The Special Called meeting of the Macon-Bibb County Commission was held on May 12, 2015 in the large conference room of the Government Center.

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

**Staff Present:**
- Dale Walker, County Manager
- Commissioner Absent
- Commissioner Al Tillman
- Judd Drake, County Attorney
- News Media Present
- Crystal Jones, Sr. Asst. County Attorney
- Phillip Ramati – The Telegraph
- Charles Coney, Asst. Co. Manager
- Anita Oh, WMAZ TV
- Opie Bowen, Asst. County Attorney
- Noelle Saunders, WGXA Fox 24
- Reggie McClendon, Asst. County Attorney
- Jean S. Howard, Clerk of the Commission
- Janice Ross, Asst. Clerk of the Commission
- Joyce Humphrey, Office Manager
- Guests in Attendance
- Adah Roberts

**CALLED TO ORDER**

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

**A. Economic and Community Development CDBG Budget**

**Discussion**

Commissioner Watkins stated he had worked to move some of the budget allocations around so as to allow agencies to receive more money and reallocate funds from other programs. He continued he was particularly concerned the EOC dental program had received no funding. Commissioner Lucas stated in past years, funds left over at the end of the budget year and had then been allocated to other projects. She continued these funds give a positive impact on the negative items in the community. She thanked Commissioner Watkins for his hard work and stated she felt dental care was more
important than parks. Commissioner Watkins stated moving the funds out of the Public Service accounts was justified since there was $14 M bond money soon to be released for blight. Commissioner Jones inquired from Ms. Jackson the effect moving these funds would have on her office. She stated in travel, the loss of $2,000 would affect her employees’ ability to receive training or even if they did go to training in Atlanta, they would not have funds to spend the night and they would have to drive back and forth daily, also the reductions in mileage would also affect their ability to receive training. Ms. Jackson reminded Commissioners that there was an established Review Panel who reviewed each application, and based on the established criteria they either awarded or denied the application.

Mayor Reichert stated he was concerned that the Review Panel’s decisions were questioned. He further stated, that next year he would like to see a Commissioner appointed to the Review Panel.

Commissioner Jones stated he believed that this item needed more time to study. Ms. Jackson stated the deadline for submitting the budget was Friday, May 15, 2015.

**ACTION**

*Commissioner Jones moved to table the item. The motion failed for lack of a second.*

*On motion of Commissioner Watkins, seconded by Commissioner Lucas and carried six to two, with Commissioners DeFore, Lucas, Watkins, Shepherd, Schlesinger, and Bivins voting in the affirmative and Commissioners Jones and Bechtel casing the dissenting votes, the ordinance of the Mayor and Commission to adopt the Economic and Community Development Department CDBG, Home and ESG Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2015 Budget was approved.*

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, and on motion duly made, seconded, and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned.

Prepared by:

Janice S. Ross  
Assistant Clerk of the Commission

Reviewed and Approved By:

Jean S. Howard  
Clerk of Commission