

MONDAY

July 21, 2003

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The Board of DeKalb County Commissioners met in the Commissioners Court in the Court House in regular session, Monday at 8:30A.M. (EST)

PRESENT

William C. Ort
Connie R. Miles
Don Kaufman

ABSENT

MATTER OF HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT

Civil Defense director Paul Freeburn presented a First Responders Sub-grant application for the commissioners' inspection. A motion by Connie Miles to approve and the president to sign the application for the homeland security grant was seconded by William Ort and carried.

MATTER OF BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Building inspector Carlos Whitaker has advertised for a replacement for office manager Terri Welsh, who has recently resigned. Terri would stay on long enough to train a new manager for the office and would agree to work part time when needed. Barbara Perry from the plan commission office would like to take the job, but would also like the commissioners to waive the 90-day probationary period for salary and benefits, which she has in her current position. A motion by Connie Miles to waive the probationary salary and grant that the benefits be continued for Barbara Perry was seconded by William Ort and carried.

MATTER OF RESOLUTION

The commissioners have received a resolution regarding the two-mile jurisdiction for cities and towns. This resolution is from the Town of Ashley. However, the letter accompanying the resolution states that other cities and towns plan to initiate this same resolution.

In consideration of his work on the new county master plan, GIS Director Brad Stump was asked to comment on the resolution. Numerous meetings have been held as the county zoning administrator and GIS director have begun the task of rewriting the master plan with the help of former plan commission administrator and Brad Johnson of Ground Rules, the company hired for professional advice on the project. Brad feel that comments made during the preliminary meetings may have led to a false conclusion by the cities and towns. When asked if the two-mile jurisdiction would be kept intact, the comment from the committee that there might be an even better means to manage the zoning and building in areas of adjacent grounds, was misinterpreted that the two-mile jurisdiction would no longer be acceptable to the county.

Brad hopes that the commissioners will request that the cities and towns named in the resolution wait until the new master plan is nearer to completion and resolve the issues during the final phases of the planning. The two-mile jurisdiction may yet be the best was to resolve numerous zoning issues, but consideration of an alternative should also be an option.

MATTER OF SUNNY MEADOWS

The commissioners signed the Sunny Meadows Home and Farm report for June.

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MATTER OF SPECIAL CLAIMS

A motion by William Ort to approve special claims was seconded by Connie Miles and carried.

MATTER OF TREASURER'S REPORT

The June Treasurer's report was reviewed by the commissioners.

MATTER OF AUBURN ANNEXATIONS

Zoning Administrator Sally Rowe asked for an opinion from the commissioners regarding a plan commission request. The City of Auburn has begun the process to annex an area, and rather than have the city bring a matter within this area to the county plan commission it was decided to allow the city to proceed.

MATTER OF HIGHWAY

Highway Supervisor Eric Patton presented a letter from the DNR regarding replacement of siding on the Spencerville Covered Bridge. Recommendations require the retention of a good deal of the current siding and lumber to be matched to that retained. The siding, lumber and roof on the outside of the bridge is not original, and in fact, has probably been replaced numerous times since the original construction shortly after 1900. The interior of the bridge is original, and should be protected from the elements. Mr. Patton will visit these issues with the DNR to the extent that the bridge must be maintained wherever possible with new materials. Use of deteriorated lumber pieces will only lead to further problems.

MATTER OF PAYROLL

A motion by William Ort to approve the payroll claims for the work period ending July 17th was seconded by Connie Miles and carried.

MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business to come before the commissioners the meeting was adjourned.

William C. Ort
William C. Ort

Connie R. Miles
Connie R. Miles

Don Kaufman
Don Kaufman

ATTEST:

Sharon G. Hayes
Sharon G. Hayes