

**Minutes of Public Hearing
Elbert County Board of Commissioners
November 8, 2021**

- 1) Request from Cynthia Bass to rezone 1.53 acres from Mixed Use to GB (General Business) and the remaining 2.65 acres to rezone from Mixed Use to R1 (Single Family Residential). This property is located at 3563 Calhoun Falls Highway, Map 079, Parcel 045A. The Planning Commission recommended approval of this rezoning application. There were no public comments on this request.
- 2) Request from Brent Berryman to rezone 1.50 acres from R1 (Single Family Residential) to GB (General Business) to allow a deer processing facility. This property is located at 2583 Cleveland Drive, Map 061, Parcel 015A. The Planning Commission recommended to not approve this application by a vote of 3-0. There were many in attendance both for and against this request. Mr. Brent Berryman spoke first reading a letter that he had written to the board members. Also, others who spoke in favor of Mr. Berryman's request was Reanna Berryman, Miles Barker, Dustin (unknown), John Gowen and JeriLynn Berryman. Some residents who spoke out against this request was Richard Peek, Cosby Smith, Bobby Alexander, Debbie Boykin, Dennis Gulley, and Jerry Wise.
- 3) Request from Sydney McIntosh to rezone parcel 080 056 from R1 (Single Family Residential) to RR (Rural Residential) and parcel 080 056E from AG (Agricultural) to RR (Rural Residential). This property is approximately 5 acres and located at 1900 Lincolnton Highway. The Planning Commission recommended approval of this request. There were no public comments.
- 4) Request from Imagine Construction to rezone Map E16, parcel 070 and Map E15, parcel 040 from R1 (Single Family Residential) to R2 (Single Family and Multi Family). This property is located on Hartwell Highway between Sara Jane Drive and Ridgeway Road. The Planning Commission recommended approval of this request. There were no public comments on this request.

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

After the Pledge to the United States flag the invocation was given by Bill Daughtry.

Adoption of the Agenda. Chairman Vaughn asked for a motion to amend the agenda to remove item 17) Discussion and approval of a proposal from Garrett Paving Company to make repairs to Hoke Dickerson Road and Von Trina Road at a cost of \$26,004.60 and replace with **Discussion and Approval of an MOU with the National Opioid Litigation appeal.** Commissioner Freeman made a motion to amend the agenda and approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner Ashworth seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

Adoption of the Minutes of October 12,2021 and October 27, 2021. Commissioner Alexander made a motion to approve the minutes as read. Commissioner Ashworth seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

Request from Cynthia Bass to rezone 1.53 acres from Mixed Use to GB (General Business) and the remaining 2.65 acres to rezone from Mixed Use to R1 (Single Family Residential). This property is located at 3563 Calhoun Falls Highway, Map 079, Parcel 045A. Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve this rezoning request. Commissioner Ashworth seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

Request from Brent Berryman to rezone 1.50 acres from R1 (Single Family Residential) to GB (General Business) to allow a deer processing facility. This property is located at 2583 Cleveland Drive, Map 061, Parcel 015A. Commissioner Alexander made a motion to approve this rezoning request. Commissioner Ashworth seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-1, with Commissioner Jones opposing.

Request from Sydney McIntosh to rezone parcel 080 056 from R1 (Single Family Residential) to RR (Rural Residential) and parcel 080 056E from AG (Agricultural) to RR (Rural Residential). This property is approximately 5 acres and located at 1900 Lincolnton Highway. Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve this request. Commissioner Ashworth seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

Request from Imagine Construction to rezone Map E16, parcel 070 and Map E15, parcel 040 from R1 (Single Family Residential) to R2 (Single Family and Multi Family). This property is located on Hartwell Highway between Sara Jane Drive and Ridgeway Road. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to approve this request. Commissioner Freeman seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

Request from Shanna Thompson to discuss Haley Lane as being part of the county-maintained road system. Mr. Daughtry stated there is a small discrepancy between survey, therefore we go by the county's records. The roadway to the left of Mrs. Thompson's property would need to be renamed; the roadway to the left is considered Haley Lane. The name the family has requested is Romney Drive. Mr. Thomas stated he would contact the other property-owner and also contact 911 about the suggested name.

Discussion and approval from EMS to update and add Emergency Management Ordinances. Mr. Daughtry stated this is an update to the Emergency Management ordinance that calls for the provision of county services in the event of a state or local emergency. Commissioner Alexander made a motion

to approve the update to the Emergency Management ordinance. Commissioner Freeman seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

Discussion and approval to appoint Beth Seymour to the Region 10 EMS Council. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to approve the appointment of Beth Seymour to the Region 10 EMS council. Commissioner Freeman seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

Discussion and approval regarding the EMS donation account of the EMS Department. Mr. Pitts stated this is an accounting clarification requested by our auditors in which the board can designate someone to manage the donation account fund. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to approve. Commissioner Freeman seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

Discussion and approval to amend the EMS 2021/2022 Budget regarding personnel category. Chairman Vaughn stated this is an amendment to the EMS budget to take into account the board approved raises for the EMS department. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to approve this amendment. Commissioner Freeman seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

Discussion and approval to declare two (2) road department tractors as surplus to sell on GOVDEALS. Chairman Vaughn stated that we will only declare one (1) as surplus at this time and keep one until we hopefully recover one of the tractors that was stolen. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to approve one (1) tractor as surplus. Commissioner Alexander seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

Discussion and approval to amend the annual payment provided to the Elbert County Health Department. Chairman Vaughn stated that Mr. Mike Fernandez and Dr. Steven Coggins from the Health Department spoke at the November 4th work session and asked the board to increase the annual budget back to what it was. Mr. Pitts stated he had talked to the Health Department's auditor and asked about their cash flow. He asked the auditor would an annual payment amount of \$35,000 be sufficient since \$34,000 had been discussed at the work session. Mr. Pitts also added that the board could approve \$35,000 now and if more was needed, they could come back to the board to request additional funds; or approve the original annual budget of \$88,000. Chairman Vaughn stated he would like to see the board approve the original amount of \$88,000. Commissioner Jones made the motion to approve the previous annual amount of \$88,000. Commissioner Freeman seconded the motion. Commissioner Alexander made a motion to approve \$35,000. Upon voting the motion passed 3-1 to approve \$88,000.

Discussion and approval of the Drug and Alcohol policy for Elbert Transit. Commissioner Alexander made a motion to approve the Drug and Alcohol policy for Elbert Transit. Commissioner Ashworth seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

Discussion and approval of an MOU with the National Opioid Litigation. Mr. Daughtry stated Elbert County is participating in a class action lawsuit as part of the National Opioid Litigation. Under the MOU that has been negotiated by the state; the state will receive 75% of the money from the settlement and local governments will be 25%. Of our share the Sheriff's Department will receive 9.5 %, the hospital 2% and the school board will receive 1% and the rest will be used at our discretion. Mr. Daughtry stated we need approval of the MOU and to approve Chairman Vaughn as the authorized agent. Commissioner Alexander made a motion to approve the MOU and Chairman Vaughn as authorized agent. Commissioner Freeman seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

Finance Report. Mr. Pitts stated General Fund expenditures are under budget thru October. Revenues are \$150,365 more than this time last year. Hotel/Motel tax fund is in good shape. Also, Bobby Brown Park cash flow has improved.

Public Comments. There were no public comments.

Adjournment. Commissioner Ashworth made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.