

MINUTES  
Liberty County Board of Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
September 1, 2020

1. The meeting was opened by Chairman Lovette with Commissioners Stevens, Thrift, and Gilliard in attendance.
2. The County Administrator certified compliance with the Georgia Open Meetings Act.
3. Prayer was offered by Rev. Henry Frasier Jr. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. The Board considered minutes of their August meetings. A motion was made by Commissioner Thrift to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance.
5. Departmental reports were presented:
  - A. LCPC
    - (1) Mr. Nirav Gandhi presented variance request 2020 – 022 – LC a request by Elvis Hutchings for a side yard setback variance for a shed off Sunshine Lake road. The parcel is identified as LCTM – 240D – 024. Following the presentation of staff reports, Mr. Hutchings addressed the board concerning his explanation of the shed and his willingness to put up a fence as a border between properties. A motion was made by Commissioner Stevens to approve the variance, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, and approved by all Commissioners in attendance.
    - (2) Mr. Jeff Ricketson appeared before the board to recap provisions of a proposed RV ordinance previously presented for consideration. A motion was made by Commissioner Thrift to approve the ordinance, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, and approved by all commissioners in attendance.
  6. The board considered new business:
    - A. Mr. Shawn Register and other members representing Savannah Sailing Center appeared before the board to highlight specifics of a Georgia Community Water Sports Center proposed to be located on land adjacent to the Sunbury public boat landing. Members presented a PowerPoint presentation of the proposed project and asked the board to consider assistance in applying for a Georgia Stewardship Grant.

Commissioner Bowen joined the meeting

Mr. Allen Burns, Executive Director of the Coastal Regional Commission appeared to answer questions from the board associated with the grant application. Commissioners entered into general discussion on the project and expressed support provided that access to the ramp and parking would not be affected. Chairman Lovette thanked members of the Sailing Center for their presentation and asked that the matter be scheduled for the September midmonth meeting.
    - B. The board considered proposals received for HVAC replacement at the East End Complex. The assistant administrator reviewed proposals received for the work and recommended award to Coastal Cooling at a total cost of \$35,000. A motion was made by Commissioner Stevens to award the bid to Coastal Cooling, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, and approved by all commissioners in attendance.
    - C. The board considered a change to the Liberty County personnel policy affecting section 12.04. The county administrator reviewed aspects of the change for the board and noted that the change was necessary due to the 24 hour staffing status of new fire personnel. Following questions from the board, a motion was made by Commissioner Thrift to approve the change, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, and approved by all commissioners in attendance.
    - D. The board considered a resolution authorizing receipt of CARES act funding from the State of Georgia. A motion was made by Commissioner Thrift to approve the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, and approved by all commissioners in attendance.
    - E. The board considered a voting delegate for the Association of County Commissioners in Georgia. A motion was made by Commissioner Gilliard to appoint Commissioner Stevens, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, and approved by all commissioners in attendance.
  7. A motion was made by Commissioner Gilliard to adjourn to executive session for a personnel matter, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, and approved by all commissioners in attendance.

8. A motion was made by Commissioner Gilliard to adjourn executive session and return to regular meeting, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, and approved by all commissioners in attendance.

9. A motion was made by Commissioner Stevens to adjourn regular meeting, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard, and approved by all commissioners in attendance.

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