



SCHLEY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Minutes

Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 7:30 am

MEETING LOCATION

Jury Room, 14 S. Broad, Ellaville, Georgia

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. INVOCATION

Minutes:

Commissioner Jones gave the invocation.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Minutes:

Commissioner Hammack made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented, seconded by Vice-Chairman Belcher and all were in favor.

4. APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 8TH MINUTES

Minutes:

Commissioner Hammack made a motion to approve the December 8th minutes, seconded by Commissioner Jones and all were in favor.

5. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

a. FIRE / EMS

Minutes:

Duane Montgomery stated they had 53 calls during December; six fire calls. The digital radios are up and running; they have had a few issues but mainly training. Engine two was repaired last week and it's back in service. Duane said there is an increase in overdoses and Duane attended a class last week where that was a discussion topic. They are experiencing extended wait times in the ER. They have been receiving some mutual aid calls and have asked for mutual aid as well. Duane said it's not a lot of COVID, it's just a lot of sick people. Piedmont went on diversion recently and that is unheard of. He is continuing to work on Protocols and make sure they are updated. He is also working on the License packet. All of the EMTs who need continuing education are working to make sure they are up-to-date. Duane has ordered the Lucas machine but it will be three - four months because they are backed up. Duane has ordered gloves

but is having a hard time getting them. so Doug Jamieson has ordered some through GEMA. Duane said there are some counties that are having shortages of sugar water and oxygen but for now, we are okay.

b. PUBLIC WORKS/SCHLEY COUNTY UTILITIES AUTHORITY

Minutes:

Chairman McClellan welcomed Commissioner Pilcher.

Art Barfield stated that our water usage was up this past month and we still have a leak. We sold water to Andersonville and actually sold to Ellaville for one day. The water department installed three new services, replaced two meters, installed a pressure regulator on a service line, repaired service on two leaks, unlocked one meter, completed 27 locates for 811 and assigned two new 911 addresses. Art said that the Heath Road well has been offline since November 6th. We have hired Don Smith Well Co to come and diagnose what is going on with Heath Road and Stevens too, it has started losing suction. There is evidence that Hammack Well did clean the screens but they are clogged again. Don Smith has a jet cleaning system and we are waiting on a quote for that. On the Stevens Road well they valved it back to reduce the gallons per minute to try and protect that well until Heath Road is back in service. Commissioner Hammack stated that if there was any evidence that he did not do something right that he would pay for it. Art assured him that there was no evidence of that. Art stated that as everyone was aware, we have had a leak somewhere for several months and have searched county-wide for it. Yesterday afternoon, Art found the leak; it was on US 19S. The leaked will be repaired tomorrow. In the Road department the graders completed several roads, they operated the boom mower, hauled gravel and sand to make repairs on roads. They cleaned out some turnouts for water to move from the roadway and cleaned beaver dams on several roads. Removed trees and debris and dead deer from the right of ways and installed one new driveway. They replaced road signs and patched potholes. On December 16, the primary motor grader went down due to transmission problems; we are exploring options for a replacement.

6. APPROVAL/DISCUSSION TIMBER HARVESTING ORDINANCE

Minutes:

Doug Jamieson stated that the State Legislature has made changes to the Timber Harvest laws. ACCG has sent us a draft Ordinance for review. Doug asked that everyone read the document and we will bring it back next month for a vote. This document better defines how we can get money out of the bond. It also centralizes permitting; the timber companies will go online to get the permit. The money will go to the state and we will receive our monies from them.

7. APPROVAL/DISCUSSION AMENDED HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Minutes:

Doug stated that we ran into an issue at Christmas because we didn't have the half

day scheduled off on our list of approved dates. We would like to modify our schedule to add a half day before Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and New Years. Commissioner Hammack made a motion to approve the amended schedule, seconded by Commissioner Jones and all were in favor.

8. DISCUSSION/APPROVAL FINANCIAL RESOLUTION FOR HARRIS SOFTWARE

Minutes:

Doug stated that we need to get an approval on Financing for the Harris Software. We have approval for the software but need one for the financing piece. Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve Resolution for approval, seconded by Commissioner Hammack and all were in favor.

9. APPROVAL/DISCUSSION HEATH ROAD WELL REPAIRS AND FINANCIAL OBLIGATION

Minutes:

Doug stated that Art had previously talked about the Heath Road well. Matt, from Don Smith Well, has estimated \$30-\$35,000. He will not know for sure until they diagnose the film. The cost of them filming the well is \$7,500. Doug stated we need to have a motion to approve the financial obligation. Commissioner Hammack made a motion to approve us to pay Don Smith, seconded by Commissioner Jones and all were in favor.

10. APPROVAL/DISCUSSION MEETINGS

a. MEETING TIME

Minutes:

Chairman McClellan asked about the meeting time and how it worked for the rest of the commissioners. Vice-Chairman Belcher said the evenings work best for him. Commissioner Pilcher stated the evening works better for him but it would have to be 6:30, Commissioner Hammack said an evening meeting would be more accessible to the public and Commissioner Jones said the evening would work better for him. Commissioner Jones made a motion to move the meetings to 6:30 pm., seconded by Vice-Chairman Belcher and all were in favor. Chairman McClellan stated the meetings will still be the second Tuesday of each month.

b. WORK SESSION

Minutes:

Chairman McClellan asked if the Commissioners felt a Work Session meeting was needed and if so when/what time. There was discussion that if one was needed it would be held before the monthly meeting.

11. DISCUSSION/APPOINTMENT ON UTILITES AUTHORITY REPLACEMENT OF GREG BARINEAU

Minutes:

Doug Jamieson stated that since Greg was the Chairman of the Board of

Commissioners he thought the Chairman should be the one to replace Greg. Chairman McClellan stated he would be available and willing to attend those meetings. Commissioner Hammack made a motion for Chairman McClellan to replace Greg Barineau on the Utilities Board, seconded by Vice-Chairman Belcher and all were in favor.

12. DISCUSSION/REVIEW UPDATE ON GYM RENOVATIONS

Minutes:

Doug stated that we must do something to the old gym or go back to the voters and tell them the project is infeasible. Doug, Bill McClellan, Brian Belcher (Rec Board President) and Jack Clark (Rec Board Director) met to discuss what we need to do. The first thing we need to do is gut it. We have ordered a dumpster over there and Shane has had two trustees working to get rid of things. Duane Montgomery has pulled a lot of the bleachers out. There is a lot of rot and holes in the roof. Doug has put an ad in the paper for a bid for repairs. We will have to do in pieces. Doug encouraged the Commissioners to go over and look at the gym. A brick guy is coming; Doug would like input from the Commissioners. There is nothing to vote on now; we just want to make it a safe, usable building. Bill suggested when they go over to look at the ceiling; it will have to come down. Bill suggested that we get estimates and see where we go from there. Doug stated that there is a process we would have to go through to get out of the repairs. We would have to have a Resolution stating that it is infeasible and we would have to take to the next SPLOST referendum, as a separate item. Mike Hammack stated that we need to get a cost of having a good serviceable building versus a new building; what would best serve the public. Getting a new building price is easy compared to restoration because we don't really know what we're facing. Bill McClellan stated that there is a metal roof and has steel beams, that is how the building is still standing; we are looking at a very time consuming and money consuming project.

13. APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF REAPPOINTMENT OF MARC ELLIS TO TAX ASSESSOR BOARD

Minutes:

Marc Ellis's term expired December 31, 2020. We need to reappoint him to the Tax Assessors board. Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve Marc to the Tax Assessor Board for another three year term; seconded by Commissioner Hammack and all were in favor.

14. DISCUSSION FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE APPROVAL JUNE 16, 2020

Minutes:

Doug stated that last June the Commissioners approved to submit a financial disclosure to the County. However, there was no disposition of what to do with information. Commissioner Jones made a motion to discontinue submitting the financial disclosure, seconded by Vice-Chairman Belcher and all were in favor.

15. COUNTY MANAGER REPORT

a. EMA DIRECTOR / ZONING / FINANCIALS

Minutes:

Doug discussed the following: 8 permits were issued (3 house/buildings, 1 mobile home, 2 electrical, 3 timber) and seven inspections. The Zoning Board said they changed the minimum lot size to 1.5 acres from one but it was never brought to the Commissioners. There are some people who are grandfathered in. The state regulation is 1.5 acres and Commissioner Hammack stated he thinks we should be in line with the state. Commissioner Hammack made a motion that our minimum lot size be 1.5 acres seconded by Vice-Chairman Belcher and all were in favor. As Art said the motor grader is down and it costs \$56k to replace the transmission; we are working to get one that is coming off lease. The radios have upgraded to digital. Coverage is much better but we have some programming issues to take care of. We are waiting on Paul from SOWEGA to get back to us on a timeline for Ebenezer Road repair. We are still getting trash complaints. Doug talked to Lynne about getting a permanent roll-off out by the shop for people to dump trash in; they are willing to split the cost. We will most likely not get an insurance payment on the roof at the fire department. The damage is not storm related. There will be a prebid meeting January 20th for the right-of-way mowing. We have not heard anything from Perry Brothers on leasing the fuel farm. We have three in quarantine due to COVID. There is a comprehensive plan meeting January 28th at 4:00. Doug is researching about becoming a Broadband Ready Community so it can be part of the Comprehensive Plan.

16. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Minutes:

Commissioner Jones made a motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by Commissioner Hammack; all were in favor.