

**THE SCREVEN COUNTY**  
**COMMISSIONERS' MEETING**

**MAY 9, 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. Edwin Lovett and Mr. Mike Dixon met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on May 9, 2023, at the Screven County Courthouse. Mr. Ben Thompson was absent.

**PERSONS ATTENDING THE MEETING**

Ms. Lori Burke, County Manager, Mr. Aaron Meyer, County Attorney (via zoom), Sheriff Kile, Ruthie Robbins, Brenda Johnson, Uley Robbins, Thomas Griffin, Paul Keller Newton, James Gay, Mary Felton, Rita Junco, Ben Forehand, Lagina Evans, Ben Counts, Kathryn Counts, Kathryn Youles, Jim Thompson, Terry Roberts, Stacy Mincey and Steven Scroggins

**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 with an addition to New Business. Commissioner Willis seconded the motion and it carried by unanimous vote.

**MINUTES**

Commissioner Romeo made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2023 Commissioners' meeting. Commissioner Lovett seconded the motion and it carried by unanimous vote.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Thomas Griffin stated that he appreciates the work that has been done around multiple dumpster sites throughout the county.

Mrs. Rita Junco stated that she is opposed to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Resolution. Mrs. Junco

feels that this is not a necessity and would love for the Board to dismiss this Resolution.

Mrs. Mary Felton returned voicing her support for the original version of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Resolution. Mrs. Felton still fears the government may have cause to confiscate our weapons in the near future.

Mrs. Morris is opposed to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Resolution. Mrs. Morris believes in the right to bear arms but feels that assault rifles are not needed to protect yourself.

Mr. Ben Counts remains opposed to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Resolution. Mr. Counts agrees with Mrs. Morris that assault rifles are unnecessary to protect yourself. Mr. Counts also reminded the Board that state law cannot trump federal law.

Mrs. Brenda Johnson is opposed to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Resolution. Mrs. Johnson feels that the world is going through enough right now with the amount of mass shootings going on in the United States and feels this may open the door to more violence.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

(1) **IGA/BOE** Screven County and the Screven County School District will enter into an agreement that allows the Safety Director of schools to occupy a vehicle provided by the Sheriff's Department for operational use. Commissioner Romeo made a motion to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Screven County School District. Commissioner Willis seconded the motion and it carried by unanimous vote. (See copy of Agreement in Minute Book page \_\_\_\_.)

(2) **Retention Agreement** Commissioner Lovett made a motion to approve and execute the Retention Agreement for County Attorney Services. Commissioner Warren seconded the motion and it carried by unanimous vote. (See copy of Agreement in Minute Book page \_\_\_\_.).

(3) **DCA MOA** Commissioner Willis made a motion to approve the Memorandum Agreement with DCA to distribute funding for structural repairs at the Ag Center. Commissioner Romeo

seconded the motion and it carried by unanimous vote. (See copy of Agreement in Minute Book pager \_\_\_\_\_.)

**(4) Equipment Purchase** The Board was provided quotes for the purchase of a new lawn mower from Screven Power Products and Blanchard Equipment (John Deere). Commissioner Willis made a motion to approve the quote provided by Screven Power Products in the amount of \$10,265.60 for the purchase of a new lawn mower. Commissioner Dixon seconded the motion. County Manager Burke explained to the Board that the motor has went out on the current lawn mower and it would cost around \$4,000 to repair. Mr. Eric Cooper the former grass-cutting detail officer disclosed to Ms. Burke that he recommends the John Deere model due to less break downs. The Board would like a more detailed description of what Screven Power Products is offering, so they have decided to table this discussion. Commissioner Willis made a motion to table this discussion until next month. Commissioner Romeo seconded this motion and it carried by unanimous vote.

**(5) Civic Plus** Civic Plus currently manages the County's ordinances and website. County Manager Burke stated that she is going to look into the cost of Civic Plus uploading the county's Resolutions. Commissioner Dixon made a motion to approve Statement of Work for Civic Plus. Commissioner Lovett seconded the motion and it carried by unanimous vote.

**(6) Resolution** Commissioner Willis made a motion to the table the consideration to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Resolution due to Commissioner Thompson's absence. Commissioner Warren seconded the motion. Commissioner Boyd, Commissioner Dixon, Commissioner Warren, Commissioner Lovett and Commissioner Willis are in favor of this motion. Commissioner Romeo opposed. Motion carried by majority vote.

#### **COMMISSION/STAFF COMMENTS**

Commissioner Lovett stated that the RFP for the Library has been extended to May 31, 2023.

Currently no vendors have been quoted for this task. Mr. Lovett would like for this to be advertised in The Sylvania Times as well as The Sylvania Telephone. Commissioner Dixon stated that he would reach out to a company that is currently renovating the high school. Commissioner Willis stated that it would be a good idea to add this to the Georgia Procurement Website. Commissioner Dixon was informed by Mr. Deen of L&B Land Improvements that he has finished mowing Jarrell Pond Road. Mr. Dixon is going to visit the site after the meeting. Commissioner Dixon also stated that he has been in contact with the Georgia Soil & Water Conservation and they are willing to offer an optional class for \$350 to certify individuals on Level 1 Soil Certification. Commissioner Lovett announced that the .gov emails are currently available. County Manager Burke stated that the commissioners could bring their tablets by for us to install these email addresses or they can do it themselves but we have to have access to the passwords. Commissioner Warren stated that citizens were doing litter pick up near Wood Lane and were chased by dogs in that area. Officer Melton was the officer that was called to the scene, and upon arrival Officer Melton did not witness any activity to warrant any written citations. County Manager Burke announced that Allgreen has supplied the County with several brand-new dumpsters. The Board agreed on having the FY 23-24 Budget Workshop on May 23, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. County Manager Burke and Warden Scroggins informed the Board that the \$2.00 increase that the prison thought they would receive from the State, has been declined. Commissioner Warren suggested reaching out to State Senator, Max Burns or State Representative, Jon Burns, Commissioner Boyd stated that he would. Commissioner Lovett expressed what a great job the Roads & Bridges Department has done on Bryan's Bridge Road using the newly purchased excavator with attached mower head.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no executive session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Boyd adjourned the meeting at 9:54 a.m.

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Chairman

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County Manager