

## **GRADY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

### **MEETING MINUTES**

January 5, 2021 Meeting

The Grady County Board of Commissioners met on January 05, 2021 at 9:00 am for a regular meeting. Commissioners Keith Moya, June Knight, Phillip Drew, LaFaye Copeland, County Administrator Buddy Johnson, County Finance Director Holly Murkerson, Executive Assistant Mary Griffin, County Clerk John White, and County Attorney Gabe Ridley were present. Commissioner Ray Prince participated by telephone.

Mr. Johnson started the meeting by asking for nominations for Chair. Motion by Mr. Moya, second by Mr. Prince to nominate Phillip Drew for Chair. The motion was approved.

Mr. Drew asked Reverend Andrew Donaldson, Pastor, Eastside Baptist Church, to give the invocation and pledge to the flag.

Mr. Drew called for nominations for Vice-Chair. Motion by Mr. Prince, second by Mr. Drew to nominate Keith Moya for Vice-Chair. Mrs. Knight nominated LaFaye Copeland for Vice-Chair, but the motion failed to get a second. Mr. Moya was elected Vice Chair with a 3-2 vote. In favor: Prince, Drew, and Moya. Opposed: Knight and Copeland.

Mr. Drew called for nominations for County Clerk. Motion by Mr. Moya, second by Mr. Prince for John White to serve as County Clerk. The motion was approved.

Mr. Drew called for nominations for County Attorney. Motion by Mr. Moya, second by Mr. Prince for Gabe Ridley to serve as County Attorney. The motion was approved.

Mr. Drew called for nominations for the 911 Committee Members. Motion by Mr. Prince, second by Mr. Moya to nominate Keith Moya and Chris Dorsey to serve on the 911 Committee. The motion was approved.

Mr. Drew called for nominations for Golden Triangle Representatives. Motion by Mr. Moya, second by Mr. Drew to nominate Mike Binion and Richard Phillips to serve as Golden Triangle Representatives. The motion was approved.

Mrs. Knight asked why she was not nominated for anything? What do they have against her? She stated she has been passed over for Chair, Vice-Chair and has carried a butt chewing up here. Mr. Moya stated that he called and discussed it with her last night and Mrs. Knight stated that she appreciated it but that was not good enough. Mrs. Knight stated they got together and decided who would be Chair.

Motion by Mr. Moya, second by Mr. Drew to adopt the agenda. The motion was approved.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Debbie Kines, 286 Smith Rd Cairo, GA

Mrs. Kines came before the board to request more space in addition to what the board granted her last year. Mrs. Kines stated that she had inquired with the contractor and they had stated they would not charge to cut an entrance into the room that used to be the County Administrator's Office. After Mrs. Kines presentation, Mr. Johnson stated the board had already addressed the issue and was not adding the space at this time.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

Antoinette Russell, ArchiveSocial

Ms. Russell with ArchiveSocial reviewed with the commissioners the Open Records Requirements in relation to Social Media and how her company can ensure that the information on Social Media is properly archived in accordance with the law.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

The Calendar of Events was reviewed.

Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday, 01/18/2021

Regular Board Meeting, 01/19/2021, 6:00 pm

## **CONSENT ITEMS**

Motion by Mr. Moye, second by Mr. Prince to approve

C001-21 Approval Regular Meeting Minutes and Executive Meeting Minutes from 12/15/2020

C002-21 Approval of Teresa Groves to continue serving on the Georgia Pines Community Service Board

C003-21 Approval of the Hart Plat

C004-21 Approval of the Cedarhaven Farms and Cleve Harrell Farms Plat

C005-21 Approval of the Consensus vote to waive the fees for Land Disturbing Permit for the City Waterline Project.

C006-21 Approval of the Consensus vote to advertise for the position of Animal Control Director

C007-21 Approval of the Consensus vote to approve the Alcoholic Beverage License Renewal for

Aziz Damani, Grady Truck Stop, 2499 US Hwy 319 S Thomasville, GA 31792

Amit Soniminde, Beachton Georgia Business, 1494 US Hwy 319 S Thomasville, GA 31792

Dollar General Store #16839, 109 Gray Rd Cairo, GA 39827

C008-21 Approval of Authorization for Barbara Darus to accept checks, cash, debit cards and/or credit cards for payment on behalf of Grady County.

The motion was approved.

## **FORMAL ACTIONS**

None

## **NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Administrator's Report:

- We have received RFP results for Trash and Sanitation.
  - o Taylor Waste
  - o Possibly address formally at the next meeting
- Note of thanks from tall Timbers for the 500.00 donation
  - o Letter in packet
- Windstream (Kinetic Business) Notification from Brad Dent –
  - o Issued credit of 18, 677.03 to our account to clear out erroneous charges that they have been billing for.
  - o Very appreciative to the local Windstream team for their professionalism and help in this matter as appreciation to Mr. Ridley for his help in the negotiation process with the Windstream corporation.
- Administrative office employees will all be given specific work duty responsibilities starting this month.
  - o Finance office will be given duties for more oversight and internal controls. This will enhance the efficiency of the office as well as continuing to improve our audit finding issues in that area.
- New Dump Truck is in service and working well for our current needs.
- High number of cases of COVID 19 throughout county offices.
  - o Monitoring absences from key positions. Overall so far 9 directors/officers have been quarantined at different times either from exposure or actual contraction of the virus. Several employees are out as well.
  - o Numbers appear consistent with neighboring government agencies.
- ABM is continuing their initial audit to determine if they can assist with the Tired Creek Lake project
  - o Preliminary discussions appear very positive.

- SPLOST and LOST revenues for 2020 ended with an increase in both for the year at just over 221,000.00
- o TSPLOST is now coming in at around 125,000 per month and is averaging only 15,000 less per month than the other Sales tax revenues.

Mr. Drew stated that 2 Lake Authority Board members and Mr. Drew and Mr. Moyer met with Will Butler who is requesting a \$1,500.00 increase to his fee while he is working with ABM on the infrastructure project as he is working with ABM almost daily. This would raise his fees to \$3,500.00 per month and would be a temporary increase.

FA001-21 Motion by Mr. Moyer, second by Mrs. Copeland to increase the fees of Mr. Butler to \$3,500.00. Mrs. Knight asked why she was not advised of the meeting with the lake authority about this issue. Mr. Johnson stated that the Chair and Vice-Chair were in the meeting for this group. Mrs. Knight stated that she has requested to be included in these meetings concerning her district. Mrs. Copeland asked that they let the board know when they have these meetings and Mr. Drew stated they would send out when these meetings take place. The motion was approved with a 4-1 vote. Approve: Moyer, Prince, Copeland, Drew. Disapprove: Knight.

#### Ordinance Workshop

Mr. Johnson reviewed the anticipated cost of switching from lot numbers to 911 addresses for the county. The cost estimate provided by Code Enforcement was \$7,412.33. Citizens have expressed concerns with having lot numbers instead of 911 addresses. It was also stated that this results in confusion and lost response time for first responders.

FA002-21 Motion by Mrs. Knight, second by Mrs. Copeland to authorize spending up to \$10,000.00 to put up signs and switch to 911 addresses for property in the county. The motion was approved.

Ordinance to allow Administrator to be either a county employee or a contracted individual.

Mr. Ridley explained the changes to this ordinance and why it is in the best interest of the county to have this option in the ordinances. Mrs. Copeland asked Mr. Ridley if they are taking out the at will portion and replacing it with a contracted individual. Mr. Ridley stated that this only adds the option for a contracted individual. The county administrator could either be an employee of the county or a contracted individual.

FA003-21 Motion by Mrs. Copeland, second by Mr. Moyer to change the wording in the county ordinance to allow the county administrator to be either an employee of the county or a contracted individual. The motion was approved.

Mr. Ridley then briefly discussed the changes to the Land Ordinance variances and stated he would submit proposed changes to the board for their review.

Mr. White then asked the Chair if he would allow an added item for the approval of a new Alcohol Beverage License as all the required verification has just been completed. Mr. Drew stated he would allow the board to act on this issue.

FA004-21 Motion by Mr. Moyer, second by Mrs. Knight to approve the Alcohol and Beverage License for Ethel Hughes and Keith Mays DBA: Calvary Market, 210 1<sup>st</sup> Ave Calvary, GA 39829. The motion was approved.

Mrs. Knight asked when work on Open Pond Road would begin and Mr. Johnson stated that they were waiting for the meeting between Mr. Watkins, the county, and the company.

Mr. Johnson stated the manned site in Whigham will hopefully be open soon.

Mrs. Knight asked about the signage on US 84 for Tired Creek Lake and the Trout Lilies and DOT has placed signs up for both on US 84.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Mr. Moyer, second by Mrs. Copeland to enter executive session for personnel. The motion was approved.

Motion by Mr. Moyer, second by Mr. Prince to exit executive session. The motion was approved.

There was no action taken from of executive session.

**REPORTS**

- A. Attorney’s Report – None
- B.
- C.

**RESOLUTIONS, PROCLOMATIONS, AND AGREEMENTS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Moye and second by Mrs. Copeland. The motion was approved.

ATTEST:

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JOHN WHITE, COUNTY CLERK

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PHILLIP DREW, CHAIR

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KEITH MOYE, VICE-CHAIR

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RAY PRINCE, COMMISSIONER

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JUNE KNIGHT, COMMISSIONER

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LAFAYE COPELAND, COMMISSIONER