

MINUTES

January 19, 2016

MONROE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The Monroe County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on January 19, 2016 at 9:00 am with the following present: Chairman Mike Bilderback, District 1 Commissioner Larry Evans, District 3 Commissioner John Ambrose, County Attorney Ben Vaughn, Human Resource Officer/Deputy Clerk Janet Abbott, Finance Officer Ashley Wooley, and County Clerk/Administrator Anita Cauthen.

Forsyth Monroe County Chamber of Commerce

Tiffany Andrews, CEO of the Forsyth Monroe County Chamber of Commerce and Executive Director of Development Authority of Monroe County, presented a video showcasing the regional resources available for industries to locate in and around Monroe County. The video will be used to target new business.

Executive Session

Commissioner Lovett motioned to table Executive Session until the end of the Board meeting. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Ambrose and approved 4-0.

Emergency Services

The Board reviewed a request by Chief Donnie Mercer to be authorized to choose the best bidder for an ambulance remount, a fire truck remount, a service truck and equipment, and a fire truck and equipment.

Vice Chairman Ham arrived at 9:11 am.

The Board discussed the bidding process.

Commissioner Evans motioned for Chief Mercer to follow the bid requirements and to bring the bids back to the Board for approval. Motion was seconded by Chairman Bilderback and approved 5-0. Chairman Bilderback added that he objected to making a decision because no information accompanied the request.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Ambrose motioned to waive the reading of the Minutes of January 5th, and January 7th, 2016 seconded by Chairman Bilderback and approved 5-0.

Commissioner Evans motioned to approve the Minutes of January 5th and January 7th, 2016 with minor corrections made to January 5th and any changes to come before the Board within 30 days, seconded by Chairman Bilderback and approved 5-0.

Maintenance

The Board reviewed a memo from the Maintenance Department listing the known projects for 2016.

Accounts Payable Checks

Commissioner Evans motioned to approve AP checks #56502-56555 in the amount of \$923,812.24, seconded by Commissioner Lovett and approved 5-0.

Contracts for Landfill

The Board tabled the approval for the contracts for contract administration and for the construction of cells 18-20.

Board Appointments

Commissioner Evans motioned to appoint Mrs. Charlie Haygood to the **Department of Family and Children Services**. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Ham and approved 5-0.

Commissioner Ambrose appointed Amy Jeffries to the **Monroe County Planning and Zoning Board**. Commissioner Lovett asked to table his appointment until the next meeting. Commissioner Evans informed Commissioner Ambrose that his appointment to the Planning and Zoning Board must be from his district. Commissioner Ambrose asked to withhold naming someone until the next meeting.

Commissioner Lovett reappointed George Emami to the **Monroe County Recreation Board**.

The Board requested the County Attorney to research and provide an opinion as to if appointing a licensed private appraiser to the **Board of Assessors** would pose a conflict. Chairman Bilderback stated he was unhappy that the appointments were being postponed again. The Board agreed that appointments would be made at the February 2nd meeting.

Other Business

Commissioner Ambrose motioned to purchase an ice machine for Station 4 with funds to come from District 3 Infrastructure. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Ham and approved 5-0.

Don Carter with Carter & Sloope Engineers provided an update on the proposed water line that would cross the Towaliga River.

Commissioner Ham motioned to place a road sign on Hwy 74 that would advertise the highway as “Agribusiness and Tourism Highway”. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Evans and approved 5-0.

Commissioner Ambrose requested the Clerk research current rules governing the placement of mailboxes on right of ways.

Stacia Upchurch, with Abundant Life Church on Juliette Road, requested of the Board the use of the Courthouse lawn on January 30th to conduct an outreach program. Commissioner Ambrose motioned to approve. Commissioner Evans reminded the Board that they had stopped allowing the use of the courthouse lawn. Commissioner Ham seconded the motion. Chairman Bilderback said the lawn was used for Veterans Day and a tent was erected for that occasion and that the Courthouse belongs to the public. Commissioner Lovett commented that he felt this was opening up the separation between church and state. Motion passed 3-2 with Commissioner Evans and Commissioner Lovett opposed.

Executive Session

At 9:55 am, Commissioner Ambrose motioned to enter into executive session for land acquisition and litigation seconded by Commissioner Lovett and approved 5-0.

Joining the Board were Ken Hurt, Tye Hannah and Tiffany Andrews. Commissioner Ham left the meeting.

The Board reconvened in regular session at 11:00 am, on motion by Commissioner Evans seconded by Commissioner Lovett and approved 4-0.

At 11:00 am, the board adjourned on motion by Commissioner Lovett, seconded by Chairman Bilderback and approved 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Anita Cauthen, County Clerk/Administrator