



**FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**December 4, 2023**  
**6:00 PM**

**APPROVED**  
1-8-2024

**Present:** Chairman, Jeff Jacques  
District 1 Commissioner - Robert Franklin  
District 2 Commissioner - Kyle Foster  
District 3 Commissioner - Elizabeth Busby  
District 4 Commissioner - Josh Smith

**Media:** Shane Scoggins, Franklin County Citizen Leader

**Staff:** Terry Harris, County Manager  
Kandy Bond, County Clerk  
Bubba Samuels, County Attorney – via Zoom  
Robert Ogburn, Planning & Zoning/Assistant County Manager  
Alexandria Gunter, Planner – Planning and Zoning

**Item 1. Call to Order**

Chairman Jacques called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.

**Item 2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag:** led by Commissioner Franklin

**Item 3. Approval of the Agenda**

Chairman Jacques asked the board for a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion to Approve – Commissioner Smith

Motion Seconded – Commissioner Franklin

Discussion: None

All in favor vote: motion carried 5-0 (agenda approved)

**Item 4. Approval of Minutes**

- a. January 9, 2023 – Public Hearing Minutes
- b. January 9, 2023 – Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- c. January 31, 2023 – Work Session Minutes
- d. February 6, 2023 – Public Hearing Minutes
- e. February 6, 2023 – Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- f. February 28, 2023 – Work Session Minutes
- g. March 6, 2023 – Public Hearing Minutes
- h. March 6, 2023 – Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- i. March 28, 2023 – Work Session Minutes
- j. April 25, 2023 – Work Session Minutes
- k. May 1, 2023 – Public Hearing Minutes
- l. May 9, 2023 – Budget Hearing #1 Minutes
- m. May 30, 2023 – Budget Hearing #2 Minutes

- n. May 30, 2023 – Work Session Minutes
- o. September 11, 2023 – Public Hearing Minutes
- p. September 26, 2023 – Work Session Minutes
- q. October 2, 2023 – Public Hearing Minutes
- r. October 2, 2023 – Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- s. November 2, 2023 – Work Session Minutes
- t. November 6, 2023 – Public Hearing Minutes
- u. November 6, 2023 – Regular Meeting Minutes
- v. November 28, 2023 – Work Session Minutes

Chairman Jacques asked the board for a motion to approve the minutes as presented.

Motion to Approve – Commissioner Busby

Motion Seconded – Commissioner Foster

Discussion: Commissioner Smith wants it noted that based upon his sworn in date of February 10, 2023, he cannot approve minutes A-E, however he does approve minutes F-V.

All in favor vote: motion carried 5-0 (minutes approved)

#### **Item 5. Public Comment**

*None*

#### **Item 6. Items for Discussion**

- A. V-2023-006 Variance:** Jennifer Conrad, Applicant, has filed an application for a Variance to the Unified Development Code, Chapter 3, "Specific Use Provisions," Article 3-1, "Specific Uses," Section 3-101, "accessory building, structure or use generally" to construct a garage in the front yard of a Lakefront Residential (LR) zoning district. The property consists of a +/- 0.3 acre tract located at 910 Knottywood Dr, Lavonia, GA 30553 (Map/Parcel 070A/ 082). **Planning Commission Recommends Approval: 4-0**

Chairman Jacques asked the board for a motion to approve, deny, and/or table.

Motion to Approve – Commissioner Foster

Motion Seconded – Commissioner Franklin

Discussion: None

All in favor vote: motion carried 5-0 (approved)

- B. RZ-2023-018 Rezone:** Samuel Swarey, applicant and Property Owner has filed an application for Rezone from Agricultural General (AG) to Rural Residential (RR) for a +/- 17 -acre tract located at 1524 McGee Rd Lavonia, GA 30553 (Map/Parcel 064/166). Proposed use: Residential **Planning Commission Recommends Approval: 4-0**

Chairman Jacques asked the board for a motion to approve, deny, and/or table.

Motion to Approve – Commissioner Foster

Motion Seconded – Commissioner Smith

Discussion: None

All in favor vote: motion carried 5-0 (approved)

#### **C. Board of Assessors Appointment**

Terry Harris, County Manager – Advertised and one application was received from Gary Farmer which is currently serving in this position. Request approval for Gary Farmer to be appointed.

Chairman Jacques asked the board for a motion to approve, deny, and/or table.



Motion to Approve – Commissioner Busby  
Motion Seconded – Commissioner Franklin  
Discussion: None  
All in favor vote: motion carried 5-0 (approved)

**D. Intergovernmental Agreement with Franklin County Board of Education**

Terry Harris, County Manager – As discussed at the work session this month, we want to enter into an Agreement with the Board of Education to construct, own, operate, and maintain lift station force main and associated sewer improvements on the property of the new elementary school and the line going to it. The Board of the Education will foot all the costs for the sewer extension and lift station. Once complete the county will own/maintain it and will gain revenue off sewer and water monthly charges. Agreement has been dually vetted by County Engineer and County Attorney and recommend approval by the BOC.

Chairman Jacques deferred to the board for action at this time.  
Motion to enter into the Intergovernmental Agreement – Commissioner Busby  
Motion Seconded – Commissioner Foster  
Discussion: None  
All in favor vote: motion carried 5-0 (approved)

**E. ACCG Mental Health Resolution**

Chairman Jacques read the resolution aloud.

Chairman Jacques asked the board for a motion to adopt the Resolution.  
Motion to Adopt – Commissioner Smith  
Motion Seconded – Commissioner Foster  
Discussion: None  
All in favor vote: motion carried 5-0 (approved)

**Item 7. Announcements**

Commissioner Smith – None

Commissioner Busby – No work session this month.

Chairman Jacques – On behalf of the board and staff, we want to wish each and every citizen and colleagues a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. May God's blessing be upon Franklin County and each of our families.

Chairman Jacques – Extensive discussions in regard to the City of Carnesville water and sewer acquisition. Based on a very thorough vetting process, there is no desire of this board at this time to move forward with that acquisition. It is not financially viable based on the terms and conditions that were set forth. We are not saying that it might not be brought back up and discussed, but as of today's date there is no further interest by the Board of Commissioners in pursuing that due to the financial liability and other concerns that we have at this time.

Chairman Jacques - Looking at changes to the UDC, we will be rolling out changes to the residential section for public review. Will go through the Planning and Zoning process and ultimately being voted on by the BOC. Chairman Jacques and Commissioner Busby have worked diligently based on comments from the general public, things learning, and direct input from the UDC review committee. Project to roll those out in early 2024 with hopefully adopting said changes expressly to residential section in February 2024.

Chairman Jacques - We had our comprehensive plan kickoff meeting last week led by the GMRC with a plan adoption date of October 31, 2024.

Chairman Jacques - BOC is still looking at audio and video improvements for the board meetings at the Justice Center. Kandy Bond, new County Clerk is handling the meetings with vendors to help improve and enhance the audio and video quality.

Chairman Jacques - On a positive note, we are nearing completion of impaneling all of the Boards and Committees to make them current. Regarding the Ethics Board, have we received a formal notice from the judge of his appointment? Terry Harris - Yes, we received the Order appointing members to the Franklin County Board of Ethics from Judge Harvey Wasserman. It's a five member panel made up of the following members: Joshua Blakely - Chairman (4 year term), Deanna Casey-Sinha (2 year term), Emily Bennett Hayes (4 year term), Jacqueline "Jackie" Payne (2 year term), and Paul Blackmon (4 year term). Two members are appointed by the FC Democrat party, two appointed by the FC Republican party and one appointed by Judge Wasserman. There are a few outstanding board and committee appointments, but Board we have come a long way and we are nearing a complete impaneling of all said boards and committees and having everything current.

Commissioner Foster - None

Commissioner Franklin - Thank you to the road department for fixing the bridge on Clarks Creek Road. It looks good and is a smooth ride now.

Terry Harris, County Manager - Franklin County Firefighter Training Center - the water line was installed for the hydrants to semi complete that project last week. Hope to have it complete by the end of the year. It's been a pretty major project and the firefighters are very proud of it. It is of great benefit. Chairman Jacques - Request updates on other capital improvements for the Elections Office and Senior Center at the January meeting to give BOC and citizens updates.

#### **Item 8. Adjourn**

Chairman Jacques asked the board for a motion to adjourn.

Motion to Adjourn - Commissioner Busby

Motion Seconded - Commissioner Foster

Discussion: None

All in favor vote: 5-0 (approved to adjourn)

#### **Upcoming Meetings**

January 8, 2024 - BOC Public Hearing @ 5:30 PM

January 8, 2024 - BOC Regular Meeting @ 6:00 PM

January 30, 2024 - BOC Work Session @ 6:00 PM

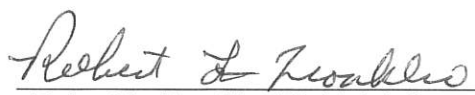
February 5, 2024 - BOC Public Hearing @ 5:30 PM

February 5, 2024 - BOC Regular Meeting @ 6:00 PM

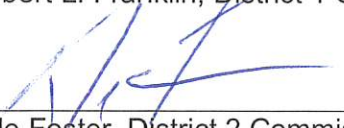
Signed on the 8th day of January 2024

  
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Jeff Jacques, Chairman

  
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Josh Smith, District 4 Commissioner

  
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Robert L. Franklin, District 1 Commissioner

  
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Terry Harris, County Manager

  
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Kyle Foster, District 2 Commissioner

  
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Kandy Bond, County Clerk

  
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Elizabeth Busby, District 3 Commissioner

