**JEFF DAVIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**DATE: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2021**

**TIME: 6:00 PM**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Chairman Brad Crews, Vice Chairman Hank Hobbs, Commissioners Ricky Crosby, James Benjamin and Vann Wooten, Attorney Andy Ramay, and County Administrator 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.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion:** To approve December 14, 2021 Meeting Agenda

**Proposed:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Second:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Motion Carried.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 9TH AND NOVEMBER 18TH, 2021**

**Motion:** To approve minutes for November 9th, 2021 and November 18th, 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 James Benjamin

**Motion Carried.**

**UPDATE ON CURRENT REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY RAIL PROJECT AND FUNDING REQUEST TO EXPAND RAIL SPUR**

JDA Director Laura Bloom introduced members from the Regional Development Authority, Matt Carter presented a presentation to the Commissioners on the expansion project and explained that everything that crosses the switch into Jeff Davis County, we receive funding for. He explained that a lot of work and materials will be shifted this way from Kentucky and will benefit the County. They are asking for $36,000 in funds to expand the work and spur.

**Motion:** To pay the $36,000 to the JDA Rail Project if the funds are available.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Second:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Motion Carried.**

**Motion Carried.**

**ELECTIONS-SETTING QUALIFING FEES**

County Administrator Heather Scott presented to the Commissioners the qualifying fees, in which she explained had not changed.

**Motion:** To approve qualifying fees

**Proposed:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried.**

**RESOLUTIONS-SUPPORT REFORM TO GEORGIAS ANNEXATION DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

Attorney Ramey explained to the Commissioners that ACCG went back and reviewed the old annexation policy and felt some changes needed to be made. ACCG is asking for support from Counties on the final report to take this to legislation.

**Motion:** To approve to sign resolution to support reform to Georgia’s Annexation Dispute.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Second:** Commissioner James Benjamin

**Motion Carried.**

**RESOLUTIONS-BURKETT’S FERRY LANDING LEASE**

Attorney Ramey presented to the Commissioners that DNR has accepted all changed to the lease and he is asking the Commissioners to adopt the Resolution to enter into Lease with DNR.

**Motion:** To approve to adopt resolution to enter into lease with DNR at the Burkett’s Ferry Landing.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Second:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Motion Carried.**

**REDISTRICTING MAPS**

County Administrator Heather Scott, went over the new maps and lines.

**Motion:** To approve redistricting maps.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Second:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Motion Carried.**

**UPDATE FROM EMS**

County Administrator presented for EMS Director Edwin Williams, due to being on call. She went over their budget and explained that the only line item over in EMS budget was the part time line item due to being short staffed.

**UPDATE FROM EMA/FIRE**

County Administrator presented for EMA Director and Fire Chief Charles Wasdin, due to being on call. She went over information provided by Wasdin for Fire and EMA, Fire-they are waiting on final letter from ISO on grading, rescue 2 is out of service, and seven firefighters have not met state training and they will be suspended if requirements are not met. EMA-She went over all projects that have been completed at the new EMA building and that need to be completed as well.

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES**

County Administrator spoke with Commissioners about the financial status of the year, she stated we are at 47.0% complete budget. She also went over the public safety grant, updating Commissioners where we are with the grant and who is eligible.

Ms. Scott then presented to the Commissioners the Transfer Station hours for holiday closure and lastly she talked about the Okefenokee Event and spoke to them on it being cancelled, but they will be holding an event in the spring.

**COUNTY ATTORNEY UPDATES**

County Attorney Andy Ramay presented updates to the Board. He spoke on the two mobile homes that were presented with letters. One the letters were both returned, and the other the new owner is in process of remodeling and as long as progress is being shown, it can be continued. The Commissioners asked Attorney Ramey to send another letter to mobile home resident that had been returned and if no response within the month to take the next step of action.

**NEW/OLD BUSINESS**

Old Business: Sheriff Preston Bohannon spoke to the Commissioners on the housing part of the new jail. He asked if they would consider hiring McDonald Construction, which is the current contractor for Administration buildings to oversee the housing development. If they are hired they will handle all bidding processes. Chairman Crews asked that they use as many local businesses as possible.

**Motion:** To approve to hire McDonald Construction as contractor for housing development of the new jail.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion:** To enter into Executive Session at 6:43 PM

**Proposed:** Commissioner Vann Wooten  
**Second:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Motion Carried**

**Motion:** To end Executive Session at 7:35 PM

**Proposed:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby  
**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten  
**Motion Carried**

The Board discussed personnel and litigation.

**Motion:** To approve pay raises for certain employees.  
**Proposed:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby  
**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten  
**Motion Carried**

**Motion:** To approve to hire County Clerk  
**Proposed:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby  
**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten  
**Motion Carried**

**Motion:** To approve to advertise for Accounts Payable Position  
**Proposed:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs  
**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten  
**Motion Carried**

**Motion:** To approve to renew County Attorney Contract  
**Proposed:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby  
**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten  
**Motion Carried**

**Adjourn – 7:37 P.M.**

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Heather Scott, County Administrator 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 14th day of December, 2021.

2.

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

3.

This executive session was called to order at 6:43 p.m. Motion by Commissioner Vann Wooten and seconded by Commissioner Ricky Crosby 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 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 7:35 p.m. Motion by Commissioner Ricky Crosby and seconded by Commissioner Vann Wooten, 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: