

MINUTES
October 20, 2015
Regular Session

MONROE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The Monroe County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on October 20, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. 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 Ben Vaughn, County Clerk/Administrator Anita Cauthen and Human Resource Officer/Deputy Clerk Janet Abbott

Maintenance Agreement for water tanks

Chairman Bilderback asked Building/Water Department Manager Bentley Cox to come forward so that he could return to work. Mr. Cox presented three bids for tank maintenance on the Blount Tank, High Falls Tank and the Smarr Road Tank from Utility Service Group, American Tank Maintenance and Southern Corrosion Engineered Tank Care. Vice Chairman Ham motioned for County Administrator/Clerk Anita Cauthen, Water Department Manager Bentley Cox, and Purchasing Agent Kathy Pritchett to get together and compose an apples to apples bid on tank terms and allow rebids.

Commissioner Lovett asked why the Hwy 18 water tower was not on the list. Vice Chairman Ham stated it was contracted out by the city. Vice Chairman Ham motioned for Water Department Manager Bentley Cox to get the contract for the Hwy 18 water tower and review it, seconded by Commissioner Lovett and approved 5-0.

Tax Assessors: Split Billing, Personnel

Ed Hutchinson, Tax Assessor Board Chairman, discussed staffing changes that would need to be made in order for split billing to take place. Mr. Hutchinson stated the Board of Assessors were asking for \$61, 498.00 to make some personnel changes within the Tax Assessors Office. They would be changing one staff member to a personal property appraiser leaving the office with only two real property appraisers, the Department of Revenue requires three appraisers for real property so they would need to hire one more appraiser.

Mr. Hutchinson then presented a timeline that would need to be followed for split billing. He stated currently tax bills are due between October and December. Split billing would require taxes to be paid between September and December. Mr. Hutchinson stated that both Butts and Jasper Counties Chief Appraisers have said that no revaluations have been done since going to split billing. Both say the revals will have to be contracted out due to the tight timelines. Mr. Hutchinson stated since 2010, the tax assessors have adopted the policy of revaluing the three classes of property once every three years, this policy is recommended in the Appraiser Procedure Manual. This is done to prevent our sales ratio from falling below 38%. He stated only four times in the last fifteen years had our ratio dropped below 38%.

Commissioner Lovett motioned to allow the Tax Assessors Office to hire an Appraiser I after January 1, 2016, seconded by Vice Chairman Ham and approved 5-0.

Vice Chairman Ham motioned to allow the Regional Commission to reevaluate all county departments' positions, seconded by Jarod Lovett and approved 5-0.

Commissioner Ambrose motioned to scrap dual billing, seconded by Commissioner Evans and approved 4-1 with Commissioner Lovett opposed.

Mutual Aid Agreement

Commissioner Evans motioned to approve a mutual aid agreement between Monroe County and the Georgia Diagnostic and Classification Prison in Jackson, Georgia. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Lovett and approved 5-0.

Resolution to Adopt 2014 Amended and Restated Defined Benefit Plan

The IRS requires qualified retirement plans to be restated at least once every five years. The ACCG Board of Managers has approved and amended, restated and updated the plan document to reflect changes in federal and state law and regulations. Commissioner Evans motioned to approve the resolution to Adopt the 2014 Amended and restated Defined Benefit Plan, Commissioner Ambrose seconded the motion and was approved 5-0.

Accounts Payable Checks

Commissioner Ambrose motioned to approve accounts payable checks 55706 through 55822 in the amount of \$366,866.03, seconded by Commissioner Lovett and approved 5-0.

Convenience Center regulations

Chairman Bilderback discussed with the Board, convenience center attendants making decisions on who can bring in trash and who can't. Commissioner Lovett motioned to table the discussion and for Solid Waste supervisor, Dana Renaud to bring to the board at the next commissioners meeting the information she would like discussed, seconded by Chairman Bilderback and approved 5-0.

Other Business

Vice Chairman Ham motioned to allow Solid Waste supervisor Dana Renaud to fill a **vacant position** within her department, seconded by Commissioner Lovett and approved 5-0.

Commissioner Ambrose stated he was having problems running **water lines** on Morgan Road and would like to run them down Mcgahee and part of Christian to offset instead of Morgan. Commissioner Lovett stated he thought this needed to be approved through GEFA. Commissioner Evans stated he thought this could cause problems. Commissioner Lovett stated he needed to get written clarification from Don Carter if this could be done.

Commissioner Ambrose stated that the dog owner that had recently had his dog declared a potentially **dangerous dog** had refused to sign for the letter and would like for the Board to approve the Sheriff's Office to serve these letters in these cases. Commissioner Ambrose motioned to allow the Sheriff's Office to serve written notices on a case by case basis to Dangerous Dog owners that refuse to sign for letters mailed to them, motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Ham and approved 5-0

Minutes of September 15th and October 6th 2015

Chairman Bilderback stated he would like to hold off on the approval of the September 15th minutes for some changes.

Commissioner Lovett motioned to waive the reading of the October 6, 2015 regular session minutes, seconded by Chairman Bilderback and approved 5-0.

Commissioner Lovett motioned to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2015 regular session, seconded by Chairman Bilderback and approved 5-0.

The Board adjourned at 10:40 am on motion by Commissioner Ambrose, seconded by Chairman Bilderback and approved 5-0.