



You Are Why We Are Here

**FRANKLIN COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
August 5, 2019
6:00 P.M.**

BOC: Commission Chairman Thomas Bridges
District 1 Commissioner Robert Franklin
District 2 Commissioner Dr. Jason Macomson
District 3 Commissioner Ryan Swails
District 4 Commissioner Eddie Wester

Media: Shane Scoggins, Franklin County Citizen Leader

Staff: County Manager Beth Thomas
County Clerk Elaine Evans
County Attorney Bubba Samuels

Item 1: Call meeting to order – Chairman Bridges called the August regular meeting to order at **6:22 p.m.** and welcomed everyone.

Item 2: Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance – Commissioner Swails led the invocation and pledge of allegiance to the American flag.

Item 3: Approval of Minutes

July 1, 2019 public hearing
July 1, 2019 regular meeting
July 30, 2019 work session

Chairman Bridges said an opportunity was given for review of the minutes. He asked for a motion and second to accept the July minutes. Commissioner Franklin made the motion to approve the July minutes. Commissioner Swails seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Chairman Bridges asked for a show of hands. The minutes passed by five (5) **YES** votes to zero (0) **NO** votes. The **YES** votes were Commissioner Franklin, Dr. Macomson, Commissioner Wester, Commissioner Swails and Chairman Bridges.

Item 4: Items for discussion

A. **Public Comment**
None

B. **Public Hearing items**

Mrs. Thomas said Roland Wiebe filed a **conditional use application** for two 40 feet x 530 feet poultry breeder houses and a generator building. The proposed site plan shows that all required setbacks can be met. Mrs. Thomas gave the recommendation from the Planning Commission to approve the conditional use permit for Roland Wiebe.



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Chairman Bridges asked for a motion to accept the recommendation. Dr. Macomson made the motion to accept the recommendation from the Planning Commission to approve the conditional use permit for Mr. Wiebe. Chairman Bridges asked for a second. Commissioner Franklin seconded the motion.

*Dr. Macomson stated there is always a concern when poultry houses are built in residential areas but the poultry industry is vital to the economy of Franklin County. The Franklin County Zoning regulations specifically encourages and promotes agricultural and poultry (see page 21 of the Franklin County Zoning regulations for AI). Chairman Bridges asked for a show of hands. The motion passed by five (5) **YES** votes to zero (0) **NO** votes. The **YES** votes were Chairman Bridges, Commissioner Franklin, Commissioner Wester, Commissioner Swails and Dr. Macomson.*

*Chairman Bridges said the **conditional use for poultry houses** for Aubrey Lunsford was tabled and sent back to the Planning Commission for further review. He asked Mrs. Thomas to give an update on this item. Mrs. Thomas said Aubrey Lunsford filed a conditional use application for a six-house poultry farm on Shackelford Road. This was tabled at the June 3 meeting by the Board of Commissioners and sent back to the Planning Commission for review of a revised site plan. The Planning Commission was unable to make a motion on June 11. At the July 11 meeting the Planning Commission recommended denial. Mrs. Thomas said the required public hearings were held in May and June with two additional meetings where comments were taken.*

Chairman Bridges asked for a motion to either approve or deny the conditional use for poultry houses for Aubrey Lunsford. Commissioner Wester made the motion to approve the conditional use permit for Aubrey Lunsford with the following conditions contingent upon review of the County's legal counsel:

1. Applicant is required to construct an earth berm prior to issuance of a building permit for any buildings on the property. The earth berm is required to be a minimum of 8 feet and run continuously parallel to the property line bordering Tax Parcel 038 037.

The aforementioned property line is further identified as the common property line of Tract A and Tract B beginning at the ½ rebar at the "Old Barn" and running 530.79 feet as drawn on the survey recorded on Plat Book 00028 Page 0674.

2. Applicant must plant and maintain an evergreen vegetative buffer on top of the earth berm. The vegetative buffer is to include no less than 3 rows of Water Oaks or Leyland Cypress trees planted on top of the earth berm.

3. Applicant is not to remove any trees along the aforementioned property line.

4. The most southern poultry house must be constructed at least a minimum of 75 feet north/northeast of the last poultry house drawn in the June 7, 2019 site plan presented by the Applicant. In other words, the poultry houses placement must be shifted 75 feet north/northeast.

5. Applicant must construct a retention pond in accordance and compliance with



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all EPD standards and regulations.

6. Poultry House Applicant must submit a survey conducted by a certified land surveyor indicating that the as-built poultry farm meets all required setbacks as reference in the Zoning Regulations and all listed conditions.

*All conditions must be met prior to the operations of the poultry farm unless an earlier time frame was established in the aforementioned conditions. There will be a **6-month** time period to have this done.*

*Chairman Bridges asked for a second. Commissioner Swails seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Chairman Bridges asked for a show of hands. The motion passed by five (5) **YES** votes to zero (0) **NO** votes. The **YES** votes were Dr. Macomson, Chairman Bridges, Commissioner Wester, Commissioner Franklin and Commissioner Swails.*

C. Probate Court collections agency contract

*Mrs. Thomas said Probate Judge Ken Eavenson spoke at the July work session about a contract for collections for court fines and fees for delinquent offenders. The contract has to be entered into jointly by the Probate Judge and the Board of Commissioners. Mrs. Thomas asked the Board of Commissioners to approve the contract and resolution for Probate Court collections with Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins and Mott pursuant to the Official Code of Georgia Annotated 15 21 12. Chairman Bridges asked for a motion to approve the recommendation from Mrs. Thomas. Dr. Macomson made the motion to approve the contract with Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins and Mott for Probate collections as recommended by the Probate Judge. Chairman Bridges asked for a second. Commissioner Franklin seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Chairman Bridges asked for a show of hands. The motion passed by five (5) **YES** votes to zero (0) **NO** votes. The **YES** votes were Commissioner Franklin, Dr. Macomson, Commissioner Wester, Commissioner Swails and Chairman Bridges.*

D. GEFA loan extension

*Mrs. Thomas said Franklin County has a loan with GEFA for 3.5 million dollars with \$500,000 forgiveness at the end. Franklin County is currently working on three projects and getting ready to begin the fourth. After the completion of these projects additional projects will take place for the necessary water mains. Mrs. Thomas said the original agreement with GEFA was for the loan to close in June 2019. Due to the projects being incomplete, GEFA agreed to extend the loan closing date to June 2020. Mrs. Thomas recommended approval of the closing date change for the GEFA loan. Chairman Bridges asked for a motion to approve the GEFA loan extension. Commissioner Swails made the motion to approve. Chairman Bridges asked for a second. Commissioner Wester seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Chairman Bridges asked for a show of hands. The motion passed by five (5) **YES** votes to zero (0) **NO** votes. The **YES** votes were Chairman Bridges, Commissioner Swails, Commissioner Franklin, Commissioner Wester and Dr. Macomson.*

E. 2019 Legislative Leadership Conference voting delegate

Chairman Bridges said the 2019 Legislative Leadership Conference will be held on



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October 2 to October 4 in Athens with the vote to take place on October 3. He said ACCG has requested a designated voting delegate attend and let the desires of Franklin County be known. Chairman Bridges asked for a recommendation for someone to attend the conference. Commissioner Franklin recommended Chairman Bridges. Chairman Bridges asked for a second. Commissioner Wester seconded the motion. Chairman Bridges asked for a show of hands. The motion passed by five (5) **YES** votes to zero (0) **NO** votes. The **YES** votes were Chairman Bridges, Commissioner Wester, Commissioner Franklin, Commissioner Swails and Dr. Macomson.

F. Announcements

Mrs. Thomas reminded everyone of the ribbon cutting taking place at the Waste Water plant on August 13 at 11 a.m. The facility will be toured with lunch served after. She also gave a reminder of the public hearings for the millage rate this month.

Commissioner Franklin expressed appreciation for the County employees.

Chairman Bridges asked for a motion and second to adjourn. Dr. Macomson made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Swails seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed by five (5) **YES** votes to zero (0) **NO** votes. The **YES** votes were Commissioner Franklin, Dr. Macomson, Chairman Bridges, Commissioner Swails and Commissioner Wester. The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Signed on the _____ day of _____, 2019

Chairman J. Thomas Bridges

Robert L. Franklin, District 1 Commissioner

Dr. Jason Macomson, District 2 Commissioner

Ryan Swails, District 3 Commissioner

Eddie Wester, District 4 Commissioner

Elaine H. Evans, County Clerk