**Jasper County Board of Commissioners**

**March 2, 2020**

**Regular Meeting Minutes**

**6:00 P.M.**

Comm. Henry called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Chairman, Carl Pennamon, Vice-Chairman, Bruce Henry, Don Jernigan, Gerald Stunkel, and Doug Luke.

Staff Present: Mike Benton, County Manager, Clerk, Sharon Robinson, Finance Director, Dennis Pate, and County Attorney, David Ozburn.

**Pledge of Allegiance:**

**Invocation:**

Commissioner Don Jernigan

**Agenda Approval:**

Mr. Benton stated that the Public Health Full Scale Countermeasure Exercise has been postponed so therefore they will postpone talking about the event. Commissioner Jernigan motioned to approve the agenda with the postponement of the presentation. Commissioner Stunkel seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

**Consent Agenda:**

**Approval of Minutes:**

Commissioner Stunkel made the motion to approve the Minutes of February 3, 2020 as presented. Commissioner Jernigan seconded; passed unanimously.

**Check Register:**

Commissioner Jernigan made motion to approve the check register which included Check #’s 57521-57707 for payment, Commissioner Luke seconded; passed unanimously.

Public Hearing:

Commissioner Pennamon motioned to open the Public Hearing for a text amendment to allow lease lots to be eligible for “Lot of Record” status. Gap Family Holdings, LLLP and W.K. Malone has applied for this text amendment at 6:03 p.m. Commissioner Stunkel seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Mr. Shane Sealy stated that this Public Hearing in regards to application 2019-TA-002. Gap Family Holding is asking for a text amendment to the ordinance where it gives the Lot of Record and ask that Lease lots be added to the definition. The homes on the lots belong to the home owners but the property belongs to the Gap Family.

In Favor:

Mike Daniel- Mr. Daniel stated that he is in favor of the amendment.

Lamar Boggs- Mr. Boggs stated that he is in favor of the amendment

Commissioner Jernigan motioned to come out of the Public Hearing at 6:07 p.m. Commissioner Stunkel seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

**Commissioner’s Items:**

**Commissioner Luke-** None

**Commissioner Jernigan**- Commissioner Jernigan stated we need relief from the rain. He also stated that Public Works is doing all they can to stay caught up.

**Commissioner Henry-** Commissioner Henry stated that early voting started today. He stated that the new machines worked well. He also mentioned that Daylight savings time starts this weekend.

**Commissioner Pennamon-** None

**Commissioner Stunkel-** None

Presentations/Delegations:

Public Health Full Scale Medical Countermeasures Exercise- Postponed

Regular Agenda:

**Item 1: Ordinance Amendment- Allow lease lots to eligible for “Lot of Record” status:** Commissioner Jernigan motioned to approve the proposed ordinance amendment- Allow lease lots to be eligible for “Lot of Record Status” as presented. Commissioner Stunkel seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

**Item 2: 911 Authority Board Appointment:** We currently have one opening for the 911 Authority and we had one person to apply for the position. Mr. Digby came before the board. He stated that he lives in Turtle Cove. Chairman Henry ask Mr. Digby if he has been involved with the 911 Board at all or if he knew of some of the stuff that is going on. Mr. Digby stated that he worked for AT&T for 31 years and 25 with Law Enforcement so he knows about communications. He stated that he is was the Chairman of the Covington Municipal Authority. Commissioner Jernigan motioned to appoint Hubert Wayne Digby to the Jasper County 911 Authority Board with the term ending February 20, 2021. Commissioner Stunkel seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

**Item 3: Four County JDA Board Appointments**: Chairman Henry stated that the Four County JDA board has two people from each county. One Board of Commissioners representative and one citizen. We have two people to apply. We have Steve Jordan as the citizen and Carl Pennamon as the Board o Commissioner representative. Mr. Steve Jordan stated that he has had the pleasure of serving Jasper County on the board since 1999. He stated that we are in a good place right now. He is the treasurer of the Board. Commissioner Jernigan motioned to appoint Mr. Steve Jordan as the Citizen Volunteer to the Four County Joint Development Authority of Jasper, Morgan, Newton and Walton Counties to complete the terms as specified. Commissioner Stunkel seconded the motion, passed unanimously. Commissioner Pennamon stated that he has been on the board for the last 8 years continuously and 15-20 years all together. Chairman Henry stated that all of the other Board of Commissioners representatives are the chairmen of their respective counties. He stated that he did not want to run for the position because being the chairman is a one year position, Commissioner Pennamon has been on the board for a long period of time and we are making great progress so he is glad that Commissioner Pennamon is willing to stay on the board. Commissioner Jernigan motioned to re-appoint Commissioner Carl Pennamon as the BOC Representative to the Four County Joint Development Authority of Jasper, Morgan, Newton, and Walton Counties to complete the terms as specified. Commissioner Stunkel seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

**Item 4: Development Authority of Jasper County Board Appointments Review:** Chairman Henry stated that we have 19 people who signed up to volunteer on the Development Authority of Jasper County Board. Board appointments will be made later.

**Jan Gaston-** Ms. Gaston stated that she currently serves as chair of the Development Authority Board. She state that she served in this position for the last 4-5 years. She works as the administrator of Jasper Health Services. She stated that she also serves on the Rural Health Board.

**Jeff Greeson-**Mr. Greeson stated that he is employed with Central GA EMC. He has been a resident of Jasper County since 1996. He stated that he has participated on the board since 2012 and he has completed the training. He stated that he is able through Central GA EMC to help attract industries that are looking to come to areas such as ours.

**Steve Jordan-** Mr. Jordan stated that he has served on the Development board for 25 years and works at the Bank of Monticello. He stated the Development Authority’s goal is to create jobs. He has went through the training to be on the board as well.

**Lynn Bentley-** Ms. Bentley stated that she has been the Chief Appraiser for the County since 2004. She stated that she is interested in having a bigger role in helping create the abatements. She stated that just as a citizen she interested in being on the board.

**David Sheppard-** Mr. Sheppard stated that he lives on Goolsby Road. Has been a resident since 1996. He spent 41 years with the Kroger Company. He stated that he understand the relevance of volunteers.

**Stephanie Puckett-** Ms. Puckett state that she lives on Honeysuckle Road. She stated that she applied to be on the board in order to be more involved.

**Bill Daugherty-** Mr. Daugherty stated that he lives off of Post Road. He has only been here since June. He stated that he wants to be more involved within the county. He was a stockbroker and trained stockbroker. He stated that he is very business focused.

**Sam Kelly-** Mr. Kelly stated that he lives on College Street. He stated that he moved back about three years ago. He stated that he has a long career in running and owning businesses.

**Daniel Jefferies-** Mr. Jefferies stated that he lives on Forsyth Street. He has been in Jasper County for 25 years. He believes in smart growth and sustaining what we have. He stated that maybe he can provide an outside perspective.

Chairman Henry thanked all of the applicants for applying. He also stated that he knows by the presentations tonight that there will be a lot of great talent that will be left out just because there are only nine slots but so many applicants.

**Item 5: Human Resources and Board Appointment Report:** Ms. Robinson presented the following information for the quarterly Human Resources and Board Appointment:

## Current Open Positions

**Equipment Operator (1)**

**Paramedic (1)**

**EMT (3)**

## New Hires

**Sheriff/Jail – 5**

**Fire Rescue – 3**

## Terminations/Resignations

**Sheriff/Jail - 2**

**Fire Rescue – 5**

**Tax Commissioner - 1**

## Total Employees = 155

**Full-time = 115**

**Part-time = 40**

## **Board Appointments Needed:**

Jasper County DFCS Board – All positions are expired (6)

Jasper County Water & Sewer Authority- (4 full term and 1 partial term)

Planning & Zoning Board- (1)

Board of Appeals- (1)

Commissioner Pennamon motioned to advertise board position openings. Commissioner Stunkel seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

**Item 6: Fiscal Agent Designation for Family Connection Collaborative- FY 2021**: Mr. Pated stated that the Jasper County Family Connection has requested that Jasper County Commissioner be the fiscal agent for the FY2021 grant period for Family Connection. We are seeking the board’s approval. This is an annual request. Commissioner Pennamon motioned to approve Jasper County to continue to be the Fiscal Agent for Jasper County Family Connection for Fiscal Year 2020-2021. Commissioner Stunkel seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

**Item 7: Fire Rescue Impact Fees Projects:** Fire Chief Chris Finch stated that they are requesting from the board approval to purchase two edraulic extraction equipment. In the request he gave their current equipment dates. He stated that the current equipment of at least 20 years old. He stated that vehicle construction has changed tremendously and the equipment that they have now will not work well. Each set comes with at least two batteries. The life span of the battery is more than 8 years.

The second item that they are looking to purchase is the Lucas device. This device deals with actual compression. This machines helps improve the outcomes to those suffering a cardiac arrest event.

Commissioner Pennamon motioned to approve the purchase of two sets or edraulic extrication equipment from Municipal Emergency Services in the amount of $63,370.96 with a portion coming from Turtle Cove Ladies Auxiliary. Commissioner Stunkel seconded the motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Pennamon motioned to approve purchase of two Lucas device chest compression systems from Stryker in the amount of $34,251.12 with a portion coming from Turtle Cove Ladies Auxiliary. Commissioner Stunkel seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

**Item 8: Sheriff Office Vehicle Lease Financing**: Mr. Pate stated that he is seeking the board’s approval to authorize a resolution for a lease purchase agreement for four sheriff vehicles. We are participating in the ACCG financing program. He stated that we received two quotes through this program. The quotes were:

Lease One Magnolia 3.24%, Monthly payment - $3,036.68

Truist Bank 3.45%, Monthly payment - $3,052.45

Financed equipment Cost as follows:

Bellamy Automotive Group $158,840.00

Watch Guard Video $ 9,160.00

Total Amount Financed $168,000.00

Commissioner Pennamon motioned to authorize Chairman to sign Resolution for lease financing with Lease One Magnolia for the purchase of four vehicles to be used by the Sheriff’s Office with VIN#’s 7611, 1783, 5055 and 4375. Commissioner Jernigan seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

**Item 9: Clean up Jasper- April Spring Clean Up:** Chairman Henry stated that in the past we have offered Jasper County residents free usage of the county landfill. Mr. Benton stated that the restrictions are four tires per load, no dump trucks, and residential items only. This will only take place during landfill regular operating hours. Commissioner Jernigan motioned to approve Jasper County Landfill to waive tipping fees for the month of April for Jasper County residents. Commissioner Luke seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

**Item 10: GDOT LIBP Detour Impact Form- Old Adgateville Road Bridge:** Mr. Benton stated that GDOT has a program for small counties to help improve bridges that are considered to be low impact bridges. We have two bridges on their radar. The bridge on Old Adgateville Road and the bridge on Barr Bridge Road. There is a form that has to be completed including approving their suggested detour. If the project goes through there is no cost to the county, it will be paid in full by GDOT. Commissioner Pennamon motioned to approve the detour as presented for Bridge #159-5041-0 CR 117 over Cedar Creek on Old Adgateville Road if approved with the GDOT LIBP Program. Commissioner Jernigan seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

**Item 11: GDOT LIBP Detour Impact Form- Barr Bridge Road Bridge:** Commissioner Pennamon motioned to approve the detour as presented for Bridge #159-0026-0 CR 283 over Murder Creek on Barr Bridge Road if approved with the GDOT LIBP Program. Commissioner Jernigan seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

**Item 12: Courthouse Roof Repair and Building Exterior Stabilization Bid Results:** Chairman Henry stated that we recently opened bids for the courthouse roof repair and building exterior stabilization project. We received bids from three companies:

Peachtree Construction $795,530

Skyline Construction $1,174,380

Midwest Maintenance $1,376,673

Carter Watkins has qualified the two low bidders. John Jeffcoat spoke on behalf of Carter Watkins letting everyone know that Carter Watkins does not see any reason to not move forward with the low bidder.

Commissioner Jernigan motioned to award the Repair bid to Peachtree Construction for the low bid amount for $795,530. Commissioner Luke seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Mr. Benton spoke about funding for the project. We can just charge it to Fund Balance or we have the Capital Expenditure Fund. The Capital fund would not fund the full amount. Commissioner Pennamon stated that he is concerned that we don’t want to use a big chunk of the Fund Balance and something else happened and we wouldn’t be able to do it. Commissioner Luke spoke about pulling out such a large amount out of Fund Balance as well. Commissioner Pennamon motioned to table financing until Work Session of Called Meeting. Commissioner Jernigan seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

**Item 13: 2019 CDBG Grant- Property Acquisition Funding**: Mr. Benton stated that the CDBG grant award states that we will take $460,000 to the bank. The finance department will make the draw and take it directly to the bank. The county will make the payment to the bank. Commissioner Jernigan motioned to drawdown $460,000 from the 2019 CDBG Grant as required in the grant reward, apply to Loan #8296617 with Bank of Monticello with no adjustments to the monthly loan payment of $5884.17. Commissioner Stunkel seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

**County Attorney Items: None**

**County Manager Items**: Mr. Benton stated that he drove to the Pitts Chapel Bridge. He noted that they have installed the abutment caps. They are moving right along with the progress. He noted that Public works purchased a tractor grader to hook to the existing tractors. The House Bill 871 has been passed by both the house and the waiting to be signed by the governor. This is the Jasper County Public Facilities Authority bill. For January through February we have 25 new residential permits. He stated that Public Works worked Friday and Saturday.

**Citizens Comments:**

**Mark Elliot-** Mr. Elliot stated that he is a field representative for Congressman Hice. He stated that his office can help with case work. He stated that they cannot promise outcomes. They also have a grant writer who can help with getting grants.

**John Meyer-** Mr. Meyer, Ross Road, would like to address the condition of his road. He stated that he was not as impressed with the results. He stated that they need some stone on their road in order for the work that they are doing to be effective.

**Mary Meyer-** Ms. Meyer, Ross Road, stated that their road has potholes that are unavoidable. She stated that she thinks the county is wasting money by continually having to come out.

**Gary Teal-** Mr. Teal, Templeton Circle, stated that he has spoken with Mike and Luke. Mr. Teal discussed the fact that he had provided Mike with the name of a construction company. He stated that Commissioner Luke had mentioned that he would speak with Pittman about a quote. He stated that Pittman provided a quote. He also stated that he was advised that Templeton Circle paving would be discussed at this meeting.

**Jimmy Maddox**- Mr. Maddox, Templeton Circle, stated that his road condition is horrible.

**Randall Lane**- Mr. Jimmy, Templeton Circle, stated that average tax is $4,000 for him and his neighbors. He stated that he in agreement that something has to be done with his road.

**Ronny Shell-** Mr. Shell, Templeton Circle, stated that he used to maintain the road. He stated that he also owns a home on Goolsby Road which has been paved at least twice.

Commissioner Luke stated to the citizens concerned by letting them know that their concerns are being heard and that we are doing the best we can.

**Executive Session:**

None

Adjourn:

Commissioner Jernigan motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Commissioner Pennamon seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

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Bruce Henry, Chairman

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Sharon Robinson, Clerk