

THE SCREVEN COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

MARCH 12, 2024

The Board of Commissioners of Screven County, Georgia, Mr. Will Boyd, Chairman, Mr. J.C. Warren, Vice-Chairman, Mrs. Allison Willis, Mr. Ben Thompson, Ms. Rosa Romeo and Mr. Edwin Lovett met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on March 12, 2024, at the Screven County Courthouse. Mr. Mike Dixon was absent.

PERSONS ATTENDING THE MEETING

Ms. Lori Burke, County Manager, Mr. Aaron Meyer, County Attorney (via zoom), Mrs. Sonya Gordon, Administrative Clerk, Jerry Winters, Marty Bragg, Harvey Cryder, Ruthie Robbins, Uley Robbins, Kathryn Counts, Sarah Saxon, Heather Smith, Ricky Smith, T. Roberts, Kathryn Youles, Shannon Ward, Tyler Oglesby, Tracey Johnson, Tania Barker, Alan Stewart, Jake Gay, Ben Mincey and Tre' Evans

CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Boyd called the meeting to order. Commissioner Warren 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 Willis made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2024 Commissioners' meeting. Commissioner Romeo seconded the motion and it carried by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

APPEARANCE(S)

(1) **Ben Counts** read aloud his letter of resignation from the Board of Elections. Mr. Counts also thanked the Board for giving him the opportunity to serve on the Board of Elections.

(2) **Jerry Winters** discussed with the Board the water drainage issue on Twin Oaks Road. Mr. Winters stated that he has one neighbor that has put in a driveway that has caused water issues and another neighbor that has built a home and has changed the direction of the water flow. Mr. Winters feels that nothing is being done because he has complained about this on numerous occasions. Commissioner Warren assured Mr. Winters that the issue is not being overlooked and that he and Mr. James Woods, Roads & Bridges Superintendent will meet him there after the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

(1) **RFP/Sanitation** Commissioner Willis made a motion to approve the RFP for Sanitation Services. Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion and it carried by unanimous vote.

(2) **Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement** Fire Chief Harvey Cryder stated that this is an agreement from the State that is signed every four years by each municipality. There have been no changes to this agreement. Commissioner Willis made a motion to approve and execute the Statewide Mutual Agreement. Commissioner Warren seconded the motion and it carried by unanimous vote. (See copy of Agreement in Minute Book page _____).

(3) **Georgia Confinement Facilities Grant** Ms. Tania Barker, Mental Health Case Manager at the Sheriff's Department presented a grant from Georgia Southern University to help keep Covid down in confinement facilities. This grant will fund up to \$150,000 to upgrade the HVAC system at the Sheriff's Department. Mrs. Barker included a quote from Hagan Heating & Air in the amount of \$119, 635. The work must be completed by July 1, 2024 and the funds have to be fronted by the County but will be reimbursed within 30 days of completion. Commissioner Warren made a motion to approve the grant to replace the HVAC system at the Sheriff's Department in the amount of

\$119,635 using General Funds. Commissioner Romeo seconded the motion and it carried by unanimous vote.

(4) **Resolution** County Attorney Aaron Meyer drafted a Resolution to close a section of Cypress Pond Road due to safety concerns from the Railroad. This allows two properties to still be able to access the road. Commissioner Willis made a motion to adopt the Resolution to close a portion of Cypress Pond Road. Commissioner Warren seconded the motion and it carried by unanimous vote. (See copy of Resolution in Minute Book page _____).

(5) **Discussion** Commissioner Romeo has selected Best Bridge as the bridge to honor Mr. Roosevelt Culver, the late President of the NAACP. Once the signs are ordered, Ms. Romeo would like to have a small ceremony to unveil the signs at the Best Bridge location.

(6) **Discussion** Commissioner Willis asked for an update on the Ag Center renovations. County Manager Burke and Chairman Boyd met with the State Department of Corrections Construction Crew on Friday. The Construction Crew evaluated the building gave them a list of things that they could do and some things that the County could do. Commissioner Willis was also concerned with the increasing cost of this project. Chairman Boyd stated that the process is ongoing but it takes time to find the proper individuals to get the work done and we should also have some financial help from the State as well as the Board of Education.

(7) **Discussion** Commissioner Willis asked for an update on the Library renovations. County Manager Burke informed the Board that the grant that was applied for is still currently active. Ms. Burke also has had a local roofer go in and patch some of the leaks in the roof and has requested a quote for roof replacement. No one has reached out in regards to the RFP that was initially issued. After speaking with Mr. Randy Hagan who is experienced in HVAC systems, Ms. Burke feels as is the RFP could be minimized. So currently a few local HVAC companies are going to come evaluate the building and give their suggestions.

(8) Discussion Commissioner Willis wanted to know if it was possible to stripe Hiltonia Perkins Road while the striping crew is in the area to stripe Bascom and Robert's Bridge Roads. County Manager Burke stated that she would reach out to the contractors and see who they utilize for striping and their cost per mile. Ms. Burke also shared that there are funds left over from a Safety Grant that can be used to put towards the cost of striping Hiltonia Perkins Road.

COMMISSION/STAFF COMMENTS

Commissioner Romeo announced that the new Executive Director of the Coastal Regional Commission is Ms. Dionne Lovett. Commissioner Willis stated that the Animal Shelter Spay Day was a success, with a total of 19 vouchers given out to county residents. Commissioner Warren asked for an update on Jenk Hill Road. Mr. James Woods, Roads Superintendent stated that there has been a delay due to the weather but there is only one more pipe left to lay.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Boyd adjourned the meeting at 9:55 a.m.

Chairman

County Manager