 5 years. A full update is done every 10 years when new Census information is available.

The draft LRTP has been approved to go to the public for comment. After all public comment has been received, appropriate changes will be incorporated into the document and a final version of the document will then be approved. A public meeting has been scheduled in Oconee County for June 30, 2004 at 4:00 p.m. at the Oconee County Government Annex.

Felony Drug Court Funding: On motion by Commissioner Norris and second by Commissioner Hale, the Board unanimously approved funding of \$7,155.46 from the Oconee County Drug Abuse and Treatment Education Fund to implement the Felony Drug Court.

Economic Development Plan Proposal: Planner Matt Forshee reported the Economic Development Master Plan Selection Committee interviewed five firms to develop a Comprehensive Economic Development Plan for Oconee County. After careful consideration to find the best fit for Oconee County and its citizens, the committee recommended Basile, Baumann, Prost & Associates (BBP) as the firm to develop the plan, at a cost not to exceed \$115,000. Mr. Forshee noted BBP's bid was the lowest of the top five firms.

Mr. Ralph Basile, representing Basile, Baumann, Prost & Associates, presented a schedule for creating and implementing the plan (8 – 9 months) and explained the 3-phase process. A website will be created so the community can track the progress of the plan.

By consensus, this item will be placed on the consent agenda for July 6, 2004.

Hickory Hills Water Line Replacement: Utility Director Gary Dodd presented a change order to the Hickory Hills/Sherwood Forest/Rose Drive waterline replacement contract with Heritage Construction Group in the amount of \$124,747.40. Mr. Dodd explained the majority of the additional expenditures were due to boring beneath the newly paved roads. By consensus, this item will be placed on the consent agenda for July 6, 2004.

Update on Emergency Operations/E911 Center and Jail Expansion: Administrative Officer Alan Theriault reported a number of meetings have been held with Precision Planning Engineer Jimmy Parker, Sheriff Berry, Lt. Williams, Chief Deputy Langston, EMA Director Still and himself to develop a plan for locating the Emergency Operations/E911 Center and expanding the jail on county-owned property adjacent to the existing jail. Mr. Theriault noted the ambulance service has been relocated to another area of the county and the Adult Literacy classroom would need to be relocated. Mr. Parker will present a detailed footprint and projected budget to the Board at its July 27, 2004 meeting.

Environmental Health Fees: The Board reviewed the proposed Environmental Health Fee Schedule recommended by the Environmental Health Department. Chairman Davis recommended no changes be made to the fees for septic tank evaluation, food service review and inspection, tourist facility annual inspection, tourist facility plan review <50 rooms, swimming pool annual inspection and swimming pool plan review. Mr. Theriault stated the proposed fees would bring Oconee County in line with adjoining counties. By consensus, this item, as recommended by Chairman Davis, will be placed on the consent agenda for July 6, 2004.

Employee Pension Plan: On motion by Commissioner Wilkes and second by Commissioner Hale, the Board voted unanimously to delay action on the revised Employee Pension Plan until Administrative Officer Alan Theriault obtains the information he needs to make an informed and accurate recommendation to the Board.

FY2004 Audit Services: On motion by Commissioner Norris and second by Commissioner Wilkes, the Board unanimously approved the proposal by Treadwell, Tamplin & Company for FY2004 Audit Services at a cost not to exceed \$53,250.00.

County Clerk Gina Lindsey reported the proposed fee is in line with the past four years, with an additional \$2,000 - \$5,000 for work required to meet SAS No. 99 requirements (The New Fraud Standard).

July 6, 2004 Agenda: The agenda for the July 6, 2004 meeting was reviewed.

Citizen Remarks: Kate McDaniel requested to be involved in the preparation of the final Wastewater System Master Plan. Chairman Davis noted a public meeting was scheduled for August 17, 2004 at the Oconee County Civic Center.

Executive Session: On motion by Commissioner Wilkes and second by Commissioner Norris, the Board adjourned into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation and future acquisition of real estate. No action was taken.

On motion by Commissioner Wilkes and second by Commissioner Norris, the Board adjourned back into Regular Session.

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

County Clerk

Chairman

Date