

MINUTES
Liberty County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
November 5, 2019

1. The meeting was opened by Chairman Lovette with Commissioners Walden, Gilliard, Thrift, Frasier, and Stevens in attendance.
2. The County Administrator certified compliance with the Georgia Open Meetings Act.
3. Prayer was offered by Pastor Carmen Mendez followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. The Board considered a Proclamation in support of America Recyclables Day, November 15, 2019. Ms. Willa Lewis, Chairman of Keep Liberty Beautiful appeared before the Board to highlight specifics of the KLB program associated with that day. Following the reading of the Proclamation it was adopted by the Board.

Commissioner Bowen joined the meeting.

5. The Board considered matters related to the adoption of the various millage rates for 2019.

A motion was made by Commissioner Walden, to adjourn to Public Hearing for these purposes, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, and approved unanimously.

The Board reviewed a presentation as by Ms. Kim McGlothlin, Chief Financial Officer for Liberty County, related to the proposed rates for various purposes. The floor was then opened for public comments. Mr. John Howard appeared to pose questions related to funding for MidCoast Airport, The Hinesville bus service, gratuities, and waste in the budget.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stevens to adjourn public hearing, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard, and approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Frasier to return to regular meeting, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, and approved unanimously.

The Board considered adoption of the various millage rates for 2019:

A motion was made by Commissioner Stevens to adopt a millage rate of 37.501 for the unincorporated areas, seconded by Commissioner Walden, and approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Frasier to adopt a millage rate of 37.501 for incorporated combined other, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, and approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Thrift to adopt a millage rate of 36.641 for incorporated Hinesville, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard and approved unanimously.

6. The Board considered minutes of their October meetings. A motion was made by Commissioner Walden to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, and approved unanimously.

7. Departmental reports were presented:

- a. L.C. P.C.

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

- (1) The Board considered (2019-034-LC) a request by Dryden Enterprises for Auburn Ridge Subdivision to rezone 19.5 acres from B-2, AR-1, and PUD to all PUD. Staff reports were presented by Nirav Gandhi of LCPC.

A motion was made by Commissioner Thrift to adjourn public hearing, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard, and approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stevens to approve the rezoning request subject to special conditions that building setbacks must be increased from 10 feet to 15 feet and that no access be granted to Charlie Butler Road, seconded by Commissioner Frasier and approved unanimously.

- (2) The Board considered conditional use request (2019-036-LC) by Tyshana Houston for a family day care at 112 Sycamore Way, Midway on parcel LCTM-238B-388. A motion was made by Commissioner Bowen to approve the request, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard, and approved unanimously.
 - b. Ms. Willa Lewis, Chairman of Keep Liberty Beautiful, appeared before the Board to highlight specifics of the Liberty County Proud and Beautiful Program. Ms. Lewis also announced several awards received at the State level by KLB and associates thereof.
8. The Board considered new business:
- a. County Attorney, Kelly Davis, appeared before the Board to present a Resolution of adoption of an intergovernmental agreement between Liberty County and its municipal units of government related to the upcoming TSPLOST referendum. A motion was made by Commissioner Gilliard to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, and approved unanimously.
 - b. Tres Hamilton, Executive Director of Coastal Georgia Community Action Authority, appeared before the Board to provide an update on the progress related to construction of a new Headstart facility in Liberty County. Ms. Hamilton briefly discussed the facility and budget and answered questions pertaining to timing of the project. The Board expressed concern of the lack of ability to apply for CDBG funds until the project was underway. Ms. Hamilton noted that assistance was needed in helping to secure a deed from Riceboro for the project site. The Board asked that the County Attorney contact the attorney for the City of Riceboro and provide a status of the matter at the next meeting.
 - c. The Board considered appointments to various boards:
 - (1) LRMC – A motion was made by Commissioner Thrift to submit the names of Bobby Ryon and Stephanie Osteen to Liberty Regional Medical Center to fill two positions on that board, seconded by Commissioner Stevens and approved unanimously.
 - (2) LCDA - A motion was made by Commissioner Stevens to appoint Maxie Jones Jr., seconded by Commissioners Gilliard with Commissioner Stevens, Gilliard, and Walden voting in favor and Commissioners Bowen, Frasier, Thrift, and Lovette voting against.

A motion was made by Commissioner Frasier to appoint Joe Ford, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard, with Commissioners Gilliard, Stevens, and Frasier voting in favor and Commissioners Walden, Bowen, Thrift, and Lovette voting against.

A motion was made by Commissioner Thrift to appoint Graylan Quarterman, seconded by Chairman Lovette, with Commissioners Thrift and Lovette voting in favor and Commissioners Walden, Gilliard, Bowen, Frasier, and Stevens voting against.

The Board asked that the County Administrator re-advertise for the position for later consideration by the Board.
9. Commissioner Frasier provided an update to the Board concerning the Liberty County Youth Initiative and distributed a calendar of specific milestones and dates for the program.
10. Commissioner Stevens provided the Board with an update following the recent ACCG district meeting.
11. The administrative report was presented:
- a. Island's fire station proposal opening set for December 10, 2019.
 - b. Level one drought declared. Appropriate notices and postings prepared.
 - c. Midway de-annexation on Charlie Butler discussed.
 - d. Chamber Christmas parade announced.
12. A motion was made by Commissioner Gilliard to adjourn to executive session to discuss a personnel matter, seconded by Commissioner Thrift and approved unanimously.

13. A motion was made by Commissioner Stevens to adjourn executive session, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, and approved unanimously.
14. A motion was made by Commissioner Gilliard to adjourn regular meeting, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, and approved unanimously.

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