

**REGULAR SESSION MEETING  
BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2018  
6:00 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman, Doc Sumner called the regular session meeting of the Berrien County Board of Commissioners to order on Tuesday, February 6, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. Members of the Board of Commissioners present were, Commissioners Robert Griner, Jimmy Parker and Pixie Harrod. Commissioner John Nugent was absent.

**Invocation:** Commissioner Jimmy Parker

**Pledge:** Commissioner Pixie Harrod

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Commissioner Jimmy Parker made the motion to approve the January 6, 2018 Regular Session Minutes, seconded by Commissioner Pixie Harrod. The motion carried unanimously.

**INVITED GUESTS:**

- Melanie Ray, Supervisor of Elections and Elliott Garner, Chairman of the Board of Elections – They addressed the board with concerns about HB 680. If this house bill passes and is not funded by the state, it will cost the county a great deal. The Elections Board sent a letter to the Secretary of State Office detailing their concerns. They advised the Commission Board that they may want to call or do a letter.
- Chris Calhoun, South Health District – Mr. Calhoun addressed the board about the proposed Environmental Fees. He is asking that the County approve the increased fees as well as approve the Ordinance for Enforcement of County Environmental Health Regulations. Michael Richbourg stated he is on the Health Board and spoke with Commissioner Pixie Harrod and talked again with Mr. Calhoun about the fees and is proposing the increase to be 33% of the current fee each year over the next 3 years to the agreed fee.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

A. Board Appointment – Library – Administration received a request from Angi Hughes, Library Manager, requesting an appointment to fill an unexpired term. They recommended the following candidates: Rebekah Ditto, Gail Melton, Sandra Vaughn and Elna Bragdon. Skeeter Parker, Chairman of the Library Board, spoke and said that Elna Bragdon agreed to serve on the board but as far as he knew the others were not contacted. Pixie Harrod asked if he has a recommendation. Commissioner Pixie Harrod said Ms. Sandra Vaughn is here tonight and he made a motion to appoint her to fill the remainder of the term which expires June 2018, seconded by Commissioner Robert Griner. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Board Appointment – GA Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities – Administration received a request from Michael Link with the GA Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities requesting an appointment to the Board. Brad Stevenson is willing to serve on this board. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to appoint Brad Stevenson for a 3-year term which will expire February 2021, seconded by Commissioner Robert Griner. The motion carried unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Environmental Fees and Ordinance for Enforcement – South Health District –

Administration received a request from the South Health District with proposed environmental fees and an Ordinance for Enforcement. The South Health District approved the fees and is requesting Berrien County to approve them. All counties, other than Berrien, have approved the fee schedule and Ordinance. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to approve the Environmental Fees at the 33% increase of the current fee over the next three years and to approve the Ordinance for Enforcement of County Environmental Health Regulations, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Board Appointment - Development Authority – Administration received a request from Andi Dickerson requesting Berrien County Board of Commissioners to reappoint Nick Lacey to the Development Authority Board for a second 4-year term. Mr. Lacey’s current 4-year term will end in March 2018. Mr. Lacey completed the necessary Economic Development training mandated by the Department of Economic Development. He was chairman two of his four years on the Board. Mr. Lacey is willing to serve a second 4-year term. Chairman Doc Sumner recommended reappointing Nick Lacey to the board. Commissioner Jimmy Parker made a motion to reappoint Mr. Nick Lacey to the Development Authority Board for a 4-year term which will end March 2022, seconded by Commissioner Pixie Harrod. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Nick Lacey stated that he would like to brag on the Development Authority Board. He said they have made great strides and that the other members have done an outstanding job. He also stated that Commissioner Robert Griner serves on this board and has been an asset to the Development Authority Board and done an outstanding job. He spoke about Roses coming to Berrien County, the new Industrial Park and GRAD Certification as well as Ireland connections.

C. Disaster Agreement – Health Department – Administration received a request from the Health Department requesting the County allow the use of a refrigerator and freezer located in the E-911 building in case of an emergency and power outage. The agreement releases all liability for the Health Department’s drugs and vaccines. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to approve the Disaster Agreement, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Board Appointment – Board of Health – Administration received a request from Patrina Bowles, GA Department of Public Health, requesting we make an appointment to fill the unexpired term of Betty Dupree. This term expires December 31, 2021. This position serves as an advocate for the needy, underprivileged and elderly. Christina Allen is willing to serve. Commissioner Jimmy Parker made a motion to appoint Christina Allen to the Board of Health to fill the unexpired term which ends December 31, 2021, seconded by Commissioner Robert Griner. The motion carried unanimously.

E. Equipment Acquisition – Recreation – Administration received a request from Jennifer Cole, Recreation Director, to purchase equipment for the baseball/softball season. They have provided three quotes and would like to recommend the quote from R&S Sports in the amount of \$6,609.76. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to approve the purchase from R&S Sports in the amount of \$6,609.76, seconded by Commissioner Robert Griner. The motion carried unanimously.

F. Memorandum of Understanding – District Attorney/Victim Assistance Program - Administration received a request from the Auditors to execute a Memorandum of Understanding on the 2015 Chevrolet Impala that the District Attorney’s Office purchased in November 2016. The memorandum of understanding basically states that they purchased the vehicle without tax payer dollars but titled the vehicle in County’s name and we will add insurance under the fleet policy. Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the DA/VAP, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

G. Drug Testing Supplies – Drug Court – Administration received a request to purchase drug testing supplies. They order these online with this being the only quote for \$6,279.52. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to approve the supplies from Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics Web Shop in the amount of \$6,279.52, seconded by Commissioner Robert Griner. The motion carried unanimously.

H. Website Upgrade - Administration is requesting a county website renovation. The current site is based on older less secure technology. The current site is over eight years old. As advances in security are updated on the hosting server, parts of the current site will stop functioning and at some point soon, the whole site may quit working. The renovation is needed due to updates in many of the county offices and better security against the site being hacked. The site is based on an older design called Joomla and should be upgraded to a newer technology called WordPress. The cost is \$2,000.00. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to approve the upgrade to the county website using Spectra Computing in the amount of \$2,000.00, seconded by Commissioner Robert Griner. The motion carried unanimously.

I. Uniform Contract – Road – Administration received a request from Ben Warren, Public Works Director, to enter a new uniform contract with UniFirst. We are under contract through August 2018 with Cintas. We should be able to get out of that contract but worst case scenario would be \$20.00 minimum until August. We are currently paying approximately \$10,244.00 annually for uniforms with Cintas. The new rate with UniFirst will be \$5,700.76. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to approve the contract with UniFirst, seconded by Commissioner Robert Griner. The motion carried unanimously.

J. Sign Order – Road – Administration received a request from the Road Department to purchase signs. They provided three quotes. They are requesting approval to purchase through GA Correctional for \$1,176.02. The quotes were: GA Correctional \$1,176.02, Red Bud Supply \$1,325.00 and Road Safe \$1,672.50. Commissioner Jimmy Parker made the motion to approve the purchase through GA Correctional in the amount of \$1,176.02, seconded by Commissioner Robert Griner. The motion carried unanimously.

K. Ratification Items - Administration is requesting ratification on the following items:

Southeastern Tire (Road)	\$ 1,188.12
Donald Barnes Painting (Cty Bldg Maint)	\$10,500.00
Cherokee Culvert (Road)	\$ 6,538.72
Allstar Garage Doors (EMS)	\$ 1,480.00
Jerry Kelley (Sheriff)	\$ 3,390.00
First in Services, LLC (Fire Depts for Pump Tests)	\$ 1,904.96
The Tire Store (Road)	\$ 1,002.00
SOGA Graphics (Sheriff – School Resource Office	\$ 2,200.00
Vehicle which was purchased with anonymous donated funds)	
Southeastern Tire (Road)	\$ 2,500.00

**COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS:**

Jimmy Parker –

- Commissioner Parker stated that Buck Warren contacted him and would like for the fire station on Alapaha Highway be Fire Station 12. Commissioner Pixie Harrod asked if everything was on track to get the stations inspected. James Watson stated Bob Mikell hand carried paperwork with him to training in Forsyth. All stations are scheduled to be inspected. There was discussion on getting signs up at each station. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to purchase signs and get them up, seconded by Commissioner Jimmy Parker. The motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Skeeter Parker – Thanked the board for the funding the library receives each year. He said there are some lighting issues and requested maintenance fix those. The County Administrator will address those issues with maintenance.

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS:**

Brenda Ferrell –

- County Agent, Eddie Beasley, will be assisting Lanier County while their agent is serving active military deployment. They will pay the state mileage rate for reimbursement of the county vehicle and will be invoiced monthly.
- February 28 and March 7<sup>th</sup> are County Days at the Capital. If interested in attending, reservations need to be made.
- A.D. Probation Services Annual Report was distributed by the County Administrator.
- Administration received a request from Greg Wetherington to write of his deceased mother’s EMS bill of \$265.00. The estate already went through Probate. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to write of the \$265.00, seconded by Commissioner Robert Griner. The motion carried unanimously.
- Received a recognition letter on Jessica Stone. A copy was distributed to the board.
- FY 18 Beautification and Enhancement Program has a grant available if the board is interested in pursuing it.
- There was an update and discussion on a previous gas line claim that happened in 2014.
- Gave an update on where we are with the current CDBG Project.

**ADJOURN**

With no other business to come before the Board, Commissioner Jimmy Parker made the motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Commissioner Pixie Harrod. Meeting was adjourned at 6:42 pm.

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Chairman, Doc Sumner

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Commissioner, Robert Griner

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Commissioner, Jimmy Parker

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Commissioner, Pixie Harrod

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Commissioner, John Nugent

ATTEST \_\_\_\_\_  
County Clerk