

Minutes
Elbert County Board of Commissioners
Monday, March 9, 2020

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

After the pledge to the United States flag the invocation was given by Mr. Daughtry.

Chairman Vaughn asked for a motion to amend the agenda to remove item 9) Discussion and approval of the Vehicle Preventative Maintenance Policy for Elbert County and to add in its place – Discussion and approval of a lease with Hart County EMC. Commissioner Alexander made a motion to adopt the agenda as amended. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Adoption of the Minutes of February 10, 2020. Commissioner Freeman made a motion to adopt the minutes as read. Commissioner Ashworth seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and approval to appoint Ms. Rhonda Floyd to the Elbert County Department of Family and Children Services board. This term will expire on June 20, 2024. Ms. Floyd has agreed to serve on the board of DFCS until the term expires. Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve the appointment of Ms. Floyd to the DFCS board. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and approval of fees for building permits for the Code Enforcement office. There was some discussion about fees charged by the county in comparison to other counties and the implementation of new fees to the already existing ones, specifically for Plumbing and HVAC contractors. Mr. Daughtry did state that an ordinance was adopted four (4) years ago that requires all contractors to have a state license. After some discussion, Chairman Vaughn stated these new fees were not for the “county to make money” but for the Code Enforcement office to recoup some cost of the many trips that they have to make in various parts of the county. Chairman Vaughn asked for a motion to approve the new permit fee schedule. Commissioner Harper made the motion and Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Upon voting the motion failed by a 2-3 vote. Commissioners Freeman, Alexander and Ashworth opposed.

Discussion and approval of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the City of Elberton for Detention Center services and for 911 Dispatch services. The agreement is for a 2-year period beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2022. Mr. Thomas stated this is a renewal of the MOU to house city inmates in the county jail. Commissioner Alexander made a motion to approve the MOU with the City of Elberton. Commissioner Freeman seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and approval of bids for trash bags for the Solid Waste department. Purchasing Agent, Bobby Howell, stated that three (3) bids were received with Waste Zero being the low bid of \$16,225.00

for both blue and yellow bags. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to approve the bid from Waste Zero. Commissioner Freeman seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and approve of a lease with Hart County EMC. Mr. Thomas stated that Hart County EMC asked to place a receiver/antenna on the radio tower on Brad Dixon Road so they can get better service. We also lease space from them on a tower at a location in Goss. This will basically be an even swap. This is a one- year lease with a subsequent 10- year renewal option. Commissioner Harper made a motion to approve the lease. Commissioner Alexander seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Public Comments. There were no public comments.

Finance Report. Mr. Pitts stated through February we are under budget and expenditures are a little over 1% less than FY2019. Sales Tax and TSplost revenues were down for February.

Chairman Vaughn asked for a motion to enter Executive Session for property acquisition. Commissioner Freeman made the motion and Commissioner Ashworth seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Upon returning, Chairman Vaughn asked for a motion to enter General Session. Commissioner Freeman made with motion and Commissioner Ashworth seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Vaughn stated no action was taken.

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