

MINUTES  
Liberty County Board of Commissioners  
May 18, 2020  
Teleconference

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lovette with Commissioners Frasier, Stevens, Thrift, Gilliard, and Walden present. Commissioner Pat Bowen was absent.
2. The Chairman certified compliance with the Georgia Open Meetings Act.
3. Recreation Director, Jimmy Martin, discussed a three phase re-opening plan with the Board. Mr. Martin shared that he has contacted other communities about their reopening process. He proposed that Phase I take effect May 23, 2020 which would include: 1. Basketball Courts 2. Baseball fields 3. Batting Cages 4. Skating Park 5. Tennis Courts. Venues would have participant capacity and time limitations.

Emphasis would be placed on social distancing. People who desired to use the facilities would be encouraged to make reservations. Commissioners expressed concerns over policing of the locations and sanitization requirements. Mr. Martin advised that he would delegate staff to monitor and patrol in accordance to the Governor's executive order and provide appropriate signage. If people fail to comply, then they risk having the facility completely shut-down. Additionally, restrooms with appropriate hand washing material will be made available. A motion was made by Commissioner Gilliard to move forward with Phase 1, seconded by Commissioner Stevens. Before voting, Commissioner Stevens asked Mr. Martin what facilities would be open again. Mr. Martin replied: Basketball Courts, Baseball fields, Batting Cages, Skate Park, and Tennis Courts. The motion was approved by all Commissioners on the call.

Mr. Brown asked that the Board consider allowing him and Mr. Martin to begin work toward Phase 2 of opening pool facilities. Mr. Brown shared that the County would need to start advertising for some lifeguard positions. We would like to propose a June opening date for the pools. We would erect signage and limit capacity to 50% occupancy. The Board authorized this to move forward.

4. The Board was provided an update from the County Administrator on early voting. Mr. Brown informed the Board of Commissioners that staff met workers this morning at the polls to take temperature readings with one worker exhibiting fever unrelated to Covid-19. The administrator also reported that at the East End Complex, one air conditioner was not working, but that temporary air was being put in place. The absentee ballot box has also been installed and was awaiting proper signage.
5. The County Administrator discussed the development of a re-opening plan for Board review. The administrator advised that he had conversations with the City Manager who informed him that the City was considering a date in early June to re-open buildings in some capacity with restrictions. The Board authorized staff to begin working on this plan.
6. The Board discussed their June meeting and decided to hold it in person subject to social distancing and participation limitations.
7. Motion by Commissioner Gilliard and second by Commissioner Frasier to adjourn the meeting with all Commissioners on the call voting in favor of the motion.

SIGNED:

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Donald L. Lovette, Chairman

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Marion Stevens, Sr., Vice Chairman

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Justin L. Frasier, Commissioner

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Connie Thrift, Commissioner

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Pat Bowen, Commissioner

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Gary Gilliard, Commissioner

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Eddie J. Walden, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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Joseph W. Brown  
County Administrator