

MINUTES
Liberty County Board of Commissioners
May 7, 2019
Regular meeting

1. The meeting was opened by Chairman Lovette with Commissioners Walden, Thrift, and Stevens in attendance.
2. The County Administrator certified compliance with the Georgia Open Meetings Act.
3. Prayer was offered by Pastor Richard Hayes followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. The Board considered minutes of their April meetings. A motion was made by Commissioner Walden to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance.
5. The Board considered a proclamation in support of National Travel and Tourism Week. Ms. Leah Poole, Executive Director of the Liberty County Convention and Visitors Bureau, appeared before the Board to highlight activities for the week. The Board adopted the proclamation as presented.
6. Departmental reports were presented:
 - A. Mr. Jeff Ricketson, Executive Director of the Liberty Consolidated Planning Commission, appeared before the Board to present a proposed Solar Energy Systems Ordinance for Board consideration.
7. A motion was made by Commissioner Thrift to adjourn regular meeting and move to public hearing, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance.
8. Mr. Ricketson highlighted specifics of the ordinance passed by the Liberty County Consolidated Planning Commission and answered questions from the Board. No one from the public provided any comments.
9. A motion was made by Commissioner Thrift to adjourn public hearing and return to regular session, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance.
10. A motion was made by Commissioner Walden to approve the Solar Energy Ordinance, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance.
11. The Board considered New Business:
 - A. Mr. Alex Daman, representing the Carl Vinson Institute of Government, appeared before the Board to highlight specific findings associated with the Liberty County Job Description Update and Compensation Plan Project. Mr. Daman answered questions from the Board and advised that he was prepared to work with the Commission concerning recommendations outlined in the study.
 - B. The Board considered an agreement with the Georgia Public Defender Council for the FY 20 contract. A motion was made by Commissioner Walden to accept the contract, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance.
 - C. The Board considered the use of special-purpose local option sales tax funds for improvements at Jack Carter Park in Hinesville. A motion was made by Commissioner Walden to utilize an amount not to exceed \$6,000 for these improvements, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance.
 - D. Ms. Stephanie Thacker, Executive Director of Diversity Health, appeared before the Board to request funds in the amount of \$25,000 to use as grant match to obtain a \$300,000 federal grant for dental health services. Ms. Thacker highlighted detailed aspects of the proposed services to be provided and thanked the Board for their previous support. Chairman Lovette advised Ms. Thacker that the Board was reviewing the FY 20 budget and would consider her request as part of that process.
12. A motion was made by Commissioner Stevens to adjourn to executive session to discuss personnel and legal matters, seconded by Commissioner Walden, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance.

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

14. A motion was made by Commissioner Stevens to adjourn regular meeting, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance.

SIGNED:

Donald L. Lovette, Chairman

Marion Stevens, Sr., Vice Chairman

Justin L. Frasier, Commissioner

Connie Thrift, Commissioner

Pat Bowen, Commissioner

Gary Gilliard, Commissioner

Eddie J. Walden, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Joseph W. Brown
County Administrator