

JONES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

W.E. Knox Civic Center
Third Tuesday Business Meeting
June 16, 2020
6:00 PM

The Jones County Board of Commissioners met for their Third Tuesday business meeting at 6:00 p.m. June 16, 2020, at the W.E. Knox Civic Center. Members present were:

Chris Weidner – Chairman
Sam Kitchens- Vice Chairman / District I Commissioner
Jonathan Pitts – District II Commissioner
Daylon Martin - District IV Commissioner
Ashley Brodie – County Attorney
Jason Rizner – County Administrator
Shannon Wagner - HR Director / Interim County Clerk

Chairman Weidner called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Attachments to the minutes are filed separately from the minutes in a clasp envelope labeled by meeting in the commissioner's vault.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Chairman Weidner asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Comm. Pitts made the motion to approve the agenda. Comm. Martin seconded. Vote – unanimous.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE: Comm. Pitts gave the invocation and pledge.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS: None

CONSENT AGENDA AND FOR APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

1. First Tuesday - June 2, 2020

Comm. Pitts made the motion to approve the minutes. Comm. Martin seconded. Vote – unanimous.

VISITORS - Three minutes limit –

Ronald McCant, Cheehaw Drive, spoke to the Board about the drainage problems on Cheehaw Drive causing a driveway to be washed out. Mr. McCant stated that water is ponding and, even though crush and run was previously put down, it is a temporary fix and only diverting the water. Comm. Kitchens stated that ditches and a culvert needed to be installed. The Board asked Jason Rizner, County Administrator, to get with John Lowe, Public Works Director, to have the problem fixed.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Comm. Pitts spoke to the Board about a Connectivity Enhancement Pilot Program that he would like to start for the community. Comm. Pitts stated that children needed to be able to connect to the internet to get school work done. His initial thoughts were to offer the free internet service at 6 fire stations around the County. Comm. Martin and Comm. Kitchens both stated that this was a great idea, but they needed to find the areas in the County that needed the service the most and figure out a way to offer it. Comm. Martin did not want to have the parking lots of fire stations crowded just in case there was an emergency. Will Harp, IT Director, spoke to the Board about the pilot program and gave some ideas on how to make it work. Mr. Harp will continue to do research and report back to the Board. Comm. Pitts made the motion to postpone this item until the next meeting. Comm. Kitchens seconded. Vote – unanimous.
2. Brennan Jackson, County Extension Coordinator, presented the Board with the Extension Office MOU. Mr. Jackson stated that there were no changes from the previous year. Comm. Pitts made the motion to approve. Comm. Martin seconded. Vote – unanimous.
3. Jason Rizner, County Administrator, spoke to the Board about the GDOT Off System Safety Funding Application. Mr. Rizner stated that this money would be available for FY23. This money can only be used for striping, signage, and minor shoulder widening. Comm. Martin stated that shoulder widening would be good for cycle lanes and walking lanes. Mr. Rizner was instructed to get with John Lowe and Wendell Cannon of Public Works to get a list of roads. Comm. Kitchens made the motion to apply for the funding. Comm. Martin seconded. Vote – unanimous.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Comm. Pitts spoke to the Board about allowing local restaurants to operate food trucks on county property. Ashley Brodie, County Attorney, stated that an ordinance needed to be drafted with specifics like hours of operation, distance from eating establishments, and an application that must be completed. The owners of the Sawmill Restaurant spoke to the Board about wanting to start with one day a week and seeing how it went from there. Comm. Martin suggested a work session and inviting other restaurant owners to come and give their input. Comm. Pitts made the motion to have a work session on this topic and to postpone indefinitely. Comm. Kitchens seconded. Vote – unanimous.
2. Comm. Pitts spoke to the Board about offering Pickleball in Jones County. Lynn Duggar, Haddock resident, told the Board how Pickleball was played in Baldwin County. He stated that the Baldwin County gym was made available for the Pickleball players 3 mornings a week and that

they set up the nets and took them down. After discussion, the Board agreed to offer Pickleball on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at the Hwy. 18 Recreation Complex on the tennis courts. Comm. Pitts made the motion to purchase 2 nets for the Hwy. 18 Complex. Comm. Martin seconded. Vote – unanimous.

3. Comm. Martin spoke to the Board about the Hwy. 49 Bike Trails. Matt Goins, Parks, Recreation & Golf Director, stated that his department could rent a mini excavator with a mulcher to cut the trails and mulch them. Mr. Goins stated that the trails had already been walked and marked. The rental fee for the excavator of \$3,469 would come out of the Hwy. 49 Recreation electricity line item. Comm. Martin made the motion to allow the Recreation Department to use the resources from the Hwy. 49 Recreation budget to complete the trails. Comm. Pitts seconded. Vote – unanimous.
4. LaVita Crutchfield, Finance Director, spoke to the Board about the CGTC and Bradley Wayside Auction rental fees. Mrs. Crutchfield stated that CGTC had been paying their rent on time every month, but she was having a problem with Bradley Wayside Auction paying the rent on time. She told the Board that it is a continuous problem every month. Currently, they are behind for the month of June. Ashley Brodie, County Attorney, stated that the lease could be terminated if not paid by the end of the month. Comm. Pitts made the motion to allow Ashley Brodie to draft a letter to the renters of the Bradley Wayside building to give notice of termination of the lease. Comm. Kitchens seconded. Vote – unanimous.
5. Matt Goins, Parks, Recreation & Golf Director, spoke to the Board about the upcoming CAMSPORTS softball tournament to be played in Gray. He stated that several surrounding counties hve held tournaments with no problems. Mr. Goins made the recommendation to open the ball parks for tournaments with stipulations. Comm. Pitts made the motion to approve. Comm. Kitchens seconded. Vote – unanimous.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Matt Goins, Parks, Recreation & Golf Director, spoke to the Board about the possibility of hiring a media company to handle all the communications from the County. Comm. Pitts and Comm. Kitchens both would like more information on this idea.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: (3 MINUTES – SIGN IN) –

George Scoville, 3754 Confederate Drive, gave an update on meetings with the Blight Committee and the Middle Georgia Regional Commission.

John Mazzolla, 131 Woodland Road, stated that he appreciated everyone working together to make this a better community.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS: -

Comm. Pitts stated that the Public Works Department did a great job on the pad at the high school.

Chairman Weidner stated that he appreciated the community for getting involved and bringing problems to the Board to be addressed.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: (1 MINUTE – NOT SIGNED IN) –

ADJOURNMENT: Comm. Pitts made the motion to adjourn to go into executive session for personnel. Comm. Kitchens seconded. Vote – unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

RECONVENE: Comm. Martin made the motion to reconvene. Comm. Pitts seconded. Vote – unanimous. Meeting reconvened at 9:12 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Comm. Pitts made the motion to adjourn. Comm. Kitchens seconded. Vote – unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED

Jones County Board of Commissioners

Chris Weidner, Chairman

Sam Kitchens, Vice Chairman / District I Commissioner

Jonathan Pitts, District II Commissioner

Daylon Martin, District IV Commissioner

Jason Rizner, County Administrator

Shannon Wagner, HR Director/ Interim County Clerk