

MINUTES
Liberty County Board of Commissioners
Regular meeting
September 6, 2016

1. Meeting was opened by Chairman Lovette with all Commissioners in attendance except Commissioner Frasier.
2. The County Administrator certified compliance with the Georgia Open meetings act.
3. Prayer was offered by Pastor Bradeen followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. The Board considered minutes of their August meetings. A motion was made by Commissioner Thrift to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance.
5. The Board entertained New Business:
 - a. The monthly report of the LCPC was presented by Ms. Melissa Jones.

A motion was made by Commissioner Walden to adjourn to public hearing for a rezoning matter, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance.

The Board considered rezoning petition 2016 – 016 – LC a request for rezoning by Jerry Poppell to rezone 4.8 acres of land from AR-1 to B2 at 4709 East Oglethorpe Hwy. further described as LCTM – 101 – 053 and 101 – 049. Following the presentation of staff reports the petitioner, Mr. Poppell, addressed the Board concerning purposes and use for the property. Mr. Poppell noted that his original request for use was pertaining to the establishment of a possible flea market at the location but that after opposition was expressed that consideration had been withdrawn. Ms. Andrea Roberts Wynn addressed the Board to express concerns over traffic and security related to any kind of flea market being established at the location. Ms. Wynn advised the Board that she did support some type of buffering between the residential area and the area proposed for rezoning. The Board briefly discussed with Ms. Jones the type of buffering that would be required. Ms. Jones advised that a structural non-opaque buffer would be required between any areas zoned residential and the subject property.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stevens to adjourn public hearing and return to regular session, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stevens to disapprove the rezoning request. The motion died for lack of a second. A motion was made by Commissioner Walden to approve the rezoning request subject to LCPC conditions and standards, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance except Commissioner Stevens.

- b. Mr. Matthew Barrow addressed the Board to give a final update on the Liberty County Rural Water System. Mr. Barrow reported that approximately 253 customers and 270 households were currently on the system. Mr. Barrow also noted that Woodrow Sapp had begun borings for the new customers that had been identified by the Board to receive extensions of the service. Mr. Barrow informed the Board that it may be possible to obtain a Community Development Block Grant for extension of the system into areas previously identified for service but not funded under the first round. The Board discussed approval to survey these areas for potential customers and also to possibly include the Gumbranch area in the survey. Mr. Barrow informed the

Board that the surveys would need to be conducted by the end of year in order to be able to identify possible users to develop a block grant application. Following discussion the Board authorized Mr. Barrow to work with the County Administrator and Commissioners on establishment of the surveys and on holding public meetings in those areas.

- c. Mark Dukes, of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Georgia, appeared before the Board to highlight a proposed Blue Cross Blue Shield Medicare plan for eligible retirees of Liberty County. Mr. Dukes highlighted aspects of the plan that he believed would be of benefit to the County and those retirees. Following questions from the Board the Chairman asked that the matter be placed on the October agenda.
6. A motion was made by Commissioner Gilliard to adjourn to executive session to discuss a personnel and legal matter, seconded by Commissioner Walden, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance.
7. A motion was made by Commissioner Walden to adjourn executive session and return to regular meeting, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance.
8. A motion was made by Commissioner Walden to adjourn regular meeting, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance.

SIGNED:

Donald L. Lovette, Chairman

Gary Gilliard, Vice Chairman

Marion Stevens, Sr., Commissioner

Justin Frasier, Commissioner

Connie Thrift, Commissioner

Pat Bowen, Commissioner

Eddie J. Walden, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Joseph W. Brown
County Administrator