

MINUTES
Monroe County Board of Commissioners
August 4, 2009

The Monroe County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on August 4, 2009 at 6:04 pm. In attendance were Chairman James Vaughn, Vice Chairman Jim Peters, Commissioner Larry Evans, Commissioner Jim Ham, Commissioner Mike Bilderback, County Attorney Mike Dillon, Human Resource Officer Janet Abbott and County Administrator Anita Buice.

A Resolution was presented to the Board in recognition of the accomplishments of the **Honorable Judge J. Ben Spear, Jr.** Chairman Vaughn made a motion to approve the Resolution (attached), seconded by Commissioner Ham and passed 5-0. Chairman Vaughn presented the Resolution to the family of Judge Spear and stated that the County will display the same Resolution in Judge Spear's former office in the Courthouse.

Tom Queen, of the **Georgia Department of Transportation**, appeared before the Board to discuss upcoming projects in Monroe County (attached).

Matt Perry, Emergency Management Director, addressed the Board with an update on the progress of work at the rail crossing at the Training Center and Collier Road. He also asked permission to apply for **FEMA Mitigation Grants**. Commissioner Ham made a motion to apply for a grant to replace the bridge on Montpelier Springs Road and the bridge on Higgins Mill Road. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Peters and passed 5-0. Chairman Vaughn made a motion to apply for a year of the warning call service and for four warning sirens. Chairman Vaughn also made a motion to ask the Regional Commission for technical assistance to help write the applications. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Ham and passed 5-0.

Marie Allen, Water Office Supervisor, presented bids for purchasing **water pipe**. Commissioner Bilderback questioned where the pipe was to be placed. Chairman Vaughn informed the Board that the plans for the projects in District 3 were submitted to the Environmental Protection Division and should be ready to bid within the next two weeks. Commissioner Ham made a motion to approve the low bidder, Hayes Pipe Supply, Inc. (attached). Motion was seconded by Commissioner Peters and passed 5-0.

Commissioner Ham made a motion to approve **internet service** for three fire stations, Cabaniss, Smarr and Juliette. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Peters and passed 5-0. The Board requested that the issue be revisited in a year to be sure the connection was not being abused.

By General Consensus, the Board approved the agreement with **Natural Resources Conservation Service** for the County to provide funding for Carolyn Toman's position.

Commissioner Evans made a motion to approve the updated **Radar List** to include a new school zone for Sutton Elementary on Hwy 83 North. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Bilderback and passed 4-1 with Commissioner Ham opposed.

Chairman Vaughn explained that because of the reorganization of the **Regional Commission**, he and Mayor Howard of the City of Forsyth had to elect one voting member and two non voting members to the Commission. They had chosen Dick Bazemore as the voting member and Eric Wilson and Melvin Lawrence as the non-voting members.

Commissioner Evans made a motion to appoint Commissioner Bilderback to the **Regional Bicycle Pedestrian Plan Advisory Committee**. Commissioner Ham seconded the motion and motion passed 4-0 with Commissioner Bilderback abstaining.

Commissioner Peters made a motion to approve a quote of \$1,795 to install a door at the **Cabaniss Fire Station** (attached) with the funds to come from his infrastructure. Commissioner Ham seconded the motion and motion passed 5-0.

Chairman Vaughn made a motion to approve a **lease agreement** (attached) with Charles Matich, Sr. for the building at 23 E. Johnston Street for the use of the Clerk of Courts office until the end of the year with money to come from contingency. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Bilderback and passed 5-0.

By General Consensus, the Board authorized the Chairman to sign a letter of support for an **Intercity Rail Corridor** (attached) to connect the City of Atlanta and Macon.

Commissioner Evans made a motion to approve Meadows Insulation Company to install blown R-30 insulation in the attic of the **Bolingbroke Fire Station** in the amount

of \$1,585.00 (attached) with the money to come from Commissioner Bilderback's infrastructure. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Peters and passed 5-0.

Commissioner Peters made a motion to approve **Accounts Payable** checks #33959-34101 (attached) in the amount of \$383,964.34. Commissioner Evans seconded the motion and motion passed 5-0.

By General Consensus, the Board asked Chairman Vaughn and the County Administrator to investigate why the **inmate medical bills** were higher than normal and to see if any alternatives were available.

Commissioner Evans made a motion to waive the reading and approve the **minutes of July 21, 2009** with changes made by Commissioner Bilderback. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Peters and passed 5-0.

The Board then reviewed the **inmate medical agreements** with several local physicians. Commissioner Ham would like for an incentive to be written into the contract to have more non emergency services rendered at the jail and not at the emergency room. Commissioner Ham made a motion to approve the contracts (attached), seconded by Commissioner Bilderback for discussion. The Board discussed possible solutions to the problem of high inmate medical bills. Motion passed 5-0.

Commissioner Evans made a motion to approve the following **Payroll Status Change Reports**: Herbert Truett Goodwin, Jr. as Chief Registrar and Jerry Huffman as a floater at the Solid Waste Department while another employee is on leave. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Peters and passed 4-1 with Commissioner Ham opposed.

By General Consensus, the Board set a **Called Meeting** for August 11, 2009 at 7:00 pm.

Jim Mickle of the **Bolingbroke Volunteer Fire Department** addressed the Board and suggested that a more open line of dialog would be helpful between Monroe County and the volunteers.

At 7:39 pm, Commissioner Ham made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Chairman Vaughn and passed 5-0.