

**MINUTES**  
**Monroe County Board of Commissioners**  
**January 5, 2010**

The Monroe County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on January 5, 2010 at 6:03 pm. Present were Chairman James Vaughn, Vice Chairman Jim Peters, Commissioner Larry Evans, Commissioner Jim Ham, Commissioner Michael Bilderback, Deputy Clerk Kim Romine and County Administrator Anita Buice.

Charles Collins, Monroe County resident, requested the Board look into a tax matter on a church and cemetery that he purchased that was no longer exempt from taxes. Commissioner Ham made a motion to have the County Attorney look into the matter, seconded by Commissioner Peters and passed 5-0. Mr. Collins also spoke to the Board about being leaders in the advancement of a new tax structure on money exchanges that would eliminate the need of any other type of taxes.

Commissioner Peters made a motion to approve the contract with **Phoenix Fabricators and Erectors** (attached) in the amount of \$584,657 for the construction of a 250,000 gallon elevated water storage tank located on Hwy 42 North at Blount. Commissioner Ham seconded the motion and motion passed 5-0.

The Board agreed by general consensus to review the **Monroe County Charter** and have changes ready for presentation by the next meeting.

Commissioner Ham made a motion to set the **Qualifying fees** for the 2010 elections to be at 3% of the base salary for the position. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Bilderback and passed 5-0.

Commissioner Peters made a motion to approve the following **budget amendments(attached)**: \$34,044 from Capital Contingency to Motor Vehicle Equipment for the purchase of two trucks for the road department; \$17,022 from Capital Contingency to Motor Vehicle Equipment for the purchase of a new truck for the Tax Assessors. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Evans and passed 5-0.

Commissioner Bilderback made a motion to approve the following **budget amendments(attached)**: \$40,000 from Infrastructure to Road Maintenance for road repairs in District 2; \$14,061.91 from Infrastructure to Road Maintenance for road

repairs in District 1 and repairs to parking lot at the Bolingbroke Fire Station. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Ham and passed 5-0.

Commissioner Bilderback requested that the Board set a time to work on the **2010 Budget** before the next scheduled meeting. By General consensus, the board scheduled a Called Meeting beginning at 4:00 pm on January 19<sup>th</sup> to discuss the Budget.

Chairman Vaughn made a motion to appoint Phil Ham to the **Development Authority** of Monroe County in the seat left vacant by the resignation of George Berry. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Peters for discussion. Commissioner Evans questioned why the vacant positions on the Board of Assessors have not been filled, and stated that former members, Walter Carter and Billy Waldrep, were doing a great job as Board members. Chairman Vaughn agreed that the two were assets to the County but he wanted to explore the possibility of creating a three member board. Commissioner Evans reminded everyone that the five member board was created because of the disadvantages of a three member board. Motion was approved 4-1 with Commissioner Bilderback opposed. His nomination for the vacant seat was Tom Baugh.

Commissioner Ham made a motion to reappoint Judge Hugh Sosebee to the **Middle Georgia Area Agency on Aging**. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Peters and approved 5-0.

Commissioner Bilderback made a motion to appoint Commissioner Peters to the **Forsyth Monroe County Chamber of Commerce Board**. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Ham and approved 4-0 with Commissioner Peters abstaining.

Commissioner Peters made a motion to table the appointments to the **Construction Board of Adjustments and Appeals**, seconded by Commissioner Ham and approved 5-0.

Commissioner Ham made a motion to reappoint Hugh Cromer to the **Board of Health**, seconded by Commissioner Bilderback and approved 5-0. Ms. Oreatha Sewell does not wish to be reappointed.

Commissioner Ham made a motion to appoint Sonja Evans to fill the vacancy left by Mick Ashmore on the **Library Board**, seconded by Commissioner Bilderback and approved 5-0. Commissioner Ham also motioned to table the other vacancies of the

Library Board until the next meeting, seconded by Commissioner Evans and approved 5-0.

By General Consensus, the Board reappointed all current members of the **Planning and Zoning Board** for 2010.

By General Consensus, the Board reappointed all current members of the **Recreation Board** with the exception of District 1 appointee. Commissioner Evans will make his appointment at the next Board meeting.

Commissioner Ham made a motion to reappoint John Kutscher as **Planning and Zoning Officer**, seconded by Commissioner Peters and approved 5-0.

Chairman Vaughn made a motion to reappoint Sid Banks as **Road Superintendent**, seconded by Commissioner Ham and approved 5-0.

Commissioner Ham made a motion to reappoint Michael Dillon as **County Attorney** and Franklin Freeman as **Assistant County Attorney**, seconded by Commissioner Peters and approved 5-0.

Commissioner Evans made a motion to approve **Accounts Payable** checks (attached) #35619-35810 in the amount of \$1,111,399.87. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Ham and approved 5-0.

Commissioner Peters made a motion to waive reading and approve the **Minutes of December 15, 2009**. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Ham and approved 5-0.

Commissioner Ham made a motion to approve the **Jail Physicians** contracts (attached) for 2010 with the addition of Dr. Taunton, Jr. Motion was seconded by Chairman Vaughn and approved 4-0 with Commissioner Evans abstaining.

Commissioner Evans again stated that he feels Mr. Carter and Mr. Waldrep has done a great job on the Tax Assessors Board and wants it to remain a 5 member board.

Commissioner Ham made a motion to ask the design build team of Fry/Renfroe to attend the called meeting set for 4:00 pm, January 19, 2010 to answer questions the Board has about their proposed county administration building, seconded by Commissioner Bilderback and approved 5-0.

Kim Stokes addressed the Board with a handout showing all of the Stimulus funds distributed through the Department of Transportation. He complained that Monroe

County is not getting a fair share. Commissioner Ham replied that the Georgia Department of Transportation has funded several projects in Monroe County.

Don Daniel commented that two adjacent counties appear to have had more stimulus funded work performed in their counties and that he had served on the Board of Equalization for over five years and that most appeals were due to errors made by the personnel of the Tax Assessors.

Mick Ashmore thanked the Board for reviewing the County Charter.

At 7:16 pm, Commissioner Ham made a motion to convene in **Executive Session** for personnel, seconded by Commissioner Bilderback and approved 4-1 with Commissioner Peters opposed.

The Board reconvened at 7:25 pm in regular session. Commissioner Bilderback left the meeting.

Commissioner Ham made a motion to reappoint Anita Buice as **County Administrator and Clerk** with an additional annual stipend of \$5000. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Peters and approved 4-0.

Commissioner Ham made a motion to reappoint Kim Romine as **Deputy Clerk** with an addition annual stipend of \$2500. Commissioner Peters seconded the motion and motion was approved 4-0.

Commissioner Peters made a motion to reappoint Ronald Norris as **Fire Chief**, seconded by Commissioner Ham and approved 3-1 with Commissioner Evans opposed.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:28 pm on motion by Commissioner Peters, seconded by Commissioner Ham and approved 4-0.