

**Houston County Commissioners Meeting
July 18, 2017
Warner Robins, Georgia**

The Houston County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday July 18, 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 Personnel Ken Carter, Fire/HEMA Chief Jimmy Williams, Purchasing Director Mark Baker, Chief Building Inspector Tim Andrews, Flint Energies VP of Member Solutions Rogie Roberson, Water Superintendent Dan Walker, Warner Robins Mayor Randy Toms, Ned Sanders, Charlie McGlamry, Keith Newton, Rolling Thunder Georgia Chapter 3 President Buster Hickam, Rolling Thunder Georgia Chapter 3 Public Relations Officer Rita Starnes-Tinney, USAF Brig Gen James Sehorn (ret.), USAF Lt. Col Crawford Hicks (ret.), US Army PFC Bill Freeman (ret.), James Erdmanczyk, Walton and Becky Wood, and Ansel Peck.

Commissioner Thomson gave the Invocation.

1SG James "Buster" Hickam, III, US Army (ret.) led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance and detailed his 22-year military career. Buster joined the Army after graduating from Warner Robins High School and after a stint at Fort Bragg received orders to go to Germany. During his service he met his wife, had three children and earned a masters degree from the University of Oklahoma. Upon retiring he worked as a contractor for the military. He also co-founded the local chapter of Rolling Thunder, a non-profit national veterans' organization whose mission is to raise awareness about military POWs and MIA. He was inspired to help establish the local chapter after participating in the Rolling Thunder Ride for Freedom in Washington, D.C. in 2010. He also spoke of the inspiration he drew from USAF Colonel Patricia Blassie, who was stationed at Robins AFB at the Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command, and her brother, an Air Force pilot shot down in South Vietnam in 1972, identified through DNA testing and eventually brought back home. He spoke of the Ride Home event that will take place the third weekend of September.

Chairman Stalnaker recognized Mr. Walton Wood who presented Mr. Ned Sanders and Mr. Charlie McGlamry framed photographs of each taken at last week's Progress Park and Visionary Park dedication.

Mr. Wood then presented framed photographs of the three POWs, Crawford Hicks, Bill Freeman, and James Sehorn that were taken at the July 5th presentation of the Chair of Honor and POW/MIA flag at the courthouse.

Mr. Hickam introduced the POWs individually and they each shared a brief part of their inspiring story.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to approve the minutes from the meetings of July 5, 2017.

Mr. Walker introduced the first reading of the Amendment to Soil Erosion, Sedimentation and Pollution Control Ordinance.

County Attorney Tom Hall then briefed the Board on the necessity of the amendment explaining that it is largely needed to bring County code in line with changes in State law. A second reading and public hearing will be held at the August 1, 2017 Board meeting at which time action may be taken.

Mr. Thomson presented the uncollected debt that needs to be written off for FY2017 for the following departments:

Water System	\$17,201.53
Waste Collection (Sanitation)	\$ 9,003.31
Solid Waste Disposal (Landfill)	\$ 0.00

Efforts to collect these bad debts will continue.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to authorize the FY2017 Water Fund debt write-off of \$17,201.53; the Waste Collections (Sanitation) debt write-off totaling \$9,003.31 (\$7,075.14 for routes 10 thru 80 and \$1,928.17 for route 90). The Solid Waste Disposal (Landfill) has no debt to write-off.

Chairman Stalnaker remarked that the small amount of bad debt is an exceptional accomplishment on the part of the County staff and commended them for an outstanding job.

Mr. Thomson presented a change order with Motorola on the 800 MHz E-911 Communications Upgrade project. This change order will credit back \$100,000 of the contract contingency that was in place to cover any necessary radio tower reinforcement at the existing RF sites. The structural analysis performed on each tower site revealed that reinforcement was not necessary.

Mr. Thomson remarked that this is the first and only change order expected on this project and it is actually a deductive change order that reduces the contract amount.

Motion by Mr. Thomson, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to authorize Chairman Stalnaker signing Change Order #001 with Motorola Solutions, Inc. on the 800 MHz E-911 Communications Upgrade project. The original contract price of \$6,500,000 will reduce by \$100,000 to \$6,400,000.

Mr. McMichael presented a request for approval of a bid for purchase of five new Patrol vehicles. Purchasing recommends award to state-wide contract holder Hardy Chevrolet at a unit cost of \$32,898.

Motion by Mr. McMichael, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to authorize the award of five new 2017 Chevrolet Tahoe Pursuit SUVs for use by the Sheriff's Department Patrol Division from Hardy Chevrolet of Dallas, GA for a unit cost of \$32,898. Total amount of \$164,490 is to be funded by the 2012 SPLOST.

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Ms. Robinson presented a request from the Juvenile Court for approval of the Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant for FY18 in the amount of \$240,000. The Houston County Juvenile Court will refer youth to our contractor Community Solutions, Inc. (CSI) to receive Multi-Systemic Therapy (MST) services under this grant. The purpose of the program is to serve youth in the community that would otherwise be committed to Georgia's Department of Juvenile Justice.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. Thomson and carried unanimously by all to approve the acceptance of the Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant (#Y18-8-017) in the amount of \$240,000 from the State of Georgia-Criminal Justice Coordinating Council for the purpose of reducing felony commitments to the Department of Juvenile Justice. Chairman Stalnaker is authorized to sign all grant documents.

Ms. Robinson presented a request to authorize Chairman Stalnaker signing a Memorandum of Agreement between Houston County, the Phoenix Center, and the Mental Health Accountability Court. The Phoenix Center, operating as a contractor, will provide treatment services to offenders with mental health and substance abuse issues, and the Mental Health Accountability Court grant will cover the cost.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to authorize Chairman Stalnaker signing a Memorandum of Agreement between Houston County and Phoenix Center Behavioral Health Services for the purpose of providing contracted clinical treatment services for the Mental Health and Veterans Accountability Court. The agreement term will cover the period from July 1, 2017 thru June 30, 2018. Payment under this agreement will come from the Mental Health and Veterans Accountability Court grant.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. McMichael and carried unanimously by all to approve the payment of the bills totaling \$1,352,416.48.

Chairman Stalnaker reminded the general public and the news media that the Board will hold a special called meeting on Tuesday, July 25, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. in the Commissioner's Board Room of the County Annex building in Warner Robins to set the 2017 tax levy and to make year-end budget adjustments. He commented that in his opinion the two most important meetings of the year are the meetings at which the Board approves the budget for the coming fiscal year and the meeting at which the millage rate is set.

Chairman Stalnaker opened the meeting for public comments.

James Erdmanczyk, 123 S. 3rd Street, Apartment 9, Warner Robins expressed his appreciation for the actions of 911 call-taker Jay Mullis relating to a recent shoplifting incident.

Chief Williams invited everyone to the July 31st dedication at 9:30 a.m. for the new fire station on the 247 Spur near the Perdue chicken plant. He remarked that the station was staffed as of this morning and was already answering calls.

Chairman Stalnaker remarked that he toured the completed facility recently and that it will be an asset to the County residents for many years to come.

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There being no further comments the meeting continued.

Chairman Stalnaker opened the meeting for commissioners' comments.

Chairman Stalnaker once again recognized Mr. McGlamry, his son-in-law Mr. Newton, and Mr. Sanders thanking them for their continued community involvement.

Mr. McGlamry offered to partner with the County on a future intersection improvement.

Mr. Newton commented that he is proud of his father-in-law and of the recently dedicated Visionary Park.

Mr. McMichael thanked Chairman Stalnaker for his leadership being the catalyst for the construction of both parks and for arranging the POW/MIA chair and flag presentations. He especially appreciated the stories of the POWs as his uncle was a WWII POW.

Mr. Thomson thanked Mr. Hickam, his Rolling Thunder group, and the POWs for sharing their story and passion. He also thanked Mr. McGlamry for his efforts in the community.

Ms. Robinson thanked everyone for coming and remarked that Mr. and Mrs. Wood's photographs were beautiful mementos of special occasions and honoring our veterans.

Mr. Walker thanked Mr. Sanders and Mr. McGlamry counting them as two great Houston Countians for their contributions. He likewise thanked Mr. and Mrs. Wood.

Chairman Stalnaker thanked Mr. and Mrs. Wood again for the beautiful photographs that they presented and for the photographs that they take for each military speaker at Board meetings.

There being no further comments the meeting continued.

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

Barry Holland
Director of Administration

Chairman

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner