



Fannin County Board of Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
Jury Assembly Room  
February 13, 2018 at 5:15pm

**OPENING REGULAR MEETING**

Chairman Helton called the meeting to order at 5:15pm.

The invocation was led by Zack Ratcliff and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Johnson.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Commissioner Sosebee made a motion to approve minutes from the January 23, 2018 meeting. Chairman Helton made the second. Motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENTARY**

Richard Simms of the Epworth area stated concern with the trash issue in the area. Stated he had noticed large bags of trash along the roads that appeared to have fallen off a trash pickup service vehicle. Asked for Sheriff Department to help by citing violators and being more proactive.

Joe Webb of the Dial area stated that he felt like the entire Board should have input on setting the agenda. Also, mentioned his concern about the local legislation document not being correct.

Public Commentary closed at 5:26pm.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Chairman Helton made a motion to add Sheriff Dane Kirby to the agenda. Commissioner Johnson made second. Motion passed unanimously.

Sheriff Kirby informed the Board that the Jail was in need of a dishwasher. They had been without one for the last 2 weeks and the inmates had been doing their own dishes. The present dishwasher had been there since the jail was built. Ed Hawkins of the maintenance had gotten 2 quotes on the dishwasher and both were almost the same. The recommended quote was \$20,574.28 and was with Manning Brothers of Athens, Georgia.

Kirby mentioned that the stove in the jail was also in poor condition and recommended that it be replaced as well. Quote was obtained from Peach Trader, Inc of Norcross, Ga in the amount of \$2,538.90. Chairman Helton made a motion to approve the purchase of both appliances. Commissioner Johnson made the second. Motion passed unanimously.

Sheriff Kirby briefly discussed the garbage issue and the procedures that the Sheriff Departments were able to use against violators.

Commissioner Sosebee made the motion to reappoint Larry Chapman to the FCWA. This appointment would be a three-year term. Chairman Helton made the second. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Sosebee made the motion to appoint Angie Arp to the FCWA. This would be for a three-year term. Second made by Chairman Helton. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Sosebee made a motion to reappoint Janie Bearden to the Tax Assessors Board. Second made by Commissioner Johnson. Motion passed unanimously. This term will be a three-year term.

Variance request made by Derek and Deidre Manke to build 10-feet from the property line. Chairman Helton made a motion to approve variance. Second made by Commissioner Sosebee. Motion passed unanimously.

John Drullinger, Animal Control Department Head addressed the Board stating that last year 374 dogs and so far this year 40 dogs had been taken in. Drullinger stated that the outside improvements were still going on but were progressing nicely.

Drullinger briefly spoke on a dog (that the Humane Society had named Ruger) that was recently taken in that had been shot and required much medical attention. The costs of which were covered by the county. Drullinger stated that because of the generosity of a private citizen, Natalie Kissel, who set up a GoFund me account, that enough money had been raised to cover what the county had paid for Ruger's medical care and then some.

Animal Control stated that some volunteers were now coming in to help socialize and exercise the dogs.

Drullinger also informed the Board of a dog tag program that will be providing dog tags to owners at little to no cost. Drullinger express how very important that this program is and how every dog needs to have a ID tag.

The Georgia Department of Agriculture recently had inspected the Animal Control and every requirement was found to be sufficient.

Opioid Litigation was next on the agenda. The litigation for this matter is being done directly by the counties and not by the states so any settlements that are distributed are going directly to the county. The firm Doss was suggesting going with on this was Harrison White, P.C. This firm has no upfront costs and if a settlement is reached then 25% fee will be charged. Which was much lower than other firms involved in the suit.

Chairman Helton went on to talk about Fannin County being one of the counties in Georgia being the highest in drug overdose deaths. Between 2010 and 2014, between 48 and 138 babies born addicted to drugs in Fannin County.

Commissioner Johnson stated that it is very personal for him. He stated that he has worked with more than 200 people that have been dealing with addicted with prescription pain killers and it was very prevalent in his line of work.

Commissioner Sosebee made a motion to sign contract with Harrison White, P.C. to enter in to Opioid lawsuit against manufactures of drugs. Commissioner Johnson made the second. Motion passed unanimously.

Next, the Board of Commissioners signed a Certification Regarding Internet Gambling. This Certification stated that the entity does not and will not engage in Internet Gambling. Chairman Helton voted to sign. Second made by Commissioner Sosebee. Motion passes unanimously.

Department of Family and Children Services budget for 2018 will be funded by the Board of Commissioners in the amount of \$50,558.00. Chairman Helton made a motion to ratify this agreement. Second made by Commissioner Johnson. Motion passed unanimously.

The Georgia Family Connections requested that Fannin County remain the fiscal agent for this agency. Chairman made a motion to accept the agreement. Second made by Commissioner Sosebee. Motion passed unanimously.

Project Chimps requested the approval of 9 more chimpanzees to their compound. Commissioner Sosebee made a motion to approve. Commissioner Johnson made the second. Motion passed unanimously.

The Tax Assessors were on the agenda next. Per request of the last meeting the Assessor's office presented several bids for 4x4 vehicles to be used by the tax appraisers in field operations. The bids are as follows:

Year	Make/Model	4x4/AWD	Mileage	Basic Warranty	Price	Extended Warranty	Carfax Provided	Dealer
Bids:								
2017	Jeep Renegade Trailhawk	4x4	22,926	BB 3/36 PT 5/100	\$20,000.00		no	Jasper Jeep
2014	Jeep Wrangler Sport	4x4	61,763	BB 3/36 PT 5/100	\$21,000.00		no	Jasper Jeep
2016	Ford Escape	4x4	46213	BB 3/36 PT 5/60	\$18,357.50	20,000 7yr/125,000	yes	North Ga Ford
2015	Ford Escape	4x4	35027	BB 3/36 PT 5/60	\$19,057.50	20,000 7yr/125,000	yes	North Ga Ford
2018	Ford Escape	4x4	0	BB 3/36 PT 5/60	\$22,743.00		N/A	North Ga Ford
Carmax								
2011	Ford Escape	4x4	64,000	BB 3/36 PT 5/60	\$14,998.00		no	Carmax.com
2013	Nissan Rogue	4x4	39,000	BB 3/36 PT 5/60	\$14,998.00		no	Carmax.com
	Ford Escape	4x4	37,000	BB 3/36 PT 5/60	\$14,998.00		no	Carmax.com
	Jeep Compass	4x4	26,000	BB 3/36 PT 5/100	\$14,998.00	*	no	Carmax.com
2014	Ford Escape	4x4	42,000	BB 3/36 PT 5/60	\$14,998.00	*	no	Carmax.com
2015	Jeep Compass	4x4	43,000	BB 3/36 PT 5/100	\$14,998.00	*	no	Carmax.com

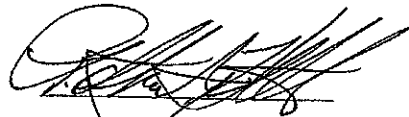
After some discussion, it was determined to go with the two Ford Escaped 2016 models from North Georgia Ford with the extended warranties of 7 year/125,000 miles. Motion made by Commissioner Johnson to approve purchase. Second made by Commissioner Sosebee. Motion passed unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**


No executive session needed.

**CLOSING**

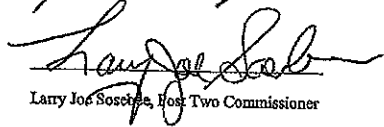
Motion made by Commissioner Johnson to adjourn. Second made by Chairman Helton. Motion passes unanimously.



Stan Helton, Chairman

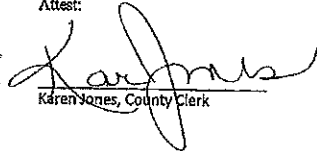


Earl Johnson, Post One Commissioner



Larry Joe Sosebee, Post Two Commissioner

Attest:

  
Karen Jones, County Clerk