

CHARLTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
THURSDAY, JULY 7, 2022
BOC CONFERENCE ROOM
6:00 P.M.

7/7/2022 - Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

Those present were: Chairman James Everett, along with Commissioners Alpha Benefield, Jesse Crews, Drew Jones, and Luke Gowen; County Administrator Hampton Raulerson; County Clerk Jenifer Nobles; HR Clerk Becky Harden; and visitors as recorded hereafter. County Attorney Adams was absent.

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Chairman Everett led the Invocation and Pledge to the Flag.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Benefield made motion to amend agenda to include

1. GMASS Presentation
2. Consider LOST Negotiation Committee Members

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Jones, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Gowen made motion to approve July 7, 2022 Agenda to include above stated amendments. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Commissioner Gowen made motion to adopt the June 16, 2022 Minutes. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

5. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF COUNTY PARTICIPATION CONTRACT - UNISON BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Commissioner Gowen made motion to approve Unison Behavioral Health County Participation Contract Agreement. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield, Board voted; motion carried unanimously. Agreement becomes integral part of Minutes.

6. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF 2ND QUARTER 2022 BUDGET AMENDMENT

Commissioner Benefield made motion to approve 2nd quarter 2022 Budget Amendment. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Crews, Board voted; motion carried unanimously. Amendment becomes integral part of Minutes.

7. CONSIDER APPROVAL TO PROCEED WITH AND REQUEST FUNDING TO INSTALL PAPIS AT DAVIS FIELD

Commissioner Gowen made motion to approve tentative allocation of state funding in the amount of

\$50,000.00 for install PAPIs at Davis Field, and confirm by letter, no later than July 15, 2022, intent to proceed with and fund this project in the state's Fiscal Year 2023, which ends June 30, 2023. The project will require matching funds from Charlton County estimated in the amount of \$16,667. County portion to be paid with airport monies and TSPLOST. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

8. CONSIDER INSURANCE BROKERAGE RFQ'S

Mr. Raulerson reported that eight (8) insurance brokerage RFQ's have been received and the top four (4) will be interviewed next week and bring back recommendation for the Board's approval at our next meeting.

9. DISCUSS JOHN HARRIS BUILDING

Kim Bednarek, Executive Director, was present and asked the Board for consideration of the Okefenokee Experience project and specifically for the opportunity of the Charlton County community. U.S. Senator for Georgia Jon Osoff recently short listed the Okefenokee Experience to potentially receive \$13,575,000.00 in appropriations. Ms. Bednarek asked the Board to allow process to take place by giving time required for the signature project, the John Harris Building.

Commissioner Crews reminded the Board that 20 years ago, the Annex Building was renovated with grant that had same language. The grant fell through, in just a short time, which is how we acquired this building. We are now responsible for maintaining this building. Commissioner Crews made motion to deny request to allow process to take place by giving time required for the above mentioned project. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield. Commissioner Benefield stated she is not in favor for anything that will hurt Charlton County - would like to see building gone so that we can have a county community room.

Commissioner Crews reiterated his motion stands to deny request. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield, Board voted; Commissioners Jones, Gowen and Everett voted no. Motion failed.

10. DISCUSS RENTAL OF FIRE STATIONS FOR VOLUNTEER FIREMEN

Commissioner Gowen made motion to waive rental fee for volunteer firemen to use fire station community rooms. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Crews, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

11. ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF MAY, 2022 MONTHLY WELLNESS REPORT

The Board acknowledged receipt of May, 2022 Monthly Wellness Report.

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS: (PLEASE LIMIT TO 3 MINUTES)

Amended items -

1. GMASS Presentation - Joe Wright, Project Manager, presented powerpoint and overview of reevaluation. Over three (3) year period residential, commercial and industrial properties have been reevaluated. Audit reports have been established and all field appraisers are licensed, appraisals are based on local market.

Brian Huling, citizen, was present and stated that presentation was very informative and could be helpful when informing citizens concerning assessment notices.

2. Consider LOST Negotiation Committee Members - Commissioner Jones made motion to appoint Commissioner Crews, Everett and Raulerson as LOST Negotiation Committee Members. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Gowen, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

13. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Sheriff Phillips updated the Board that E911 is on schedule. Two (2) employees are out with COVID. Working on overtime.

Commissioner Gowen thanked the Sheriff for transparency.

Commissioner Jones asked Laurie, Chief Appraiser, to provide him with 2020 utility totals.

Commissioner Benefield thanked the road department for work being done on Mary and Mainor Drive.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF REQUIRED)

None.

15. NEXT BOC MEETING, THURSDAY, JULY 21, 2022 - BOC CONFERENCE ROOM 6:00 P.M.

16. ADJOURN

Commissioner Gowen made motion that meeting be adjourned at 7:50 p.m. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Crews, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

James E. Everett, Chairman

Jenifer Nobles, County Clerk