MINUTES OF REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING
MACON-BIBB COUNTY COMMISSION
October 21, 2014 – 6:00 P.M.
Government Center
(Commission Chamber)

The Regular Commission meeting of the Macon-Bibb County Commission was held on October 7, 2014 at 6:00 P.M. in the Commission Chamber at Government Center.

Commission Members Present:
Mayor Robert A.B. Reichert
Mayor Pro Tem Bert Bivins, III
Commissioner Gary Bechtel
Commissioner Larry Schlesinger
Commissioner Elaine Lucas
Commissioner Mallory Jones, III
Commissioner Ed DeFore
Commissioner Scotty Shepherd
Commissioner Virgil Watkins, Jr.
Commissioner Al Tillman

Staff Present:
Dale Walker – County Manager
Julie Moore – Asst. to County Manager
Judd Drake – County Attorney
Opie Bowen – Asst. County Attorney
Reggie McClendon – Asst. County Attorney
Chris Floore – Asst. to County Manager
Ben Hubbard – Human Resources Director
Shelia Thurmond – Clerk of Commission
Steve Layson – Asst. Co. Mgr – Infrastructure
Jean S. Howard – Asst. Clerk of Commission
Janice Ross – Training & Events Coordinator
Trae McCombs – Public Affairs

Guests in Attendance
John B. Whittlestone - IPC
Brittney Childs – Industrial Authority
Dr. Walter Hutchings
June Parker – Macon Housing Authority
Sylvia McGee – Bibb Retired Teachers Association (BREA)
Paula Adams - BREA
Macon-Bibb County GCAPS Students:
    Khabir Dawkins       Amelia Smith
    Calvin Harris       Malik Thomas
    Jybreil Howard       Hitanshi Mehta

News Media Present
Jim Gaines – The Telegraph
Ron Wildman – 58 WPGA
Anita Oh – 13 WMAZ

CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Robert A. B. Reichert.

PRAYER
The prayer was rendered by Pastor Clint Jett of Stone Edge Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by GCAPS student Khabir Dawkins of Williams S. Hutchings College and Career Academy.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Pre-Commission Meeting on October 7, 2014
B. Regular Commission Meeting on October 7, 2014

ACTION:

On motion of Commissioner Ed DeFore, seconded by Commissioner Larry Schlesinger, and carried unanimously, the minutes of the Pre-Commission and Regular Commission meetings held on October 7, 2014 were approved as presented.


INVITED GUESTS

Pastor Clint Jett of Stone Edge Church was invited to render the prayer for tonight’s Regular Commission Meeting.

Dr. Linda Bivins, President, Bibb Retired Educators Association, was presented a Proclamation by Mayor Reichert, who was joined by Commissioners Lucas and Bivins, retired educators, in recognition of “Retired Educators Day” which will be observed on Sunday, November 2, 2014.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Rufus Holmes stated he was speaking on behalf of Bibb County retired employees and the importance of insurance benefits for retirees and their spouses and asked that the $388 subsidy for retirees 65 and above be retained. He also opposed the proposed 10% increase in premium costs for retirees.

Cliff Howard stated Bibb County and City of Macon retirees gave a large portion of their lives to their respective governments working for benefits including post employment healthcare. He also requested the $388 subsidy for Bibb County retirees be retained.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND DEPARTMENTS

Operations and Finance Committee
Committee Chairman Gary Bechtel reported that the Operations and Finance Committee met on Tuesday, October 14, 2014 and considered the following:

- A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a lease agreement with the State Government of Georgia on behalf of DFACS for property located at 175 Emery Highway for $62,200.

- A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the Transit Authority for lease of office space at the Terminal Station for use by the Macon-Bibb County IT Staff; to authorize the Mayor to execute a MOU with the Transit Authority for IT Staff to provide services to the Transit Authority.

- A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a contract with the Georgia Department of Corrections for use of prison labor to supplement the Public Works Department Workforce for $316,000.

- A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement between Macon-Bibb County and Conditioned Air, Inc. for $161,105 for the installation and replacement of HVAC Systems at various recreation centers to be paid from SPLOST Funds.

- A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with AERO ART, LLC for a ground lease agreement at the Macon Downtown Airport; authorizing the termination of all previous agreements at the airport with Lloyd “Bo” George and any company, corporation, or agent of Mr. George; approving the acceptance of a quitclaim deed from Mr. George for any and all remaining interest in all other property at the Macon Downtown Airport.

- A Resolution adopting the United States Conference of Mayors’ 457 Deferred Compensation Retirement Program administered through Great-West Financial to be made available to all eligible Macon-Bibb County Employees and Elected Officials.

- A Resolution adopting the Fourth Amendment to the Bibb County Pension Plan of 1968 so as to establish the Macon-Bibb County General Employees Pension Trustee Board, to designate the composition of the Board, to grant the newly designated Board those powers formerly granted to the Macon-Bibb County Board of Commissioners under Article 13.03.

- An Ordinance amending the Financial Policies to reflect the duties assigned by the Organizational Chart.

- An Ordinance adjusting FY14 January – June Budget to reflect Organizational changes where departmental expenditures were impacted and other administrative adjustments.

- Received an update on figures for Minority Vendors – For Information Only.

- Approved seven (7) grants where minimal/or no matches were required.

- Approved the transfer of funds: $9,800 within the Commissary Fund to replace a boiler, and $85,000 within Solid Waste Fund to purchase garbage carts.
**Economic and Community Development Committee**

Committee Chairman Larry Schlesinger reported that the Economic and Community Development Committee met on Tuesday, October 14, 2014 and considered the following:

- A Resolution confirming Mayor Reichert’s appointment of Jackie Harper to fill a vacant Citizen-At-Large position on the Tree Commission.

- A Resolution appointing Susan Middleton to the Board of Directors of the Bibb County Department of Family and Children Services.

**Public Safety Committee**

Committee Chairman Scotty Shepherd reported the Public Safety Committee met on Tuesday, October 14, 2014 and considered the following:


- Appointments to the Fire Civil Service Board – No action was taken

- An Ordinance revising Chapter 4, Article 1 of the Inaugural Code of Ordinances for Macon-Bibb County to forbid persons under specified ages from entering, remaining or loitering at certain licensed premises (bars).
  The second public forum was held on October 14th at 2:15. The matter was referred back to the Public Safety Committee for action.

**Facilities and Engineering Committee**

Committee Chairman Al Tillman reported the Facilities and Engineering Committee met on October 14, 2014 and considered the following:

- A Resolution considering a petition submitted on behalf of Richard S. George requesting that Macon-Bibb County construct and maintain additional right-of-way on Crawford Road. The issue was tabled.

- Resolution authorizing and approving the selection of Donaldson Garrett & Associates, Inc. to perform professional topographic survey services on 22.45 acres, being the Durr’s Lake property (aka Filmore Thomas) at a cost of $15,440 to be paid from SPLOST Funds.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

None
OLD BUSINESS

A. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a lease agreement with the State Government of Georgia on behalf of the Division of Family and Children Services for 175 Emery Highway in the amount of $62,200

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor execute a lease agreement with the State Government of Georgia on behalf of the Division of Family and Children Services for 175 Emery Highway, in the amount of $62,200.00, in substantially the same form as attached hereto as Exhibit “A”; and for other lawful purposes.

ACTION:


B. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the Macon-Bibb County Transit Authority for the lease of office space at the Terminal Station building for use by the Macon-Bibb County Information Technology staff; to authorize the Mayor to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the Transit Authority for Information Technology staff to provide Information Technology Services to the Transit Authority

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with the Macon-Bibb County Transit Authority for the lease of office space at the Terminal Station building for use by the Macon-Bibb County Information Technology Staff; to authorize the Mayor to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the Macon-Bibb County Transit Authority for the Macon-Bibb County Information Technology Staff to provide Information Technology Services to the Macon-Bibb County Transit Authority; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


C. Resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute a contract with the Georgia Department of Corrections for the use of prison labor to supplement the Public Works Department’s Workforce (8 offender work details from McEver Probation Detention Center at $39,500 per detail for one year, for a total of $316,000)

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize the Mayor to execute a contract with the Georgia Department of Corrections for the use of prison labor to supplement the Public Works Department’s workforce (8 offender work details from McEver Probation Detention Center at $39,500 per detail for one year, for a total of $316,000.00 for FY 2015); and for other purposes.
ACTION:


D. Resolution to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement between Macon-Bibb County and Conditioned Air, Inc. for $161,105 for the installation and replacement of HVAC Systems at various Recreation Centers

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize the Mayor to execute an agreement between Macon-Bibb County and Conditioned Air, Inc. for ($161,105.00) for the installation and replacement of HVAC Systems at various recreation centers in Macon-Bibb County; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


E. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with AERO ART, LLC for a Ground Lease Agreement at Macon Downtown Airport; to authorize the termination of all previous agreements at Macon Downtown Airport with Lloyd “Bo” George and any company, corporation, or agent of Lloyd “Bo” George; to approve acceptance of a quitclaim deed from Lloyd “Bo” George for any and all remaining interest in all other property at Macon Downtown Airport

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with AERO Art, LLC for a Ground Lease Agreement at the Macon Downtown Airport; to authorize the termination of all previous agreements at Macon Downtown Airport with Lloyd “Bo” George and any company corporation, or agent of Lloyd “Bo” George; to approve the acceptance of a Quit Claim Deed from Lloyd “Bo” George for any and all remaining interest in all other property at Macon Downtown Airport; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


- Mayor Reichert stated items F and G were referred back to the Operations and Finance Committee for further review and action.
F. Resolution to establish and provide a summary of the Health and Life Insurance Retirement Benefits currently available to former Bibb County Employees, former City of Macon Employees, and Macon-Bibb County Employees hired on or after January 1, 2014

G. Resolution approving changes in Macon-Bibb County’s Group Health Plan, including design, eligibility and premium contribution changes

H. Resolution adopting the United States Conference of Mayors’ 457 Deferred Compensation Retirement Program administered through Great-West Financial to be made available to all eligible Macon-Bibb County employees and elected officials

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission adopting the United States Conference of Mayors’ 457 Deferred Compensation Retirement Program administered through Great-West Financial to be made available to eligible Macon-Bibb County Employees and Elected Officials; and for other purposes.

ACTION:


I. Resolution to adopt the Fourth Amendment to the Bibb County Pension Plan of 1968 so as to establish the Macon-Bibb County General Employees Pension Trust Board, to designate the composition of the Board and to grant the newly designated Board those powers formerly granted to the Macon-Bibb County Board of Commissioners under Article 13.03

- Mayor Reichert stated this item was being referred back to the Operations and Finance Committee at the request of the County Attorney

J. Resolution to amend the Financial Policies to reflect duties assigned by the Organizational Chart

- Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission of Macon-Bibb County Georgia to amend the Financial Policies to reflect duties assigned by the Organizational Chart.

ACTION:


K. Ordinance to adjust FY14 January – June Budget to reflect Administrative Supplementals and Transfers exceeding $10,000
• **Clerk read by caption:** An Ordinance of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to adjust FY14 January-June Budget to reflect Administrative Supplementals and transfers exceeding $10,000; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


L. Ordinance to adjust FY14 January – June Budget to reflect organizational changes where departmental expenditures were impacted and other Administrative Adjustments

• **Clerk read by caption:** An Ordinance of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to adjust FY14 January - June Budget to reflect organizational changes where departmental expenditures were impacted and other administrative adjustments.

**ACTION:**


M. Resolution authorizing the acceptance of an Emergency Management Performance Grant Performance Partnership Award in the amount of $55,752 from the United States Department of Homeland Security awarded to the Macon-Bibb County Emergency Management Agency

• **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the acceptance of an Emergency Management Performance Grant Performance Partnership Award in the amount of $55,752.00 from the United States Department of Homeland Security awarded to the Macon-Bibb County Emergency Management Agency; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


**Mayor Reichert asked that Grant Acceptance Resolution Agenda Items N-T to be approved as a group after being read by the Clerk if there were no objections.**

N. Resolution authorizing the acceptance of a Community Grant on the amount of $10,000 from the Community Foundation of Central Georgia, Inc. awarded to the Macon Circuit Public Defender’s Office

• **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the acceptance of a Community Grant Program Grant in the
amount of $10,000.00 from the Community Foundation of Central Georgia, Inc.
awarded to the Macon Circuit Public Defender’s Office; and for other purposes.

O. Resolution authorizing the acceptance of the FY14 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice
   Assistance Grant in the amount of $78,254 awarded to the Sheriff’s Department

   • Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission
     authorizing the acceptance of FY14 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice
     Assistance Grant in the amount of $78,254.00 awarded to the Sheriff’s
     Department; and for other purposes.

P. Resolution authorizing the acceptance of the FY14 GEMA/Homeland Security Grant in
   the amount of $100,000 awarded to the Sheriff’s Department

   • Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission
     authorizing the acceptance of an FY14 GEMA/Homeland Security Grant in
     the amount of $100,000 awarded to the Sheriff’s Department; and for other
     purposes.

Q. Resolution authorizing the acceptance of the FY14 GEMA/Homeland Security Grant in
   the amount of $3,000 awarded to the Sheriff’s Department

   • Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission
     authorizing the acceptance of an FY14 GEMA/Homeland Security Grant in
     the amount of $3,000 awarded to the Sheriff’s Department; and for other
     purposes.

R. Resolution authorizing the acceptance of the FY14 GEMA/Homeland Security Grant in
   the amount of $57,227 awarded to the Fire Department

   • Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission
     authorizing the acceptance of an FY14 GEMA/Homeland Security Grant in
     the amount of $57,227 awarded to the Fire Department; and for other
     purposes.

S. Resolution authorizing the acceptance of the FY14 GEMA/Homeland Security Grant in
   the amount of $20,000 awarded to the Fire Department

   • Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission
     authorizing the acceptance of an FY14 GEMA/Homeland Security Grant in
     the amount of $20,000 awarded to the Fire Department; and for other
     purposes.

T. Resolution authorizing the acceptance of the FY14 GEMA/Homeland Security Grant in
   the amount of $20,000 awarded to the Fire Department

   • Clerk read by caption: A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission
     authorizing the acceptance of an FY14 GEMA/Homeland Security Grant in
     the amount of $20,000 awarded to the Fire Department; and for other
     purposes.

ACTION:

• Unanimous approval by Commissioners Bert Bivins, III, Gary Bechtel, Larry
Schlesinger, Elaine Lucas, Mallory Jones, III, Ed DeFore, Scotty Shepherd, Virgil Watkins, Jr., and Al Tillman on Resolution Items N-T.

U. Resolution confirming Mayor Robert Reichert’s appointment of Jackie Harper to fill a vacant Citizen-At-Large position on the Tree Commission

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission confirming Mayor Robert Reichert’s appointment of Jackie Harper to fill a vacant Citizen-At-Large position on the Tree Commission; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


V. Resolution appointing Susan Middleton to the Board of Directors of the Bibb County Department of Family and Children Services

- **Clerk read by caption:** A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission appointing Susan Middleton to the Board of Directors of the Bibb County Department of Family and Children Services; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


- **Clerk read by caption:** Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize the Mayor to execute a Letter of Agreement between Macon-Bibb County and the Department of Homeland Security and the Federal Emergency Management Agency to conduct an Integrated Emergency Management Course on July 20-23, 2015, in the same or similar form as attached hereto as Exhibit “A”; and for other purposes.

**ACTION:**


X. Resolution to authorize and approve the selection of Donaldson Garrett & Associates, Inc. to perform Professional Topographic Survey Services on 22.45 acres, being the
Durr’s Lake property (Filmore Thomas) at a cost of $15,440 to be paid from SPLOST Funds

- Clerk read by caption: **A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to authorize and approve the selection of Donaldson Garrett & Associates, Inc. to perform Professional Topographic Survey Services on 22.45 acres, being the Durr’s Lake property, at a cost of $15,440 to be paid from SPLOST Funds; and for other purposes.**

**ACTION:**

- **Unanimous approval by Commissioners Bert Bivins, III, Gary Bechtel, Larry Schlesinger, Elaine Lucas, Mallory Jones, III, Ed DeFore, Scotty Shepherd, Virgil Watkins, Jr., and Al Tillman.**

Y. Resolution to erect a Memorial Sign in honor of Rev. Marshell Stenson, Jr. to be located on Haywood Road

- Clerk read by caption: **A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission to erect a Memorial Sign in honor of Reverend Doctor Marshell Stenson, Jr. to be located on Haywood Road; and for other purposes.**

**ACTION:**

- **Unanimous approval by Commissioners Bert Bivins, III, Gary Bechtel, Larry Schlesinger, Elaine Lucas, Mallory Jones, III, Ed DeFore, Scotty Shepherd, Virgil Watkins, Jr., and Al Tillman.**

Z. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an amended agreement with Womack Paving, Inc. to perform Patchwork, Repair, and Resurfacing of various streets and roads in Macon-Bibb County

- Clerk read by caption: **A Resolution of the Macon-Bibb County Commission authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement with Womack Paving, Inc. to perform patchwork, repair, and resurfacing of various streets and roads in Macon-Bibb County; and for other purposes.**

**ACTION:**

- **Unanimous approval by Commissioners Bert Bivins, III, Gary Bechtel, Larry Schlesinger, Elaine Lucas, Mallory Jones, III, Ed DeFore, Scotty Shepherd, Virgil Watkins, Jr., and Al Tillman.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

A. Resolution to authorize the acquisition and expenditure of Revenue Bond Allocations in the amount of $10,000,000.00 for the purpose of vacant lot maintenance, blighted housing demolition, and other infrastructure beautification in Macon-Bibb County in the expanded areas of the 2014 Urban Redevelopment Plan
Referred To: Economic and Community Development Committee

B. Resolution requesting that the Macon-Bibb County Facilities Management Department review street lighting and safety precautions currently in place for intersections where pedestrian accidents have occurred and other high volume traffic areas

Referred To: Facilities and Engineering Committee

C. Resolution amending the Department of Business and Development Services Administrative Procedures for the enforcement of the Georgia State Minimum Standard Codes

Referred To: Operations and Finance Committee

D. Resolution confirming Mayor Robert Reichert’s appointment of Louie Hargrove, Rick Hutto, Clifford Rushin, Walter Timley, and Linda Holland to the Fire Civil Service Board

Referred To: Public Safety Committee

E. Resolution to authorize the Mayor to transfer a portion of the parcel of property at 485 Coliseum Drive to the Macon-Bibb County Urban Development Authority to be marketed and sold for the benefit of the County

Referred To: Economic and Community Development Committee

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dr. Kimathi Blackwood requested Commissioners to sponsor a Resolution asking the Governor and State Legislators to accept the Federal Medicaid Expansion Program. He cited the benefits to be derived by citizens, especially those who are least able to pay for medical services. He also cited the impact and benefit of additional medical personnel and healthcare providers, and the economic impact of the Medicaid Expansion dollars to the local and state economy.

Dr. Obi Emerole also requested the Commissioners to sponsor a Resolution asking the Governor and State Legislators to accept the Federal Medicaid Expansion Program which would bring approximately $100,000,000 to the Macon area through an increase in jobs, doctors, nurses, and reduce taxpayer dollars paid for healthcare.

Cynthia Knight spoke on the potential economic development impact for the Macon area with the reconfiguration and marketing of the old Brown and Williamson plant property being used for a medicinal marijuana research lab.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, and on motion duly made, seconded, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 P.M.

Shelia Thurmond, CCC
Clerk of Commission