



Jackson County Board of Commissioners
Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 5, 2021 • 6:00 P.M.

The Jackson County Board of Commissioners met on Monday, April 5, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the Jury Assembly Room at the Jackson County Courthouse, 5000 Jackson Parkway, Jefferson, Georgia.

Commissioners Present: Tom Crow, Chairman
Jim Hix, Commissioner District 1
Ralph Richardson, Jr., Commissioner District 3
Marty Seagraves, Commissioner District 4

Commissioners Absent: Chas Hardy, Commissioner District 2

Staff Present: Kevin Poe, County Manager
Gina Roy, Assistant County Manager
Ericka Johnson, Deputy Clerk

Press: Mike Buffington, Mainstreet News/Jackson Herald

A. **CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Tom Crow called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

B. **INVOCATION:**

Kevin Poe, County Manager, gave the invocation.

C. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Commissioner Jim Hix led the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Regular Board Meeting of February 15, 2021:

Commissioner Richardson moved to approve the minutes for March 15, 2021. Commissioner Seagraves seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 4 – 0)

E. **CITIZEN INPUT:**

None

F. **REPORTS:**

None

G. **RECOGNITIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND SPECIAL ITEMS:**

1) **Northeast Georgia Area Agency on Aging – 2 Year Term:**

- **Vacant – (Term January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2022)**

Chairman Crow moved to approve the appointment of Brenda J. Smith for a two (2) year term. Commissioner Seagraves seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 4 – 0)

H. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

None

I. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None

J. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- 2) **Purchase of Property from Sidney and Victor Tanner:** (Kevin Poe)
To approve an Agreement for Sale of Realty of Tax Parcels 117 034 and 117 021K totaling 65.45 acres off of Pocket Road.

Kevin Poe, County Manager, reviewed the proposed Agreement for the Sale of Realty. The board had previously discussed pursuing the purchase of property to use for greenspace and a passive park. Staff completed negotiations with Sidney and Victor Tanner for Parcels 117 034 and 117 021K. The parcels totaled 65.45 acres, located off of Pocket Road. Mr. Poe reviewed the terms of the agreement. The total purchase price was \$800,000. The County will pay \$700,000 in cash and the remainder \$100,000 will be treated as a donation from the Tanners.

The County will pay the Tanners \$200,000 at closing, \$200,000 by July 31, 2021, \$200,000 by January 31, 2022, and \$100,000 by January 31, 2023. Earnest money in the amount of \$10,000 will be paid to the Seller and held until closing; there was a 90-day due diligence period. The closing will be scheduled within thirty (30) days at the conclusion of the due diligence period. Mr. Poe added due to the donation, the County will name the park, "Tanner Park at Walnut Creek". The property shall be used for a public park/greenspace and recreational purposes. If the County converts the use from public purpose before the expiration of 35 years, then the County will be obligated to return the \$100,000 donation back to the Seller's estate. Staff recommended approval of the Agreement for the Sale of Realty and to authorize the Chairman and County Manager to execute all the necessary documents to move the transaction forward and to officially amend the FY 2021 Budget to cover the \$400,000 payment due in the current calendar year.

Chairman Crow moved to approve the purchase in the amount of \$800,000 for the 65.45 acres for Tax Parcels 017 034 and 117 021K. Commissioner Richardson seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 4 – 0)

K. **ADJOURN:**

Chairman Tom Crow adjourned the business meeting at 6:08 p.m.

WORK SESSION MEETING

This portion of the meeting is to facilitate a discussion on matters requiring a more in-depth review, explanation, and analysis. No formal action will be taken by the Board of Commissioners on any of the items listed below.

L. **CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Crow called the work session to order at 6:08 p.m.

M. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None

N. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- 3) **Proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention Month:** (Kevin Poe)
Proclaim the month of April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Jackson County.

Kevin Poe, County Manager, read the proclamation to proclaim the month of April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Jackson County. There were several departments represented and in attendance. They were: Jackson County Family Connection, Department of Family & Children Service, and The Tree House. Chairman Crow moved to approve the proclamation. There was a second by Commissioner Richardson. The vote was taken and the month passed unanimously. (Vote 4 – 0)

- 4) **FY 2021 Supplemental Paving List:** (Kevin Poe)
To approve the list of roads for paving in 2021. The roads are: Deadwyler Road, County Farm Road, I.W. Davis Road, Griffeth Road, Cabin Creek Circle, Nick Duck Road, Cronin Circle, Ednaville Circle, and Merk Road.

Kevin Poe, County Manager, reminded board members they had approved a list of roads to be resurfaced with asphalt under the Georgia DOT Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant (LMIG). He presented a list of roads for consideration to add to the list. The total of roadway was 7.49 miles. Mr. Poe estimated it would take approximately \$750,000 to resurface the roads. \$650,000 was designated in the General Fund and \$100,000 would be used from SPLOST 6 funds. Three of the roads were asphalt and six (6) were dirt roads. He anticipated upgrading the dirt roads to triple surface treatment (tar and gravel). He clarified there will be two (2) separate contracts; one for the asphalt paving and one for the surface treatment paving.

The dirt roads totaled 1.76 miles. Chairman Crow expressed his concern regarding the small amount of paving to be completed. He wanted to see the dirt roads listed increase up to five (5) miles. Commissioner Richardson also wanted to have input. He believed there were other short road that would benefit more people. The board members will submit other roads for consideration to Mr. Poe prior to the next meeting. There was no other discussion.

5) **Updated Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) Speed Zone Ordinance:**

(Kevin Poe)

To approve an update to the Speed Zone Ordinance as required by GDOT.

Gina Roy, Assistant County Manager, presented to the staff report. She said this was originally adopted in December 2020; however, with the new speed cameras in Jefferson near the school zones, the County was required by the Georgia Department of Transportation to approve the ordinance. She confirmed this was the only change to the ordinance. It was confirmed the speed limit on McNeal Road and County Farm Road were reduced to 45 mph. There was no other discussion.

6) **Litter Update:**

Chairman Crow asked for an update regarding litter along the roadways. Gina Roy, Assistant County Manager, advised staff had met to discuss the matter. She explained there were a number of accounts at the Transfer Station and staff sent a blanket letter to those customers serving notice of the start of enforcement. She said this was the second and final notice. She informed the board the County will give away free tarps to those that frequent the Transfer Station.

Ms. Roy also reported the Keep Jackson County Beautiful Board of Directors planned to hire an off-duty, sheriff's deputy to work one (1) day each month to enforce tarping and littering. These citations will be processed through State Court. Ms. Roy stated everything will need to be tarped by 2022. There was a brief discussion on the use of probationers to pick up trash along the County's roadways.

O) **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

None

P) **ADJOURN:**

Chairman Tom Crow declared the meeting adjourned at 6:29 p.m.

All printed material/documentation presented is filed in Board Minute Addendum Book No. 13-Q and hereby becomes a part of the official minutes.

Minutes Approved: Monday, April 19, 2021.

JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Attest: Ericka Johnson
Ericka Johnson, Deputy Clerk

Tom Crow

Tom Crow, Chairman

Jim Hix

Jim Hix, Commissioner District 1

Chas Hardy

Chas Hardy, Commissioner District 2

Ralph Richardson, Jr.

Ralph Richardson, Jr., Commissioner District 3

Marty Seagraves

Marty Seagraves, Commissioner District 4

