

MINUTES
Liberty County Board of Commissioners
Midmonth Meeting
October 20, 2016

1. The meeting was opened by Chairman Lovette with all Commissioners except Bowen in attendance.
2. The Chairman certified compliance with the Georgia Open Meetings Act.
3. Prayer was offered by Commissioner Thrift followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Bowen joined the meeting.

4. Departmental Reports were presented:
 - a. Ms. Kim McGlothlin presented the monthly report of the Finance Department. Ms. McGlothlin reported on the budgetary status of various fund types and informed the Board the undesignated fund balance was approximately 3 months which was down from this time last year. The Board discussed possible financial impacts associated with efforts during Hurricane Matthew.
 - b. Mr. Trent Long presented the monthly engineering report. Mr. Long reported on the status of several projects underway including the Gateway Beautification Grant and advised the Board that an expected \$504,200.00 in LMIG funds would be available this coming year. The Board discussed options for potential projects for LMIG funding including the continuation of overlay of Lewis Frasier Road pursuant to the Board's priority list and sidewalk in certain areas including Holmestown. Mr. Long advised the Board that he would recheck stipulations on use of the funds so that the Board could finalize their desirable project or projects for submittal by the end of the year.
5. The Board considered New Business:
 - a. The Board considered a previous request by Neo Energy to place an anaerobic digestion facility at Tradeport East Business Center. Mr. Eian Lynch appeared to answer questions from the Board. Following questions, a motion was made by Commissioner Stevens to approve the request for placement of the facility at the location including a conditional use for these purposes in an I-1 zoning district noting compliance with the Liberty County Solid Waste Management Plan, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, with all Commissioners voting in favor of the motion.
 - b. Michelle Ricketson and Joe Minicozzi appeared before the Board to give a presentation on Urban 3, a tax data study as was commissioned by the HDDA and other funding partners. Mr. Minicozzi highlighted aspects and findings of the study and addressed certain competitive issues related to development in the downtown vs sprawl areas of the City of Hinesville.
 - c. The Board considered a request by the local governing board of the Live Oak Public Library System to increase membership of the local board by two persons to be appointed from within the Commission. Mr. Kelly Davis appeared to offer an opinion on the Resolution presented to the Commission related to the possible expansion. Mr. Davis noted that all appointments made by the Commission needed to be ratified by Board majority and that the manner in which the Resolution was requesting they be done did not meet the guidelines. Mr. Graylin Quarterman and Ms. Sandra Sheffield spoke in hopes of continued dialogue concerning the request. Following discussion among Commissioners related to the actual need for expansion, current members/appointing agencies, and options related to the request, a motion was made by Commissioner Walden to maintain the current status of the local board, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard, with Commissioners Walden, Gilliard, Bowen, Lovette, Thrift, and Frasier voting in favor of the motion; Commissioner Stevens opposed.

6. A motion was made by Commissioner Stevens to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Frasier, and approved unanimously.

SIGNED:

Donald L. Lovette, Chairman

Gary Gilliard, Vice Chairman

Marion Stevens, Sr., Commissioner

Justin Frasier, Commissioner

Connie Thrift, Commissioner

Pat Bowen, Commissioner

Eddie J. Walden, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Joseph W. Brown
County Administrator