

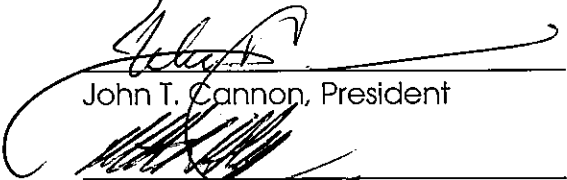
Open Work Session - Hunting Rights on County Owned Property

Pam Oland, Acting Director of Recreation, Parks and Tourism, and Weston Young, Director of Public Works, came before Council.

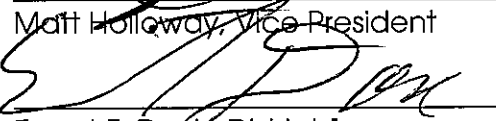
Ms. Oland said that Bill McCain approached Andy Wisk, who was the Acting Director of Recreation, Parks and Tourism at that time, about hunting rights next to Pemberton Park. She said that Mr. McCain owns hunting rights on the Bounds property, shown on the map. He is looking for a hunting rights swap in such that the county would give him hunting rights to the property adjacent to his with his rights. Based on state regulations we cannot bid out the hunting rights based on the people who have gotten hunting rights already in the area, as there isn't enough distance between the other blinds to bid out those rights. So either our property would stay vacant, which we can do, or we have the opportunity to swap rights with Mr. McCain. The advantages to swapping hunting rights are that it moves his hunting further away from Pemberton Park, which you can actually see Pemberton Park trails from where he is allowed to hunt. We have the public walking around in the park on days that he could be hunting. This will move him back in sort of a cove away from the park. You can't see the park from that location. It would be a very difficult possibility to have any kind of injury to anyone or the park property. We are asking the county to create an MOU so that he maintains his rights on the Bounds property, but we would give him the rights to hunt. If he gives up his hunting rights on the Bounds property, then he gives up his right to hunt on county property. Mr. Joe Holloway said that it sounds like you have everything all worked out. Ms. Oland said that she is working with the legal department to create a very simple MOU that would involve the swap. Mr. John Cannon asked if this subject matter would be brought back before council as a resolution or anything, to which Ms. Oland responded no. Mr. Cannon confirmed that she only needs council consensus on creating a MOU; Ms. Oland said that is correct. It just needs to go through the legal channels and then signed by the Executive. Mr. Kilmer asked how long does Mr. McCain have the hunting rights on the Bounds property. Is it until Mr. McCain passes away? Mr. McCain came before Council and said that the hunting rights are renewed annually with the family that owns the property, so as long as they continue to agree with each other, the hunting rights will continue. Mr. McCain stated that he used to live at the Pemberton Cottage and was a caretaker and was hunting the property back then. He said the County did not even know that they own the property. This property is from dredge material of 50 to 60 years. He said that back then they just piled it next to the river. Mr. Dodd asked if there is easy access to the property so he can look at it, to which Mr. McCain responded that you have to get to it with a boat or something, you can't walk to it. Mr. Dodd then asked what other benefit other than the Pemberton Park issue is there to swap with him, to which Ms. Oland responded that the main benefit is the safety of the public. Mr. Dodd said that he had a hunter ask him this morning before the meeting why wasn't the property put out for bid. Mr. Oland said there is not enough space between his location and the other locations that are showing on the map that was handed out, unless one of those sites gives up their hunting rights so we have land to bid out. Mr. Young commented that they have to be 250 yards apart and if you go 250 yards from either of those locations, there is not a spot. Mr. Cannon asked for a consensus motion on moving forward with a Memorandum of Understanding, the Council voted unanimous.

Work Session – Hunting Rights on County Owned Property.

October 20, 2015



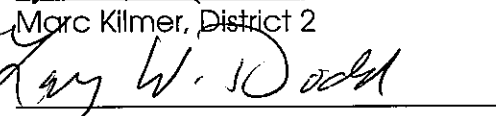
John T. Cannon, President



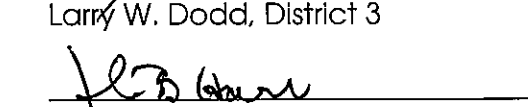
Matt Holloway, Vice-President



Ernest F. Davis, District 1



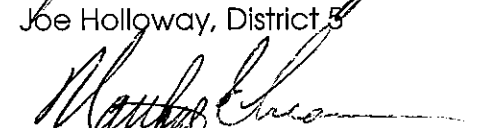
Marc Kilmer, District 2



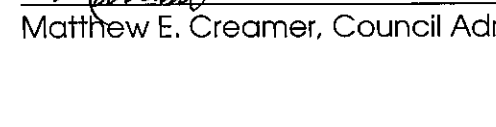
Larry W. Dodd, District 3



John B. Hall, District 4



Joe Holloway, District 5



Matthew E. Creamer, Council Administrator