

**Upton County Board of Commissioners
July 14, 2015 Meeting Minutes**

Call to Order

Chairman Blackston calls the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. All Commissioners are in attendance. County Manager Jim Wheelless and County Attorney Paschal English were also in attendance. The Invocation was led by Commissioner Hudson and Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Blackston.

Amend Agenda

A motion was made by Comm. Spraggins with a second from Comm. Ellington to accept the amended agenda.

Minutes

A motion is made by Comm. Wilder, with a second from Comm. Ellington, to adopt the June 23, 2015 regular meeting minutes and June 29 2015 work session minutes. The motion carries.

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

Public Comments

Freida Litchfield, 212 Thurston Ave, stated that she was very upset that she could not get Three Rivers Transit to pick her up. She stated that she spoke with them and thought everything was set up and they called her back stating they could not pick her up.

New Business

- a. County Manager Jim Wheelless stated that they received 3 sealed bids for resurfacing Delray Road from Highway 19 to Highway 36. He stated that this would be paid for by LMIG with a 30% match from SPLOST. He added that James Melton had also reviewed the bids.

Georgia Asphalt	\$619,347.01
C.W. Matthews	\$639,294.77
Robinson Paving Co	\$636,860.43

A motion was made by Comm. Hudson with a second from Comm. Ellington to accept the bid from Georgia Asphalt for \$619,347.01. The motion carries.

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

- b. Jim Wheelless stated that we are currently in a five year contract with Community Health Services of Georgia (Mid Georgia Ambulance). He received a letter stating they wanted to amend the contract Section 9E to eliminate the \$25,000 monthly payment to Mid Georgia Ambulance.

A motion was made by Comm. Ellington with a second from Comm. Hudson to amend the Mid Georgia Ambulance Contract.

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

County Manager, Commissioners and County Attorney Comments

County Manager Jim Wheelless stated that he had the mid-year budgets and they needed to schedule a meeting to review. He stated that there were no changes this year.

Mr. Wheelless stated that the roof to the government complex is spray foam and the warranty has expired. He added that they needed to look into replacing it along with the Senior Center and the Old Worthy Gym

Mr. Wheelless has meet with the City of Thomaston and is currently working on an intergovernmental agreement for the upcoming SPLOST. He stated that they are looking to do a six year SPLOST and if they want it ready for the ballet in November everything has to be submitted by August 31, 2015. The Chamber of Commerce is having an expo and the county will have two booths. One will be for information on the precinct changes and the other to have SPLOST information.

Mr. Wheelless stated that the roof at the Civic Center had been replaced and they were now in compliance with ADA. Now they are in need of electrical upgrades. The estimated cost is around \$880,000. This will include an upgrade from an 800 amp panel to a 2000 amp panel. The fire alarm,

sprinkle system and generator will be priced separately. The estimated cost for this project is around \$1.1 million.

He added that there is money left in the SPLOST for the Library and they need to replace the floors, they will be putting this out for bid.

The State Route 36 project only had one bidder at the pre-bid meeting so they are going to put it out for bid again.

Commissioner Spraggins had no comments

Commissioner Hudson stated that they will be meeting with an engineer on Friday to discuss the water situation. He thanked the road department for the job well done on Old Swifton Road adding that Upson County was one of the few counties that still do their own paving.

Commissioner Wilder stated that the paving on Old Swifton Road was completed and it was a beautiful job by the road department.

Commissioner Ellington stated that he checked on the delinquent property taxes and for 2013 it is still around \$144,000 outstanding and for 2014 around \$316,000 outstanding. He added that the county relies on property taxes as its main source of income. He stated that he would like to see something done with the water system so the county won't have to keep paying the City so much.

County Attorney Paschal English had no comments.

Chairman Blackston stated that like the Commissioners to be thinking about what day they would like to schedule a reoccurring work session.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Comm. Spraggins with a second from Comm. Wilder to recess into Executive Session at 6:30. The motion carries.

A motion was made by Comm. Ellington with a second from Comm. Hudson to exit Executive Session back into regular session at 6:45. The motion carries.

A motion was made by Comm. Ellington with a second from Comm. Wilder to enter back into regular session.

Adjournment

Comm. Spraggins made a motion to adjourn at 6:47 pm, with a second by Comm. Ellington to adjourn the meeting. The motion carries.

Chairman Rusty Blackston

Commissioner Steve Hudson

Commissioner Frank Spraggins

Commissioner Lorenzo Wilder

Commissioner Ralph Ellington

Jim Wheelless, County Manager