



You Are Why We Are Here

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS WORK SESSION - MINUTES

DATE: February 27, 2024

TIME: 6:00 PM

LOCATION: Franklin County Justice Center

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

MJ Kneiser, Radio 92.1 WLHR-Lake Hartwell Radio – via Zoom

Staff: Terry Harris, County Manager

Kandy Bond, County Clerk

Jack Samuels, County Attorney

Item 1. Call to Order

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

Item 2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag: led by Commissioner Smith

Item 3. Approval of Agenda

Chairman Jacques made a motion to amend the Upcoming Meetings portion of the agenda to change the date of March 26, 2024 to March 4, 2024 for the BOC Regular Meeting @ 6:00 PM. Chairman Jacques then ask for a motion to amend and approve the agenda.

Motion to Amend and Approve - Commissioner Busby

Motion Seconded – Commissioner Foster

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion carried 5-0 (Agenda approved)

Item 4. Public Comment

A. None

Item 5. New Business

A. 2024 LMIG Bids -- Terry Harris, Interim County Manager

Received a total of five bids on February 15, 2024, the project consists of resurfacing on McGee Road, Reno Road, and Brown Road (from State Route 59 to the I85 Bridge). Low bid was submitted by Stratton & Sons Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$851,652.04. The bid includes a bid bond from FCCI Insurance Company which is listed on the Treasury Department's Circular 570 and is authorized to transact business in the State of Georgia.

B. Schokbeton Bids – Terry Harris, Interim County Manager

Received a total of three bids on February 15, 2024, for the Full-Depth Reclamation of Schokbeton Road Project. Low bid was submitted by Stratton & Sons Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$139,352.12. The bid includes a bid bond from FCCI Insurance Company which is listed on the Treasury Department's Circular 570 and is authorized to transact business in the State of Georgia. We want to commend John Phillips, County Engineer for efforts in procuring additional funds for this project.

C. UDC – Proposed Residential Changes

Chairman Jacques - In October 2023, he and Commissioner Busby began to review the UDC for needed changes and relegated those to the residential section. Input was taken from the UDC Citizen Review Committee, proposed changes were reviewed by Mr. Jerry Weitz and legally reviewed and vetted by our county attorney. The changes were published for public review and comment. Then, the changes were sent back to the Commissioners for review and to receive comments back from the public. There will be a vote at the next regular meeting regarding these two changes: Multi-family residential and making the suburban residential district to be within a half mile of a municipal boundary. Some of the other proposals will be reviewed at a later time.

Commissioner Franklin – I'm good.

Commissioner Foster – I'm good with those two changes. I have had a lot of opposition to the other ones and hope to talk about those further down the road.

Commissioner Busby – Thankful to get these two changes made and believes it will be beneficial for the county.

Commissioner Smith – I agree with my fellow colleagues, I'm excited to move forward with this and I know it has been a long process. I do support the removal of the multi-family and setting the half mile limit to the cities.

Chairman Jacques: Comments from Mr. Weitz: Deleting the MFR zoning is a policy decision and is very easily supported. Making the suburban residential to have close proximity to municipal boundaries and reducing the density is also easily supportable.

Item 6. Terry Harris – County Manager Report

- 1. Election qualifying begins Monday, March 4 through March 8, 2024 at noon. If you have a desire for public service, please put your name in the hat and get on the ballot.*
- 2. Budget preparations are ongoing and we are about two thirds complete at this time. We still have several different entities to add and this is an ongoing process.*

3. *The first general public meeting for the Comprehensive Plan will be held on Tuesday, March 19, 2024, from 6:00 – 7:30 PM at the Franklin County Justice Center.*
4. *Franklin County recently adopted a Resolution urging Gov. Brian Kemp and the General Assembly to continue mental health reform in the legislative session. All 159 counties in the state of Georgia passed that resolution. That is a good step forward for our state to work on mental health reform.*
5. *Salubrity Road which is a previous LMIG project was completed this week.*

Chairman Jacques: *As a collective response from the board with budget preparation ahead, we want to use these guiding factors:*

- *to take care of county employees*
- *we have no intentions of raising taxes for the public*

Those are the parameters we want for everything to operate under with the anticipated revenues/expenditures and maybe also being able to save.

Item 7. District 1 Report – Commissioner Franklin

I received a complaint this week and looked into it. Trash was blowing from a neighbor's yard into the complainant's yard and he was having to pick up the trash. If you live in Franklin County start picking up your trash.

District 2 Report – Commissioner Foster

After lots of prayer and consideration, I don't plan to seek re-election at this time. I plan to spend more time with my family.

District 3 Report – Commissioner Busby

None

District 4 Report – Commissioner Smith

I'd like to ask the community and citizens of the county to stand behind the Dilworth family at this time. Dills employed a lot of people and I'm sure they are now worried. Dills has been an important part of this county for a long time, even before I was born. We lost a major business for the city of Royston. I was there and spoke with the Mayor of Royston and hopefully good things are to come in the future. I ask the citizens to stand behind the city and the Dilworth family as they move forward. That is home for me and this isn't going to be fixed overnight.

Health Insurance Committee - The county manager, a few county employees and I met with a health insurance broker for the employee insurance. I felt it was a productive introductory meeting and I was happy to know there will be other plans/options and maybe even save money. I felt it went well and is a good start.

Chairman Jacques

After much prayerful consideration, I will not be seeking re-election as chair. I'm very thankful to the citizens for the opportunity to serve in my previous tenure as well as this tenure completing the unexpired term of former chair Jason Macomson. Most of all, I want to thank my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for everything he has done and affording me this opportunity.

Item 8. Announcements
None

Item 9. Adjourn
Chairman Jacques asked the board for a motion to adjourn.
Motion to Adjourn – Commissioner Franklin
Motion Seconded – Commissioner Foster
Discussion: None
Vote: motion carried 5-0 (approved to adjourn)

Upcoming Meetings

March 4, 2024 – BOC Public Hearing @ 5:30 PM
March 4, 2024 – BOC Regular Meeting @ 6:00 PM
March 26, 2024 – BOC Work Session @ 6:00 PM


Signed on the 4th day of March 2024



Jeff Jacques, Chairman



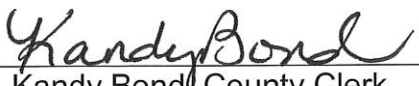
Robert L. Franklin, District 1 Commissioner



Terry Harris, County Manger



Kyle Foster, District 2 Commissioner



Kandy Bond, County Clerk



Elizabeth Busby, District 3 Commissioner



Josh Smith, District 4 Commissioner