

**Twiggs County Board of Commissioners**  
**Regular Scheduled Meeting Minutes**  
**Commissioners Chambers**  
**February 5, 2019**  
**9:00 a.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 DuBois led in Prayer

**Approval of the Agenda:**

- a. TAN Approval
- b. Sheriff Dept Equipment Needs
- c. Facility Usage-Laura Gallemore
- d. Sewage Plant Operations Training
- e. Extension Office Petition
- f. Paving Projects
- g. Water Projects Update
- h. Tax Commissioner

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

*TAN Approval*

Administrator Lewis presented the Bank of Dudley terms for the 2019 TAN. Commissioner Bond motioned to approve. Seconded by Commissioner DuBois. Unanimous approval.

*Sheriff Dept Equipment Needs*

Administrator Lewis introduced specifics of Sheriff R. Darren Mitchum's request for equipment purchases as follows:

1. Courthouse X-ray machine \$14,950.00
2. 911 Center Recorder \$13,665.00

Deputy Ezra Wyche and Sheriff Mitchum added details for perspective. Commissioner Ford motioned to approve the X-ray machine. Commissioner Birdsong seconded. Unanimous

approval. Commissioner Birdsong motioned to approve the 911 Center Recorder. Commissioner Ford seconded. Unanimous approval.

### *Facility Usage*

Commissioner Ford presented request by Laura Gallemore to distribute City Council campaign literature outside the old UGA Extension office. Ms. Gallemore added other comments. The BOC expressed concern about potential liability for the county. Matter tabled for attorney investigation.

### *Sewage Plant Operations Training*

Fire Chief Jack Wood reviewed the 2019 maintenance requirements for the Hwy 96 sewage plant. He petitioned the BOC for funds to have a consultant train Twiggs County Water personnel on sewage maintenance procedures. Chief Wood spoke about ultimately getting team members certified. Chairman Fowler inquired about cost savings possibilities. Chief Wood indicated a likelihood. Commissioner Ford motioned to approve. Commissioner Bond seconded. Chief Wood also discussed the need for additional chlorine meters for ongoing verification of water quality standards. Citizen level maintenance occurring. Commissioner Bond asked Chief Wood to also check on sulfur removal systems. He recommends advising customers to drain hot water heaters regularly to mitigate smell and stain potential. Commissioner Bond motioned to approve the chlorine meter purchases. Commissioner Ford seconded. Unanimous approval. For the propane heater purchase and installation at Dry Branch Fire Station, Commissioner Bond motioned to approve the \$610.00 costs. Commissioner Fowler seconded. Unanimous approval.

Chairman Fowler inquired about the February 4 fire truck accident. Chief Wood indicated personnel ok. Cause investigation underway. Commissioner DuBois advocated for immediate drug screening and alcohol breathalyzer when vehicular accidents occur.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Commissioner Bond made a motion to approve the January 22, 2019 meeting minutes. Commissioner Ford seconded. Unanimous approval.

## **Old Business**

### *UGA Extension Petitions*

Commissioner Ford expressed interest in erecting the partitions for privacy at the Extension Office. Administrator Lewis committed to coordinate work with Agent Brandon Crumsey.

### *Paving Projects*

Commissioner Bond petitioned the BOC for a meeting with James “Bubba” Epps and a contractor (I.e., Dykes) to discuss road paving standards.

### *Mobile Pantry*

Administrator Lewis outlined the remaining mobile pantry locations for the first 4 months of 2019. He also discussed a meeting at the Middle Georgia Food Bank that highlighted childhood hunger. All participants were asked to be vigilant in the quest to reduce the regional numbers.

### *Elections Office Renovations*

Administrator Lewis indicated contact with a construction contractor to quote the cost of renovating the Elections Office.

## **New Business**

Commissioner Ford expressed interest in Habitat for Humanity for Twiggs County. Commissioner DuBois asked if contacted. Chairman Fowler indicated BOC approval was required first. Commissioner Ford motioned to authorize the County Administrator to investigate. Commissioner Bond seconded. Unanimous approval.

Commissioner Bond motioned to approve \$1500.00 to purchase sheet foot for road work maintenance. Commissioner Ford seconded. Unanimous approval.

The BOC received a request from Denise Goodman at the Senior Center to allow the screening of the back porch. Labor, materials, and volunteers will work at no cost to the county. Commissioner DuBois motioned to approve. Commissioner Fowler seconded. Unanimous approval.

Commissioner Ford motioned to have the county attorney draft proposed changes to the applicable local acts for the constitutional officers, meet with the constitutional officers, and submit the changes to the BOC for final approval. Commissioner Fowler seconded. Unanimous approval.

Commissioner Bond motioned to hire Jimmy L. Tharpe for the Road Department at \$12.00/hour. Commissioner Ford seconded. Unanimous approval.

Commissioner Bond motioned to postpone the Elections Registrar pay increase discussion until the next meeting. Commissioner Ford seconded. Unanimous approval.

Chairman Fowler asked about the outside light at the Senior Center. Administrator Lewis spoke of the utility bureaucracy. BOC members didn't understand the delay. Asked Administrator Lewis to contact Georgia Power for an update.

### **Public Comments**

There was a citizen request to read aloud final motions for audience clarity.

### **Executive Session**

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

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

### **Adjournment**

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

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

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Kenneth E. Fowler, Chairman

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Kelvin C. Lewis, Administrator