

**Upson County Board of Commissioners
February 10, 2015 Meeting Minutes**

Call to Order

Chairman Blackston calls the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. All Commissioners are in attendance. County Manager Jim Wheelless and County Attorney Paschal English are also in attendance. The Invocation is led by Comm. Wilder and Pledge of Allegiance is led by Chairman Blackston.

Minutes

A motion is made by Comm. Spraggins, with a second from Comm. Ellington, to adopt the January 27, 2015 regular meeting minutes. The motion carries.

Commissioner Spraggins – Yes Commissioner Hudson – Abstain
Commissioner Ellington - Yes Commissioner Wilder – Yes
Chairman Blackston – Yes

Public Comments

No public comments.

New Business

- a. IT Director Robert Haney gave a presentation on the work order system he is implementing. He showed how the citizens and employees could submit requests or problems to different departments. After the request/problem is completed the person will receive an email letting them know it is completed.
- b. Commissioner Wilder stated that the idea of changing the Commissioners Meeting time to an earlier time. He added that this could generate more participation. Commissioner Ellington stated that before they voted on it he would like to talk with some citizens and see how they feel about the idea. Chairman Blackston stated that the code states that the board has a right to change the time.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ellington with a second from Commissioner Wilder to table this discussion so they can get the opinion of the community.

Commissioner Hudson – Yes Commissioner Ellington - Yes
Commissioner Wilder – Yes Commissioner Spraggins – Yes
Chairman Blackston – Yes

- c. Dave Wills from ACCG spoke about House Bill 170. He explained that the bill would take sales tax on motor fuel from the county and it would go directly to the state. This would affect the LOST and SPLOST. In order for the county to recoup these taxes they would have to enforce an excise tax and this would have to be done by an ordinance. There is really only way for the school system to recoup the cost.

County Manager, Commissioners and County Attorney Comments

County Manager Jim Wheelless stated that Arbor Day will be February 18 at 1:30 at the Civic Center Gym, if planning to participate, RSVP at the City Manager's Office. The ACCG conference will be held April 17-20, 2015 at the International Convention Center in Savannah. Please see Jessica Jones if you are interested in attending. He stated that there was a meeting with Patrick and Dennis about the joint projects and he believes they have come to a good work out on how it will be handled. He added that there is an open position on the Archives Records Advisory Board and he was looking at some candidates and he would get back with the board. This is a permanent position that Paul Rogers served on in the past. Mr. Wheelless stated that the IDA wanted to go ahead with the natural gas line project and they have to see if the money is available.

Commissioner Spraggins had no comments.

Commissioner Wilder stated that there would be a Town Hall meeting at Salem Baptist Church on Thursday, March 19 at 7:00 pm. He added that the House of Representative will acknowledge a 12 year old girl from Upson Lee Middle School by resolution for a book that she wrote. This will be Thursday February 12th at the Capital.

Commissioner Ellington stated that he was glad to see the sign ordinance be accepted and it is now at about 70 -75%.

County Attorney Paschal English had no comments.

Chairman Blackston stated that in honoring the Public Service Workers there would be a luncheon at Mt. View Church on Thursday Feb. 12. He added that he had been to the Capital and had a good meeting.

Executive Session

A motion to recess the regular meeting for executive session at 7:55 by Comm. Spraggins and a second from Comm. Wilder.

A motion was made by Comm. Wilder with a second from Comm. Spraggins at 9:20 to exit executive session.

A motion was made by Comm. Wilder with a second from Comm. Spraggins to go back into regular meeting.

A motion was made by Comm. Hudson with a second from Comm. Spraggins to sell the City of Thomaston the property on Po Bidy Road for \$25,000. The motion carried.

Adjournment

Comm. Ellington made a motion to adjourn at 9:25 pm, with a second by Chairman Blackston to adjourn the meeting.

Chairman Rusty Blackston

Commissioner Steve Hudson

Commissioner Frank Spraggins

Commissioner Lorenzo Wilder

Commissioner Ralph Ellington

Jim Wheelless, County Manager