

**Twiggs County Board of Commissioners**  
**Minutes of the Regular Scheduled Meeting**  
**Commissioners Chambers**  
**March 5, 2019**  
**9:00 a.m.**

**AGENDA**

**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. GEFA Promissory Note
- b. Sewer Plant Upgrade-Jack Wood
- c. Leadership Retreat and Economic Development Update-Judy Sherling
- d. TAN Resolution
- e. Watson Pond-Commissioner DuBois

Commissioner Bond made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Ford seconded. Unanimous approval.

*GEFA Promissory Note*

Administrator Lewis advised the BOC of the final loan note payment. Effective date was February 2019.

*Sewer Plant Upgrade-Jack Wood*

Per EMA Director Jack Wood, system needs to be upgraded. Leaks currently. New system will provide notification capability by email or text. Expected reduction in employee Comp Time. Not seeking approval, but deliberation.

Per Director Wood, tornado storm damage was reviewed on March 4. Two major and two minor incidents. Fortunate to have only a couple of damage instances. Tornado traversed the county, but did not touch down. Peachtree City working diligently to repair Jeffersonville's Radar before next storm. No repair ETA.

Per Chief Wood, a replacement fire truck has been identified. ACCG has been engaged to issue a replacement check. Expected delivery is 30 to 60 days. Cost should be neutral.

#### *Leadership Retreat and Economic Development Update-Judy Sherling*

Per Director Judy Sherling, best attended retreat. Approximately 44 attendees. Numerous teams presented on a variety of topics including recreation and housing. Director Sherling advised of a follow-up session to be hosted by Academy Sports. Date pending. Likely a morning session. Each group will be afforded presentation time.

Economic Development Authority has completed equity project road construction. Would like to deed to county. BOC agreement once striping completed. Looking for early April dedication. Attendee and speaker lists pending.

#### *TAN Resolution*

Administrator Lewis advised the BOC of the 2019 TAN documents available for execution. Included was a resolution. Bank of Dudley Senior Vice President, Cliff Crews, was present. Administrator Lewis advised BOC of the Loan Admin. Fee increase from \$195.00 in 2018 to \$350.00. Additionally, the loan interest rate will be 3.75% versus 3% in 2018. However, the repayment terms, etc. are the same.

Commissioner Ford motioned to approve the resolution. Commissioner Bond seconded. Unanimous approval.

#### *Watson Pond-Commissioner DuBois*

Watson Pond owned by Twiggs County. Potential venue for Jr. ROTC training, walking track for citizens, Senior Center participation, etc. Commissioner DuBois encouraged joint participation by BOC, Municipalities, School Board, and local businesses. Director Sherling spoke of a recreation grant to cover restrooms, parking, one mile trail, etc. November submission timeframe; however, likely summer compilation. Director Sherling will contact Middle GA Regional Commission to locate original work documents. Local match requirement that may be labor matched. Potential helipad, etc. Commissioner Birdsong also spoke of Jerry McMillen's willingness to provide equipment assistance for the project. Ocmulgee National Park approval passed the U.S. Congress. Awaiting Presidential approval. Recreational development potential as part of program development.

Commissioner Ford motioned to commission Judy Sherling to apply for the park development grant. Seconded by Commissioner Fowler. Unanimous approval vote.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

Commissioner DuBois made a motion to approve the February 19, 2019 meeting minutes. Commissioner Fowler seconded. Unanimous approval.

## **Old Business**

### *Mobile Pantry Dates*

March 21, 2019-Sgoda Rd

April 11, 2019-Jeffersonville

### *Elections Office Renovation*

Administrato Lewis informed the BOC that the identified contractor didn't have a business license. Another contractor will be sourced.

### *Extension Office Partitions*

Administrator Lewis referred the BOC to the wall construction bid submitted by Extension Agent, Brandon Crumsey. BOC discussed an interest in temporary vs. permanent walls. Director Sherling spoke to the difference in the mobile partition vs permanent walls. She believes the difference is minimal. Director Sherling spoke of the privacy interest expressed by Extension personnel. She encouraged the BOC to finalize a lease agreement prior to making any permanent wall construction decisions. Commissioner Birdsong expressed hesitation to improve property for short-term rental for the Development Authority's financial benefit. Commissioner DuBois agreed with waiting for structural changes until the MOU is completed/signed. Commissioner Ford reiterated the lack of privacy in the partition's option based on Extension Office personnel interaction. Commissioner Bond advised that absolute privacy may not be available considering the public assistance request.

### *Habitat for Humanity*

Administrator Lewis advised the BOC of a conversation with the Houston County Habitat for Humanity Director about starting a Twiggs County Chapter. The director indicated how financially intensive the offering would be and referred to lackluster results in Peach County as a success difficulty example. Administrator Lewis was provided other exploratory housing options to pursue.

### *Local Legislation*

Administrator Lewis advised BOC of meeting with Senator David E. Lucas to discuss local legislative changes as agreed upon with the Constitutional Officers. Administrator Lewis indicated Senator Lucas requested a resolution to confirm the BOC's acceptance of the terms. Commissioner Birdsong inquired about the packages being signed by all Constitutional Officers. Chairman Fowler confirmed. Commissioner Bond requested an Executive Session discussion of the matter.

### *401a Retirement Resolution*

Administrator Lewis revisited the BOC commitment to increase the county's contribution to employee retirement. Chairman Fowler reminded the BOC of the approval in the budget to support the program. Commissioner Fowler motioned to approve the enactment of the 401a Retirement Resolution. Commissioner Bond seconded. Unanimous approval vote.

### **New Business**

Motion by Commissioner Ford to provide the following merit increases:

Debra Stephens and Anita Cantrell \$1.25/hour  
LaChandria Bond \$.75/hour

Seconded by Commissioner Bond. Unanimous approval vote.

Chairman Fowler informed the public of Fire Chief/EMA Director Jack Wood's resignation.

### **Executive Session**

Commissioner Ford motioned to move to Executive Session. Seconded by Commissioner Fowler. 4Y (Ford, Bond, Fowler, and Birdsong). 1 Absent (DuBois).

Commissioner Bond motioned to return to Regular Session. Seconded by Commissioner DuBois. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

### **Public Comments**

### **Adjournment**

Commissioner Bond motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Ford seconded. Unanimous approval.

Minutes approved \_\_\_\_\_, 2019

---

Kenneth E. Fowler, Chairman

---

Kelvin C. Lewis, Administrator