**JEFF DAVIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**CALLED MEETING**

**DATE: TUESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2021**

**TIME: 5:00 PM**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Chairman Brad Crews, Vice Chairman Hank Hobbs, Ricky Crosby, James Benjamin 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 Benjamin gave the invocation. Commissioner Crosby led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**DISCUSS FAIRGROUND SHOW BARN**

Chairman Crews stated this will be discussed after Executive Session

**DISCUSS AIR CONDITIONING SYSTEM FOR COURTHOUSE AND FAIRGROUNDS**

The Air Conditioning system for the courthouse was presented by Administrator Perry. He stated there as old as about 25 years. He would like to get a quote to replace all 38 units and the units at the Fairgrounds using ARAP money. Commissioner Crosby asked why do we need to replace all 38 units at one time why not replace the ones needed right now. Chairman Crews stated he did not want to burden the taxes payers with this bill and since we can use the ARAP money let’s use it. Commissioner Crosby stated he understood that and was ok with using ARAP money but did not want to replace units that didn’t need to be replaced and spend unnecessary money. Commissioner Hobbs agreed and asked before anything is replaced could we get an assessment of all the units while a quote is being gathered.

**Motion:** To get quotes to see what it would cost to replace air condition units.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Second:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Motion Carried.**

**DICUSS MANTENANCE ON THE YOUTH CENTER**

Commissioner Benjamin presented the youth center needing insulation. He stated they have air, but it will not stay cool because there is no insulation and you cannot keep germs down when it does not stay cool. Commissioner Hobbs asked how big the building was and that is should not cost that much to have it insulated.

**Motion:** To get a quote on insulating the Youth Center.

**Proposed:** Commissioner James Benjamin

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried**

**DISCUSS BRIDGEFORD ROAD PROJECT**

Commissioner Hobbs stated he spoke with J Hiers there was some miscommunication he thought the county had the 2 30 ft. pipe, he thought he was leaving the 3 ft. pipe and putting in one 5 ft. pipe. We had to start over. Commissioner Hobbs stated we the county need to go in cut 200 ft of asphalt enough to grade, then provide the pipe needed and replace other pipe and then they will give us a quote to come back and repave and put pipes in while out that way. Chairman Crews stated it sounds like a bid project, that if over 10,000$. Commissioner Hobbs feels like it will not be over 10,000$ since we are doing 90% of the work. Chairman Crews stated to pave 200ft of asphalt it will be more than 10,000$. Commissioner Hobbs stated we need to bring Hofstadter in and bid it out. Commissioner Hobbs feels this want fix it, because he feels like we will be in the same situation in a few months. Commissioner Crosby stated we can still do the other work, but still need to get a bid on the paving. We do not have to have a bid on part.

**Motion:** To get quote on paving 200ft on Ira Graham Road (Bridgeford Road Project), if it comes back over the county minimum then bid out.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried**

**DISCUSS CHECK WRITTEN FOR THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT**

Chairman Crews stated this would be discussed after executive session

**DISCUSS TAX ASSESSORS BOARD**

Administrator Perry informed the Commissioners Tim Caine resigned from the Tax Assessors Board that vacancy needed to be filled. Chairman Crews asked if we had someone from last time apply that we can vote on. Commissioner Hobbs asked if we could put it back out there to advertise since they have three voting members. Administrator Perry stated the state code that we must reinstate. Chairman Crews would like to contact the ones who applied last time and put in the paper. Commissioner Benjamin asked why we couldn’t put DeSousa back on the Board. Attorney Ramey stated that our policy states he can fill a vacancy. You generally have to sit out when you finish a term, but you can fill the vacancy.

**Motion:** To fill the vacancy with David DeSousa to serve the remainder of Tim Caine’s time.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried**

**DISCUSS PURCHASING LAWN MOWER**

Chairman Crews stated this lawn mower will be used mainly for the Courthouse 48 in with a bagger, zero turn. Administrator Perry is to get quotes and if it comes back over $10,000.00, we will need to bring back to the table. Administrator Perry asked if it needed to be residential or commercial grade. This will be strictly for Courthouse and between residential and commercial grade.

**DISCUSS NO SALE MOBILE HOMES**

Tax Commissioner Susie Kersey stated she has a tax sale October 5th and she has several mobile homes that is not worth what they are having to sale for due to penalties and taxes. She’s asking to be given the authority that at the end of the sale if no one bids on mobile homes to take less than what is owed. Chairman Crews asked that we can only excuse penalties and taxes? Ms. Kersey said she could come to Commissioners after each sale in June and October and they could decide if she can take less. Chairman Crews stated are you telling us all these homes are worth less than is owed? She stated she does have pictures. Commissioner Hobbs stated this is a double edged sword because if we do this, than someone can buy it for less than go redo it and sale it for more, than we have the issue of someone having a dilapidated mobile home moving it and redoing it and reselling it. Chairman Crews asked if there was another option, could they be disposed of. Ms. Kersey stated if the county bids them in, then you are responsible. Commissioner Hobbs stated so we buy them and crush them? He stated this is why we have an ordinance to keep us from having this issue other counties are having with mobile homes. Chairman Crews states he would like to see photos before the auction and we can go and look at them and we will make decisions before the auction.

**DISCUSS ISSUING DECALS**

Tax Commissioner Susie Kersey stated the state sent out Senate Bill 193, the county can decide if they want to issue decals for mobile homes. She spoke with the Tax Assessor and they would like not to issue due to saving money because people do not stick them on their homes. She stated we could still keep up with it based on her delinquent list.

**Motion:** To not issue decals and adopt the resolution as presented.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried**

**NEW AND OLD BUSINESS**

Old Business: Commissioner Hobbs asked Administrator Perry if he had an answer on the trash hauling. Mr. Perry stated he has not had a chance to go over to Vidalia, but will do that tomorrow and will have an answer then. Commissioner Hobbs stated King was told not to dump out there and he received numerous phone calls he still was. King did not understand, so he takes it to the City where they charge him for a ton. King stated he was losing money and asked if we could negotiate a price for him.

New Business: Chairman Crews stated he just wanted the Commissioners to keep in mind, but a building has come on the Market that he feels would be good for the EMA building. Chairman Crews, Commissioner Wooten, and Chief Wasdin went and looked at the Jehovah Witness Building, 1900 Sq. Ft., we will discuss the money in Executive Session.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion:** To enter into Executive Session at 6:11 p.m.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Second:** Commissioner James Benjamin

**Motion carried**

**Motion:** To enter back into Regular session at 6:53 p.m.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Second:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Motion Carried**

Personnel, real estate, and litigation was discussed in Executive Session.

**Motion:** To follow through with the transfer of the real state spoke about to the Board of Education and give them the approval to move forward with their board to receive approval from them and have a survey and legal work done.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried**

**Motion:** To change the per diem rate for County employees to $55.00 a day maximum that they will be reimbursed on expenses of travel with receipts.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried**

**Motion:** To not accept the payment given for the intergovernmental agreement by the City of Hazlehurst, to stick with invoice that was given and to re-invoice for the full amount.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Second:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Motion Carried 3-2 vote**

**Commissioner Wooten and Commissioner Benjamin Opposed**

**Motion:** To proceed to move forward with the real estate discussed by making them a formal offer and proceeding with the legal portion and to authorize the Chairman to sign the contract.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried**

**Adjourn – 6:58 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 called and duly advertised meeting held on the 31st day of August, 2021.

2.

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

3.

This executive session was called to order at 6:11 p.m. Motion by Commissioner Vann Wooten and seconded by Commissioner James Benjamin, 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) 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).

5.

This executive session ended at 6:53 p.m. Motion by Commissioner Vann Wooten and seconded by Commissioner Ricky Crosby, with all voting in favor.

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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: