

**MACON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JANUARY 25, 2010
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Beale convened the meeting at 2 p.m. and welcomed everyone present. All Board Members, the County Manager, Deputy Clerk, Finance Director, members of the news media and several interested citizens were present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chairman Beale announced the Board would hold a work session at the SCC Groves Center on Saturday, February 6, 2010, at 8:30 a.m.

INVOCATION: Vice-Chairman Davis gave the invocation.

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

ADDITIONS/ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA: Upon motion by Commissioner McClellan, seconded by Commissioner Koppers, the Board unanimously voted to approve the agenda with the following adjustments: add a proclamation for Heart Health Month and move closed session (item #13) to precede item #8.

PUBLIC HEARING: Chairman Beale recessed the regular meeting and convened the public hearing on recommended amendments to the County Subdivision Ordinance as noticed. Permitting, Planning and Development (PP&D) Director reviewed the changes as recommended by the Planning Board. Also present were Planning Board Chairman Lewis Penland, County Planner Derek Roland and Planning Board Members Larry Stenger, Mark West and Mike Gruberman. No one wished to speak during the hearing. Chairman Beale recessed the hearing and the meeting reconvened in regular session. Upon motion by Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Koppers, the Board unanimously voted to adopt the Subdivision Ordinance as amended **per attachment #1.**

PUBLIC COMMENT: **Dave Stewart**, 110 Park Ridge Drive, stated the residents in Park Ridge Subdivision are attempting to form a home owners association and requested any help to fix their road. Mr. Stewart was instructed to contact the County Planning Department for instruction.

PROCLAMATION – HEART HEALTH MONTH: Chairman Beale read the attached proclamation proclaiming February, 2010 as Heart Health Month in Macon County and introduced Jennifer Hollifield, Tom Forkner and Bonnie Peggs who gave statistics on heart disease and planned activities. Upon motion by Commissioner Koppers, seconded by Commissioner McClellan, the Board unanimously voted to proclaim February, 2010 as Heart Health Month in Macon County. **(Attachment #2)**

CLOSED SESSION: Upon motion by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner McClellan, the Board unanimously voted to go into closed session for the purpose of attorney/client privilege/potential claim. The Deputy Clerk and Finance

Director were excused from closed session. No action was taken and the Board reconvened in regular session.

DAY CARE PRESENTATION: Chairman Beale introduced Chuck Sutton, Chairman of the study committee on child care in Macon County. Mr. Sutton noted the committee was appointed in February, 2009, to review the child care needs in the County and they had met every month since then. He advised that the County has a significant child care capacity shortage and the shortage is getting worse. After review of various statistics and findings Mr. Sutton presented an interim report of the committee with the following recommendations: a new child care center servicing 120-140 infants and toddlers (0-2 years old) is needed as an urgent step to address the existing capacity shortfall; public support to find a centrally located facility and provide initial capital will be required to start a center of this size; the center will require approximately two –three acres and 7,500 – 8,500 square feet of facility with internal remodeling of any existing building required to meet state child care license standards; the EDC and Macon County should develop financial incentives to encourage new child care home and institutional centers; a public awareness campaign is needed to make business owners and the public aware of the importance of quality child care to working families and the benefits to the community and the EDC initiatives to bring new businesses to Macon County should include child care capacity growth as a major goal. Mr. Sutton recognized fellow committee members: Chairman Beale, Commissioner Simpson, Wendi Cloer, Susie McCoy, Johnny Mira-Knippel, Barbara Waters and Bob Wright. He added that several other community members and service providers attended meetings and provided input for this assessment and report. Chairman Beale expressed appreciation to the committee and stated they would continue their work.

SERVICE AWARDS: Chairman Beale presented Finance Director Evelyn Southard and the Finance Staff with the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting commending the staff. The following employees were presented with service awards: ten years of service – Darlene Asher, Brian Burnette, Gary Davis, David Gray, Sonya Gunnin, Tim Holland, Linda Moody, Lou Sharp, Bobbie Soleau and Glen Spradlin; fifteen years - Margaret Bishop, Robbie Holland, Art Provencher, Pat Revis and Lynn Wright; twenty years – Larry Conley, Alan Durden, Tommy Keener, Lynn Nicholson, and Wesley Price; twenty-five years – Gary Ammons, Jeff James, Jane Morgan and Terry Watson; thirty years – Fannie Buchanan, Shelley Ledford, David O’Dell and Mike Tallent and thirty-five years – Jay Seay.

The meeting recessed for a reception in honor of the service recipients and then reconvened in regular session.

SOLID WASTE: Abandoned mobile home projects – Solid Waste Director Chris Stahl and PP&D Supervisor Jack Morgan presented the initial six-month status update on the Abandoned Mobile Home Project Initiative. The general consensus of the board was to continue the project for the remainder of the fiscal year and look at continuation at budget time. **MSW Scale Project** – Mr. Stahl reported eight bids for the scale area improvements at the County MSW had been received, reviewed and certified. Based on

review of the bids, Mr. Stahl and McGill Associates recommended that the bid be awarded to low bidder, WNC White Corporation in the amount of \$221,097.88. Commissioner Simpson made a motion to accept the recommendation and award the bid to WNC White Corporation. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Davis and passed unanimously. **Recovery Facility** – Mr. Stahl provided data on the operations at the Recovery Facility (former bale facility) including tonnages diverted and revenue/air space savings. No action was necessary.

CONSENT AGENDA: Upon motion by Commissioner McClellan, seconded by Commissioner Koppers, the Board unanimously approved the following items on the consent agenda: **Minutes** – Approved the minutes from the January 11th meeting. **Budget Revisions** – Approved the following budget revisions: revision #86, appropriating an additional \$39,695 in DSS for Crisis Program; revision #87, appropriating an additional \$22,000 Special Adoption Grant funds in DSS and revision #88, appropriating \$17,000 in Capital Projects for construction management. (Revisions with corresponding numbers attached.) **Tax releases** – Approved tax releases in the amount of \$1,200.95 (November at \$924.58 and December at \$276.37). (Print-out of releases on file in the Tax Office and the County Manager’s Office.) **Short term lease resolution** – Adopted a resolution as amended delegating to the County Manager the authority to enter into short term leases for county-owned property surplus to the county’s current needs per **attachment #3**. **School Construction Facilitator** – Approved extending the contract of School Construction Facilitator Terry Bell through June 30, 2010.

APPOINTMENTS: **Franklin/Nantahala TDC** – An appointment to the Franklin/Nantahala TDC replacing Kristy Dodge who resigned was tabled until the February meeting. **Highlands/TDC** – Commissioner McClellan made a motion to accept the recommendation to appoint Gary Drake replacing Hank Ross as the Town of Highlands representative on the Highlands/TDC and to appoint Amanda Sullivan to replace Mr. Drake as the at large representative. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Simpson and all favored. Both terms will expire September 15, 2012.

AJOURNMENT: Upon motion by Commissioner Davis the meeting was adjourned.

Jack Horton, County Manager
Clerk to the Board

Ronnie Beale
Board Chairman