

**MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
JANUARY 25, 2021  
6:00 PM**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Commission Chairman Todd Higdon  
District 1 Commissioner Dennis Adams  
District 2 Commissioner Terry Chandler  
District 5 Commissioner Derek Doster

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

District 3 Commissioner Theresa Bettis  
District 4 Commissioner Brian Kirk

**MEDIA PRESENT:**

Zach Mitcham, Madison County Journal

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Kathy Figueroa, Finance Director  
Rhonda S. Wooten, County Clerk  
Mike Pruett, County Attorney

Chairman Higdon called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led in the pledge to the American Flag.

**Item No. 1. Approval of minutes:**

**Minutes of the December 21, 2020 Regular Business Meeting  
Minutes of the January 4, 2021 Agenda Setting Meeting**

On motion by Commissioner Doster and second by Commissioner Chandler the Board voted to approve the minutes of the December 21, 2020 Regular Business Meeting and the January 4, 2021 Agenda Setting Meeting. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Adams, Chandler and Doster voted YES.

**Item No. 2. Business Involving Guests, Groups or Multiple Visitors**

County Extension Coordinator and Agriculture & Natural Resources Agent Carole Knight along with 4-H Agent Susan Goldman and Family Consumer Science Agent Brad Averill provided an update of the 2020 activities of the Madison County Extension Office and plans for the 2021 year. They each expressed joy in having improvised with managing their services in the midst of a pandemic.

**Item No. 3. Chairman's Report**

Chairman Higdon stated that he has held meetings with Public Works Director Alan Lapczynski, Road Superintendent Derrick Horne and the entire road department to discuss weekly road work plans and scheduling. He also advised the Board that the County purchased an \$18,000 used Gradall excavator to clean and realign ditches.

Chairman Higdon shared that he and Recreation Department Director Shelley Parham met with Madison County Little League President Steve Stuchell to discuss options to enable Little League to have a presence in Madison County. The three viable options offered were not agreeable to Little League.

Chairman Higdon said that he met with Gina Ward and Drago Tesanovich regarding their desire to establish a Citizens Environmental Impact Committee as a recommending body to the Board of Commissioners. He said he would like for each district to be represented on the committee.

Chairman Higdon shared that he met with Human Resources Director Tracy Dake and Health Insurance Agent Matt Bidwell to discuss various insurance plans with county savings and affordable dependent coverage in mind.

Chairman Higdon advised the Board that he will be meeting with ACCG Retirement Agent Greg Gease on Tuesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> to discuss a better retirement program.

Chairman Higdon announced that the first quarterly department head meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.

Chairman Higdon notified the Board that Elizabeth Allen with the Health Department reported 50 COVID vaccinations were administered in Madison County last week and a new employee is being trained to allow for 100 vaccinations per week. He said a third employee will be hired soon.

**Item No. 4. Statements and Remarks from Citizens on agenda items**

Statements and remarks from citizens were addressed as each agenda item was discussed.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Item No. 5. Consider hiring Brad Huff to fill the assistant director position at the Recreation Department**

Mr. Huff withdrew his application.

**Item No. 6. Consider approving the 2021 Madison County Budget Resolution**

On motion by Commissioner Adams and second by Commissioner Chandler the Board voted to approve the 2021 Madison County Budget Resolution. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Adams, Chandler and Doster voted YES.

Shiloh Volunteer Fire Department Chief Butch McDuffie addressed the Board to thank them for the financial support of the County to each volunteer fire department. He asked them to remind our citizens that the fire departments are all volunteers; there are no paid firefighters.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Item No. 7. Consider hiring Charles Weaber, Sommer Ellenburg and Alexander Wright for EMS part-time call-in list**

**Item No. 8. Consider hiring Colby King and Justin Grizzle to fill open positions at the Road Department**

*Agenda items seven and eight were taken up in one vote as follows:*

On motion by Commissioner Doster and second by Commissioner Chandler the Board voted to take EMS and Road Department hiring up in one vote and approve hiring Charles Weaber, Sommer Ellenburg and Alexander Wright for the EMS part-time call-in list and to hire Colby King and Justin Grizzle for the Road Department. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Adams, Chandler and Doster voted YES.

**Item No. 9. Consider allowing employees to receive up to 80 hours of donated time when they test positive for COVID**

This item was tabled to allow for discussion, at the February 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, of an amendment drafted by our county attorney regarding the donation of leave time.

**Item No. 10. Roads Update**

Commissioner Adams presented a list of needed road work in District One.

**Item No. 11. Urgent Matters**

There were no urgent matters.

**Item No. 12. Statements and Remarks from Citizens**

Chairman Higdon asked if there were any statements or remarks. No one came forward.

**Item No. 13. Statements and Remarks from Commissioners**

Commissioner Chandler asked about the procedure for road work requests. The Road Department was commended for responding quickly to calls.

Chairman Higdon said that he will send out a weekly list of the road work scheduled to be performed.

**Item No. 14. Executive Session to discuss real estate acquisition, personnel matters and/or potential litigation**

There was no need for executive session.

**Item No. 15. Adjourn.**

On motion by Commissioner Doster and second by Commissioner Adams the meeting adjourned at 6:44 p.m.