

**Minutes of Called Meeting  
Elbert County Board of Commissioners  
Monday, October 28, 2019**

Chairman Lee Vaughn called the meeting to order. Present were Chairman Vaughn, Vice Chairman Chris Alexander, Commissioner Horace Harper, Commissioner Kenneth Ashworth, Commissioner Freddie Jones, County Administrator Bob Thomas, County Attorney Bill Daughtry, County Clerk Tamara Butler, CFO Phil Pitts was absent.

After the pledge to the United States flag, the invocation was given by Commissioner Ashworth.

**Adoption of the Agenda.** Chairman Vaughn asked for a motion to amend the agenda and move item 9) Public Comments to the beginning of the meeting. Commissioner Freeman made the motion to amend the agenda and approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner Alexander seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Vaughn asked for a motion to amend the agenda to add an Executive Session for litigation. Commissioner Ashworth made the motion. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

**Public Comments.** Tom Allgood commented on the road resurfacing and if it will be inspected, which Mr. Thomas replied that KCI Engineers would inspect the work and it would be to state specifications.

**Discussion and approval to join with Franklin, Hart, and Stephens counties in urging the FCC to move forward with the Memorandum and Orders for market modifications to allow citizens to receive television coverage from Georgia stations.** Mr. Daughtry stated that the FCC did grant the market modification petition, however, the South Carolina stations appealed. Therefore, a letter to the FCC with Franklin, Hart, Stephens and Elbert counties imploring them to grant the market modification will carry more weight in expediting the appeals process. Commissioner Freeman made a motion to join with the other counties in moving forward with the petition. Commissioner Harper seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

**Discussion and approval to enter into a 12- month agreement with Collection Bureau Associates to assist in collections for our EMS department.** This company has offered a much lower commission for collections. Mr. Thomas stated the collection company we are now using charges up to a 35% commission rate; whereas Collection Bureau Associates has offered an 18% commission rate. Commissioner Harper made a motion to approve the contract with Collection Bureau Associates. Commissioner Ashworth seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

**Discussion regarding disposal of property, furnishings, and equipment from the recent county possession of property at 129 McIntosh Street and 1280 Bobby Brown Park Road.** Mr. Daughtry stated the property owner has not paid property taxes on these properties in approximately 12 years which has accumulated to almost \$20,000 taxes owed on each property. The county has purchased the two properties and have done an eviction and cleaned out both properties. Mr. Daughtry also stated the county could get more of a purchase price on the properties if we applied for a "Quiet Title" which will cost approximately \$2,000 in legal expenses and could take 3 to 4 months; but he feels like the county could get a much higher purchase price for the properties. He also stated that when we sell the property we will have to either get sealed bids or hire an auctioneer. Chairman Vaughn stated that we would like to be able to get more money therefore, he recommended proceeding with the "Quiet Title" to which all commissioners agreed. No vote is required

**Discussion and approval of paving for Montevideo Road with chip/seal application.** Mr. Thomas stated this new chip/seal process has been done by Hobbs Construction Company with good results. He said this is a “new version of the old way of paving” which cost almost a third less than asphalt paving; and the company could be set to start within a week with completion in three to four days. Commissioner Alexander made a motion to approve the paving of Montvideo Road. Commissioner Freeman seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

**Discussion of roads for the 2020 LMIG application.** Mr. Thomas stated that he has received most of the commissioners’ recommendations for the 2020 LMIG application which is to be sent in by Thanksgiving.

**Chairman Vaughn asked for a motion to enter Executive Session.** Commissioner Ashworth made the motion. Commissioner Freeman seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Upon returning, Chairman Vaughn asked for a motion to enter General Session. Commissioner Harper made the motion. Commissioner Freeman seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Vaughn stated that no action was taken.

**Adjournment.** Commissioner Harper made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Alexander seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion carried 5-0.