

Bryan County Board of Commissioners – January 14, 2020

The regular meeting of the Bryan County Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 in Pembroke. The following members were present: Chairman Carter Infinger, Commissioner Steve Myers, Commissioner Noah Covington, Commissioner Brad Brookshire, Commissioner Wade Price and Commissioner Gene Wallace. Also present: County Administrator Ben Taylor, County Clerk Donna Waters and County Attorney Lea Holliday.

Chairman Infinger called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Invocation was given by Noah Covington. Everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A discussion was held on the **agenda**. A motion was made by Noah Covington and seconded by Gene Wallace to approve the agenda with the addition of an executive session to discuss personnel. Motion carried unanimously.

A discussion was held on the **minutes** of the December 2019 meetings. A motion was made by Brad Brookshire and seconded by Wade Price to approve the minutes of the December 2019 meetings as printed. Motion carried unanimously.

A discussion was held on the **consent agenda**. A motion was made by Wade Price and seconded by Brad Brookshire to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

The following item was on the consent agenda:

**1. Approval of Republic Waste Services Contract Amendment**

A motion was made by Brad Brookshire and seconded by Noah Covington to close the regular meeting to hold **planning & zoning public hearing**. Motion carried unanimously.

1. **Case CUP #164-19 – Larry Galbreath Conditional Use** – Other than the applicant, no one else was present to speak on this request.

A motion was made by Wade Price and seconded by Noah Covington to close the public hearing and go back into regular session.

**Amanda Clement, Planning Manager**, met with the board with Planning & Zoning issues.

**\*Case CUP #164-19 – Larry Galbreath Conditional Use** – This request is for a conditional use approval for the *excavation or mining of sand, gravel or other natural materials* (borrow pit) on property located at 1486 Belfast River Road, PIN # 056 047. Staff recommends denial. The Planning Commission recommends approval with conditions. A motion was made by Wade Price and seconded by Brad Brookshire to approve the conditional use with the conditions that: 1) The applicant shall obtain a NPDES and state mining permit from the Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division. A copy of the approved state permits must be submitted to the Community Development office prior to commencing any excavation activities; 2) The side slopes of any excavated area must be constructed at a 3:1 slope (three feet of horizontal distance per one foot in vertical drop) from the top of the excavation to the bottom at all times during construction and at completion of the excavation; 3) The edge of the borrow pit may not be located at any one point, closer than fifty (50) feet to any property line; 4) A natural vegetative buffer within the 50-foot setback area shall be maintained for the duration of the conditional use; 5) The mining activity shall be limited to Monday through Friday from

8:00 am to 5:00 pm, except on days that school is in, when such hours shall be 8:30 am to 5:00 pm; 6) The size of the borrow pit shall not exceed the size shown. Any proposed expansion of the pit shall require an additional conditional use approval; 7) Final grading/drainage and access details shall be approved by the Engineering Director prior to the commencing of any land disturbance activities; 8) Development of the site after reclamation shall comply with all Bryan County zoning and subdivision requirements; and 9) At no point can any of the pond area be used to meet minimum lot area requirements. Motion carried unanimously.

**Ben Taylor, County Administrator**, met with the board with several issues.

**\*Appointment of Vice-Chairman** – Each year the Board of Commissioners appoints one of its members as the Vice-Chairman. For a number of years, the Board has been using the rotation of 5<sup>th</sup> District, followed by 3<sup>rd</sup> District, then 4<sup>th</sup> District, 2<sup>nd</sup> District and 1<sup>st</sup> District. The Vice-Chairman for 2019 was Wade Price, 2<sup>nd</sup> District. A motion was made by Steve Myers and seconded by Brad Brookshire to appoint Noah Covington, 1<sup>st</sup> District Commissioner, as Vice-Chairman of the Bryan County Board of Commissioners for FY 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

**\*Appointment of County Attorney** – In January of each year, the Board of Commissioners appoints the County Attorney. Leamon (Lea) Holliday with Bouhan Falligan, LLP has served as the County Attorney since January 2015. A motion was made by Steve Myers and seconded by Brad Brookshire to re-appoint Lea Holliday as County Attorney for FY 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

**\*Set Qualifying Fees for 2020** – The Board of Commissioners are required to set and publish qualifying fees for County Offices by February 1, 2020. Qualifying fees are generally set by Law, the amount is depending on the county office. A motion was made by Brad Brookshire and seconded by Steve Myers to approve resolution to set the Qualifying Fees for county offices for 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

**\*Buyout John Deere Lease for JD190** – Bryan County entered a 5-year lease agreement with an option to buy in January 2015 for a JD 190DW FF Excavator. Since this machine has low hours on it and is in good condition, staff is recommending to purchase this machine by paying \$95,001 to buyout the balance of the contract. The original price was \$195,502 with 1% annual interest and the County has made 5 lease payment of \$21,448.92 over the last 5 years. This machine has approximately 1,500 hours on it of an expected 10,000 hour useful life. The approximate useful life left on this machine is 85%. The funds for this purchase will come from SPLOST. A motion was made by Wade Price and seconded by Noah Covington to approve to authorize county staff to purchase this machine by buying out the remaining lease in the amount of \$95,001. Motion carried unanimously.

**\*Award Contract for Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus** – Staff did an RFP for 90 Self Contained Breathing Apparatus and accessories. North America Fire Equipment Company had the lowest qualified price of \$457,718.30. The Bryan County EMS was awarded a \$600,000 grant which will be used to purchase this equipment. A motion was made by Noah Covington and seconded by Wade Price to approve staff to award a contract to North American Fire Equipment Company for Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus in the amount of \$457,718.20, fund to come from a grant awarded to Bryan County EMS in the amount of \$600,000. Motion carried unanimously.

**\*Appointment to the Planning Commission** – Mr. Steve Scholar has resigned from the Bryan County Planning & Zoning Commission. His term does not expire until May 8, 2021. A number of individuals have submitted their letters of interest over the past several months. The recommendation is to appoint Michelle Guran. A motion was made by Steve Myers and seconded by Wade Price to appoint Michelle Guran to the Planning & Zoning Commission to fill the unexpired term of Steve Scholar with a term to expire on May 8, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

Carl Stewart, Vernon Sims, Christopher Singleton, Mary Jane Hamilton and Earl Hamilton spoke with the board under public comments regarding **Mill Creek Church Road**. A petition to have this road paved was given to the board.

A motion was made by Steve Myers and seconded by Brad Brookshire to go into **executive session** to discuss personnel. Motion carried unanimously. The board went into executive session at 6:30 p.m. The board went back into regular session at 7:15 p.m.

A motion was made by Steve Myers and seconded by Noah Covington to **adjourn**. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.