

THE SCREVEN COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

SEPTEMBER 8, 2020

The Board of Commissioners of Screven County, Georgia, Mr. Will Boyd, Chairman, Mr. J.C. Warren, Vice-Chairman, Mr. John O. Triplett, Mr. Michael McBride, Mr. Mike Dixon, Ms. Rosa Romeo and Mr. Edwin Lovett met in regular session at 9:00 A.M. on September 8, 2020 at the Screven County Courthouse.

PERSONS ATTENDING THE MEETING

Mr. Hubert Reeves, County Attorney, Mrs. Lori Boulineau, Personnel Director/Finance Officer, Mr. Enoch Autry, Sylvania Telephone, Mr. Paul Keller Newton, Ms. Allison Willis, Mr. Sam Sullivan, Ms. Hannah Derriso

CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

AGENDA APPROVAL

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

MINUTES

Commissioner McBride made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 8, 2020 and August 31, 2020 meetings. Commissioner Triplett seconded the motion and it carried by unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS

(1) **Assignment Agreement** Commissioner McBride made a motion to approve and execute an assignment agreement for collection and disposal of solid waste from Allgreen to Atlantic Waste

Services Inc. Commissioner Warren seconded the motion. Commissioner McBride, Commissioner Warren, Commissioner Lovett, Commissioner Boyd and Commissioner Triplett voted in favor. Commissioner Dixon opposed. Commissioner Romeo abstained from the vote. The motion carried by majority vote.

(1) Discussion Commissioner Triplett discussed the current meeting schedule of the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Warren made a motion to adopt a Resolution to amend the code to cancel the regular scheduled fourth (4th) Tuesday meeting of each month until further notice. Commissioner Lovett seconded the motion and it carried by unanimous vote. (See copy of Resolution on minute book page ___ to ___).

Commissioner Dixon made a motion to stagger each monthly meeting from 9:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. Commissioner Boyd seconded the motion. Commissioner Dixon and Commissioner Boyd voted in favor. Commissioner Warren, Commissioner Lovett and Commissioner Triplett opposed. Commissioner Romeo and Commissioner McBride abstained from the vote. The motion failed due to lack of majority vote.

(2) Appointment The Board agreed to table the decision to fill an unexpired term on the Airport Authority until the October meeting.

(3) Discussion Chairman Boyd began the discussion by stating that after a conversation with the owners of Optim Medical Center Screven they have declined the previous offer from the county of a short term payment plan and this is due to long term infrastructure costs. They will have stated they will respond will other terms at a later date. Commissioner Warren stated that the costs at the hospital are their problem and not the county's responsibility. Commissioner Warren also talked about the possibility of downsizing and the County building another hospital and looking into other

avenues to provide care to the citizens of Screven County. Commissioner Lovett discussed the costs of building a hospital and mentioned that the current facility was built in 1951. Commissioner Triplett stated the county should be prepared if they decide to close the hospital. County Attorney Hubert Reeves said having a hospital is very helpful to the citizens. Commissioner Warren discussed looking into state and federal grants to build county owned hospital and stated the county is not responsible for bad debt only indigent care. Commissioner Lovett said he was in favor of looking into a county owned facility. Chairman Boyd stated this is a negotiation process and we need to treat it as such. Commissioner Lovett stated he knew that the hospital saying it will close is a business tactic but the county needs to be prepared if that does happen. Commissioner Triplett asked if they were interested in a partial ownership and if that would qualify them for federal or state funding. Chairman Boyd stated we need to wait until we get a formal offer from the hospital before making a decision. Commissioner Lovett recommended forming a committee to look into different options. Commissioner Triplett stated that maybe a meeting should be set up with consultants and representatives.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Michael Newton spoke before the Board and stated that he felt the county needs a facility that would utilize the Emergency Room to stabilize patients and then transfer them.

REPORTS

Personnel Director/Finance Officer Lori Boulineau reminded the Board about the meeting on September 29, 2020 at 9:00 A.M. to adopt the milage rate.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner McBride made a motion to go into executive session at 10:00 A.M. for the purpose of discussing personnel. Commissioner Triplett seconded the motion and it carried by unanimous vote.

Commissioner Warren made a motion to return to regular session at 10:41 A.M.
Commissioner Romeo seconded the motion and it carried by unanimous vote.

Commissioner Warren made a motion to approve the minutes of the executive session.
Commissioner Lovett seconded the motion and it carried by unanimous vote.

Commissioner Lovett made a motion to adopt a Resolution to provide for protection to public and employees of the Screven County Courthouse due to COVID-19. Commissioner Warren seconded the motion. Commissioner Lovett, Commissioner Warren, Commissioner Romeo, Commissioner Dixon and Commissioner McBride voted in favor. Commissioner Triplett and Commissioner Boyd were opposed. The motion carried by majority vote. (See copy of Resolution on minute book pages(s)___ to___).

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Boyd adjourned the meeting at 10:47 A.M.

Chairman

County Manager