

MINUTES
Liberty County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
June 4, 2019

1. The meeting was opened by Chairman Lovette with Commissioners Bowen, Gilliard, Thrift and Stevens in attendance.
2. The County Administrator certified compliance with the Georgia Open Meetings Act.
3. Prayer was offered by Mr. Reginald Pierce followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. The Board considered minutes of their May meetings. A motion was made by Commissioner Stevens to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance.
5. The Board considered matters related to the proposed 2020 budget. A motion was made by Commissioner Stevens to adjourn to public hearing, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance.
6. Ms. Kim McGlothlin, Financial Officer for Liberty County, appeared before the Board to present a short PowerPoint presentation related to budget specifics for the FY 2020 cycle. No questions were received from anyone in attendance.
7. A motion was made by Commissioner Stevens to adjourn public hearing and return to regular meeting, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance.
8. The Board considered New Business:
 - (A) The Board considered the monthly report of the Liberty Consolidated Planning Commission.
 1. The Board considered an amendment to the Liberty County Zoning Ordinance concerning waterfront properties specifically to amend articles two and three of appendix A and article two of appendix B to redefine a waterfront property and allow accessory structures in the front yard of such defined properties. Following discussion, the Board asked that the matter be re-advertised and presented back to the Board during their July meeting.
 2. The Board considered variance request 2019 – 017 – LC, an application by David and Melinda Holly for a variance in front yard setback at 66 River Dr. further described as LCTM – 350 D – 008. The variance request is to decrease the front yard setback from 35 to 25 feet. The second variance is to allow an accessory building to be placed in the front yard. Following the presentation of staff reports, a motion was made by Commissioner Stevens to approve the variance request, seconded by Commissioner Bowen, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance.
 3. The Board considered variance petition 2019 – 019 – LC an application by Terry and Kathy Lloyd for a front yard setback variance at 543 E. 1st St. located on LCTM – 281B – 017. The variance is to decrease the 25 foot front yard setback by 5 feet to add a garage to the front. A motion was made by Commissioner Bowen to approve the variance request, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance.
 4. The Board re-discussed the matter of possible amendments to the Liberty County Zoning Ordinance concerning waterfront properties. A motion was made by Commissioner Stevens to table the matter for one month, seconded by Commissioner Bowen, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance.
 - (B) Mr. David Irwin, representing Malden and Jenkins CPA's, appeared before the Board to present an overview of the FY 2018 financial audit. Mr. Irwin led the Board through a discussion of the auditors ADNA and advised that they had issued a clean and unmodified opinion. Following questions from the Board, the Chairman thanked Mr. Irwin for his presentation.
 - (C) Ms. Luceria Lovette, representing the Coastal Minority Chamber of Commerce, appeared before the Board to present the annual report.

(D) The Board considered an appointment to the Liberty County Recreation Board. A motion was made by Commissioner Stevens to appoint Mr. Lloyd Byrd. The motion died for lack a second. The Board entered into discussion over certain appointments referred to as district appointments. A motion was made by Commissioner Thrift to reappoint Mr. Kenneth Howard, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard, with Commissioners Bowen, Gilliard, Lovette, and Thrift voting in favor of the motion; Commissioner Stevens opposed.

(E) The Board considered a resolution supporting opposition to proposed offshore drilling in the Atlantic basin. A motion was made by Commissioner Stevens to accept the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance.

9. A motion was made by Commissioner Gilliard to adjourn to executive session to discuss legal matters and land acquisition, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance.

10. 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.

11. The Board considered acquisition of 6.5 acres of property from Mr. Hughie Jeffers near Miller Park. A motion was made by Commissioner Stevens to authorize the purchase, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance.

12. A motion was made by Commissioner Thrift to adjourn regular meeting, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard, 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