

**MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
JANUARY 27, 2020
6:00 PM**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commission Chairman John Scarborough
District 1 Commissioner Lee Allen
District 2 Commissioner Tripp Strickland
District 3 Commissioner Theresa Bettis
District 4 Commissioner Brian Kirk
District 5 Commissioner Derek Doster

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

MEDIA PRESENT:

Zach Mitcham, Madison County Journal

STAFF PRESENT:

Rhonda S. Wooten, County Clerk
Mike Pruett, County Attorney

Chairman Scarborough called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., led in the pledge to the American Flag and gave the invocation.

Item No. 1. Approval of minutes:

**Minutes of the December 16, 2019 Regular Business Meeting
Minutes of the January 6, 2020 Agenda Setting Meeting**

On motion by Commissioner Allen and second by Commissioner Strickland the Board voted to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2019 Regular Business Meeting and the January 6, 2020 Agenda Setting Meeting. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Kirk and Doster voted YES.

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

Carole Knight, Agriculture and Natural Resources Agent

Agriculture and Natural Resources Agent Carole Knight introduced herself and stated that she started with the Madison County Extension Office on January 2, 2020 after moving here from Statesboro, Georgia. She encouraged citizens to come by the Extension Office.

Item No. 3. Chairman's Report

To facilitate SPLOST validation proceedings, Chairman Scarborough presented a resolution declaring the results of the election held on November 5, 2019.

On motion by Commissioner Allen and second by Commissioner Kirk the Board approved the resolution. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Kirk and Doster voted YES.

Chairman Scarborough read the latest weekly update from Georgia Renewable Power Plant Manager David Groves.

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

Chairman Scarborough asked if there were any statements or remarks on an agenda item.

Tax Commissioner Lamar Dalton addressed the Board regarding agenda item number six. He expressed his support of a salary increase for Chief Appraiser Robin Baker.

OLD BUSINESS:

Item No. 5. Consider an additional \$1500 salary contribution for the Administrative Assistant position at the County Extension Office

Commissioner Strickland made a motion to approve an additional \$1500 salary contribution for the Administrative Assistant position at the County Extension Office. Commissioner Allen seconded the motion.

After discussion, on amended motion by Commissioner Strickland and second by Commissioner Allen the Board approved an additional \$1500 annual salary increase and associated taxes and benefits for the Administrative Assistant position at the County Extension Office. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Kirk and Doster voted YES.

Item No. 6. Consider a salary increase for Chief Appraiser Robin Baker

On motion by Commissioner Bettis and second by Commissioner Strickland the Board approved an additional \$4,423.28 annual salary for Chief Appraiser Robin Baker. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Kirk and Doster voted YES.

NEW BUSINESS:

Item No. 7. Consider 2020 qualifying fee and resolution for County Surveyor

On motion by Commissioner Doster and second by Commissioner Bettis the Board voted to approve a resolution establishing a \$10.00 qualifying fee for County Surveyor. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Kirk and Doster voted YES.

Item No. 8. Roads Update

Commissioners Allen and Strickland commended Derrick Horne for taking care of the County's dirt roads.

Commissioner Doster requested the status of GDOT involvement with the intersection of Highway 72 & Foote McClellan Road/ Hardman Morris Road. Commissioner Doster also requested staff to review signage needs such as Chevron signage for Sorrow Patterson Road, Lem Edwards Road and Shoal Creek Road.

Commissioner Kirk requested the status of GDOT involvement with the intersection of Highway 98 & Rogers Mill Road.

Item No. 9. Urgent Matters

There were no urgent matters.

Item No. 10. Statements and Remarks from Citizens

Chairman Scarborough asked if there were any statements or remarks.

Drago Tesanovich, Gina Ward, Bruce Gandy, Harriet Gray, Chip Chandler, Dave Ramsey, John Norton, Dennis Moon, Ruth Ann Tesanovich, Alisa Claytor, Mark Davis, Scott Edwards, Conolus Scott and Leigh Ann Jones spoke regarding their environmental concerns with the operations of the Georgia Renewable Power plant. They provided proposals to address some of the concerns and a petition.

Chip Chandler also stated he believes everyone was working in good faith.

Conolus Scott also stated he believes citizens should be allowed to present a topic as a listed agenda item.

Item No. 11. Statements and Remarks from Commissioners

Commissioners Doster, Allen, Strickland, Kirk and Bettis each expressed their desire to address the citizens' environmental concerns and agreed to move forward requesting staff develop a proper resolution/ordinance with an appropriate course of action by the next voting meeting.

Item No. 12. Executive Session to discuss land acquisition, personnel matters and/or potential litigation (if needed).

On motion by Commissioner Doster and second by Commissioner Allen the Board voted to go into executive session at 7:20 p.m. to discuss the acquisition of real estate. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Kirk and Doster voted YES.

The Board returned from executive session at 8:00 p.m.

On motion by Commissioner Strickland and second by Commissioner Kirk the Board voted to approve the minutes of the executive session. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis, Kirk and Doster voted YES.

Item No. 13. Adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.