**JEFF DAVIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**DATE: TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 2021**

**TIME: 6:00 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 Wooten gave the invocation. Commissioner Hobbs led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ms. Karen Edge handed Chairman Crews her public comments letter, but asked not to speak.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 4TH 2021, FEBRUARY 9TH 2021, AND FEBRUARY 22ND 2021.**

**Motion:** To approve minutes for February 4, 2021, February 9, 2021 and February 22, 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 Ricky Crosby

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried.**

**DISCUSS HISTORICAL PLAT IMAGE COMPENSATION AGREEMENT-CLERK OF COURT JULIE WILKINSON**

Clerk of Court Julie Wilkinson presented to the Commissioners that a check was given to the Clerk of Courts office in the amount of $17,787 for compensation of digitizing plats. She is asking to use this money to pay off a note and reimburse her budget and to use the rest of the money to use to scan in the remaining plats.

**Motion:** To approve to use money to pay off note, reimburse budget and use the remaining balance to scan in remaining plats.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried**

**APPROVE/DENY REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS ON AMBULANCES**

Administrator Perry presented the board with a letter from EMS Director Roger Oglvie with the Request of Proposal he feels is best.

**Motion:** To approve request for proposals on four ambulances from Medex in the amount of $129,331 per ambulance not including cardiac monitors.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Second:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Motion Carried**

**APPROVE/DENY CLOSING THE COURTHOUSE FOR GOOD FRIDAY**

**Motion:** To close the courthouse for Good Friday

**Proposed:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried**

**DISCUSS BID PROCESS**

Administrator Perry presented the board with an updated Bid Process Procedure. It was suggested for Attorney Ramey to look over the Process bring it back for voting once this is complete.

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

**Proposed:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried**

**DISCUSS RENTAL AGREEMENT LETTER**

Administrator Perry presented the board with the rental agreement. The Snipesville Saddle Club was on the list and he explained that he has been in contact with Teresa Faulk of the Saddle Club and as long as rentals do not interfere with already scheduled Saddle Club arrangements they are good with renting it out. Commissioner Hobbs asked for it to be reviewed for typos.

**Motion:** To accept the rental agreement for the Snipesville Saddle Club and the yearly fee of $10.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Second:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Motion Carried**

**Motion:** To accept the rental agreement for all county properties

**Proposed:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Second:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Motion Carried**

**APPROVE/DENY POLICY CHANGES**

**Motion:** To accept policy changes on the PTO policy and the gifting policy

**Proposed:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Second:** Commissioner James Benjamin

**Motion Carried**

**DISCUSS CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER POSITION**

Administrator Perry presented the job description to the Commissioners, he stated in the current budget the funds are not available for a full time employee. He requested himself, County Clerk, and Deputy Clerk to act as part time code enforcement officers until someone could be hired. Sheriff Bohannon spoke up about the safety of this and he would like a little more information about the job.

**Motion:** To table the discussion of the code enforcement officer position until further review

**Proposed:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Second:** Commissioner James Benjamin

**Motion Carried**

**DISCUSS RECABELING COURTHOUSE**

Administrator Perry presented to the Commissioners the approx. cost of what it would take to re-cable the county buildings, not to include the recreation department and towns bluff. He said a rough estimate of $40,000. He requested to advertise for RFP to start moving forward with this project.

**Motion:** To accept RFP on re-cabling the courthouse.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Second:** Commissioner James Benjamin

**Motion Carried**

**DISCUSS 2012 SPLOST FUND**

County Clerk presented to the Commissioners the 2012 SPLOST, the money left in that account was to help fund the building of the new jail. It was presented to move remaining money in the 2012 SPLOST account into its own account since it is an ongoing project and close the 2012 SPLOST account.

**Motion:** To move all remaining money from the 2012 SPLOST account into a new bank account since it is an ongoing project of the new construction of the Jail

**Proposed:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Second:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Motion Carried**

**DISCUSS PROBATE PROJECT USING CARES ACT FUNDS**

**Motion:** To table discussion until further review

**Proposed:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Second:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Motion Carried**

**DISCUSS TIA PROJECTS**

Administrator Perry presented the Commissioners with the Street improvements bid winner for Philadelphia Church Road, Satilla Church Road, and Elizabeth Church Road. J Hiers Company was the lowest bidder at 1,110,928.50$.

**Motion:** To accept J Hiers company bid to move forward with street improvements.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried**

**ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE**

Administrator Perry covered where we are in the year financially.

Next, he would like to hold a county auction of surplus materials in May at the Fairgrounds.

**Motion:** To hold county auction in May at Fairgrounds.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried**

Administrator Perry there would be a Public Safety Dinner on March 26th at the Fairgrounds and he would like to wave the rental fee.

Next on April 23rd the Circus is coming to the Fairgrounds and they are signing the rental agreement and putting down a damage deposit.

Next Towns Bluff Budget has $1000 for a Community Center, he asked if this could be used for the Fairgrounds. Chairman Crews stated he did not think he could us that $1000 that has been designated for the Community Center, but he would be ok with using $1000 to use at Fairgrounds

**Motion:** To wave the rental fee for Public Safety Dinner and to use $1000 for upgrades to the Fairgrounds.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Second:** Commissioner James Benjamin

**Motion Carried**

Last, National Ag Week is March 22nd-26th and a Resolution has been provided to the Commissioners

**Motion:** To adopt/ sign Resolution declaring March 22-26 2021 of Jeff Davis County National Ag Week

**Proposed:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Second:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Motion Carried**

Commissioner Benjamin asked about renaming the fairgrounds to the BH Claxton Fairgrounds.

**ATTORNEY UPDATE**

Attorney Ramey updated the Commissioners on the Hotel Lease voted on by the JDA Board and the property lease of Hatton Steel Road.

**NEW/OLD BUSINESS**

New Business: Commissioner Benjamin asked about fireworks celebration on July 4th at the Fairgrounds. He asked to go ahead and put down July 3rd 2021 for the Jeff Davis July 4th Celebration.

New Business: Commissioner Benjamin brought up ramps at the trash sites. And looking into how we could get ramps at the sties. Chairman Crews asked Commissioner Wooten to get pricing on conveyer belts for the sites.

Discussion was brought up about not having two sections for public comments. Commissioner Hobbs stated they moved it to the beginning of the agenda, because a lot of people did not want to stay. Mrs. Walsh stated she would like it to be added to the end because she would have questions about some of the things talked about during the meeting. Ms. Edge spoke up and asked Chairman Crews to read what she has written on the public comments paper. She asked about 911 funds still located at the courthouse and she was told yes the 911 funds are in the bank and the records are kept at courthouse. She asked how much money was taken from the General Fund account. She was told NO money was taken from the account, there were fraud charges but they were caught by our fraud protection and stopped by the bank.

**Motion:** To add public comments to the beginning and end of the meeting

**Proposed:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried**

New Business: Sheriff Bohannon got up and spoke on the new jail about moving forward and the drawings being sent to the fire marshal, once approved we can move forward with the next steps. He then asked to read a letter from anonymous individual asking to start a trust to help fund the jail. The stipulations of the trust; the trust money will start as soon as SPLOST is gone and any excess money will be used for the final phase of the project. The excess money will remain in the trust for two years and then we will revisit the trust. The money should only be used for this project and at the end of construction a plat honoring the donor will be placed on the facility. The amount of money given will be $3.2 million give or take.

**Motion:** To accept the donation with stipulations with attorney’s approval

**Proposed:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion:** To enter into Executive Session at 8:08 p.m.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Second:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Motion carried**

**Motion:** To enter back into Regular session at 9:02 p.m.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Second:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Motion Carried**

**Motion:** To hire two new employees at Jeff Davis Road Department

**Proposed:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried**

**Adjourn – 9:03 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 16th day of March, 2021.

2.

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

3.

This executive session was called to order at 8:08 p.m. Motion by Commissioner Hank Hobbs 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 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: