



Fannin County Board of Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
Jury Assembly Room  
April 24, 2018 at 5:15pm

**OPENING REGULAR MEETING**

Chairman Helton called the meeting to order at 5:15pm.  
The invocation was led by Robert Graham and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Johnson.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Commissioner Johnson made a motion to approve minutes from the April 10, 2018. Commissioner Sosebee made second. Motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENTARY**

Janie Turner came to the podium to discuss the Fannin County Museum that is in the Baugh House.

Ralph Garner spoke about lack of public input, Jan Eaton's treatment at a previous meeting, lack of auditing the Rec Department.

Commissioner Sosebee spoke up about rumors of Fannin County not having a Comprehensive Plan. Commissioner Sosebee went on to clarify that indeed Fannin did have a Comprehensive 10-year plan and that the County could not receive grants unless they had this Comprehensive Plan.

Commissioner Johnson spoke and said he knew it was election time and asked for citizens to go off what you know and not what you hear, research for yourself. Commissioner Johnson also stressed the fact that Fannin County does have plans in place.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Variance request for James Benny Long to build a porch on new home 25-feet from the edge of Oasis Drive. Chairman Helton made the motion to approve. Second made Commissioner Sosebee. Motion passed unanimously.

Variance request made by John and Barbara Hanson to build a new home 30-feet from the edge of Overlook Drive and to build a garage 20-feet from the Overlook Drive. The Hanson's were not present but were represented by John Suave. Suave asked for variance to be amended and was told by Chairman Helton he would have to go back to Land Development. Suave continued to explain that the owners wanted to move structure back to accommodate the demands of the neighbors. Suave stated that he wanted to move garage and home to 30 or 33-feet back from center of road.

Tom Rice came forward to oppose the Hanson variance. Rice stated that if home was built that close to road would harm the looks and property values of the neighborhood. Rice was asked if there was an HOA an Rice replied yes. Tom Rice stated he would not accept anything less than 41-feet from garage and 52-feet from the house to edge of road. Suave said he would be willing to sit down with neighbors and discuss options and settle on a solution. Chairman Helton made a motion to table variance for 2-weeks. Second made by Commissioner Johnson. Motion passed unanimously.

Variance request made by Austin Vest to build a new home and garage 20 feet from the edge of Stuart Camp Point CR #258. Motion made by Commissioner Sosebee to approve variance. Second made by Chairman Helton. Motion passed unanimously.

Variance request made by Aixa Silvera Schwart to build a pump station 10-feet from the edge of Staurolite Mountain Road for water approximately 12x12 within the road right of way. Motion made by Commissioner Johnson to approve variance. Second made by Commissioner Sosebee. Motion passed unanimously.

Next on the agenda, Marie Woody of Land Development to discuss tiny homes which are defined as home under 400 feet. Chairman Helton stated his concern is something negatively affecting property values. Commissioner Sosebee stated that it was hard to tell someone that owns a piece of property on what they can put on it. Commissioner Johnson said his biggest concern were subdivisions being made of tiny homes on a .33 acre to .55 acre lots. Chairman Helton asked the Post commissioners what they felt concerning a short-term moratorium. Commissioner Johnson stated that he would be good with a 6-month moratorium. Chairman Helton made a motion to place a 6-month moratorium being on July 1, 2018 of building development or subdivisions of tiny homes. Second made by Commissioner Sosebee. Motion passed unanimously.

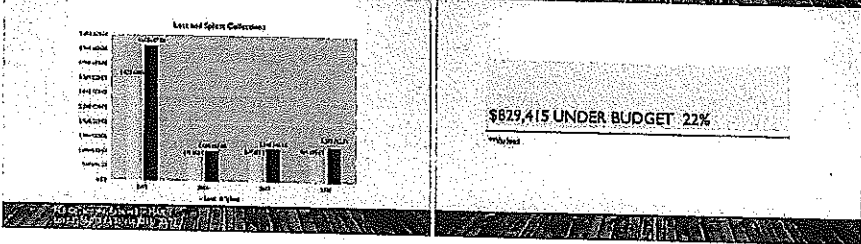
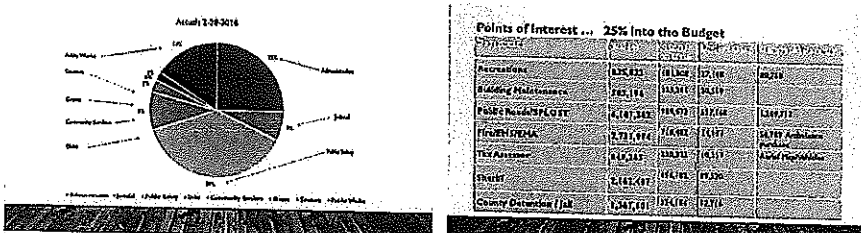
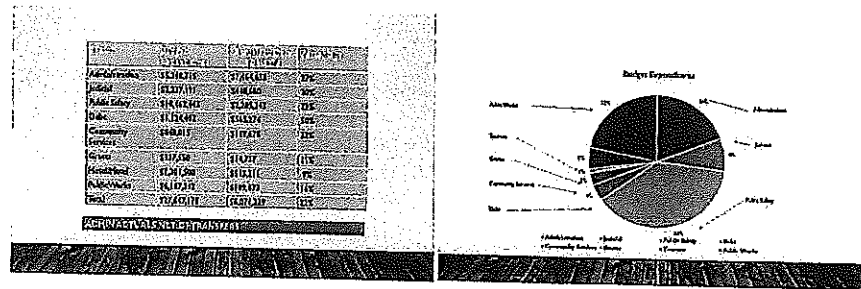
Public Safety Complex furniture for dispatchers' bids. First bid was from Watson Furniture Group out of Matthews, NC in the amount of \$49,739.23. Second bid was from XYBIX out of Littleton, CO in the amount of \$44,257.42. XYBIX's bid contained \$2,314.74 sales tax which would be exempted. So total bid would be \$41,942.68. Commissioner Johnson suggested that EMA compare bids before deciding. Robert Graham of EMA agreed. Chairman Helton made a motion to table decision to next meeting. Commissioner Sosebee made second. Motion passed unanimously.

Robert Graham of EMA stated that there had been misinformation put out in the public about the Fannin County Fire Department not meeting federal and state standards. Graham stated that each department had a certificate that shows all are in compliance with Federal and State Standards. Graham also stated that it has been said that all Fannin Fire Fighters were volunteers. That too is not true. Fannin County has paid as well as volunteers. No fire has ever had zero response.

Chairman Helton asked the estimated cost to double the present fire department. Graham replied that it would be an estimated cost of 1.5 million dollars.

Commissioner Johnson stated that it was a shame that the employees of the EMA and Fire Departments had to defend themselves because of one person spewing false information. Commissioner Johnson commended EMA and Fire for the great job that they do. Chairman Helton said that the BOC would do everything they could do to support the EMA and Fire Department of Fannin County.

Robin Gazaway presented the budget as follows:



Commissioner Johnson commented on the increase of revenue in the Recreation Department. Gazaway said that the gate fees and afterschool program had really increased the revenues.

Chairman Helton made a motion to go into executive session for personnel and a condemnation. Second made by Commissioner Johnson. Motion passed unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Session began at 6:35pm and concluded at 7:10pm. Chairman Helton made a motion to end executive session. Second made by Sosbee. Motion passed unanimously.

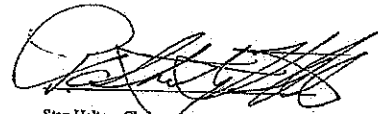
**CLOSING**

Chairman Helton made a motion to file in Superior Court the nuisance at Ada Street. Second made by Commissioner Sosbee. Motion passed unanimously.

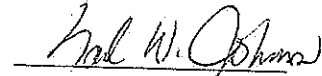
Chairman Helton made a motion to move forward with bringing Mobile Road unauthorized junk yard into compliance. Second made by Commissioner Johnson. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Helton made a motion to grant Human Resource Director, Renee Hamby a transfer to Public Works and hire Lauren Hein to be the new Human Resource Director. Second made by Commissioner Sosebee. Motion passed unanimously.

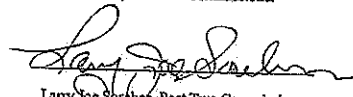
Motion made by Chairman Helton to adjourn. Second made by Commissioner Sosebee. Motion passes unanimously.



Stan Helton, Chairman

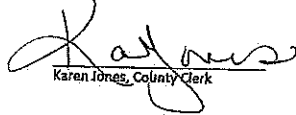


Earl Johnson, Post One Commissioner



Lany Joe Sosebee, Post Two Commissioner

Attest:

  
Karen Jones, County Clerk