

**OPERATIONS & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**October 17, 2016 - 5:30 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Linda Little, Chair  
Dave Drobisch  
John Jackson  
Bryan Smith  
Kevin Meachum  
Jerry Potts

**COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT**

Steve Bean, County Collector  
Carol Reed, Auditor  
Mary Eaton, Recorder  
  
Jeannie Durham, County Board Office

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Verzell Taylor

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

**MINUTES**

Motion to approve minutes of prior meeting, August 15, 2016 made by Mr. Potts, seconded by Mr. Meachum and motion carried 6-0.

**APPROVAL OF PAYROLL AND CLAIMS**

Motion to approve payroll as presented made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Jackson and the motion carried 6-0.

Motion to approve the claims report as presented was made by Mr. Meachum, seconded by Mr. Smith and motion carried 6-0.

**REPORTS**

*Auditor's Office* – Ms. Reed reported that this is normally the month the general liability renewal is presented, but Travelers has cancelled us as far as our Law Enforcement Operations go. It is being put out for bids and we should have something back within a few weeks. Chair Little asked about the impact on the coverage. Ms. Reed said we are covered through 12/1 and should be able to secure coverage by then. Gallagher is confident. It is just a matter of getting bids and choosing one. It could be a higher premium than what was paid last year. Mr. Meachum asked for an explanation as to why we were declined. Ms. Reed said the reasons given were recent spikes in law enforcement claims and an overall downgrade of our risk control opinion. There were law enforcement claims, a death in the jail, and some other things on top of the claim from 3 or 4 years ago which caused problems. Mr. Meachum said he knew that would come back on us, but he wanted to know the other circumstances. Ms. Reed said they (Travelers) had kept us through all of that and even asked last year if we were going to stay with them. They wanted us to assure them we would be staying with them, which we did. They wanted time to get their money back, but this year, due to a couple of claims, mainly at the jail, they felt the risk was too high. Mr.

Meachum asked what type of increase was anticipated with the change in carriers and our past history. Ms. Reed said all of them would look at the loss runs. Mr. Meachum asked how far they would go back. He wondered if it would be 20 years. Ms. Reed said no, probably 5 to 7 years at least. Ms. Little added that a company would probably come in with a reasonable amount as long as we guarantee them more than one year and then the following year, they'll make it up. Ms. Reed said she had gone back and budgeted a little more. She has started at a 10% increase thinking we'd stay with Travelers, but then decided to bump it up a little more. Mr. Meachum said that the county was going to be strapped in the next fiscal year. Ms. Little agreed, but said that the insurance budget was good. Ms. Reed agreed saying that the insurance levy had been raised this year anticipating this. She said she was thankful that we had the information ahead of time. Chair Little asked if a special committee meeting would be needed. Ms. Reed said that December 1 is renewal date, so we should have something by next month. Mr. Meachum asked if they were looking at 5% or 10%. Ms. Reed said it could be more than that. She had allowed for 10% if we were going to be able to stay with Travelers. She estimated it would be anywhere from 5% to 20% probably.

The County has been chosen to have an IMRF audit for 2015 and part of 2016 which will start next week. They just did an audit in 2012, so it is not expected to have anything come up.

***County Board –  
Macon County Board Resolution Approving the Holidays for 2017***

Chair Little presented and explained that these are the court holidays that also comply with the union contract holidays.

Motion to approve forwarding to the full board with recommendation for approval made by Mr. Meachum, seconded by Mr. Potts and the motion carried 6-0.

***County Clerk*** – Mr. Bean reported that they have been very busy with early voting. They have had 2,400 people in the office so far. Nearly 2,000 absentee ballots have been mailed out. A lot has been done with the military. They seem to prefer to have them emailed, which is a real pain because they don't understand that they have to have a wet signature to have them come back. They can't email them back and that upsets a lot of them, especially if they are in the military and at sea. He said they've worked both Saturday and Sunday to get all the last minute voter registrations taken care of. The State has extended the online voter registration deadline to the 23<sup>rd</sup> of October. That makes it bad for the office because it should have come off on the 11<sup>th</sup>. One weekend, Facebook and Google made a big push and we went from getting 3 or 4 a day to over 400 in one weekend. This is where Senator Manar's bill would be a good thing. It would make all of this flow through electronically. The problem is that it has to be downloaded, printed, and re-entered into the system. It doesn't flow naturally. One nice thing is that it matches them to the Secretary of State's signatures. That is the only time we don't have to take a wet signature, a real signature. A digitalized signature can be taken for voter registration on the internet. Chair Little asked if the military had to send in a wet signature. Mr. Bean said they take a digitized signature

from them to get the ballot and to register the vote, but to accept the ballot, it has to be a wet signature. Chair Little asked for an update on the status of judges. Mr. Bean said they are finally there and training was started today. Unlike other counties, we wanted to wait until the last Appellate Court decision, which we are going to have to registration in polling places, which cost us a lot of election judges. A lot of people don't like that. Across the state, there was a 70% show-up for the Primary. The only difference is that the surrounding counties all went up to \$200 and we are still at \$150. With us having to cut our budget, we lucky it wasn't cut. They have to understand that. He explained that he would probably have to come in and ask for some additional funding for this year to cover some of the overtime that has had to be put in.

Mr. Jackson asked about turn-out compared to previous. Mr. Bean said he thought we'd make the 10,000 we had four years ago. He thought we'd have about 20% of the Electorate or more. There have been days of over 200 people now. Traditionally, it builds up. It won't be like 2008. In 2008, the last day of early voting was a week ahead and we had 997 people come into the office. Four years ago, we were lucky. We were having 50 or 100 days early this time. It has been going on since the 29<sup>th</sup>. This is too ridiculous. Someone needs to narrow this down. They have to stay open until 7 p.m. and open from 9 to 4 on Saturday and Sunday. They will be coming in to open ballots this Sunday for the first time. Both Democrat and Republican election judges are brought in. He said he thought they'd start seeing from 500 or 600 up to 1,000 people days that last two weeks. He said people do not want to stand in line. The reason they don't want everybody to come to the Election Authority's Office is because at the last Primary, there were people still voting at 3 or 4 a.m. at the Cook County Clerk's and Election Board Offices. That is why they wanted this in-precinct stuff. We did 200+ out of our 600+ registrations here with all the kids, but those kids are going to vote in the battleground states they live in this time. They voted because of the Illinois Primary and they weren't going to be home for the primary, but this November, you won't see as much of that with college kids. He said they are planning on being swamped and it has been crazy so far.

**Recorder** – Ms. Eaton distributed her monthly report and offered to answer questions. There were no questions.

**Workforce Investments** – no report

**Citizens' Remarks** - none

**Old Business** - none

**New Business** – none

**CLOSED SESSION** - none

**NEXT MEETING** Monday, November 21, 2016

**ADJOURNMENT** Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Potts, seconded by Mr. Jackson, and Chair Little adjourned the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

*Minutes submitted by Jeannie Durham, County Board Office*