

Minutes
Liberty County Board of Commissioners
Midmonth meeting
August 17, 2023

1. The meeting was called order by Chairman Lovette, with all commissioners in attendance.
2. The Chairman certified compliance with the Georgia Open Meetings Act.
3. Rev. Nancy Franklin offered prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. The board recognized coaches and players from the Liberty County High and Bradwell Institute football teams and wished them well in the upcoming Commissioner's Cup Trophy Contest.
5. The board recognized individuals for mentoring in the most recently completed summer youth employment program.
6. Mr. Alan Volsky, Georgia Power's regional representative, appeared to introduce himself to the board of commissioners.
7. Departmental reports were presented:
 - A. Jeff Ricketson appeared to present the monthly report of the LCPC.

Commissioner Frasier made a motion to adjourn to the public hearing for rezoning purposes, seconded by Commissioner Thrift and approved unanimously.

(1) The board considered variance request 2023-049-LC submitted by Smith Homes for the Flemington Forest subdivision. Following the presentation of staff reports, Mr. Ashley Durrance appeared to speak on behalf of the petitioner. The Chairman asked for comments concerning the petition from anyone in attendance. Hearing none, a motion was made by Commissioner Walden to approve the variance request, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard, and approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Frasier to adjourn the public hearing and return to the regular meeting, second by Commissioner Thrift, and approved unanimously.

8. The board considered new business:

A. Ms. DeLisa Clift appeared before the board to provide an update related to the MWBE Plan. Following the discussion, the commission asked Ms. Clift to meet with staff to discuss possible updates to the current policy.

B. The board considered an agreement with the City of Gum Branch to conduct the municipal election for 2023. A motion was made by Commissioner Thrift to approve the agreement, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, and approved unanimously.

C. The board considered a drug abuse treatment and education fund request as submitted by Frasier Counseling Center. Commissioner Thrift made a motion to approve the award of \$5,000 to the Frasier Center, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard and approved unanimously.

E. Liberty County recreation director Mr. Raymond Gross appeared before the board to discuss possible adjustments to facility and usage fees. Following discussion with the board, a motion was made by Commissioner Frasier to table the matter for further study, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, and approved unanimously.

F. The board considered a memorandum of understanding concerning the funding of a juvenile court staff attorney. Commissioner Gilliard made a motion to approve the agreement, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, with commissioners Stevens, Thrift, Lovette, Jones, and Gilliard voting in favor of the motion, commissioners Frasier and Walden absent from the vote.

G. The board considered renewing a lease agreement with Liberty Independent Troop, Inc. Commissioner Stevens made a motion to approve the agreement, second by Commissioner Gilliard, with commissioners Stevens, Thrift, Lovette, Jones, and Gilliard voting in favor of the motion, commissioners Frasier and Walden absent from the vote.

9. Commissioner Stevens made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting, second by Commissioner Gilliard, and approved unanimously.

Liberty County Board of Commissioners

SIGNED:

Donald L. Lovette, Chairman

Justin Frasier, Vice-Chairman

Marion Stevens, Sr., Commissioner

Connie Thrift, Commissioner

Maxie R. Jones, IV, Commissioner

Gary Gilliard, Commissioner

Eddie J. Walden, Commissioner

Attest:

Joseph W. Brown, County Administrator