

**DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE CITY
OF JEFFERSONVILLE AND TWIGGS COUNTY
REGULAR MEETING
February 23, 2017**

6:30 P.M. Development Authority Office; invocation by Mr. Ashby.

PRESENT: Mr. Jerry Fincher, Chairman; Mrs. Cindie Nobles, Secretary-Treasurer; Mr. Eddie Stephens, Mr. Walt Ashby, and Mrs. Louise Wimberly, Board Members. Mrs. Judy Sherling, Executive Director, Mr. Kevin Brown, Attorney. Absent: Mr. Cecil Fountain Jr., Vice-Chair and Mr. Derrick Height. Also attending: Mr. Donald Floyd and Mrs. Edna Roberts, new appointees.

VISITORS: Barbara Smith, Lamar Dean, Patrick Floyd

MINUTES: Mr. Ashby made a motion to approve the January 26, 2017 minutes as presented with a second by Mr. Stephens. Unanimous Vote of the five present. Motion Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. Stephens made a motion to approve the January 31, 2017 Treasurer's Report as presented. Mrs. Wimberly seconded. Unanimous Vote of the five present. Motion Carried.

APPOINTMENTS: There were no appointments.

NEW BUSINESS:

A discussion of the current bylaws showed that no revisions were needed at this time. No action taken.

Mr. Ashby and Mr. Fincher announced that they were resigning from the Development Authority based on a requirement that they be on no other county boards if they continue to serve on the Board of Tax Assessors. The new appointees present would take effect after all unfinished business was discussed.

Election of officers was delayed until after discussion of ongoing business. Mr. Ashby made a motion to move all unfinished business up on the agenda. Second by Mr. Stephens. Unanimous Vote of the five present. Motion Carried.

ONGOING BUSINESS:

AMBULANCE PROGRAM UPDATE – Mrs. Sherling reported that funds now need to be paid that were pledged for the ambulance service. Mr. Ashby made a motion to pay \$10,000 from the SunTrust account to Community Health Care System for the Ambulance Service. Second by Mr. Stephens. Unanimous Vote of the five present. Motion Carried.

LAND CLEARING - Land clearing proposals were discussed and will be forwarded to the engineering firm if the grant is awarded. The engineers will then forward full bid packages to the two companies submitting proposals and will also advertise as required by law because the grant involves Federal funding from OneGeorgia.

At this time, Attorney Brown entered the meeting.

PROJECT SOLAR 2017 - Attorney Brown reported that we are very close on the final negotiations with Project Solar 2017 and the last piece to decide will be the amount of the building permit and any zoning determinations. The company has been referred to the county for that part of the negotiation.

With all unfinished business discussed, Mr. Ashby and Mr. Fincher left the table. Mr. Floyd and Mrs. Roberts were then seated as members of the Development Authority.

Pending finalization of the changes on the board and upcoming training for new members, Mr. Floyd made a motion to elect interim officers until all board members are determined. Second by Mrs. Roberts. Unanimous Vote of the five present. Motion Carried.

Mrs. Wimberly made a motion to elect Mr. Stephens as the interim chair for the month of March. Second by Mr. Floyd. Unanimous Vote of the five present. Motion Carried. Mrs. Wimberly made a motion to have Mrs. Nobles remain Secretary-Treasurer. Second by Mrs. Roberts. Unanimous Vote of the five present. Motion Carried.

Based on the change in officers, Mrs. Sherling will contact the bank to have a new temporary signature card executed at the Bank of Dudley in order to handle expenses in the month of March including payroll. At the end of March when permanent officers are elected, a signature card will be executed at both Bank of Dudley and SunTrust Bank for all accounts.

Attorney Brown then recommended that the March 23 meeting be cancelled and a called meeting be announced for March 28 following board training. At that meeting, a final slate of officers will be elected and all business can then be carried out by the Authority. Mrs. Nobles made a motion to that effect, seconded by Mrs. Wimberly. Unanimous Vote of the five present. Motion Carried.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

LONG RANGE PLANNING RETREAT – there will be a county-wide planning retreat on March 28 at Middle GA Regional Commission. This retreat will be 8 hours and will satisfy all legal requirements for training of new Authority members or continuing education for seated board members needing CEUs. Also, the update of the comprehensive plan will be discussed and a Twiggs Tomorrow vision plan presented. Mrs. Nobles made a motion to pay up to \$300 for the expense of the retreat to include lunch and snacks. Mr. Floyd seconded. Unanimous Vote of the five present. Motion Carried.

HVAC SYSTEM - Mrs. Sherling also reported that a HVAC system finally is working as it should.

PROSPECTS – Mrs. Sherling and County Administrator Etheridge met with two prospective business people during February.

AUDIT – preparations are underway to submit the Authority's books for audit.

OCMULGEE PARK – Mrs. Sherling presented a booklet on the proposed Ocmulgee National Park in which she was quoted. She will continue to work with the shareholders to further this cause.

JOB FAIR – a job fair is being planned for Twiggs County and members of the GA Dept of Labor will visit the Authority on Monday to discuss details.

BOARD OF EDUCATION – Mrs. Sherling will make a presentation on Workforce to the Twiggs Board of Education on Tuesday, Feb. 28.

HWY 96 – Mrs. Sherling had a discussion with Mr. Clinton Ford of the GA Dept of Transportation who shared that the funding for Hwy 96 has been put on hold and the project will most likely be delayed until the end of 2018 or later. Mrs. Sherling will discuss this issue further with Rep. Epps and county officials.

CEDOP – Jennifer Bryant from Oconee EMC and Alaina Reeves from Georgia EMC have invited Twiggs County officials, Authority members and others to attend a Community Economic Development Overview Program or CEDOP in May. Dates will be determined when the full board is seated.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – No executive session was needed.

ADJOURN: Mrs. Wimberly made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Floyd seconded. Unanimous Vote of the five present. Motion Carried. The meeting ended at 8:12 PM.

Mr. Jerry Fincher, Outgoing Chairman

Mrs. Cindie Nobles, Secretary-Treasurer

Mr. Eddie Stephens, Interim Chairman