



The Commission
of the Unified Government of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County, Georgia

215 McNaughton St Cusseta, Georgia 31805
(706) 989-3602 Fax (706) 989-2005 lisa@ugoccc.com

Charles Coffey, Chairman
Timothy Biddle, Vice Chairman
Gerald Douglas
Damon Hoyte
Jason Frost

Kenneth Riner, County Manager
Lisa Bickel, County Clerk
Bin Minter, County Attorney

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

January 2, 2024

215 McNaughton St.

PRESENT:

Chairman Coffey
Vice-Chairman Biddle
Commissioner Douglas – Via Phone
Commissioner Hoyte
Commissioner Frost

Lisa Bickel, County Clerk
Bin Minter, County Attorney

Chairman Coffey called the Regular Monthly Meeting of the *Commission of the Unified Government of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County, Georgia* to order at 9:00 a.m., with all other Commissioners present, with the exception of Commissioner Douglas Via Phone and live streaming on our Facebook page.

Motion made by **COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS** to appoint **CHARLES COFFEY** as **CHAIRMAN**, seconded by **COMMISSIONER FROST**. The vote was unanimous.

Motion made by **COMMISSIONER FROST** to appoint **TIMOTHY BIDDLE** as **VICE CHAIRMAN**, seconded by **COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS**. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 5, 2023, REGULAR MEETING

Commissioner Frost made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Seconded by **Commissioner Biddle**. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 5, 2023, EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

Commissioner Hoyte made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Seconded by **Commissioner Frost**. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 27, 2023, WORK SESSION MINUTES

Commissioner Biddle made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Seconded by **Commissioner Hoyte**. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF DECEMBER 27, 2023

Commissioner Frost made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Seconded by **Commissioner Hoyte**. The vote was unanimous.

OPEN FORUM

NONE

OLD BUSINESS

ATTORNEY is still working on the preferred e911 structure, still working on personnel policy, there were two versions on the personnel policy. He is helping both Lou Beck & Samantha Hedgecoke on the zoning status letter and demolition cleanup process. **COMMISSIONER BIDDLE** updated Mr. Minter on the GFL contract, he will bring it up in June to bring it up for renewal. 22/23 audits when he last communicated with the auditor she was on track with the audits, and he should have an update soon and should be emailing us by the end of the week. **CHAIRMAN COFFEY** spoke with Robin Dunn, and she also will get us a rollup for the year end and see where we are at with the budget for amendments. **CHAIRMAN COFFEY** also informed everyone that the previous County manager Kenneth Riner has resigned, we do want to wish him well on his future endeavors. **CHAIRMAN COFFEY** asked Mrs. Bickel if there were any updates from the County managers office, she informed him that the GCIP Georgia Certification Internship Program Grant was submitted last month. Also, ACCG offered County excellence awards in which our county has nominated quite a few elected officials and employees with the help of James Clark, the nominees that were selected were Judy Liles, Samantha Hedgecoke, Ron Hedgecoke, and Lisa Bickel.

NEW BUSINESS

ATTORNEY asked when will the closing date be for the county manager be, the Commission decided they would keep the position open until the next work session. Mr. Minter then discussed the 2024 resolution for 2024 qualifying fees that they would need to vote on before February 1st. It can be a called meeting in addition to the January work session, or it can be amended to this agenda. He also added that depending on how the county is setup or where the local level of control is, if the County Manager can make decisions without having to go to the Board of Commission, they can allow department heads and Elected Officials to move line items in the budget as long as it doesn't affect the bottom line of the budget. **COMMISSIONER HOYTE** asked about the cemetery committee suggestions, the 911 Board meeting and request. The Attorney will look at the cemetery by laws. Mrs. Bickel will send the open records request to the attorney to review. **CHAIRMAN COFFEY** asked Mrs. Bickel to keep up with County Manager updates until a new manager is in place.

County Clerk informed the Commission that she had no new business to discuss.

LMIG 2024: Would mirror the same as previous year and be the exact same roads. Motion made by **Commissioner Biddle** to accept the 2024 LMIG, Seconded by **Commissioner Frost**. The vote was unanimous.

QUALIFYING FEES RESOLUTION 2024: Motion to amend the agenda and add qualifying fees as a voting item made by **COMMISSIONER HOYTE**, seconded by **COMMISSIONER BIDDLE**. The vote was unanimous. Fees are as follows, Commissioner \$138.00, Clerk Superior Court \$1466.00, Tax Commissioner \$1479.00, Sheriff \$1466.00, Probate Judge \$1466.00, Magistrate Judge \$1495.00 Coroner, \$59.00, School Board \$72.00

Motion to approve the 2024 qualifying fees made by **COMMISSIONER FROST**, seconded by **COMMISSIONER BIDDLE**. The vote was unanimous.

SPEAKER

Steve Nelson here because of two issues, had a water leak that he was told to pay \$500 to fix. He has had issues with Ms. Teri. He is having issues with the sheriff's department. The right of way on the property isn't getting cut properly he stated by the county. He stated that his homeowner's insurance has cancelled on him since his grass isn't cut, and he cannot cut it because the last time he did he fell over on his tractor. He also stated that he told Teri Bowles to apply for the position of County Manager, he did great at the laundry, and he thinks he will do a good job here.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A Motion was made to go into executive session at 9:46 a.m. **Commissioner Biddle** made the Motion, seconded by **Commissioner Hoyte**. The vote to enter executive session was unanimous.

Regular meeting reconvened:

The regular meeting reconvened at 10:53 a.m. **Chairman Coffey** made the statement that the subjects discussed during the closed meetings were within the legal exceptions to the open meetings law and that no votes were cast within the session.

CHAIRMAN COFFEY stated that we had a proposal with the insurance company for the vehicle that was damaged with the sheriffs dept., he spoke with the sheriff, we will reach out to the insurance company and ask questions about why we are paying deductible, is that something we will get back since it wasn't our fault. The sheriff is ok with keeping the vehicle for parts. We are also receiving a check for the inventory of the vehicle and will probably have to do a budget amendment for the sheriff's department. **COMMISSIONER HOYTE** asked did the sheriff department need the vehicle, **CHAIRMAN COFFEY** said the sheriff said he does need it. We will put on the work session with updates.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be conducted by and with the Commission of the Unified Government of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County, Georgia, Chairman Coffey declared the Monthly Meeting of the Board of Commissioners adjourned at 10:55 am on Tuesday, January 2, 2024.



CHARLES COFFEY, CHAIRMAN



TIMOTHY BIDDLE, VICE CHAIRMAN



GERALD DOUGLAS, COMMISSIONER




DAMON HOYTE, COMMISSIONER



JASON FROST, COMMISSIONER

February 6, 2024
DATE APPROVED

I hereby certify that the foregoing documentation, the Minutes of the January 2, 2024, Regular Meeting, was approved via majority vote by the Board of Commissioners in its February 6, 2024 regular meeting.

ATTESTED BY: 

LISA BICKEL, COUNTY CLERK
UNIFIED GOVERNMENT OF
CUSSETA-CHATTAHOOCHEE COUNTY

Seal:

