

BUTLER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Tuesday, October 9, 2007

Commission Meeting on the Road at the Beaumont Hotel
511651 SE Main Street in Beaumont

CALL TO ORDER

Commission Chairman Randy Waldorf called the Butler County Board of Commissioners to order at 6:00 p.m. Present were Commissioner Will Carpenter, Commissioner Jeff Masterson, Commission Mike Wheeler, Commissioner Dan Woydziak, Assistant Administrator/Finance Officer Mark Detter, and Ron Roberts, County Clerk. Administrator William Johnson, Jr., was attending the ICMA Conference.

ITEM #1- PUBLIC COMMENTS

Henry McElroy opened the discussion. He felt that the Butler County building inspectors were being too aggressive in condemning buildings in Beaumont causing historic structures to be demolished. Several other members from the audience of 18 people related stories of problems with the inspectors. Three of those concerned Stop Work orders being posted on their property until they obtained permits and hired licensed trade people to do the repairs. They all felt that the repairs were internal, non-structural repairs that should not require permits and they should be able to do themselves. Another concern brought by a lady, who received a stop work order on her mothers home, felt the inspector was not pleasant to deal with.

Marcie Brewer stated that she had sold the commercial building across the street to KJR Investments after being told by the Hotel that they were not interested in buying it. She stated Scott Pechin came by while the new owners were there making questionable remarks and then placed a stop work order on the building which brought the clean up and restoration to a halt. She feels Scott has some conflicts of interest with the hotel and his inspection work.

Marcie also brought up concerns about severe dust problems at the Squier Ranch from cattle trucks and increased tourist traffic going to the wind farm. She then gave the Commissioners a three-page letter outlining her concerns. (Letter is available in the County Clerk's Office.)

Chairman Waldorf spoke to the audience regarding the reason we have building codes and inspections and stated that the County has a responsibility to provide the public with safety and a healthy environment. A fair balance between peoples' desire for a clean, nice community while not interfering with property owners' rights is difficult to achieve.

He assured the audience that the commissioners had heard their concerns and that the meeting was recorded so the Board could investigate their concerns.

There was more discussion of road and bridge concerns, throughout the area, from the audience. One bridge in particular was a 290' bridge on Shumway Road that some felt was an over kill.

Chairman Waldorf stated that the bridge was considered a safety issue and that other government agencies participated in funding the project.

OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Waldorf motioned to appoint Brad Bays to the Flinthills Services Board. Commissioner Woydziak seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

The commissioners requested some information about the status of a Restoration Farms loan payment and the Prairie Rose sale and bankruptcy.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Wheeler motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m. Commissioner Masterson seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.