

Jasper County Board of Commissioners
April 5, 2021
Regular Meeting Minutes
6:00 P.M.

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

Commissioners Present: Bruce Henry, Chairman, Gerald Stunkel, Vice-Chairman, Don Jernigan via phone, Sheila Jones and Steven Ledford

Staff Present: Mike Benton, County Manager, Sharon Robinson, Administrative Services Director, and David Ozburn, County Attorney.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Invocation: District 1- Commissioner Sheila Jones

Agenda Approval: Commissioner Stunkel made a motion to amend the agenda by removing Item #5 – Interim Emergency Management Director Appointment and replace with Food Bank CDBG Grant. Commissioner Ledford seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Commissioner Stunkel motioned to approve the agenda with the changes that were presented. Commissioner Ledford seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda:

Approval of Minutes:

Commissioner Stunkel motioned to approve the minutes for:

- February 22, 2021 Work Session
- March 1, 2021 Regular Meeting
- March 22, 2021 Work Session

Commissioner Jones seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Check Register:

Commissioner Ledford motioned to approve the check register check numbers **60895-61159**. Commissioner Stunkel seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Public Hearing: Commissioner Stunkel motioned to go into Public Hearing at 6:05 p.m. Commissioner Ledford seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

A public hearing for a Special Use permit application 2020-SU-004 for a “Livestock Auction (400 pounds or less)” will be heard for Tax Map 023A parcel 038 minus the portion East of Hwy 83. 21753 Hwy 83 North Monticello, Ga 31064. Applicant is William Johnson. Owner is Justin Wyatt.

Shane Sealy stood before the board to present the special use application for small livestock auction. He stated that Mr. Bullard whose land conjoins with this property has submitted a letter stating that he does not have any objections to the auction. Max Wood and Thomas Anderson stated the same. Mr. Sealy stated that he has been in touch with the DOT office in Madison. Before any license is given he will have to go through DOT. The Department of Agriculture will have visit the site and give their approval before the license is given as well. The P&Z Board heard this request and recommend approval 5-0.

Mr. William Johnson, owner of Wayside Auction, stood before the board and stated that he would like to open a business in the county he lives in. He stated that most animals are well under 400 lbs.

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Commissioner Stunkel motioned to exit Public Hearing at 6:08 p.m. Commissioner Ledford seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Citizens Comments:

Gail Harrell (Mayor Pro-Tem- Monticello): Ms. Harrell stood before the board. She stated that she is aware that the commissioners plan to address the No Littering sign on tonight's agenda. She wanted to know if there is a possibility to get a better rate and to see if the City of Monticello can participate.

Commissioner's Items:

Commissioner Ledford- Commissioner Ledford stated that he had a gentleman that was supposed to come present his travel ball team but since they are not here we can move past that until a later date.

Commissioner Stunkel- None

Commissioner Jernigan- None

Commissioner Jones- None

Chairman Henry- Chairman Henry stated that another trash pick-up is scheduled for the weekend. It is only about 3 hours. He invited anyone who could to come out to pitch in.

Presentations/Delegations- Postponed

Regular Agenda:

Item 1: Special Use Permit for Tax Map 023A Parcel 038 Small Livestock Auction- Commissioner Ledford motioned to allow the special use permit application 2020-SU-004 for "Livestock Auction for Tax Map 023A parcel 038 minus the portion East of Hwy 83, 21753 Hwy 83 North, Monticello, GA. Commissioner Stunkel seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Item 2: Request to Bid Janitorial Services for County Buildings: Mike Benton stated that these bids are for janitorial services for the Courthouse and Southern Crescent Technical College. He stated that historically the staff has come before the board for all bids. Commissioner Stunkel motioned to approve staff to bid Janitorial Services as stated. Commissioner Ledford seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Item 3: Request to Bid Pest Control Services for County Buildings: Commissioner Ledford motioned to approve staff to develop and publish bids for pest control services as stated. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Mr. Benton stated that he would like for staff to be able to just put out these small recurring bids without having to come to the board for each one. The bids will still have to come before the board to be approved.

Chairman Henry advised Mr. Benton to compile a list of possible reoccurring services to present at the next BOC meeting.

Item 4: Sheriff Department Vehicle Lease Financing: Mr. Dennis Pate stood before the board to present options for purchasing the new Sheriff's vehicles. He stated that we received three offers for consideration. The lowest came from Bancorp South with a 2.41% with a monthly payment of \$2,962.22. The total financed amount would be \$167,284.50.

Commissioner Stunkel motioned to authorize Chairman to sign all lease financing agreements for the lease purchase of four vehicles to be used by the Sheriff's Office with VIN #s 8117, 8118, 8119, and 8120. Lease financing to be provided by Bancorp South as stated. Commissioner Ledford second the motion, passed unanimously.

Item 5: Food Bank CDBG Project: Chairman Henry stated that it looks like the Food Bank is going to come up \$125,000 short for their grant process. He stated that they are purchasing 22 acres of land but once everything is done they will attempt to sell some of the land because they will not use it all. Chairman stated that the grant cannot be submitted until all funds are accounted for.

Commissioner Jones motioned to give the Food Bank Project funds not to exceed \$125,000. Commissioner Stunkel seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Item 6: Health Department Property – 825 Eatonton Street- DAJC to Market 2.5 Acres: Mr. David Dyer stood before the board to discuss selling a portion of the property located at 825 Eatonton Street. The 2.5 acres is over grown and considered blighted. There is a small house on the land that is beginning to deteriorate. He state that we have received several inquiries about the land. We would have to have the 2.5 acres surveyed off. We could post a bid as well as put out a request for proposals.

Chairman Henry stated that the land is just sitting. Any funds that are generated will be used to retire the debt on the Health Department.

Mr. Dyer stated that he could work with the County Manager to make sure that the correct wording is used.

Commissioner Ledford motioned to authorize the bidding process for the Jasper County Health Department. Commissioner Stunkel seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Item 7: No Littering Signage Program: Chairman Henry stated that we are trying to come up with numbers for the No Littering signs. Some will need to be on existing post and others will need new post. Commissioner Jones stated that she came up with four roads. Chairman Henry stated that he came up with around 20 roads. Chairman suggested putting out a few signs to begin with and see how that works.

Mr. Benton showed samples of sign sizes and font sizes. Commissioner Ledford motioned to approve the order of 20 (four per district) signs 18x18 in size. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Item 8: Homestead Property Value Freeze Discussion: Ms. Lynn Bentley stated that there was some proposed legislation for statewide homestead freeze. That has been placed on hold for right now. She handed out examples to the commissioners. When a homestead freeze is implemented, you don't have a rollback rate. The homesteaded properties taxes basically stay the same. She stated that the homestead can be done however the Commissioners chose to (i.e. for seniors, everyone).

Item 9: Schedule Work Sessions and Called Meetings: There are some budget work session already scheduled.

County Attorney Items: None

County Manager Items: Mr. Benton stated that the Work Session April 19th will be to give a broad overview of the budget work that is being done. The Public Works new shop building is starting to be used. We should have a grand opening soon.

Executive Session: Commissioner Stunkel motioned to go into Executive Session at 6:57 p.m. Commissioner Ledford seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Commissioner Stunkel motioned to exit the Executive Session at 8:10 p.m. Commissioner Ledford seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Adjourn:

Commissioner Stunkel motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. Commissioner Ledford seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Bruce Henry, Chairman

Sharon Robinson, Clerk