**JEFF DAVIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**DATE: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 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 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.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion:** To approve November 9, 2021 Called Meeting Agenda

**Proposed:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 12TH AND OCTOBER 19TH, 2021**

**Motion:** To approve minutes for October 12th, 2021 and October 19th, 2021

**Proposed:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Second:** Commissioner James Benjamin

**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 SOLID WASTE**

Road Department Assistant Tiffany Strickland presented to the Commissioners the dump site time changes. The hours would be Tuesday through Saturday 8:30 AM-5:30 PM.

It was also presented about what materials were accepted at the dump sites, Ms. Strickland presented the Commissioners with a list and Chairman Crews asked if there were signs with these materials at the sites. She stated no.

Commissioner Hobbs brought up people not residents of Jeff Davis County dumping, asked what we could do to check if they are or not, and if they are hunters is there a way they can show their lease or something to show it is for the County.

**Motion:** To have signs made for each dump site with materials that can be dumped at the site and for proof of residency be presented if there is any question of the trash being disposed of was generated in Jeff Davis County.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Brad Crews

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried.**

**Motion:** To approve to buy big truck weather at auction or dealer for up to $80,000 if meets all requirements.

**Proposed:** Commissioner James Benjamin

**Second:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Motion Carried.**

Commissioner Wooten brought up trading in the grader, and asked Mr. Bush if he thought they should. Mr. Bush stated he would like to trade in the 2011 grader.

Commissioner Wooten stated that he found a side cutter identical to the one they have at the road department and would like to purchase. Commissioner Crosby asked that we demo both graders and if they agree to side cutter before fully purchasing.

**Motion:** To buy used side cutter up to $135,000 for road department.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Second:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs.

**Motion Carried.**

**DISCUSS FIRE DEPARTMENT E-DISPATCH**

Fire Chief Charles Wasdin presented to the Commissioners a program that would help with dispatching calls for the firefighters. Due to poor radio waves and low frequency, sometimes it’s hard to get a call when an issue occurs Wasdin stated. He is trying E-Dispatch for 30 days, but so far it has worked great and this causes no issues or no more work for E-911 dispatchers. He asked the Commissioners pay half of the annual fee of around $1050.00 and the City has already agreed to pay the other half.

**Motion:** To approve to pay half of E-Dispatch annually

**Proposed:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried.**

**DISCUSS EMA BUILDING**

EMA Director Charles Wasdin went over with the Commissioners the few things that needed to be done to improve the New EMA building. Mr. Wasdin presented to the Commissioners that GEMA was sending a $77,000 check and this would be able to be used for the building. He stated that the repairs he feels would cost around $35,000.

**Motion:** To approve the fulfillment of the needs for renovation of the EMA building

**Proposed:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried.**

**BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

The Tax Assessors board requested reappointment of two members; Claud Cobb and Chester Yawn.

**Motion:** To approve reappointment of Claud Cobb and Chester Yawn to the Tax Assessor Board

**Proposed:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Second:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Motion Carried.**

The Joint Development Authority Board presented to the board, Jim Moore was moving positions and they requested Jimmy McLeod fulfill the remainder of his term. Once this term is up, we will advertise for this position.

**Motion:** To approve to appoint Jimmy McLeod to fulfill remainder of term.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Second:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Motion Carried.**

The Library Board requested the Commissioners advertise for two open positions on their board.

**Motion:** To approve to advertise for two positions on the Library Board.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Second:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Motion Carried.**

**DISCUSS RESOLUTIONS**

Administrator Scott presented the resolution of the Comprehensive Plan.

**Motion:** To approve Comprehensive Plan Resolution with an effective date of October 26, 2021

**Proposed:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Second:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Motion Carried.**

Administrator Scott presented to the commissioners with the help of Attorney Ramay the Resolution on Opioids –National Settlements and Georgia MOU. They asked the Commissioners to adopt this resolution to receive a percentage from the settlement that the Sheriff opted into.

**Motion:** To approve the Resolution for Opioids-National Settlement and Georgia MOU to receive payments.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Second:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Motion Carried.**

**DISCUSS CLOSING SMALL BANK ACCOUNTS**

Administrator Scott presented to the Board three small accounts that our accountants recommend closing, due to small funds. The three accounts; EIP, Grant, and Reward fund.

**Motion:** To approve to close the EIP and Grant fund and move the remainder into the General Fund

**Proposed:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried.**

**Motion:** To approve to close the Reward fund and make the amount an even $3000 and send to the Coleman Family for the Rhonda Coleman Reward fund, since this was what it was intended for.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried.**

**UPDATE FROM ELECTIONS**

Christy Riner spoke of Elections, she is 29.8% YTD on her budget and she stated they had just finished up the City of Hazlehurst and Denton Elections.

**UPDATE FROM ROAD DEPARTMENT**

Eddie Bush spoke with Commissioners about spraying the sides of the roads. He stated he spoke with a man who would spray ridges, but no fields or around power lines. Commissioner Crews asked that we find out who is responsible for spraying around power lines.

**Motion:** To get quote on what is would cost to spray per mile and to find out whose responsibly it is to spray around power lines.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Second:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Motion Carried**

Mr. Bush also spoke on shutting down the grass cutters for the year. Commissioner Crosby asked about the shape of the side cutters, and were new ones needed?

**Motion:** To get bids on two new mowers based on specs by Eddie Bush

**Proposed:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Second:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Motion Carried**

**UPDATE FROM TAX COMMISSIONER**

Tax Commissioner Susie Kersey spoke on her budget being at 36% for the year. She also spoke on the Tax Digest and stated if they approved the millage would not change. Chairman Crews asked Ms. Kersey why she needed three extensions for her part of the digest. She stated she server issues and that once approved it would take around two weeks give or take to get bills out. Chairman Crews asked how this could be prevented in the future from having to have extensions.

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES**

County Administrator spoke with Commissioners about the financial status of the year, she stated we are at 38.7% complete budget. She also went over the process of redistricting and stated we are working with a company to help get our new lines drawn.

Ms. Scott then presented to the Commissioners that the Mobile home on 96 McDaniel Road was brought to her attention and she is asking that the penalties and interest be removed and allow the Tax Commissioner to take whatever is offered at the next sale.

**Motion:** To remove penalties and interest from mobile home on 96 McDaniel Road and take whatever bid is presented.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten.

**Motion Carried**

Commissioner Crosby brought up two trailers on Bell Telephone and asked if we could send the owner a letter to have cleaned up or removed.

**Motion:** To approve the Attorney to send letter to start process of renovation or removal of mobile homes on Bell Telephone with a 45 day deadline to start process.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten.

**Motion Carried**

Administrator Scott stated the Circus was coming to town in January and to not forget the Christmas Parade on December 11th at 6:00 PM downtown Hazlehurst.

**COUNTY ATTORNEY UPDATES**

County Attorney Andy Ramay presented updates to the Board. He spoke on Burkett’s Ferry Project and the steps that was being taken to continue to start this project.

**NEW/OLD BUSINESS**

Old Business: The Commissioners reviewed the Trash Application for Pickup. They would like to add, one trailer per site.

**Motion:** To approve application once amendment is made

**Proposed:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs

**Second:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby

**Motion Carried.**

**4-1 Commissioner Vann Wooten Opposed**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion:** To enter into Executive Session at 7:35 PM

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

**Motion Carried**

**Motion:** To end Executive Session at 8:17 PM

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

The Board discussed personnel and litigation.

**Motion:** To offer Edwin Williams EMS Director at starting Director Pay.  
**Proposed:** Commissioner Vann Wooten  
**Second:** Commissioner Hank Hobbs  
**Motion Carried**

Chairman Crews stated Commissioner Wooten has some old business he would like to bring to the table. He asked to trade in the old grader for $140,000 gaining a credit of $30,000 and getting a steering wheel instead of joy stick and John Deere will handle transportation.

**Motion:** To trade grader in for used grader.  
**Proposed:** Commissioner Ricky Crosby  
**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten  
**Motion Carried**

**Adjourn – 8:21 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 9th day of November, 2021.

2.

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

3.

This executive session was called to order at 7:35 p.m. Motion by Commissioner Ricky Crosby and seconded by Commissioner Vann Wooten 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 8:17 p.m. Motion by Commissioner Vann Wooten and seconded by Commissioner Hank Hobbs, 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: