

GRADY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING MINUTES

June 1, 2021, Meeting

The Grady County Board of Commissioners met on June 1, 2021, at 9:00 am for a regular meeting. Commissioners LaFaye Copeland, Keith Moye, June Knight, Phillip Drew, Ray Prince, County Administrator Buddy Johnson, County Finance Director Holly Murkerson, County Clerk John White, County Attorney Gabe Ridley, Fire Chief Richard Phillips, and Lake Authority Director Mike Binion were present.

Mr. Drew and the Board of Commissioners recognized the Grady County 4-H shotgun team who are State Champions in the Modified Trap division. The young men are coached by Mr. Bruce Womble, Steven Childs, and Owen Bearden. The team competed against 601 participants in the state competition.

Mr. Drew opened the meeting with the invocation and pledge to the flag.

PRESENTATIONS

Mrs. Tasha Renfroe presented on the On Track School that is in place at Motocross.

Mrs. Renfroe shared three videos about the Cash for Class event and the On Track School.

Mrs. Renfroe is the Operations Coach for On-Track School. Several other athletes take advantage of the On Track school in addition to Motocross. Mrs. Renfroe stated that it is important for the Motocross athletes to have a High School Education as it is required for them to compete at the professional level. They just want to say thank you to this community for its help in raising money for Cash for Class program. These students not only do coursework but also are on the track practicing for 4 hours every day and they work out in the gym. They are very passionate and driven athletes. Mrs. Renfroe introduced two 15-year-old students who are honor students: Jordan Renfroe (who is ranked 4th in the world in his class) and Jace Lewis.

Mr. Drew then opened the public hearing on the Variance Ordinance Change. Mr. Ridley opened the public hearing by reviewing some grammatical and stylistic changes made to the variance.

Peter Wright, Stephens Rd

Mr. Wright stated that noise is what is wrong with Motocross. He stated that he feels as if the Cash for Class is a smoke screen as all the Motocross people can afford to send their kids to school. Mr. Wright stated that this is being done totally under the radar and only the stakeholders are involved. Mr. Wright asked what is a hardship? A variance cannot be granted as the noise is a nuisance.

Betty Godwin, 369 Pine Park Road

Mrs. Godwin discussed the various definitions of the rules and feels what was advertised in the paper was not adequate. Mrs. Godwin stated the Land Use Ordinance does not allow for changes.

Ray Woods, Bold Springs Road

Mr. Woods refuted the comments made by Mr. Wright about the Motocross people having the money to send their kids to college. Mr. Woods stated he worked hard for forty years in a refinery to send his children to school. Mr. Woods stated that Mr. Wright's comments were just wrong.

With no other comments, Mr. Drew closed the hearing.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Peter Wright, Stephens Road

Mr. Wright made comments about the \$4.5 million stimulus money and how Paul Fryer stated it would all be spent at the big lake.

Mr. Drew told Mr. Wright that there have been no decisions made about how the money would be spent. Mr. Fryer was just reviewing the requirements for spending the money.

PRESENTATIONS

See above

CORRESPONDENCE

The Calendar of Events was reviewed.

Lake Authority Meeting, 06/07/2021, 8:30 am.

Regular Board meeting, 6/15/2021, 6:00 pm.

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion by Mr. Prince, second by Mrs. Copeland to approve

C029-21 Approval Regular Meeting Minutes from 05/18/2021

C030-21 Approve Smith Plat for a Family Subdivision

C031-21 Approve Application for Alcoholic Beverage License for Shaikh Wabah, 2499 US 319 S Thomasville, GA 31792, DBA Fast Fuel 18.

C032-21 Approve 2021 Biological and mitigation monitoring RFP for Tire Creek Lake.

The motion was approved.

FORMAL ACTIONS

FA024-21 Motion by Mr. Moye, second by Mrs. Knight to approve the bid for Pine Park Road Resurfacing phase 1 from Scruggs Company for \$591,667.64. Other bids received were from Capital Asphalt for \$899,300.00, and Oxford Construction for \$642,769.60. The motion was approved.

FA025-21 Motion by Mr. Moye, second by Mr. Prince to approve the agreement between Grady County Superior Court and the Grady County Board of Education for the use of school property for Superior Court. The motion was approved.

FA026-21 Motion by Mr. Prince, second by Mrs. Knight to approve the purchase of Turnout gear for the Volunteer Fire Department from GF&RS for \$35,938.17. Other bids received were from NAFECO for \$37,552.53 and Fireline for \$33,663.00. The middle bid was recommended as GF&RS were the only vendor who included a spec sheet that met the Grady County VFD specification as well as the only company to include freight charges in the bid. The motion was approved.

NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Drew and Mr. Moye shared that Mr. Hal Eastman who owns Rescue Systems Unlimited and is a distributor of Genesis Rescue Systems donated a set of "Jaws of Life" rescue equipment to the Pine Park Volunteer Fire Department. He also arranged for 4 hours of training on how to use the equipment.

Mr. Drew stated he drove roads this morning prior to coming to the meeting and Open Pond Road is completely paved and they are working on the striping on the road at this time.

County Administrator's Report

Mr. Johnson shared that ABM continues to upgrade the county's buildings and systems for energy efficiency.

2 of the Manned Dump Sites, Ridge Road and Bunn Lane were broken into over-night.

2022 budget process is moving forward. The budget request forms have been sent to the Department Heads and are due back for review by June 18, 2021.

Mr. Johnson, Mr. Moye, and Mr. Chris Dorsey along with several Police, Sheriff, and Fire personnel attended a 911 committee meeting in Bainbridge on Friday, May 28, 2021. Mr. Johnson reported that they had some good dialogue and hopefully can continue to work on the needs of everyone.

Mr. Johnson gave a shout out to all Department Heads and those who work in the departments. They are working hard and doing an excellent job serving the citizens of our county.

Mr. Drew requested that another commissioner serve on the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission as his schedule does not allow him time to adequately serve on the Regional Commission. After discussion, Mrs. Copeland stated she would agree to finish out the year if the meetings are virtual.

FA027-21 Motion by Mrs. Knight, second by Mr. Moye to nominate Mrs. LaFaye Copeland to finish out the term of Mr. Phillip Drew on the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission. The motion was approved.

Mrs. Copeland stated she has sent pictures of illegal dumping at the old Collins Road dump site. Mr. Drew responded that they have a plan to address the situation.

Mrs. Copeland announced that the library will be open and in full swing starting today.

Mrs. Copeland also stated that it was just pointed out to her that Grady County does not have an ordinance addressing cemetery sites. Mrs. Copeland was just wondering if we need an ordinance addressing this issue.

Mr. Johnson made the recommendation as the commissioners make request of things that we need to look at or consider changing; the request be made in an email so we can keep track of the request, so they do not get forgotten and/or pushed to the side.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

REPORTS

- A. Attorney’s Report – None
- B. Grand Jury Report

RESOLUTIONS, PROCLOMATIONS, AND AGREEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

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

ATTEST:

JOHN WHITE, COUNTY CLERK

PHILLIP DREW, CHAIR

KEITH MOYE, VICE-CHAIR

RAY PRINCE, COMMISSIONER

JUNE KNIGHT, COMMISSIONER

LAFAYE COPELAND, COMMISSIONER