

Public Hearing
Revisions to County Ordinances
September 12, 2013

Attendees were Chairman Horace Daniel, Commissioners Frank Simmons, Larry Mathis, Melton Jones, and Edward Burten.

Chairman Horace Daniel called Public Hearing to order at 5:00 pm.

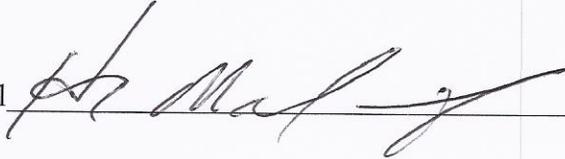
County attorney Tom Rawlings explained the proposed changes to the ordinances (see attached).

Input ^{from} the Public was received and questions were answered.

Meeting Adjourned.

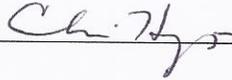
Comments:

Chairman, Horace M. Daniel



Date 10-01-13

County Administrator/Clerk, Chris Hutchings



Date October 1, 2013

Board Minutes are unofficial unless signed

What is Proposed as regards the Code of Ordinances for Washington County

The proposed Washington County Code is an attempt to codify and catalogue the current Ordinances of the County, and at the same time updating and rewriting some of the current ordinances.

Here are some of the specifics.

1. Board of Commissioner Structure, p. 3- No changes other than changing title of the Commissioners from Board of Roads and Revenues, to Board of Commissioners, and taking out old language such as "Prison Road Gang assignments."
2. *Airport Authority*, p. 8- No changes.
3. *Homestead Exemption*, p. 12- No changes.
4. *Code of Ordinances*, p. 14- Added Code Enforcement Officer.
5. *Administration*, p. 22- No changes.
6. *Personnel Policies*, p. 30- No changes.
7. *Alcoholic Beverages*, p.32- The license provisions for sale of alcohol, as currently being utilized, have been added to the Ordinance. All current practices remain in effect. No alcohol may be sold on Sundays, and only Wine and Beer may be sold in the County.

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8. *Nude Dancing*, p. 33-The current prohibition remains in effect. Some spelling errors were corrected- no changes made.
9. *Animals*, p. 34- No changes.
10. *Building Requirements*, p. 40- State toilet water usage standards adopted. No other building standards adopted, other than those federally required under the National Flood Insurance Program. See items 19 and 20.
11. *Courts*, p. 41- No changes.
12. *Emergency Management*, p. 43 Adopted state standard powers for County in case of emergency
13. *E911 Emergency Services*, p. 50- Reflective 911 numbers required on mailboxes and home. Also a twenty five dollar (\$25) administrative fee will be required to cover the cost of site visit to issue e-911 address.
14. *Environment Ground Water*, p. 53- No changes.
15. *River Corridor Protection*, p. 66- No changes.
16. *Clean Air/No Burn*, p.75- Wording clarified- no changes to rules, dates.

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17. *Biomedical Waste*, p.78- No changes.

18. *Manufactured Home/ Mobile Homes*, p. 91- Used mobile homes will now require a home inspection for safety and habitability before a permit to transport a mobile home will be issued. This assures the County that any mobile homes brought in to the County will, at a minimum, be safe to live in. A \$25 fee will apply to cover the costs of administration.

19. *Construction and Development*, p. 93- This is a new ordinance. This ordinance requires that anyone wishing to build a home, business, subdivision, RV park, or mobile home park, must first obtain a permit from the county. The ordinance will not apply to small outbuildings or sheds less than 400 square feet. A \$100 fee will apply to cover the costs of administration. Permit is available at Tax Assessor office.

20. *Flood damage and Prevention*, p. 96- This new ordinance is the second component of the Construction and Development ordinance. If a home or other structure is to be built in an area determined to be in a Flood Plain, certain Federal requirements would apply. Without this ordinance, the County would not be eligible for Federal Flood Insurance benefits. The consequence is that local residents would be unable to qualify for certain loans, and for Federal Flood Insurance. Additionally, in the event of a natural disaster, the county will not qualify for aid without implementation of the Federal Flood Plan.

21. *County Rights of Way*, p. 119- This new County Right of Way Ordinance brings the County in line with GDOT and Federal regulations. Under this ordinance permits will be required before driveways are installed on County roads. No fee will be required for this permit. Also, Federal Postal Service standards will be required on

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mailboxes. Any existing structures in the Right of Way, which do not comply with this ordinance and or state standards, will have to be removed. Parking on the rights of ways is also prohibited. This Ordinance will assure the safety of the roads and rights of way of the County for all citizens, and will limit the liability of the County. Driveway maintenance, upkeep, and pipe replacement will be the responsibility of the landowner.

22. *Timber Operations*, p. 133- The only substantive change to this ordinance is to require a copy of the map where logging will occur (can be obtained from the County free of charge on-line or at the Tax Office) when applying for the permit. The language of this Ordinance clarifies that all logging operations in the County require a permit, regardless of location.
23. *Truck Ordinance*, p. 137- This new ordinance directs trucks loaded (over 56,000 pounds) to stay on State Roads or designated truck routes, unless making a delivery or pick up on a County Road. In addition, if a driver plans to routinely drive and park an 18 wheeler at home or at another location on a County road, then a permit (free of charge) must be obtained to do so, and an appropriate driveway must be present. Also, County truck routes are specified under this ordinance.
24. *Solid Waste and Litter*, p 139- This ordinance relates to what items can be placed in the County dumpster cites. It dictates penalties for dumping, for using dumpsters for non household garbage, and for commercial dumping. Also, there are nuisance provisions, and provisions for improper disposal of waste.
25. *Wireless Prepaid 911 Charge*, p. 154- No change.

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26. *Traffic and Vehicle*, p. 155- No change.

27. *Utilities (Water restrictions)*, p. 156- State regulation adopted (State law 12-5-7) giving County power to enforce water restriction, if needed, during times of water shortage. No other measures adopted.