



Fannin County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Jury Assembly Room
March 26, 2019 5:15 p.m.

OPENING REGULAR MEETING

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

Present in meeting were Chairman Helton, Post One Commissioner Earl Johnson and Post Two Commissioner Glenn Patterson.

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 March 12, 2019 Regular Meeting and minutes from the March 12, 2019 Workshop. Second made by Chairman Helton; motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Mr. Peter Lindblumm came forth to the podium and stated he had been a permanent resident for the last 15 years and he was not an outsider and unfortunately, he did know what was going on. He stated he knew they had chosen to badger the Tax Assessors Office until they had to be out of their minds. He also commented on the Tax Assessors Office working short-handed and working overtime without overtime pay. Mr. Lindblumm went on to state they would not forget how they treated her until they call her in to publicly apologize to her. He also went on to comment about Animal Control and road paving.

Chairman Helton closed Public Commentary at 5:22 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

On the agenda was Item #3, Variance Request from David Bryan Marshall & Deborah Lou Marshall to build a garage 25 feet from the edge of 130 Firefly Road. Commissioner Patterson stated he would abstain from voting on this variance due to a conflict. Motion made first by Chairman Helton. Motion made second by Commissioner Johnson. Motion passed unanimously with Commissioner Patterson abstaining from vote.

Next on the agenda was Item #4, Christie Gribble with the Fannin County Development Authority. Ms. Gribble was not present at the Board meeting but did provide to the Board a letter of recommendation appointing Jackie Self to replace Billie Queen who resigned in late 2018. Motion made first by Commissioner Johnson. Motion made second by Chairman Helton. Motion passed unanimously.

Next on the agenda was Item #5, Robert Gleadall with the Humane Society of Blue Ridge. Mr. Gleadall spoke to the Board and attendees to give some information on what the Humane Society is and what roles they play in the community. He stated they were a very highly controlled and regulated entity of the Department of Natural Resources. He also stated what they could and could not do is regulated by the State. Mr. Gleadall stated they considered themselves the planned parenthood of pets. Mr. Gleadall stated they wanted to bring knowledge and education to the community and they welcome the opportunity to work further with the county. Chairman Helton asked if the Commissioners had any questions or comments to Mr. Gleadall. Commissioner Patterson stated he knew they had some programs there and he had toured the facility earlier in the day. Mr. Patterson asked if he could elaborate on some of the programs. Mr. Gleadall explained how they worked to place abandoned dogs and cats in adoptive homes. Commissioner Johnson stated he was glad that they took care of some of the dogs and cats; they both had been a problem in the past especially the cats in Blue Ridge since there was a huge number of cats years ago. Chairman Helton praised the program and facility and stated it was great for the public and the county. Chairman Helton stated it was definitely a path they wanted to move forward on and he felt it was a good opportunity; and wanted to work on some formal arrangements with them on the program. Commissioner Johnson asked

what examples of guidelines they go by. Mr. Gleadall stated the number of pets that are allowed in the facility; there are very strict guidelines of how they are allowed. You can't just bring them in and drop them off; they look for heartworm, parvo or any other type of infectious disease that would come into the facility; they have to go through the process to rehome. Mr. Gleadall stated that sometimes people get irritated with them when they find a cat or dog and they ask if they can take it. He went on to explain how the dogs and cats are separated inside the facility. The Board thanked Mr. Gleadall for all the information and speaking at the meeting.

Next on the agenda was Item #6, Marie Woody with Land Development. Discussion was pertaining to items moved to a Consent Agenda from the March 12, 2019 Workshop, items being Condemnations for 2019. Minutes of the March 12, 2019 Workshop were taken and reflect information discussed.

Ms. Woody asked for permission to move forward with the process and to begin with notifying owners by letter. Chairman Helton asked if the process was 90 days and Ms. Woody stated it would be 90 days. Mr. Helton stated that would lead up to the end of June. Ms. Woody clarified there were only nine items of Condemnations; there were ten; but one was sold and cleaned up.

Commissioner Patterson asked Ms. Woody to reiterate the Spring Clean up day of April 6, 2019.

Next topic of discussion with Marie Woody was Tiny Homes moratorium from the April 24, 2018 Regular Meeting. Ms. Woody presented the Board with a surrounding County Survey of Zoning and Tiny Homes with three comments highlighted in red; which were counties that responded back to the survey. Ms. Woody also provided a copy of an Ordinance regarding enforcement of the Georgia State Minimum Standard Codes for Construction; and for other purposes. Appendix S-Tiny Homes. Chairman Helton stated the concern was there is presently no ordinance pertaining to Tiny Homes in the county; and the discussion now was to see if the moratorium be extended or released. Board proceeded with discussions on square footage of tiny homes and maintaining the homes. Chairman Helton stated he didn't want to make any bad decisions when it might affect the builders and he didn't mean to start the discussion with the moratorium; but he wanted Commissioner Patterson to be up to speed on it. Commissioner Patterson stated he agreed; and he would like to have the moratorium read since it had been a while. Ms. Woody proceeded to read the moratorium from April 24, 2018. Commissioner Johnson stated he wanted to clarify his concern, having lived in a tiny home, but his actually sat on 40 acres so before deciding on the square footage; he didn't know at what point you would say it's a tiny home. Commissioner Johnson stated that some subdivisions had covenants as to the square footage of the homes; so you have to have something in place to govern or regulate it. Chairman Helton spoke about tiny homes being maintained and didn't want that to be a concern like some of the other counties having an issue with tiny homes. Chairman Helton stated he was fine if they wanted to look at this further and he wouldn't mind hearing some of the builders input on this also. Chairman Helton stated he felt they needed to decide tonight on extending or releasing the moratorium. Commissioner Johnson stated this would not be something that would already affect the existing tiny home subdivisions and he felt it needed to be a topic that the builders could be part of; Commissioner Patterson and Chairman Helton both agreed. Chairman Helton made a motion to extend the moratorium on the tiny home subdivision until July 1st of this year. Motion made second by Commissioner Patterson. Motion passed unanimously.

Last item on the agenda was Item #7, County Attorney Lynn Doss presenting the language for the bid on waste disposal. Chairman Helton stated the contract with Advanced Disposal would end September 1st of this year and they wanted to get ahead of this and perhaps open the door for competition on this to have an impact on cost for the county. Ms. Doss stated this would need to be advertised in the county organ for two weeks and on website, etc.; any place explaining what we are seeking. Ms. Doss referred to some of the specifications set forth in the proposals and stated we would need this in place by the last day of August. Ms. Doss stated you would want it awarded by the last meeting in July so they would have at least a month to finalize the paperwork. Chairman Helton asked if this bid allowed them to have more than one vendor. Ms. Doss stated that it does. Chairman Helton asked, if one month was a reasonable amount of time for receiving the bids back. Commissioner Johnson stated one month was reasonable because if they could not get it together in that amount of time, they would never get it together and two months was very reasonable. Ms. Doss asked who would be the point of contact for bids; County Clerk Sherrif? Chairman Helton stated "Yes". Commissioner Patterson recommended giving the bids six weeks to get the bids together which would make the date for the first meeting date of May 14th. Chairman Helton made the recommendation of having bids returnable by May 13th at 4:00, the day before the first meeting in May. Motion made first by Commissioner Patterson. Motion made second by Commissioner Johnson. Motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

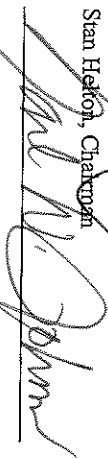
No Executive Session needed.

CLOSING

Motion to adjourn made at 6:13 p.m. first by Commissioner Patterson. Motion made second by Commissioner Patterson. Motion passed unanimously.



Stan Holton, Chairman



Earl Johnson, Post One Commissioner



Glenn Patterson, Post Two Commissioner

Attest

Sherri Walker, County Clerk