

**APPLING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
APPLING COUNTY ANNEX  
TUESDAY – JANUARY 10, 2023 @ 5:30 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME/PLEDGE**

The Appling County Board of Commissioners held their regular monthly meeting on January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 5:30 pm at the Courthouse Annex. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Leslie Burch. Chairman Burch welcomed all those present for the meeting. Mayor Tim Varnadore gave the invocation and County Manager Al Meadows led the group in the pledge. Present were Commissioners Randy Sellers, Theodore Wilkerson, Daryl Edwards, Doug Harris and Charlie Leggett. Also present were Mike Deal, County Attorney Tracy Brown and Robyn Evans, County Clerk.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

There were no additions or changes to the original posted agenda, so no vote was needed.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. Called Meeting 12/05/2022 County Manager Interviews
- B. Regular Monthly Meeting 12/06/2022

On a motion by Commissioner Harris; second by Commissioner Wilkerson; the minutes were both unanimously approved.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Request to purchase equipment (LIFT) for Buildings & Grounds Dept.  
Dwight Watts, Director of Buildings & Grounds Dept. presented an additional quote to purchase a lift. The quote from Ag Pro (John Deere) was \$40,825.00 and the other from United was \$56,160.00. Commissioner Wilkerson made a motion to approve the purchase of the equipment from Ag Pro, which was the lower bid and newer piece of equipment. A second was given by Commissioner Sellers and unanimously approved.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- A. SPLOST 2024 – Approval & Signing of Resolution & Intergovernmental Agreement  
The Final SPLOST 2024 Budget was reviewed with those present and a motion was given by Commissioner Edwards to approve the budget as typed. Commissioner Harris seconded; Commissioners Wilkerson and Leggett were in favor; Commissioner Sellers was opposed. The budget was approved.
- B. Heart of GA Regional Development Center – Appointment/Reappointment  
On a motion by Commissioner Wilkerson, second by Commissioner Sellers and unanimously approved for Gerry Moore to be reappointed as the representative on HOG Board.
- C. Resolution for Cap on Vital Records Fees for Probate Judge Compensation  
A Resolution was read to those in attendance, to set a cap on Vital Record Fees to be retained as compensation by the Appling County Probate Judge, Gretchen Bailey.

Commissioner Harris made a motion to approve the resolution (attached), Commissioner Sellers seconded; and all unanimously approved the cap at \$15,000.00

**SHERIFF'S REPORT** – None

**RECREATION DEPT.** – Timmy McGuirt

Mr. McGuirt gave updates on the Rec. Department. He stated the department received \$2000 from an Atlanta Hawks Basketball Grant to be utilized in the Rec's basketball program. Mr. McGuirt said there are a few things still needed for the Aquatic Center such as water fountains, etc. It was rented by Jeff Davis County for a small swim meet and Appling Co. plans host the State Swim Meet on July 21, 2023.

**ROAD & BRIDGES** – Brooks Johnson

Mr. Johnson stated that they were working on 911 signs that are missing or need to be replaced. He also stated that beaver dams are beginning to be a nuisance again. They are still paying \$40/per beaver tail. Mr. Johnson stated that rock is really expensive right now and still hard to get. He also mentioned that pipe is starting to be hard to get, as well. Commissioner Harris gave appreciation for the department's dedication to fix a road issue in his district, during the Christmas weekend. Ms. Dedre Hewitt, citizen of Appling County, expressed concerns with heavy truck traffic on Lamar Crosby Road – log trucks, etc. seem to use it as a by-pass and it's damaging the road. Mike Deal asked if there was a weight limit established on the road and County Manager Meadows stated that he would check into this.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** – None

**COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT**

**Appling 2022 LMIG**

99% project complete - working with contractor on items left to be completed satisfactorily.  
Contractor – Georgia Asphalt Producers

**Appling 2023 LMIG**

Project has been approved by Appling BOC but awaiting road list approval.  
Deadline for submission is January 31, 2023. Plan to bid project February 2023.

**Appling TIA**

Project has been approved by Appling BOC. Band Change from Satilla Church Rd is approved. Documentation submitted to GDOT for disbursement for Band 1. To be bid in April 2023.  
Roads selected: Nails Ferry Road, Ten Mile Road.

**Crosby Chapel Grade & Drain**

Grading and pipe installation underway, next phase will be to haul material in with participation from County Road Dept., projected completion April – May 2023. Contractor – Littlefield Construction

**Appling 2018 SPLOST**

Right Of Ways are being acquired, multiple properties have been submitted to attorneys for recommendation.

**Appling Head start CDBG**

Held Kick-off meeting last month, we have begun preparing preliminary engineering report for grant submittal.

**Appling Sunshine Drive**

Roadway concept complete, will submit to Appling BOC for approval so that we can submit for the additional funding offered from GDOT.

**Thanks to former Interim County Director**

County Manager Meadows recognized Mike Deal for the work he has done for Appling County. Mr. Meadows stated that Mr. Deal graciously stepped in as Interim County Manger to ensure continuity of government and to strengthen relationships within the county. His many years of selfless service, in various forms of government, have allowed the community to grow and prosper. Mr. Meadows shared that tonight was Mr. Deal’s last meeting and thanked him personally for sharing his knowledge.

**CHAIRMAN’S COMMENTS**

Chairman Burch expressed his thankfulness for his predecessor, former Chairman Mike Shumans and former Commissioner Sarah Boatright (first and only female commissioner in Appling County) – for their many years of service to the county citizens and the board.

**ADJOURN**

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

Robyn Evans, County Clerk

Leslie Burch, Chairman

  
ATTEST

  
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