



## **BALDWIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING**

**July 20, 2021**

**1601 N Columbia St, Suite 220**

**6:00 PM**

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### **MINUTES**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Henry Craig called the July 20, 2021 Public Hearing and Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING**

Chairman Henry Craig opened the Public Hearing & stated the purpose of the hearing is to receive comments regarding the renaming of the County Administrative Building. He asked County Attorney David McRee to discuss the process of the County's policy for Building and Property Naming / Renaming Policy.

Mr. McRee discussed the guidelines as set forth in the County policy for naming and renaming buildings and properties owned by the County.

#### **Oscar Davis, Sr.**

The following people spoke recommending the Government Building be named for Oscar Davis Sr.

Floyd L. Griffin, Jr. – Coventry Court, Milledgeville: Mr. Griffin stated he would like to talk about the process for naming the building. He said he felt the building should be named for someone who had worked with the County, or a Commissioner, who has worked at the facility. He stated he felt if the building was named for Mr. Davis that it would be a positive step for the community. He recommended that if the building can't be named for Oscar Davis, Sr. then he felt it should not be named for either of the other two nominated individuals.

Cynthia Edwards – Mariners Drive, Milledgeville: Ms. Edwards reported that on March 16, 2021 the local chapter of the NAACP made request to name this building after Oscar Davis Sr. She stated she is here again to request that the annex be named after trail blazer and former Commissioner Oscar Davis, Sr. She said petitions signed by community members & letters that others submitted in support of Mr. Davis have been given to Commissioners. She asked for the Commissioners to take into consideration, Mr. Davis.

Rev. Bobby Warren – Highway 49, Milledgeville: Rev. Warren stated it becomes more important who we name the building after as pertains to Mr. Davis who has been sitting in the seat of a Commissioner as you are sitting in your place. He discussed his personal experiences / relationship with Mr. Davis from a young child forward. Rev. Warren asked the Commissioners to do what makes everybody feel good, not just what looks good. Let's not name it after anybody unless that somebody has done & touched others like Oscar Davis Sr.

James Lunsford – Lakeport Road, Milledgeville: Mr. Lunsford stated he agreed that three great men that have been stellar in this community are nominated for this honor. He said he would like to identify Oscar Davis, Sr. and what he has done for this community. He stated Mr. Davis did a lot of good things for the community, and he deserves to have the building named after him so we never forget what Oscar Davis, Sr. did for this community.

### Rusty Kidd

Jimmy Ivey - Ivey Weaver Road, Milledgeville: Mr. Ivey stated he is here representing the group of individuals who signed a petition and submitted it to the County asking for this building to be named after Rusty Kidd. Mr. Ivey said that Rusty Kidd served in the GA Legislature; Rusty did a lot for the community; he was always open to try to help anybody because he had such a passion for the people of Milledgeville. Mr Ivey stated he would appreciate the Commissioners taking the name of Rusty Kidd into consideration for the naming of the building.

### William J. Usery, Jr.

Mike Couch - Sussex Drive, Milledgeville: Mr. Couch stated all the potential candidates are very worthy; however, he believes former United States Secretary of Labor William J. Usery, Jr. represents the best example of a Baldwin County native who contributed not only to this community but in numerous positions of national responsibility throughout his career. Mr. Couch discussed his personal background as well as his professional accomplishments. He asked the Board for their favorable consideration of naming the building after William J. Usery, Jr.

Commissioner Sammy Hall made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Vice Chairman John Westmoreland seconded the motion.

Questions were posed from the audience regarding who submitted each name for consideration. County Attorney McRee further explained the next steps in the process. He stated all information related to each nominee and the County Manager's report, upon completion, would be submitted to Commissioners and the group or individual(s) who submitted the names of Oscar Davis, Sr., Rusty Kidd and William J. Usery, Jr.

Chairman Craig called for a vote on the motion to close the Public Hearing at 6:40 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Vice Chairman John Westmoreland made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 6, 2021 Work Session, July 6, 2021 Regular Meeting and July 6, 2021 Executive Session as submitted. Commissioner Emily Davis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE / FISCAL MATTERS**

### Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth Program Grant Award

Finance Director Jill Adams presented the WIOA Youth Program grant award in the amount of \$612,576 with an administrative amount not to exceed \$61,258. She stated the grant period is 4/1/21 - 6/30/23, and no Baldwin County match is required.

Vice Chairman John Westmoreland made a motion to accept the Youth Program grant award as presented. Commission Emily Davis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### Contract Service and Financial Agreement for Middle Georgia Workforce Development Area 11

Finance Director Adams presented a contract service and financial agreement between Baldwin County and the Executive Committee of Chief Elected Executive Officials for Middle GA Workforce Development Area 11; Workforce Development Board and Middle GA Consortium for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. She stated the Agreement incorporated the annual budget of \$2,857,605 for all programs, i.e. youth, adult and dislocated worker programs.

Commissioner Emily Davis made a motion to approve the Contract Service and Financial Agreement including program budgets as presented. Commissioner Kendrick Butts seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) Contract

Assistant County Manager Dawn Hudson reported the County, as authorized by legislation, may impose an eight percent (8%) Hotel / Motel Tax on lodging accommodations. The revenue derived from the tax may be made available and expended to promote tourism. She stated the CVB is the designated marketing organization for the tourism portion of the tax. Ms. Hudson presented a contract with the Convention and Visitors Bureau which solidifies the agreement for Baldwin County to allocate 43.75% of the 8% excise tax for the purpose of promoting, attracting and stimulating tourism and for such other purposes as authorized. She stated the contract must also be approved by the Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Commissioner Sammy Hall made a motion to approve the contract with the Convention and Visitors Bureau as presented. Commissioner Kendrick Butts seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A copy of the Contract is herewith attached and made an official part of the minutes at pages \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

#### Resolution Adopting Joint Comprehensive Plan Interim Update

County Manager Carlos Tobar presented a Resolution adopting the Joint Comprehensive Plan Interim Update to include the Broadband Services element of the Plan. He reported this allows the County to apply for grant funds and partner with other provider agencies for the services. He stated the City of Milledgeville will consider the Resolution for adopt next week.

Commissioner Sammy Hall made a motion to adopt the Resolution as presented. Commissioner Emily Davis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A copy of the Resolution is herewith attached and made an official part of the minutes at pages \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Chairman Craig reported that he and County Manager Tobar represented the County at the National Association of Counties (NACo) Annual Conference and attended the award ceremony to receive three (3) NACo National Achievement Awards - Baldwin County Transit Program in the Transportation category; Baldwin County Regional Airport in the Community and Economic Development category; and Adult Treatment Court Collaborative under the Criminal Justice and Public Safety category.

Chairman Craig stated one primary subject at NACo was COVID which the Center for Disease Control now considers the pandemic of the unvaccinated. He encouraged everyone to get the COVID vaccination in order to stop the pandemic.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no New Business to come before the Board.

## **COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT**

County Manager Tobar presented an update on the following projects: splash pad opened; temporary pad features will be replaced with permanent ones as soon as they arrive; Bonner Road set to re-open soon; Georgia Initiative for Community Housing (GICH) meeting held; replaced 5,500 linear feet of 6,600 linear feet of defective water pipe at Erin Shores; driveway construction for Government Building should be complete by mid-August; language in Manufactured Home ordinance is being reviewed by Land Use Committee, and a public hearing will be scheduled soon.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Cindy Humphrey of Simpson Proctor Lane stated she submitted a work order in November to get ditches dug out, and she submitted a follow-up request in June. She asked when the County would clean out the ditch.

Shanerica Johnson, owner of a mobile home park at 105 Harrisburg Road, requested the County cut the grass along the road. She stated the same situation of tall grass is also at 175 & 177 Wolverine Street. Ms. Johnson requested more specific answers regarding Master Water Meters and how owners of parks will be charged in order for accurate information to be forwarded to tenants. Chairman Craig recommended that she discuss the situation with Mr. Tobar after meeting, and he will be able to assist her with her questions.

Susie Marshall of 196 Frazier Drive expressed concern about issues on the southside of town including no street lights in the area of Frazier Drive and Vinson Highway; tall grass along roads, robberies and crime in this area; and other matters. She requested consideration in getting help on southside.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There were no matters to come before the Board in an Executive Session.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Kendrick Butts made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m.  
Commissioner Sammy Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Henry R. Craig  
Chairman

Cynthia K. Cunningham  
County Clerk