

**GATES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING
AUGUST 25, 2010**

The Gates County Board of Commissioners met in Special Session on Wednesday, August 25, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Room, 202 Court Street, Gatesville. Commissioners Twine, Jernigan, Askew, Nickens and Jordan were present. Also present was County Manager, Toby Chappell.

A prayer was led by Commissioner Jordan. Chairman Twine led the pledge of allegiance.

Chairman Twine called the meeting to order. The Special Meeting was called to review Request for Qualifications received for the Proposed New Main Public Library.

Approval of Agenda

Chairman Twine presented the Agenda and requested the Citizen's Comment portion be moved to the beginning of the meeting. Commissioner Nickens made a motion to accept the amended Agenda. Commissioner Jordan seconded the motion, motion carried without opposition.

Citizen Comments

Chairman Twine read a letter of support from Ray Felton, Eure.

Jack Owens, Gatesville, stated he looked at the library from a proposed spending aspect and quoted positive impacts of a library on a community and its citizens; stated funds are available now and may not be available at a later date.

Pat Familiar, 27-year library employee, stated USDA will not provide any funds for the existing library due to structural damage; over 17,000 patrons visited the library last year.

John Hora, Eure, stated it was up to the people of the County to vote on a new library, the County needs a library but needs other things more, he would support it if the citizens wanted it.

J.E. Harrell, Gates, stated if grant money was available the County should utilize it; questioned if the library staff would have to be increased, would support it if the citizens wanted it.

Dan Bazemore, Eure, questioned what is the cost of a new library, where would it be located, does the County own land for relocation and what would happen to the old library.

Earl Rountree, Sunbury, feels the citizens need to be kept informed, the County does not need a large, extensive library.

Loretta Jones, Hobbsville, voiced her support on the importance of a library.

Joe Greene, Eure, stated he does not want to go out of the County to use a library, a library needs to be in the County, let elected officials do their job.

Jerome Killory, Gates, voiced his support and stated the citizens needed to invest in the County.

Renee Kittrell, Corapeake, stated the existing library was too small and could not afford to purchase all of the books her children have read from the library.

Melinda Eure, Sunbury, previously used the wing of the library for meetings which is no longer safe to use, a library needs to be large enough to meet civic needs.

New Business

Eight firms replied to the request for qualifications for the proposed new library: LS3P Associates, LTD, West & Stem Architects, 310 Architecture & Interiors, MBAJ Architecture, William H. Dove, HB+M Architects, Fuller Architecture, and ADW Architects.

After a review of each firm Commissioner Nickens made a motion to interview three firms: LS3P Associates, 310 Architecture and Fuller Architecture; with William H. Dove as an alternate. Commissioner Askew seconded the motion, motion carried without opposition.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Jordan stated he did not initially vote for a new library; he is in favor of a referendum.

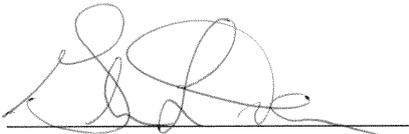
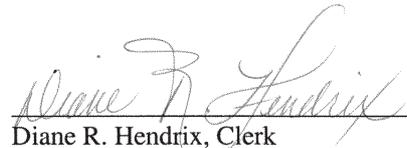
Commissioner Nickens stated he would support a new library if voted for by a referendum.

Commissioner Askew stated public input is needed.

Commissioner Jernigan stated he was not against a referendum but did not know the cost.

Chairman Twine stated he was not opposed to releasing information but up to this point there has been no information to release.

Commissioner Jordan made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Jernigan seconded the motion, motion carried without opposition.


Graham L. Twine, Chairman
Diane R. Hendrix, Clerk

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