

**HABERSHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
6:00 P.M., MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2023
HABERSHAM COUNTY COURTHOUSE
JURY ASSEMBLY ROOM
295 LLEWELLYN STREET, CLARKESVILLE, GA 30523**

The Habersham County Board of Commissioners held a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, September 18, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Jury Assembly Room of the Habersham County Courthouse located at 295 Llewellyn St, Clarkesville, GA 30523.

Present was Chairman Ty Akins, Vice Chairman Bruce Harkness, Commissioner Bruce Palmer, Commissioner Dustin Mealor, Commissioner Jimmy Tench, County Manager Alicia Vaughn, County Attorney Ralph Taylor, County Clerk Brandalin Carnes, staff, members of the media and public.

Chairman Akins called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

Commissioner Harkness lead the invocation.

Commissioner Palmer lead the pledge.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Palmer, seconded by Commissioner Harkness and voted unanimously (5-0) to approve the agenda as presented.

PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- a. Employee Spotlight: Sergeant Kris Hall (Sheriff Joey Terrell)
- b. Announcement: Retirement of Jim Wood (Emergency Services Director Jeff Adams)
- c. Presentation: Initiative Assisting Homeless Mothers (Rotary Club President Bradley Cook)
- d. Presentation: Windstream's Grant Funded Area Projects (Windstream VP of State Government Affairs Deana Perry)
- e. County Offices and Landfill Closed Monday, October 9th for Columbus Day Holiday
- f. Recognition of September as National Honey Month (Commissioner Harkness)
- g. Condolences to the Family of the Honorable Linton Kimzey "Kim" Crawford Jr.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE

PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by Commissioner Harkness, seconded by Commissioner Palmer and voted unanimously (5-0) to approve the consent agenda as presented.

- a. Consider/Approve Minutes for August 21, 2023 Work Session
- b. Consider/Approve Minutes for August 21, 2023 Regular Meeting
- c. Consider/Approve Minutes for August 21, 2023 Executive Session

- d. Consider/Approve Land Use Agreement with US Forestry Service
- e. Consider/Approve 2023 Environmental Health Fee Schedule Updates
- f. Consider/Approve Amendment to Contracted Instructor Agreement with Hillary Myers for Provision of Fall Dance Camp
- g. Consider/Approve Amendment to Contracted Instructor Agreement with Hillary Myers for September Dance Classes
- h. Consider/Approve Habersham County Pickleball Club Services Agreement
- i. Consider/Approve Acceptance of CJCC Title II Prevention and Intervention Services Grant Award
- j. Consider/Approve Voting Delegate for ACCG Legislative Leadership Conference
- k. Consider/Approve Revision to Contract with McCormick Solutions for Oversight of WINGAP CAMA Software Conversion for Tax Assessor's Office
- l. Consider/Approve Task Order #6 with Lead Edge for Construction Phase Services and Acquisition of Land Disturbance Permit for ROFA Grading Improvements Project at Airport
- m. Consider/Approve Task Order #7 with Lead Edge for Geotechnical Quality Assurance Testing for Construction Phase of ROFA Grading Improvements Project at Airport
- n. Consider/Approve Task Order #8 with Lead Edge for Preparation of 3-Year Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Plan for Airport
- o. Consider/Approve Alcohol License Renewal/Application for:
 - 1. Raina Rakin Enterprises LLC Located at 305 Panther Brook Ln- Malt Beverage and Wine Package Sales

REPORTS:

- a. Manager's Report: County Manager Alicia Vaughn
- ~~b. Development Authority Report: Development Authority Director Charlie Fiveash~~

Motion by Commissioner Mealor, seconded by Commissioner Harkness and voted unanimously (5-0) to table this till next month as Mr. Fiveash was not present to give his report for the Development Authority.

APPOINTMENTS:

DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY 6 Year Term

- 1. Bill Duff (Resignation)-Term Ending 02/19/2024- At Large Appointment

Motion by Commissioner Palmer, seconded by Commissioner Mealor to nominate Sydney Roland.
 Motion by Commissioner Tench to nominate Lynn Dockery, no second. Motion dies.

Motion to appoint Sydney Roland carries 4-1 with Commissioner Tench dissenting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Consider/Approve Ratifying Purchase and Sale Agreement for 370 Harvey Adams Circle, Clarkesville (Parcel 106 079) from William Seaborn Watts Jr

Commissioner Harkness inquired as to whether there have been discussions with relators about having the portions of the property that the Commission is interested in selling parceled off? Mrs. Vaughn informed him that this hasn't occurred just yet, as they are still working on getting the needed surveys for closing on the property on October 27th. Public Works Director Jerry Baggett stated that the surveyor will be at the property on September 25th, and that he had discussed with them the portions of the property that they want parceled out for potential future sell and they said they would post pins.

Motion by Commissioner Palmer, seconded by Commissioner Harkness and voted 3-2 to approve with Commissioner Tench and Commissioner Meador dissenting.

Commissioner Tench everyone to know that the reason he voted against this is that the south end of the county doesn't have county recreation facilities. Citizens who live in the south end don't have places for their kids to participate in sports. They would have to take their children all the way to the north end of the county and generally by the time they get off work that isn't going to happen. The south end of the county is just as important as the north end.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Commissioner Palmer announced that he will be holding a town hall meeting next Monday, September 25th property assessments and assessment notices. He invites the public to attend.

Commissioner Harkness congratulated Sergeant Kris Hall for his achievements and thanked everyone for coming out to support the Commission.

Commissioner Tench stated that records at the tax office show the appraised value of the old courthouse being \$2,238,400 and the Agricultural Extension building next to it is \$472,530. Commissioner Akins informed him that while that may be, the county had the building privately appraised last winter. Commissioners Meador and Palmer agreed that the tax office records are not accurate.

Commissioner Akins had been contacted by Lumpkin County Commissioner Tucker Greene who spoke highly of Rec Department Director Brooke Whitmire. He informed everyone that Lumpkin County had lost a lot of their Rec Department staff in a very short period and Commissioner Greene voiced that Ms. Whitmire had been a huge resource in helping them out. Commissioner Akins wanted to thank all the volunteers whose efforts went into making the Chattahoochee Mountain Fair successful this year. The fair had a relatively new board, and it is apparent that they worked very hard. He wanted to also thank the many Sheriff Deputies that assisted with the smooth traffic flow. His family attended both weekends, and he felt that this was well organized event.

ADJOURN

Motion by Commissioner Meador, seconded by Commissioner Harkness and voted unanimously (5-0) to adjourn at 6:48 p.m.

By:

Commission Chairman Ty Akins

Attest:

County Clerk Brandalin Carnes

Respectfully submitted,

