

MINUTES OF  
TERRELL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING

DATE: JULY 9, 2018

TIME: 9:00 A.M.

PLACE: TERRELL COUNTY GOVERNMENT BUILDING

COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF PRESENT: CHAIRMAN WILBUR T. GAMBLE, III, LUCIUS HOLLOWAY, ERNEST JOHNSON, CRIS WEBB, BRAD STAFFORD, ATTORNEY JIMMY SKIPPER, AND ASSISTANT SANDRA O'STEAN

PRESENT: GREG WALSH, MAUREEN WALSH, MICHAEL MCWHIRTER, BILLY MCCLUNG, DINELLA JONES, ED WADE, ED DUSKIN, DARLENE PAUL, GARY MCNEELEY, REVEREND EZEKIEL HOLLEY, CHARLENE FARMER, CLIFFORD BROWNER, MARGARET HALBROOK, SANDRA WALKER

CALL TO ORDER - WILBUR T. GAMBLE, III

PRAYER - REVEREND EZEKIEL HOLLEY

APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR JULY 9, 2018 - A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR JULY 9, 2018 WAS MADE BY ERNEST JOHNSON. THE SECOND WAS GIVEN BY LUCIUS HOLLOWAY. THOSE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WERE ERNEST JOHNSON, LUCIUS HOLLOWAY, CRIS WEBB, AND BRAD STAFFORD. THE MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 5, 2018 REGULAR MEETING - ERNEST JOHNSON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE JUNE 5, 2018 MINUTES AND BRAD STAFFORD GAVE THE SECOND. ALL IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WERE ERNEST JOHNSON, BRAD STAFFORD, CRIS WEBB, AND LUCIUS HOLLOWAY. THE MOTION CARRIED.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - WILBUR T. GAMBLE, III ASKED GARY MCNEELEY OF THE KINCHAFOONEE REGIONAL LIBRARY IF FUNDS HAD BEEN RECEIVED FROM OTHER COUNTIES IN THE LIBRARY'S REGION TO ASSIST WITH THE COST OF AN AIR CONDITIONER RECENTLY INSTALLED AT THE LIBRARY. GARY REPORTED \$150.00 HAD BEEN RECEIVED FROM WEBSTER COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION. CHAIRMAN GAMBLE STATED THE BOARD HAD PREVIOUSLY AGREED TO CONTRIBUTE \$2400.00. THE CHAIRMAN STATED AN AG ENTITY HAD EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN ESTABLISHING BUSINESS AT THE FORMER TYSON FACILITY AND THERE WILL BE MEETINGS AND INFORMATION COMING AT A LATER DATE. CHAIRMAN GAMBLE REMINDED EVERYONE OF THE BUDGET HEARING JULY 11, 2018 AND STRESSED THE FACT THAT THE FYE2019 BUDGET WILL BE TIGHT. HE IS ARRANGING A MEETING WITH THE CITY MAYOR, THE CITY MANAGER, AND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO DISCUSS A SPECIAL PURPOSE LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX (T-SPLOST) OF ONE PERCENT (1%) TO BE LEVIED FOR TERRELL COUNTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPROVING AND PAVING ROADS. AFTER FINDING OUT HOW MUCH REVENUE THE TAX WILL GENERATE, IN WHAT WAY THE TAX LEVY CAN BE USED, AND THE BOARD AGREEING TO THE T-SPLOST, THE TAX REFERENDUM WILL HAVE TO BE PLACED ON THE VOTER BALLOT BEFORE AUGUST 1, 2018 FOR THE NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION. THE VOTERS WILL DECIDE IF THEY WANT THE REFERENDUM.

CLERK'S REPORT - JUNE 2018 BANK BALANCES & EXPENDITURES, VENDOR ACTIVITY, FUEL REPORT, JAIL COUNT WERE PRESENTED BY SANDRA O'STEAN

EMS/911 REPORT - REPORT READ BY BO HAMBY

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE - SAVANNAH HUGHES GAVE A REPORT OF CHAMBER ACTIVITIES

EXTENSION SERVICE - MARGARET HALBROOK PRESENTED THE AG NEWS AND REPORTED ON 4-H ACTIVITIES

WARDEN & ROAD DEPARTMENT REPORTS - WRITTEN REPORT SUBMITTED BY BILLY MCCLUNG

DELINQUENT GARBAGE REPORT - REPORT WAS READ BY SANDRA O'STEAN

DELINQUENT TAX REPORT - LINDA ANN SPILMAN PRESENTED FACTS ON COLLECTIONS AND ANNOUNCED A SHERIFF TAX SALE FOR DELINQUENT TAXES IS SCHEDULED FOR FIRST TUESDAY IN OCTOBER 2018.

SHERIFF'S REPORT - WRITTEN REPORT WAS SUBMITTED BY JOHN BOWENS

RECREATION DEPARTMENT - A WRITTEN FINANCIAL REPORT WAS SUBMITTED

**OLD BUSINESS:**

APPROVE SIGNATURE AFTER AMENDMENTS MADE TO RESOLUTION TO ALLOW THE COUNTY INTERIM CLERK TO MAKE PURCHASES OF VEHICLES AND/OR EQUIPMENT FROM BUDGETED COUNTY FUNDS VIA ONLINE PURCHASES THROUGH FROM THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES (DOAS) LIMITING

MINUTES JULY 9, 2018 CONTINUED .....

PURCHASES UP TO \$15,000.00 AND LEAVE THE BALANCE IN THE CONTINGENCY FUND AT NO LESS THAN \$50,000.00 - THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE SIGNATURE TO THE RESOLUTION TO ALLOW THE COUNTY INTERIM CLERK TO MAKE PURCHASES OF VEHICLES AND/OR EQUIPMENT FROM BUDGETED COUNTY FUNDS VIA ONLINE PURCHASES THROUGH FROM THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES (DOAS) LIMITING PURCHASES UP TO \$15,000.00 AND LEAVE THE BALANCE IN THE CONTINGENCY FUND AT NO LESS THAN \$50,000.00 WAS MADE BY ERNEST JOHNSON. CRIS WEBB GAVE THE SECOND. THOSE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WERE ERNEST JOHNSON, CRIS WEBB, LUCIUS HOLLOWAY, AND BRAD STAFFORD. THE MOTION CARRIED.

E911 ADDRESS SIGNS - SANDRA O'STEAN GAVE A REPORT ON THE ADDRESS SIGN PROJECT. SHE STATED THAT ADDITIONAL SIGNS NEED TO BE MADE AND A FEW ROADS WERE LEFT TO BE POSTED. SHE ASKED IF THE COUNTY WOULD APPROVE THE COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE TAKING REQUESTS FROM RESIDENTS LIVING IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF THE COUNTY FOR MAKING AND PLACING ADDRESS SIGNS. CHARLENE FARMER STATED THAT FROM A COUNTY STANDPOINT, THERE IS NO PROBLEM TO PAY FOR THE SIGNS WITH FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL FUND AND IN TURN PLACE REVENUE FROM THE SIGNS BACK INTO THE GENERAL FUND. LUCIUS HOLLOWAY MADE A MOTION FOR THE COUNTY TO PROVIDE THE E911 SIGNS AT A COST OF \$25.00 PER SIGN TO THE CITIES PENDING OBTAINING APPROVAL OF THE CITY GOVERNMENT. ERNEST JOHNSON GAVE A SECOND. ALL IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WERE LUCIUS HOLLOWAY, ERNEST JOHNSON, CRIS WEBB, AND BRAD STAFFORD. EMS DIRECTOR BO HAMBY RECOMMENDED THAT THE CITY EMPLOYEES PLACE THE SIGNS DUE TO VARIOUS CITY ORDINANCES. THE CHAIRMAN STATED HE WILL CONSULT WITH THE CITY OFFICIALS ON THE MATTER BEFORE MOVING FORWARD. COMMISSIONER STAFFORD RECOMMENDED THAT GILLEY'S SIGNS BE CONSIDERED FOR ADDITIONAL AND FUTURE SIGNS IF GILLEY'S COULD LOWER THEIR PRICE.

RATIFY EMPLOYEE INSURANCE PLAN EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018 - BRAD STAFFORD MADE THE MOTION TO RATIFY THE EMPLOYEE INSURANCE PLAN PROVIDED BY BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD WHICH WAS EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018. CRIS WEBB GAVE A SECOND. THOSE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WERE BRAD STAFFORD, CRIS WEBB, ERNEST JOHNSON, AND LUCIUS HOLLOWAY. THE MOTION CARRIED.

COLLECTION OF DELINQUENT TAX ACCOUNTS THAT ARE OVER \$2500.00 - CRIS WEBB MADE THE MOTION TO USE A PRIVATE ATTORNEY TO FILE A LAW SUIT ON PROPERTY OWNERS OWING OVER THE \$2500.00 LIMIT IN DELINQUENT TAXES. BRAD STAFFORD GAVE A SECOND. THOSE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WERE CRIS WEBB, BRAD STAFFORD, ERNEST JOHNSON, AND LUCIUS HOLLOWAY. THE MOTION CARRIED.

PAYMENT PLAN ARRANGEMENTS ON TAX COLLECTIONS - ATTORNEY JIMMY SKIPPER GAVE INTERPRETATION OF THE LAW REGARDING PARTIAL PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS ON AD VALOREM TAXES. AFTER MUCH DISCUSSION, THE CHAIRMAN STATED HE WOULD LIKE FOR A MOTION TO BE MADE TO CEASE ANY PAYMENT PLANS. THERE WERE THREE (3) ISSUES TO CONSIDER. ONE ISSUE BEING IS THE COUNTY GOING TO CONTINUE WITH THE PAYMENT PLANS WITHOUT APPROVAL, ANOTHER IS WHETHER THE EXISTING PAYMENT PLANS ARE GOING TO BE HONORED, AND THE THIRD IS IF WE HONOR THE PAYMENT PLANS IN EXISTANCE, WILL THE PLANS WITH THE TWO PROPERTY OWNERS WHO WERE DISCUSSED AND WHO OWE SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNTS OF TAXES BE HONORED AS WELL OR WILL THEY BE IN THE SHERIFF SALE. ERNEST JOHNSON MADE A MOTION TO ALLOW THE DELINQUENT TAX CLERK SIX (6) MONTHS TO HAVE THE SHERIFF SALE AND AT THE END OF THE SALE ASSESS WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE. HE ADDED THAT NO ACCOUNTS OVER SEVEN (7) YEARS SHOULD BE ON THE TAX BOOKS. LUCIUS HOLLOWAY GAVE A SECOND TO THE MOTION. THOSE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WERE ERNEST JOHNSON AND LUCIUS HOLLOWAY. COMMISSIONERS CRIS WEBB AND BRAD STAFFORD WERE OPPOSED. DUE TO TIED DECISION, CHAIRMAN GAMBLE VOTED TO OPPOSE THE MOTION. MOTION DID NOT CARRY. ERNEST JOHNSON AMENDED THE PREVIOUS MOTION TO STATE THAT A LIMIT OF \$2500.00 BE PLACED ON THE AMOUNT OWED IN MAKING PAYMENTS. ATTORNEY JIMMY SKIPPER GAVE THE BOARD ADVICE ON THE ISSUES. CHAIRMAN GAMBLE AND THE COMMISSIONERS AGREED TO TABLE THE DISCUSSION AND PLACE THIS ISSUE ON NEXT AGENDA WHICH IS JULY 11, 2018.

LOCAL MAINTENANCE IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROJECT BID - PAUL RAKEL WAS NOT PRESENT AT THE MEETING. NO ACTION.

SUMMER RECREATION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH - EZEKIEL HOLLEY ADDRESSED THE BOARD REGARDING FUNDS TO SUPPORT THE SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH OF THE COUNTY. HE ASKED FOR DONATIONS ESPECIALLY TO COVER FUEL COSTS. TWO INDIVIDUALS RESPONDED TO GIVE DONATIONS. MR. HOLLEY ASKED THE BOARD TO CONSIDER THE PROGRAM IN THE BUDGET HEARINGS. NO ACTION BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

REQUEST FROM TERRELL COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION SOCIETY TO ALLOW ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION AT THE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP APPRECIATION EVENT HELD AT THE 4-H PAVILLION ON OCTOBER 19, 2018 - BRAD STAFFORD MADE A MOTION TO ALLOW ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION AT THE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP APPRECIATION EVENT HELD AT THE 4-H FACILITY ON OCTOBER 19, 2018. ERNEST JOHNSON GAVE A SECOND. ALL IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WERE BRAD STAFFORD, ERNEST JOHNSON, CRIS WEBB, AND LUCIUS HOLLOWAY. THE MOTION CARRIED.

DISCUSSION OF DITCH AND DRIVEWAY PROBLEMS ON WILLOW LANE - DINELLA JONES PRESENTED A REQUEST TO IMPROVE THE DITCH IN FRONT OF HER PROPERTY SO THAT SHE COULD BETTER MAINTAIN THE DITCH BY MOWING THE GRASS AND SO DRAINAGE WOULD BE BETTER. SHE STATED SHE WAS NOT SATISFIED WITH THE WORK THE ROAD DEPARTMENT HAD PREVIOUSLY DONE AT THIS LOCATION. SHE WANTED THE AREA SLOPED AND SHE WANTED TO BUILD A HEAD WALL AT THE DRIVE. SHE WAS ADVISED BY CODE ENFORCEMENT DIRECTOR THE WALL WAS NOT ALLOWED ACCORDING TO COUNTY CODE. THE BOARD STATED THE ROAD DEPARTMENT WOULD COME BACK ON SITE AND WORK WITH HER ON SLOPING AND IMPROVING THE DITCH PROBLEM.

DISCUSSION REGARDING DRAINAGE ISSUE ON AUGUSTA STREET - CLIFFORD BROWNER PRESENTED HIS SITUATION REGARDING SEWAGE BACKING UP ON HIS PROPERTY AND GETTING CONNECTED TO CITY SEWER LINES. HIS PROPERTY IS IN THE COUNTY BUT IS IN AN AREA SERVICED BY THE CITY OF DAWSON FOR WATER AND SEWAGE. HE STATED THE CITY OFFICIAL INFORMED HIM HE WOULD HAVE TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DIGGING AND PLACING A SEWER LINE FROM THE PROPERTY LINE TO THE MANHOLE IN THE STREET. MR. BROWNER STATED HE DID NOT HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO DIG UP THE ROAD TO CONNECT THE PROPERTY TO THE CITY SEWER SYSTEM. HE ALSO STATED THE CITY RELAYED TO HIM THE CITY DOES NOT HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO DIG UP THE ROAD. MR. BROWNER REPORTED THE COUNTY SAID THEY COULD DIG UP THE ROAD BUT THE CITY WOULD HAVE TO REPAIR THE ROAD. MR. BROWNER STATED HE HAD AN EXISTING SEPTIC TANK ON THE PROPERTY AND ASKED IF IT COULD BE GRANDFATHERED IN FOR HIM TO USE. HE REQUESTED THE CITY AND COUNTY OFFICIALS TO WORK TOGETHER TO RESOLVE HIS SITUATION. JIMMY SKIPPER ADVISED MR. BROWNER TO MEET AGAIN WITH THE CITY MANAGER AND DETERMINE WHAT THEIR ORDINANCE STATES IN REGARDS TO TAPPING HIS PROPERTY INTO THE CITY SYSTEM. THE CITY WILL HAVE TO OBTAIN PERMISSION FROM THE COUNTY BEFORE CUTTING THE ROAD. THE BOARD ADVISED MR. BROWNER TO GO TO THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND HAVE THE INSPECTOR CHECK OUT THE SEWAGE SYSTEM EXISTING ON THE PROPERTY AS FIRST STEP TO RESOLVING THE MATTER.

INFORMATION ON TERRELL COUNTY GARBAGE SERVICE AND COST PRICE INDEX INCREASE FROM ADVANCED DISPOSAL - MICHAEL MCWHIRTER OF ADVANCED DISPOSAL SERVICES INTRODUCED HIMSELF TO THE BOARD. HIS PURPOSE WAS TO RESTATE THE SERVICES PROVIDED TO TERRELL COUNTY AND BRIEFLY DISCUSSED A FEW ITEMS ON THE AGREED CONTRACT. ONE OF THOSE ITEMS WAS THE COST PRICE INDEX (CPI). MR. MCWHIRTER ANNOUNCED THERE WILL BE AN INCREASE IN THE CPI WHICH COULD RANGE FROM 1.0% TO 3.10% AND WILL BEGIN NOVEMBER 1, 2018. SANDRA O'STEAN STATED IF THE CPI IS AT THE 3.10% INCREASE, THE MONTHLY RATE BILLED TO THE COUNTY BY ADVANCED DISPOSAL WILL INCREASE FROM \$14.76 TO \$15.22 PER CART. THE COUNTY PASSES THE COST TO THE PROPERTY OWNERS AT THE RATE OF \$15.00 PER MONTH. THIS WAS INFORMATION TO BE CONSIDERED AT BUDGET MEETING.

CLIFFORD BROWNER ASKED WHEN TAMMY LANE WAS GOING TO BE PAVED. BRAD STAFFORD REPORTED THE STATUS ON THE PROJECT AND LUCIUS HOLLOWAY STATED TAMMY LANE WOULD NOT BE FORGOTTEN.

BRAD STAFFORD MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING. ERNEST JOHNSON GAVE A SECOND. THOSE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION WERE BRAD STAFFORD, ERNEST JOHNSON, LUCIUS HOLLOWAY, AND CRIS WEBB. THE MOTION CARRIED. THE MEETING ADJOURNED.

RESPECTIVELY SUBMITTED BY: Sandra O'Stean  
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE COMMISSIONERS

APPROVED BY: W.J. Hollis III  
CHAIRMAN OF COMMISSIONERS

DATE: 8-7-18