

Washington County Board of Commissioners

Regular Meeting

October 10, 2019

9:00am

Commissioners Present: Horace Daniel, Doug Watkins, Edward Burten, James Hitchcock, Frank Simmons

Prayer

Pledge

Call to Order

Approval of Past Minutes

- A motion was made by Commissioner Watkins to approve the minutes from the previous regular meeting, seconded by Commissioner Simmons. The motion to approve those minutes passed with a show of hands.

Bills

- A motion was required to approve the bills for the past month as follows:
 - Administrative & Other \$182,066.51
 - Road Department \$59,409.50
 - Sheriff Dept. & Jail \$79,358.14
 - Courthouse \$38,197.30
 - EMA \$2,174.82
 - E-911 \$5,545.19
 - Landfill \$51,695.36

A motion was made by Commissioner Simmons to approve the bill for the past month, seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The motion was passed by a show of hands.

Road Department Update

- Mr. Waller stated that paving would begin on Lamars Creek Road today and should be finished paving by the beginning of next week, so long as the paving crew works on Saturday. He also stated that the 2019 resurfacing projects had begun earlier in the week as well. The roads being resurfaced are: South Sparta Davisboro (portion), Deepcut Road, Walker-Dairy Road (portion), and Pleasant Grove Road (portion).

County Administrator

- The Chairman announced that the County Administrator would introduce the new Recreation Director. The County Administrator stood up and introduced Mr. Trey Binion as the new Recreation Director and announced his qualifications to the meeting. Mr. Binion stood and expressed his gratitude for the opportunity and his excitement at being able to come back home and make a difference at the recreation department.

Appointments

- **Street Name Change (Circle Dr. to Barkster Dr.) – Ernest Barkster**
 - Mr. Barkster stated that his family, notably his father, had moved into that area in 1961 when there were no other homes there, to build a garage. He stated that he felt like the roads should be named after his father since he was the influence for the area to become more populated.
 - A Ms. Lawson was present at the meeting and stated that her family had been in the area for 46 years but stated that she was not ready to change the name of the road, nor all of the documents related to personal business that would need to be completed. She presented a petition with the names of individuals living in the area that also did not want to change their addresses. She went on the state that maybe a plaque should be installed commemorating the road instead of changing the street's name, and had examples showing what that would look like. County Attorney Howard stated that it could be an honorary designation in which the street name would not need to be changed.
 - Members of the Dixon family were present and stated that their family would not be amenable to the street being named after only Mr. Barkster. They did indicate that they would be agreeable to a hyphenated street name.
 - Chairman Daniel stated that it would be beneficial for there to be a discussion between each of the parties, and everyone in that community, about the changing of the name.
 - Commissioner Burten stated that he appreciated the concerns voiced by each party represented. He went on to say that when there is opposition in an area for a change to a street name, that it is tabled until a resolution is worked out by those involved, and recommended that the street name remain Circle Drive until such agreement was made.
 - Commissioner Burten requested Chairman Daniel to accept a motion to leave the street name as Circle Drive until an agreement is reached by that community. Chairman Daniel moved forward with the motion and asked for a second, which was made by Commissioner Simmons. The motion was passed unanimously.
- **Request for New Poll Location – John Mills**
 - Mr. Mills stated that he would like to see a new poll location opened in the areas near Oak Grove and Mount Olive churches. He went onto to elaborate about the graves of veterans and how they need to be recognized, instead of being left to deteriorate away. He stated that there is a program through Veterans Affairs that would not cost the County any money to participate in. Chairman Daniel asked Mr. Mills about the relevance that veterans' graves have with a new polling location. Mr. Mills did not express the relevance but asked that we consider both a new polling location and the program for recognizing and preserving veterans' graves.
 - County Attorney Howard stated that state law prohibits the creation of a new polling location 30 days prior to a special election. Since the election day in November is less than 30 days away, the County would not be able to accommodate that request. Furthermore, the Board of Elections must investigate and determine that a new polling location is needed, which if it were deemed so would change the boundaries of other locations and fall under the processes required by state law.

Old Business – None

New Business

- Road Dept. – Tire Equipment
 - Mr. Waller stated that he had been looking into purchasing tire changing and rotation equipment to reduce costs to the County and provide better service than what has been received recently. He stated that he procured two quotes: Stinson Tool Works in the amount of \$12,607.67 and Snap-on in the amount of \$10,395.00. He asked the commissioners to consider the purchase of this equipment.
 - Commissioner Hitchcock made a motion to purchase the equipment from Snap-on, seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The motion was passed unanimously.
- DFCS Board Appointment – David Hartley
 - The County Administrator explained that Ms. Betty Brett had resigned from the DFCS Board earlier this year due to personal reasons. He stated that an email was received from DFCS requesting the appointment of Mr. David Hartley, and that Mr. Hartley had agreed to serve on that board following a discussion with him.
 - Chairman Daniel asked for motion to appoint Mr. Hartley to the DFCS Board. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve the appointment, seconded by Commissioner Hitchcock. The motion was passed unanimously.

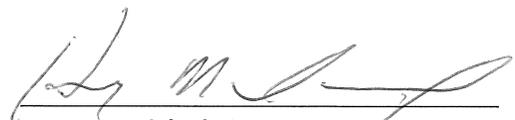
Executive Session – Personnel

- Chairman Daniel asked for a motion to enter into executive session. A motion was made by Commissioner Simmons, seconded by Commissioner Hitchcock. The motion was passed unanimously.

Chairman Comments

Meeting Adjourned

Public Comment Session



Horace Daniel, Chairman

Attest:



Dustin Peebles, County Administrator/Clerk