

Twiggs County Board of Commissioners
Minutes of the Regular Scheduled Meeting
Commission Chambers
January 22, 2019
6:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Kenneth E. Fowler, Commissioners Brent DuBois, Lonnie Ford, Steve Birdsong, William Bond, and County Administrator, Kelvin C. Lewis.

Call to Order: Chairman Fowler called the meeting to order

Pledge of Allegiance: Chairman Fowler

Invocation: Commissioner Ford led in Prayer

Approval of the Agenda:

- a. Interstate 14 Resolution-Frank Lumpkin-Youth Infrastructure Coalition
- b. Conditional Use-Southern Linc
- c. Logging Permit Rules-Monte Bloodworth
- d. Elections Part-Time Personnel
- e. Probate Court Pay Increases-Judge Gary Nobles

Commissioner Birdsong made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner DuBois seconded. Unanimous approval.

Interstate 14 Resolution

Frank Lumpkin-Youth Infrastructure Coalition, made a petition to the BOC regarding the development of Interstate 14. The request was for a resolution of support. Frank provided an illustration and presentation relative to the plea. The BOC agreed to take the matter under advisement.

Conditional Use-Southern Linc

Commissioner Ford motioned to approve the two conditional use cell tower permits requested by Southern Linc. Seconded by Commissioner Fowler. Unanimous approval vote.

Logging Permit Rules-Monte Bloodworth

Monte Bloodworth, Planning and Zoning Clerk, sought BOC clarification on the handling of logging permits. Chairman Fowler referenced procedures outlined in the ordinance. Commissioner Bond reiterated that pipe installation and gravel application on county roads for

mud management is the contractor's responsibility. Commissioner DuBois inquired about logging permit volume. The BOC agreed in principal to have before and after pictures taken to keep the contractors compliant. Chief Tax Assessor Romona Vaifale indicated a \$5,000.00 logging company bond being held should insure the roads remain clean as expected. Ordinance applies to any company driving heavy equipment on county roads. Monte confirmed understanding of how to proceed.

Probate Court Pay Increases

Judge Gary Nobles requested approval of pay increases for probate court personnel as outlined to the County Administrator. His contention was the ability to grant salary adjustments based on the budget total vs. line item management. Administrator Lewis indicated the group insurance amounts were only an accounting entry to reflect the values provided to department personnel. It was not part of the discretionary funds allocated to department heads. After brief deliberation, Commissioner Birdsong motioned to approve the pay increase request. Commissioner Fowler seconded. Unanimous approval vote.

Elections Part-Time Personnel

Commissioner Ford requested BOC support for funding a part-time Elections position. Elections Superintendent Debra Stephens outlined the need for daily staffing consistent with courthouse operations. When out for training, etc., having personnel available would allow the office to operate consistent with state standards. Commissioner Bond asked about the adequacy of 3 days per week staffing. Superintendent Stephens said yes. Commissioner Ford motioned to approve part-time Elections Office staffing for 3 days per week, for no more than 29 hours per week. Seconded by Commissioner Bond. Unanimous approval vote. Administrator Lewis asked for hourly rate clarification. The BOC agreed to \$8.00 per hour. Commissioner Bond motioned to approve the addition of the salary to the position approval motion. Seconded by Commissioner Bond. Unanimous approval vote. Additionally, motion made by Commissioner Bond to table the pay increase decision for Elections Office personnel until after Executive Session. Motion by Commissioner Bond. Seconded by Commissioner Ford. Unanimous approval. After deliberations, The Elections Office pay increase decision was tabled to the next meeting. Commissioner Bond asked Administrator Lewis to explore the possibility of creating an opening to the voting area from inside the Elections Office.

Temperature Control Strategy

Administrator Lewis presented quotes for heating repair in the Magistrate Office and the Dry Branch Fire Department. Commissioner Bond motioned to approve \$589.00 for installation and parts to replace compressor in unit servicing the Magistrate Office. Second by Commissioner Birdsong. Unanimous approval vote. The BOC tabled the repair vote for the Dry Branch Fire Department repair. Fire Chief Jack Wood was directed to seek alternative quotes.

BOC Server

Administrator Lewis requested BOC approval for the replacement of the office server for \$2600.00. Motion to approve by Commissioner Ford. Seconded by Commissioner Fowler. Unanimous approval.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Birdsong made a motion to approve the January 8, 2019 meeting minutes. Commissioner Fowler seconded. Unanimous approval.

Old Business

Payroll Tax Reconciliation

Administrator Lewis provided an update on the actions taken to resolve outstanding payroll indebtedness with the IRS and timely distribution of 2018 W2s.

UGA Extension MOU

Administrator Lewis updated the BOC on the UGA Extension MOU. Attorney W. Kerry Howell also added comments. Unfortunately, there has been very little progress.

Personnel

Commissioner Ford motioned to hire TaKarah DuPree as Finance Director. Seconded by Commissioner DuBois. Yes-3 (Ford, DuBois, Birdsong). Abstain-2 (Fowler, Bond)

Public Comments

Sharon Godwin, Genealogy Researcher, presented the Cemetery Project Book to the BOC. The goal is to document everyone laid to rest in Twiggs County. The BOC agreed to notification display in the office and on the county's website.

Executive Session

Commissioner Ford made a motion to go into Executive Session for Personnel, Legal, and Real Estate. Motion second by Commissioner Birdsong. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Commissioner Ford made a motion to return to Regular Session. Seconded by Commissioner Birdsong. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Adjournment

Commissioner Bond made a motion to adjourn. Motion second by Commissioner Ford. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Minutes approved _____, 2019

Kenneth E. Fowler, Chairman

Kelvin C. Lewis, Administrator