



Gordon County Board of Commissioners
Work Session Minutes
Tuesday, March 7, 2023
Judicial Building Assembly Room - 5:00 PM

PRESENT: Commissioners: Chair Bud Owens, Vice-Chair Kevin Cunningham, Chad Steward, Bruce Potts, and Kurt Sutherland; County Administrator and Attorney Jim Ledbetter, County Clerk Hollis Barton, Animal Control Director Sue Henson, Courtney Taylor, Debbie Vance, Angie Gillman; Blake Silvers

I. Discussion of Regular Session Agenda Items

Administrator Ledbetter gave an overview of the agenda items.

II. For Board Consideration

A. Departmental Report by Animal Control

Ms. Henson thanked the Commission for their recent approval to waive adoption fees and stated they have been working with the rescue groups and other agencies in the area. Stated they recently purchased a sixteen foot (16') livestock trailer from South Carolina and have transitioned programming intake into a web-based program. Stated the public is utilizing the low cost spay and neuter program, with over 2,500 customers at the beginning of this year. Stated for the departmental needs, they are not able to stay open on Saturdays at this time due to staffing and growth within the County; hoping to add staff to be able to be out in the field more and assist the public. Ms. Henson stated they have not added an additional employee since 2005 or 2006, and is currently operating with a staff of six (6) employees. Stated they had 175 complaints in the last month alone. Stated one (1) employee will go in on Saturdays and Sundays to clean and feed the animals. Mr. Ledbetter asked Ms. Henson if she had budgeted for any additional employees for this year's budget. Ms. Henson stated she was assessing her options and considered adding a few part-time positions. This concluded Animal Control's report.

III. Reminders and Information

- A. Next Commission Meeting: March 21, 2023
- B. Board Appointments

- C. ACCG Annual Training Calendar
- D. SPLOST and LOST Collection Report

IV. Executive Session to discuss litigation, property acquisition, and/or personnel

Commissioner Potts made a motion to enter into Executive Session, seconded by Vice-Chair Cunningham. The motion carried 5-0.

Upon exiting the Executive Session, Vice-Chair Cunningham made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Potts. No action was taken. The motion carried 5-0.



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Regular Session Minutes
Tuesday, March 7, 2023
Judicial Building Assembly Room - 6:00 PM

PRESENT: Commissioners Chair Bud Owens, Vice-Chair Kevin Cunningham, Chad Steward, Bruce Potts, and Kurt Sutherland; County Administrator and Attorney Jim Ledbetter, County Clerk Hollis Barton; Blake Silvers

I. Call To Order

Chair Owens called the meeting to order.

II. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Potts led the Invocation and Commissioner Sutherland led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Approval of Minutes

A. Adopt minutes of Work, Executive, and Regular Session of February 21, 2023 - Commissioner Sutherland made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Steward. The motion carried 5-0.

IV. Approval of the Agenda

Commissioner Potts made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Sutherland. The motion carried 5-0.

V. Employee Recognition

A. Employees with Hire Dates in March

Commissioner Steward recognized the employees' years of service. Donna Reeves won the drawing of an extra vacation day.

1. Administration
 - a. Keith King, 26 years
2. Animal Control
 - a. Kirsten Reece, 1 year

3. Board of Elections
 - a. Shea Hicks, 33 years
4. Board of Assessors
 - a. Lacie Ralston, 2 years
5. Clerk of Superior Court's Office
 - a. Sylvia McEntyre, 29 years
 - b. Kathy Sheriff, 19 years
6. District Attorney's Office
 - a. Pat Silvers, 24 years
7. E-911
 - a. Matthew Holder, 3 years
 - b. Christina Maness, 5 years
8. EMA
 - a. Courtney Taylor, 6 years
9. Finance
 - a. Zelda Gregg, 28 years
10. Fire
 - a. Beau Nicholson, 22 years
 - b. Erik Amador Mercado, 1 year
 - c. Tyler Knight, 1 year
11. Information Technology / GIS
 - a. Donna Reeve, 21 years
12. Juvenile Court
 - a. Lorie Moss, 2 years
13. Planning and Development
 - a. Ursula Richardson, 30 years
14. Sheriff's Office
 - a. Eric Bohannon, 23 years
 - b. Michael Hill, 17 years
 - c. Daniel Sheriff, 15 years
 - d. Kenneth Hollaran, 15 years
 - e. Sandra Gibbs, 14 years
 - f. Chad Stafford, 13 years
 - g. Ryan Silvers, 12 years
 - h. James Scott Blackstock, 10 years
 - i. Ronnie Reeves, 8 years
 - j. Brian Brannon, 8 years
 - k. Rebecca Bray, 6 years
 - l. Gavin Phillips, 3 years

15. Public Works

- a. Rusty Hogan, 24 years
- b. Keith Richardson, 11 years
- c. Brian Bennett, 7 years

VI. Administrator's Report

Mr. Ledbetter presented the Administrator's Report to the Commission.

VII. Commissioner's Report

A. Commissioner Sutherland

Commissioner Sutherland stated he had received several calls concerning Mt Olive Church Road which is being worked on as well as a house in the area and he has spoken with personnel at Public Works. Stated he also spoke with the department regarding the recent storms and there was minimal damage.

B. Commissioner Potts

Commissioner Potts stated for Parks and Recreation department, the first weekend of March hosted GRPA State 8U Boys All-Star Basketball Tournament; continued hosting Aerobics and Pickleball; several updates from Parks and Recreation and Senior Center; had several people tested positive for Covid, but were able to quarantine. Stated on Saturday, February 18th, attended the Arbor Day event which had its largest turnout to date. On Wednesday, March 1st, attended the Economic Development Partnership Stakeholder Luncheon hosted by the Chamber of Commerce; on March 2-3 attended ACCG Training at UGA Tifton; on March 6th served as a celebrity breakfast server at Sonoraville High School and attended ribbon cutting at Sonoraville yesterday for the baseball field. Stated there was an upcoming Recycling event on March 18th and encouraged the community to attend.

C. Commissioner Steward

Commissioner Steward spoke with a few citizens regarding a tractor trailer event and will follow up with Mr. Ledbetter regarding it.

D. Vice-Chair Cunningham

Commissioner Cunningham stated he had a few phone calls from concerned citizens regarding paving and followed up with Public Works Director Steve Parris; met with Mr. Ledbetter, Mr. King, and Mrs. Bramlett regarding needs for a County facility.

E. Chair Owens

Chair Owens stated they had the opportunity to address a few citizen concerns and met with Mr. Ledbetter regarding the Development Authority and citizen engagement; took the Leadership Gordon County to the State Capitol and spent the day with District 5 Representative Matt Barton and interacted with District 6 Representative Jason Ridley as well as State Senators Hufstetler and Payne, Secretary of State Brad Rafensberger, Agriculture Commissioner Tyler Harper and Sean Conray with Attorney General Chris Carr's office. Stated on the 27th, Mr. Ledbetter, Mr. King, and the Fire Department met with representatives of the Oostanaula Community Club regarding a site issue. Stated on the 1st, along with Commissioner Potts, attended the Economic Development Partnership Stakeholder Luncheon and had representatives from statewide Economic Development attend, and it was a great meeting to further the workforce development with the City and County; and met with Leadership Gordon County today.

VIII. Public Hearing for Zoning

IX. Consideration of Unfinished Business

X. Consideration of New Business

- A. Request from Administration to approve the proposal from Momon Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$590,500.00 to repair roof at the Administration Building .This will be budgeted using 2018 SPLOST funds. - Commissioner Potts made a motion to approve, seconded by Vice-Chair Cunningham. Motion carried 5-0.**

XI. Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Vice-Chair Cunningham made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Potts. The motion carried 5-0.