

Minutes of Called Meeting
Elbert County Board of Commissioners
September 19, 2024

Chairman Lee Vaughn called the meeting to order. Present were Commissioner David Hunt, Commissioner Casey Freeman, Commissioner Chris Alexander, Commissioner Mike Scoggins, Commissioner Freddie Jones, County Administrator Allen Hulme, CFO Macie Witcher, County Attorney Bill Daughtry, County Clerk Tamara Butler, guests and media.

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

Adoption of the Agenda. Chairman Vaughn asked for a motion to amend the agenda to add 7a) Discussion and consideration of flying flags at half-staff and 7b) Executive Session for Personnel. Commissioner Freeman made the motion to approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner Alexander seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Public Comments. Ms. Donna Wood asked about the “correction of typographical error” of the Poultry House Ordinance. Chairman Vaughn stated it is in regard to “stack-houses” which are built on poultry farms, but are not poultry houses. They store litter for decomposition. Mr. Daughtry clarified that the mistake was that the ordinance *intended to say* “the term commercial poultry house *shall not* include storage facility for compost and manure, but the word “not” was left out, which was a mistake. Chairman Vaughn stated that poultry houses are still “conditional use” and will have to come before Planning and Zoning and the Board.

Discussion and consideration of the Elbert County School District’s millage rate of 14.0 for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. Mr. Hulme stated it is customary for the Board of Commissioners to approve the school’s millage rate. Commissioner Hunt made a motion approve the millage rate for the Elbert County School District. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Discussion and consideration of the Elbert County Board of Commissioner’s proposed millage rate of 9.928 for the unincorporated portion of the county and 10.349 for the incorporated portion of the county for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. Mr. Hulme stated we are meeting the requirement of the rollback rate set forth by the State of Georgia. Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve the 2024-2025 millage rates. Commissioner Alexander seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Discussion and consideration of “Confirmation of Poultry House Ordinance after correction of typographical error”. Mr. Daughtry stated the typographical error was in the wording; which should have stated “the term commercial house *shall not* include storage facility for compost and manure” but the word “not” was omitted, which Mr. Daughtry stated was an error. He wanted the board to confirm the new wording that stack-houses shall not be included in the definition of commercial poultry houses. Commissioner Alexander made the motion to approve the correction of the wording. Commissioner Hunt seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

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Discussion and consideration of an order by Governor Kemp to fly flags at half-staff in honor of the victims of the school shooting at Apalachee High School in Winder, Georgia.

Commissioner Alexander made the motion that Elbert County's flags remain at half-staff until Monday, September 23, 2024 in honor of former Sheriff, Barry Haston who passed away on September 11, 2024. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Executive Session. Commissioner Freeman made the motion to enter Executive Session; seconded by Commissioner Alexander. The motion passed 5-0.

Commissioner Alexander made the motion to enter General Session. Commissioner Freeman seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Chairman Vaughn stated no action was taken.

Adjournment. Commissioner Alexander made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Freeman. The motion passed unanimously.