



You Are Why We Are Here

**FRANKLIN COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
March 7, 2022
6:00 P.M.**

- Present:** Chairman Jason K. Macomson
District 2 Commissioner Kyle Foster
District 3 Commissioner Ryan Swails
District 4 Commissioner Eddie Wester
- Absent:** District 1 Commissioner Robert Franklin
- Media:** Shane Scoggins, Franklin Citizen Leader
MJ Kneiser, WLHR via Zoom
- Staff:** County Manager, Derrick Turner
Planning & Zoning Director, Scott DeLozier
County Clerk, Kayla Finger
County Attorney, Bubba Samuels
- Item 1:** **Call Meeting to Order** – Chairman Macomson called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and welcomed everyone.
- Item 2:** **Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag:**
Commissioner Swails gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Item 3:** **Approval of the Agenda:** Commissioner Wester made a motion to approve the agenda, striking item F & replacing it with subdivisions. Commissioner Foster seconded the motion. No discussion. All were in favor, 3-0.
- Item 4:** **Personnel Report:** None.
- Item 5:** **Approval of Minutes:**
- A. February 7, 2022 Regular Board Meeting
 - B. February 22, 2022 Work Session

Commissioner Foster made a motion to accept all the minutes as presented. Commissioner Swails seconded the motion. No discussion. All were in favor, 3-0.



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Item 6: **Public Comment:** Karen Swan, 115 Riverfront Lane asked the board for assistance with water pressure issues at her residence.

Item 7: **Items for discussion:**

- A. Garland and Wendy Parchment, 2910 Buford Drive, Buford, Ga, has filed an application for an Amendment to the Franklin County Zoning Map from Agriculture Intensive (AI) to Light Industrial (LI) on a +/- 6.41 acre tract. The property is located Hwy on 51 and is further identified as tax parcel 012-022. Dir. Delozier restated the application and noted that the planning commission recommended approval with the condition of directional lighting. Commissioner Swails motioned to approve the application to rezone from Agriculture Intensive (AI) to Light Industrial (LI) with the condition of directional lighting. Commissioner Wester seconded the motion. No further discussion. All were in favor, 3-0.
- B. Fire SPLOST V Allocation: Chairman Macomson noted that the board has previously discussed this allocation. Manager Turner provided the board and fire departments with a report detailing the amounts spent and remaining. Commissioner Wester motioned to allocate a total of \$175,000 to each Fire Dept. for SPLOST V and any expenditures already made will be deducted from this amount. Commissioner Foster seconded. No further discussion. All were in favor, 3-0.
- C. Fire Services Contract Repayment Plan: Manager Turner reviewed the proposed plan that had been sent to each of the commissioners for review. This will update and pay back the previous contract from 2008 that had not followed the annual Consumer Price Index increases. This new contract will be reviewed annually at the end of each fiscal year to adjust for CPI. For the rural departments there will be a total of 24 monthly payments from March of 2022 - March of 2024 of \$2,030.50 a piece for a grand total repayment amount of \$48,732 per department. The rural fire departments will receive \$341,124 in total allocations as a whole. The municipal fire departments will receive a one-time payment this March of \$19,704 per department in addition to their normal monthly allocations. The municipal total repayment amount is \$98,520 for all 5 city fire departments.
- D. Vaping Ordinance Second Reading: A copy of the vaping ordinance was provided to the board and was available for public inspection. Commissioner Wester motioned to approve the vaping ordinance



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as presented. Commissioner Swails seconded the motion. No further discussion. All were in favor, 3-0.

- E. **Updated Service Delivery Strategy:** Chairman Macomson announced that as of February 25, 2022 the service delivery strategy for Franklin County was approved. He publicly acknowledged and thanked Adam Hazell with Georgia Mountains Regional Commission for his hard work and assistance with this project.
- F. ~~GMRC Mapping Services Contract~~-Subdivisions: Commissioner Wester expressed his concerns with the impending growth coming to the Franklin County area. The board engaged in open discussion of potential ways to control and mitigate the impact of growth. A consensus was reached for Dir. DeLozier to prepare and present a zoning text amendment which will change the minimum lot size for major subdivisions to an average of 2 acres, which is double the current minimum lot size. It was noted that lot sizes can vary slightly due to availability of water and sewer services. The board will hear this proposal at the April regular board meeting, after it's gone through the planning and zoning commission. The board discussed that this can be undone, but is not an easy process due to the numerous steps involved. The board also asked Dir. DeLozier to also compile a list of proposed impact fees required by subdivisions to present at the March work session. The impact fees will cover public services (parks, recreation, and libraries) and public safety. Attorney Samuels stated that this does require public hearings as well. Chairman Macomson noted the process could take anywhere from 2-3 months. Dir. DeLozier reminded the board that the county is still in the process of revising the entire zoning ordinance, to become a unified development code (UDC). The UDC will incorporate any changes proposed in tonight's meeting, but the timeline for completion of the UDC may extend beyond May 2022.
- Board members engaged in discussion over the possibility of a 90-day moratorium on subdivisions while the proposed changes from this meeting are created and implemented. The board reached a consensus to hold a special called meeting on Monday, March 14, 2022, at 6:00 pm at the Franklin County Justice Center, to further discuss subdivisions.
- G. **Georgia Lottery Statistics:** Chairman Macomson shared some numbers from a report from the Georgia Lottery Corporation, highlighting the local statistics for lottery education funds provided to students in Franklin County. In FY21, 469 Franklin



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County students received a total of \$1,572,807.00 in lottery funding as part of the Hope Scholarship. Around 113 Franklin County pre-k students received a total of \$499,127.00 in lottery funding. This presented information demonstrated the benefits Franklin County received. It also showed that FY21 was the most profitable year for the Georgia lottery with the largest contributions to education.

Item 8: Managers' Report: None

Item 9: Announcements:

Manager Turner reminded everyone of Free Dump Day on Saturday, March 12, 2022 from 8 AM -12 PM. The center will be closed on Friday to prepare. He also noted that March is Brain Injury Awareness Month

Chairman Macomson thanked the magistrate judge, school system, and county staff for working on the vaping ordinance.

The board agreed to move the blight proposal discussion to the April work session.

The board will hold a special called meeting on Monday, March 14, 2022, at 6:00 pm at the Franklin County Justice Center to discuss subdivisions.

Chairman Macomson reminded everyone that qualifying for county offices is this week, Monday - Thursday from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm and Friday from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm, at the Elections and Registration Office.

Commissioner Swails made a request for respect and decency during the elections season and asked everyone to avoid spreading misinformation and badmouthing others. Chairman Macomson and other commissioners echoed this sentiment. Commissioner Wester reminded everyone that all commissioners have telephones and welcome calls from constituents.

Item 10: Adjourn

Commissioner Wester made a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Foster seconded the motion.

All were in favor, 3-0.

Signed on the 4th day of April, 2022


Chairman Jason K. Macomson



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Robert L. Franklin

Robert L. Franklin, District 1 Commissioner

Kyle Foster

Kyle Foster, District 2 Commissioner

Ryan Swails

Ryan Swails, District 3 Commissioner

Eddie Wester

Eddie Wester, District 4 Commissioner

Kayla Finger

Kayla Finger, Clerk

