

MACON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MARCH 1, 2004  
MINUTES

Chairman West convened the meeting at 6 p.m. All Board Members, the County Manager, County Attorney, Staff Attorney, Deputy Clerk, County Finance Director, members of the news media and interested citizens were present. Rev. Jeff King from the Macon Baptist Association gave the invocation.

MINUTES: Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson and seconded by Commissioner Shepherd the minutes from the January 22nd, February 2nd and 19th meetings were unanimously approved as submitted.

ADDITIONS/ADJUSTMENTS: The following items were added to the agenda: Industrial Park Loop Road, Highlands Hospital water line; Region A Aging Advisory Council appointments; Community Funding Pool continuation and appointments and a meeting change.

PUBLIC SESSION: No one registered to speak during public session.

FINANCE: Budget revisions - The following budget revisions were unanimously approved:  
revision #115, upon a motion by Commissioner Bryson and seconded by Commissioner Shepherd, setting up staff attorney budget for current year;  
revision #116, upon a motion by Commissioner Simpson and seconded by Commissioner Leatherman, appropriating \$11,759 Local E-Government Utilization Program Grant funds;  
revision #117, upon a motion by Commissioner Bryson and seconded by Commissioner Simpson, appropriating \$3,000 Rural Internet Access Authority Grant funds;  
revision #118, upon a motion by Commissioner Leatherman and seconded by Commissioner Shepherd, budgeting \$4,255 concealed handgun permits;  
revision #119, upon a motion by Commissioner Shepherd and seconded by Commissioner Simpson, budgeting \$10,647 canteen proceeds in the Jail/Law Enforcement Center;  
revision #120, upon a motion by Commissioner Simpson and seconded by Commissioner Leatherman, appropriating \$59,558 state funding for Bioterrorism in the Health Department;  
revision #121, upon a motion by Commissioner Simpson and seconded by Commissioner Bryson, appropriating \$8,583 in WIC funds;  
revision #122, upon a motion by Commissioner Leatherman and seconded by Commissioner Shepherd, appropriating \$2,259 for Health Immunization Action Plan;  
revision #123, upon a motion by Commissioner Bryson and seconded by Commissioner Simpson, budgeting \$650 donations for senior games;  
revision #124, upon a motion by Commissioner Leatherman and seconded by Commissioner Shepherd, appropriating \$470 in State and restitution checks for drug forfeitures;  
revision #125, upon a motion by Commissioner Bryson and Commissioner Simpson, correcting debt service budgets for BB&T re-negotiation of debt December 15, 2003;  
revision #126, upon a motion by Commissioner Bryson and seconded by Commissioner Leatherman, aligning budget for the Highlands Recreation Capital Project final expenditures;  
revision #127, upon a motion by Commissioner Shepherd and seconded by Commissioner Bryson, aligning budget for the Highlands Recreation Capital Project final expenditures;  
revision #128, upon a motion by Commissioner Simpson and seconded by Commissioner Leatherman, aligning LBJ Water/Sewer Capital Project to final expenditures;  
revision #129, upon a motion by Commissioner Shepherd and seconded by Commissioner

Simpson, aligning 441-South Water/Sewer Capital Project to final expenditures; revision #130, upon a motion by Commissioner Leatherman and seconded by Commissioner

Shepherd, aligning Schools Package B Capital Project to expenditures; and revision #131, upon a motion by Commissioner Bryson and seconded by Commissioner Leatherman, aligning Garage/Maintenance Facility Capital Project to final expenditures.

(Note: revisions with corresponding numbers are attached.)

Audit Contract - Finance Director Kim Woodley presented a contract for audit services with Martin Starnes &

Associates to perform the annual audit for the period ending June 30, 2004 and recommended the contract be approved. Commissioner Shepherd made a motion to approve the audit contract per attachment #1. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Leatherman and all favored. Lease with Board of Education - Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson and seconded by Commissioner Bryson the Board unanimously voted to approve a lease agreement with the Board of Education restating

current lease agreements in order to comply with debt refunding requirements per attachment #2.

GRANTS: School Health Nurse - Health Director Ken Ring requested authorization to submit a grant application for \$57,500 funding over a thirty month period for an additional school health nurse. Mr. Ring noted the grant had approval of the Board of

Health and the Board of Education. Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson and seconded by Commissioner Shepherd the Board unanimously voted to authorize submission of the grant application. Airport grant - Commissioner Simpson made a motion to authorize Airport Authority Chairman Milles Gregory to execute documents accepting a state airport aid grant of \$150,000 for perimeter security fencing at the airport

and to allocate \$15,000 from Contingency for the required local 10% match. The motion

was seconded by Commissioner Shepherd and all favored. Home/Community Care Block Grant - Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson and seconded by Commissioner Leatherman the Board unanimously voted to designate the Department on Aging as the lead agency to coordinate the County's Home/Community Care funding plan. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Leatherman and all favored. It was noted the current committee was appointed with terms to expire May 31, 2006 and Department on Aging Director Jan Moore stated individuals to fill the Highlands and Nantahala slots

were still needed if anyone had any suggestions.

6:30 P.M. - PUBLIC HEARING/Debt refinancing: Chairman West recessed regular session at 6:30 p.m. to convene the public hearing on refinancing of certain existing obligations as noticed. Norm Roberts stated entry level deputies in Jackson County make approximately \$2,000 more than Macon County and advocated using additional income realized from the refinancing to compensate deputies. Being no further comments the hearing was adjourned and the meeting reconvened in regular session.

FINANCING RESOLUTION: Upon motion by Commissioner Bryson and seconded by Commissioner Simpson the Board unanimously voted to adopt a resolution approving the installment financing contract to provide for the refinancing of certain existing obligations as outlined by the Finance Director. (Attachment #3)

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: A request from Nantahala Volunteer Fire Department for donation, for use as a substation, the property and buildings on the old Nantahala EMS property located off the wayah Road near the Nantahala Community Center was presented. Emergency Management Director Warren Cabe explained the property consist of approximately .75 acres and a two bay garage noting that the mobile

home had been surplused and removed from the property due to its poor condition. Mr. Cabe added location of a substation on the property would enhance fire protection for residents of the Nantahala Community as well as extend their district for insurance benefits. Upon motion by Commissioner Leatherman and seconded by Commissioner Bryson the Board unanimously voted to donate the property and buildings to the Nantahala Volunteer Fire and Rescue Squad as requested.

TAX DEPARTMENT: Releases - Upon motion by Commissioner Shepherd and seconded by Commissioner Leatherman the Board unanimously voted to approve tax releases for January in the amount of \$12,655.20 and February in the amount of \$1,857.38. (Printouts of releases are on file in the County Manager's Office and the Tax Department.) Refund - A tax refund for Rebecca R. Anderson in the amount of \$512.03

for a double listed mobile home was unanimously approved upon a motion by Commissioner Simpson and seconded by Commissioner Shepherd. Resolution - A resolution requiring tax certification prior to recording deeds was presented for consideration with a note that was included in legislation allowing the procedure, that the Board voted to approve implementation of the policy but never adopted a formal resolution. Commissioner Bryson made a motion to adopt the resolution and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Simpson. The Board discussed the resolution at length after which the motion was withdrawn and action tabled until the April meeting.

6:45 P.M. - PUBLIC HEARING/CDBG: Chairman West recessed the regular meeting at 6:45 p.m. to convene the public hearing to close out Community Development Block Grant, #01-C-0805, administered by Macon Program for Progress as noticed. Housing Director Rick Norton presented a progress report on the project. Commissioner Leatherman complimented Mr. Norton for his involvement and reliability in dealing with World Changers and involving them in the project. No one else wished to speak, the hearing was adjourned and the meeting reconvened in regular session.

CDBG PROGRESS REPORT: Upon motion of Commissioner Simpson and seconded by Commissioner Leatherman the Board unanimously voted to accept the progress report on the 2001 Scattered Site Rehabilitation Project (CDBG Grant #01-C-0805) as presented. (Attachment #4)

PUBLIC HEARING - Road Names: Chairman West recessed the regular meeting at 6:50 p.m. to convene the public hearing on road name additions and/or changes as noticed. Don Chapman stated their road name had been changed three times in ten years and opposed the change to Woods Edge Trail. Mr. Chapman stated it was very expensive to change passports, INS information, etc. Angie Kinsland, 911 Addressing Coordinator, explained there are now three residences on Mr. Chapman's road and in accordance with the County Ordinance, a road name is required. After discussion Commissioner Bryson made a motion to approve the road names, ranges and changes as submitted with the exception of Woods Edge Trail and asked 911 staff to work with Mr. Chapman to try to reach a resolution. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Simpson and all favored. (See attachment # 5)

INDUSTRIAL PARK LOOP ROAD: Upon a motion by Commissioner Leatherman and seconded by Commissioner Simpson the Board unanimously voted to (1) petition

911 addressing to name the road off Industrial Park Road circling the county soccer/baseball fields, fire training center, National guard Armory and SCC as "Industrial Park Loop", (2) to petition NCDOT to add the road to the State system for maintenance/paving and (3) to purchase from NCDOT necessary culverts/pipe for up grades to the road as discussed with NCDOT. (Attachment #6.)

HIGHLANDS WATER LINE: It was noted at the August, 2003 meeting the Board endorsed funding for the water line to the Highlands/Cashiers Hospital and the transfer of funds for the project needed formal approval. Commissioner Bryson stated the line would touch some of his property and requested permission to abstain. Upon motion by Commissioner Leatherman and seconded by Commissioner Simpson the Board unanimously voted to allow Commissioner Bryson to abstain. Chairman Simpson then made a motion to honor the previous endorsement and authorize transfer of an amount not to exceed \$101,000 for the extension of the water line toward the Highlands/Cashiers Hospital. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Shepherd and passed 4-0 with Commissioner Bryson abstaining.

AREA AGENCY ON AGING: Chairman West received a letter from the Area Agency on Aging stating members Dorothy Crawford, Commissioner Shepherd, and Ken Ring along with alternates Teresa Mallonee, Jane Kimsey and Melissa Leatherman needed to be reappointed. Commissioners Shepherd and Leatherman were granted permission to abstain upon a motion by Commissioner Bryson and seconded by Commissioner Simpson. Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson members and alternates were reappointed for the period July, 2004 - July 2005. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bryson and passed 3-0 with Commissioners Shepherd and Leatherman abstaining. (Note: Previous minutes indicate members and alternates named above were appointed at the July 7, 2003 meeting with terms to expire June 30, 2006 - Area Agency on Aging was resent copies of the information.)

COMMUNITY FUNDING POOL: Commissioner Bryson made a motion to continue with the Community Funding Pool concept for allocation to nonprofits. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Simpson and all favored. Appointments - Upon a motion by Commissioner Simpson and seconded by Commissioner Shepherd the Board unanimously voted to reappoint Mary Berry, Thomas Corrigan, Karen Wallace and Charlie McLaughlin to the Community Funding Pool with terms to expire March 1, 2007 and to appoint Sandy Vinson to replace Anne Jones who has moved from the area with a term to expire March 1, 2006.

APRIL MEETING: Upon motion by Commissioner Leatherman and seconded by Commissioner Bryson, due to schedule conflicts, the Board unanimously voted to change the regular April meeting from April 5th to April 12th at 6 p.m. at the Highlands Conference Center.

ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion of Commissioner Bryson and seconded by Commissioner Shepherd the meeting was adjourned.

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Sam K. Greenwood, County Manager  
Ex Officio Clerk to the Board

Mark B. West  
Board Chairman

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