

**REGULAR SESSION MEETING
BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2021
6:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman, Jimmy Parker called the regular session meeting of the Berrien County Board of Commissioners to order on Tuesday, May 4, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. Members of the Board of Commissioners present were Pixie Harrod, Ronnie Gaskins, Robert Griner and Commissioner John Nugent.

Invocation: Ben Warren

Pledge: Commissioner Pixie Harrod

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to approve the April 6, 2021 Regular Session Minutes, the April 5, 2021 Executive Session Minutes and the April 15, 2021 Retreat Minutes, seconded by Robert Griner. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to amend the agenda and move Item D to the top, seconded by Commissioner Robert Griner. The motion carried unanimously.

INVITED GUEST:

Jessica Stone – Animal Control Officer – Jessica told the board about a program that does research for new vaccines for dogs. They are willing to pay \$20.00 per fecal sample but only pay through Pay Pal. She asked the board about signing up for this research and open a Pay Pal Account. The board was in agreement with doing it. She also notified the board of rate increases with Branch’s Veterinary Clinic. They are not willing to discount any fees. They board asked her to get quotes from other clinics and bring it back to them.

Haynes Studstill – Mrs. Studstill is with the firm who represents the county in the Opioid Litigation. They are requesting the county gives permission to send a letter requesting a meeting to discuss settlement formulas. The board gave permission.

A. A/C MAINTENANCE CONTRACT – ADMIN BLDG. - Administration received proposals for a/c maintenance contract on the Administration Building. Two quotes were provided.

QUOTES: Siemens
Trane

Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to table this item until after budget meetings, seconded by Commissioner Robert Griner. The motion carried unanimously.

B. SOUTHERN GA LOCAL CHIEF ELECTED OFFICIALS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE -
Administration received a request from SGRC Workforce Development Director, Roberta Lovett asking Chairman Jimmy Parker to accept a position on the Southern GA Local Chief Elected Officials Executive Committee. They are requesting execution of a Memorandum of Agreement and Conflict of Interest.

Commissioner Ronnie Gaskins made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Agreement and Conflict of Interest, seconded by Commissioner Pixie Harrod. The motion carried unanimously.

C. **2021 TAN BIDS & RESOLUTION** - Administration requested quotes for a \$2,000,000.00 Tax Anticipation Note for 2020. County Administrator, Brenda Ferrell, read the bids as follows:

Bank of Alapaha	2.45%
South Georgia Banking Company	2.25% with a \$750.00 loan fee
Farmers and Merchants Bank	3.25%

Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to stay local with the lower bid from Bank of Alapaha, seconded by Commissioner Robert Griner. The motion carried unanimously.

D. **ATTORNEY DISCUSSIONS** - Administration is requesting discussion on several issues such as improper housing in the county and driveway pipe inspections. There were discussions between the board, Code Enforcement and county attorney about small storage buildings being used as housing and RVs being used for permanent housing. After discussions, we already have things in place in our code that addresses these issues and we will continue to follow the code. There was also discussion on driveway pipes being installed at residences. Public Works Director, Ben Warren, and Building Inspector, Dennis Adams, agreed that before an CO was issued, the pipe would be inspected by the Public Works Director or Assistant Director and they would notify the Building Inspector if it passes inspection. County Attorney, Jennifer Herzog, will prepare a document specifying the procedure.

E. **SIGNAGE – BERRIEN COUNTY YOUTH CENTER** - Administration received a request from Sara Paulk to put signage on the Berrien County Youth Center. They have programs in the building and it is not marked and therefore causes issues with location. One quote was received and one more should be received before the meeting.

Quotes were received from:	ANS Signs, Inc.	\$1,150.00
	South GA Sign Co.	\$1,745.00
	Willis Signs	\$1,395.00 Plus Shipping

Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to table this item until have the budget is set, seconded by Commissioner Robert Griner. The motion carried unanimously.

F. **AIRPORT ENGINEER SELECTION** – Administration received Requests for Qualifications from Michael Baker International and Passero Associates Engineering Architecture as the Airport Engineers. Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to appoint Passero Associates Engineering Architecture as the Airport Engineers, seconded by Commissioner Pixie Harrod. The motion carried unanimously.

G. **ROOF – RECREATION** - Administration received a request from Jennifer Cole to replace to concession stand roof. Three quotes are provided.

<u>QUOTES:</u>	S&S Roofing	\$8,800.00
	Pyramid Roofing Co.	\$9,600.00
	Platinum Roofing	\$10,973.00

Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to table until after the budget is approved, seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Gaskins. The motion carried unanimously.

H. **LIGHTS – RECREATION** - Administration received a request from Jennifer Cole to install lights to the back parking lot and around the new fields. GA Power provided a quote last year which was \$175.44 for 24 months. Four light poles were donated to the Recreation Department and Jamie West quoted a price of \$7,500.00 which includes trenching, running wire and six new lights.

QUOTES:

GA Power	Total cost:	\$4,858.80 (175.44 for 24 months plus \$648.24 prepayment
Jamie West		\$7,500.00

Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to table this item until the budget is approved, seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Gaskins. The motion carried unanimously.

I. **RATIFICATION ITEMS** - Administration is requesting ratification on the following items:

Yancey (Road)	\$2,009.66
Ag-Pro Equipment (Road)	\$1,026.49
WinSupply (Road)	\$12,061.00

Commissioner Ronnie Gaskins made a motion to ratify the items listed, seconded by Commissioner Pixie Harrod. The motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND DEPARTMENTS:

Ben Warren – Scruggs should start putting the asphalt on Earlie Gaskins Rd tomorrow and then they will move on to Guthrie Church Rd.

COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS:

John Nugent – asked Ben Warren when he could ride with him to look at an issue Andy Knight contacted him about.

Ronnie Gaskins – was contacted by Walt Stewart about a leak in the clock tower and would like to see if maintenance can check on it.

Pixie Harrod – asked Ben Warren when they would get to the pipe on Kimble Rd? Ben stated they renewed the locates today and will probably be doing it the middle of next week.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS:

Brenda Ferrell –

- Budget Meetings will be May 12-14. The 14th will be only if needed.
- Seven Rovers can possibly help us get a grant that can help with the drainage issues and well at the Recreation Department. An engineer needs to look at it and see if they can tell us what the drainage issues are before we apply. County Administrator, asked the Board if we could contact Watkins & Associates to get an opinion. The Board said to move forward with it.
- Drug Court brought a computer purchase request to me today. This request is for a

computer to be used virtually to operate Drug Court Hearings, case management, surveillance, drug testing, documentation and any other operations possible that can be done virtually. \$2,500.00 would be expended from grant funding and then requesting the remainder \$860.00 funded through DATE Funds. The total cost is \$3,360.00. Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to approve the purchase, seconded by Commissioner Pixie Harrod. The motion carried unanimously.

- Drug Court Administrator is requesting to purchase a refrigerator to support Drug Court in Drug Testing. They are requesting this paid from DATE Funds. Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Pixie Harrod. The motion carried unanimously.
- Received a request from the Public Works Department to purchase 4 motor grader tires from The Tire Store in the amount of \$2,924.00. They provided two other quotes. They also requested to purchase 4 steer tires for the dump trucks from Southeastern Commercial Tire in the amount of \$1,484.00. Commissioner Pixie Harrod made a motion to approve the purchases, seconded by Commissioner Robert Griner. The motion carried unanimously.
- Public Works provided a list of surplus property and would like the board to declare it surplus and allow him to contact a salvage yard to come pick it up. Commissioner Robert Griner made a motion to approve the list as presented as surplus and allow a salvage yard to pick it up as scrap, seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Gaskins. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN

With no other business to come before the Board, Commissioner Pixie Harrod made the motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Commissioner Robert Griner. Meeting was adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Chairman, Jimmy Parker

Commissioner, Ronnie Gaskins

Commissioner, Pixie Harrod

Commissioner, Robert Griner

Commissioner, John Nugent

ATTEST: _____
County Clerk