

**APPLING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 6, 2022
5:30 P.M.**

The Regular Meeting of the Appling County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Mike Shumans on Tuesday, September 6, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. at the Appling County Annex Building. Present were Commissioners Daryl Edwards, Charlie Leggett, Doug Harris, Sarah Boatright, Theodore Wilkerson, and Chairman Mike Shumans. Also present at the meeting was Interim County Manager Mike Deal, County Attorney Tracy Brown, and County Clerk Robyn Evans. Mary Ann Ellis was present from The Baxley News Banner.

Chairman Shumans welcomed everyone to the meeting.

LaFonda Solomon, Administrative Assistant led the pledge to the American flag.

Commissioner Charlie Leggett gave the invocation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Commissioner Boatright and seconded by Commissioner Edwards to approve the minutes from the following meetings:

- A. Regular Meeting – August 2, 2022
- B. Called Meeting – August 3, 2022
- C. Called Meeting- August 11, 2022
- D. Called Meeting – August 18, 2022 (Insurance)
- E. Called Meeting – August 18, 2022 (Budget)

The motion was unanimously approved.

PRESENTATION

Chairman Shumans recognized recent retirees for Years of Service by giving the following a plaque: Della Bizzell Smith for 19 years and Linda Yeomans for 30 years, of dedicated service to the county.

OLD BUSINESS

A motion was made by Commissioner Harris to adopt the FY2023 Budget; seconded by Commissioner Edwards; unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

A. GMASS – Georgia Mass Appraisal Solutions Services

Kristi Reese and Stan King were present to give a presentation to the Board regarding services they can offer the county. They specialize in Residential, Agricultural, Commercial, and Industrial appraisals/evaluations. A video was shown demonstrating their experience with other large companies and they gave examples of the type of reports that can be provided when services are rendered. Discussion was held regarding the past sales-ratio study performed on the county and how counties across Georgia have also filed appeals for the same questionable data. Ms. Reese stated that 96 of 159 counties in Georgia fell below 38% and 56 failed.

Ms. Mryna Taylor with Appling Tax Assessor's Office stated GA DOR has tentatively scheduled the county's sales ratio appeal for September 21, 2022 at 10:00 AM. GMASS has quoted \$5,000 to represent the county during this process. Commissioner Edwards made a motion to proceed with GMASS as the representation; seconded by Commissioner Harris with the understanding that Appling County Board of Education will split the costs; unanimously approved.

B. Scrap Tire Grant

Interim County Manager Deal advised the board that he would like to apply for a State EPD Scrap Tire Grant and stated it will take a little work but the grant is up to \$50,000 and covers disposal of all scrap tires at the landfill. Commissioner Boatright made a motion to approve applying for the grant; Commissioner Leggett seconded; unanimously approved.

C. SPLOST Committee

Interim County Manager Deal stated that we need two (2) representatives from the Board to meet with City of Baxley and come to an agreement for the SPLOST funds. Commissioner Harris made a motion to appoint Commissioners Edwards and Leggett to represent the Board; seconded by Commissioner Boatright; unanimously approved.

D. New Pool Update

Timmy McGuirt spoke to the Board regarding the new pool and stated he was hopeful that it would open by October 1, 2022. He also advised that renovation work has began on North Side pool. Mr. McGuirt gave an update on the youth football teams and stated we now have a charging station for cell phones at the Recreation Ball Complex, donated on behalf of Okefenokee Regional Library.

E. Bid Approval for new roof @ Pineland

Bids for a new roof at Pineland Behavioral Health were opened at 4:00 pm prior to the board meeting. Two bids were received- BRC, Inc. located in Hoboken, GA in the amount of \$26,535 and Stone Roofing located in Baxley, GA in the amount of \$25,650. Commissioner Harris made a motion to accept the low bid from Stone Roofing; Second was made by Commissioner Leggett; unanimously approved.

PUBLIC INPUT

Mr. Norman McKinney spoke to the board with questions/concerns regarding Ryland waste services. He made comments relevant to Ryland's contract with the county paying for 4500 bins and reports from Ryland only picking up 3500 bins. Mr. McKinney also had concerns in relation to rumors that waste services might be added to the citizen's annual tax bill. He asked if this would be paid monthly, quarterly, on annually as his small business waste services were about \$800/month now and some citizens can't afford to pay it all at once if it's annual.

Ms. Peggy Smith, currently contracted for litter pickup through out the county, gave an update to the Board. Ms. Smith stated that 2 litter cycles have been completed even though she had until the end of October to complete. She also stated that they still have time to go back over any roads if the need is there. Ms. Smith presented the board with photos of the progress during clean up and the conditions the roads were in prior to clean up. She also stated that many roads were not listed for her to clean but there is a great need for this to be done. She asked that her contract be renewed for the next fiscal year. No answer was given except the Board will discuss.

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to close the regular session and enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel; seconded by Commissioner Leggett; and unanimously approved.

The Board closed Executive Session and reentered the public meeting on a motion by Commissioner Harris; seconded by Commissioner Boatright; unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Discussion was held regarding the vacant County Manager position currently held by Mike Deal on an interim basis. Commissioner Harris made a motion to advertise the vacancy for a minimum of three (3) weeks, in various outlets across Georgia, in order to obtain a qualified candidate pool. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Leggett; unanimously approved.

SHERIFF'S REPORT- None

RECREATION DEPT REPORT – See update on pool above.

ROADS & BRIDGES

Brooks Johnson stated the new 911 signs are being installed but they are still waiting on pipe to be received. He stated the work on a boat ramp at Dunn's Lake should start next week; DNR advised pushing the ramp in after construction. Mr. Johnson made a request for an inmate detail to assist with future projects. Commissioner Boatright asked if Mr. Johnson needed additional staffing and he said yes but he'd rather utilize the inmate detail if allowed.


COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

County Attorney Tracy Brown thanked Interim County Manager Mike Deal for his service to Appling County Board of Commissioners. Mr. Deal then expressed his love for the county, the group (commissioners) and stated the County needs a little vision but the people are great.

Chairman Shumans thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.


Mike Shumans, Chairman


Robyn Evans, County Clerk

ATTEST:



APPLING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

CALLED MEETING MINUTES

September 13, 2022 5:30 PM

The Appling County Board of Commissioners held a called meeting on September 13, 2022 at 5:30 pm to set the Appling County 2022 Millage Rate. The meeting was called to order by Doug Harris, Vice Chairman. Present were Commissioners Theodore Wilkerson, Charlie Leggett and Daryl Edwards. Also present were County Manager Mike Deal, County Attorney Tracy Brown and Yvonne Sellers, Personnel Clerk. Absent were Commissioner Sarah Boatright and Chairman Mike Shumans.

Vice Chairman Doug Harris welcomed everyone to the meeting.

County Attorney Tracy Brown led the pledge to the American Flag.

Commissioner Daryl Edwards gave the invocation.

The only item on the agenda under new business was to set the 2022 Millage Rate.

A motion was made by Commissioner Daryl Edwards that the following tax levy of the Appling County Board of Commissioners for Fiscal Year 2022 be and the same is made that \$12.504 (12.504 mills) be levied and ordered collected for the county maintenance for total taxes to be levied \$14,598,013.00.

Seconded by Commissioner Charlie Leggett, unanimously approved by the Board.

(Tax Resolution Attached)

A motion was made by Commissioner Charlie Leggett that the following tax levy that \$12.837 (12.837 mills) for County Wide School Maintenance for total taxes to be levied \$15,280,937.00.

Seconded by Commissioner Wilkerson, unanimously approved by the Board.

(Tax Resolution Attached)

(Insert Tax Resolution) A motion was made by Commissioner Charlie Leggett that the following tax levy that \$0.47 (0.47 mills) be levied for Fire and Rescue Service, Special District No. 1, 3 and 4 (unincorporated) and Special District No. 2 (incorporated) for total taxes to be levied \$548,710.00.

Seconded by Commissioner Wilkerson, unanimously approved by the Board.

(Tax Resolution Attached)

Total Millage Rate for Fiscal Year 2022 is 25.811 mills.

There being no further business or discussion the meeting was adjourned.

Yvonne Sellers, Personnel Clerk



ATTEST



Doug Harris, Vice Chairman



RESOLUTION

BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AND ORDERED BY
authority of the Appling County Board of Commissioners duly assembled in a meeting
of said Board held on September 13, 2022 that the following tax levy of the Appling County
Board of Commissioners for the Fiscal Year 2022 be and the same is hereby made.

BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that \$12.504 (12.504 mills) be
levied on each thousand dollars-worth of taxable property in said County of Appling of
the year 2022 and the same is hereby levied and ordered collected for the county
maintenance for total taxes to be levied \$14,598,013.00.




S. Douglas Harris, Vice Chairman

State of Georgia
County of Appling

I, Robyn Evans, hereby certify that I am duly appointed Clerk for the Appling
County Board of Commissioners and as such am charged with the duties of keeping the
minutes of the meetings of said Board.

I further certify the above resolution was passed by a majority vote at a meeting of
the Appling County Board of Commissioners held on the 13th day of September, 2022.



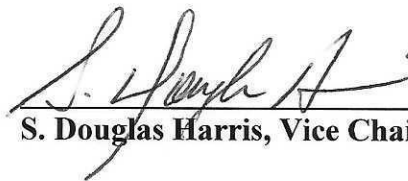
Robyn Evans, County Clerk
Appling County



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levied on each thousand dollars-worth of taxable property in said County of Appling of
the year 2022 for County Wide School Maintenance for total taxes to be levied
\$15,280,937.00.




S. Douglas Harris, Vice Chairman

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Robyn Evans, County Clerk
Appling County



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BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that \$0.47 (0.47 mills) be
levied on each thousand dollars-worth of taxable property in said County of Appling of
the year 2022 for Fire and Rescue Service, Special Tax District No. 1, 3, and 4
(Unincorporated) and Special Tax District No. 2 (Incorporated) for total taxes to be levied
\$548,710.00.



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