



You Are Why We Are Here

**FRANKLIN COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING MINUTES
June 18, 2021
6:30 P.M.**

Present: Chairman Jason K. Macomson
District 1 Commissioner Robert Franklin
District 2 Commissioner Kyle Foster
District 3 Commissioner Ryan Swails
District 4 Commissioner Eddie Wester

Media: Shane Scoggins, *Franklin County Citizen*
MJ Kneiser, *WLHR* via Zoom

Staff: County Manager, Derrick Turner
County Clerk, Kayla Finger

Item 1: Call Meeting to Order - Commissioner Macomson called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Item 2: Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag:
Commissioner Wester gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 3: Approval of the Agenda: Commissioner Wester made a motion to approve the agenda with amended items 5D.) Indigent Defense Agreement and 5E.) SPCR State Paid County Reimbursed Contract as presented. Commissioner Franklin seconded the motion. No discussion. All were in favor, 4-0.

Item 4: Public Comment:

Mrs. Sue Young, 33 Deer Meadows Estates Road spoke in opposition of alcohol sales in Franklin County.

Mr. Wayne Young, 33 Deer Meadows Estates Road spoke to the board about his concerns with truck traffic from GRP (Georgia Renewable Power Plant) on the state road Hwy 198. He noted the noise issue from the use of "jake brakes", and that the trucks exceed the weight limits for that road.



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Chairman Macomson asked Manager Turner to speak with GRP about this issue. Manager Turner stated they already had an upcoming meeting scheduled with GRP and he would be happy to address it then.

Item 5: Items for discussion:

- A. **FY 2022 Budget Adoption:** See attached copy of budget and presentation. Manager Turner recommended the board approve the budget for FY22 as presented. Commissioner Swails motioned to approve the proposed FY22 budget as recommended by the county manager. Commissioner Foster seconded the motion. No further discussion. All were in favor, 4-0.
- B. **Moratorium Extension:** Chairman Macomson reminded everyone that the board had previously enacted a moratorium on conditional use permits on large industrial use on April 6, 2021 and extended through June 30, 2021. The county has been steadily working on a revision to the zoning ordinance, more specifically the commercial zoning text. This work is ongoing and a draft will be presented by Planning Director Scott DeLozier at the upcoming Work Session on June 29, 2021. The board will then be able to consider the item for a vote at the next regular board meeting on July 12, 2021. The board will consider a resolution tonight to extend the moratorium until July 15, 2021 to allow time for the revision to be brought before the board for a vote. Work will continue on revising the entire zoning ordinance which is a much bigger project that could take around 6-9 months, but the board agreed the commercial industrial section took precedence. The board was provided a copy of the resolution to review prior to the meeting and Chairman Macomson called for a motion to approve the proposed resolution. Commissioner Wester motioned to approve the resolution extending the moratorium to July 15, 2021. Commissioner Foster seconded the motion. No further discussion. All were in favor, 4-0.
- C. **Alcohol Sales:** The board has discussed this item at the last several meetings and is considering allowing a referendum for the voters on the issue of alcohol sales. The draft copy of the resolution was submitted to the board for review and a



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copy will be available with the County Clerk, Mrs. Finger. This meeting is considered the first reading of the proposed Alcohol Resolution.

Manager Turner explained the difference in growth and tax diversification of wet vs. dry counties. He also noted that the cities within the county do allow alcohol sales, but since the county does not, we are considered and classified as one of the four remaining "dry" counties in the state of Georgia (159 total counties). Manager Turner also pointed out that the county would not supersede any rules/regulations that are already in existence with the city's alcohol sales and would be working with the cities.

Commissioner Franklin asked how could this be good for Franklin County.

Manager Turner reiterated previously stated benefits such as a diversified tax base, and mentioned the opportunities that would open up for the area with industry and restaurants.

Commissioner Foster asked about comparable revenues from surrounding areas

Manager Turner estimated it could be anywhere from a quarter million aka \$250,000.00 all the way up to a million depending on a multitude of factors.

Commissioner Macomson asked about proposed fees. The current fee schedule ranges anywhere from ~\$1,500.00 - \$4,000.00+.

Manager Turner stated they would be looking at strict policies and he would look at what surrounding counties use. Commissioner Franklin stated that he does not want the county to approve alcohol sales. He believes it will increase accidents and people being killed by drunk driving. He stated he was not for it, not one bit.

D. **Amended Item Indigent Defense Agreement:** Chairman Macomson read the annual renewal agreement aloud for Indigent Defense for the Northern Judicial Circuit FY21-22. Commissioner Foster motioned to adopt the agreement as presented. Commissioner Franklin seconded the motion. No further discussion. All were in favor, 4-0.

E. **Amended Item SPCR State Paid County Reimbursed Agreement:** Chairman Macomson noted this is also an annual renewal for prosecutorial reimbursement. Commissioner Swails motioned to approve the agreement as presented. Commissioner Foster seconded the motion. No



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further discussion. All were in favor, 4-0.

Item 6: Announcements

Manager Turner announced that with the recently well-attended Memorial Day Service held at the Veterans Memorial Plaza in May, the county is working with the cities and community partners to plan a ceremony and event on November 13th to honor veterans and public safety personnel. The ceremony will showcase the dedication of the Veterans Memorial Plaza, followed by a community-wide event. Brick sales for veteran's memorials and tile sales for public safety personnel memorials are continuing and bricks and tiles are still available for purchase to be included in the Veterans Memorial Plaza. Contact the BOC office for all purchases.

Chairman Macomson reminded everyone that the work session will be held on Tuesday, June 29, 2021, at the Justice Center starting at 6:00 pm and the regular monthly board meeting for July has been rescheduled from Monday, July 5, 2021, to Monday, July 12, 2021, at the Justice Center.

Chairman Macomson announced that this past week has been Clerk Appreciation Week, and recognized the county clerk, Kayla Finger, and extended the board's appreciation for her hard work.

Item 7: Adjourn

Commissioner Wester made a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Foster seconded the motion.

All were in favor, 4-0.

Signed on the _____ day of _____, 2021

Chairman Jason K. Macomson

Robert L. Franklin, District 1 Commissioner

Kyle Foster, District 2 Commissioner

Ryan Swails, District 3 Commissioner



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Eddie Wester, District 4 Commissioner

Kayla Finger, Clerk

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