

## MINUTES

January 4, 2017

The Fannin County Board of Commissioners held a called meeting pursuant to notice in the grand jury suite, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Fannin County Courthouse, 400 West Main Street, Blue Ridge, Georgia. Notice of the meeting was timely delivered to media outlets and posted. The meeting commenced at 10:00 AM with the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners, Stanley Helton calling the meeting to order.

Renee Hamby was made Recording Clerk.

A motion was made by Chairman Helton and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to go into executive session for the purpose of personnel matters. The motion carried unanimously.

There after an Executive Session followed. The same commenced at approximately 10:05 AM and concluded at 10:33 AM.

A motion was made by the Chairman, Stanley Helton to come back out of executive session. The same was seconded by Commissioner Johnson and the specially called meeting recommenced.

The Chairman noted that during executive session personnel matters were discussed but no action was taken.

A motion was made by Chairman Helton to combine two positions within the Fannin County Road Department and create a Director of Public Works, with Mr. Zack Ratcliff being named as the initial department head. This motion was made by Commissioner Helton and seconded by Commissioner Sosebee. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Zack Ratcliff was announced as the Director of Public Works.

Commissioner Earl Johnson made a motion to promote interim Recreation Department Head, Eddie O'Neal to full time Recreation Department Head. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Sosebee and passed unanimously.

Chairman Helton made a motion to terminate the services of Rita Davis Kirby as the financial director. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sosebee. The vote was two in favor of the termination of services of Ms. Kirby as financial director. Commissioner Johnson abstained from voting. The motion carried.

Commissioner Johnson noted for the record that he had consulted with legal counsel and had been advised to abstain from voting. Commissioner Johnson noted for the record that he had previously made remarks in both public meetings and was quoted in various newspaper articles as being opposed to nepotism. Mr. Johnson that those remarks could be interpreted to reflect a bias. Therefore, because not because of any actual bias, but to eliminate the appearance of any bias, he abstained from voting. The Chairman noted that the record would so reflect.