

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

Call to Order

Chairman Blackston calls the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. All Commissioners are in attendance except Commissioner Wilder. County Manager Jim Wheelless and County Attorney Heath English are also in attendance. The Invocation was led by Commissioner Hudson 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 February 24, 2015 regular meeting minutes. The motion carries.

Commissioner Ellington - Yes Commissioner Spraggins – Yes
Commissioner Hudson – Yes Chairman Blackston – Yes
Commissioner Wilder – Not in Attendance

Public Comments

No public comments.

New Business

- a. The board discussed the Timber Harvesting Ordinance. County Attorney Heath English explained that sections 2.1, 2.31 and 2.35 were the changes for the amended ordinance. He explained that one bond could not be used for more than one tract. He added that if there is more than one entrance or exit there had to be a bond for each one. The board agreed they only wanted one entrance and exit for each track requiring logger to have a different bond per tract. Mr. English will make the changes and bring back before the board.

County Manager, Commissioners and County Attorney Comments

County Manager Jim Wheelless stated that the grand opening for the new T-Ball complex will be Saturday March 28, 15 at 10:00 a.m., he added that this project has been a long time coming from our SPLOST. He stated that the project to widen Hwy 19 from McDonalds to Atwater Road has come up and the county will need to see if the state can help with funding. This is expected to start in 2017 and after meeting with Georgia Department of Transportation there is some preliminary work that has to be done by the county. The contractor Rindt McDuff is pulling together information and it looks like close to \$400,000 necessary relocations and there will also be some utility conflicts. The total estimated cost is around \$665,000. Mr. Wheelless stated that the Water Superintendent position was posted in house and it was filled by Dwight Smith. He stated that House Bill 170 had been passed by the house to the Senate. Several changes are expected from the Senate. An ADA plan is being put into place and RFP012015 had two bids for the restrooms at the Civic Center. Quality Construction by McLeroy, INC. of Zebulon came in at \$74,777 and HJ&S Development INC of Thomaston came in at \$99,588. He also had a bid from Thomaston Ford for a 2014 Ford F150 truck for the Animal Shelter, both items will be purchased through the SPLOST.

Commissioner Hudson asked to review the bids for the restrooms at the Civic Center before voting.

Commissioner Spraggins had no comments.

Commissioner Hudson had no comments.

Commissioner Wilder was not in attendance.

Commissioner Ellington had no comments.

County Attorney Heath English had no comments.

Chairman Blackston stated that he was invited to Upson Lee High School for a celebration proclaiming February as Career and Technical Education Month. He was very amazed with the program and accomplishments they have and would like the other Commissioners to visit. He asked everyone to keep Paul Rogers in their prayers he is in the hospital. He also thanked everyone for their prayers and can calls after his surgery.

Adjournment

Comm. Spraggins made a motion to adjourn at 7:30 pm, with a second by Comm. Hudson to adjourn the meeting.

Chairman Rusty Blackston

Commissioner Steve Hudson

Commissioner Frank Spraggins

NOT IN ATTENDANCE
Commissioner Lorenzo Wilder

Commissioner Ralph Ellington

Jim Wheelless, County Manager