

The Brooks County Board of Commissioners met for its Monthly Work Session and Regular Monthly Meeting on Monday, January 9, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Meeting Room located at the Brooks County Office Building. Commissioners present were: Ms. Myra Exum, Chairperson; Mr. Joe Wingate, Vice Chairman; Mr. James Maxwell; Mr. Willie Cody; and Mr. S. L. Jones. Others present were: Mr. Justin DeVane, County Administrator; Ms. Patricia Williams, County Clerk; Mr. Luke Mitchell, County Attorney; and various residents.

PUBLIC HEARINGS - NONE

WORK SESSION – Chair Exum called Work Session to order.

Reports from Committees/Departments

A. Stephanie Hollifield – UGA Extension – Ms. Hollifield presented a copy of the UGA Extension Brooks County Ag & 4-H Clover Connection newsletter highlighting December in review and Preparations in Progress for District Project Achievement.

- Busy planning winter production meetings for all areas of production agriculture for Brooks County producers.
- Conducted the annual Brooks County Extension, In Orchard Peach meeting, for Brooks County peach producers.
- Worked on completing the final research project for 2016, a broccoli demonstration plot to evaluate a bio carbon soil product.
- The Cloverleaf 4-Hers are busy choosing projects and beginning work to prepare for District Project Achievement Competition in which will be held on Saturday, March 25, 2017 in Perry, GA.

B. Scott Routsong – Brooks County Library – Presented a monthly report for Brooks County Library for December 2016.

- Visit schools for story times to include Quitman Elementary and North Brooks Elementary School.
- Staff participated in the Brooks County clean up event, spelling bee, and radio follies. Participated in Four Season 4 Miler and the previous mentorship/report card day at BCHS.
- LEGO club is ongoing; plan to add more programs whenever possible.
- Library continues to build goodwill with the community; and to this end has received several donations totaling nearly \$2,000 last year.

C. Glenn Walker - Public Works – Glenn Walker, Road Superintendent, provided report on work completed for month of December:

- Four 911 calls, 85 work orders; 13 work orders with Side Arm; 15 potholes; and nine bags of sand.
- No major water damage

D. Ben DeVane – County Surveyor/Engineer – presented project updates.

- Bulk of 2015-2016 LMIG is complete.

- Presented Change Order to be issued to H & H Paving regarding the LMIG FY 2015-2016 for repairs on Barwick Road and for Striping.
- Change Order #2 – proposing striping for 2.8 miles on Barwick Road to Berdie Street, cost is \$7,700.
- Change Order #3 – level and resurface 240 feet at the dip, 3.3 miles north of Highway 84 on Barwick Road, cost of \$7,625.
- Change Order #4 – level and resurface 7.7 miles north of Highway 84, 200 feet each way; 2 feet wide; and smooth out, cost \$6325
- Board also authorized County Engineer to propose change order for Barrett Road apron paving.

Chair closed Work Session to go into the Regular Meeting at 5:22 p.m.

1. **Call to Order** – Ms. Exum called meeting to order.
 - A. **Prayer & Pledge** – Mr. Wingate led all in attendance in prayer and pledge of allegiance.

2. **2017 Appointments**

- A. **Nominations & Selection of Chairman and Vice Chairman** – Ms. Exum turned nominations over to Assistant County Attorney, Luke Mitchell; who opened the floor for nominations of Chair for 2017. Mr. Cody made the motion to nominate Mr. Maxwell; Mr. Maxwell seconded. Mr. Mitchell called for vote. Mr. Maxwell and Mr. Cody voted in favor; Mr. Jones, Mr. Wingate voted no. Ms. Exum broke the tie and voted no. Vote was 3 to 2. Mr. Wingate made the motion to nominate Ms. Exum to continue as Chair; Mr. Jones seconded. County Attorney called for the vote; Mr. Wingate; Mr. Jones; voted in favor; Mr. Maxwell and Mr. Cody voted no. Ms. Exum broke the tie and voted yes. Vote was 3 to 2. Ms. Exum will continue as Chair for Board for 2017.

Mr. Mitchell called for nominations for Vice Chairman. Mr. Jones made the motion nominating Mr. Wingate to continue to serve as Vice Chairman for 2017, Mr. Cody seconded; vote was unanimous. Mr. Wingate will continue as Vice Chairman for Board for 2017. Mr. Mitchell turned meeting back to Chair Exum.

- B. **Board Appointments for 2017**

Boards/Committees

Brooks County Library Board
 Brooks County Airport Authority
 Brooks County Board of Health
 Council on Aging
 Coastal Plain Area, E.O. A.
 Chamber of Commerce
 Regional Commission Board

Mr. S. L. Jones
 Mr. Joe Wingate
 Mr. James Maxwell
 Mr. Joe Wingate
 Mr. James Maxwell
 Mr. Joe Wingate
 Ms. Myra Exum

Dept. of Family & Children Services
Mid South RC & D Council
Lowndes-Valdosta MPO
Recreation Department
South Regional Joint Development Authority Board
ACCG Appointment
Seven Rivers RC & D

Mr. S. L. Jones
Mr. Joe Wingate
Ms. Myra Exum (J. DeVane proxy)
Mr. Willie Cody
Ms. Myra Exum (Until 12/31/2016)
Ms. Myra Exum
Mr. Justin DeVane

Building Assignments

County Admin Building
Agriculture Building & Annex
Courthouse
Sheriff's Department (Jail & C.I.D.)
Public Works
Voting Precincts
E-911 Center
Multi-Purpose Building (Head Start & Senior Center)
Fire Departments
Washington Street Gym (Boys and Girls Club)

Ms. Myra Exum
Mr. S. L. Jones
Mr. S. L. Jones/Mr. Joe Wingate
Mr. James Maxwell
Mr. Willie Cody
Mr. Joe Wingate
Mr. Willie Cody
Mr. James Maxwell
Mr. Justin DeVane
Mr. James Maxwell

Mr. Jones made the motion to approve the 2017 Board Appointments, Mr. Cody seconded; vote was unanimous.

C. Other Appointments for 2017

***Changes are underlined**

County Attorney
County Auditor
County Engineer
Assistant County Engineer
ADA Coordinator
Safety Coordinator
EMA Director
Station #1100 Chief
Station #1200 Chief
Station #1300 Chief
Private Appointment SGRC Board (Joint w/ Quitman)
Library Board Appointments (3 year term)

Mr. Vann Parrott
Mr. Gary Zeigler
Mr. Ben DeVane
Mr. Mark DeVane
Mr. Billy Ingram
Fire Department
Mr. Mike Smith
Ms. Jessica Warren
Mr. Tom Eggers
Vacant
Vacant
Ms. Patty Hancock (until 2016)
Mr. Johnnie Brown (until 2016)

Appointments made during previous years

DFACS Board Member Appointment – District 1	Ms. Linda Peterson (April 2014)
DFACS Board Member Appointment – District 2	Ms. Dorris Thompkins (June 2015)
DFACS Board Member Appointment – District 5	Ms. Mary Thomas (June 2013)
Planning & Zoning Appointment–District 5 Appointmt	Ms. Jeannie Little (June 2013)
Library Board Appointments (3 year term)	Ms. Peggy Wilson (until July 2018)
Brooks, Colquitt, Grady, Mitchell, Thomas Joint DA	Mr. Justin DeVane(Nov–Dec2017)
	Mr. Buddy Holwell (Nov–Dec2018)
	<u>Ms. Tiffany Holmes (Nov-Dec2019)</u>
Tax Assessor's Board	Dr. Gerald Golden (Nov–Dec2018)
	Mr. John Stalvey (Nov – Dec2019)
	Mr. Dan Graham (Oct–Dec2 017)
Elections Board	Mr. Zurich Deshazor (Dec 2017)
	Ms. Karen Murray (Dec 2018)
	Mr. Don DiStefano (Dec 2019)
South Georgia Community Service Board	Ms. Gerry Folsom (Sept-until 2017)
Brooks County Development Authority	<u>Mr. Henry Burton</u> <u>(Jan2014–Dec 2016)</u>
	Buddy Holwell (until Dec 2019)
	Delphanie McGhee (Dec 2019)
Appointment to Behavioral Health Board (3 year term)	<u>Mr. Rusty Nail (July 2018)</u>
Quitman – Brooks Co. Airport Authority	Mr. Kenny Baker (until 2023)
	Mr. Tommy Roberts (until 2023)
<u>Revolving Loan Fund Board (CDBG EIP)</u>	<u>Ms. Gina Wynn</u>
	<u>Ms. Andrea DeSantiago</u>
	<u>Ms. Delphanie McGhee</u>
	<u>Mr. Greg Squires</u>
	<u>Mr. Chuck Ramsey</u>
	<u>Ms. Mattie Neloms</u>

On a motion by Mr. Cody; seconded by Mr. Jones, the Board unanimously accepted the Other Appointments for 2017.

Approval of Agenda

A. January 9, 2017 Regular Monthly Meeting – Mr. Wingate made the motion to approve the agenda, Mr. Maxwell seconded; vote was unanimous.

3. Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Mr. Maxwell, seconded by Mr. Cody, the Board unanimously approved the following minutes:

A. Work Session & Regular Meeting

December 5, 2016

Regular Monthly Meeting

January 9, 2017

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4. Appearances

A. Raleigh Rollins – Copeland Road Closure Request – Administrator received a request from Mr. Vann Parrott that Attorney Raleigh Rollins, representing Mill Creek Holdings, to discuss the possibility of closing Copeland Road. He stated there is a problem with trash being thrown out and drug related items, mud bogging, etc. He further stated residents would still have access by way of an alternate route; and it would take a financial burden off Brooks County.

Mr. Wingate commented he sees no particular reason to close the road, which is in his District. Ms. Vivian Norman, property owner, stated to the Board it is important to keep the road open. Chair inquired to Mr. Rollins if he knew how many travel the road? Does it serve public use? She further commented on having a traffic study done to show how much traffic is on the road. Mr. Rollins stated he is willing to have the study done. Once the study is complete, he will bring report to the Board at the February meeting. Chair inquired as to the wishes of the Board, Mr. Wingate made a motion to deny the request, Mr. Cody seconded. Vote was unanimous.

5. New Business

A. Appointment to Brooks County Board of Health – A request was received from William R. Grow, MD, FACP, District Health Director, to reappoint Dr. Telia Cunningham, Consumer Advocate, to the Board of Health. Dr. Cunningham has agreed to serve another six-year term. Mr. Jones made the motion to reappoint Dr. Telia Cunningham to the Brooks County Board of Health for another six-year term; seconded by Mr. Maxwell; vote was unanimous. Dr. Cunningham's term will expire December 31, 2022.

B. Appointment(s) to Brooks County Library Board – Library Director, Mr. Scott Routsong, submitted a request for the reappointment of members of the Library Board. Members Johnnie Brown and Patty Hancock terms have expired. The reappointment of Johnnie Brown and Patty Hancock to the Brooks County Library Board for three-year terms was approved on a motion by Mr. Maxwell; and seconded by Mr. Jones. Vote was unanimous.

C. Appointment(s) to Brooks County Development Authority – Administrator received a request from Ms. Tiffany Holmes, Executive Director, Development Authority, to have several members re-appointed. Members Van Murphy, Andy Swann, and Henry Burton are all up for re-appointment. Mr. Wingate made the motion to re-appoint Van Murphy, Andy Swann, and Henry Burton to the Brooks County Development Authority Board to serve three-year terms each, Mr. Jones seconded. Vote was unanimous. The terms will expire December 31, 2019.

D. Tax Commissioner Authorization to Collect Funds – Tax Commissioner, Becky Rothrock, submitted a request to be authorized to collect checks and debit/credit card forms of payment. Authorization will also distribute tax proceeds on a monthly basis. Tax Commissioner's request to be authorized to collect checks and debit/credit card payments; and also to distribute proceeds monthly was approved on the motion made by Mr. Maxwell; and seconded by Mr. Wingate. Vote was unanimous.

E. Acceptance of Election Agreement between City of Quitman & Brooks County – Election Supervisor, Ken Collins, requested to have the Agreement between Brooks County and City of Quitman accepted by the Board. The City has voted and approved the agreement. Mr. Cody made a motion to accept the Election Agreement between Brooks County and City of Quitman; Mr. Jones seconded. Vote was unanimous.

F. Acceptance of Election Agreement between City of Morven & Brooks County – Election Supervisor, Ken Collins, requested to have the Agreement between Brooks County and City of Morven accepted by the Board. The City has voted and approved the agreement. Mr. Wingate made a motion to accept the Election Agreement between Brooks County and City of Morven; Mr. Cody seconded. Vote was unanimous.

G. USDA Office Lease Extension – Administrator received a request from Ms. Ginger Ryder regarding an extension on the current USDA lease at the Brooks County Ag Building. USDA would like to extend the lease for two years through 2018 until a new space can be found or provided by the County. On the motion made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Cody, the Board unanimously approved the request from USDA for a two-year lease extension between USDA and Brooks County.

H. Change Order H & H Paving LMIG FY2015-2016 – County Engineer, Ben DeVane, requested for Change Order to be issued to H & H Paving regarding LMIG FY2015-2016 for repairs to Barwick Road and Striping.

Change Order #2 – proposing striping for 2.8 miles on Barwick Road to Berdie Street, cost is \$7,700.

Change Order #3 – level and resurface 240 feet at the dip, 3.3 miles north of Highway 84 on Barwick Road, cost of \$7,625.

Change Order #4 – level and resurface 7.7 miles north of Highway 84, 200 feet each way; 2 feet wide; and smooth out, cost \$6,325.

Total cost for the projects are \$21,650; Administrator requested funds come from contingency. Mr. Wingate made the motion to approve Change Order #2, Change Order #3, and Change Order #4, extended the contract to March 1, 2017; and funds (\$21,650) will come from contingency, Mr. Cody seconded. Vote was unanimous.

6. Unfinished Business

A. County Farm Lease – Mr. Maxwell requested this item be placed on the agenda for discussion. Board has discussed the possibility of selling the farm at some point; but wants to have plan for use of funds and move forward. Chair suggested having a work session for discussion; and see what plans are if they sell the farm.

7. County Administrator Notes/Comments - None

8. Commissioners Notes/Comments

A. Joe Wingate - District 1 – No comments.

B. S. L. Jones, District 2 – Commented on the centerline on Old Madison Road needs to be re-painted.

C. Willie Cody, District 3 – Continue work on Son Wright Road.

D. Myra Exum, District 4 – No comments.

E. James Maxwell, District 5 – Continue work on Barrett Road.

9. Executive Session – None

10. Adjournment - Mr. Maxwell made the motion to adjourn regular meeting at 5:58 p.m.; Mr. Cody seconded.

Ms. Myra Exum, Chairperson

Mr. Justin DeVane, Administrator

Ms. Patricia A. Williams, Clerk