

and inspections department no later than the first of the week. Mrs. Dukes stated the software development is under way for permits and inspections as well. Mrs. Dukes mentioned SDS has been submitted and as of last week, Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) has requested additional information and points of clarification on a few items and County Attorney, Walter Elliott will work with the City attorneys and respond to Georgia DCA. Mrs. Dukes mentioned today is National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day. The Lowndes County Bird Supper will be held February 1st with tickets being sold here, at the County, and at the City of Valdosta. On Friday at noon Lowndes County will host Leadership Moody with lunch being served and Mrs. Thrasher will be presenting information regarding Lowndes County and local government. The Leadership Lowndes Retreat is being held this weekend, with Mrs. Dukes attending and two staff members attending, Gary Williams with Fire Rescue and Rachel Thrasher with Community Development. Commissioner Wisenbaker, asked regarding the man power to run inspections and permitting, Mrs. Dukes responded that currently Assistant Director, Diane Carter, has been hired with a plan reviewer, and five-six inspectors anticipated to be hired. Mrs. Dukes stated we would hire as many as properly certified, based on our needs. Commissioner Wisenbaker asked if any in-house employees could move over to the inspections and permitting department, Mrs. Dukes answered not right now. Chairman Slaughter stated many prospects for the inspector positions could have multiple certifications. Chairman Slaughter stated this should be an easier and smoother process, a one-stop shop. Commissioner Marshall asked regarding the timeline for starting this department, if it was still on schedule, Chairman Slaughter answered yes. Vice Chairman Orenstein mentioned not over-taxing the current staff and, since this is an enterprise fund, whatever permit fees need to be in subsequent years, it needs to be adjusted. Chairman Slaughter stated that regarding the Lowndes County staff, customer service is first and priority.

CITIZENS WISHING TO BE HEARD - There were no citizens wishing to be heard.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Slaughter and the Commission wished County Manager, Paige Dukes a belated Happy Birthday. Commissioner Wisenbaker made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Evans second. Chairman Slaughter adjourned the meeting at 5:48 p.m.