

EEHW COMMITTEE MEETING
June 20, 2013
5:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chair Tim Dudley
Jerry Potts
Kevin Greenfield
Merv Jacobs
Phil Hogan

COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT

Jay Dunn, Board Chairman
Julie Aubert, Health Dept
Kris Horton, Animal Control
Greg Collins, Veterans Assistance
Jennifer Hoffman, P&Z
Linda Little, Board Member
Jeannie Durham, Board Office

MEMBERS ABSENT

Patty Cox
Kevin Meachum

The meeting was called to order by Chair Tim Dudley at the Macon County Office Building.

MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting 5/16/13, was made by Jerry Potts seconded by Kevin Greenfield and motion carried 5-0.

CLAIMS

Motion to approve the claims was made by Jerry Potts, seconded by Phil Hogan, and motion carried 5-0.

ZONING

None

SUBDIVISIONS

Svoboda's Addition – 2 lot minor subdivision

Jennifer explained that this is located at 3560 Sam School Road in Long Creek Township and involves a total of Lot 1 consisting of 1.87 acres and Lot 2 consisting of 1.66 acres. The zoning of the two lots is agricultural. The petitioner was granted a variance at the beginning of the month at the June 5 ZBA meeting to subdivide to be less than 10 acres in agricultural zoning. Prior to the variance, the landowner had already divided off the 3.35 acres with the house that was built before 1970, but he wants to divide the land again to build a new residence. All the documents and certifications have been reviewed and signed by all entities involved and staff recommends approval of the subdivision.

Kevin Greenfield made a motion to approve, seconded by Phil Hogan and motion carried 5-0.

REPORTS

Veterans Assistance

Greg Collins reported about the Jesse Tilton ride on July 21 which will be starting out of the WWII Memorial.

Also, the Veterans Assistance office will be switching from a current walk in basis to an appointment scheduling system. Claims can take up to two hours and the office is experiencing an issue of people having to wait for periods of time. We will still take walk ins, but Kathie's appointments will be scheduled when possible.

Planning & Zoning

Macon County Board Ordinance Approving Amendments to the Nuisance Ordinance

Jennifer Hoffman explained that Macon County needs to address abandoned/ derelict vehicles in subdivisions. Under the current nuisance ordinance an abandoned vehicle has to meet 3 criteria before we can prosecute:

1. The vehicle has to be on the premises for 60 days or more
2. The vehicle has to be wrecked, scrapped, ruined, partially dismantled, or inoperative
3. The vehicle has to display invalid licensing.

The problem we are running into is that these vehicles will meet two of the criteria and not the third. Therefore Macon County can't classify them as abandoned vehicles.

So a citizen can have 5 vehicles on their property for 2 years and they have an invalid sticker but the vehicle is physically in good condition and we can't do anything about it. These kinds of conditions are not only in subdivisions but also in the rural areas. However in the rural areas we don't have that many complaints. I feel these changes need to be made because it is not fair to citizens of Macon County to have to look at a junkyard next door to them and Macon County has no control over this. If you look, I attached some color pictures of the complaints that we have not been able to pursue to prosecution because of the ordinance. As you can see these are all over the county in different townships but they are ALL within subdivisions in Macon County.

Jay brought it to my attention that the EEHW Committee does not require a vote to send this on to the Macon County Board. The Board Rules state that I have to keep the chair of EEHW apprised of its actions, so I am reporting this to the committee because you are my oversight committee. I've discussed this with Mike Baggett and adjusted the resolution accordingly.

Kevin Greenfield questioned whether this applied only to subdivisions or all of the county. Jennifer explained that it is countywide, but more of the problems are in subdivisions. Kevin asked how the process gets started. Jennifer explained that the office is complaint driven so complaints can be called in or there are complaint forms that can be submitted in writing. The complaints can be anonymous.

Tim asked Jennifer to explain the procedure. Jennifer explained that once she gets a complaint, she has to go to the site and send a violation. They have 15 days to abate. Under the new ordinance, changes in Category 2 say the vehicles have to be there for 7 consecutive days. I am going to have to go out there daily for 7 consecutive days to make sure the vehicles are still there. This is according to Mike Baggett, and he is going to be the one to prosecute. That way when he prosecutes and I am on the stand testifying, I can verify that they have been there for the entire 7 consecutive days. On weeds, litter, junk, etc... we send a letter and they have 15 days to abate. If they do not contact me, I turn it over to the State's Attorney's office. I do have the opportunity to use my discretion in working with them and granting them more time if I

think it is necessary. Kevin Greenfield expressed concern over the time demands on the office. Tim stated that hopefully, once word gets around and people understand the process, it won't be so bad. There's always good and bad about the whole thing, but the good thing is that people will now get rid of that stuff. Jennifer stated that at least now she won't have to tell the citizens that she can't do a thing about it. Kevin asked if the State's Attorney's office was going to be aggressive and Jennifer confirmed that yes, they had been working together and they are in agreement. Tim said he had spoken to Mike and feels he will be very aggressive. He said that if we are going to do it, we have to do it in a way that we are not going to mess around, or it won't work. Merv Jacobs asked about her ability to go on the property to look. Jennifer said she still cannot go on the property and that she can only see the violation on the road. That is State Statute. The owner would have to invite me onto the property. For example, if the cars are all backed in and I can't see the license plates, I can tell them to prove it to me and let me come onto the property to see them. The neighbor can let me on their property to see from there.

Health Department

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Increase in Appropriations for Phase II Building Improvements

Julie Aubert explained that this is for Phase II of the building improvements and includes the 2nd phase of the roof which is the drainage that had to be done around the building. Also, the parking lot which has not been touched since the building was built. The resolution approves \$190,000 in expenses that will be covered through our health fund. There is a \$32,000 revenue item which is a rebate that has already been received. We are hopeful of receiving about \$40,000 more in rebates. This also includes some interior building improvements that are desperately needed.

Motion to send on to the Finance Committee with recommendation for approval was made by Jerry Potts, seconded by Phil Hogan and motion carried 5-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Increase in Appropriations for Administrative Clerical Support

Julie explained that this is to add a new administrative position. It is a part time, high level clerical position we would like to add to our administrative staff. When I took over, the HR and Assistant Administrator position was not replaced. We've done ok. Our Payroll Clerk and Business Manager are great, but it has come to the time where we need a little additional help. They will be working on some human resources, things that are clerical such as the FMLA, payroll, backup and personnel files. It is about \$9,000 for this FY and the total will be about \$18,000 a year for the part time 28 hours a week.

Motion to send on to Finance Committee with recommendation for approval was made by Jerry Potts, seconded by Phil Hogan and motion carried 5-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Increase in Appropriations for Mother and Infant Home Visiting Program Evaluation (MIHOPE) Project

Julie explained this is a research project and this is language right out of the Affordable Care Act. We have home visiting programs right now for maternal, infant, early childhood home visiting. The MIHOPE is designed to evaluate the program and we did receive funding to do so. There

will be no expenses over revenue for this. We would receive \$15,000 in this FY and another \$7,000 in the next FY. Our expenses will not go over that.

Motion to send on to Finance Committee with recommendation for approval was made by Jerry Potts, seconded by Kevin Greenfield and motion carried 5-0.

Animal Control

Kris Horton distributed the May report and reported that they are currently running a special at the Shelter right now that is called "Name Your Own Adoption Fee". It is a minimum of \$25. We started for a week, but it worked so well, that we have extended it for the month. We have a couple of people that will pay the minimum. Most of the people pay close to the regular adoption fee and some people pay even more since it is like a donation. It is working really well.

Environmental Management

No report

Regional Office of Education

No report. Tim requested an email be sent to Mr. Snyder requesting he come to next month's meeting to report on the tax abatement for the schools and how that is going.

Citizen's Remarks

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

CLOSED SESSION

None

NEXT MEETING

July 18, 2013

ADJOURNMENT

Jerry Potts made a motion, seconded by Merv Jacobs, the motion carried 5-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jeannie Durham
Macon County Board Office