

BUTLER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Tuesday, August 2, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

Commission Chairman Bruce Harris called the Butler County Board of Commissioners to order at 9:00 a.m. Present were Commissioner Jeff Masterson, Commissioner Peggy Palmer, Commissioner Mike Wheeler, Commissioner Dan Woydziak, Finance Director Brandon Kauffman, and Clerk Recorder Tammy Bridges. County Administrator Will Johnson, Jr., was absent.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

ITEM #1 – CONSIDER APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT OF MARY MARTHA GOOD TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR FLINTHILLS SERVICES, INC., IN AN AT-LARGE POSITION FOR A TERM OF 3 YEARS STARTING AUGUST 2, 2011

Ann Carpenter, Flinthills Board President, came before the Board for approval of the appointment of Mary Martha Good to the Board of Directors for Flinthills Services, Inc, in an At-large position for a 3-year term starting August 2, 2011. Ms. Carpenter also asked for approval to appoint Pat Firebaugh to the Flinthills Services Board to fill a vacancy in District 5 for a 3-year term effective August 2, 2011.

Commissioner Wheeler motioned to approve the appointment of Mary Martha Good and Pat Firebaugh to the Board of Directors for Flinthills Services, Inc., for a three year term beginning August 2, 2011. Commissioner Woydziak seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

ITEM #2 – WORK SESSION – RAIL ROAD UPDATE

David Alfaro, Economic Development Director, came before the Board to discuss the railroad property and lawsuit. This will be a long-term process, possibly several years, and other landowners who were not part of the original lawsuit have until September 14th to join that lawsuit. Mr. Alfaro stated Augusta has shown interest in utilizing the property for a trail. Sasha Stiles, City of Andover, stated she could not speak for the City Council, but commented that a trail would be a fantastic amenity and a viable project. Commissioner Palmer initiated discussion about the County's involvement with the railroad property.

Commissioner Woydziak suggested continuing to use the Notice of Interim Trail Use (NITU) until this case is settled. Karl Morrell is our attorney in Washington, D.C., and David Alfaro suggested setting up a conference call with him. It was the consensus of the Board to retain the NITU and set up a conference call with Attorney Karl Morrell.

Commissioners Masterson and Palmer asked Mr. Alfaro about the building that was torn down in Andover. Sasha Stiles commented on the issue. Commissioner Palmer noted she contacted Mr. Frank Miller to let him know that this would be discussed today, however, he did not attend the meeting.

ITEM #3 – CONSIDER APPROVAL TO PUBLISH THE 2012 BUTLER COUNTY BUDGET AND ESTABLISHING AUGUST 16TH AT 9:00 A.M. AS THE OFFICIAL PUBLIC HEARING DATE AND TIME

Brandon Kauffman, Finance Director, came before the Board for approval to publish the 2012 Butler County Budget and establish August 16th at 9:00 a.m. as the official Public Hearing date and time. Commissioner Woydziak confirmed that this action would not approve or disapprove the budget. It is just approving the publication and setting the public hearing date.

Commissioner Woydziak motioned to approve to publish the 2012 Butler County Budget and establish August 16th at 9:00 a.m. as the official Public Hearing date and time. Commissioner Wheeler seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-2. Commissioners Masterson and Palmer voted no.

Commissioner Woydziak stated he can see voting no for the budget, but doesn't understand the purpose of voting no against publishing, which is a legal obligation of this Board. Commissioner Masterson stated it wasn't the budget he wanted published. Commissioner Palmer noted she didn't like the spending and tax increases.

COMMISSION ADDS & ABATES

Commissioner Wheeler motioned to approve Adds & Abates #2494 dated August 2, 2011; Adds in the amount of \$125.50 and Abates in the amount of \$13,024.30. Commissioner Masterson seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Harris stated he would be at the 4-H Fair tomorrow evening to present the Volunteer of the Year plaque and will be at the Soil Conservation breakfast tomorrow morning.

Commissioner Wheeler reminded the Board of the 4-H auction tomorrow night and that it will be inside.

Commissioner Palmer reminded the commission that she would be out of town next week.

Commissioner Woydziak asked Mr. Alfaro to find out how much the Washington, D.C. attorneys are charging per hour for the railroad case.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Woydziak motioned to adjourn the meeting of the Board at 9:31 a.m. Commissioner Wheeler seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.