

**APPLING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**August 2, 2022 @ 5:30 P.M.**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular Meeting of the Appling County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Mike Shumans on Tuesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. at the Appling County Annex Building. Present were Commissioners Daryl Edwards, Charlie Leggett, Doug Harris, 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. Commissioner Sarah Boatright was absent. Kelly Turner was present from The Baxley News Banner.

**II. WELCOME**

Chairman Shumans welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Appling County Barracuda Swim Team led the pledge to the American flag.

**IV. INVOCATION**

Commissioner Edwards gave the invocation.

**V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Commissioner Daryl Edwards and second by Commissioner Leggett to approve the minutes from the following meetings: A. Called Meeting – July 12, 2022; B. Called Meeting – July 19, 2022. Motion unanimously approved.

**VI. PRESENTATION**

Chairman Shumans requested Ms. Judith McDaniel to come up and he presented her with a 30 Years of Service Plaque. Pictures were taken of Ms. McDaniel receiving the award, along with all commissioners present.

Appling County Barracuda Swim Team coach, Jana Lewis called out each participant by name. They were recognized for winning the State Swim Meet last week, by 480 points. Parent helpers were named and given praise for their assistance this season. All were given a round of applause for the dedication and hard work provided. Out of 86 swimmers on the team, 76 went to state.

**VII. PUBLIC INPUT**

A. Wayne Canady spoke to the board and requested his time limit for public input be increased to (8) eight minutes instead of (5) five. Time was granted and Mr. Canady began his presentation to the board regarding his displeasure in the county utilizing Dominion Voting Machines. He shared information regarding his reasoning/opinion why using the machines was unlawful. County Attorney Tracy Brown asked that Mr. Canady's input be closed as he was accusing the Board of Commissioners of having control over something mandated by the State of Georgia.

B. Kevin Parker spoke to the board regarding promotion of election transparency. Stated he's the chairman of the CCDF USA and head of the Appling County Republican party; he wanted to know why we are using unlawful Dominion voting machines. He used the allotted five minutes and expressed his concern in utilizing the machines and requested that paper ballots be used.

Mr. Johnson stated their focus had been on roads the week before school started back. Also stated they are still having a hard time finding rock due to short supply. Mr. Johnson also mentioned that communities are leaving more tires, mattresses, etc. on the sides of county roads – and that the 2<sup>nd</sup> pickup round of litter has begun.

### **XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

### **XIV. COUNTY MANAGERS REPORT**


Interim County Manager Mike Deal brought up the Health Insurance costs and an option to save to be presented to the board by Shawn O'Quinn and Mike Malloy of Lighthouse Benefits. Both men presented benefits for county employees and county expenses – costs could save the county \$240,000 up to \$529,000 annually. Several other counties including City of Baxley, Appling Hospital Authority, Wayne County, Bacon County, etc. all have coverage with these gentlemen.

### **XV. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

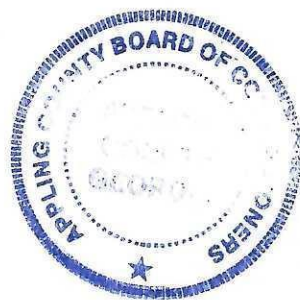
Chairman Shumans asked that Jimmy Twiggs give an update on the EMS trucks and why the delay in getting the second truck on site. He stated they were originally told it may be backordered for a year and a half. He also requested the other vehicle being replaced be housed at EMA building for a spare.


### **XVI. ADJOURN**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

  
Mike Shumans, Chairman

ATTEST:



  
Robyn Evans, County Clerk

**APPLING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
CALLED MEETING  
August 3, 2022  
4:00 P.M.**

The Called Meeting of the Appling County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Vice Chairman Doug Harris on Wednesday, August 3, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. Present were, Commissioners Daryl Edwards, Charlie Leggett, Doug Harris, and Theodore Wilkerson. Also present at the meeting was Interim County Manager Mike Deal, County Attorney Tracy Brown, and County Clerk Robyn Evans. Present from the news media was Kelly Turner of the Baxley News Banner. Absent from the meeting were Chairman Mike Shumans and Commissioner Sarah Boatright.

Interim County Manager Mike Deal led the pledge to the flag.

Vice Chairman Doug Harris gave the invocation.

**PRESENTATION**

There was no presentation at this time.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner Leggett made a motion to close the Regular Session and go into Executive Session. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Leggett made a motion to close Executive Session and open Regular Session. Commissioner Wilkerson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.


Commissioner Leggett advised the Board received a resignation and separation agreement from Wilton McCall, Recreation Dept Manager. Commissioner Leggett motioned to accept the resignation; second by Commissioner Edwards. The motion carried unanimously.


County Attorney Tracy Brown advised that a separation agreement was reached with 174.87 hours of accrued comp time, 480 hours of accrued personal leave, 12 months of Cobra coverage, and 67.73 weeks of severance pay. Commissioner Leggett motioned to approve the agreement; second by Commissioner Edwards; unanimously approved.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



ATTEST:

  
Doug Harris, Vice Chairman

  
Robyn Evans, County Clerk

**APPLING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
CALLED MEETING/WORK SESSION  
August 11, 2022 @ 2:00 P.M.**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Called Meeting of the Appling County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Mike Shumans on Thursday, August 11, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. at the Appling County Annex Building. Present were Commissioners Daryl Edwards, Charlie Leggett, Doug Harris, 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. Commissioner Sarah Boatright was absent. Mary Ann Ellis was present from The Baxley News Banner.

**II. WELCOME**

Chairman Shumans welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

County Clerk Robyn Evans led the pledge to the American flag.

**IV. INVOCATION**

Commissioner Leggett gave the invocation.

**V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

None

**VI. PRESENTATION**

**VII. PUBLIC INPUT**

None

**VIII. OLD BUSINESS** – Revisit Insurance Plan

Mike Malloy with Lighthouse Benefits and Shawn O’Quinn gave a presentation regarding a new medical insurance proposal for the county. The proposal includes a direct contract with Appling Healthcare System for extra benefits. Southeast Georgia Regional Healthcare can also be included. The insurance carrier would be Aetna but employees should see no more costs than the current rate. They will also offer a “Better than Cobra” alternative and counseling services to transition folks off of the county’s Cobra plan. This would not only save the county money but the employee as well. The plan with Appling Healthcare would also include a larger discount on pharmaceuticals if purchased from their pharmacy – Plan 340B with costs similar to Vet Admin costs. Mr. O’Quinn stated they will have a representative to meet with employees quarterly to manage savings and educate staff to control/reduce costs and enhance benefits. He also discussed that once the contract is signed, it’s not the end of negotiations, that they are always monitoring or finding new benefits/costs savings and may even look into self-insuring options in the future. He stated there would be no issue with pre-existing conditions when transferring to new plan. There is also no deductible aggregate where the county has to advance funding. This is taken care of by the carrier.



  
Mike Shumans, Chairman

  
Robyn Evans, County Clerk

**APPLING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING**

**August 18, 2022**

**5:30 P.M.**

A Public Budget Hearing of the Appling County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Mike Shumans on Thursday, August 18, 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. Present from the news media was Mary Ann Ellis of The Baxley News Banner.

Chairman Shumans welcomed everyone to the meeting.

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

Commissioner Daryl Edwards gave the invocation.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

None

**PRESENTATION**

None

**PUBLIC INPUT**

**Julie Scarborough – Budget Questions**

Ms. Scarborough had various questions for the board:

- 1) Was there an advertisement/bid requested for new health insurance coverage for the county and how many companies were contacted to give quotes?  
Mr. Deal responded that it was not advertised – that he was looking into saving money for the county and he had prior experience working with Mike Malloy and Shawn O’Quinn – with good results. He also stated that two more quotes were received from the current agent and another one at the last minute but neither compared to the savings of Lighthouse Benefits.
- 2) Stated she’s concerned with the \$5000 raise for elected officials – 30% raise when employees only received 3% raises. Asked if there was a state mandate advising the \$5000 increase and asked if the elected officials were able to turn down the increase.  
Mr. Deal stated that it was a mandate and officials could refuse but why would they?  
Commissioner Wilkerson stated that he’d not received a raise in many, many years other than cost of living.
- 3) Inquired if the county advertised/bid or received quotes for the county liability insurance since it’s \$90,000. Mr. Deal responded that he’d not but ACCG provides the most coverage, including legal guidance for almost all counties in Georgia.
- 4) She also asked if the SPLOST was not approved in election, how were the four vehicles going to be purchased for Sheriff’s Dept. Mr. Deal responded that they’d use the general fund.
- 5) Why has the 2021 Audit Report from Harris & Company not been received yet?  
Mr. Deal stated that the Harris & Co. requested an extension and we’re expecting it very soon.

None at this time.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**


There was no Executive Session at this meeting.

**COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT**

Interim County Manager Deal


**CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

  
Mike Shumans, Chairman

ATTEST:



  
Robyn Evans, County Clerk