

**Board of Commissioners Agenda Meeting
Administrative Building Commission Chambers
August 29, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.
Minutes**

Members Present:

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

Staff Present:

Daniel Haygood, County Attorney
Justin Kirouac, County Administrator
Holly Stephenson, County Clerk
Diane Baggett, Communications Manager
Melissa Braswell, Finance Director
Donna Norton, Budget Officer
Jody Woodall, Public Works Director
Patrick Magana, IT Technician
Amanda Mauldin, Deputy Tax Commissioner
Chief Judge Eric Norris, Superior Court
Judge Lisa Lott, Superior Court
Judge Patrick Haggard, Superior Court
Judge Lawton Stephens, Superior Court
Judge Richard Connelly, Magistrate Court
Judge Mike Hunsinger, Probate Court
Angie Elder-Johnson, Clerk of Courts

Call to Order:

Chairman John Daniell called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance:

County Attorney Daniel Haygood led the Pledge after a moment of silence.

Approval of Agenda:

ACTION:

Motion:	Amrey Harden made a motion to approve the August 29, 2023 Agenda.
Second:	Mark Saxon
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 Oconee County Recycling Centers will be closed Monday for Labor Day. The next Town Hall Meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 20th at the new Administrative Building at 6pm.

Chief Judge Discussion on Probation Services:

Presented by: Chief Judge Eric Norris

Discussion: Chief Judge Eric Norris addressed the Board in regards to the contract for probation services in Oconee County. Currently the contract is with CSRA Probation for services with a deadline of June 30, 2024. Judge Norris stated concerns over the limited scope of services that CSRA provides, but admitted to having no conversations with CSRA at all over his concerns prior to this meeting. Judge Norris praised the employees of CSRA. Judge Norris stated Oconee County has only two options for future probation services: creating a county probation department, or a forming a circuit-wide probation department through an MOU with Clarke County. Judge Norris states the Superior Court Judges will no longer authorize private probation after June 30, 2024.

Steve Queen, Director of CSRA Probation Services, stated they have served Oconee County for over ten years and can adapt to meet the needs mentioned tonight to continue to serve the county. CSRA is sensitive to the growth in the courts that they serve and will put on additional personnel as needed or pull in personnel from other offices in the state when needed. Mr. Queen would like to have further conversations with the Judges and Commissioners to fulfill all needs.

Discuss the Agreement for Court Collection Services between i3 Verticals and Oconee County Probate Court:

Presented by: Judge Mike Hunsinger, Probate Court

Discussion: Probate Court is requesting to renew an agreement made two years ago with current vendor, i3 Verticals, for collection services for unpaid fines. The collection last year was approximately \$17,000.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the September 12, 2023 Regular Meeting.

The Public Comment Period was opened and there was no Public Comment.

Discuss the 2023 Resurfacing Contract Modification:

Presented by: Jody Woodall, Public Works Director

Discussion: Public Works requests approval of the 2023 resurfacing contract modification to reconcile estimate striping quantities with actual quantities and accommodate the striping of Union Church Road which was inadvertently omitted. Commissioner Horton asked for the dollar amount of the modification which is less than \$17,000 with no change to the budget.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the September 12, 2023 Regular Meeting.

The Public Comment Period was opened and there was no Public Comment.

Discuss the Admin Building GDOT Right-of-Way Dedication:

Presented by: Jody Woodall, Public Works Director

Discussion: Public Works requests approval of right-of way dedication of 1,796 sf or 0.041 acres to the Georgia Department of Transportation. The request included authorization for the Chairman to execute the right-of-way deed.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the September 12, 2023 Regular Meeting.

The Public Comment Period was opened and there was no Public Comment.

Discuss the Abandonment of Hillsboro Road – North High Shoals:

Presented by: Daniel Haygood, County Attorney
Discussion: County Attorney Daniel Haygood explained the discussion between the City of North High Shoals and the county in abandoning the portion of Hillsboro Road in the city limits. The request is to approve the future abandonment, then North High Shoals will meet and vote to accept the roadway before the actual abandonment process being.
Chairman Daniell added that North High Shoals held a public meeting to discuss acceptance of this road from the county.
Commissioner Harden asked about drainage issues with the road to which Chairman Daniell explained that is currently being addressed with split cost.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the September 12, 2023 Regular Meeting.

The Public Comment Period was opened and there was no Public Comment.

Discuss the Memorandum of Understanding with the Tourism and Visitors Bureau for use of the William Daniell House as a Welcome Center:

Presented by: Justin Kirouac, County Administrator
Discussion: The Tourism and Visitors Bureau intends to move their Welcome Center from a leased storefront to the William Daniell House. The request is for approval of a Memorandum of Understanding for use and operation of this location. The county does intend to do some repairs to the William Daniell House and the Eagle Tavern in the future.

Commissioner Harden asked where the outside rack with maps and other pamphlets will be moved and suggested moving it to the front of the Eagle Tavern.

On consensus, this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda at the September 12, 2023 Regular Meeting.

The Public Comment Period was opened and there was no Public Comment.

Discuss and Consider a New Alcohol License Application for La Cabana Lopez LLC:

Presented by: Holly Stephenson, County Clerk
Discussion: County Clerk Holly Stephenson requests approval of a new alcohol license for the retail consumption on premises of beer, wine, and distilled spirits for La Cabana Lopez LLC, formerly dba La Cabana Bogart Inc at 2971 Monroe Hwy, Suite 101-102, Bogart, Georgia. The registered agent, Eduardo Lopez, has completed the RASS training, and the application is complete.

The Public Comment Period was opened and there was no Public Comment.

ACTION:

Motion: Mark Saxon made a motion to approve the Alcohol License for La Cabana Lopez LLC.
Second: Mark Thomas
Voted in Favor of Motion: Mark Thomas, Chuck Horton, Amrey Harden, Mark Saxon
Voted Against Motion: None
Final Action: **Motion Passed.**

Executive Session:

Motion: Mark Thomas made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session to discuss land, litigation, and personnel.
Second: Mark Saxon
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: 7:33 p.m.

No action was taken in Executive Session.

Executive Session Adjourned: 8:13 p.m.

Regular Session:

Motion: Mark Saxon made a motion to adjourn back into Regular Session.
Second: Mark Thomas
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: 8:14 p.m.

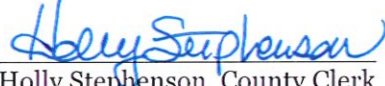
Meeting Adjourned:

Motion: Mark Saxon made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Second: Chuck Horton
Voted in Favor of Motion: Mark Thomas, Chuck Horton, Amrey Harden, Mark Saxon
Voted Against Motion: None
Action/Motion: **Motion Passed.**
Meeting Adjourned: 8:14 p.m.



John Daniell, Chairman

9-12-23
Date



Holly Stephenson, County Clerk

9-12-23
Date