

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 3, 2015 AT 6:30 P.M. IN THE COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM OF THE WILCOX COUNTY COURTHOUSE.

Those present for the hearing were as follows:

David Brown	Chairman
Jowan Johnson	Vice Chairman
Huck Greene	Commissioner
Lanier Keene	Commissioner
Tracy Tyndal	Commissioner
Paula Jones Ball	County Manager/Clerk

Chairman David Brown called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Jowan Johnson gave the invocation.

Everyone gave the Pledge of Allegiance.

The prior month's minutes from the January 8, 2015 regular monthly meeting, the January 27, 2015 special call meeting and January 27, 2015 workshop meeting were presented. Commissioner Jowan Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Tracy Tyndal seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

There were no guests with public comments.

Department Head reports were as follows:

Andrew Coccaro, EMS Director, stated we had been able to obtain two used ambulances from Dodge County for \$12, 500 and two used boxes from Ben Hill County for free. This gives us options now for remounts.

They have been busy this month with 175 calls. They are fully staffed and everything is going good.

William Catchings, County Shop Mechanic, is getting worked to death with ambulance repairs.

Adam Dowdy, Road Superintendent, presented the cost of resurfacing Harvey Road in the 2015 LMIG program. The cost would be more than the funds we have available this year. He suggested that we resurface Sibbie Road from the City Limits to American Legion Road and Cardinal Road. If we moved these projects up the list, we would have funds left over in 2015 that could be added to 2016 which would give the necessary funds for Harvey Road. Commissioner Tracy Tyndal stated he would like to look at Sibbie Road. This change will be placed on the March agenda for a vote.

The first item of new business was Dave Pickrin, Colleton Software Company. He presented an update on collections and gave a prediction on future revenue collection. He stated we would know more the first of March and that he would attend meetings quarterly for updates.

The next item of new business was the housing of an ambulance crew in Abbeville. Chairman David Brown said this is something he is passionate about. Andrew Coccaro, presented concepts and data. He stated the goal was to have an eight minutes response time on all calls. He used a frequency, density and ability model to show the need. He added the City of Abbeville is providing a station at no cost to the county. He asked the Commission to make their decision on facts and not rumors.

Commissioner Lanier Keene stated he had received a lot of calls from the Pitts and Pineview communities concerning the Rochelle ambulance being called out and there not being an ambulance to cover them. Andrew Coccaro stated this is a simple problem to get around. During daytime hours, there would be no coverage problems because he would be available to make those calls.

Commissioner Tracy Tyndal stated this is the first time he has seen this model. Some people in Rochelle have concerns and he expressed the need for a public hearing.

Andrew Coccaro stated he had the presentation ready for the workshop meeting on the 27th but we were short two Commissioners so we decided to wait until tonight.

The public hearing will be run in The Wilcox Marketer for March 3, 2015 at 5:45 p.m.

The next item of new business was the fire study. Commissioner Lanier Keene stated he felt the fire chiefs should get together and bring their requests to the Commission. The Commission needs to decide the amount of available funding. The County Manager was instructed to write all the Mayors and Fire Chiefs and ask their requests be presented to the Commission at a workshop meeting on February 26, 2015. Commissioner Keene stated we need tankers throughout the county.

County Manager Paula Jones Ball requested the Commission vote to allow a change to the agenda to allow a decision on combining the Probate and Magistrate Offices. She stated she had been working with Magistrate Judge Shawn Rhodes and was supposed to meet with Probate Judge Betty Jean Anderson on Monday. However, Judge Anderson was still under the weather and could not meet but she did give her blessing to proceed. Commissioner Lanier Keene made a motion to allow the item to be added to the agenda. Commissioner Tracy Tyndal seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

Shawn Rhodes stated he had drafted proposed legislation which would combine the two offices. There are 18 counties in the State of Georgia with unified offices. He has spoken with four of them and they all agree it is a good idea. This legislation would allow the offices to be combined upon the vacancy of the Magistrate Judge position at any time after June 1, 2015.

Commissioner Tracy Tyndal made a motion to proceed with the legislation. Commissioner Lanier Keene seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

The first item of old business was the closure of High Rocks Road from Camellia Lane to Pine City Road. Commissioner Tracy Tyndal stated there is no win-win in the decision. It is the worst road in the county and is tough to maintain. If we close the road, the County will no longer be liable for any accident on the road. Commissioner Lanier Keene made a motion to close the road. Commissioner Tracy Tyndal seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

The next item of old business was the closure of Doster Road. Ben Shivers stated he rented his Uncle's farm. All landowners want to close the road. There is no one on the road. It is a good road but the neighbors have no problem with the road closing. Tim Lott, landowner, stated he owns the middle part of the road and people dump trash at the bridge and he has had eight or ten game cameras stolen. Most traffic on the road is at night with people shining deer.

Commissioner Tracy Tyndal stated some don't care and some want it open. The Post Office said to keep it open and the Fire Department needs the accessibility. Personally he feels it should remain open.

Ben Shivers stated it is safer to travel the paved road with only makes one mile difference. The mail route is the only argument and the dirt road is 1.6 miles and the pave road is 4.1 miles. This only makes a 2.6 mile difference for mail delivery. They would travel a good road rather than a dirt road.

There was no motion to close the road.

Coroner Janice Brown stated she had 52 calls last year. There were 2 or 3 abandoned bodies. The County will eventually have to find money for burials for these. It will cost \$500 to \$600.

EMS Director Larry Brown stated GEMA has sent the Hazard Mitigation update to FEMA for their approval. This should soon be complete.

County Manager's comments were as follows:

There are changes in the legislation which would allow the county to adopt an ordinance in which they can collect \$.03 per gallon on fuel. However, the State is going up on their tax as well.

The City of Rochelle has submitted a request for additional funding for the Seniors' program. This is in our meeting books for everyone to review.

A preconstruction meeting will be held on Friday, February 6, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. on the Courthouse HVAC unit. A notice to proceed will be issued at this time. Chairman Brown needs to be in attendance to sign the necessary documents.

A copy of the September 2, 2014 County Manager's report is attached. This report explains where we are with the 2014-2015 SAP GDOT program. There is no change to date.

Brochures were presented on the Ocmulgee Water Trail Partnership. These brochures have been printed to promote activity on the Ocmulgee and feature all landings between Macon and Lumber City.

There being no further business, Commissioner Jowan Johnson made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Tracy Tyndal seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

_____ David Brown, Chairman

_____ Paula Jones Ball, County Manager/Clerk