



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

Thomas Weaver, County Manager

Lisa Bickel, County Clerk

Bin Minter, County Attorney

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

Oct. 1, 2024

215 McNaughton St.

PRESENT:

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

Thomas Weaver, 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 6:00 p.m., with all other Commissioners present with the exception of Commissioner Biddle, and live streaming on our Facebook page.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPT 3, 2024, REGULAR MEETING

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

APPROVAL OF THE SEPT 3, 2024, EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

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

APPROVAL OF THE SEPT 23, 2024, BOC WORK SESSION MINUTES

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

APPROVAL OF THE SEPT 23, 2024, EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

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

OPEN FORUM

NONE

SPEAKER

TERESA PARRISH/JD ABERCROMBIE- Ms. Parrish inquired about grass cutting for the city, the County Manager stated it varies, but we are not doing landscape cutting but that the county is doing utility cutting. **JD ABERCROMBIE** at 132 Patterson Rd., is speaking on Ms. Parrish behalf, on Sept. 13 she received a citation

warning for dirt coming out into the road. The reason he understood why she got the citation was because someone had slid on the road due to the dirt on the road, observations from that, his opinion from that, if the person slid from that they are either speeding or they have bald tires, the speed limit on Massey Rd. is 25 miles on hour, she received the warning on Sept. 19th, with seven days to have the issue corrected. She lives in Lagrange, and works in Lagrange, he stated that Josh Abercrombie, his father David Smith & himself came to her property to clean it up for her. It was half in thick sand, no rock, they cleaned it up with no shovels. His question was about the several other driveways that did the same thing, how many of them received citations on the 13th. The County Manager stated there were ten driveways that day that did receive citations, but the County Manager did state that some were on Hwy 137 and not just Massey Rd. Mr. Abercrombie stated that a code Enforcement officer was sent on Sept. 13th, the same day we were getting two-three inches of rain. He stated that he didn't call about Patterson Rd which was deep in ruts and a foot and a half across, because he knew nothing would be able to be done, but yet someone sent a citation officer that day. Mr. Abercrombie also asked out of all the other driveways how many have been cleaned up. He stated they only have seven days to clean up as residents, but what is the accountability for the county to get things cleaned up. He stated that on the 20th of Sept. he made a work order for Patterson Rd, for the ditches and road fixed. The road was made passable, and the ditch and the pipe were cleaned out, nothing else was done until last night, ten days until after he put in a work order. The County Manager spoke with Ms. Parrish again letting her know that when it rained that was how we know there was an issue with those driveways and that was why the warnings were sent, to inform the residents so they can be informed there is an issue, so it can be resolved. The County Manager said there has to be a formal system in place and the warnings are that system. County Manager stated that the county does what they can with what resources they have, and they put out what fires they can a little at a time, and then they come back at a later date and finish the entire road, but after the storm they did go back and check the road again to be sure it was passable. **CHAIRMAN COFFEY** stated that this is an issue that has been brought up on two points, one the warning system and a citation and how that's been working, we had a complaint in the last meeting, just so everyone knows a warning is a courtesy and we do not have to give them. We can write someone a citation on the spot, but when it comes to the county, we do what we can do, we might not have the resources to fix everything, but I have the confidence our staff does the best they can with what they have. **Commissioner Frost** also stated that the motor grader was down for repairs as well and that we only have one.

OLD BUSINESS

ATTORNEY the Election ordinance, it is on the agenda for today, because it hasn't been advertised in the paper for three weeks, it will not be official after the vote. Cemetery By laws, he will address when it comes up on the agenda.

County Manager moving along with the Paychex payroll system.

NEW BUSINESS

ATTORNEY County is being sued, lawsuit is public record, the amount is 5 million dollars, anything about the suit he will discuss in executive session.

County Manager nothing that isn't on the agenda.

AGENDA ITEMS

Board of Education to use Old City Hall Building: Motion to table until Nov. Meeting and vote on at next meeting, made by **Commissioner Frost** to, seconded by **Commissioner Douglas**. The vote was unanimous.

Cardboard Compactor at Recycle: Motion made to table until next Work Session, by **Commissioner Frost**, seconded by **Commissioner Hoyte**. The vote was unanimous.

Reappoint Jim Weihe to Tax Assessors: Motion made by **Commissioner Hoyte**, seconded by **Commissioner Frost**. The vote was unanimous.

Reappoint Ken Vanhorn to Tax Assessors: Motion made by **Commissioner Douglas**, seconded by **Commissioner Hoyte**. The vote was unanimous.

Board Of Elections Policy: Motion to table to have Second Public Reading at Work Session by **Commissioner Frost**, seconded by **Commissioner Hoyte**. The Vote was unanimous.

Vehicle Purchases: Motion to approve vehicle for BOC to use credit so we do not lose, and table other two vehicles for Sheriff and EMA until December, since we do not know if SPLOST will pass, if EMA needs a vehicle, we can look at the Tahoe that the sheriff dept has, made by **Commissioner Frost**, seconded by **Commissioner Hoyte**. The vote was unanimous.

Make Paul Rakel County Engineer of Record: Motion to table Work Session by **Commissioner Frost**, seconded by **Commissioner Douglas**. The Vote was unanimous

Cemetery Bylaws: Discussion with Bin on adopting them as rules & regulations, and does the county want to put the bylaws in our ordinance then we will need to do them as an ordinance with public readings, Bin will meet with the cemetery committee next time they meet. Motion to table Work Session by **Commissioner Hoyte**, seconded by **Commissioner Frost**. The Vote was unanimous

Beverly Riley S5 Refund: Motion to approve by **Commissioner Frost**, seconded by **Commissioner Douglas**. The Vote was unanimous

Appoint Tom Weaver to Two Rivers: Motion to approve by **Commissioner Douglas**, seconded by **Commissioner Hoyte**. The Vote was unanimous

Reschedule November Regular Meeting: Motion to reschedule to Nov. 12th at 9:00 am, approved by **Commissioner Frost**, seconded by **Commissioner Hoyte**. The Vote was unanimous

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

CHAIRMAN COFFEY stated there is a tunnel to towers event on November 9th at 9am in Preston, GA, if anyone is interested, he has information, and we will be sure to get to anyone who might want to go to the event, he will be sure the County Manager has it on the website as well.

A Motion was made to go into executive session at 6:57 p.m. **Commissioner Frost** made the Motion, seconded by **Commissioner Douglas**. The vote to enter executive session was unanimous.


Regular meeting reconvened:

The regular meeting reconvened at 7:44 p.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. Subjects discussed were personnel matters and legal issues.

ATTORNEY BIN stated he wanted to clarify that there are two pending legal matters in Chattahoochee County on file at Superior Court, on the County, one is an appeal from a decision from Magistrate Court, Case 23-CV-0257. One is a lawsuit, and one is an appeal, **CHAIRMAN COFFEY** thanked Bin for the clarification. **CHAIRMAN COFFEY** also stated at the last meeting we had a resident at the last meeting come before them with a matter, County Manager Weaver stated he will cover it at the next Work 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 Meeting of the Board of Commissioners adjourned at 7:48 pm on Tuesday, October 1, 2024.



CHARLES COFFEY, CHAIRMAN

Absent

TIMOTHY BIDDLE, VICE CHAIRMAN



GERALD DOUGLAS, COMMISSIONER




DAMON HOYTE, COMMISSIONER



JASON FROST, COMMISSIONER

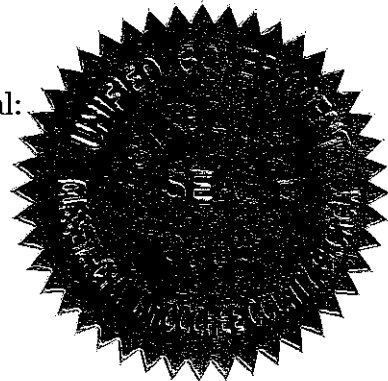
Nov. 12, 2024
DATE APPROVED

I hereby certify that the foregoing documentation, the Minutes of the Oct. 1, 2024, Regular Meeting, was approved via majority vote by the Board of Commissioners in its November 12, 2024 regular meeting.

ATTESTED BY: 

THOMAS WEAVER, COUNTY MANAGER
UNIFIED GOVERNMENT OF
CUSSETA-CHATTAHOOCHEE COUNTY

Seal:



**RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE
CUSSETA-CHATTAHOOCHEE COUNTY BOARD OF TAX
ASSESSORS**

WHEREAS, the Commission of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County, Georgia (herein after called "Commission") is authorized by State Statute to appoint members to the Board of Tax Assessors which shall be from three (3) to five (5) members; and

WHEREAS James Wiehe was appointed to fill the position at Post 5, for that term which expires on Dec. 1, 2024

WHEREAS James Wiehe has expressed a desire to continue serving the community by volunteering on the Board of Assessors expiring Dec. 1, 2028.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commission has unanimously approved James Wiehe's appointment to Post 5, Cusseta-Chattahoochee County Board of Assessors.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Commission of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County, Georgia on the 1st day of October 2024.



CHARLES COFFEY, CHAIRMAN

ATTESTED

BY: 

**THOMAS WEAVER, COUNTY MANAGER
UNIFIED GOVERNMENT OF CUSSETA-
CHATTAHOOCHEE COUNTY, GEORGIA**

Seal:



**RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE
CUSSETA-CHATTAHOOCHEE COUNTY BOARD OF TAX
ASSESSORS**

WHEREAS, the Commission of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County, Georgia (herein after called "Commission") is authorized by State Statute to appoint members to the Board of Tax Assessors which shall be from three (3) to five (5) members; and

WHEREAS Ken Vanhorn was appointed to fill the position at Post 4, for that term which expires on Dec. 1, 2024.

WHEREAS Ken Vanhorn has expressed a desire to continue serving the community by volunteering on the Board of Assessors.

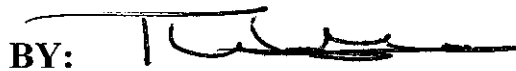
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Commission has unanimously approved Ken Vanhorn's appointment to Post 5, Cusseta-Chattahoochee County Board of Assessors to fulfill that term which expires on December 1, 2028.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Commission of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County, Georgia on the 1st day of October 2024.



CHARLES COFFEY, CHAIRMAN

ATTESTED

BY: 

**THOMAS WEAVER, COUNTY MANAGER
UNIFIED GOVERNMENT OF CUSSETA-
CHATTAHOOCHEE COUNTY, GEORGIA**

Seal:



**RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE CUSSETA-
CHATTAHOOCHEE COUNTY TWO RIVERS REGIONAL COMMISSION**

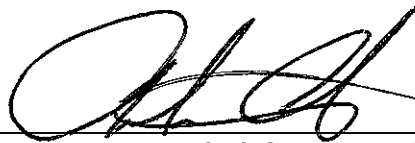
WHEREAS, the Commission of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County, Georgia (herein after called "Commission") is authorized by state statute to appoint members to the Cusseta-Chattahoochee County Two Rivers Regional Commission; and

WHEREAS, Russell Rhodes was previously appointed to serve on the Two Rivers Regional Commission; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Commission to appoint Thomas Weaver to fill the vacancy on the Two Rivers Regional Commission;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commission has unanimously approved the immediate appointment of Thomas Weaver to the Cusseta-Chattahoochee County Two Rivers Regional Commission for that certain term which expires in December 31, 2025.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Commission of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County, Georgia this 1st day of Oct. 2024.

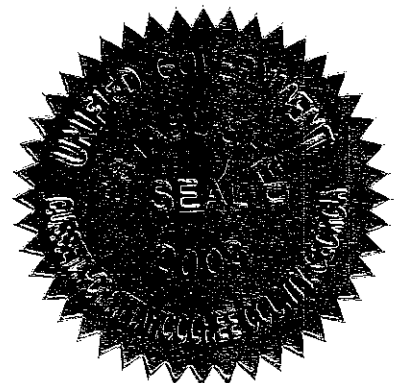


CHARLES COFFEY, CHAIRMAN

ATTESTED

BY: 
THOMAS WEAVER, COUNTY MANAGER
**UNIFIED GOVERNMENT OF CUSSETA-
CHATTAHOOCHEE COUNTY, GEORGIA**

Seal:



STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF Chattahoochee

AFFIDAVIT OF ATTENDING MEMBERS

Charles Coffey, Member of the Chattahoochee County Board of Commissioners, being duly sworn, states under oath that the following is true and accurate to the best of his/her knowledge and belief:

1.

The Chattahoochee County Board of commissioners met in a duty advised meeting on

Oct 1, 2024

2.

During such meeting, the Board voted to go into closed session.

3.

The executive session was called to order at 6:57 a.m. /p.m.

4.

The subject matter of the closed portion of the meeting was devoted to the following matter(s) within the exceptions provided in the open meetings law:

_____ Consultation with the county attorney or legal counsel to discuss pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the county or any officer or employee or in which the county or any officer or employee may be directly involved as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(1)

_____ Discussion of tax matters made confidential by the state law as provided by O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(2) and *(insert the citation to the legal authority making the tax matter confidential)* _____

_____ Discussion or voting on

_____ Authorizing a settlement as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(1)(A)

_____ Authorizing negotiations to purchase, dispose of, or lease property as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(1)(B)

_____ Authorizing an appraisal as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(1)(C)

_____ Entering a contract for the purchase, disposal of, or lease property as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(1)(D)

_____ Entering into an option to purchase, dispose of, or lease property as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(1)(E)

_____ Discussion or deliberation on the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a county officer or employee as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(2)

_____ Interviewing candidates for executive positions as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(b)(2)

✓ Other (describe the exemption to the open meetings law): personnel's
legal matter as provided in (insert the citation to the legal authority exempting the
topic) _____

5.

____ During the course of the closed session devoted to exempt topics, an incidental remark regarding a non-exempt topic or an attempt to discuss a non-exempt topic was made.

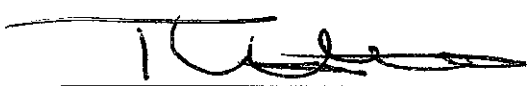
____ The attempt was immediately ruled out of order and attempts to discuss same ceased immediately.

____ the attempt was immediately ruled out of order. However, the comments did not cease, so the closed/executive session was immediately adjourned without discussion or action being taken regarding any non-exempt topic.

6.

Minutes were taken of this meeting in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(e)(2)(C) and will be filled and help for in camera inspection only.


This 1 day of Oct, 2024.



County Manager



County Board Commissioners Chairman



Commissioner

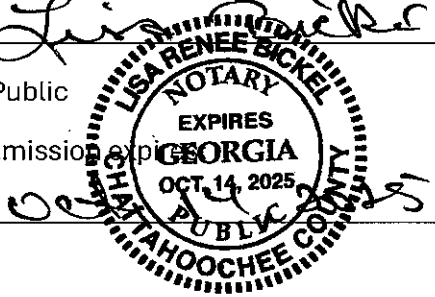
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 1 day of _____

Oct, 2024



Notary Public

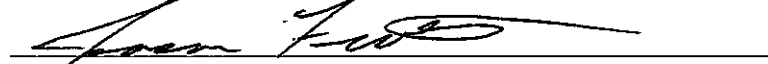
My Commission expires _____



Commissioner



Commissioner



Commissioner

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

Oct. 1 2024 – BOC Regular Meeting

PLEASE SIGN IN
SO THAT WE MAY RECORD YOUR ATTENDANCE

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. <u>Dorris Baker</u> | 21. _____ |
| 2. <u>Joshua Abercrombie</u> | 22. _____ |
| 3. <u>Jesse Abercrombie</u> | 23. _____ |
| 4. <u>Leresa Parrish</u> | 24. _____ |
| 5. <u>Gwanda Plue</u> | 25. _____ |
| 6. <u>JESSE D. ABERCROMBIE</u> | 26. _____ |
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| 19. _____ | 39. _____ |
| 20. _____ | 40. _____ |



The Commission

of the Unified Government of Cusseta-Chattahoochee County, Georgia

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

Thomas Weaver, County Manager

Lisa Bickel, County Clerk

Bin Minter, County Attorney

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY WORK SESSION

Oct. 28, 2024

215 McNaughton St.

PRESENT:

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

Lisa Bickel, County Clerk
Thomas Weaver, County Manager

Chairman Coffey called the Monthly Work Session 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 and Commissioner Frost and live streaming on our Facebook page.

SPEAKER

Kristy Laney – Did not show up in attendance. **CHAIRMAN COFFEY** stated if she came before the meeting was over, he would let her still speak.

DEPARTMENT HEAD UPDATES:

Mordie Askew: gave update on the recreation dept., will know after tomorrow night if they make playoffs, breast cancer awareness walk on Oct. 30th at 6 pm.

Samantha Hedgecote: gave updates for community development including Christmas tree lighting and Christmas on the Square and Christmas Parade. Public Hearing dates need to be set for 105 Mustang Dr & 454 Old Louvale rd., for Conditional Use Permits., proposed date by commission will be set for Nov. 25th at 9 am

Chris Tymes: out on water calls but did not have any water updates.

Lou Beck: Had a dr. appt, County Manager gave updates for Ms. Lou Beck. Rabies clinic Over 100 dogs & cats were issued rabies vaccines and micro chipped. Wash rack IGSA is going very well.

Tom Bickel: They have fixed plumbing issues at public works shop, all of the roads have been worked, the animal control truck has been fixed, the motor grader has been fixed, work at riverbend park dock, there was a cross drain that went out & it is repaired now. The shoulder at 137/Pifer has been taken care of, Ralston St, they went over there and got it working good again. They were able to install the trashcans and install the flagpole. They got the slab poured for the new radio building, and they have new radios for all the crew at public works.

CHAIRMAN COFFEY stated a concerned citizen asked about the road washing behind the cemetery, if the county could look into this.

COUNTY MANAGER UPDATES:

County Manager Weaver – We are in the ACCG local lens, one is for a grant we received for AED's with Sumter EMC. The Fiber install is going well, they have hit a few water lines, but Chris is right behind them fixing them as they go. At the radio tower where the slab was poured, the building is on way to be placed. We are live with the Paychex system. The reading garden that Ms. Pam is working on is very nice and moving right along, it did not cost the county anything it came out of the Library Construction funds. County Manager stated those were his normal updates, now he is moving into his budget updates, first thing is the annual audit with David McCoy ran into somethings he did not like, so before he can move forward, he wants to go back over the previous audits. All of the departments are on track, no major overages at this point, everyone is where they should be at this point. We will have another update at the beginning of the year, which will be the halfway point.

The following items were discussed as to their relevance for appearance on the Oct. 1, 2024, regular meeting agenda:

Old City Hall Building to be used by Board of Education – Bin sent over document to look over and review, add to agenda as voting item.

Johnny Floyd/Truck for EMA – After last month's meeting the two vehicles were voted down, The County Manager stated that there will be four trucks coming out of the lease program going back, Johnny has one truck deadlined, he is trying to avoid replacing five or six vehicles next budget year. -add to agenda as voting item.

Board of Elections-2nd Reading – Ordinance Change, and have a three-member Board of Elections, we also have three names for members for after the second reading and the Board is approved, Nancy Hoard, Valerie Lassiter, and Crystal Walker, and the Election Supervisor Lisa Bickel the names are for the Work Session - add to agenda as voting item.

Bringing Paul Rakel/Sowega as Engineer of Record – County Manager is going to look at several different names and bringing to back to the Work Session instead.

Cemetery Bylaws – Waiting and setup a meeting with Bin and the Cemetery Committee, keep on just in case, add to agenda

Reappoint Mattye Kinney to IDA – add to agenda as voting item.

Reappoint Gene Burgamy to IDA – add to agenda as voting item.

HB 581/FLOST – just discussion and fyi item. County Manager stated the F stood for Freeze, Alan Horniday was in attendance, and stated if this passes there will be three buckets to choose from, ESPLOST, TSPLOST, and FLOST, educational, transportation, and freeze, it will freeze at the 2024 taxable value. So, the sales tax will not become immediate, it will have to go through a referendum, but the County will have to opt in and be opted in already. This is also not split with the school; it is just for the county. It would benefit the homesteaded properties. If this is approved the county is automatically in. The County Manager and Commissioner believe this would be a good opportunity for the County.

Speaker – Kristy Laney did not show.

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 Work Session of the Board of Commissioners adjourned at 10:05 am on Monday, Oct. 28, 2024.



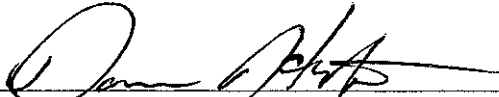
CHARLES COFFEY, CHAIRMAN



TIMOTHY BIDDLE, VICE CHAIRMAN

Absent

GERALD DOUGLAS, COMMISSIONER



DAMON HOYTE, COMMISSIONER

Absent

JASON FROST, COMMISSIONER

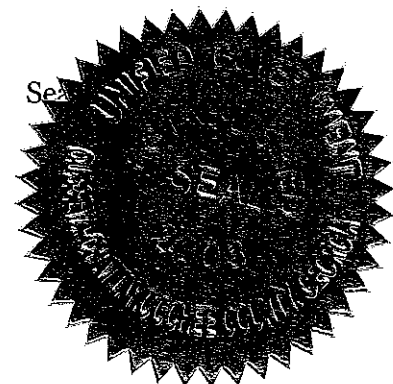
Nov. 12, 2024
DATE APPROVED

I hereby certify that the foregoing documentation, the Minutes of the Oct. 28, 2024, Work Session, was approved via majority vote by the Board of Commissioners in its Nov. 12, 2024, regular meeting.

ATTESTED BY:



THOMAS WEAVER, COUNTY MANAGER
UNIFIED GOVERNMENT OF
CUSSETA-CHATTAHOOCHEE COUNTY



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

Oct. 28, 2024 – BOC Work Session

PLEASE SIGN IN
SO THAT WE MAY RECORD YOUR ATTENDANCE

1. <u>Thomas Bickel</u>	21. _____
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