

CHARLTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 2021
BOC CONFERENCE ROOM
6:00 P.M.

4/1/2021 - Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

Those present were: Chairman James Everett, along with Commissioners Alpha Benefield, Jesse Crews, Drew Jones, and Luke Gowen; County Administrator Hampton Raulerson; County Clerk Jenifer Nobles; County Attorney John Adams; and visitors as recorded hereafter. Becky Harden was absent.

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Chairman Everett led the Invocation and Pledge to the Flag.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Gowen made motion to amend April 1, 2021 agenda to include after #5 - Recreation Board appointment. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Crews made motion to adopt the April 1, 2021 agenda, to include amendment. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Commissioner Crews made motion to approve March 18, 2021 Minutes. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Jones, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

5. HEAR ST. MARYS RIVER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Merrill Varn, St. Mary's River Management Committee, was present to discuss St. Mary's River Management Plan, which is to establish consistent standards for both sides of the river. As part of the Georgia DNR's Environmental Protection Division's Triennial Review of the designated St. Mary's River, we find that Georgia's Fishing designation is effectively a lesser designation than Florida's Fishing/Swimming/Drinking standard. In order to implement this strategy, SMRMC asks for support of appropriate change in the St. Mary's River's designated public use. After lengthy discussion, Commissioner Crews made motion to offer support of appropriate change designating St. Mary's River as Recreation designation standard. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield, Board voted; Commissioners Jones and Gowen voted no, Commissioners Crews, Benefield, and Everett voted yes; motion carried. Attached documentation becomes integral part of Minutes.

AMENDMENT TO AGENDA - RECREATION BOARD APPOINTMENT

Commissioner Crews made motion to appoint Alpha Benefield to serve on the Recreation Board, (to fill unexpired term of Raymond Roberts). Motion was seconded by Commissioner Gowen, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

6. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF 911 OPERATING AGREEMENT

Commissioner Benefield made motion to adopt Agreement Between the Charlton County Board of Commissioners and the Charlton County Sheriff Robert Phillips establishing E-911 system and central dispatch center. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Gowen, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

7. CONSIDER REAPPOINTMENTS OF DEFACS BOARD

Commissioner Benefield made motion to reappoint Donna Eunice, term ending 01/01/2020 - 12/31/2024, and Matt Rouse, term ending 01/01/2021 - 12/31/2025. to the DFACS Board. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Gowen, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

8. CONSIDER AWARD OF THE FOLLOWING BID PROPOSALS

-Audit Bids -

Mauldin & Jenkins \$30,000.00 (does not include single audit)

CLHP \$32,410.00 - includes single audit

Commissioner Jones made motion to award bid to Mauldin and Jenkins for \$30,000.00. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

Law Maintenance Bids -

Keene's Landscape - \$26,400.00 annually

Commissioner Gowen made motion to award bid to Keene's Landscape for \$2200 monthly; \$26,400 annually. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Jones, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

Road Department Bids

Timmy King 2006 Mack - \$17,000.00

MHC Kenworth Savannah 2017 Kenworth - \$46,900.00

Commissioner Crews made motion to award bid to Timmy King for 2006 Mack for \$17,000.00, and have County Mechanic Ray Davis look over the truck for recommendation. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

9. CONSIDER APPROVAL FOR PROFESSIONAL PLANNING SERVICES

Commissioner Gowen made motion to approve Agreement for Professional Planning Services to Prepare Hazard Mitigation Plan. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Jones, Board voted; motion carried unanimously. Agreement becomes integral part of Minutes.

10. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF SECOND AMENDMENT PROCLAMATION

Commissioner Jones made motion to approve a Proclamation of Charlton County, Georgia, Demonstrating Charlton County's Support for the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution and to the Provisions of the Constitution of State of Georgia that Protect Charlton County Citizens' Individual, Inalienable Rights to Keep and Bear Arms. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Gowen, Board voted; motion carried unanimously. Proclamation becomes integral part of Minutes.

11. PUBLIC COMMENTS: (PLEASE LIMIT TO 3 MINUTES)

Ashley Gowen was present and extended invitation to the Board to attend the monthly Development Authority meeting to be held Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.

Sheriff Phillips was present and mentioned dangerous dog ordinance. Sheriff Phillips will bring proposal for the Board's consideration.

12. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Gowen addressed Chip Campbell and Merrill Varn concerning redesignation of St. Mary's River. Mr. Gowen stated that he supports the efforts, but need more information, before I can approve the decision.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF REQUIRED)

Commissioner Gowen made motion to enter executive session at 6:50 p.m. to discuss personnel. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Crews, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Everett opened meeting at 7:20 p.m. and stated personnel was discussed in executive session. No action was taken.

14. NEXT BOC MEETING, THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 2021 BOC CONFERENCE ROOM 6:00 P.M.

Next BOC meeting, will be held Thursday, April 15, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. for Workshop and Meeting to follow.

15. ADJOURN

Commissioner Crews made motion that meeting be adjourned at 7:25 p.m. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Jones, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

James E. Everett, Chairman

Jenifer Nobles, County Clerk