

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
COLQUITT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Tuesday, July 5, 2022
7:00 o'clock p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 o'clock p.m. by Chairman Denver Braswell.

PRESENT: Those present were Commissioners Barbara Jelks, Chris Hunnicutt, Marc DeMott, Mike Boyd, Paul Nagy, Johnny Hardin, and Chairman Braswell. Also present were County Attorney Lester Castellow and County Clerk Melissa Lawson.

ABSENT: County Administrator Chas Cannon.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The invocation and pledge of allegiance was led by Commissioner Barbara Jelks.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON JUNE 7 & 21: Commissioner Nagy made the motion to approve the minutes of all meetings held on June 7 & 21. Commissioner Boyd made a second. The motion carried unanimously.

CITIZENS HAVING BUSINESS WITH THE COUNTY: Samantha Crawford, Tallokas Trail resident, addressed the Board stating that the Georgia State Patrol had shut down the riding of golf carts and ATV's within the neighborhood. Mrs. Crawford stated that she had become aware of some complaints regarding her own son and further stated that issue had been dealt with but stressed that she didn't want that incident to affect others within the community.

Travis Horne stated that he worked with the Georgia Department of Transportation and was familiar with rights of way and state regulated roads. Mr. Horne suggested an ordinance to regulate and address the situation.

Jerry Croft, 36 year resident of the neighborhood, stated that his neighbors were law abiding citizens and that everyone had always been able to ride within the neighborhood. Mr. Croft stated that he was offended by the Georgia State Patrol intimidating kids in his neighborhood and suggested that they focus on major crime issues instead of focusing their attention on golf carts in a residential neighborhood. Mr. Croft suggested lowering the speed limit or passing an ordinance designating the community as golf cart friendly.

Commissioner Hardin stated that safety concerns were not just focused on one child but all children and further stated that everyone knew it was against the law. Commissioner Hardin stated that the main concern for everyone was the safety of the kids in the neighborhood and suggested that the County Administrator and County Attorney work together on creating an ordinance in order to address the situation.

Sheriff Howell read aloud a letter in which he apologized to the citizens of the neighborhood for not acting quickly enough to resolve the issue. Sheriff Howell stated that keeping kids

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safe was the ultimate goal and explained Department of Transportation (DOT) road and safety requirements in detail.

Sheriff Howell stated that he was not in favor of an ordinance but if that was what worked for the community, so be it.

Jason Chapman questioned the likelihood of getting the GSP out of the neighborhood.

Sheriff Howell stated that the GSP was a beneficial resource and that he didn't want them out of the neighborhood but wanted them to utilize common sense and discretion.

Lee Davis, Tallokas Trail resident, stating that the community was there asking for help in order to rectify the situation.

Jerry Croft stated that he wanted the neighborhood to be back to normal.

Art Ellis stated that wagons and ATV's often traveled residential neighborhoods on Halloween night and questioned if each residential neighborhood would be patrolled in addition to theirs. Mr. Ellis stated that it wasn't right to single out and isolate one neighborhood.

Lester Castellow, County Attorney, stated that the matter would be researched and that a report would be made at the next meeting.

Lee Davis questioned if the neighborhood could ride in the meantime. Commissioner Hardin suggested waiting until more information was known and a plan of action developed.

Art Ellis mentioned electric wheelchairs and questioned the legality of them on the road.

Jason Chapman questioned the nature of the original complaint. Sheriff Howell stated that it consisted of a young person running a stop sign and riding around a bad S curve almost hitting a car head on.

Adrian French stated that she was a nurse and had seen first hand the results of accidents involving children. Mrs. French urged anyone to contact her if they observed her children doing something that was unsafe to themselves or others.

Chuck Bannister stated that he purchased a buggy with the sole purchase of traveling the neighborhood and currently could not even use it.

Chairman Braswell vowed that the situation would get resolved, with or without an ordinance.

Gail Lott stated that all of the vehicles in question had warnings upon them stating that they were not on road vehicles. Mrs. Lott stated it all went back to parenting and that the responsibility fell on the parents of the children.

Commissioner Boyd stated that he was a retired state trooper and that one of the hardest parts of the job was to knock on a parent's door and let them know their child was deceased.

Commissioner Boyd stated that nothing could be done about a lack of common sense but stated that when receiving a complaint about a child's safety – doing nothing was not an option. Commissioner Boyd stated that the Board was there to help to make the community and the children within it safe.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF LIST OF UNPAID INVOICES: Commissioner DeMott made the motion to approve payment of the list of unpaid invoices. Commissioner Hunnicutt made a second. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF TAX RELIEFS & ADDITIONS: Commissioner Boyd made the motion to approve the list of tax reliefs and additions. Commissioner Nagy made a second. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS: Commissioner Hardin made the motion to approve the following consent agenda items (Items A - G). Commissioner DeMott made a second. The motion carried unanimously.

- a. Approval of Resolution 2022-R-6 officially adopting the Colquitt County Comprehensive Plan;
- b. Approval of Contract Addendum (3) with MCCi (Laserfiche) to incorporate records of the Tax Commissioner's Office;
- c. Approval of Bids:
 - Recommended bid, in the amount of \$102,131.17, submitted by Howard Technology regarding door access controls and camera security system at the Courthouse Annex, inclusive of any contractual documents to follow upon the review and approval of Lester M. Castellow, County Attorney;
 - 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 parking lot located adjacent to the Courthouse annex, inclusive of any contractual documents to follow upon the review and approval of Lester M. Castellow, County Attorney;
- d. Approval of Payment of Invoices:
 - Invoice, in the amount of \$412,624.00, submitted by ACCG regarding the provision of property and liability insurance for the term July 1, 2022 – July 1, 2023;
 - Invoice, in the amount of \$864,071.00, submitted by ACCG Retirement Services regarding the 2022 defined benefit plan contribution;
- e. Approval of Relocation Estimate, in the amount of \$13,691.47, submitted by Colquitt EMC regarding the relocation of utilities on Coy Cox Road;

- f. Declaration of submitted list of equipment as surplus to the county's needs;
- g. Other Business – None Requested.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

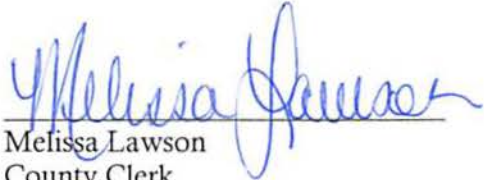
Brian Nolan addressed the Board regarding a nuisance animal problem in Eastgate subdivision. Mr. Nolan stated that animal control was no help and that he had faced the issue the entire time he lived there.

Commissioner Hardin questioned the last time the Humane Society had been out to the area and asked for Mr. Nolan's contact information and stated that he would work on the issue.

Respectfully submitted,



Denver Braswell
Chairman



Melissa Lawson
County Clerk

Approved: August 2, 2022