



Fannin County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Jury Assembly Room
January 22, 2019 5:15 PM

OPENING REGULAR MEETING

Chairman Helton called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.
The Invocation was led by Zack Ratcliff and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Johnson.

OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2019 Regular Meeting.
Second made by Commissioner Patterson; motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Ralph Garner expressed his appreciation of Debbie Holcomb of the Fannin Sentinel and Sydney Taylor of the News Observer for excellent coverage of the Public Commentary. Ralph Garner also asked the Board to grant James Bond a place on the Agenda as he stated that Mr. Bond reflects first-hand knowledge of problems at Animal Control about which more and more citizens are coming forward. Garner also asked the Board to make corrective action at Animal Control a priority. Garner also spoke regarding the ADS Contract and asked if the County was paying higher rates than Gilmer and Union or are we actively pursuing bids from other places.

Chairman Helton asked if anyone else would like to speak. No one approached, therefore Chairman Helton closed Public Commentary.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Helton amended the agenda to add Item 3A which would be discussion presented by Major Bosen of the Fannin County Sheriff's Office pertaining to the purchase of three new vehicles which has already been approved in the budget.

Major Bosen with the Fannin County Sheriff's Office represented Sheriff Dane Kirby stating the packet in which he had distributed to the Board represented the cost of the new vehicles that had been put into the budget for this year. Major Bosen stated after looking into the vehicles at the beginning of the year and found these vehicles which were 2019 were no longer available in the area. Major Bosen stated they had found three vehicles in South Georgia they could get which were 2019 and cost \$12,000.00 less than brand new vehicles. Commission Patterson asked the years of the vehicles being replaced and Major Bosen stated they were 2009 and 2010. Commission Johnson stated 10 years was a long time on the sheriff's vehicles. Chairman Helton made a motion to approve total as being \$113,421.27 for three new 2019 Police Interceptors. Motion made second by Commissioner Patterson; motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Helton moved to a variance request from Maw Investments Properties, LLC off Bell Camp Road which is a private road. Motion made by Commissioner Johnson. Motion made second by Commissioner Patterson; motion passed unanimously.

Next was a variance request from Charles Flowers to build a new home off Dundin Road. Motion made first to approve variance by Commissioner Patterson. Motion made second by Chairman Helton; motion passed unanimously.

Another variance request from Joseph and Pamela Joyce (Trust of the Trust Joyce Family Trust) of property at 355 Evening Shade Walk. Motion made by Commissioner Johnson. Motion made second by Commissioner Patterson; motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Helton made a motion to correct a resolution on the bank accounts to add Finance Director Robin Gazaway as a signee. Motion made second by Commissioner Patterson; motion passed unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was discussion with Operations Manager Tony Sidebotham regarding the contract with Advanced Disposal Services North Georgia, LLC. Commissioner Patterson inquired into the price being the same as last year. Mr. Sidebotham stated there was a slight increase of 3% which brought price up to \$54.16 per ton compared to previous amount being \$52.91 per ton. Chairman Helton asked about the issue with glass recycling. There is not a market for glass recycling in the area. Commissioner Johnson also made comments pertaining to the fact he thought the time had come for Fannin County to do comparisons for other prices but there being one transfer station is the problem. Also, Commissioner Johnson said at the time the bids were taken, Advanced Disposal was the only bid received. Commissioner Johnson stated to Mr. Sidebotham; he had proven what kind of company he was. The Board expressed their appreciation for all that Advanced Disposal had done for the county. Chairman Helton asked if there could be further discussion pertaining to the rates within the 180 days per contract.

Next on the agenda were reports from the Department Heads. The following presented reports:

Nicole Potztauf, Arts Association – Impact for 2018: Total Guests over 38,000, Economic Impact: \$493,000, Classes offered: 190 with 4,198 students, Pieces of Artwork: 1,800 Events Hosted: 37 Volunteer Hrs.: 1,250 hrs. Also, elaborated on upgrades to Art Center.

Marie Woody, Land Development – 2018 Building Permits 270 (new homes), 2018 NS Sanitation Control Plans 16, New Developments: 5 with two being Private Community, two being Apartment Applications, one being church. Also, discussion pertaining to garbage with incoming calls being 1 to 2 per week. Ms. Woody also presented to Board a Fannin County Spring Clean-up program for dates to be determined. Ms. Woody stated she had another application for a Fire Grant Clean Up and she would like to ask for \$15,000 for clean-up. She also mentioned wanting to implement the Adopt A Road Program again.

John Druillinger, Animal Control – 2018 Yearly Intake - 405 dogs & puppies. Mr. Druillinger elaborated on the completion of dog kennels and continuing Building Maintenance. Mr. Druillinger also spoke on how successful the Volunteer Program has been for Animal Control; and he expressed about how important it was to have ID Tags on dogs so they can be returned to owners. Mr. Druillinger also stated there were six dogs presently in the facility which was the lowest it has been.

Robert Graham, EMA/Fire – Not Present; Fire Chief Larry Thomas & Daryl Payne gave report. Mr. Payne stated they had just moved into the new facility and very proud of it. Mr. Payne thanked the Board of Commissioner for all their support. Mr. Payne stated the BOC was up and running and 911 would be running in a couple of weeks. Mr. Payne reported for the year of 2018 there was 3,640 (911 calls) with 1,115 being non-emergencies. Mr. Payne also stated they were able to purchase two new ambulances. Report given by Fire Chief Larry Thomas on number of calls received. For 2018: 416 Fire Calls with 9 being structure fires, 3 being commercial fires, & 1 being chimney fire. Mr. Thomas stressed the importance of having chimneys cleaned each year. Also, Mr. Thomas stated there were 1,588 rescue calls. Commissioner Johnson asked if Mr. Thomas could remind everyone about registering for 911 address signs.

Eddie O'Neal, Recreation – Reported 820 Participants for 2018, Hosted 66 teams for a Christmas Tournament with around 2,000 attendees for each night. Income for 2018 was a total of \$57,078.43 with Gate Admissions being a total of \$52,527.60, Registrations \$59,574.00, Pavilion Rentals \$7,775.00, Non-resident fees \$3,051.00, After School Program \$20,860.00, Summer Day Camp Program \$20,556.25; and Food Grant \$30,568.00. The total being \$251,721.23. Mr. O'Neal stated he would like to make some improvements in the park to the restrooms and he expressed he would like to use SPLOST for those improvements. Mr. O'Neal presented three bids for labor only. Bids as follows: Innovative Services, LLC \$60,873.23, Holloway Trenching, LLC \$56,000.00, & Wolfcreek Builders, LLC \$50,075.00. Mr. O'Neal recommended Wolfcreek Builders, LLC. Chairman Helton made a motion to go with Wolfcreek Builders, LLC. Motion made second by Commissioner Patterson; motion passed unanimously.

Zack Ratcliff, Public Works – Mr. Ratcliff reported when he first came on board in 2016; he had 53 employees on payroll. In 2017 he had 35 employees on payroll and the audit in 2017 showed an expenditure decrease of \$999,333.00. In 2018, he stated he had 36 employees on payroll. Mr. Ratcliff stated he sold off some of the old equipment & vehicles which were no longer being used. The total amount of sales was \$85,122.88 which went back into the General Fund. Mr. Ratcliff elaborated on various highlights at the road department that had been implemented.

Robin Gazaway, Finance Director – Financial Report for December 2018 Year End was presented. Ms. Gazaway elaborated she would be holding this open for a period of 60 days in order to put any revenues and/or expenditures for 2018 back into the budget.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

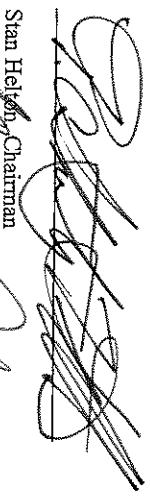
Chairman Helton stated the board needed Executive Session for personnel. Motion to enter Executive Session made first by Chairman Helton. Motion made second by Commissioner Patterson; motion passed by unanimous decision.

Motion to come out of Executive Session made first by Chairman Helton. Motion made second by Commissioner Patterson; motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Helton made motion to hire Sherri Walker as permanent County Clerk & Assistant Finance Director. Motion made second by Commissioner Patterson, motion passed unanimously.

CLOSING

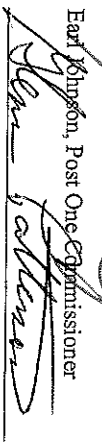
Motion to adjourn made first by Chairman Helton. Motion made second by Commissioner Johnson; motion passed unanimously.



Stan Helton, Chairman



Earl Johnson, Post One Commissioner



Glenn Patterson, Post Two Commissioner

Attest:



Sherri Walker, County Clerk