

**Houston County Commissioners Meeting  
February 16, 2016  
Warner Robins, Georgia**

The Houston County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 16, 2016 at the Houston County Annex in Warner Robins, Georgia with Chairman Stalnaker presiding and Commissioners Walker, McMichael, Thomson and Robinson present. Also present were County Attorney Tom Hall, Director of Administration Barry Holland, Director of Operations Robbie Dunbar, Personnel Director Ken Carter, Purchasing Director Mark Baker, Library Director Sara Paulk, Library Board member Mary Mantiplly, Bob Mantiplly, Library Board member Carrie Smith, Library Board member Pam Yates, Walton and Becky Wood, Marsha Hall, Jeff Grube.

Commissioner Thomson led the audience in the Invocation.

Walton Wood led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Stalnaker then recognized Mrs. Mary Mantiplly of the Houston County Library Board for her service to the community. After reading a resolution of appreciation, he praised her commitment and selfless service to the library system and presented her with a pen set and a County coin as small tokens of the County's gratitude. Chairman Stalnaker then introduced Library Director Sara Paulk who presented Mrs. Mantiplly with three books that have been dedicated in honor of her service on the Board and will now be placed into circulation at all three branches of the library for patrons to enjoy. Mrs. Mantiplly thanked the Commissioners for their support of the library system and for the honor of serving on the Library Board. She also introduced her husband Bob.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to approve the minutes from the meeting of February 2, 2016.

Mr. Walker presented the request to hire Ms. Joann Whatley for the position of Personnel Specialist that will be vacant upon the retirement of Linda Trammell in early March. Ms. Whatley does have the necessary experience above the minimum requirement to qualify for the D-step.

Mr. Walker commended Linda Trammell for her years of service to the County.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve the hire of Ms. Joann Whatley for the position of Personnel Specialist at Grade 17-D effective February 22, 2016.

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Mr. Thomson presented the Board of Elections request to hire the necessary workers for the upcoming March 1<sup>st</sup> Presidential Preference Primary / Special Election.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve the hiring of poll workers for the upcoming March 1, 2016 Presidential Preference Primary / Special Election.

	<u>Each</u>	<u>Total</u>
17 Managers (Precinct) 2,210.00	\$130.00	\$
34 Assistant Managers (Precinct) 3,060.00	\$ 90.00	\$
55 Clerks 4,400.00	\$ 80.00	\$
106 Training 2,650.00	\$ 25.00	\$
7 Janitors	\$ 15.50	\$ 108.50
3 Janitors	\$ 25.00	\$ 75.00
117 TS Units	\$ 3.00	\$ 351.00
1 Election Night Helper	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
1 Supply Pick Up Helper	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
2 Election Night Check In	\$ 50.00	\$ 100.00
17 Supply Pick Up / Return Supplies 170.00	\$ 10.00	\$
17 Cell Phones 170.00	\$ 10.00	\$
3 Optical Scan Clerks 300.00	\$100.00	\$
3 DRE Clerks	\$100.00	<u>\$ 300.00</u>
	TOTAL	
\$13,994.50		

Mr. Thomson reminded everyone that early voting is now taking place this week and next at three different locations; the Board of Elections office in Perry, the Houston Health Pavilion (old Houston Mall) in Warner Robins, and at the new Sonny Watson Health Sciences building at Central Georgia Technical College.

Chairman Stalnaker remarked that the voter turnout for early voting so far has been light.

Ms. Robinson presented a bill that has been introduced to dissolve the Houston County Commission on Children and Youth. The surviving entity will be Kids' Journey. The bill states the assets and liabilities of Houston County Commission on Children and Youth will go to the Board of Commissioners of Houston County. The Kids' Journey Board of Trustees is not aware of any asset or liabilities of the Houston County Commission on Children and Youth. The Kids' Journey Board has signed an Indemnification Agreement to hold the Board of Commissioners of Houston County harmless for any and all liabilities if any are found.

County Attorney Tom Hall explained that the bill has been introduced already and that the surviving entity will be the Kids' Journey as a 501(c)3.

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Chairman Stalnaker remarked that this bill was attempted the past year or two but failed to move forward as a priority at the time.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to approve the Indemnification agreement from Kids' Journey Board of Trustees and authorize Chairman Stalnaker to sign the agreement.

Chairman Stalnaker opened a public hearing concerning the abandonment of right of way for a portion of Hwy 127 Loop. Speaking in favor of the abandonment Director of Operations Robbie Dunbar explained that Public Works had realized about a year ago that this portion of the right of way was still public and County maintained rather than private. He explained that the church congregation leases from the current property owner and that they had no objections to the abandonment. Mr. Dunbar, Mr. McMichael and Attorney Hall have spoken with the property owner and met with the church congregation to discuss this action. Mr. McMichael explained that the church is currently in the process of buying the property and that the right of way is primarily used by the postman and Advanced Disposal when they collect the trash.

There was no opposition to the abandonment.

There being no further comments, the meeting was continued.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to approve the abandonment of that portion of the right of way for Highway 127 Loop formerly Old Houston Factory Road northeast of the northeast boundary of Tract 3 as shown on the plat of survey recorded in Plat Book 73, Page 94, Clerk's Office, Houston County Superior Court to the termination at the right of way of the new Georgia State Highway 127 a/k/a Houston Lake Road. The portion of the right of way being abandoned contains utilities which shall remain within the abandoned right of way pursuant to utility easement rights.

Mr. McMichael presented a bid for the replacement of the oil/gasoline/grease service truck in the Roads Department. Transport Equipment Co. of Albany submitted a low mileage demo truck that will best serve the County's needs. Purchasing and Public Works staff recommend award to Transport Equipment Co.

Mr. McMichael explained that although the vehicle is a factory demo service truck the warranty will still begin from the date of the title transfer not from the date of manufacture.

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Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to approve the award of one 2016 Peterbilt truck with Taylor Pump and Lift service body for use in the Roads Department to Transport Equipment Co. of Albany, GA in the amount of \$138,000. This vehicle is a budgeted purchase to be funded by SPLOST 2012.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$1,299,506.23

Public Comments:

Mr. Jeff Grube, 104 Falling Leaves, Warner Robins commended Mrs. Mantiply remarking that she was an inspiration to him while a student at Northside High School. He thanked the Board for recognizing Mrs. Mantiply for her contributions.

Commissioners Comments:

Mr. Thomson recognized Library Board member Ms. Carrie Smith who was in attendance.

Mr. Walker remarked that both Mary and Bob Mantiply were great mentors to many people over their careers as educators.

Chairman Stalnaker reminded everyone to get out and vote either during the early voting dates of this week and next or on Election Day.

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

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Barry Holland  
Director of Administration

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Chairman

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Commissioner

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Commissioner

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