



Fannin County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Jury Assembly Room
August 13, 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 Commissioner Glenn Patterson and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Earl Johnson.

OLD BUSINESS

Chairman Helton asked for a Motion to approve the minutes of the July 23, 2019 Regular Meeting. Motion made first by Commissioner Johnson. Second Motion made by Commissioner Patterson. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Marcella Osteen approached the podium to make comments regarding the issue of questions being asked as part of the Open Records Act. She also elaborated on the cost that Debi Holcomb was charged for open records. In closing, Ms. Osteen also spoke regarding the White Path building that was purchased and wanted to know about some of the offices moving there.

Public Commentary closed at 5:21 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

First on the agenda was Item #3, Variance Request from Gregory Parker to place a house 29 feet from the center line of the present road and 23 feet from the edge of Toccoa Camp Trail. Chairman Helton asked if anyone was present to oppose the variance. David Sanders approached the podium. Mr. Sanders stated he was the President of the Toccoa Camp Trail Homeowner Association; and he was accompanied by Dr. Raymond Tidman, Treasurer of the Toccoa Camp Trail Homeowner Association. Mr. Sanders stated there were concerns about restrictions within the covenants and he had not been provided with any details or plans from Mr. Parker. Mr. Sanders asked the Board to table until more detailed plans can be approved. Mr. Trevor Shonkwiler approached the podium to speak on behalf of Mr. Parker, stated he had Power of Attorney to speak on Mr. Parker's behalf. Mr. Shonkwiler stated he had not heard from anyone and the closing was August 21st. Mr. Shonkwiler stated he did not have a full house plan, this was just something to get the variance done. Chairman Helton asked if there was a problem if delayed. Mr. Shonkwiler stated he would not purchase this property without the variance. Mr. Shonkwiler stated if it's delayed, he would cancel the contract. Commissioner Johnson asked about the whole deal being on this variance. Chairman Helton stated they don't like to get involved in the issues of buyers, sellers, and Homeowners Association. Chairman Helton stated he didn't have any issues with approving the variance and he would like to delay a few weeks until the parties have a chance to discuss. Chairman Helton asked Commissioner Johnson and Commissioner Patterson if they would agree to table for two weeks until next meeting of August 27, 2019. Both Commissioners were in agreement to table. Chairman Helton made first Motion to table variance until the August 27th meeting. Motion made second by Commissioner Patterson. Motion passed unanimously.

Next on the agenda was Item #4, Variance Request from Bruce & Patty Coon to place a garage and retaining wall 30 feet from the right of way and 50 feet from the centerline of road. This is the only location on the property to place a garage and to stay away from the cliff. Chairman Helton asked if either Commissioner had anything to add. Commissioner Patterson asked if the garage was to stay on the right-hand side. Keith Nicholson stated he had spoken with some of the neighbors that were concerned and having explained to them where the location would be. Chairman Helton asked for a Motion to approve the variance. First

Motion made by Commissioner Johnson. Motion made second by Commissioner Patterson. Motion passed unanimously.

Next on the agenda was Item #5, Fannin County EMA Director, Robert Graham which gave a slide presentation of the new Public Safety Complex and elaborated on the Open House which will take place on August 30th with the dedication ceremony at 11:00 a.m. Mr. Graham gave an update on the completion and the cost of the Training and Living Quarters Buildout Cost which was in the total amount of \$200,869.02 and the report on Public Safety Complex Completion cost which was in the total amount of \$4,134,462.83. Chairman Helton stated the total cost was paid without having any borrowing costs. Mr. Graham stated how proud all the volunteers and employees were of the facility and he hoped the citizens of Fannin County were proud also. Commissioner Johnson stated it was real pleasing to see how much it cost compared to what they thought it would be. Commissioner Johnson stated it was really nice and he was glad it was completed; and he hoped all the citizens would go out and see the facility. Mr. Graham expressed his appreciation for all the hard work from everyone that was involved.

Next on the agenda was Item #6, 2019 Georgia County Ad Valorem Tax Digest Millage Rate. Chairman Helton stated the school would have their meeting on August 23rd and our next meeting is August 27th to approve. Chairman Helton stated they were looking at a new Millage Rate of 3.938. Chairman Helton gave a comparison of rates for the surrounding counties which showed Fannin County being the lowest at a rate of 4.176. Chairman Helton made first Motion to advertise the publication in the local organ for the new Millage rate being 3.938 for the appropriate time frame being one week. Motion made second by Commissioner Johnson. Motion passed unanimously.

Last on the agenda was Item #7, 911 Director Patrick Cooke spoke about adding the Board of Commissioners Meetings to YouTube and posting those to the County website. Commissioner Johnson stated he was glad that was on there, and no matter what is said; everything would be on there. Chairman Helton and Commissioner Patterson commented on how much information is on the County website.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Helton asked if there was a need for Executive Session. Both Commissioner Johnson and Commissioner Patterson stated there was a need for Executive Session due to personnel purposes.

Motion made First by Chairman Helton for Executive Session. Motion made Second by Commissioner Johnson. Motion passed unanimously. Entered Executive Session 6:02 p.m.

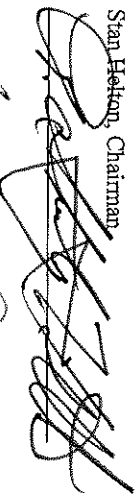
Motion made First by Chairman Helton to come out of Executive Session. Motion made Second by Commissioner Patterson. Motion passed unanimously. Ended Executive Session at 6:57 p.m.

No action taken at present time on personnel issue.

CLOSING

Motion to adjourn made at 6:58 p.m. first by Commissioner Johnson. Motion made second by Commissioner Patterson. Motion passed unanimously.

Stan Helton, Chairman




Earl Johnson, Post One, Commissioner



Glenn Patterson, Post Two, Commissioner



Attest:



Sherri Walker, County Clerk