

**Board of Commissioners Agenda Meeting
Courthouse Commission Chambers
April 26, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.
Minutes**

Members Present:

Chairman John Daniell
Commissioner Mark Thomas
Commissioner Chuck Horton
Commissioner Amrey Harden
Commissioner Mark Saxon

Elected Officials Present:

Sheriff James Hale

Staff Present:

Daniel Haygood, County Attorney
Justin Kirouac, County Administrator
Holly Stephenson, County Clerk
Melissa Braswell, Finance Director
Donna Norton, Finance Accountant
Alex Newell, Internal Services Director
Diane Baggett, Communications Manager
Jody Woodall, Public Works Director
Lisa Davol, Parks & Recreation Director
Adam Layfield, Water Resources Engineer
Merry Howard, Senior Center Director
Bruce Thaxton, Fire Chief
Jeremy Wasdin, Chief Deputy

Call to Order: 6:00 p.m.

Chairman John Daniell called the meeting to order and stated that participants using Zoom may comment by using the raised-hand feature.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Commissioner Amrey Harden led the Pledge after a moment of silence.

Approval of Agenda:

ACTION:

Motion:	Chuck Horton made a motion to approve the April 26, 2022 Agenda.
Second:	Mark Thomas
Voted in Favor of Motion:	Mark Thomas, Chuck Horton, Amrey Harden, Mark Saxon
Voted Against Motion:	None
Final Action:	Motion Passed.

Statements and Remarks from Citizens:

None.

Statements and Remarks from Commissioners:

Chairman Daniell announced the county is currently seeking applications for appointments to the following advisory boards: Oconee County Animal Services Board - two appointments for two-year terms; Keep Oconee County Beautiful - two appointments for two-year terms; Family and Children's Services - one appointment for a five-year term; and Tourism and Visitors Bureau - three appointments for two-year terms. Applications can be made online with a deadline of Tuesday, May 10 at noon.

Pavement Index Presentation:

Presented by: Jody Woodall, Public Works Director

Discussion: IMS (Infrastructure Management Services) presented a PowerPoint presentation updating the results and status of the pavement index study. The county's overall road conditions were assessed at 78 on a scale of 0-100, higher than the average of 65 for other cities and counties surveyed. IMS outlined the benefits of pavement management, common pavement distresses, and recommended types of surfacing. Their plans will address streets of all different conditions along with different recommendations for improvement based on funding. Commissioner Thomas questioned whether the road base was measured in addition to the surface and how soil-based roads will affect planning. Commissioner Horton confirmed IMS is suggesting a range of \$3.5 to \$7 million per year for maintenance and road improvement in the county. Also, in the long term, deferred maintenance will cost more than following a maintenance plan. Chairman Daniell confirmed \$36 million over five years should increase the overall condition of county roads to an 84 to 87 on a scale of 0-100. Commissioner Harden expressed appreciation for this data and questioned whether citizens living on current dirt roads desired them to be paved. Chairman Daniell responded the few requests are outnumbered by their neighbors who do not want their road paved. Commissioner Saxon questioned the phases of the plan and whether the lowest rated roads are included initially. Commissioner Horton questioned how long roads would remain ranked the way they currently are if no improvements are made. Commissioner Thomas questioned the study of traffic loading affecting deterioration, particularly truck traffic.

First Reading and Public Hearing of the Proposed Updates to the No through Truck Ordinance:

County Administrator Justin Kirouac announced that this first hearing would have to be postponed to the May 24, 2002 Agenda Setting Meeting as the legal organ, The Oconee Enterprise, did not publish the legal ad required.

Discussion of the Resolution to Name a Designated Officer to Request Sales Tax Information from the Georgia Department of Revenue:

Presented by: Justin Kirouac, County Administrator

Discussion: County Administrator Justin Kirouac requested the Resolution to Name a Designated Officer to Request Sales Tax Information from the Georgia Department of Revenue be adopted naming Melissa Braswell as this officer for the period of May 3, 2022 through May 2, 2023.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the May 3, 2022 Regular Meeting.

*The Public Comment Period was opened and there was no Public Comment.
Chairman Daniell asked if there were "raised hands" via Zoom and there were none.*

Discussion of the Parks and Recreation FY23 Concession Services Contracts with Oconee Futbol Club and Oconee County Little League:

Presented by: Lisa Davol, Parks and Recreation Director

Discussion: The Oconee Futbol Club (OFC) and Oconee County Little League (OCLL) have asked to renew agreements to continue concessionaire services. OFC currently manages soccer concessions at Oconee Veterans Park and OCLL manages baseball/softball and multi-use fields at Oconee Veterans Park, the Bogart Sports Complex and, on a limited basis, Herman C. Michael Park. The agreements will renew through the fiscal year 2023.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the May 3, 2022 Regular Meeting.

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Discussion of Awarding the Guaranteed Maximum Price for Construction of the Administrative Building:

Presented by: Justin Kirouac, County Administrator
Discussion: The county has been working with contractor, Mathias, to obtain a guaranteed maximum price of \$14,800,000 for the Administrative Building. County Administrator Justin Kirouac requests approval of the contract and all necessary budgets amendments for the building. The contract on the round-a-bout will come later.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the May 3, 2022 Regular Meeting.

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Discussion of the Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) Agreement:

Presented by: Justin Kirouac, County Administrator
Discussion: The Department of Family and Children Services through the Department of Human Services has a voluntary program for water and wastewater assistance for low income households. This is a federal program funded by the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 and the American Rescue Plan of 2021. The county would only be responsible for the reporting but must enter into a Home Water Supplier Agreement to participate in helping citizens with water bills. The request is for approval of this agreement.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the May 3, 2022 Regular Meeting.

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Discussion of the Railroad Agreement for SR 15 Waterline Upgrade Project:

Presented by: Adam Layfield, Water Resources Engineer
Discussion: Oconee County Water Resources is prepared to move forward with a portion of the waterline upgrade project along SR15 that has already been contracted with Po Boys Plumbing. This portion includes a railroad bore in the railroad right-of-way. The railroad owner, Athens Line LLCV, requires a signed agreement with parties doing work in their right-of-way prior. The recommendation is for approval of an agreement between Oconee County and Athens Line LLC so the work can begin.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the May 3, 2022 Regular Meeting.

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Discussion of the SFY2022 Expanding Access to COVID-19 Vaccines via the Aging Network (VAC5) Contract with the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission:

Presented by: Merry Howard, Senior Center Director

Discussion: The SFY2022 VAC5 Contract will provide state funding to aid seniors with obtaining credible information about COVID-19 vaccines and assist with those needing help with scheduling, transportation and getting a vaccine. Senior Center Director, Merry Howard, requests approval of the contract.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the May 3, 2022 Regular Meeting.

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Discussion of RFP #22-03-011 for Renovations of the Frank Norris Building:

Presented by: Sheriff James Hale

Discussion: Sheriff James Hale requests awarding the contract for the Frank Norris Building Renovation to the lowest bidder, Garland & Associates Contractors, Inc., for \$261,850. He also requests necessary budget amendments up to the contract amount for the duration of the project.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the May 3, 2022 Regular Meeting.

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Discussion of a New Fire Engine for Fire Station 7 in Bogart:

Presented by: Bruce Thaxton, Fire Chief

Discussion: Fire Chief Bruce Thaxton requests approval for the purchase of a new fire engine for Station 7 in Bogart that was funded in the 2021 SPLOST. The engine will cost \$599,994.63 with an estimated delivery of 26 months.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the May 3, 2022 Regular Meeting.

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Discussion of Bid Awards and Budget Amendments for Bridge Repair:

Presented by: Jody Woodall, Public Works Director

Discussion: Oconee County solicited bids for bridge repair work identified during the regular inspection process for Antioch Church Road, McCree Gin Road and Oliver Bridge Road. The only bid received was from E&D Contracting Services, Inc. for a total of \$220,706. Public Works Director Jody Woodall recommends awarding the contract to E&D Contracting Services, Inc. and approval of necessary budget amendments if the project is not completed in the current fiscal year not to exceed the contract amount. DOT inspections are completed every two years.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the May 3, 2022 Regular Meeting.

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Update on the FY23 Budget:

Presented by: Melissa Braswell, Finance Director

Discussion: Finance Director Melissa Braswell has used the approved budget submittal plan to work through the budget process with departments. Finance and Administration have gone through the budget requests and provided back a recommended budget. Final changes are being worked on, and the final proposal will be presented at the BOC meeting next Tuesday, May 3, 2022. The first public hearing on the budget will be May 24, 2022 at the 6pm meeting. The second hearing and requested adoption will be June 7, 2022 at the 6pm meeting.

Discussion of the Calls Creek Plan Upgrade to 3 MGD Phase 1:

Presented by: Adam Layfield, Water Resources Engineer

Discussion: Water Resources Engineer Adam Layfield recommends awarding the Calls Creek Plan Upgrade to 3 MGD Phase 1 to Crowder Construction for a Guaranteed Maximum Price of \$6,613,935. Phase 1 includes: upgrades to the influent pump system, new RAS pumps, new NRCY pumps, blowers, new filtration system and disinfection system, and a new Solids Dewatering Screw Press. Commissioner Harden questioned the time line on the Phase 1 upgrade which is which is approximately 18 months.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the May 3, 2022 Regular Meeting.

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Discuss the Alcohol License Request for The Chop House; 2025 Oconee Connector; Athens with Nick Joiner as the Registered Agent:

Presented by: Holly Stephenson, County Clerk

Discussion: Holly Stephenson, County Clerk, requests approval of an application for restaurant sale of beer, wine and distilled spirits for The Chop House. The registered agent, Mr. Nick Joiner, has completed the RASS Training. The Chop House will be located at 2055 Oconee Connector in Athens, Georgia. The application is complete.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the May 3, 2022 Regular Meeting.

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Executive Session:

Motion: Mark Thomas made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session to discuss land acquisition.

Second: Chuck Horton

Voted in Favor of Motion: Mark Thomas, Chuck Horton, Amrey Harden, Mark Saxon

Voted Against Motion: None

Action/Motion: **Motion Passed.**

Adjourn into Executive Session: 6:56 p.m.

No action was taken in Executive Session.

Executive Session Adjourned: 7:27 p.m.

Regular Session:

Motion: Chuck Horton made a motion to adjourn back into Regular Session.
Second: Amrey Harden
Voted in Favor of Motion: Mark Thomas, Chuck Horton, Amrey Harden, Mark Saxon
Voted Against Motion: None
Action/Motion: **Motion Passed.**
Adjourned into Regular Session: 7:28 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned:

Motion: Mark Saxon made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Second: Mark Thomas
Voted in Favor of Motion: Mark Thomas, Chuck Horton, Amrey Harden, Mark Saxon
Voted Against Motion: None
Action/Motion: **Motion Passed.**
Meeting Adjourned: 7:28 p.m.



John Daniell, Chairman

Date

 5-3-22

Holly Stephenson, County Clerk Date