

**Houston County Commissioners Meeting
August 15, 2017
Warner Robins, Georgia**

The Houston County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday August 15, 2017 at the Houston County Annex in Warner Robins, Georgia with Chairman Stalnaker presiding and Commissioners Walker, Robinson, McMichael and Thomson present. Also present were County Attorney Tom Hall, Director of Administration Barry Holland, Director of Operations Robbie Dunbar, Director of Purchasing Mark Baker, Fire / HEMA Chief Jimmy Williams, Solicitor -General Amy Smith, Chief Magistrate Bob Turner, Flint Energies Senior VP Jimmy Autry, Flint Energies VP of Member Solutions Rogie Roberson, Jim Taylor, Keith Newton, Walton and Becky Wood, and James Erdmanczyk.

Chairman Stalnaker gave the Invocation.

PFC Keath Morgan, US Army (ret.) led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and shared the story of his service during World War II. Mr. Morgan joined the Army at 22 years old and spent three years fighting overseas with the 101st Airborne Division after having been trained as a paratrooper. He traveled all over during the war including England, France, Italy and Germany. He fought and survived the Battle of the Bulge which was the last major German offensive campaign. He shared stories about meeting General Eisenhower, being in a foxhole with the winter so cold that his gun was caked with ice, being shot in the leg and wearing the same clothes for days and days. He recounted coming home after his service with thousands of fellow soldiers on the Queen Mary. He returned to his wife and children after the war. The 95-year old veteran was accompanied by his daughter Becky Mann, his grandson Chas and Chas' wife Hannah.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to approve the minutes from the August 1, 2017 meeting.

Mr. Walker presented a request from Solicitor-General Amy Smith to hire Marla Kujawa to fill the vacant Legal Secretary position in the Solicitor's office. Ms. Kujawa does have the necessary experience to qualify for the F-step.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve hiring Marla Kujawa at a Grade 13 Step F for the position of Legal Secretary in the Solicitor-General's office effective August 16, 2017.

Chairman Stalnaker recognized Solicitor-General Amy Smith and her daughter who were in attendance.

Mr. Walker presented a request from the Houston County Board of Education to annex into the City of Warner Robins Parcel 10A containing 20.4 acres, a portion of Parcel 7A containing 0.29 acres and the out parcel of Jerry Barker containing 0.05 acres located at Bear Country Blvd and west of Jerry Barker Parkway. Parcel 10A and the out parcel of Jerry Barker are currently zoned County C-2 while Parcel 7A is currently zoned County R-AG. The proposed zoning of all three upon annexation is Warner Robins C-2 General Commercial for a bus maintenance barn.

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Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to concur with a City of Warner Robins annexation request for the properties described as:

All those tracts or parcels of land situate, lying and being in Land Lot 156 of the 10th Land District of Houston County, Georgia, being known and designated as "Out Parcel Jerry Barker W. etal (vacant lot)", containing 0.05 acre; Parcel "10A" containing 20.4 acres; and "Portion of '7A'", containing 0.29 acre, all shown on a plat survey entitled "Rezoning Plat for Houston County B.O.E." prepared by Marty A. McLeod dated April 16, 2015.

Mr. Walker presented a request from the ASIL Group, LLC for annexation into the City of Warner Robins for an 8.86-acre tract located in the northwest corner of Old Perry Road and East Bob White Road. The property is currently zoned County R-AG (vacant wooded tract) and the proposed zoning upon annexation is Warner Robins R-3 General Residential District. The developer's intent is to incorporate this tract into the Woodlands subdivision (Phase 5) that was recently annexed into the City of Warner Robins.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to concur with a City of Warner Robins annexation request with the following stipulations:

- 1) Driveway / Road access will not be permitted onto East Bob White Road;
- 2) Potable water distribution will be secured through the subdivision not through the East Bob White main;

For the property described as:

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 248, 10th District, Houston County, Georgia and more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at an iron pin set at the intersection of the west right of way of Old Perry Road (80' right of way) and the north right of way of East Bob White Road (30' right of way allowed); thence following said west right of way of Old Perry Road along a curve with an arc distance of 15.45' subtended by a chord of north 13 degrees 44 minutes 59 seconds east a distance of 15.45' with a radius of 878.05' to an iron pin set also being known as the true point of beginning (POB); thence leaving said right of way south 89 degrees 50 minutes 05 seconds west a distance of 527.36' to an iron pin set; thence north 00 degrees 08 minutes 39 seconds east a distance of 609.61' to an iron pin set; thence south 89 degrees 33 minutes 48 seconds east a distance of 751.51' to an iron pin capped on the west right of way of Old Perry Road; thence along said right of way the following two courses: south 21 degrees 05 minutes 40 seconds west a distance of 537.56' to a calculated corner; thence following along a curve with an arc distance of 105.91' subtended by a chord of south 17 degrees 42 minutes 34 seconds west a distance of 105.84' with a radius of 878.05' to an iron pin set and the true point of beginning. Said tract known as Tract "A" containing 8.86 acres and shown in Plat Book 79, Page 132.

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Chairman Stalnaker commented that he had spoken to Mr. Newton about the application and confirmed that the property in question was contiguous to R-3 property in the City of Warner Robins.

Mr. Thomson presented an Intergovernmental Agreement between the County and the City of Warner Robins to construct sidewalks in the vicinity of the Freedom Field sports facility. The sidewalks (approx. 6,750 linear feet) will be built on Cohen Walker Drive and Bear Country Drive which lie both within the city limits of Warner Robins and in unincorporated Houston County. The project will be accomplished utilizing the City's existing construction contract with Lakay Enterprises. The County will administer the project and the City will invoice the County for the agreed upon percentage of the project.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to authorize Chairman Stalnaker signing an intergovernmental agreement with the City of Warner Robins concerning sidewalk construction in the vicinity of the Freedom Field sports facility on Cohen Walker Drive and Bear Country Drive.

Chairman Stalnaker remarked that the City's contractor was already onsite and that the work appeared to be progressing very well.

Mr. Thomson presented the Houston Lake Dam Emergency Action Plan. The EPD requires all Category I dams to have an approved Emergency Action Plan (EAP). Houston Lake Dam qualifies as a Category I dam. The EAP is intended to provide guidance to dam operators in the event of a dam breach or any other emergency type situation.

This plan has been reviewed by Public Works personnel and Chief Williams and is in proper order to now be submitted to the EPD.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to authorize Chairman Stalnaker signing the Houston Lake Dam Emergency Action Plan and submit the same to the Environmental Protection Division's Safe Dam Program.

Mr. McMichael presented a request from the Detention Center for the approval of a bid on two transport vehicles for use at the Detention Center. Three dealers responded with Purchasing recommending award to the low bidder Don Jackson Chrysler-Dodge-Jeep-Ram of Union City at a unit cost of \$22,237. The total cost of these two vehicles will be reimbursed from Inmate Funds.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to approve the award of two new 2018 Dodge Chargers to Don Jackson Chrysler-Dodge- Jeep-Ram of Union City, GA at a unit cost of \$22,237 or a total amount of \$44,474. Inmate funds will reimburse 100% of the cost of these vehicles.

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Mr. McMichael presented a request for approval of a bid for improvements to the fuel system at the Landfill. Improvements include installation of new fuel dispensers, pumps and a system controller. Bids were solicited with two bidders responding. Purchasing recommends award to the low bidder Harris Service at a cost of \$19,574.55.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve the award of the fuel system improvement project at the Landfill to Harris Service & Equipment Co. of Byron in the amount of \$19,574.55. Solid Waste Capital Funds will fund this project.

Director of Purchasing Mark Baker indicated that the timeline for the project would be about 4 weeks.

Ms. Robinson presented a Memorandum of Agreement with NAMI of Central Georgia. The Accountability Court would like to engage NAMI of Central Georgia as an independent contractor to provide therapeutic counseling services and healthcare education for court participants. The contract would run through the end of the fiscal year (June 30, 2018). The cost of these services will be reimbursable under the existing grant.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to authorize Chairman Stalnaker signing the Memorandum of Agreement with NAMI of Central Georgia whereby NAMI will perform the duties of therapeutic counseling services and healthcare education for Accountability Court participants.

Ms. Robinson presented an Independent Contractor Attorney Agreement for Caralyn Huddleston to provide indigent defense as needed in the Juvenile Court. Ms. Huddleston has been out on maternity leave and is returning September 1st. Attorney Betty Wilcox has been covering Ms. Huddleston's caseload in her absence. This contract will cover ten months through the balance of this fiscal year (June 30, 2018). Judge Edwards recommends this new contract.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to authorize Chairman Stalnaker signing an Independent Contractor Agreement with Caralyn Huddleston at \$20,000 per year to provide for the defense of indigent persons appearing in the Houston County Juvenile Court. This agreement is for a ten (10) month period due to the Contractor's leave of absence for the first two (2) months of the contract year. Total amounts to be paid for this contract is \$16,666.70 at a monthly rate of \$1,666.67. This agreement may be renewed from year to year subject to an annual review of performance conducted by the County in conjunction with the Juvenile Court.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to approve the payment of the bills totaling \$983,878.43.

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Chairman Stalnaker opened the meeting for public comments.

Chairman Stalnaker recognized Flint Energies Senior VP Jimmy Autry and asked him when his official retirement would take effect.

Mr. Autry replied that his last official day was November 10th.

Roland Berry, 216 Spanish Trail, Kathleen stated that he is a Houston County resident living in Royal Oaks subdivision for 13 years and is a retired U.S. Army Officer and government employee. He remarked that he was appreciative of the Board, the Fire Department leadership and County staff for the recent action taken to purchase land on Lake Joy Road for the purpose of building a new full-time fire station to replace the current Fire Station #5 on Lake Joy. He commended everyone for looking into the future for the community's fire protection needs.

Chairman Stalnaker thanked Mr. Berry for his remarks but credited both Chief Williams and Director of Operations Robbie Dunbar for locating a suitable property. He remarked that they both worked very diligently and even had help from several citizens in the area locating that particular site.

Chief Magistrate Bob Turner inquired about his request to purchase audio/visual equipment for use in the courtrooms at the Magistrate Court building. He explained that he is requesting the County be reimbursed for the cost through the Law Library Fund.

Chairman Stalnaker and Director of Administration Barry Holland explained that the process was ongoing and that there may be some additional equipment required upon further review by the MIS Department.

Judge Turner also commented on the planned removal of the semi-circular driveway in front of the Magistrate Court building that presents somewhat of a safety issue.

Chairman Stalnaker indicated that the work to remove the driveway would take place soon.

Judge Turner also briefly discussed the process of the court case management system project and thanked the Board for their support of the court system.

There being no further comments the meeting continued.

Chairman Stalnaker opened the meeting for commissioners' comments.

Mr. Walker commented that Mr. Morgan's story pulled at his heartstrings especially due to his own father being a WWII veteran as well. He thanked all veterans for their service.

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Ms. Robinson thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and participating.

Mr. Thomson remarked that he felt blessed to have met Mr. Morgan.

Mr. McMichael commented that Mr. Morgan was certainly part of the greatest generation that ever lived. He also thanked Mr. Berry for his comments.

Chairman Stalnaker commented that it was wonderful to have recognized both Mr. Morgan from his generation as well as young Ms. Smith.

Motion to Adjourn by Mr. Walker, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all.

Barry Holland
Director of Administration

Chairman

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner