

OPERATIONS & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING
February 16, 2016
5:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT

Steve Bean, County Clerk
Carol Reed, Auditor
Mary Eaton, Recorder
Mike Baggett, State's Attorney's Office
Jeannie Durham, County Board Office

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jerry Potts
Verzell Taylor

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

MINUTES

Mr. Meachum made a motion to approve minutes of prior meeting, January 19, 2016, seconded by Mr. Smith and motion carried 5-0.

APPROVAL OF PAYROLL AND CLAIMS

Motion to approve payroll as presented made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Drobisch and the motion carried 5-0.

Motion to approve the claims report as presented was made by Mr. Drobisch, seconded by Mr. Smith and motion carried 5-0.

REPORTS

Auditor's Office – Ms. Reed had no report

County Board – *No report*

County Clerk –

Mr. Bean distributed reports for last year and the first two months of this fiscal year. He said it is down a little, but they should be making that up with the new fees that go into effect on March 1. Last year almost \$473,000 was deposited into the general fund. When added to the \$11,500 and \$8,000 taken in for the tax sales, it is almost \$500,000 plus the \$75,000 received from the State Board.

He said they ran into problems this election where there were objections to Rubio and Cruz's petitions based on citizenship and Mrs. Clinton and her petition signatures. The State did not make their final decisions until the Monday before the office had to start voting on Thursday. He said they were able to make the deadlines. They had to email out some additional ballots to the service people once the ballots were certified. Early voting has been going on since the 4th. Today, 2/16, was the last day of traditional voter registration. This election will be the first election where there will be grace period – voter registration and voting through Election Day. This will be the first time the office has to offer voter registration in the polling places. This has caused the loss of quite a few judges who do not want to do it. He said they've been approaching the high schools and colleges trying to get some people that will work. With all of these problems, the President of the Association, the Champaign County Clerk, has approached the General Assembly and is trying to get a bill introduced and passed where the Colorado and Indiana procedures would be followed which is where you have "At Large" polling sites where the traditional precincts and countless locations are done away with. There would be about 8 to 10 sites throughout the County and you could go vote at any place (just once) because it would be electronically done. He said they've been using electronic poll books for a number of years and the last 2 or 3 elections have been online and it has worked fairly well. The political parties like it because the poll watchers can get all their data downloaded every hour from Mr. Bean's office. This bill, that the Association is hoping to bring, would set up pilot site counties. He said they have talked with Mr. Manar to be sure they get on the bill because of the prospect of looking at buying new election equipment. If the County does not have to buy for 40 sites and it can be cut down to 10, the costs of new equipment could be cut from \$800,000 or \$900,000 to about \$400,000. He said he hopes the County will support this because it will help drive the election costs down. He said they are still working with the State Senate on this. With this, if you live on the north side, but work on the south side, you could vote there. If you have blanket voting across the county, people can vote on any ballot style in that polling location. The new equipment they are looking at is going to be used by Moultrie County at this election. Right now if you use a touch screen, it prints out a strip of paper that rolls into a canister. With this, you will get a ballot printed out, it will show it on a card, you will see who you actually voted for. It will actually take both the ballots from the touch screen and the regular device.

The railroads are in for property tax extension. The S of A will send the stuff off to Springfield. We do not know what the return timeframe will be with all their new employees. Hopefully, the tax bills will be able to be calculated and the information gotten to the Treasurer so the bills will go out on time.

Recorder –

Ms. Eaton distributed reports for December and January and offered to answer questions.

Mr. Meachum said it looks like revenues are up for January and asked if that was normal.

Ms. Eaton said there is a slight increase, but if you look at December's, it was even larger. She said the office has not really been that slow during the winter. Last year it was really slow, but this year it has been a steady pace.

Mr. Meachum asked if that was a sign that the economy is getting better in Macon County.

Ms. Eaton said she could not answer that question. You never know about real estate.

Workforce Investments – no report

Citizens' Remarks - none

Old Business - none

New Business – none

CLOSED SESSION None needed

NEXT MEETING Monday, March 21, 2016

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Little adjourned the meeting at 5:40 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jeannie Durham, County Board Office