

Jasper County Board of Commissioners

February 28, 2022

Work Session Minutes

6:00 P.M.

Commissioner Henry called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Chairman, Bruce Henry; Gerald Stunkel, Vice Chairman; Sheila Jones; Don Jernigan; and Steven Ledford.

Staff Present: Mike Benton, County Manager, Michael Fleming, Recreation Director, and Brandon Williams, Recreation Coordinator.

Others Present: Kathy Mudd, Editor, The Monticello News; Paul Hoover with Precision Planning.

Work Session:

1. Recreation Department Multipurpose Building and Master Site Plan

Mr. Hoover prepared an agenda for his portion of the meeting. Mr. Hoover stated that they met with Michael Fleming to see what their needs were and completed a space analysis. That's how they came up with these plans. They have regulation basketball courts with bleachers which are shared by a separation wall. The gym area would need to have a high ceiling but for the office area you do not need a high ceiling. Mr. Hoover shared the layout draft of the building.

Commissioner Ledford asked if the concession area big enough to hold that size building.

Mr. Hoover stated that that why the big lobby was done. He stated that it may be based on what is being served.

Michael Fleming stated that one thing that was discussed since this will be a multipurpose building is have a kitchen built in.

Chairman Henry asked if the space outside the gym require fire suppression.

Mr. Hoover stated that he don't believe there will be a fire sprinkler requirement. If there was a fire in the building it would most likely start in the concession area. The wall between the gym and the administrative offices may need to be a fire rated wall.

Commissioner Jernigan stated that if a tornado or something of that nature came through we would like for people to be able to stay there. How many people do you think we could hold in the gym?

Mr. Hoover stated that about 100 people.

Mr. Hoover stated that their transportation Engineer advised that placing the entrance at the half-way point of the arch would be optimal. He stated that many of the trees would need to be cleared for the sightline. They suggest a turn lane coming from the main highway. Parking is being increased. He discussed many options that were included in the concept master plan.

Chairman Henry stated that we will be doing this in phases. The building would be in the first phase. He stated that we are looking at the cost of it and the overall plan may take 20 years to complete.

Michael Fleming stood and spoke to the board. He asked that the board consider starting with the fields instead of the building since that is the biggest need at the moment. He stated that Baseball and Softball is our biggest sport. We have 450 kids utilizing 6 fields.

Mr. Hoover stated that in comparison to a building it will be less to do the ballfield.

Commissioner Stunkel asked Mr. Hoover to get pricing for seven ballfields and the part of the walking trail on the back side.

2. **County Road Closure Policy and Procedures:** Chairman Henry stated that we have several roads that are being pursued to be closed.

Mike Benton stated that there are two current requests. The two are Blackwell and Miss Sarah. Blackwell

Commissioner Jernigan stated that if we do close the roads we have to have something in the policy to reopen the roads.

Mr. Benton stated that the correct term that should be used is abandon the road. We would be abandoning prescriptive right of way maintenance. He stated that Putnam and Bulloch Counties have policies that we should develop our policy from.

Commissioner Stunkel stated that for Miss Sarah Road we would need to obtain Right of way to be able to have a cul-de-sac at the end of street for a turnaround for fire and rescue.

Mr. Benton stated that three counties require that all of the property owners sign off requesting the road to be abandoned in order to move forward. Two counties does not.

One county requires and an impact statement from the Fire & Rescued department, Board of Education, Sheriff's Office, and Post Office. He stated that deeded right of way presents other issue. You cannot give county property to an individual.

Mr. Benton ask about the process of how the request will be submitted. Should all details be received before a public hearing takes place or should a public hearing happen right away.

The requests will go through the County Manager and the Board of Commissioners. The County Manager or staff will be the one to do the impact statement. The fee is recommended to be \$500.

The County Manager will get with the County Attorney to discuss the purpose of a quit-claim on prescriptive right of way.

- 3. County C&D Landfill Operation and Management:** Our C&D Landfill has to have a certified Landfill Operator onsite whenever it is open. Our current operator is needing full time so he will have to move on. We have two Public Works employees who are certified that are able to work on Friday and Saturday since Public Works is off on Friday.

The board discussed options to have Sammy to stay on with the county. Commissioner Jernigan advised the County Manager to see what he could work out with Sammy and bring it back to the board.

Chairman Henry declared the Work Session closed at 8:01 p.m.

Bruce Henry, Chairman

Sharon S. Robinson, Clerk