

Jasper County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting Minutes
March 1, 2010
9:00am

Commissioners present: Chairman Charles Hill, Vice-Chairman Carl Pennamon
Commissioner Alan Cox, Commissioner Mary Patrick
Commissioner Jack Bernard

Staff: County Attorney James Alexander, Interim County Manager Betty Moon

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation:

Motion by Commissioner Pennamon to adjourn to the small courtroom because of the overflow of citizens for the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Bernard. Passed Unanimously.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion by Commissioner Bernard to add SPLOST for recreation Item # 3 under New Business Move Building Inspector and Septic Tank under New Business Items # 4 & 5. Seconded by Commissioner Cox. Yes-Vote-Commissioners Bernard, Hill, Pennamon. Opposed-Commissioners Cox, Patrick. Motion Carried.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Commissioner Pennamon to approve minutes of February 15, 2010 Board Work Session. Seconded by Commissioner Cox. Passed Unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Pennamon to approve the minutes of Called Meeting February 15, 2010. Seconded by Commissioner Cox. Passed Unanimously.

Presentations:

Concerning the reduction of the Monticello Police Force and disbanding altogether by June 30, Sheriff Roper stated we're going to do the best we can. He has not had time to determine the effect of the change to his department or how to handle necessary changes. County Attorney Jim Alexander stated the sheriff can continue to work in the city under current mutual aid agreement, but when the police department ceases to exist, the sheriff's department cannot work in the city unless an intergovernmental agreement is signed. Mayor Glen Newson stated he was sorry how the county learned about the city's decision, but the city had great concern over the utility bills. They have put up non-essential assets for sale and established a line of credit at the local banks. Nothing between the county and city and the Sheriff was agreed upon.

Old Business:

Adopt 2010 Budget-Motion by Commissioner Bernard we adopt the \$8,200,000. Budget. Seconded by Commissioner Pennamon. Discussion-Commissioner Cox stated he would rather err on the side of caution then later amend the budget if revenues are up. Commissioner Patrick stated we're fooling ourselves to think we will have enough money, it would be better to budget for the worst and hope for the best. Yes-Vote-Commissioners Bernard, Pennamon, Hill. Opposed-Commissioners Cox, Patrick. Motion Carried.

Personnel Policy:

The Commissioners stated they are interested in developing a policy that the constitutional officers will be interested in to use for their employees. In a motion by Commissioner Cox to form a committee of two long-term county employees, four constitutional officers, human resource officer and county manager. Seconded by Commissioner Bernard. Discussion-Amendment by Commissioner Bernard that the county manager be the one to appoint the long term employees. Passed Unanimously.

Discussion of leave policy to be combined into paid time off. Leave would not be broken down into sick leave, vacation pay or whatever, it would be personal time off. Employees with 0 to 4 years-10 days leave, 5 to 9 years-15 days leave and 10 years or more 20 days leave. Motion by Commissioner Patrick that PTO to replace sick, vacation, etc with the above formula, any extra not used goes into EIB but upon separation EIB are not paid upon separation or termination. Limit EIB to 720 hours. No accumulation of comp time and has to be used in 30 days or will be lost. Seconded by Commissioner Bernard. Passed Unanimously.

New Business:

Scrap Metal-Permission to sale. Commissioner Pennamon asked for it to be put out to bid. Discussion -Motion by Commissioner Cox we declare this junk as surplus. Seconded by Commissioner Patrick. Passed Unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Cox to dispose of the surplus junk in the most cost effective way. Seconded by Commissioner Patrick. Yes-Vote-Commissioners Cox, Patrick, Bernard, Hill. Opposed-Commissioner Pennamon. Motion carried.

Motion by Commissioner Patrick included in the surplus junk sale that the recreation director get all his scrap metal etc to sale and recreation get the money from their scrap metal sale. Seconded by Commissioner Cox. Passed Unanimously.

Decision-Public Works Department Equipment-Motion by Commissioner Patrick we have a Called Meeting on this next Monday, March 8th at 10:00am to discuss PWD equipment. Seconded by Commissioner Cox. Passed Unanimously.

SPLOST Recreation-Motion by Commissioner Pennamon we approve payment of \$12,000 from SPLOST for Recreation for walk way improvements and storage building Seconded by Commissioner Bernard. Passed Unanimously.

Building Inspector-Motion by Commissioner Patrick contract with Ken Baldwin who is retiring the end of this week for 30 days at the rate of pay, gross pay now and issue a 1099. Seconded by Commissioner Bernard. Passed Unanimously.

Bid Tabulation-Landfill-Timber Contract-Ken Tillman told the commissioners he got bids on thinning the trees around the landfill and Larry Champion Logging was the best bid. Motion by Commissioner Cox to accept the bid from Larry Champion Logging. Seconded by Commissioner Bernard. Passed Unanimously.

Ordinances:-Jasper County False and Nuisance Fire Alarm Ordinance-Motion by Commissioner Cox to adopt the False and Nuisance Fire Alarm Ordinance. Seconded by Commissioner Bernard. Passed Unanimously.

Resolutions: Collect from insurance companies providing structure fire insurance a reasonable and accepted fee for Fire Departments-Motion by Commissioner Pennamon we approve collection of fire fee from insurance companies for fire departments. Seconded by Commissioner Bernard. Passed Unanimously.

Employee Appeal-Larry Thurman-Motion by Commissioner Cox that we forego a disciplinary hearing of the case of Mr. Thurman. Seconded by Commissioner Bernard. Yes-Vote-Commissioners Cox, Bernard, Patrick, Hill. Abstained-Commissioner Pennamon.

Motion by Commissioner Cox that we uphold the action of the interim county manager Betty Moon in the case of Larry Thurman. Seconded by Commissioner Patrick. Yes-Vote-Commissioners Cox, Patrick, Bernard. Opposed-Commissioners Hill, Pennamon. Motion Carried.

Commissioners Items:

Commissioner Patrick has three things that was brought up in the past and not addressed. They are Alcoholic Beverage Policy, Purchasing Policy and accepting Private subdivision Roads. Commissioner Patrick also brought to the boards attention of the Regional Landfill being planned in Morgan County and the need to keep up with this.

General Comments:

Dolan Bell-Public Safety-Roads, PWD Equipment and Bullard Rd.

Chuck Forsythe-Scrap sale, Recreation, Contract work PWD, agenda items.

Juanita Gazaway-Budget, Traffic on Jackson Lake Road.

Lee Armour-EMS

Carol McElheney-Public Safety

Kathy Mudd-Scrap metal, EMS-Hospital does not use our EMS service.

John Byers-Thank you for County Line Road.

Darrel/Joan Zager-Taxes, appreciation

Motion by Commissioner Pennamon to go into executive session. Seconded by Commissioner Bernard. Passed Unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Bernard to come out of executive session 1:00pm. Seconded by Commissioner Cox. Passed Unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Pennamon we appoint private citizens group, Dr. Barton, Ed Westbrook, Dori Wood, Terry Dishroon, Jan Gaston to review our current condition at EMS and their report is due April 1, 2010. The county attorney is to notify the private citizens in this group and the report is to go to the county attorney . Seconded by Commissioner Bernard. Passed Unanimously.

Motion by Commissioner Pennamon to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Bernard. Passed Unanimously.

Charles Hill, Chairman

Betty Moon, Interim County Manager