

STEERING, LEGISLATIVE & GOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE

November 5, 2012

5:30 p.m.

Courthouse

MINUTES:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commissioner Jack Black
Commissioner Gary Farley
Commissioner Trey Gooch
Commissioner Jeff Jordan
Commissioner Allen McAdoo
Commissioner Steve Sandlin
Commissioner Adam Coggin, C

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ernest Burgess Robert Arnold
Melissa Stinson Susan Allen
Evelyn Anderson Donna Andrews
Robert Stevens Lois Miller
Sherrill Nelson Jim Averwater
Desiree Gaines Shannon Payne
Shauntae Sherrill Don Troup
Jimmy Leo Richardson
Steve Schroeder
Becky Shelton

Chairman Coggin presided and called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with all members being present at that time.

MINUTES:

"Commissioner Gooch moved, seconded by Commissioner Farley, to approve the minutes of the last meeting as mailed. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

ANNOUNCE TWO VACANCIES ON CORRECTIONAL WORK CENTER BOARD:

Chairman Coggin advised the positions of Tom Hartley and Grant Kelley on the Correctional Work Center Board were expiring and accordingly being announced.

ANNOUNCE THREE VACANCIES ON AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD:

Chairman Coggin advised the positions of Anthony David Scales, Delia Goodman and Commissioner Steve Sandlin on the Agricultural Advisory Board were expiring and accordingly being announced.

ANNOUNCE VACANCY ON COMMUNITY CARE BOARD:

Chairman Coggin advised the position of Kaye Jernigan on the Community Care Board was expiring and accordingly being announced.

ANNOUNCE CORONER VACANCY:

Chairman Coggin advised the position of Mike Nunley as the Coroner was expiring and accordingly being announced.

FILL VACANCY ON CODES ENFORCEMENT ADJUSTMENTS & APPEALS BOARD:

Chairman Coggin advised an application had been received from James Averwater for appointment to the Codes Enforcement Adjustments & Appeals Board. Mr. Averwater was in attendance and addressed the Committee. Following discussion,

"Commissioner Farley moved, seconded by Commissioner Sandlin, to recommend appoint of James Averwater to the Codes Enforcement Adjustments & Appeals Board. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

FILL ALTERNATE VACANCY ON BEER BOARD:

Chairman Coggin advised applications had been received from Sherrill L. Nelson and Jimmy Leo Richardson, III for appointment to the alternate vacancy on the Beer Board to fill the unexpired term of Michael Anderson which expires October, 2014. Both applicants were in attendance and addressed the Committee. Following discussion,

"Commissioner Sandlin moved, seconded by Commissioner Farley, to nominate both applicants and vote for one. Mr. Richardson will be recommended for appointment to the Beer Board as an alternate to fill the unexpired term of Michael Anderson which expires October, 2014 with Commissioners Black, Jordan, McAdoo and Sandlin voting for Richardson and Commissioners Farley, Gooch and Coggin voting for Nelson."

FILL TWO VACANCIES ON INSURANCE COMMITTEE - CITIZENS AT LARGE:

Chairman Coggin advised applications had been received from Donna Andrews, Dr. Nolan S. Barham, Sr., Greg Hall, Penny Hooper, and Lois Miller for the two citizen at large vacancies on the Insurance Committee. Ms. Andrews and Ms. Miller were in attendance and addressed the Committee. Following discussion,

"Commissioner Farley moved, seconded by Commissioner Gooch, to nominate all applicants and vote for two. Commissioner Black voted for Andrews and Hall; Commissioner Farley voted for Andrews and Hall; Commissioner Gooch voted for Andrews and Miller; Commissioner Jordan voted for Andrews and Hall; Commissioner McAdoo voted for Andrews and Miller; Commissioner Sandlin voted for Andrews and Miller and Chairman Coggin voted for Hall and Miller. Ms. Andrews will be recommended for appointment to the Insurance Committee in a citizen at large position receiving six votes. Mr. Hall and Ms. Miller each received four votes."

Commissioner Farley advised there is already an ex-director of Insurance on the Committee and Mr. Hall does a good job. Commissioner Sandlin advised Ms. Miller would be an asset to the Committee and Mr. Hall was not in attendance at this meeting. Commissioner Jordan advised if a person was serving and doing a good job he would vote for them again but he knew Ms. Miller's knowledge was impressive and insurance costs are killing the general and School Board budgets. Commissioner McAdoo advised GASB45 is a major project and Ms. Miller is very knowledgeable on it.

"Commissioner Sandlin moved, seconded by Commissioner Gooch, to nominate Mr. Hall and Ms. Miller and vote for one. Mr. Hall will be recommended for appointment to the Insurance Committee in a citizen at large position with Commissioners Black, Farley, Jordan and Coggin voting for Hall and Commissioners Gooch, McAdoo and Sandlin voting for Miller."

AMENDMENT TO RULE IV, SECTION A, OF THE COMMISSION RULES:

This matter was brought up at the Commission by Commissioner Robert Stevens and referred to the Steering Committee. Commissioner Stevens addressed the Committee advising Rule IV in the Commissioner Handbook required the County Clerk to distribute the digest which to date has been mailed through the U.S. Post Office. Commissioner Stevens proposed to change Rule IV, Section A to allow the digest to be distributed either by U.S. mail or electronically.

Commissioner J. Jordan advised the digest is not put on the web and he suggested this would be good. Mayor Burgess advised the digest and minutes could be put on the web.

"Commissioner Farley moved, seconded by Commissioner Gooch, to add "the digest either by U.S. mail or electronically" to Rule IV, Section A, so that the same will read "The County Clerk shall compose a digest of each meeting and distribute the digest either by U.S. mail or electronically not later than five (5) working days after the meeting. The digest shall be distributed as follows:"

Commissioner McAdoo questioned if the Committee should look at all departments doing mailings by e-mail rather than by U.S. mail. Mayor Burgess requested anyone receiving mailings from departments to advise him and this can be handled.

"Commissioner J. Jordan moved, seconded by Commissioner McAdoo, to have the Commission digest posted on the County website each month. This motion passed unanimously by acclamation."

TIME LIMIT FOR COMMENTS AT PUBLIC HEARINGS:

This matter was referred back to the Committee from the Commission. The prior Resolution gave the Chair a lot of flexibility and it was felt the policy needed consistency. The County Attorney was supposed to have been at this meeting but previously advised the policy needed to be more consistent.

Commissioner Jordan advised the School Board has a policy of three minutes per individual or fifteen minutes if someone is speaking for a group.

Commissioner McAdoo inquired if the matter had to be dealt with now advising he did not want to set a time limit before the Planning document was dealt with as he thought there would be many comments regarding that and wanted to delay setting any time limits until finalization of the Planning document.

Mayor Burgess advised the only place time limits is addressed is Robert's Rules of Order which says the Chair can do.

Commissioner Jordan advised a School Board document would be coming up in a couple of months and there may be many people wanting to talk on that topic.

Commissioner Farley advised he would like the County Attorney in attendance during discussion.

"Commissioner McAdoo moved, seconded by Commissioner J. Jordan, to table the issue of time limits at public hearings and readdress at the next meeting if the Planning handbook is finalized. This motion was withdrawn."

This topic will be put on the next agenda.

NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner J. Jordan advised he would like for the Committee to discuss documents, publications, etc. posted on bulletin boards on County property. Commissioner Farley advised if the Committee does something it should be all or nothing. The County Attorney will be ask to attend the next meeting for this matter also.

There appearing to be no further business to come before the Committee, Chairman Coggin declared the meeting adjourned at 6:14 p.m.

ADAM COGGIN, Chairman