

SCHLEY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Tuesday, December 10, 2019

The Schley County Board of Commissioners held their regularly scheduled monthly meeting December 10, 2019. Those present were: Chairman Greg Barineau, Vice-Chairman Brian Belcher, Commissioner Bill McClellan, Commissioner Dennis Jones, Commissioner Mike Hammack County Manager Bill Sawyer, County Clerk, Kathy Bruer and Jessica Ellis.

ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Barineau called the meeting to order.

ITEM 2. INVOCATION

Commissioner Jones gave the invocation.

ITEM 3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chairman Barineau stated to add under County Manager Report that we will have another meeting, December 18th, at 4:00. Vice-Chairman Belcher made a motion to approve the Agenda, with changes, seconded by Commissioner McClellan, and all were in favor.

ITEM 4. APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 12TH MINUTES

Commissioner McClellan made a motion to approve the November 12th minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Hammack, and all were in favor.

Vice-Chairman Belcher made a motion to approve the November 12th Executive Session Minutes, seconded by Commissioner McClellan, and all were in favor.

ITEM 5. APPROVAL/DENIAL APPOINTMENT OF COUNTY LEGISLATIVE COORDINATOR

Bill Sawyer stated that he has served in that capacity for the past seven years and if there was no objection, he would like to continue. Bill stated that he had to go to Atlanta a couple times a year for meetings. Commissioner Hammack stated that since Bill was retiring in June that he thought it would be a good idea to have someone with him. Bill stated you get pre-filed legislation and are aware of what's going on that will affect Schley County. When he goes to Atlanta, he will meet with various agencies as needed. Commissioner McClellan stated he'd be interested. Commissioner Jones made a motion to list Bill Sawyer and Commissioner McClellan as the Legislative Coordinators, seconded by Commissioner Hammack, and all were in favor.

ITEM 6: APPROVAL/DENIAL REAPPOINTMENT OF NANCY YOUNG TO THE BOARD OF HEALTH

Bill stated Nancy is up for reappointment and she wants to do it. Commissioner Jones made a motion to reappoint Nancy, seconded by Commissioner Hammack, and all were in favor.

ITEM 7: APPROVAL/DENIAL OF 2020 STATE HOLIDAYS

Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the Holidays as presented, seconded by Vice-Chairman Belcher, and all were in favor.

ITEM 8: UPDATE ON EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK PERSONNEL POLICY REVIEW

Bill Sawyer stated he has the draft of the language to be added to the Personnel Handbook. Commissioner McClellan asked if that was all that was addressed; Sawyer stated yes. Bill Sawyer stated that there is a meeting scheduled for December 18th at 4:00 p.m. to meet with Jimmy Skipper. The topics of discussion is the handbook and SPLOST. Commissioner McClellan stated he thought the entire handbook was being updated. This was tabled until after the December 18th meeting.

ITEM 9: DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED NUISANCE ORDINANCE

Bill Sawyer stated he has called the EPD several times about the Deer Processer and sent the Game Warden over to the business. The latest was 1 ½ weeks ago. Bill said he has started getting calls again. The City has picked up the trash but it's still a problem. Bill suggested writing a letter to Environmental Science and the Game Warden. Chairman Barineau suggested having the trash picked up twice per week. Commissioner Jones went by there Sunday and he said the smell was terrible but there was lime out there and the trash was full. Commissioner McClellan asked if it was a City issue. Chairman Barineau stated that the City manages the trash, but the County manages the Ordinances. Vice-Chair Belcher stated he can have it set up with the City to have his trash picked up any time he needs it; the problem is the dumpster isn't being washed out, so the smell continues. Chairman Barineau stated that we can't manage the weather and with the warm weather the smell will increase regardless. Chairman Barineau asked Bill if he had gone to see him; Sawyer said he had talked to him on the phone. He has received calls from TCI, W. Chatham and one or two others. Chairman Barineau said he's talked to the guy and he's willing to do what he needs within reason. We can come up with all the Ordinances we want but he'll be grandfathered into most of them. Bill Sawyer stated it was his idea to add lime. Chairman Barineau stated he will go see him this week. Vice-Chair Belcher state he did complain but he guessed the owner didn't take it as a complaint. Greg stated that maybe a strong letter signed off on by the City and County to get the message across that the Board is trying to work something out. The Ordinance will be put on hold for further discussion.

ITEM 10: ZONING BOARD UPDATES

Bill stated he had seven inspections, he received the cell tower application yesterday and we continue to grow in the county.

ITEM 11: DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Fire/EMS – Duane Montgomery stated they are still having radio issues. He has talked with a company and they are researching to see what is needed and where is the best possible location for the feeder. He will keep the Board updated on that. There has not been a lot of flu in the County; but has had a lot of chest colds. Duane is submitting paperwork for a trauma grant. One for Fall Prevention of the elderly. And another for texting and driving for teens. There was an accident recently and there's speculation that texting was involved. Bill Sawyer stated that he had written Representative Cheokas a letter recently asking if some of the \$100,000 that had been allocated for Library funds could be used for radios. Representative Cheokas stated that he'd address when he went back to Washington.

Public Works/Water – Art Barfield stated the water usage was up this past month. The City came on last month and are continuing for now. Two new taps and two meters were installed, and two meters were replaced and two were locked. Art completed 23 locates for 811 and created two new addresses. The Road Department has been picking up litter on State roads, have been mowing behind guardrails, removed deer from roadways, removed trees and limbs on Heath Rd, Green Rd, and SR271. They changed the light bulbs at the Health Department. Installed and repaired several driveways, sold two loads of dirt, repaired potholes, and delivered 10 loads of gravel. Chairman Barineau asked Art for him to keep up with time they spend out picking up trash from the trash truck and advised Bill Sawyer to send a bill to Solid Waste. He also asked Art to check with the Sheriff on getting Community Service to pick up litter. Commissioner Jones asked about the trees at the end of Dozier Rd and Hwy 153. Art said that was their next project.

EMA – Douglas Jamieson stated that the GEMA training that was scheduled for next week has been moved back to January 6th at 2:00 p.m. All department heads are encouraged to attend. There will be another meeting at 5:30 pm., for volunteers. Doug stated he went to Hazmat training last week and he has one more class to get certified.

ITEM 12: COUNTY MANAGER REPORT

Bill Sawyer stated we had bid out the tennis court repairs and had received a quote from Wofford Paving company. This company comes highly recommended. We received \$43,000 and this company's bid was for \$42,760. It includes removing the fence and net poles, sweeping or blowing the clean work area. Apply tack coat and all asphalt, install net poles, apply tennis court coatings, install nets and reinstall the fence. Commissioner McClellan asked if it's normal to use asphalt. Greg and Mike both agreed; Mike said clay is another source, but we could not use that. Greg said it's too wet out there for Clay. Bill McClellan asked if they would pour asphalt on top of the existing court and Bill Sawyer stated they would mill that out that there's some trees that will mess that up so they will have to mill all that out. Bill Sawyer said he talked to the school and the City and they were elated. They thought it would be much more than that. Chairman Barineau asked do we have a contract on who is going to maintain and the hours of operation? Commissioner Hammack asked who will be administering or overseeing that? Chairman Barineau said used to it was done by the Board of Education, then it went to the Sheriff's Department to get a key to get in, at one time. Then it went to the gate was open, it didn't matter, you could go at any time there was no managing of it; that's why he'd like to see what the contract says and have something in writing as to the accessibility, the hours, and who's responsible for what; because it sat out there for years with no maintenance whatsoever from anybody and somebody has to be in charge of that maintenance he would like to see, before we spend that money, who that's going to be so we can hold that person accountable whether it be the school board or the city. Greg stated if we need to add some help, he's not opposed that, but he just wants to know up front when it's going to be done and who's responsible; and what hours the tennis courts can be used and what's the process and procedures are to use the tennis court. Bill asked that we amend that then you accept this bid getting a contract with the City and school board because we have a 30-day window here, on this bid. Greg stated he's fine with that, but he'd like to see who's responsible for maintenance and clean up, what the hours are, and who's going to manage accessibility to the tennis courts for the public. Commissioner Hammack said he'd like to see how the contractors are going to be paid, he doesn't want to get into a situation like the City did with these sidewalks where they paid one contractor just about the whole price and then he defaulted. Mike said he's a government contractor, that's primarily what he does, he would just like to make sure the funds don't leave our coffers until the work is done and approved. Bill said all contractors, at least as long as he's been here, the work is performed and then we give you, we pay off. The exception to that is if we have work to be done and it's going to be long-term. This contract says the work will be performed to our satisfaction and then you pay. Vice-Chair Belcher asked how many bids did we get? Bill Sawyer said he thinks two. He requested bids from two and only one turned back in. The good thing about this is all the major paving companies, Wofford is the two paving companies that are doing the round-about and the stripping companies say really good things about these people. I mean really good things. It's very rare to get references out of that exception. Mike Hammack said tennis courts are little bit unique, he's a tennis family; he's quite familiar with tennis courts. Mike said he'd like permission to oversee this project. Commissioners McClellan, Jones and Vice-Chair Belcher agreed. Mike said he wants to see it done right. Commissioner McClellan made a motion to accept the bid with the so said requirements, seconded by Commissioner Hammack; and all were in favor. Bill reminded everyone that there will be a meeting here, at 4:00 p.m. December 18th to discuss SPLOST and the Employee Handbook. Jimmy Skipper will attend.

ITEM 13: FINANCIAL REPORTS

Bill Sawyer went over the financials and pointed out that \$100,000 has been paid on the TAN; we have no suits; no judgements and the Opioid judgement is still in process. Bill stated that Taylor County has asked to

join the Joint Development Authority. The JDA has approved and Jimmy Skipper is writing up the paperwork now. The JDA has asked that they be allowed to meet in the Courthouse once per month. Jimmy Davis is the Chairman and Bill is the Secretary/Treasurer. Vice-Chairman Belcher asked Bill Sawyer if he will stay on committees after he leaves. Bill said he would stay on any board they ask him to.

Chairman Barineau asked Representative Cheokas if he'd like to speak. Rep. Cheokas stated that there is a Rural Development Council meeting next Tuesday (December 17th) at SGTC beginning at noon and will last 3-4 hours. Speaker Ralston will be the speaker. There will be a reception at 6:00 at the Carnegie and the regular session will begin again at 9:00 Wednesday morning (18th) at SGTC. Rep. Cheokas invited the staff and Commissioners to come and share their thoughts and experiences. He would love to have any input.

ITEM 14: MOTION TO ADJOURN

Commissioner Jones made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Vice-Chairman Belcher seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Attest:

Greg Barineau, Chairman

Kathy Bruer, County Clerk

**SIGNED / APPROVED COPIES
AVAILABLE ON REQUEST.**