

**MACON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
NOVEMBER 9, 2009
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Beale convened the meeting at 6 p.m. and welcomed everyone present. All Board Members, the County Manager, Finance Director, County Attorney, members of the news media and interested citizens were present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chairman Beale announced there was a work session scheduled for November 17th at 6 p.m. Commissioner Simpson stated that a couple of county employees had asked him about the need for a meeting on November 23rd if a work session is scheduled on the 17th and asked if the meeting on the 23rd could be cancelled. No one had any issue with canceling the meeting and the Chairman asked that proper notice be made of the change.

Commissioner Simpson also reported that a local veteran had spent four days in the Veteran's Hospital and there were no toiletries, such as shaving items, toothbrushes, etc., available for patients. He advised a collection of these items were being sent to the hospital and requested the news media to run some advertisements to collect some of these items to be sent to the hospital especially between now and Christmas.

Chairman Beale recognized Mr. Bruce Snyder, Chairman of the Graham County Board of Commissioners and welcomed him to the meeting.

INVOCATION: Rev. Michael McMahan from Prentiss Baptist Church gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The pledge to the flag was recited.

ADDITIONS/ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA: There were no additions or adjustments to the agenda and upon motion by Commissioner McClellan, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, the agenda was unanimously approved.

DOT – OFFER TO PURCHASE: County Manager Horton noted at a previous meeting an offer from the North Carolina Department of Transportation to purchase .051 acres from SR 1160 (Siler Road) to SR 1662 (Wiley Brown Road) at \$6,000 for the Siler Road extension project had been presented. He reported he had requested the tax assessor to review the offer and he had deemed the offer a fair price. Mr. Horton recommended acceptance of the offer. Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Davis, the Board unanimously voted to accept the offer and authorize the chairman and county manager to execute the required documents on behalf of the county.

LEASE – KEVIN CORBIN/SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT: Sheriff's Department Attorney Brian Welch addressed space needs of the department's Juvenile Investigation Unit and stated the proposed lease agreement with Kevin Corbin for space in the building

behind the courthouse could be handled without additional funding. Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner McClellan, the Board unanimously voted to approve the lease agreement and authorize execution by the County Manager and Chairman per **Attachment #1**.

TOWN OF FRANKLIN/DRAKE ROAD EASEMENT: The County Manager explained the town has need for a new pump station and has requested an easement to use property given to the county for the Greenway to build the pump station on. Mr. Horton added that there are no restriction on the deed to prohibit the construction but needs to be sure there are no restrictions by the granting agency of funds for the Greenway. He explained the Town has verbally agreed to assist in improvements and maintenance of Arthur Drake Road in exchange for the easement. The Manager requested authorization for him and the Chairman to work out an agreement with the Town that would be brought back to the Board for final approval. Upon motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Koppers, the Board authorized the Manager and the Chairman to negotiate an agreement with the Town for final Board approval.

CONSENT AGENDA: Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Koppers, the Board unanimously voted to approve the consent agenda as follows: **Minutes** – Approved the minutes of the October 12th meeting with the following correction: under *Smoky Mountain Center* changed the name *Shelly Coleman* to read *Shelly Foreman*, approved the October 22nd minutes and approved the October 28th minutes with the following correction: under *Announcements* changed.....*the Town of Franklin has been signed...to The Town of Franklin has approved.* **Budget revisions** – Approved budget revision #55 in the 5/6 School Construction Project transferring \$4,700 from Contingency into infrastructure for sign construction. **(Copy attached.)** **Tax releases** – Delayed approval of tax releases pending explanation by the Tax Department. **Census Proclamation** – Adopted the attached proclamation committing to partnering with the U.S. Census Bureau to help ensure a full and accurate count in 2010. **(Attachment #2)** **Public School Capital Building Fund** – Approved the Board of Education’s application for \$162,141 of the Public School Capital Building Fund for Technology. The Finance Officer noted there is no county match if funds are used for Technology, that she had confirmed the amount of funds in the account and that distribution of funds from the PSCBF has been suspended for two years to be used by the state to backfill school operating costs. **(Attachment #3)** **November 23rd meeting** – Approved canceling the November 23rd meeting and the Chairman will call a special meeting for November 17th.

APPOINTMENTS: **Highlands TDC** – Upon motion by Commissioner McClellan, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, approved the appointment of Helene Siegel as the Chairman of the Highlands TDC as required by the by-laws. **Library Board** – Upon motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, accepted the recommendation to appoint Daniel Kowal to fill the unexpired term of Ivanova Ryan on the Library Board of Trustees. Term will expire February 28, 2011.

ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion of Commissioner Koppers the meeting was adjourned.

Jack Horton, County Manager
Clerk to the Board

Ronnie Beale
Board Chairman