

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on **Thursday, December 8, 2016**, at **6:00pm** in the courtroom. Those present were Chairman H. Wade Johnson, Commissioner Virginia T. Williams, District One; Commissioner Larry Collins, District Two; Commissioner Cooper Cliatt, District Three; Commissioner Richard Brown, District Four; Mr. Ben Jackson, County Attorney; Mrs. Traci Bussey, Finance Director and Ms. Sherry E. McKellar, County Clerk.

1.

Call Meeting to Order

Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order.

2.

Invocation

Rev. Larry Beggs opened the meeting with prayer.

3.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Following the invocation was the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

4.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Commissioner Williams, seconded by Commissioner Collins, the board approved the minutes as presented.

5.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Cliatt requested to add a line item for Commissioner Comments as 7 A to the agenda.

On a motion by Commissioner Cliatt, seconded by Commissioner Brown, the agenda was approved as amended.

6.

Departmental Reports

A. Office of Emergency Services Department

Director Broom thanked Chairman Johnson and Commissioner Brown for their service to Lincoln County and stated he enjoyed working with them these past years. He then presented his monthly report and reported that there was a house fire on Washington Highway Wednesday and that two county deputy's entered the house to save the elderly lady who lived there and three of her four dogs. They were Deputy Jared Mason and Deputy Johnny Cobb. Chairman Johnson asked that Director Broom submit the deputy's name to the American Red Cross for their heroism. Commissioner Brown stated that there was one Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) that also attended the fire and rescue yesterday. Director Broom informed the board that our county is lucky to have the EMR's that help with emergency events as they help to save the tax payers thousands of dollars for the services they perform as they are volunteers.

Commissioner Collins asked Director Broom if the county needed to contact Georgia DOT about a flashing sign for the entrance to the new EMS building on Highway 378. Director Seymour will find out what needs to be done.

B. Recreation Department

Director Glaze was absent as he had basketball events at the recreation department.

C. Finance Department

Director Bussey presented the Finance report and reminded the Board that the auditors were in house right now. Chairman stated that they were late this year and Director Bussey agreed but said the auditors assured her that the audit would be complete on time.

D. Public Works Department

Director Seymour told Chairman Johnson and Commissioner Brown that it had been an honor and a pleasure to work with them both. He presented his monthly reports and shared that he and the Chairman and met with Kathy Ross with USDA in regards to the water expansion project. He stated the project should be funded before January 1, 2017.

Commissioner Brown then asked about the detour on Chamberlain Ferry Road and Highway 220 and stated he has some real concerns about it. Director Seymour said he and the Chairman have contacted DOT asking for the detour to go to Cliatt Crossing and he will call them again tomorrow.

E. Planning and Zoning Department

Director Seymour presented his monthly reports.

7.

Revised Telecommunications Ordinance

Director Seymour presented the Revised Telecommunications Ordinance with the added set time period of 180 days to have the towers operational. The Mobile BILD Act also required some revisions to the Ordinance. Approval of the revised ordinance is required before being sent to Municode. Commissioner Cliatt made a motion to accept the Ordinance with the changes, seconded by Commissioner Collins and the motion carried unanimously.

8.

Highway 47 Welcome Sign Landscaping

Director Seymour reminded the Board that the County received \$13,500 Gateway grant from DOT to be used to place a Welcome Sign as you come into Lincoln County on Highway 47 just before Cherokee Park. Reynolds Landscape Contractors out of Athens was the only bid received for the landscaping for the sign. Commissioner Brown made a motion to accept the bid of \$11,995.10 from LRC, seconded by Commissioner Collins and the motion passed unanimously. Director Seymour informed the board that the cost of the welcome sign will come from TSPLOST and the lighting will be solar powered. He will send out a rendering of the sign to the board.

9.

Alcohol Beverage License Renewals

Clerk McKellar presented the businesses that had completed the application process for alcohol beverage license renewals. Commissioner Cliatt made a motion to approve the alcohol license for American Legion Post 597, seconded by Commissioner Collins, and the motion carried.

Commissioner Brown made of motion to approve the alcohol license for Habaneros Mexican Grill, seconded by Commissioner Williams, and the motion carried. Commissioner Cliatt abstained.

9. A

Commissioner Cliatt shared with those present that Garrison Heart is to be inducted into the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame in February 2017 and he would like to see the county honor he as well. He then thanked Chairman Johnson and Commissioner Brown for their years of service to Lincoln County. He thanked the Chairman for working thru the time of extremely low funds and helping the county to be where it is now without raising taxes. He thanked Commissioner Brown for all his work with the county parks and helping to keep the county doing well.

Commissioner Williams told Chairman Johnson and Commissioner Brown she enjoyed working with them both and thanked them for always being there to help her and answer her questions.

Commissioner Collins informed Chairman Johnson and Commissioner Brown that it had been a pleasure and an honor working with them both, that their hearts are in the right place in doing what is best for the county and he hoped that they did not go home and forget about the board but continue to help keep them accountable.

Mr. Ben Jackson, county attorney, then presented Chairman Johnson with a plaque for his eight years of service and one to Commissioner Brown for his four years of service.

10.

Chairman's Comments

Commissioner Brown told those present that it has been a privilege to service District 4 these past four years and he was really pleased with the employees of Lincoln County. There was a lot of learning with the position and that Commissioner Wade had that to look forward too. Commissioner Brown informed the board that this is the 9th year for Secret Santa. He thanked everyone who has helped to make it happen each year.

Chairman Johnson took this time to personally thank Traci Bussey, Finance Director, for all she has done for him and the county. He then thanked the employees of Lincoln County for all they do and that we are blessed with our personnel. People say our asset is the lake but it is also the people.

Chairman Johnson then thanked John Stone, Development Authority Director, for all he has done since taking the position. He has done a lot since he started including several solar parks.

14.

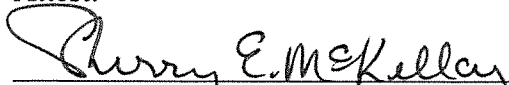
Adjourn

On a motion by Commissioner Cliatt, seconded by Commissioner Brown, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05pm.



Walker T. Norman, Chairman

Attest:



Sherry E. McKellar
County Clerk