

Fannin County Board of Commissioners
Regular Scheduled Meeting
April 9th, 2024 @ 5:30 p.m.
Jury Assembly Room
Third Floor

OPENING OF REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING:

Present in meeting were Chairman Jamie Hensley, Post One Commissioner Johnny Searce, Post Two Commissioner Glenn Patterson, County Clerk Sherri L. Walker & County Attorney Lynn D. Doss.

Item #1: Invocation was led by Fannin County EMA Director Robert Graham. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Post One Commissioner Johnny Searce.

Chairman Hensley made a motion first to amend the agenda to add Item #8 as an Emergency Purchase for the Fannin County Fire Department and to table the Board Discussion/Action on the Animal Control Fees. Motion made second by Commissioner Searce. Motion passed unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Item #2: Approval of minutes of the March 26th, 2024 Regular Scheduled Meeting and the minutes of the March 26th, 2024 Second Public Hearing. Chairman Hensley made a motion first to approve the minutes of the March 26th, 2024 Regular Scheduled Meeting. Motion made second by Commissioner Patterson. Motion passed unanimously. Chairman Hensley made a motion first to approve the minutes of the March 26th, 2024 Second Public Hearing. Motion made second by Commissioner Searce. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #3: Board Discussion/Action: Variance Request from Tech Lim to place more than 24 apartments on property. (Tabled from March 26th, 2024 agenda). Chairman Hensley made a motion first to table the variance request until the April 23rd, 2024 Regular Scheduled Meeting. Motion made second by Commissioner Patterson. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Item #4: Board Discussion/Action: Fannin County Tax Commissioner Rita Newton regarding updated Computer Tax Collection System. Ms. Newton approached the Board to recommend the upgrade of the computer software in the Tax Commissioners office. Ms. Newton presented a quote from Harris Local Government Smart Fusion in the amount of \$39,995.00. This would be a one-time cost. Ms. Newton asked the Board to amend her budget to allow for the computer upgrade as it would help with the tax collection process. Chairman Hensley made a motion first to amend the Tax Commissioner Budget in the amount of \$39,995.00 for the purchase of the computer upgrade. Motion made second by Commissioner Searce. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #5: Board Discussion/Action: Fannin County Sheriff Dane Kirby regarding purchase of equipment. Major Keith Bosen approached the Board regarding the equipment for the Cameras & Doors project for the Fannin County Courthouse. He advised he had a couple of items that needed to be added to the project that were overlooked. The items consisted of additional doors and cameras in the amount of \$10,970.99 to be paid from the SPLOST Admin. Chairman Hensley made a motion first to approve the purchase from SPLOST Admin in the amount of \$10,970.99. Motion made second by Commissioner Searce. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #6: Board Discussion/Action: Deputy EMA Director Patrick Cooke regarding purchase of equipment. Mr. Cooke approached the Board in regards to a vehicle purchase which would be used as a Drone Equipment Vehicle. Mr. Cooke advised the Board the county would only pay half of the vehicle purchase in the amount of \$17,500.00 as the other half would be donated through a private donor. Chairman Hensley made a motion first to approve the purchase of the vehicle in the amount of \$17,500.00 from Public Safety SPLOST. Motion made second by Commissioner Patterson. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #7: Board Discussion/Action: Human Resource Director Jessie Hall regarding Retirement program. Ms. Jessie Hall approached the Board regarding the Employee's Health Insurance Program based upon age of retirement. Ms. Hall advised the Board there had been interest in the County providing insurance to employees that wanted to retire at 62 years of age. Ms. Hall stated she had pulled some numbers on the different age groups; and it would be a savings to the county, and she had checked

with John Leggett with MSI regarding the program. Mr. Leggett stated the premiums would not change and it would not be an extra cost. Ms. Hall stated this would be full coverage at 100% for the employees wishing to retire at the age of 62 through 65 and once the employee turns 65 years of age, social security would be in place. Ms. Hall also stated there would be stipulations such as 15 years of combined service with the county. For example, if a rehire came back to the county, the number of prior years of service would be included. After discussions, the Board wanted to see the numbers so therefore, Chairman Hensley made a motion first to table until the next regular meeting of April 23rd, 2024. Motion made second by Commissioner Patterson. Motion passed unanimously.

Amended Item #8: Board Discussion/Action: Animal Control Fees/Amended to Emergency Purchase for Fire Department. This item was amended for Emergency Purchase for a new replacement of the HVAC system for Fire Station #3. The quote was from Roper's Heating and Air in the amount of \$4,900.00 for a three-ton unit. Chairman Hensley made a motion first to approve the purchase in the amount of \$4,900.00 from Public Safety SPLOST. Motion made second by Commissioner Patterson. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #9: Board Discussion/Action: Short Term Rental Ordinance. Chairman Hensley made a motion first to approve the ordinance. Motion made second by Commissioner Scarce. Motion passed with Commissioner Patterson abstaining.

Item #10: Board Discussion/Action: Land Development Ordinance. Chairman Hensley asked for a motion to approve the ordinance. Motion made first by Commissioner Patterson. Motion made second by Commissioner Scarce. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #11: Board Discussion/Action: Mobile Home & RV Park Ordinance. Chairman Hensley made a motion first to approve the ordinance. Motion made second by Commissioner Scarce. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #12: Board Discussion/Action: Noise Ordinance. Chairman Hensley made a motion first to approve the ordinance. Motion made second by Commissioner Scarce. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #13: Board Discussion/Action: Reporting & Collections of Timber Tax. Chairman Hensley made a motion first to approve the ordinance. Motion made second by Commissioner Scarce. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #14: Board Discussion/Action: Regulation of Adult Entertainment Ordinance. Chairman Hensley made a motion first to approve the ordinance. Motion made second by Commissioner Scarce. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #15: Board Discussion/Action: Alcoholic Beverage Ordinance. Chairman Hensley made a motion first to approve the ordinance. Motion made second by Commissioner Scarce. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #16: Board Discussion/Action: Cemetery Ordinance. Chairman Hensley made a motion first to approve the ordinance. Motion made second by Commissioner Scarce. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #17: Board Discussion/Action: Destruction of County Signs Ordinance. Chairman Hensley made a motion first to approve the ordinance. Motion made second by Commissioner Patterson. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #18: Board Discussion/Action: Historic Preservation Ordinance. Chairman Hensley made a motion first to approve the ordinance. Motion made second by Commissioner Scarce. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #19: Board Discussion/Action: Indigent Defense Ordinance. Chairman Hensley made a motion first to abolish this ordinance. Motion made second by Commissioner Scarce. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #20: Board Discussion/Action: Keeping of Wild & Exotic Animals. Chairman Hensley made a motion first to approve the ordinance. Motion made second by Commissioner Patterson. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #21: Board Discussion/Action: Enforcement Officer Ordinance. Chairman Hensley made a motion first to abolish this ordinance. Motion made second by Commissioner Scarce. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #22: Board Discussion/Action: Pseudoephedrine Ordinance. Chairman Hensley made a motion first to abolish this ordinance. Motion made second by Commissioner Scarce. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY:

Public Commentary was made by Greg Spencer.
Public Commentary closed at 6:45 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS:

Chairman Hensley stated there was a need for Executive Session. Chairman Hensley made a motion to enter into Executive Session. Motion made second by Commissioner Patterson. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Hensley made a motion first to come out of Executive Session at 7:31 p.m. Motion made second by Commissioner Scarce. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Hensley stated the topic was regarding personnel and real estate with no action taken. Chairman Hensley made a motion first to promote Deputy EMA Director Patrick Cooke to take the place of EMA Director Robert Graham effective date of June 1st, 2024. EMA Director Robert Graham will be retiring in May 2024. Motion made second by Commissioner Patterson. Motion passed unanimously.

CLOSING:

Chairman Hensley made a motion first to adjourn the meeting. Motion made second by Commissioner Scarce. Motion passed unanimously. Adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Jamie Hensley, Chairman

Johnny Scarce, Post One Commissioner

Glenn Patterson, Post Two Commissioner

Attest:

Sherri L. Walker, County Clerk

