

GRADY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING MINUTES

June 20, 2023, Meeting

The Grady County Board of Commissioners met on June 20, 2023, at 6:00 pm for a regular meeting. Commissioners LaFaye Copeland, Ray Prince, June Knight, Keith Moye, Phillip Drew, County Administrator Buddy Johnson, County Clerk John White, County Finance Director Holly Murkerson, County Attorney Gabe Ridley, and Road Superintendent Stanley Elkins were present.

Mr. Drew opened the meeting with the invocation and pledge to the flag.

Public Hearing:

Mr. Drew opened the public meeting on the Vehicle Decal Resolution and review the rules for the public hearing.

Michael Cook, 184 Carr St Calvary, Ga

Urge to vote no on the vehicle decal. Vinyl decals can be safe to the paint of vehicle. He referenced the law. Clear to exempt the County Administrator and County Road Superintendent. Undermines the pride of the county.

Yancey Maxwell,

Has three things to say. Have symbols and have pride in our vehicles and have emblems on our vehicle. Need some pride put back. Need symbol on the truck.

Mike Bishop, Cairo, GA

Asked how decals will be put on lease law enforcement vehicle. Puts decals on his corvette for car parades with no damage. Need decals on county vehicles.

Mr. Johnson stated that Mr. Bishop is correct on patrol vehicles.

Terry Akridge, 111 Wood Duck Dr

He is not sure why there is such heartburn over decals on vehicles. He stated that it is an attack on Mr. Johnson.

Kelly Kennett, Cairo, GA

Looking at \$4,000.00 to mark cars. She would rather that money be spent on Recreational opportunities for our children.

Robert Humphries, Roberta Rd

All County Vehicles and equipment should be marked for safety reasons for citizens and employees.

Donald Evans 2136 Hwy 111 S

Is a county vehicle a commercial vehicle? There is not an issue with the label coming off. Want people to see me. If ride by his place, want to see the truck at Buddy's place. Spoke with several leasing companies today and they stated it does not lower value.

Rick Kines, Cairo

Been in government for 48 years. Had good commissioners and bad commissioners. Why do you want to reinvent the wheel. Why not pay Buddy a stipend for vehicle use. Need to take pride. Do your job.

Jimmy Johnson, Grady County

Gets the idea that the board has already made up their mind. Do what the people want. Listen to what the people want.

Debbie Johnson, 1202 Sutton Mill Road

We drive really nasty oil trucks. Why Mr. Johnson feels the way he does.

Mr. Johnson stated that Enterprise does say it matters. We lease the vehicle wholesale and then after one year, Enterprise sells them at retail. Enterprise then gives the money back to the lease for the county. The last two trucks, the county made \$12,000 per truck that goes back to the lease. Mr. Johnson stated it is wrong to say he has no pride.

Sam Carline, Cairo, GA

Mr. Carline stated that he buys lots of vehicles from Enterprise and they are allowed to put them on the vehicles.

Diane Pyles, 621 Old 179 S

Vehicles need decals.

Jeff Jolly

Asked question that what is the penalty for not marking vehicles? There is no penalty listed in the law.

Cecil Maurice Rykard

Can you put it on the windows?

Mr. Drew then closed the meeting.

Motion by Mr. Moye, second by Mrs. Knight to amend the agenda by adding FA044-23 naming Maura Elkins as Assistant EMA Director. The motion was approved. Later in the meeting, there was a motion by Mr. Prince, second by Mrs. Copeland to amend the agenda again by adding FA045-23 which was to pay Mr. Johnson a stipend of \$600.00 per month for travel expenses. The motion was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

James Tillis,

Spoke about Mr. Julian Rawls and how he has been treated. He found out he had been replaced by the Cairo Messenger. Had things lined up. Mr. Rawls had plans to go to the training in Athens. He found out he had been replaced. That was a poor way to treat the man who had been on the board for 50 years. Did you have it preplanned or not? Did not call and ask Mr. Rawls if he wanted to continue to serve. No one cared enough to make a phone call. Mr. Rawls was hired as chief appraiser in 1973 and was in the position for 27 years. Then retired in 2000 and was then on the Assessor's board. He had been there 50 years. You are losing 50 years of experience getting him off the board. The Commissioners are in charge, and you are responsible for the actions. Sometimes you are a rubber stamp for the administrator.

Mrs. Copeland stated that she did not know about Mr. Julian until the day she came to the meeting and saw Mr. Cannington's name on the paper (agenda). She assumed that Mr. Rawls had resigned. She apologizes for that mistake.

PRESENTATIONS

None

CORRESPONDENCE

The Calendar of Events was reviewed.

Regular Board Meeting, Wednesday, July 5, 2023, at 9:00 am.

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion by Mrs. Knight, second by Mr. Moye to approve:

C032-23 Regular Meeting Minutes from 06/06/2023.

The motion was approved.

FORMAL ACTIONS

FA031-23 This action was tabled in the 5/16/23 meeting. After the explanation by Attorney Ridley that he believed the issue of the tax on this personal property could be addressed by creating a new account number for the new owners, motion by Mr. Prince, second by Mr. Moye to disapprove the Tax Error/Release Request from Fitness Enterprises. The motion was approved.

FA042-23 Motion by Mrs. Knight, second by Mr. Moye to approve the IRMA Renewal for the 2023-2024 year at a cost of \$268,258. The motion was approved.

FA043-23 Motion by Mr. Moye, second by Mrs. Copeland to disapprove the Vehicle Decal Resolution. The motion was approved.

FA044-23 Motion by Mrs. Copeland, second by Mrs. Knight to approve Maura Elkins as Assistant EMA Director. This is an unpaid position. The motion was approved.

FA045-23 Motion by Mr. Moye, second by Mr. Prince for Mr. Johnson to turn in his county vehicle and as of July 1, 2023, be paid a vehicle expense of \$600.00 per month. The motion was approved.

NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Prentiss Mitchell honored Mr. Albert Julian Rawls for his 50 years of service to Grady County with the Tax Assessors Office. Mr. Drew and Mr. Mitchell presented Mr. Rawls with a plaque for his service.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None

REPORTS

- A. Attorney's Report – None
- B. Lake Authority Report 05-23
- C.
- D.

RESOLUTIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND AGREEMENTS

Regular Board of Commissioners Meeting Agenda AMENDED
June 20, 2023, 6:00 PM

- I. Executive Duties
- A. Call to Order – 6:00 PM
- B. Invocation/Pledge
- C. Public Hearing on the Vehicle Decal Resolution
- D. Adoption of Agenda
- E. Public Comments (3 Mins)
- II. Presentations
None
- III. Correspondence
- A. Calendar of events

Regular Board Meeting, Wednesday, July 5, 2023, at 9:00 am

- IV. Consent Items – (One motion)
C032-23 Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes from 06/06/2023.
- V. Formal Actions
FA031-23 Approve/Disapprove Tax Error/Release Request from Fitness Enterprises
(Tabled 5/16/23)
FA042-23 Approve/Disapprove IRMA Renewal for the 2023-2024 year.
FA043-23 Approve/Disapprove Vehicle Decal Resolution.
FA044-23 Approve/Disapprove Maura Elkins as Assistant EMA Director. (Amended item)
FA045-23 Approve/Disapprove Mr. Johnson turning in his county vehicle and paying him \$600.00 per month for travel expenses. (Amended item)
- VI. New and unfinished Business
Recognize Mr. Albert Julian Rawls.

- VII. Executive Session
None
- VIII. Reports
- a. Attorney's Report
- b. Lake Authority Report 05-23
- c.
- d.

VIII. Adjournment

Individuals with disabilities who require certain accommodations to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting, or who have questions regarding the accessibility of the meeting, or the facilities are required to contact the ADA Coordinator at 229-377-1512 promptly to allow the County to make reasonable accommodations for those persons.

The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Moye and second by Mr. Prince. The motion was approved.

PHILLIP DREW, CHAIR

June Knight, VICE-CHAIR

RAY PRINCE, COMMISSIONER

Keith Moyer, COMMISSIONER

LAFAYE COPELAND, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

JOHN WHITE, COUNTY CLERK