

After Agenda

**Board of Commissioners of Spalding County
Extraordinary Session
Monday, July 17, 2017
6:00 PM
One Griffin Center
W. Elmer George Municipal Hall**

The Spalding County Board of Commissioners held their Extraordinary Session at One Griffin, Center, W. Elmer George Municipal Hall on Monday, July 17, 2017, beginning at 6:00 p.m. with Chairman Bart Miller presiding. Commissioners Rita Johnson, Raymond Ray, Gwen Flowers-Taylor and Donald Hawbaker were present. Also present were County Manager, William P. Wilson Jr., Assistant County Manager, Eric Mosley, County Attorney, Stephanie Windham, and Executive Secretary, Kathy Gibson to record the minutes.

- I. OPENING (CALL TO ORDER)** by Chairman Bart Miller.
- II. INVOCATION** led by Commissioner Donald Hawbaker.
- III. PLEDGE TO FLAG** led by Commissioner Gwen Flowers-Taylor.
- IV. PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS**
- V. PRESENTATIONS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**
 1. Consider approval of financial statements for the twelve month period ended June 30, 2017.

***Motion/Second by Ray/Flowers-Taylor to approve the financial statements for the twelve month period ended June 30, 2017.
Motion carried unanimously by all.***

VI. CITIZEN COMMENT

Speakers must sign up prior to the meeting and provide their names, addresses and topic in which they will speak on. Speakers must direct all comments to the Board only. Speakers will be allotted three (3) minutes to speak on their chosen topics and relate to matters pertinent to the jurisdiction of the Board of the Commissioners. No questions will be asked by any of the commissioners during citizen comments. Outbursts from the audience will not be tolerated. Common courtesy and civility are expected at all times during the meeting.

Norma Giles, 302 Elizabeth Lane, Griffin, GA spoke on Animal Control Practices and Procedures and the need to improve the conditions at the Animal Shelter.

Bill Bryant, 282 N. Rover Road, Williamson, GA presented to the Board of Commissioners from the neighbors on North Rover Road a letter of renewal of their Anti Litem letter that was presented to the Board of Commissioners on May 25, 2017. He presented three originals and asked that one be returned to them for their files.

VII. MINUTES-

1. Consider approval of minutes for the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Special Called Meeting on June 19, 2017, the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Extraordinary Session on June 19, 2017, the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Special Called Meeting on June 21, 2017, the Board of Commissioners Special Called Meeting on June 22, 2017, the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Zoning Public Hearing on June 22, 2017 and the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Executive Session held on June 22, 2017.

Motion/Second by Ray/Flowers-Taylor to approve the minutes for the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Special Called Meeting on June 19, 2017, the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Extraordinary Session on June 19, 2017, the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Special Called Meeting on June 21, 2017, the Board of Commissioners Special Called Meeting on June 22, 2017, the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Zoning Public Hearing on June 22, 2017 and the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Executive Session held on June 22, 2017. Motion carried unanimously by all.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA-

1. Consider approval on second reading amendment to UDO #A-17-07: Article 5. AR-1 Agricultural and Residential - Section 503:A & B - amend uses of riding academies and other facilities which host equestrian events, and Article 6. AR-2 Rural Reserve - Section 603:A & B - amend use of equestrian farms, equestrian pastures, riding academies and other facilities which host equestrian events.

Mr. Wilson stated that the Board approved this amendment at their Extraordinary Hearing in June and recommend approval on second reading.

Motion/Second by Ray/Johnson to approve on second reading amendment to UDO #A-17-07: Article 5. AR-1 Agricultural and Residential - Section 503:A & B - amend uses of riding academies and other facilities which host equestrian events, and Article 6. AR-2 Rural Reserve - Section 603:A & B - amend use of equestrian farms, equestrian pastures, riding academies and other facilities which host equestrian events.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor ask if this change meant that people who live

in AR1 and AR2 districts could no longer have horses by right.

Mr. Wilson stated that this is for equestrian events.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that this will not interfere with the residents in these areas that have a horse.

Mr. Wilson stated no. This amendment requires equestrian events, equestrian pastures, riding academies and others who host equestrian events. It requires a special exception in order to have these type of events.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor then asked if residents who owned horses wanted to have a rodeo at their house if they would have to get a special exception for the event.

Mr. Wilson asked Chad Jacobs, Community Development Director, to respond.

Mr. Jacobs stated that this is a result of an issue that we have been faced with from time to time where rodeos “pop-up” around the County and surrounding neighborhoods have complained because of the number of cars, the lateness of the hours and the noise. These “pop-up” rodeos do not take into consideration the individual homeowners in the area. These events will be looked at on a case by case basis and presented to the Board for approval.

Motion carried unanimously by all.

IX. OLD BUSINESS – None.

X. NEW BUSINESS-

1. Consider request for amplification permit from Humberto Colin to host a Sweet 16 Birthday Party on July 22nd, 2017 at 1650 North Walkers Mill Road, Griffin, Georgia from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Mr. Wilson stated that the Sheriff's Office and Community Development have reviewed this request and recommend approval.

Motion/Second by Johnson/Flowers-Taylor to approve an amplification permits from Humberto Colin to host a Sweet 16 Birthday Party on July 22nd, 2017 at 1650 North Walkers Mill Road, Griffin, Georgia from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously by all.

2. Consider an alternate design for Life Tabernacle and Praise Church, Inc. to permit a temporary building to be used as a permanent structure.

Mr. Jacobs stated this is an issue that has been before the Board on a number of occasions. In 2007, the Board passed an ordinance putting some criteria

on temporary structures to be used for commercial purposes specifically those that can be viewed from the right of way. If you want to vary from that there is an alternative review that gives the Applicant the authority to go through this process.

Life Tabernacle approached the Board back in 2010 in order to use a temporary structure on the property for a permanent basis. He stated that his predecessor recommended denial, but they were approved to utilize the structure on a temporary basis and given 5 years to give them time to raise funds to ultimately build a permanent facility by the Board of Commissioners.

In 2013, as the 5 year window was approaching, staff was approached by Life Tabernacle to come before the Board to allow the temporary building to be utilized on a permanent basis and to bring in an additional modular facility to be utilized for the same reason. Staff recommended denial on that request and the Board denied that request.

In 2014, we were approached again because we were coming up on the 2015 deadline for the same request, but for the one structure that is already on the property. Staff recommended against the request, but they were granted a 2 year extension by the Board of Commissioners. They are back before us again now, we are past due on the drop dead date asking essentially for the same requests as previous to allow for the temporary structure to be utilized on a permanent basis.

Mr. Jacobs stated that in his memo to the Board he is recommending this time to allow this structure to become a permanent structure. He further stated that he feels that staff has continued to make the right call regarding this structure on every occasion, but we are getting into a loop where we continue to extend it on a temporary basis and just purely for the sake of breaking the cycle, just go ahead and grant permanent status with the understanding that staff will continue to recommend against this type of structure unless we change the ordinance.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor asked if the building that is to become a permanent structure meets all of the setbacks for zoning and other requirements.

Mr. Jacobs advised that it has been installed and inspected pursuant to modular standards. The building official did approve that and it has been underpinned and stucco and set up to be a permanent structure.

Bishop D.C. Watson, the church is located at 235 Bleachery Street, Griffin, GA. He resides at 6052 Hickory Drive, Forest Park, Georgia.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor asked Bishop Watson what the brick building on the corner being used for.

Bishop Watson stated that the brick building was grandfathered in under special ordinance or variance in 1995 or 1997. We use this building for a

sanctuary facility currently.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor asked how the building they are asking to make a permanent structure being utilized.

Bishop Watson advised that the other building is utilized as an activities building, fellowship, educational activities, summer camps, after school programs. There is a computer laboratory in the building. We have handed out food boxes to the community. We do Toys for Tots. All of the activities we are not able to do in the sanctuary building we do in that building.

Commissioner Ray asked Mr. Jacobs how he would like to address the ordinance.

Mr. Jacobs stated that he has no problem going back and revisiting the ordinance, but we ran into significant issues which was the genesis for this ordinance. He doesn't have a problem revisiting it in light of the action today, it was put in place for a good reason, but we may need to review it to see if we can make it a little better.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Johnson to approve an alternate design for Life Tabernacle and Praise Church, Inc. to permit a temporary building to be used as a permanent structure with the condition that all zoning requirements for this building and location are met by the applicant. Motion carried 4-1 (Ray).

Motion/Second by Ray/Flowers-Taylor that staff address this policy and bring a recommendation back to the Board on how to correct this issue. Motion carried unanimously by all.

3. Consider approval of Contract with the Office of the Public Defender for Indigent Defense Services in Spalding County, Georgia for FY 2018.

Mr. Wilson stated that this confirms with the State of Georgia and the Public Defender's Office that we did budget the amount in this contract for the Public Defender's Office for FY 2018. This solidifies it in writing so they can appropriate the State funding to go along with local funding. Recommend approval.

Motion/Second by Ray/Hawbaker to approve the Contract with the Office of the Public Defender for Indigent Defense Services in Spalding County, Georgia for FY 2018. Motion carried unanimously by all.

4. Consider approval of Memorandum of Understanding with Southern Crescent Technical College for welding program at the Spalding County Correctional Institution.

Mr. Wilson stated that there are representatives from the CI and from Southern Crescent here to answer any questions you may have. We currently have a Memorandum of Understanding with Southern Crescent to provide GED services at the CI. This would be a new welding program. Welding is one of the top sought after positions in the U.S. right now. There is a shortage of welders and they want to put a facility at the correctional institution, adjacent to the gymnasium where Southern Crescent Technical College can teach welding as a skill to the inmates. Southern Crescent will provide the building, provide all of the equipment and the teachers. The only thing the County has to provide is utilities to the building, the building will be on County property and we have addressed some liability issues that the attorneys had.

Commissioner Johnson stated that this is in line with the College and Career Academy.

Mr. Wilson stated that Welding is one of the major items being taught in the College and Career Academy but this is part of the educational program that was presented by the Warden last year. We were granted \$50,000 because we were able to have so many inmates obtain their GED during their time at our correctional institution, before they were released.

This will expand the program to provide not only a GED, but a skill or a trade so that they will be ready for the outside world and it is a good trade with a great salary.

Mr. Mosley stated that Carroll County has had this program for two years and it has been a very successful program. This is utilizing money through the governor's educational incentive program (EIP) and we are excited to be able to offer these inmates some true skills they can utilize once they leave our facility and they can make a difference in their community once released.

Mark Andrews, Southern Crescent Technical College, 105 Everest Drive, Thomaston, GA. Southern Crescent Technical College has had a GED Program at the Spalding Correctional Institution since 2001 and it has been pretty successful. From 2001 to 2007 we have served 671 inmates, of which 545 have completed a GED, the percentage overall is approximately 44% for that time period.

Through this program he has met and gotten to know Warden Humphrey, Beth Griffin, Eric Mosley and Happy Johnson. The welding program is already being done in the Carrol Correctional Facility through West Georgia Technical College. We are trying to replicate what they are doing there and it seems to be successful in Carrol County.

The program includes training in three types of welding. There is 50 hours of training for each type of welding making the program a total of 150 hours. The Warden feels that Fridays are the best days to have the classes, it will be about a 5 hour class each Friday. It will be 30 Fridays at the correctional facility. SCTC will send a certified welding instructor to the facility to teach. The first classes will be safety classes and will be in the classroom inside the correctional facility. Once we get into the actual welding, we will have our equipment on a trailer outside the gym and that is where we will do the actual welding. At the end of the 150 hours of training the inmates will have the opportunity to be certified by taking a test through the American Welding Society. Someone will come to the CI to test their actual practical application in welding.

Mr. Andrews stated that this is a win, win for both the inmates, the correctional facility and Southern Crescent Technical College to expand our reach with the inmates and give them more opportunities.

Motion/Second by Ray/Flowers-Taylor to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Southern Crescent Technical College for welding program at the Spalding County Correctional Institution.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor asked if the individual who would be doing the training would be Post Certified to be overseeing inmates.

Mr. Andrews stated there would be a guard on duty.

Beth Griffin, Deputy Warden of the Spalding County CI, stated that there would be a Post Certified correctional officer in the room with them and each of the welding instructors will be required to take the 20 hour training to be able to supervise at least a minimum security inmate.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor then asked what determines who is allowed to get into the class.

Ms. Griffin stated that they have a rigorous application process. The inmates have to have a certain amount of time left on their sentence, they must have no DR history, they must already have a high school diploma or a GED and we must have proof of that.

Mr. Andrews stated that the estimated time on the inmate's sentence should be not much more than 12 months to be able to finish the program and get

placed.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor then stated that they are allowing participants into the program who can then transition with a skill.

Mr. Andrews and Ms. Griffin confirmed that is the purpose of the program.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor then asked who would pay for the certification test.

Mr. Andrews stated that they have WIOA (Workforce Investments Opportunities Act) Funding that is paying for the entire program as well as the certification test. This funding has already been approved.

Motion carried unanimously by all.

5. Consider appointment to the Spalding County Water & Sewerage Facilities Authority to fill the unexpired term of Doug Krepps for a term ending December 31, 2021.

Mr. Wilson stated that we have one name in the book, Mr. Eric Pitts, 1225 Manley Road, Griffin, Georgia. He is a former GDOT engineer and his resume was sent to the Board for review prior to the meeting.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Ray to appoint Eric Pitts to the Spalding County Water & Sewerage Facilities Authority to fill the unexpired term of Doug Krepps for a term ending December 31, 2021. Motion carried unanimously by all.

6. Consider a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Griffin to house pre-trial detainees and convicted prisoners at the Spalding County Detention Facility.

Mr. Wilson stated that earlier this year Sheriff Dix came to us and asked that we do a six month agreement with the City of Griffin for this purpose. It has been very successful at the Sheriff's Department and they are now recommending an MOU for two years at \$40 per day, the estimated annual revenue is \$180,000. This program has been a good arrangement for the County and for the City.

Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Flowers-Taylor to approve a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Griffin to house

pre-trial detainees and convicted prisoners at the Spalding County Detention Facility. Motion carried unanimously by all.

7. Consider purchase of Airport Road Park property from the Airport Authority at revised appraised value.

Mr. Wilson stated that we signed an agreement with the City of Griffin and the Airport Authority to lease purchase Airport Road Park and the Sheriff's Hanger property at the existing airport. FAA will not release the Sheriff's Hanger or the adjacent property so we will not be able to purchase that until after the airport is closed as it is considered required airport property. FAA did consent to releasing the Airport Road Park property. The County paid for an appraisal, the Airport Authority hired an FAA approved appraiser and last year that value came in at \$427,000.

After an extensive review of the appraisal, staff found that it did not have any mention of the flume from what used to be Rental Uniform Service under the Airport Road Property. This flume is not a danger to anyone, but it does affect the salability of the property, so we asked that the appraiser reevaluate the property given the facts that they didn't have at the time regarding the contamination of the property. They have since come back with a second appraisal for \$327,000.

Staff asks that the Tax Assessor take a look at the second appraisal, the Chief Tax Appraiser did review the appraisal and came up with an established value of \$174,000 which is below the value of the reappraisal. This afternoon we received correspondence from the Chairman of the Airport Authority and DOT has some questions regarding the second appraisal as well.

Staff would recommend that the County Commissioners do one of two things:

- Negotiate with the Airport Authority for a value between the second appraisal and the value determined by the Chief Tax Appraiser.
- Go for a totally independent appraisal, paid for by the County, from another FAA approved appraiser.

DOT does have questions regarding the reappraisal, so he is recommending that this matter be tabled and in the meantime he can get a cost for a third appraisal to present at a later time. Or you can table to see what DOT says as well.

Chairman Flowers-Taylor stated that she feels that \$300,000 is too much to pay for a piece of property where all of the improvements to that property

belong to Spalding County.

Stephanie Windham, Spalding County Attorney, stated that the appraisal actually states that it does not include any of the improvements because those do belong to the County. But it also talks about the highest and best use of that property, which in this appraisers mind is industrial, so the comps are all industrial properties.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that an industry could not come and build on that property because of the contamination.

Ms. Windham stated that she was absolutely right, the drop in value was because of the contamination. She stated that she didn't find anything that actually talked about remediation of that contamination in order to make the property at its highest and best use.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor then stated that if we walked away from the park tomorrow, it would still be a park. The Airport Authority wouldn't be able to sell that property to anyone else. The only reason it has a price now is because we have already put so much money in it. I just feel like we are being held hostage because we have so much invested in that piece of property, that we are going to have to take it no matter what. She stated that she would agree to let Mr. Wilson see if we can get another appraisal. I just can't see us paying that kind of money for the property. If we don't buy it, no one will be able to come and put any type of industry on it, it will be years before that property can be built on, so it is absolutely of no value to them.

Mr. Wilson stated that this is part of a hazardous site and it is covered by a hazardous site trust fund and Rental Uniform Service or their parent company is responsible for the cost of the testing and they are now talking about placing additional monitoring wells to make sure the plume is still stationary and not migrating across the property. We do not have to pay anything for that, the Airport Authority does not have to pay anything for that, it is a hazardous waste site and the responsibility is on the parties who contaminated the property to begin with which is Rental Uniform Service and their successors.

Commissioner Hawbaker then asked why the FAA is not allowing us to purchase the Sheriff's hanger and the property adjacent to the hanger.

Mr. Wilson stated that it is in the flight pattern and is considered an integral part of the airport because it is located at the end of the runway and it may be in the runway protection zone.

Commissioner Ray then asked if the rental payment that the County is making each year, does that come off of the total price of the property.

Mr. Wilson stated that that does not come off of the total price of the property. We pay approximately \$9,000 per month to the Airport Authority under an agreement for rental of this property. In order to get the Airport Authority's attention and to get the second appraisal done, staff has not paid for 11 months. We are going to have to pay that and the longer this goes on we are going to have to continue to pay monthly rent on the property. The actual amount paid in rent does not reduce the purchase price, but the rent does stop the minute we purchase the property. Technically, under the agreement, we must pay the rent for the Sheriff's Hanger and the rent for Airport Road Park until we purchase them.

Commissioner Miller asked how much the rent is for the Sheriff's Hanger.

Mr. Wilson stated that it is considerably less, he believes it is about \$40,000 a year.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Johnson to table the purchase of Airport Road Park property from the Airport Authority until such time as staff can obtain a third appraisal on the property from an FAA approved appraiser. Motion carried unanimously by all.

8. Consider approval of the 2018 LMIG request for resurfacing approximately 12 miles of roadway.

Mr. Wilson stated that at the TSPLOST meeting the Board reviewed a list of roads for resurfacing in 2018. All of these are roads that were resurfaced partially in 2017, this will finish them up in 2018. A total of 12.22 miles, roughly \$1.3 million. This will go into the State as our recommendation. They are giving us approximately \$700,000 and we have to apply our 30% required match to that. Staff recommends approval.

Motion/Second by Ray/Hawbaker to approve the 2018 LMIG request for resurfacing approximately 12.22 miles of roadway. Motion carried unanimously by all.

9. 2016 SPLOST Projects Update:

Mr. Wilson stated that we have done a lot of things since the SPLOST was approved. Some of them will be repetitive, but some of them will not.

- Long Term Debt for Fire Station, Fire trucks, Correctional Institute and Memorial Drive Plaza - paid off March 1, 2016

- Senior Nutrition Capital expenditures reimbursed to General Fund – June 2016
- Fire Department Wildland Response Unit (Brush Truck) - in operation April 2016
- Fire Department Pumper/Tanker - delivered October 2016, placed in service Nov. 2016
- Fire Department Extraction tools purchased and in service Nov. 2016
- Soccer Lights - completed August 2016
- E911 Phone system - in operation April 2016
- Judicial Computers/Software Upgrades - went live - Oct 24, 2016
- Heritage Park Projects - Asbestos abatement completed Aug 2016, lead paint abatement ongoing
- Fairmont Gym HVAC - awarded contract June 2017
- Fairmont sidewalks under construction, perimeter fence completed, volleyball under construction
- Pickleball Facility - under construction to be completed August 2017
- 800 MHz Tower Relocation - completed December 2016
- CAD/Sunguard - live at 911 Center October 2016, software installed on COG computer system Nov 2016, Mobile Data units purchased and to be deployed 3rd quarter 2017
- Orchard Hill improvements 75% complete
- Sunny Side improvements 95% complete
- Fiber Optics - fiber ran to Annex, Courthouse, 911 Center & Justice Blvd and is live and being tested
- Resurfaced 15 miles with LMIG paving
- Hill Street over Cabin Creek Culvert - Under construction
- Gang Unit Equipment - cars & equipment ordered to be in service 4th quarter of 2017

Mr. Wilson advised that Commissioner Flowers-Taylor sent a request asking why the Gang Unit Equipment had been ordered because we had been saying all along that we would do this when we got employees for the unit. The new Sheriff has transferred people from different divisions and he asked Chief Deputy Tony Thomason to come up and tell the Board about changes at the Sheriff's Department.

Mr. Wilson further advised that the Sheriff has moved this Gang Enforcement Unit ahead because it is needed in the community and he has staffed it by reallocating existing resources from other division. That is why the equipment has been ordered because Gang Enforcement was a high priority not only for the Sheriff, but for the Board as well.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor then asked where the 5 people were going to come from.

Chief Deputy Tony Thomason stated that these individuals will come from different divisions within the Sheriff's Office. Currently, we have three assigned, two of those came from Uniform Patrol and one came from CID (Criminal Investigative Division).

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor if the people who were on the Gang Task Force in the Gang Enforcement Unit now? When this information was presented to the Board there were two officers who came with Sheriff and told us they were the ones involved on a part time basis within the Sheriff's Department.

Chief Deputy Thomason stated that Tony Little is one of the full time staff persons in the Enforcement Unit. We are partnering with the City, they have five folks assigned to their unit. We are doing a cooperative with them, we are going to share software, Formultics is a gang software, so we are trying to share and save money for the County. They are offering us licensing to utilize that software. We are offering the City space in our building for their unit to work out of. Their officers are partnering with us at the facility at the airport and that creates a force multiplier. Currently, we have 3 full time staff at that location and the Sheriff has deputized the police officers from the City of Griffin, so those police officers complement our three and so instead of having three we can operate with eight to nine officers so that helps us to go out in force and be more effective.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that this was not a bonded issue and there are certain things on the SPLOST list that are being ordered and paid for before we have finished the rest of the bonded projects. She asked in the email, who decides what projects get done and when they get done, because this came to us as last minute addition and the way it was added was it would probably come at the end of the SPLOST because man power would be required to do this. So you are telling me you are going to take five people who have "supposedly" been essential to your operation, move them to the task force and then you have to hire five more people to replace them.

Chief Deputy Thomason stated that they feel all of the personnel at the Sheriff's Office are essential, but again, we are prioritizing and the priority of addressing this issue in the community is worth our making the road to this objective a little shorter. We've hired a fantastic number of folks and just last week we hired three to patrol and his goal is that as they get trained he is going to take more out. CID is short, we pulled from there as well. We are asking everybody to work harder than they normally do. CID is down by two currently, the narcotics unit is down by two agents, CAGE is working at approximately half power, Uniform Patrol is currently carrying about five vacancies and Detention, a tough place, is currently

carrying about ten vacancies there. Everybody at the Sheriff's Office is working more than just their job.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that what she is trying to say is that this Board said that the Sheriff's Office would have to have five more employees in order to be able to engage this task force and keep yourself at status quo. She stated that she isn't upset about the reallocation of resources, she is upset about the decision to go ahead and spend the money out of the SPLOST to fund this project, which came in at the last minute, and other projects; specifically, Heritage Park, Fairmont, Pickleball is not finished and I don't know how many things on this list were not bonded.

She stated that the other projects there were pay as you go are not being done, so what she is seeing on the paper is that, William has determined what he thinks is important and then everybody else's project will be at the end of the SPLOST when all the money gets collected. What I'm saying is in all practicality is that your stuff should not have been ordered, it should not have been ordered and she feels like the decision should have come to this board so that we could have an opinion about it. So you would have known, before I had to say this in public, that somebody is not good with the way some projects are being funded and other projects are being put on hold.

10. Establish dates for future TSPLOST Public Information Meetings.

Mr. Wilson stated that we had a TSPLOST Public Hearing today, I have put three dates for some TSPLOST Public Information meetings: September 11, September 25 and October 23. These are all Mondays and they are all off meeting weeks for the County Commissioners. I scheduled these in September and October because our Meeting Room will not be finished until that time.

Mr. Wilson stated that he assumes the Board will appoint a TSPLOST committee so there will be that committee out in the community providing information as well. Today the Board decided what projects would be on the TSPLOST, these are public information and public comment meetings to provide information on the TSPLOST.

Mr. Wilson advised that Commissioner Hawbaker requested that the Board of Commissioners conduct some additional meetings.

Commissioner Hawbaker stated that what he was really asking for was the opportunity for the public present their ideas like was done during the 2015 SPLOST to add projects to the project lists. Given the transportation needs in this community, maybe this is a different type of process.

Mr. Wilson stated that when we do a SPLOST traditionally we have allowed departments to come in and citizens to come in and submit all types of requests because it is not limited to only transportation, this TSPLOST is limited strictly to transportation and that is the difference.

Commissioner Hawbaker stated that the primary purpose behind his request was to let the public have some participation and involvement. In his experience where there is no participation, where there is no involvement and no commitment, then it's a potential recipe for failure. People feel like these things were sort of jammed down their throats, selected without the opportunity for input from the public and it is sort of take it or leave it and they decide since their project isn't on there then they vote no. I'm still in favor of having these public information sessions and I do think we should have a committee like existed for the 2015 SPLOST to have a many meetings as they can all around the County and have an opportunity for people to attend. The three meetings you have suggested are fine with him. He stated that he hopes that people will be interested enough to show up and attend and he also hopes that we have a campaign disseminating factual information to the public so that they know exactly what a "yes" vote will mean to themselves and their families.

Commissioner Johnson asked if this would be something that we would want to share with the City. She suggested instead of having them here, maybe we would want to have them at other locations throughout the County.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor asked if it would be better to have a TSPLOST committee because we walk a thin line when we're giving information out and where we are saying that we need you support it. So as commissioners, I think we can be supportive of the TSPLOST committee and while I think having the public meetings are going to be good because when we do have something public, people do show up, that we should have the committee to coordinate and tell us the dates will work for them because we do not want to conflict with any dates that they may plan. We simply need to be supportive of the committee. A committee gives the opportunity to share, but the burden is not on the Board to plan it. She feels the main thing is to get a committee as soon as possible.

Commissioner Hawbaker agreed, let's just get the committee up and running.

Mr. Wilson asked if they would like for an agenda item to be placed on the next agenda to appoint a committee.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor asked that the dates suggested by Mr. Wilson be held open so the committee would know that those dates are being held by the Board for Public Meetings.

Mr. Wilson stated that we would reserve locations. He further stated that he would ask the City of Griffin for names of individuals they would like to see appointed to a TSPLOST committee so that the Board can effectively ask those folks between now and then and confirm their appointment at the August 7th meeting.

Commissioner Hawbaker stated that at the intergovernmental retreat in February it was decided that Daa'ood Amin would chair a TSPLOST committee if that were to happen. He has been called upon to do quite a bit, but if he is inclined to put the effort in for the TSPLOST that would be wonderful.

Mr. Wilson stated that was the consensus of the group at the joint retreat.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that we need to check with him and verify his availability for a commitment and let them put together a committee. I don't want to wait several weeks and say here's the names you guys need to get busy.

Commissioner Hawbaker stated he would try to contact Mr. Amin today. He then stated that there was nothing that a committee could do until the project list was established.

Mr. Wilson advised that the project list was finalized this morning and would be put into an IGA to be completed before August 11.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that she did not hear anything about sidewalks mentioned at the meeting this morning regarding projects. We talked about all forms of transportation and we had talked about sidewalks and the last she had heard was "we are going to get back with you with some numbers" and I haven't heard anything else. She stated that she had talked about sidewalks from the roundabout up to McIntosh. She stated that she wasn't sure if anything was included in the TSPLOST for that project.

Mr. Wilson stated that the only projects that the Board has agreed to are the Orchard Hill Project, \$8 million in financing this morning for resurfacing of 78 miles, you approved the 15 projects, Phase I, Phase II and Phase III, for dirt roads in the reprioritized order agreed to with 100% right of way and the final thing from the 21st meeting that you mentioned at the end of the meeting was \$500,000 to put toward the design and engineering of the Bypass from 19 over to Moreland for development purposes. Those are the only projects which total to the allotment agreed to by the City and the County. He added that if we add anything else, we are going to have to take monies from one of these projects.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that she doesn't have a problem with the projects outlined by Mr. Wilson, what she does have a problem with is people who for the last 40 years have been walking up and down Hill Street in the road. We've got a road project, we are going to put two pieces of it together and we don't have any way to connect it except for people walking in the road.

Mr. Wilson stated that he does have the costs, but he doesn't have them with him tonight. He stated that he believes the costs were approximately \$400,000 to put sidewalks from Intersection #2 and Intersection #3 on North Hill Street.

Commissioner Ray stated that at the end of the meeting we had talked about paving that corridor once the projects were complete.

Mr. Wilson stated that we talked about paving only be installed at the time the intersections are complete, but we have not discussed sidewalks after completion. He stated that sidewalks would be installed during the projects and they will be

ran to the construction limits at each of each project.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that we need to look at providing sidewalks from where they stop or put sidewalks on the other side of the street because that was the whole purpose of slowing traffic down and allowing for people to be able to move, making it safer, but we are still going to let tons of people walk on the road.

Mr. Wilson asked what the Board would like to cut.

Commissioner Johnson stated that she was the advocate for the design and engineering study of the Moreland Road Connector and she is willing to make that change if the remainder of the Board is agreeable. Sidewalks are important, but the engineering for this development is also important.

Mr. Wilson stated that he has the numbers for that location and those numbers are \$400,000+.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that the sidewalks are going to be a big issue in her district and the reason the people in her area voted for the SPLOST was to make sure the projects would be done. They were given an idea that this is what it's going to be: here's your roundabout and here's your other intersection and you can just walk in the road between the two. She stated that she didn't feel the engineering study is not the project to cut.

Commissioner Ray stated he would rather cut that project than to cut back on the resurfacing.

Mr. Wilson asked that the Board amend the agenda to add TSPLOST discussion because technically that is what we have been doing and then a motion to delete the Tri-County Crossroads developmental design and engineering.

Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Ray to amend the agenda to add a discussion regarding TSPLOST. Motion carried unanimously by all.

Motion/Second by Ray/Johnson to remove the Tri-County Crossroad development project planning from the TSPLOST list in the amount of \$500,000 to provide for potential sidewalks on Hill Street. Motion carried 4-1 (Miller).

11. Commissioner Flowers-Taylor would like to discuss establishing a work group to meet with staff to discuss possible changes in the Personnel Ordinance.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor asked for the workshop because she feels there are some issues regarding women's rights and what she terms as sexual harassment that are not just redundant, but they are "word salad" they don't mean anything, they don't hold any weight. In the last conversation, when we were talking with

the Personnel Director, and Commissioner Flowers-Taylor still doesn't understand how conduct unbecoming a county employee is different from sexual harassment. It is the same thing, but it's not, but to me the biggest issue is that we do not have a policy for zero tolerance for any type of discrimination, racial discrimination, sexual discrimination, harassment, sexual harassment of any sort and so she thinks that needs to be "cleaned up" and the evidence of that was discussed in our last meeting.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor then stated that the other thing that she realized was that when there is an offense committed, the reference to the offense is never actually reflected in the personnel record as to what that person did, only that that they had conduct unbecoming a county employee. It is recorded as generic, the actual conduct is not recorded. So if you are the next supervisor and you come behind them and this person does the same thing again, you don't have anything to tell you that this is a recurring problem. That is what needs to be clarified. We are really behind the rest of the world when we don't have a zero tolerance for sexual, racial or gender harassment in our personnel ordinance.

Mr. Wilson asked how she would like this structured.

Commissioner Ray stated that if we are going to do this it needs to be a Commissioner work session.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor asked that Mr. Wilson talk with the Personnel Director and have her pull together material for a work session.

Mr. Wilson stated that he would get with the Personnel Director and John Lowery and pull some information together and schedule a work session. He stated that he would try to set it up on a Monday, a regular commission meeting day at 9:00 a.m. and we will set it up within the next 60 days.

XI. REPORT OF COUNTY MANAGER

- Thanked the City of Griffin, Kenny Smith and Teresa Watson for allowing us to utilize the City's meeting room while the Spalding County Meeting Room is being renovated.

XII. REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Donald Hawbaker –

- Stated that the first Pickleball tournament at the new facility on the weekend of June 23rd was a success and he acknowledged the excellent job that was done by the Parks and Recreation staff to make this a successful event.

Commissioner Raymond Ray

- Extended sympathies and condolences to Michelle Phillips and family on the passing of former School Board Member and Board of Commission member,

- David Phillips yesterday.
- Expressed the need to follow up on the Animal Control issues expressed in the meeting this evening by Ms. Giles.

Mr. Wilson advised that he would have Mr. Mosley meet with Animal Control and Mrs. Giles and report back to the Board.

Commissioner Gwen Flowers-Taylor – None.

Commissioner Rita Johnson

- Thank the City of Griffin for allowing us to use this facility.
- Great meeting today on the TSPLOST, she is comfortable in what we have done and what we have achieved.
- The SPLOST updates are great and she trusts that the news media will put the list of projects out there for everyone to see what we have done and where we are.

Chairman Bart Miller – None.

XIII. CLOSED SESSION –

1. County Zoning Attorney requests an Executive Session to discuss pending litigation.

Motion/Second by Ray/Flowers-Taylor to enter Executive Session at 7:44 p.m. Motion carried unanimously by all.

Motion/Second by Ray/Hawbaker to close the Executive Session at 8:41 p.m. Motion carried unanimously by all.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion/Second by Ray/Johnson to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 p.m. Motion carried unanimously by all.