



Jackson County Board of Commissioners

Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 6, 2022 • 6:00 P.M.

The Jackson County Board of Commissioners met on Monday, June 6, 2022 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
Chas Hardy, Commissioner District 2
Marty Seagraves, Commissioner District 4

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

Press: Mike Buffington, Jackson Herald/Mainstreet News

A. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Tom Crow called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

B. INVOCATION:

County Manager Kevin Poe gave the invocation.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Commissioner Marty Seagraves led the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Hix made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Hardy, to approve the minutes for May 16, 2022. The vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 4 – 0)

E. CITIZEN INPUT:

- **Babs McDonald, 1119 Hwy. 330**, addressed the board thanking them for purchasing property for a park in the South Jackson area. She believed the new park will be a great asset for the community.

F. REPORTS:

None

G. **APPOINTMENTS:**

1) **Jackson County Board of Assessors – 3 Year Term:**

- Jimmy Mock – (District 1 – Term Expires June 30, 2022)
- Ken Bray – (District 3 – Term Expires June 30, 2022)

District 1:

Commissioner Hix made a motion, seconded by Chairman Crow, to reappoint Jimmy Mock to the Jackson County Board of Assessors. Hearing no discussion, the vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 4 – 0)

District 3:

This appointment was deferred to the next meeting.

2) **Jackson County Department of Family & Children Services – 5 Year Term:**

- Shirley Kinney (District 5 – Term Expires June 30, 2022)

This appointment was deferred to the next meeting.

3) **Jackson County Planning Commission – 3 Year Term:**

- Carson Saville (District 1 – Term Expires June 30, 2024)

Commissioner Hix made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Seagraves, to appoint Steve Wittry to fill the unexpired term. Hearing no discussion, the vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 4 – 0)

4) **Jackson County Water & Sewerage Authority – 3 Year Term:**

- Christopher Nichols (District 4 – Term Expires June 30, 2022)
- Wade Johnson (District 5 – Term Expires June 30, 2022)

District 4:

Commissioner Seagraves made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Hix, to reappoint Christopher Nichols to the Jackson County Water & Sewerage Authority. Hearing no discussion, the vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 4 – 0)

District 5:

Chairman Crow made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Seagraves, to reappoint Wade Johnson to the Jackson County Water & Sewerage Authority. Hearing no discussion, the vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 4 – 0)

- 5) **Northeast Georgia Region 10 EMS Council – 3 Year Term:**
• **Doug Waters (Term Expires June 30, 2022)**

Chairman Crow made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Hix, to reappoint Doug Waters to the Northeast Georgia Region 10 EMS Council. Hearing no discussion, the vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 4 – 0)

H. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- 1) **Request to Relocate the Smith-White Cemetery:** (Gina Roy)
To approve the relocation of the Smith-White Cemetery located on Bill Wright Road, specifically tax parcel 078 023B

Gina Roy, Assistant County Manager, advised a public hearing was previously held on the request and a decision was needed within thirty (30) days of the public hearing. Ms. Roy added if the board decided to deny the request for the relocation of the cemetery, a reason must be provided. There were six (6) reasons for denial which were outlined in O.C.G.A. § 36-72-8 (2010). She also acknowledged receipt of a letter from Ms. Sue Holliman and Ms. Mary Bates.

Chairman Crow requested staff to remove any notation that this was an abandoned cemetery. Ms. Sue Brooks Holliman, a resident of Jackson County, spoke representing her family of approximately 25 individuals. She advised her family supported the relocation of the graves to the Pendergrass Baptist Church. Ms. Mary Bates, also representing her family, was supportive and gave their approval to relocate the graves to the Pendergrass cemetery.

Chairman Crow made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Hix, to approve moving the graves to the Pendergrass Baptist Church. Hearing no discussion, the vote was taken and motion passed. Chairman Crow and Commissioners Hardy and Hix voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Seagraves opposed. (Vote 3 – 1)

I. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Chairman Crow declared the meeting adjourned at 6:14 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.

J. **CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Tom Crow called the meeting to order at 6:14 p.m.

K. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- 2) **Authorize Fee/Tax Agreement with City of Hoschton:** (Kevin Poe)
Approve agreement with the City of Hoschton, Jackson County, and Jackson County Tax Commissioner to collect Storm Water Fees and City property taxes

Kevin Poe, County Manager, presented a proposed tax agreement between Jackson County, the City of Hoschton, and Candace Taylor-Heaton, Tax Commissioner related to the collection of property taxes and storm water fees for the City. He said this was a similar agreement the County had with other municipalities related to collection property taxes and/or other fees.

The terms were the same. The County's commitment included to bill for and collect all city property taxes levied by the city as well as a stormwater fee. The County will prepare the tax digest for the city, and the city will pay the County a commission of 2% on all taxes collected and distributed on behalf of the city. Additionally, the City would pay the sum of \$1 for each parcel of real estate or bill for personal property to the Tax Commissioner. The city will also furnish all information and documentation necessary for the County to provide these services. The agreement will commence on October 1, 2022 and terminate on September 30, 2023, but could be automatically renewed on an annual basis.

- 3) **Acceptance of FY2023 Jackson County Drug Court State Grant and Piedmont Circuit Veterans Court State Grant and Request Date Funds:** (Kevin Poe)

- To accept and approve the grant award for FY2023 from CJCC to assist in the funding of the Jackson County Drug Court
- To accept and approve the grant award for FY2023 from CJCC to assist in the funding of the Piedmont Circuit Veterans Court.
- To acknowledge use of the DATE Fund to assist in program operational expenses

Richard Bosten, the Assistant Director and Coordinator for the Drug and Wellness Court, reviewed the various programs available for citizens and how each were a benefit. He distributed a fact sheet containing statistics for the circuit. He then requested approval for the acceptance of the FY2023 grant awards from CJCC to assist in the funding of the Jackson County Drug Court, Veterans Court, and to acknowledge use of the DATE Fund to assist in program operational expenses.

- 4) **FY2023 Capacity Agreement with Georgia Department of Corrections:** (Kevin Poe)

Authorize approval of the FY2023 Capacity Agreement with the Georgia Department of Corrections relative to State inmates being housed in the Jackson County Correctional Institute

Kevin Poe, County Manager, presented a request for the approval of the FY2023 Capacity Agreement with the Georgia Department of Corrections. This covers the period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. He recommended to lower the number of

state inmates from 150 to 110. Reducing the number of inmates was critical due to staffing shortages and having less inmates created a safer environment. Also, reducing the number of inmates would leave two (2) dorms available for a possible expansion of the Transition Program.

- 5) **Purchase New Cardiac Monitors/Defibrillators:** (Kevin Poe)
Award the bid for the purchase of new Cardiac Monitors/Defibrillators to Zoll in the amount of \$624,447.87; and allocate ARPA funds that have been rolled over into the EMS budget to cover this expense

Kevin Poe, County Manager, advised the cardiac monitors and defibrillators utilized by the EMS Department were no longer supported by the manufacturer and parts were limited. He advised there was a need to update the equipment. Bids were received and the EMS staff assembled a committee to review the products. The committee recommend the Zoll X Series at a total price of \$624,447.87. Mr. Poe said one bid was rejected because it was not received on time. The other bid was initially lower, but after a review of the product and its warranty, the Zoll X Series was not more costly. Mr. Poe also asked the board to amend the budget to use ARPA funds to cover the cost of the units. He expected the units to last approximately ten (10) years but noted technology was constantly updated.

- 6) **Consider Granting Utility Easement to City of Hoschton:** (Kevin Poe)
Consider granting a Utility Easement to the City of Hoschton for a proposed pipeline and effluent structure on Indian Creek in Sells Mill Park

Kevin Poe, County Manager, reported the City of Hoschton requested a temporary, permanent easement for the installation of a proposed pipeline on Indian Creek in Sells Mill Park. The pipeline will carry "highly treated wastewater effluent" from the city's wastewater treatment plant to a discharge structure on Indian Creek below Sell's Mill Park.

The city had agreed to bring the road back to current conditions and correct draining issues on the existing gravel access road. The city had also agreed to upgrade the entrance off of Jackson Trail Road.

L. **ADJOURNMENT:**

There was no other business to discuss. Chairman Tom Crow declared the meeting adjourned at 6:38 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.

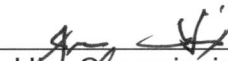
Minutes Approved: Monday, June 29, 2022

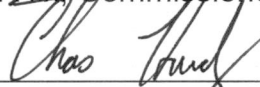
Jackson County Board of Commissioners





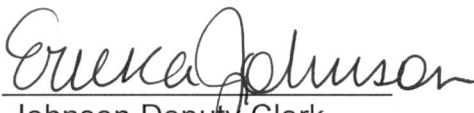
Tom Crow, Chairman


Jim Hix, Commissioner District 1


Chas Hardy, Commissioner District 2

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Ralph Richardson, Jr., Commissioner District 3

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Marty Seagraves, Commissioner District 4

Attest: 
Ericka Johnson Deputy Clerk