

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on **Thursday, July 13, 2017**, at **6:00pm** in the courtroom. Those present were Chairman Walker T. Norman, Commissioner Virginia T. Williams, District One; Commissioner Larry Collins, District Two; Commissioner Cooper Cliatt, District Three; Commissioner H. Lamar Wade, District Four; Mr. Ben Jackson, County Attorney; Mrs. Traci Bussey, Finance Director and Ms. Sherry E. McKellar, County Clerk.

1.

Call Meeting to Order

Chairman Norman called the meeting to order.

2.

Invocation

Rev. Terry Bonds of First Assembly of God opened the meeting with prayer.

3.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Following the invocation Commissioner Cliatt lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

4.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Commissioner Williams, seconded by Commissioner Wade, the Board approved the minutes as presented.

5.

Approval of Agenda

Chairman Norman amended the agenda to move Item 7 to 7A and add Sheriff Hatfield as Item 7. On a motion by Commissioner Cliatt, seconded by Commissioner Collins, the Board approved the agenda as amended.

6.

Departmental Reports

A. Office of Emergency Services Department

Director Broom presented his monthly report.

B. Recreation Department

Director Glaze was absent as he had activities at the Recreation Department. He had previously sent his report.

C. Finance Department

Director Bussey presented the Finance report.

D. Public Works Department

Director Seymour presented his monthly report. He then presented a letter from GDOT to add flashing lights at the intersection of Highway 47 and 220 at Cliatt Crossing. On a motion by Commissioner Cliatt, seconded by Commissioner Collins, the Board voted unanimously to give the Chairman the authority to sign the application for the advanced warning flasher.

E. Planning and Zoning Department

Director Seymour presented his monthly reports.

7.

Sheriff Hatfield

Sheriff Hatfield read the following statement.

On a Saturday afternoon in 2012 Sheriff-Elect Bruce Beggs called and asked me to join his staff. He shared with me his vision, and described his goals and objectives. His primary concern was directed toward the people of Lincoln County. He made perfectly clear his love and respect for home and community. As well, he made perfectly clear, in a humorous manner, his desire to never be sued or have some action of court filed against him.

I proudly accepted the Sheriff's invitation and took the oath of office as his Chief Deputy. We began working together January 1, 2013 and continued until his unexpected passing on July 3, 2017. The unfortunate and untimely passing of Sheriff Beggs has brought us to this point in time and it is my privilege to serve and continue to build upon his legacy and his memory. I am therefore committed to my Interim Sheriff's responsibilities; and I am reminded of his vision for his beloved home and people.

During the period of time he served as Sheriff no lawsuit or court action was filed against him or Lincoln County because the men and women of the Lincoln County Sheriff's office never veered from their dedication to their community, conduct and professionalism. It is my privilege to continue serving and building upon Sheriff Beggs Legacy.

As Chief Deputy and by definition of Law, I have assumed the duties of and taken the oath of office as Interim Sheriff until a special election is held. We have staff in place sufficient until the new Sheriff is elected. I therefore choose not to appoint a Chief Deputy at this time. I sincerely and truly believe this is a decision to be made by the Sheriff Elect. Consequently the candidate chosen by the people of Lincoln County will then assume the duties of and complete the remaining term of Sheriff Bruce Beggs.

As I commit myself to this period of time and duties, I ask Lincoln County and all Commissioners to please support and pray for the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office; and may we all come together to see this legacy through: kind and respectful to each other, helping each other in a time of need, respect and love with peace in our hearts.

Sheriff Hatfield then thanked Major Jim Wallen and Captain Leighton Taylor for their support and help during this time of transition.

7. A.

Lincoln County Cooperative Extension

Chairman Norman presented a plaque to the out-going County Extension Coordinator, Christa Campbell, and thanked her for all she has done for Lincoln County in the six years since she stepped forward to fill the void when we lost our County Agent. Jodi Coon, Lincoln County 4-H Coordinator, then spoke about Christa and also thanked her for going over and beyond her duties as County Agent and helping in many other areas in the Extension and 4-H office.

Chairman Norman then introduced the new part-time County Extension Coordinator for Lincoln County, Mr. Brian Tankersley. Brian is a native of Lincoln County and has a long history with UGA and their Extension Service. He is a welcome addition and with his hiring, Lincoln County has made the commitment to getting a full-time agent. Mr. Tankersley shared that he is already out visiting with farmers and strategizing with Jodi Coon.

8.

Ms. Linda Brown

On a motion by Commissioner Cliatt, seconded by Commissioner Williams, the Board voted unanimously to accept the Foundations of American Law & Government Display to hang on the Courthouse walls.

Chairman Norman introduced Ms. Linda Brown with Ten Commandments-GA. Ms. Brown told the Commissioners about the nine (9) documents she would like them to display on the walls of the courthouse -at no cost to the County. They are; The Bill of Rights; Declaration of Independence; Preamble to the Georgia Constitution; Lady of Justice; The Magna-Carta; The Mayflower Compact; National Motto; The Star-Spangled Banner and The Ten Commandments. HB941 and HB766 authorize the displaying of these documents. They should arrive in about three (3) weeks.

9.

Fort Gordon Alliance

On a motion by Commissioner Wade, seconded by Commissioner Collins, the Board voted unanimously to join The Alliance for Fort Gordon at a cost of \$5000.00. Chairman Norman has spoken with Director John Stone of the Development Authority in hopes to split the cost with them. The Alliance website links to the Development Authority website which also links to the County website.

10.

FY 2018 Greater Clarks Hill Regional Library Agreement

On a motion on Commissioner Cliatt, seconded by Commissioner Williams, the Board voted unanimously to allow the Chairman to sign the annual service agreement with the Great Clarks Hill Regional Library.

11.

FY 2018 DHS Coordinated Transportation Contract

On a motion by Commissioner Williams, seconded by Commissioner Collins, the Board voted unanimously to sign the FY 2018 DHS Coordinated Transportation Contract for Service for funding in the amount of \$10,224.00.

12.

AC Unit for Annex in Sheriff's Department

On a motion by Commissioner Collins, seconded by Commissioner Wade, the Board voted unanimously to approve the purchase through Emergency Purchases of an AC unit at a cost of \$8720.23 from Augusta Chiller Service. Director Seymour explained to the Board that the 20+ year old unit that had cooled the Sheriff Department offices and rooms had gone out completely and had to be replaced immediately due to the high temperatures and heat index.

13.

Solid Waste Bids

On a motion by Commissioner Collins, seconded by Commissioner Cliatt, the Board voted unanimously to accept the bid from Advanced Disposal with the option to negotiate down the price. Director Seymour informed the Board that he had received two (2) bids at the Bid Opening on June 6th. They were from Inland Waste and Advanced Disposal but the Inland bid did not fulfill the requirements of the bid and was therefore non-compliant.

Commissioner Cliatt inquired of the company that asked the county to bid out the solid waste service and Director Seymour informed the Board that Precision Waste was acquired by Advanced Disposal the same day as the bid opening.

14.


Liability Insurance Bids

Director Bussey informed the Board that we had received two (2) bids for the Liability Insurance at the bid opening at 2pm July 11th. They were from Franklin Insurance and ACCG-IRMA. These bids will be turned over to the General Government Committee for further study and review after which a called meeting will be held to hear their recommendation and the board to vote.

15.

Adjourn

On a motion by Commissioner Cliatt, seconded by Commissioner Williams, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm.



Walker T. Norman, Chairman

Attest:



Sherry E. McKellar
County Clerk