

MINUTES
CALLED MEETING OF THE
COLQUITT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Tuesday, June 21, 2022
5:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Denver Braswell. The purpose of the meeting was to adopt the FY 22 – 23 proposed budget, discuss various county issues and conduct any other county business deemed necessary. The meeting was duly called and advertised.

PRESENT: Those present were Commissioners Barbara Jelks, Chris Hunnicutt, Mike Boyd, Paul Nagy, Johnny Hardin and Chairman Denver Braswell. Also present were County Clerk Melissa Lawson, County Attorney Lester Castellow and County Administrator Chas Cannon (via teleconference).

ABSENT: Commissioner Marc DeMott.

ALSO PRESENT: Maintenance Superintendent Mac Lawson, Chief Compliance Officer Justin H. Cox, Human Resources Director Dawn Carter, Finance Director David Zeanah, Tax Commissioner Cindy Harvin, County Extension Coordinator Jeremy Kichler, Landscape Architect Jonathan Vines, Chief Tax Assessor Jim Mac Booth, and Kevin Hall, Reporter with the Moultrie Observer.

JULY BOARD MEETING PREVIEW: At this time, Mrs. Lawson previewed the following agenda items for the July Board meeting:

- Approval of Addendum to Contract – Laserfiche – Mrs. Lawson presented an addendum of the existing contract with MCCi, in the amount of \$11,100.00, in order to facilitate the expansion of Laserfiche to add the Tax Commissioner’s departments to the county’s digital records repository. Mrs. Lawson noted that funding was available in 2002 SPLOST for this expenditure.
- Approval of Bid – Annex Door Access Control and Camera Security System – Mrs. Lawson presented bids regarding the provision of a door lock access and camera security system for the annex.

Mac Lawson, Maintenance Superintendent, stated that he had yet to make a formal bid recommendation due to waiting for additional bid details from a local vendor. Discussion briefly ensued regarding the bids.

- Approval of Bid – Landscaping & Irrigation Improvements – Mrs. Lawson presented the low and recommended bid, in the amount of \$94,280.00, submitted by Outdoor Legacy regarding landscaping and irrigation improvements to the Courthouse, Annex, and new parking lot to be located adjacent to the Courthouse Annex.

Discussion briefly ensued regarding the overall scope of the bid.

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- Approval of Invoice – ACCG Property & Liability Insurance Renewal – Mrs. Lawson presented an invoice, in the amount of \$412,624.00, submitted by ACCG-IRMA regarding the provision of property and liability insurance for the term July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023. Mrs. Lawson noted that funding was available in the FY 22 – 23 General Fund budget for this expenditure.
- Approval of 2022 Defined Benefit Plan Contribution Invoice – Mrs. Lawson presented the invoice, in the amount of \$864,071.00, submitted by ACCG Retirement Services regarding the recommended contribution for the upcoming plan year. Mrs. Lawson noted a decrease, in the amount of \$74,417.00, from the 2021 contribution amount.

Mrs. Lawson noted that funding was included in the FY 22 – 23 General Fund budget for this expenditure.

- Approval of Invoice – Utility Relocation Estimate – Mrs. Lawson presented an estimate, in the amount of \$13,691.47, submitted by Colquitt EMC regarding the cost to relocate utilities on Coy Cox Road, an upcoming Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) project. Mrs. Lawson noted that, upon payment and notification, EMC would commence work.
- Declaration of Surplus – Mrs. Lawson presented a list of equipment submitted by Roads & Bridges and EMS as surplus to the county's needs. Upon approval by the board, Mrs. Lawson stated that the equipment would be sent to auction.

ACTION ITEMS: Mrs. Lawson presented a list of items necessitating action by the Board:

APPROVAL OF FY 22 – 23 BUDGET ORDINANCE: Commissioner Boyd made the motion to approve the FY 22 – 23 budget ordinance. Commissioner Nagy made a second. The motion carried unanimously. (Ordinance 2022-ORD-2 is hereby made a portion of the minutes by reference thereto.)

APPROVAL OF ANNUAL CONTRACT RENEWALS: Commissioner Hunnicutt made the motion to approve annual funding contracts for the Volunteer Fire Department, Humane Society, Serenity House, Museum of Colquitt County History, and Crossroads for Her Ministry. Commissioner Nagy made a second. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF UGA EXTENSION SALARY CONTRACT: Commissioner Nagy made the motion to approve the FY 22 – 23 salary contract with the Board of Regents of The University of Georgia on behalf of the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension Service. Commissioner Hunnicutt made a second. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BID – SONICWALL – INFORMATION SYSTEMS: Commissioner Boyd made the motion to approve the low and recommended bid, in the amount of \$10,598.00, submitted by Howard Technology Solutions regarding the provision

of a firewall to replace and upgrade current network infrastructure. Commissioner Hardin made a second. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing

A public hearing was necessary due to a request for variance. The public hearing was duly called and advertised.

Lester Castellow, County Attorney, called the public hearing to order and called upon Justin H. Cox, Chief Compliance Officer, to present the request.

Request for Variance – Mr. Cox presented a request for variance, submitted by John Paul Sutton, to split a landlocked tract located on Hwy 37 East into two tracts. Mr. Cox presented an aerial view of the property.

Mr. Castellow requested comments in favor of or in opposition to the request for variance. There being none, the public hearing was closed.

APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR VARIANCE: Commissioner Hardin made the motion to approve the request for variance submitted by John Paul Sutton, as presented in the public hearing. Commissioner Hunnicutt made a second. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Commissioner Nagy made the motion at 5:20 p.m. to go into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation. Commissioner Jelks made a second. The motion carried unanimously. (An affidavit, as required by Georgia Law, was executed by all board members present stating under oath that the subject matter of the closed meeting was devoted to the matters within the exception as provided by law and identified the specific, relevant exception as provided by law. The affidavit is hereby made a portion of the minutes by reference thereto.)

REGULAR SESSION: Commissioner Nagy made the motion at 5:33 p.m. to reconvene into Regular Session. Commissioner Boyd made a second. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES: Commissioner Hardin made the motion to approve the minutes of the aforementioned Executive Session. Commissioner Boyd made a second. The motion carried unanimously.

KEY DATES: Mrs. Lawson presented a list of key, upcoming dates to the Board.

Commissioner Jelks stated that she felt the Board should be proactive when dealing with the subject of tiny houses.

Discussion ensued regarding a new shooting range for the BB Team.

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Chairman Braswell requested that Justin Cox, Chief Compliance Officer, attend the work session to further discuss the topic of tiny houses.

Discussion ensued regarding Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) for probationary and non-probationary employees as well as sign on incentives for new personnel. It was the consensus of the Board to re-visit the issue on the one year anniversary of its implementation to research and determine feasibility.

GED (General Educational Development) and diploma requirements were thoroughly discussed. Discussion centered around whether or not the requirements should be waived on a case by case basis when the position did not require formal certification.

The being no more business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Denver F. Braswell
Chairman



Melissa Lawson
County Clerk

Approved: July 5, 2022

AFFIDAVIT

This is to certify that the Colquitt County Board of Commissioners held an Executive Session Meeting (closed meeting) on June 21, 2022, at 5:20 o'clock a.m./p.m. The majority of the quorum present voted in the open meeting to go into Executive Session (closed meeting). The subject matter discussed was applicable under the following code section(s):

O.C.G.A. 50-14-2(1) - Consultation with an attorney regarding pending or potential legal action.

O.C.G.A. 50-14-3(4) - Discussion of future acquisition of real estate. (Notice was given as required and minutes taken.)

O.C.G.A. 50-14-3(6) - Discussion of personnel matters.

I further certify that the subject matter of the Executive Session (closed meeting) was devoted to matters within the exception provided by law and the above checked identifies the specific relevant exception.

This 21st day of June, 2022.

Denver Braswell
Denver Braswell, Chairman

Chris Hunnicutt
Chris Hunnicutt, Commissioner

Mike Boyd
Mike Boyd, Commissioner

Johnny Hardin
Johnny Hardin, Commissioner

Barbara Jelks
Barbara Jelks, Commissioner

Marc DeMott
Marc DeMott, Commissioner

Paul Nagy
Paul Nagy, Commissioner

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 21st day of June, 2022.

Melissa E. Lawson
County Clerk or Notary Public
My Commission Expires: _____

