

GRADY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING MINUTES

August 15, 2023, Meeting

The Grady County Board of Commissioners met on August 15, 2023, at 6:00 pm for a regular meeting. Commissioners June Knight, Phillip Drew, Keith Moye, Ray Prince, LaFaye Copeland, County Administrator Buddy Johnson, County Clerk John White, Finance Director Holly Murkerson, County Attorney Gabe Ridley, Road Superintendent Stanley Elkins, and Fire Chief Richard Phillips were present.

Mr. Drew opened the meeting with a prayer and the pledge to the flag.

Motion by Mrs. Knight, second by Mr. Prince to approve the agenda as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Yancy Maxwell, 1404 Tired Creek Rd Whigham, GA. Mr. Maxwell discussed the time clock and said it was the department head's responsibility to keep track of things. Mr. Maxwell discussed the Motor Grader simulator that Mr. Fryer stated at the last meeting Golden Triangle had received a grant to train Motor Grader drivers. Mr. Maxwell stated Stanley is the motor grader trainer. Mr. Maxwell stated the blower was not needed. All that was needed was the tractor to come back from the opposite direction to get the grass off the roads. He agrees with Stanley on how to repair the culverts on 179.

Mike Bishop, 1679 Woodridge Place Cairo, GA. Mr. Bishop stated he was shocked about the stickers that were placed on the vehicles. Mr. Bishop read the law and agreed there was no size limits on the decals in the law.

PRESENTATIONS

Wayne Hemby, Nuisance Trapper

Mr. Hemby is a nuisance trapper licensed by the State of Georgia and is talking about trapping beavers for the county as they are causing damage to our roads. He charges \$125.00 per beaver that is removed. The board stated they would take this under advisement.

Rusty Powe, Coroner

Mr. Powe brought a person to explain a program that is free. It is an electronic way of death reporting and organ/tissue donation. Mr. Richard Hawk, who is coroner in Coweta County will demonstrate the program. CODIMS is the name of the program. It automates the death reporting process. Most Coroners currently use paper record keeping which is kept forever. This electronic system stores the information and shares the information with all required agencies such as the Department of Public Health, CDC, and the organ/tissue donation system. As stated, the program is free. The only cost would be for a tablet or computer to run the program. Mr. Drew advised Mr. Powe to find out the cost information for the tablets and send it to the board for their consideration.

Mr. Powe stated there is an issue with body bags. He has found a supplier and can get a pallet of 80 bags for a cost of \$2,586.00 and those would probably last a year. Mr. Johnson told Mr. Powe to get the price and submit it as that was something that could be approved without delay.

Mr. Powe stated that he would like to see a Coroner's Office with a cooler. Mr. Powe stated he needs a professional space to meet with families. The board stated they would look at options.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Calendar of Events was reviewed.

Regular Board Meeting, Tuesday, September 5, 2023, at 9:00 am.

CONSENT ITEMS

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

C039-23 Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes from 08/01/2023.

C040-23 Approval of Budget Workshop Meeting Minutes from 7/18/2023

C041-23 Appoint Cheryl LaFaye Copeland as the Voting Delegate for the 2023 Legislative Leadership Conference.

C042-23 Approval of the 5311 Transportation Resolution through Southwest Georgia Regional Commission. The motion was approved.

FORMAL ACTIONS

Memorial Day	Monday-May 27, 2024
Independence Day	Thursday-July 4, 2024
Labor Day	Monday-September 2, 2024
Thanksgiving	Thursday & Friday, November 28 & 29, 2024
Christmas	Wednesday, December 25, Thursday, December 26, 2024

FA059-23 Motion by Mr. Moye, second by Mr. Prince to approve the 911 Center Intergovernmental Memorandum of Understanding between Grady and Decatur Counties. The motion was approved.

FA060-23 Motion by Mrs. Knight, second by Mr. Moye to approve the Fish Limits as recommended by the Grady County Lake Authority.

Tired Creek Lake Fishing Limits

- No Bass kept during the Months spanning February to April.
- Limit 5 Bass/person during other months 12 to 16 inches. 1 Bass/person kept over 16 inches.
- No changes to catfish limits
- Bream – 20 per person
- Crappie – 20 per person with 10-inch minimum length.

FA061-23 Motion by Mrs. Knight, second by Mrs. Copeland to approve accepting the AFG grant for a total of \$555,960.00 of which \$505,418.18 will be grant money and \$75,832.73 will be local match. The local match includes \$25,270.91 which is the grant writer’s fee. The motion was approved.

NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Drew stated that the employees of the Road Department are working extra hours to catch up on road maintenance.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Randy Clark -Variance Request to the Land Use Regulations.

The Public Hearing was opened at 7:25 pm.

Mr. Clark presented his request for a variance to have a three-acre lot divided into 1 acre lots. Mr. Clark stated it should not be an expense to the county and should increase the tax base. The issue for the variance is no direct access to a county road. There were no other comments during the hearing. Mr. Drew requested that the issue be referred to Mr. Ridley for his opinion.

With no further comments, Mr. Drew closed the public hearing at 7:35 pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None

REPORTS

- A. Attorney’s Report – Mr. Ridley provided an opinion concerning the Van Ponder Variance Request. This constitutes a major subdivision, and the Land Use Regulations require paved roads even though it will exit to a dirt road. Mr. Ridley stated the Land Use Regulations only allow for granting a variance if there is a unique land condition or a severe hardship to the owner. From a legal standpoint, the county could not legally grant the variance. Mr. Ridley suggested that if the county does want to allow a Major Subdivision to have dirt roads, then the county should get together with an engineer, code enforcement, and any other entity that would have appropriate input and review the matter. The issue could then be brought to the board for a vote. Mr. Ridley stated that as it stands now, the board does not have the authority to grant the variance. Mr. Drew recommended getting the experts together to discuss what is needed.
- B. Recreation Department 07-23
- C. Roads and Bridges 07/23
- D. Tired Creek Lake 07/23
- E. Animal Control 07/23
- F. Code Enforcement 07/23
- G. Buildings and Grounds 07/23

RESOLUTIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND AGREEMENTS

Regular Board of Commissioners Meeting Agenda
August 15, 2023, 6:00 PM

I. Executive Duties

- A. Call to Order – 6:00 PM
- B. Invocation/Pledge
- C. Adoption of Agenda
- D. Public Comments (3 Mins)

II. Presentations

Wayne Hemby – Trapper
Rusty Powe - Coroner

III. Correspondence

- A. Calendar of events
Regular Board meeting on September 5, 2023 at 9:00 AM

IV. Consent Items – (One motion)

- C039-23 Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes from 08/01/2023.
- C040-23 Approval of the Budget Workshop Meeting Minutes from 7/18/2023.
- C041.23 Appoint Cheryl LaFaye Copeland as the Voting Delegate for the 2023 Legislative Leadership Conference.
- C042-23 Approval of the 5311 Transportation Resolution through Southwest Georgia Regional Commission.

V. Formal Actions

- FA054-23 Approve/Disapprove the revised Budget Calendar (Tabled from 8/01/23 meeting)
- FA055-23 Approve/Disapprove Old 179 North Box Culvert Improvements and who will complete the improvements. (Tabled from 8/01/23 meeting)
- FA057-23 Approve/Disapprove funding for the Leadership Grady program at the Chamber of Commerce.
- FA058-23 Approve/Disapprove the Holiday Calendar for 2024.
- FA059-23 Approve/Disapprove the 911 Agreement.
- FA060-23 Approve/Disapprove Fish Limit as recommended by the Grady County Lake Authority.
- FA061-23 Approve/ Disapprove/Consider AFG grant for a total of \$555,960.0 of which \$505,418.18 will be Grant Money and \$50,561.82 will be local match.

VI. New and unfinished Business

VII. Public Hearing

Randy Clark - Variance Request to the Land Use Regulations

VII. Executive Session

None

VIII. Reports

- a. Attorney’s Report
- b. Rec Department 07-23
- c. Roads and Bridges 07/23
- d. Tired Creek Lake 07/23
- e. Animal Control 07/23
- f. Code Enforcement 07/23
- g. Buildings and Grounds 7/23

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 Mrs. Copeland and second by Mrs. Knight. The motion was approved.

PHILLIP DREW, CHAIR

June Knight, VICE-CHAIR

RAY PRINCE, COMMISSIONER

Keith Moye, COMMISSIONER

LAFAYE COPELAND, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

JOHN WHITE, COUNTY CLERK

