



BALDWIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING

January 3, 2022

1601 N Columbia St, Suite 220

6:00 PM

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Henry Craig
John Westmoreland
Kendrick Butts
Emily Davis
Sammy Hall

OTHERS PRESENT

David McRee
Carlos Tobar
Dawn Hudson
Cindy Cunningham

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Henry Craig called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

INVOCATION

County Manager Carlos Tobar delivered the Invocation

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Craig led the pledge.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Emily Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 20, 2022 Regular Meeting as submitted. Commissioner Kendrick Butts seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

Commissioner Sammy Hall made a motion to amend the Agenda to move Administrative / Fiscal Matters Agenda Item # 3 to Agenda # 2 in order address the election of Chair and Vice Chair before the item for the Airport Advisory Committee is discussed. Commissioner Emily Davis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE / FISCAL MATTERS

Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Commissioner Kendrick Butts nominated Commissioner Emily Davis to serve as Chair. Commissioner Sammy Hall seconded the motion. The vote on the motion to elect Commissioner Emily Davis as Chair passed unanimously.

Commissioner Kendrick Butts nominated Commissioner John Westmoreland to serve as Vice Chair. Commissioner Sammy Hall seconded the motion. The vote to elect Commissioner John Westmoreland as Vice Chair passed unanimously.

The following citizens who signed up to speak on this Agenda item expressed their congratulations to Commissioner Davis on being elected to serve as Chair: Cindy Humphrey, Annie Miller, Tina Behne, Cynthia Edwards and Quentin Howell.

Airport Advisory Committee

Airport Advisory Committee Chair Jim Wolfgang presented the present slate of Airport Advisory Committee Members for 2023 and 2024. He reported there are two new members for the Committee. Both members, Curt Flournoy and Tara Parker, will serve as At Large Members. All other Members will remain the same.

Mr. Wolfgang requested Board approval for the slate of members for the 2023-2024 Airport Advisory Committee.

Vice Chair John Westmoreland made a motion to approve the 2023-2024 Airport Advisory Committee members as presented. Commissioner Sammy Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A copy of the 2023 – 2024 Airport Advisory Committee is herewith attached and made an official part of the minutes at pages _____ and _____.

OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Emily Davis stated there are still problems with trash in the County that must be addressed. County Manager Carlos Tobar stated representatives from Waste Management are in attendance and will address concerns from Commissioners.

Commissioner Hall stated there are many times when the boxes at the Frank Bone Center are not emptied, and citizens have no place to leave their trash except on the ground around the boxes. He asked for an explanation as to why the company can't keep the boxes emptied. Representatives from Waste Management responded the subcontractor now has a new truck in service that should keep the boxes dumped.

Commissioner Butts stated citizens should be able to call a local phone number rather than a number in another location or state. Representatives responded the citizens should be calling the number that goes directly to the call center and stated they will make sure the County has the correct number.

Vice Chair Westmoreland stated that previously citizens coming to the Meriwether Center had a low box to dump trash because many citizens cannot put it in the tall boxes at the center. He stated the concrete at that center is in disrepair and needs to be fixed.

Commissioner Hall stated he felt Waste Management should "re-educate" citizens on the importance of "bagging" trash to help with trash blowing onto roads. He also reiterated the importance of getting the number for the Call Center out to the public so citizens do not have to contact the County which in turn has to contact Waste Management.

Ms. Susie Marshall asked about keeping the trash on Richard Street cleaned up. Representatives from Waste Management responded that cleaning up trash from streets is not a part of the contract with the County; however, the cleanup in that area is being done as often as possible as a courtesy to the County. They then stated Waste Management will clean up the Richard Street area every two (2) weeks until this situation can be addressed further to stop the dumping of trash there. Chairman Craig stated the cleanup by Waste Management in that area is not for an indefinite period of time.

County Manager Tobar stated addresses found by Waste Management in the trash being dumped there has been given to the Code Enforcement Officer, and she is looking into it. He also stated that security cameras were recently installed in areas around the County which would hopefully help with such situations.

Cynthia Edwards stated her Mother lives in the area, and the County has been talking about cameras and cleaning up the trash for too long. She said something needs to be done now.

Chairman Craig stated, as he has before, that the County does not have full time staff devoted to cleaning up trash; however, the County will continue to work with State Court to use community service people to pick up trash.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to come before the Board.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

County Manager Carlos Tobar stated the Five Year Joint Comprehensive Plan Update has been completed for submission to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, and he is excited to embark on the new Five Year Plan.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Danny Blair of 585 Meriwether Road addressed the Board expressing his concerns about the Oakwood development that is adjacent to his property.

Chairman Craig recommended he schedule an appointment with the County Manager and Chief Building Inspector to address his concerns.

Mr. John Downey of 2874 North Columbia Street stated he did not want the development to affect his commercial property located in the area.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Sammy Hall made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 6:55 p.m. Commissioner Kendrick Butts seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Henry R. Craig
Chairman

Cynthia K. Cunningham
County Clerk