



*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**

**November 7, 2023**

**215 McNaughton St.**

**PRESENT:**

Commissioner Coffey  
Vice-Chairman Biddle  
Commissioner Douglas  
Commissioner Hoyte  
Commissioner Frost

Kenneth Riner, County Manager  
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, and live streaming on our Facebook page.

Commissioner Coffey and all Commissioners present. With 2 of the public in attendance.

**SPEAKER**

Justin Brown of the Georgia Forestry came to give his annual report. He mentioned that he would be doing interviews for the part time tower position that came open. He has always had a great relationship with Chattahoochee County. He spoke on fire protection and that there were only three fires this past year, and that the people in Chattahoochee County did well on getting burn permits. **The Commission** thanked Justin for everything they do.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 3rd, 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 OCTOBER 3rd, 2023 EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES**

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

**APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 23rd, 2023 WORK SESSION MINUTES**

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

**APPROVAL OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF OCTOBER 23rd, 2023**

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

## OPEN FORUM

NONE

## OLD BUSINESS

**Attorney Minter** spoke on First Baptist Church deed has been recorded on the Cemetery, it was signed over a year ago just not recorded until now. Fire tower Rd landowner update, he has spoken with the County Manager and will provide a response to the landowner's attorneys. He has many things on his list such as the zoning status letter with CME Mobile Home Park, he doesn't know the status of the sale, however there are pending violations on the park itself that need addressed. Personnel policy update is still on his list to be updated. E911 fee structure is still in the works.

**County Manager** informed the Commission that we will look for someone to cook for the County annual Christmas party and that it will be held at the Rec center, since there is more room. He did reach out to the landowner at 232 Fire tower Rd, he would refer to the County Attorney to reach back out to them. He also mentioned that the yearly audit with Accounting Technology Solutions, he has reached out but heard nothing back from them. He still hasn't heard anything back from Tyler Software. We broke the beaver dams on Fire tower Rd. **Commissioner Coffey** asked if that was Gordy Mill or Fire Tower, County Manager said they did break the dam on our right of way on Gordy Mill Pond Rd as well. A landowner called in trying to stop crews saying he owned part of the dam, but we do not have all of the details yet. He will reach back out to the landowner.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Attorney Minter** had recommended that the county had one person to receive all of the open records request, which he recommended the clerk. He mentioned you can not force the Elected officials, but he did mention it to the sheriff, and he wasn't opposed to the idea. Commissioner Coffey said they spoke on this at the Work Session, and all agreed that it would make sense to have one point of contact, therefore the County Clerk would be the receiver of open records request, and for the County Manager to reach out to the Elected Officials to see if they would like to opt in, Mrs. Bickel told the Commission she has already reached out to the Elected Officials and they are all ok with it, with the exception of Superior Court.

**County Manager** informed the Commission that they have already started on the new motor grader project. Ms. Debbie Hart would like to request a CUP Public Hearing on the Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>. There has been some confusion with the compactor at the recycle. GFL representatives spoke up and said we have been paying for over 20 years for the compactor and we should own this by now. He is saying the bailer is at the high school and that they moved the bailer from the recycle to the high school. Jimmy with GFL also said we were on a month to month contract. They would like to increase the rates for trash pickup by 3.50 more each month. **Commissioner Coffey** said we will put this on the November Work Session for discussion.

**BOX SPRINGS RD:** Motion to table Box Springs Rd and keep on November Work Session until further research is presented made by **Commissioner Frost** , Seconded by **Commissioner Biddle**. The vote was unanimous.

**HEALTH BOARD REAPPOINTMENT REV ANDREW THOMAS:** Motion to approve and reappoint Rev. Andrew Thomas, made by **Commissioner Biddle**, Seconded by **Commissioner Frost**. The vote was unanimous.

**2021 AUDIT:** **Commissioner Coffey** asked if anyone was here to speak on the audit at this meeting, the Attorney replied he never got a response back. **Commissioner Biddle** said that should be a breach of contract and that we paid for services that we did not get. **Commissioner Frost** frustrated is just ready to move forward and past this, we will find anything in the 2022 and 2023 Audits with this new auditor.

Commissioner Frost made motion to accept the 2021 audit, Seconded by Commissioner Douglas, With Commissioner Biddle voting against. All other Commissioners for it. The vote passed.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

A Motion was made to go into executive session at 10:00 a.m. Commissioner Hoyte made the Motion, seconded by Commissioner Frost. The vote to enter executive session was unanimous.

**Regular meeting reconvened:**

The regular meeting reconvened at 10:31 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.

**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 Work Session of the Board of Commissioners adjourned at 10:33 am on Tuesday, November 7, 2023.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHARLES COFFEY, CHAIRMAN

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
TIMOTHY BIDDLE, VICE CHAIRMAN

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GERALD DOUGLAS, COMMISSIONER

\_\_\_\_\_  
DAMON HOYTE, COMMISSIONER

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JASON FROST, COMMISSIONER

December 5, 2023  
DATE APPROVED

I hereby certify that the foregoing documentation, the Minutes of the November 7, 2023, Regular Meeting, was approved via majority vote by the Board of Commissioners in its Dec. 5, 2023 regular meeting.

ATTESTED BY:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
KENNETH RINER, COUNTY MANAGER  
UNIFIED GOVERNMENT OF  
CUSSETA-CHATTAHOOCHEE COUNTY

Seal:

