



Fannin County Board of Commissioners
Special Called Meeting
VIA Teleconference
April 8, 2020

OPENING REGULAR MEETING

Chairman Helton called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Present via teleconference were Chairman Helton, Post One Commissioner Earl Johnson and Post Two Commissioner Glenn Patterson & County Attorney Lynn Doss.

Chairmen Helton apologized for having to conduct the meeting by teleconference but explained it was the best option for conducting County business while at the same time, keeping the public safe and adhering to the Governor's Executive Order.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Chairman Helton asked for a Motion to approve the minutes of March 24, 2020 Work Session & March 25, 2020 Special Called Meeting. Motion made first by Chairman Helton to approve the minutes. Motion made second by Commissioner Patterson. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

No Public Commentary

NEW BUSINESS

Item #2 on the agenda was a Variance Request from OTF Holding, LLC c/o Kevin Hermetz to make lot sizes ranging from .157 to .273 acres with water and sewer. This is to accommodate small cottages. Commissioner Patterson stated he had looked at it and didn't have any problems. Commissioner Johnson stated he didn't either since it was self-contained. Chairman Helton made Motion first to approve the variance. Motion made second by Commissioner Johnson. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #3 on the agenda was a Variance Request from Robert John Maxam, William Bradley Britian & Paul Edmisten to build a new constructed home to be 8 feet from the property line such that the previous residence footprint is maintained. Chairman Helton stated they had a letter of approval from the neighbor. Commissioner Patterson stated he had no objections, and Commissioner Johnson stated he didn't have any problem with it since there were letters of approval. Chairman Helton made Motion first to approve the variance. Motion made second by Commissioner Patterson. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #4 on the agenda was Sheriff Dane Kirby. Sheriff Kirby addressed the Board regarding picking up the approved purchase of three new county vehicles in the amount of \$99,900.00 along with additional approval for equipment for the vehicles from Mountain Communications, Inc. in the amount of \$20,232.00. Sheriff Kirby stated this was in his budget. Commissioner Patterson stated he looked over the material and it looked fine. Commissioner Johnson stated he didn't have a problem either. Chairman Helton made Motion first to approve the amounts requested. Commissioner Patterson made Motion second. Motion passed unanimously.

Items #5 on the agenda was discussion pertaining to the Extension of the Emergency Declaration and Ordinance of a Local State of Emergency for Fannin County which was implemented on March 25, 2020. Chairman Helton stated Governor Kemp had extended the State of Emergency. Chairman Helton stated this was a positive since the response calls were down. Chairman Helton stated the tourism on rental was down due to the last couple of weeks; it was down 70%. Chairman Helton stated the reservations for June and July were normal as of right now. Commissioner Patterson stated he agreed that for the well-being of the citizens, it would be best. Commissioner Johnson stated he wanted everyone to understand that it was impacting everyone in the tourism and the rental business; but he didn't see anyway of lifting the Emergency Declaration and Ordinance. Commissioner Johnson stated he felt it helped keep the risk down. Sheriff Kirby stated he felt April 30th would line up with what the State was doing. Sheriff Kirby stated it had been a real fight here to keep everyone away since they all wanted to come to the mountains to escape

and hide. Sheriff Kirby stated if we were to lift the ordinance; it would not have a positive effect. Chairman Helton stated he recommended that we extend the Ordinance to the end of the month so it would coincide with the State. Commissioner Patterson wanted clarification that we were keeping it in place until April 30th. Chairman Helton stated we were covered either way with both issues on the ordinance. Commissioner Johnson stated he thought it was the only thing to do. Chairman Helton made Motion first to extend our current Emergency Declaration and Ordinance in place until April 30th at 11:59 p.m. Commissioner Johnson made Motion second. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #6 on the agenda was discussion regarding the regular scheduled Board of Commissioners Meeting scheduled on April 14, 2020. The Board agreed to vacate the April 14, 2020 Meeting and to keep the April 28th, 2020 Meeting. Chairman Helton made Motion first to cancel the April 14, 2020 Board Meeting. Commissioner Patterson made Motion second. Motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Helton stated there was not a need for Executive Session at this time.

CLOSING

Chairman Helton made Motion first to adjourn the Meeting. Motion made second by Commissioner Johnson. Motion passed unanimously. Adjourned at 5:31 p.m.



Stan Helton, Chairman



Earl Johnson, Post One Commissioner



Glenn Patterson, Post Two Commissioner

Attest:



Sherri L. Walker, County Clerk