

**MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES  
AGENDA SETTING WORK SESSION  
December 6, 2021  
6:00 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Commission Chairman Todd Higdon  
District 1 Commissioner Dennis Adams  
District 2 Commissioner Terry Chandler  
District 3 Commissioner Frank May  
District 4 Commissioner Brian Kirk  
District 5 Commissioner Derek Doster

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

**MEDIA PRESENT:**

Zach Mitcham, Madison County Journal

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Christina Baxter, County Clerk  
Mike Pruett, County Attorney

Chairman Higdon called the work session to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Item No.1. Chairman's Report**

Chairman Higdon had several announcements for the chairman's report. Higdon expressed his appreciation to the Commissioner's for their participation in the Comer Christmas Parade. Higdon also announced several Holiday events taking place December 11<sup>th</sup> in Madison County:

- City of Danielsville Christmas celebration from 4-8pm, Downtown Tree Lighting at 7pm, and festivities throughout the event.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Kingston Greens Christmas Luminaries from 5:30-8:30pm on Kingston Road Colbert, Ga
- Santa is coming to the Colbert Volunteer Fire Department from 6-9pm. Come see Santa and enjoy some hot chocolate with the Colbert Volunteer Fire Department.
- Letters to Santa are due December 10<sup>th</sup> to the Madison County Recreation Department. You can mail your letter to PO Box 248 Danielsville, Ga 30633.
- Madison County Library is hosting several Holiday movie times and a craft event. Please check out their website for more details.

Chairman Higdon expressed his appreciation to the community for hosting the many events the County has had this month. He also encourages the public to attend these gatherings held in the County.

Other Updates, Higdon reported the 2021 Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant projects have been completed thanks to Public Works Director, Alan Lapczynski. Barwick Hill Road's replacement pipe is tentatively set to be delivered December 17<sup>th</sup>. Tree clearing has been completed at the Diamond Hill Park for a ramp to be

ADA complaint. Mr. Lapczynski plans to begin working on the retaining wall and ramp in the next few weeks. Higdon also gave an update on Brickyard Road extension is still in progress. Chairman Higdon thanked property owner Mr. Wayne Melton for his efforts made to work with the county on this project. Chairman Higdon also thanked the Road Department for their many efforts in maintaining roads and staying on top of the many projects currently through the road department.

Chairman Higdon mentioned the Comer EMS station. Higdon is hoping to be able to get started soon on building a new EMS station in Comer. The perk test has been completed as of today. Also, the Board of Commissioners is hiring for several positions: Zoning Administrator, Recreation Department, Sheriff's office and jail and the road department is in need of equipment operators.

**Item No.2. Hearings and Actions on Rezone Matters, Special Use Permits, Etc.**

There were no Zoning matters.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Item No.3. Discuss Road Study Survey presented by Mr. Chris Dills**

Mr. Chris Dill, with Neel- Schaffer presented to the Board a quote for a pavement rating and planning for Madison County roads. Chairman Higdon was able to negotiate that price to \$68,000. Mr. Dills explained the process would take roughly two and half months to complete the survey.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Item No.4. Discuss the 2022 Meeting Dates for the Board of Commissioners**

The Board discuss the proposed 2022 meeting dates for the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Doster asked about the January 3, 2022 meeting date. The Board is taking December 31, 2021 as New Year's Observance day.

**Item No.5. Discuss the 2022 Holidays**

The Board discussed the proposed 2022 Holiday schedule.

**Item No.6. Discuss the 2022 Beer & Wine Licenses Applications**

The Board reviewed the current status of the 2022 Beer & Wine Applications.

**Item No.7. Discuss abandoning a portion of Osley Mill road at the forge location**

The Board discusses possibly abandoning a portion of Osley Mill road at the forge. Property Owner, Mr. Mark Jackson approached the Board with this request to abandon a portion of Osley Mill Road. Mr. Jackson explained the dangers at the forge. Mr. Jackson also expressed his willingness to work with the county to use his property to create a turnaround area. Commissioner Kirk asked if we could get in contact with another property owner, Mr. Denver Phares on Osley Mill Road about the situation and the possibility of abandoning a portion of the forge.

**Item No.8. Discuss going out for Request for Proposal for a wage study**

The Board discussed requesting proposals to conduct a wage study survey and to move forward with the request.

**Item No.9 & 10 were discussed together.**

**Item No.9. Discuss reappointing Nathan Owens as a member of the Madison County Board of Elections and Registration Board.**

**Item No.10. Discuss Reappointing Rebecca Scott as a member of the Madison County Board of Elections and Registration Board**

The Madison County Republican party recommended the renewal of Mr. Nathan Owens. The Board discussed reappointing Mr. Owens. The Madison County Democratic Party Committee's representative Rebecca Scott was recommended to be reappointed. The Board discuss reappointing Ms. Scott to the Board of Elections and Registration.

**Item No.11 & 12 were discussed together.**

**Item No.11. Discuss Reappointing Kenneth Bradley as a member of the Planning and Zoning Board**

**Item No.12. Discuss Reappointing Cynthia Fortson as a member of the Planning and Zoning Board**

The Board discussed reappointing Mr. Kenneth Bradley and Ms. Cynthia Fortson to the Planning and Zoning Board. Commissioner Adams agreed with reappointing Mr. Bradley.

**Item No.13. Discuss the survey of the Old Presbyterian Church**

The Board discussed the survey. Mr. Gary Harvin, County Surveyor answered questions regarding survey lines pertaining to the Old Presbyterian Church and the Cemetery. Chairman Higdon expressed the next steps moving forward would be to be in contact with the City of Danielsville to have an agreement with the Cemetery being deeded to the City.

**Item No.14. Discuss the survey of 94 Spring Lake drive, the old Board of Elections and Registrar's Office**

The Board discussed the survey. Commissioner Doster asked Mr. Harvin about the survey lines and meeting City requirements. Industrial Development Director Frank Ginn asked Chairman Higdon to reach out to the City of Danielsville regarding the street lighting on Spring Lake Drive. Commissioner Chandler also inquired a possible lease term of the building to the Industrial Development & Building Authority. County Attorney, Mike Pruett presented different lease options the Board could move forward with.

**Item No.15. Discuss adopting the Language Access Plan for the CDBG Grant**

The Board discussed the requirement of the Language Access Plan Resolution regarding the Community Development Block Grant.

**Item No. 16, 17 and 18 were discussed together.**

**Item No.16. Discuss 2022 Madison County Sheriff's Office Seizure budgets**

**Item No.17. Discuss 2022 Madison County Jail Commission budgets**

**Item No.18. Discuss 2022 Sheriff's Office Christmas Donation budgets**

Chairman Higdon presented the budgets to the Board for discussion. Chief Deputy Jeff Vaughn advised the Board the approval for these budgets are for auditing purposes.

**Item No. 19 & 20 were discussed together.**

**Item No.19. Discuss 2022 Law Library budget**

**Item No.20. Discuss 2022 Clerk's Deed budget**

Chairman Higdon presented these budgets to the Board. There was no further discussion.

**Item No.21. Discuss 2022 Madison County Food Bank budget**

The Board discussed the Food Bank Budget for 2022. Commissioner Kirk did want to distinguish the difference with the Food Bank Revenues Budget of \$65,000 is separate from the \$6,000 General Fund budget.

**Item No.22. Urgent Matters**

Chairman Higdon and the Board discussed the Industrial Development & Business Authority debt burden. Chairman Josh Chandler with the ID&BA Board presented an opportunity to the Board of Commissioners on different loans and ratings for debt services. Chandler expressed his main concern were two GEFA loans. The Board expressed their concern to reduce debt without increasing debt burden. The board discussed multiple options to move forward with handling current and future debt for the ID&BA. The Board of Commissioners and the Board of Industrial Development Authority agreed to have a meeting January 6, 2022 3:30pm at the Madison County Library to consider future finances for the ID&BA.

**Item No.23. Executive Session to discuss real estate acquisition, personnel matters and/or potential litigation**

There was no need for executive session.

**Item No.24. Adjourn**

The Board unanimously agreed to adjourn at 8:45p.m.