

THE SCREVEN COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

JUNE 13, 2023

The Board of Commissioners of Screven County, Georgia, Mr. Will Boyd, Chairman, Mr. J.C. Warren, Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Allison Willis, Ms. Rosa Romeo, Mr. Ben Thompson, Mr. Edwin Lovett and Mr. Mike Dixon met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on June 13, 2023, at the Screven County Courthouse.

PERSONS ATTENDING THE MEETING

Ms. Lori Burke, County Manager, Mr. Aaron Meyer, County Attorney (via zoom), Mrs. Sonya Gordon, Administrative Clerk, James Gay, Thomas B. Griffin, Andrew Burns, Ruthie Robbins, Thomas R. Griffin, Uley Robbins, Jerry Winters, Becca Hughes, Danielle Laverde, Mary Felton, Rita Junco, Bren Johnson, Rose Roberts, Terry Roberts, Randy Hagan, Leann Arthur, Bill Arthur, Kathryn Youles, Laura Mills, Patti Boddiford, Gayle Morris, W.B. Arthur, and Vernard White

CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Boyd called the meeting to order. Commissioner Lovett gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Commissioner Romeo made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Willis seconded the motion and it carried by unanimous vote.

MINUTES

Commissioner Lovett made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2023 and May 23, 2023 Commissioners' meetings. Commissioner Romeo seconded the motion and it carried by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Thomas Griffin suggested the County have an auction for some of the old equipment that

they have to try to raise some revenue that could be put towards road work.

Mr. William Arthur returned in support of the original version of the 2nd Amendment Resolution.

Mrs. Pamela Arthur returned in support of the original version of the 2nd Amendment Resolution.

Mrs. Mary Felton returned in support of the original version of the 2nd Amendment Resolution.

Mr. Uley Robbins would like to encourage the Board to vote against the 2nd Amendment Resolution, expressing that state law cannot override federal law.

Mrs. Rita Junco would like for the Board to dismiss all versions of the 2nd Amendment Resolution.

Mrs. Patti Boddiford believes in the right to bear arms but not with assault rifles. Mrs. Boddiford would like for the Board to vote against the 2nd Amendment Resolution.

Mrs. Gayle Morris would like for the Board to vote against the 2nd Amendment Resolution.

PUBLIC HEARING

(1) Proposed FY 23-24 Budget Chairman Boyd opened the meeting to public comment on the proposed FY 23-24 Budget. Mrs. Patti Boddiford stated that she was impressed with the amount of time and thought that is put into finalizing the budget and thanked the Board for what they do. Chairman Boyd closed the meeting to public comment.

(2) Planning & Zoning Board Chairman Boyd opened the meeting to public comment on a rezone to Heavy Industrial for the purpose of a Block Masonry Company located at 600 Industrial Park Road in Commissioner District 1. Chairman Boyd closed the meeting to public comment. Commissioner Warren made a motion to approve the recommendation from the Planning & Zoning Board for the rezone to Heavy Industrial. Commissioner Willis seconded the motion and it carried

by unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS

(1) **Resolution** There have been three versions of the 2nd Amendment Resolution presented to the Board. Commissioner Willis made a motion to approve the amended 2 version of this Resolution. Commissioner Thompson seconded this motion. After further discussion Chairman Boyd asked County Attorney Aaron Meyer if this Resolution could be amended to add specifically the wording “2nd Amendment”. County Attorney Meyer agreed stating that it could be added to the title. Commissioner Willis amended prior motion to add “2nd Amendment” wording to title of amended 2 version of the Resolution. Commissioner Thompson seconded this motion. Commissioner Boyd, Commissioner Willis, Commissioner Thompson and Commissioner Dixon are in favor of this motion. Commissioner Romeo, Commissioner Lovett and Commissioner Warren opposed. Motion carried by majority vote. (See copy of Resolution in Minute Book page ____).

(2) **Appointment/Hospital Authority** Commissioner Lovett made a motion to reappoint Mrs. Mary Clare and Mrs. Melissa Beasley to the Hospital Authority Board. Commissioner Thompson seconded this motion and it carried by unanimous vote.

(3) **Appointment/DFACS** The Board decided to table this appointment until next meeting to confirm the reappointment of Mr. Bernard Brown.

(4) **Appointment/IDA** Commissioner Romeo made a motion to reappoint Mr. Todd Bazemore, Mr. David Boddiford, and Mr. John Counts to the Industrial Development Authority Board. Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion and it carried by unanimous vote.

(5) **Appointment/Library** Commissioner Warren made a motion to reappoint Mrs. Evon Roberts to the Library Board. Commissioner Dixon seconded the motion and it carried by unanimous vote.

(6) **Appointment/Rec** Commissioner Dixon made a motion to reappoint Mr. Alan Bragg, Mr.

Chris Thomas, Mr. Wes Withrow and Mrs. Jonna Thompson to the Recreation Advisory Committee. Commissioner Thompson recused himself from this motion. Commissioner Romeo seconded the motion and it carried by unanimous vote.

(7) **Appointment/EMS** Commissioner Thompson made a motion to reappoint Mr. Josh Kaiser and Dr. Sidney “Joe” Morgan Jr. to the EMS Board. Commissioner Willis seconded this motion and it carried by unanimous vote.

(8) **Appointment/P&Z** Commissioner Warren made a motion to reappoint Mr. Andy Durrence and Mr. Charles Parker to the Planning & Zoning Board. Commissioner Lovett seconded this motion and it carried by unanimous vote.

(9) **Appointment/CRC** The Board decided to table this appointment until next meeting to try to find At Large County Representation for the CRC Board.

(10) **Appointment/KSB** Commissioner Willis would like to look into reducing the number of people on this board from nine people to five. The board has decided to table these appointments until next meeting.

(11) **Equipment Purchase** Commissioner Warren made a motion to approve a lawn mower purchase from Screven Power Products in the amount of \$11,052.36. Commissioner Willis seconded this motion and it carried by unanimous vote.

(12) **JAG Contract** Due to JAG increasing their probation fees, the County needs to sign a revised Service Contract. Commissioner Romeo made a motion to approve the revised Service Contract with JAG. Commissioner Willis seconded the motion and it carried by unanimous vote.

(13) **Discussion** Commissioner Romeo to discuss County Park on Pine Street. The Board has decided to table this discussion until next meeting.

(14) **Vital Records** Commissioner Willis discussed with the Board the idea of moving vital

records to the Health Department. Currently the money collected for vital records goes directly to the Probate Judge, if moved it would come back to the County. Mrs. Willis has spoken with Mrs. Tiffany Rollins, Public Health Manger, and she is in agreeance with this move in hopes of increasing the foot traffic for the Health Department. The Board gave Commissioner Willis their blessing in moving forward with this process.

COMMISSION/STAFF COMMENTS

Commissioner Warren stated that he met with the DOT (Department of Transportation) about the possibility of applying for grants and would like to look into finding grant writers. Bobby Smith, Director of Public Works who was accompanied by Mr. Wesley Parker of Parker Engineering gave an update on the condition of Lawton, Plantation and Hiltonia Creek Roads. Mr. Parker has been able to assess these roads and recommends a contractor do the work that's needed to fix these roads properly. Commissioner Willis announced that the Save-A-Pet event that was held at the Animal Shelter raised \$2,864.00. Mrs. Willis thanked all the citizen's that participated. County Manager Burke announced that only one person has responded to the RFP for the Library and they are only interested in the HVAC portion. There have been no responses for anything else pertaining to the Library. County Manger Burke reminded the Board that time is of the essence because these funds have to be spent by the end of the year. Mrs. Burke also would like to get moving on the work that needs to be done to the Ag Center as well. Chairman Boyd and Commissioner Thompson will meet with the Livestock Association to see what direction they will take to start on repairs. County Manager Burke announced that the deadline for the Prison Agreement is June 30, 2023. Warden Scroggins was in attendance and explained to the Board that the \$2 increase that the state promised was denied. Chairman Boyd spoke with Senator Burns and he suggested writing a letter to the Governor about needing the increase. At this time the Board has decided to table this discussion until the budget meeting scheduled for June 27, 2023.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Thompson made a motion to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel at 10:39 a.m. Commissioner Dixon seconded the motion and it carried by unanimous vote.

Commissioner Warren made a motion to return to regular session at 11:08 a.m. Commissioner Willis seconded the motion and it carried by unanimous vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Boyd adjourned the meeting at 11:08 a.m.

Chairman

County Manager