

Jasper County Board of Commissioners
February 5, 2024
Regular Meeting Minutes
6:00 P.M.

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

Commissioners Present: Bruce Henry, Chairman; Steven Ledford, Vice Chair; Don Jernigan; Sheila Jones and Asher Gray

Staff: Mike Benton, County Manager, Sheila Belcher via Facebook live, Clerk- Administrative Services Director, Larissa Ruark, Chief Accounting Officer, Doug Attaway- Planning and Zoning Director,

Pledge of Allegiance:

Invocation: Commissioner Don Jernigan, District 3

Agenda Approval: Commissioner Ledford motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Jernigan seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda:

Commissioner Ledford motioned to approve the following minutes

- Regular Meeting Minutes January 8, 2024
- Called Meeting Minutes- January 12, 2024
- Work Session Minutes- January 26, 2024

Commissioner Gray seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Commissioner Jernigan motioned to approve Check #s 70142-70345. Commissioner Gray seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Public Hearings:

Citizen Comments:

- **Mary Patrick-** Spoke about short-term rentals. Ask about lot sizes
- **Cathy Benson-**Gave handouts. Spoke about a 2008 Oconee County case
- **Jim Belcher-** Restricting who comes into the county.
- **John Henderson-** Thanks for taking on zoning.
- **Gary Wiggins-** Spoke about the Turtle Cove incidents that the Board discussed previously.

Business Items:

Item 1:911 Authority Board Appointment: Jasper County 911 Authority Board has a vacancy that need to be filled due to a resignation. The term will expire on March 1, 2025. The open position has been advertised.

The following people have expressed interest in serving on the Board:

- Ronnie Payne
- William Smith

Commissioner Jernigan motioned to appoint Ronnie Payne to the Jasper County 911 Authority Board. Commissioner Ledford seconded the motion, passed 4-1 (Commissioner Gray opposes)

Item 2: Recreation Board Appointment – The board agreed to table the appointment until the next meeting.

Item 3: Fiscal Agent Designation for Family Connection Collaborative- FY2024-2025-

Jasper County Family Connection collaborative serves as the local decision making body, bringing community partners and evaluate plans that address the serious challenges facing Georgia’s children and families.

Request that Jasper County Board of Commissioners continue to be fiscal agent for Jasper County Family Connection for the 2024-2025 fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024. Budget amount for year will continue at \$52,500.

Commissioner Jernigan motioned to authorize Chairman Henry to sign the Fiscal Agent Designation and Acceptance Agreement for Family Connection FY 24-25. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion, passed 4-1 (Commissioner Gray opposed).

Item 4: 2024 Turtle Cove POA’s Alcohol License- Turtle Cove POA, Application number 2023-A-006 located at 222 Clubhouse Drive Monticello, GA 31064. Name of applicant: Philip Daly Myers III – Pouring license for distilled spirits, beer, and wine. – Renewal

Commissioner Jernigan motioned to approve Turtle Cove pouring license application. Commissioner Gray seconded for discussion, passed 3-2 (Gray & Ledford opposed).

Item 5: FY 2023 Audit Acceptance- Larissa Ruark presented that the audit has been completed and submitted.

Item 6: 2024 2nd Qtr. Financial Report- Larissa Ruark presented the 2nd Quarter Financial Report.

Item 7: FY 2025 Budget Calendar- Larissa Ruark presented the FY 2025 Budget calendar to the Board.

Item 8: Murder Creek Church Rd Resurfacing- Murder Creek Church Rd connects Marben Farm Rd to Charlie Elliott Wildlife Center. Murder Creek Church Rd needs major resurfacing.

Applicable Murder Creek Church Rd section lengths

From Marben Farm Rd to end of pavement section of Murder Creek Church Rd	.8 miles
From Marben Farm Rd to the start of the Charlie Elliott Dam	1.0 miles
From Marben Farm Rd including the Charlie Elliott dam	1.2 miles

Commissioner Ledford motioned that we request funding from DNR & GDOT to fund 1.2 miles of Marben Farm Road. Commissioner Gray seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Item 9: Moratorium Extension on Short Term Rentals- Commissioner Ledford motioned to approve the Short-term rental moratorium until May 20, 2024. Commissioner Jernigan seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Item 10: Zoning and Development Ordinances Recommendations – Commissioner Gray motioned to keep the two zonings, agricultural and residential, 5 acres on both, 3 acres for conservation subdivisions, agricultural 300 ft road frontage, residential 200 ft road frontage, minimum heated square ft for agricultural is 1200 sq ft, 1500 sq for agricultural subdivision. Commissioner Ledford seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Item 11: Landfill Operations Options- Chairman Henry discussed current landfill operations. He stated that there will be a Public Hearing on February 26 to discuss the operations.

Item 12: Schedule Work Sessions and Called Meetings as Needed
A called meeting is scheduled for February 26th.

County Attorney Items: None

County Manager Update: Mr. Benton gave updates on permits, 4-way stop at Henderson Mill Road, new hires

Executive Session: Commissioner Jernigan motioned to go into Executive Session at 7.39 p.m. for Real Estate. Commissioner Ledford seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Commissioner Jernigan motioned to exit Executive Session at 8:00 p.m. for Real Estate. Commissioner Ledford seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

Adjourn: Commissioner Jernigan motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.. Commissioner Ledford seconded the motion, passed unanimously.



Bruce Henry, Chairman



Sheila Belcher, Clerk