

MINUTES
Liberty County Board of commissioners
Midmonth Meeting
August 20, 2020

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lovette with Commissioners Stevens, Thrift, Frazier, and Walden in attendance.
2. The County Administrator certified compliance with the Georgia Open Meetings Act.
3. Prayer was offered by Chairman Lovette followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Gilliard joined the meeting.

4. Departmental reports were presented:
 - A. Ms. Kim McGlothlin presented the monthly financial report. Ms. McGlothlin highlighted specifics associated with expenditures and revenues for all operating funds for both the June and July periods and answered questions from the Board.
 - B. The monthly engineering report was presented by Mr. Trent Long. Mr. Long updated the Board on the status of several projects including the Isle of Wight Fire Station, Interstate Paper Road and Third Street improvements. Mr. Long also recommended an extension of time for the contract on improvements to Melvin Lane due to the delay caused by a utility provider. A motion was made by Commissioner Gilliard to extend the contract completion date to October 28, 2020, seconded by Commissioner Walden, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance.
5. The Board considered new business:
 - A. Mr. David Lucas appeared before the Board to present a proposed intergovernmental agreement for the refinancing of hospital bonds for Liberty Regional Medical Center. Mr. Lucas reviewed bond specifics with the commission and answered questions. Mr. Lucas also discussed with the Board the adoption of a resolution authorizing analysis of bonds associated with construction of the Liberty County Justice Center. Mr. Lucas went over specifics of potential savings associated with these bonds. A motion was made by Commissioner Thrift to proceed with the intergovernmental agreement associated with bond re-finance of the Liberty Regional Medical Center bonds, seconded by Commissioner Walden, and approved by all Commissioners present. A motion was made by Commissioner Walden to adopt the resolution associated with the refinance of the Liberty County Justice Center bonds, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance.
 - B. Ms. Melanie Thompson, Executive Director of the Hinesville Housing Authority, appeared before the board to present an overview of the community housing development organization. Ms. Thompson answered questions from the Board associated with current developments including final construction on Phase 1 project homes. The Board thanked Ms. Thompson and members of the CHDO for their efforts in bringing affordable housing to Liberty County.
 - C. The Board reviewed proposals received for the purchase of two ambulance units for Liberty Regional Medical Center EMS. A motion was made by Commissioner Thrift to award the proposal to Custom Bodyworks at a total cost of \$373,676.00, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance. The Board also welcomed Mr. Richard Lambeth to Liberty Regional Medical Center EMS.
 - D. Recreation Director, Mr. Jimmy Martin, appeared before the Board to discuss concerns which had been expressed over the inability to maintain social distancing guidelines in certain recreational areas. Following discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Walden to return recreational facilities to Pre-phase I reopening guidelines, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance.
 - E. The Board considered proposals received for the replacement of heating and air systems within the gymnasium of the Liberty County Shuman Center. A motion was made by Commissioner Walden to award the proposal to Mock Inc. at a cost of \$215,381.00, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance.
 - F. County Attorney, Kelly Davis, briefed the Board on specifics associated with the new Governor's order related to the COVID-19 emergency. The Commission was advised that the new order did allow for local masking ordinances. However, they were further informed ordinances could not be enforced inside a private business area unless agreed upon by the private business. The County Attorney also briefed the Board on the progress of the monument advisory committee and their actions associated with possible relocation of the Confederate monument at

the old Liberty County Courthouse.

G. A motion was made by Commissioner Gilliard to adjourn to executive session for a personnel matter, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance.

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

I. A motion was made by Commissioner Stevens 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