**JEFF DAVIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**DATE: TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2021**

**TIME: 6:00 PM**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Chairman Brad Crews, Vice Chairman Hank Hobbs, Ricky Crosby, and Vann Wooten, Attorney Andy Ramey, Administrator Oakley Perry and Clerk Heather Scott

Chairman Crews called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and Commissioner Hobbs gave the invocation. Commissioner Crosby led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Rory Chaney presented to the Commissioners her concerns of not being qualified to apply for the JDA Revolving Loan Fund. She stressed to the Commissioners of how dedicated to Jeff Davis she was and how much she loved this County. Mrs. Chaney asked that she have a little more time to find out if there is a way for her to apply.

William Wasmund spoke on how there should be tax exemptions for Senior Citizens on School Taxes and Homestead taxes. He asked if the county would consider doing something to help with this. Chairman Crews spoke that this has been being discussed for a while on the exception of School Taxes, and if he would like some of the Commissioners to attend a school board meeting with him they would because they fully believe in Senior Citizens not having to pay them.

Greg Schell spoke on behalf of the road department, going from 4/10s to 5/8s. He stated that he along with all the other employees like the schedules now and they were able to get more done. He presented the Commissioners with some numbers to show how 4/10s works better. He also stated on Fridays a lot of the employees use that time to go to appointments if they have them. Mr. Schell pleaded that they keep the schedule the same.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MARCH 3RD 2021, MARCH 16TH 2021, AND MARCH 29TH 2021**

**Motion:** To approve minutes for March 3, 2021, March 16, 2021 and March 29, 2021

**Proposed:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried**

**APPROVAL TO PAY MONTHLY BILLS**

**Motion:** To approve to pay monthly bills

**Proposed:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Second:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Motion Carried.**

**APPROVE/DENY UPDATE OF RENTAL AGREEMENT**

**Motion:** To approve the updated lease agreement for the Saddle Club.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Second:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Motion Carried**

**Motion:** To approve the updated rental agreement

**Proposed:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Second:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Motion Carried**

**APPROVE/DENY PROCLAMATION OF RECOGNIZING CRIME VICTIMS RIGHTS WEEK**

Jan Kennedy from the DA office spoke on National Crime Victims’ Rights Week, April 18th – 24th and asked to declare this as National Crime Victims’ Rights Week and put a display in the court house to honor those victims.

**Motion:** To declare April 18-24th 2021 National Crime Victims’ Rights Week.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried**

**DISCUSS REVOLVING LOAN FUND**

**Motion:** To table this process until further review

**Proposed:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Second:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Motion Carried**

**DISCUSS ROADS, INCLUDING POSSIBLE CLOSURES**

The Commissioners discussed bringing in some roads for maintenance. River Run Road and Leslie Road. Mr. Wooten spoke on gifting Valley Lane and Highland Lane off Ray Road to the County for Maintenance. Road Closure was also discussed for the following roads, Morris Road, Piney Grove Church Road, Bill Thompson Road, and 240 ft on Ussery Lane.

**Motion:** To start procedures to close Morris Road.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Second:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Motion Carried**

**Motion:** To start procedures to close Piney Grove Church Road.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried**

**Motion:** To start procedures to close Bill Thompson Road.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Second:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Motion Carried**

**Motion:** To start procedures to close 240 ft of Ussery Lane.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried**

**APPROVE/DENY STARTING THE BID PROCESS TO FIND A CONTRACTOR FOR NEW JAIL-SHERIFF BOHANNON**

Chairman Crews presented the letter from the architect firm to move forward with finding a contractor for the Jail. He would then like a Called meeting on May 18th 2021 to open bids.

**Motion:** To approve to bid out for a contractor for the new jail.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Second:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Motion Carried**

**APPROVE/DENY THE PURCHASE OF A NEW LAWN MOWER**

Administrator Perry stated Towns Bluffs Lawnmower has stopped working and it would cost more to fix it. He sent the general government lawnmower to be used out there and we were looking to purchase a new one. But the sheriff’s office just had a drug raid and one was involved and they are willing to let us use it.

**Motion:** To table this process until further review

**Proposed:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Second:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Motion Carried**

**DISCUSS ROAD DEPARTMENT**

Chairman Crews stated it was never said that any schedules would be changed, it was only discussed. Nothing is getting changed at this moment.

**ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE**

Administrator Perry covered where we are in the year financially.

Next, he updated the Commissioners on the EMS open house and what all still needed to be done.

Administrator Perry then informed the Commissioners of the Recableing PreBid Meeting, April 16th at 12:00 PM and reminded the Commissioners of the Comprehensive Plan Meeting, April 20th at 10:30 AM at the Golf Course.

**ATTORNEY UPDATE**

Attorney Ramey updated the Commissioners on the Hotel Lease

**NEW/OLD BUSINESS**

New Business: Commissioner Hobbs brought up Southern Technology and that they are wanting to put up wireless cell towers, they are asking to put a tower in the corner where the gab system is. This will be of no Liability to the County

**Motion:** To continue work progress with Southern Technology

**Proposed:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried**

Old Business: Commissioner Wooten brought up the 80 ft ride of way/easement law. Commissioner Crews stated it was put there because of GDOT, because if we wanted help down the road when wanting to pave a dirt road it has to be an 80 FT Easement. Commissioner Hobbs stated the county don’t build the roads and if we needed could make it on a case to case basis on 60-80 Ft.

**Motion:** To bring the minimum length of road easements to 40 ft.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Second:**

**Motion Failed**

Old Business: Administrator Perry brought up mobile home abandonment and asked for another Commissioner to join Commissioner Crosby in helping determine if they need to be abandoned

**Motion:** To appoint Commissioner Hobbs to help Commissioner Crosby in the process of determining abandonment of mobile homes

**Proposed:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion:** To enter into Executive Session at 7:11 p.m.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Second:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Motion carried**

**Motion:** To enter back into Regular session at 7:48 p.m.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Second:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Motion Carried**

**Motion:** To advertise for new insurance brokers

**Proposed:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Second:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

Commissioner Vann Wooten Opposed

**Motion Carried 3-1**

**Adjourn – 7:50 P.M.**

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Heather Scott, Clerk Brad Crews, Chairman

CLOSED MEETING AFFIDAVIT

State of Georgia

County of Jeff Davis

Brad Crews, Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of Jeff Davis County, Georgia, being duly sworn, and states under oath that the following is true and accurate to the best of his knowledge and belief.

1.

The Board of Commissioners of Jeff Davis County met in a regular scheduled and duly advertised meeting held on the 13th day of April, 2021.

2.

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

3.

This executive session was called to order at 7:11 p.m. Motion by Commissioner Ricky Crosby and seconded by Commissioner Hank Hobbs with all voting in favor.

4.

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

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

2) Discussion of the future acquisition of real estate as provided by O.C.G.A. 50-14-3(4):

 3) Discussion or deliberation on the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a Board of Commissioners officer or employee as provided in O.C.G.A. 50-14-3-(6).

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Sworn to and subscribed before

Me this \_\_\_\_day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Brad Crews, Chairman

Board of Commissioners

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Jeff Davis County

Notary Public

My Commission Expires: