

MINUTES

January 20, 2015

MONROE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The Monroe County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on January 6, 2015 at 9:00 am with the following present: Chairman Mike Bilderback, Vice Chairman Jim Ham, District 1 Commissioner Larry Evans, District 3 Commissioner John Ambrose, District 4 Commissioner Jarod Lovett, County Attorney Mike Dillon, County Attorney Ben Vaughn, and County Clerk/Administrator Anita Cauthen.

Monroe County Headstart program

Mr. Mark Davis, new Director of the Headstart program, under the administration of Macon Bibb EOC, introduced himself to the Board. Mr. Davis explained the funds used to operate Monroe County Headstart is a competitive Federal grant and applications were being taken now to administer the program. He asked for continued support from Monroe County. By general consensus, the Board agreed to send a letter of support for the program.

2014 Safety Report

Elliott Chambliss, Safety Officer for Monroe County, gave a verbal report to the Board. He confirmed that there were 29 first report of injuries filed in 2014 but that most were not serious. He announced the training schedule for 2015 and also explained that online training was available. Commissioner Lovett suggested that the County should have a policy in place to discipline employees for safety violations. Commissioner Evans felt more surveillance cameras were needed and that department heads need reminders of safety regulations. He also suggested the Chairman send a letter concerning safety regulations to Department Heads. Commissioner Lovett also suggested driver histories every year, instead of every three years. Commissioner Evans suggested every employee should be required to submit to a physical exam before employment.

Compensation Letter

Ms. Janet Abbott, Human Resources Director, presented a draft of a Benefit/Compensation Letter to be given to all future employees as they are hired. Commissioner Evans asked Ms. Abbott to develop an orientation program for all new hires, and suggested the Department of Labor could assist. Commissioner Evans also suggested the Department of Labor should be involved in all the new hires for the County and not Department Heads.

Ms. Abbott also presented the 2014 Salary Report (attached). Commissioner Lovett asked if there was a policy on the maximum amount of overtime or comp time that could be accumulated. Ms. Abbott answered that a policy is not in place. The Board discussed in general different policies.

Recreation Department

Keith Edge, Recreation Director, presented the 2014 Recreation Report, showing pictures of activities and usage of the park.

Mr. Edge also presented the amended Recreation Board Bylaws (attached). Commissioner Ham motioned to approve the bylaws, seconded by Commissioner Lovett and approved 5-0.

Road Department

Commissioner Ham motioned to approve filling a vacant laborer position in the Road Department, seconded by Commissioner Lovett and approved 5-0.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Evans motioned to waive the reading of the Minutes of December 24, 2014, seconded by Commissioner and approved 5-0.

Commissioner Evans motioned to table the approval of the Minutes of December 24, 2014, seconded by Chairman Bilderback. Motion failed with a vote of 2-0-3 with Commissioner Ambrose, Commissioner Lovett and Commissioner Ham abstaining.

Commissioner Lovett motioned to waive the reading of the Minutes of December 31, 2014, seconded by Chairman Ambrose and approved 5-0.

No action was taken on the approval of the Minutes of December 31, 2014.

Commissioner Ambrose motioned to waive the reading of the Minutes of January 6, 2015, seconded by Chairman Bilderback and approved 5-0.

Commissioner Evans motioned to approve the Minutes of January 6, 2015 with the following changes: page 6, 3rd paragraph.....to reappoint Anita Cauthen as County Clerk/Administration and *Zoning Officer*.... Motion was seconded by Commissioner Lovett and approved 5-0.

Commissioner Evans motioned to waive the reading of the Minutes of January 14, 2015, seconded by Commissioner Lovett and approved 5-0.

Commissioner Evans motioned to approve the Minutes of January 14, 2015, with any changes to come before the Board within 30 days. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Lovett and approved 4-1 with Commissioner Ham opposed.

Accounts Payable Checks

Commissioner Evans motioned to approve AP checks #53291-53446 in the amount of \$981,326.17, seconded by Commissioner Ambrose and approved 5-0.

Board Appointments

Chairman Lovett appointed Phillip Brewster to the **Planning and Zoning Board**. Commissioner Ham deferred his appointment until the next meeting.

Commissioner Ambrose motioned to appoint Commissioner Ham as the **County Legislative Coordinator**, seconded by Chairman Bilderback. Motion was approved 4-0-1 with Commissioner Ham abstained.

By general consensus, it was decided Commissioner Lovett would serve as the ex-official member of the Recreation Board.

Other Discussion

Chairman Bilderback had questions concerning the invoices from King & Spaulding but was advised by County Attorney Ben Vaughn to not speak of open litigation cases in public.

Chairman Bilderback gave a brief update on the E911 Radio System Upgrade. The Board generally discussed questions pertaining to the contract with Datapath and zoning regulations. Commissioner Ambrose motioned to table the matter until after executive session, seconded by Commissioner Lovett and approved 5-0.

Executive Session

At 10:50 am, Commissioner Lovett motioned to enter into executive session for land acquisition and litigation, seconded by Commissioner Evans and approved 5-0. Joining the Board were Attorney David Mincey and later, County Attorney Ben Vaughn.

The Board reconvened in regular session at 12:10 pm, on motion by Commissioner Ambrose, seconded by Commissioner Evans and approved 5-0.

Hewett Property

Commissioner Ham motioned to approve the execution of the sales contract for the Hewett property and to authorize the Chairman to sign all related documents. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Lovett and approved 5-0.

At 12:10 pm, the board adjourned on motion by Commissioner Ham, seconded by Commissioner Ambrose and approved 5-0.