

MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
January 31, 2022
6:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commission Chairman Todd Higdon
District 1 Commissioner Dennis Adams
District 2 Commissioner Terry Chandler via telephone
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 meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led in the pledge to the American Flag followed with a moment of silence in memory of county employee Mr. James Wiggins. Mr. Wiggins was a county employee at the Madison County Road Department for over 31 years. Mr. Wiggins was 84 years old.

Item No. 1. Approval of minutes:

Minutes of the December 20, 2021 Budget Work Session
Minutes of the December 20, 2021 Regular Business Meeting
Minutes of the January 3, 2022 Agenda Setting Work Session
Minutes of the January 6, 2022 Roundtable Meeting
Minutes of the January 14, 2022 Public Hearing

On motion by Commissioner Doster and second by Commissioner Adams the Board voted to approve the minutes of the December 20, 2021 Budget Work Session, the December 20, 2021 Regular Business Meeting, the January 3, 2022 Agenda Setting Work Session, amend the January 6, 2022 Roundtable meeting and the January 14, 2022 Public Hearing. The amendment to the January 6, 2022 Roundtable minutes was under the Auditor section changing Commissioner Doster suggested a conference call to Commissioner Adams. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Adams, Chandler, May, Kirk and Doster voted YES.

MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
January 31, 2022
6:00 PM

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

Carole Knight, Madison County UGA Extension Coordinator

Mrs. Knight provided a quarterly update to the Board of Commissioner on the Madison County University of Georgia Extension Office. Mr. Brad Aveil and Susan Goldman also gave updates on the 4-H program and other programs provided through the Extension office. Ms. Goldman announced results from recent competitions and local, state and National levels through all programs through the Extension office.

Aleta Mendenhall-Turner, Madison County Library Branch Manager

Ms. Toby Mayfield, Assistant Branch Manager introduced the new Branch Manager for the Madison County Library, Ms. Aleta Mendenhall-Turner. Ms. Mendenhall-Turner gave a quarterly update from the Library.

Item No. 3. Chairman's Report

Chairman Higdon announced there is currently a two year waiting list to purchase Ambulances. We are currently on that list. Also, the new EMS station in Comer will begin construction at the end of February. The Board of Commissioners also received four proposals for the Comprehensive plan update. Two interviews were conducted on January 11th and 19th.

Chairman Higdon discussed the ARPA funds final rule was finally release. The office is working together on interpreting the final rule for clarification on uses for the ARPA funds received by the County.

Chairman Higdon gave an update on new county employees hired. The Chamber of Commerce has also had seven new business enrolled as members during the month of January.

Chairman Higdon present Mrs. Linda Fortson, Zoning Administrator a plaque for her upcoming retirement. Mrs. Fortson has been with the county for over 20 years and she will retire February 4th. Chairman Higdon congratulated Mrs. Fortson on her retirement and thanked her for her services to Madison County.

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

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

OLD BUSINESS:

Item No. 5. Consider the 2022 Madison County Budget Resolution

On motion by Commissioner Kirk and second by Commissioner Doster the Board voted to approve the 2022 Madison County Budget Resolution to be effective January 16, 2022. The vote was as follows: Commissioner Adams, Chandler, May, Kirk and Doster voted YES to approve.

MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
January 31, 2022
6:00 PM

Item No. 6. Consider appointing a member to the Industrial Development Authority Board

Chairman Higdon discussed the resume recommendations for the Industrial Development and Building Authority Board position.

On motion by Commissioner Doster and seconded by Commissioner Kirk the Board agreed to appoint Mr. Ben Morris to fill the vacant position on the IDBA Board. The vote was as follows: Commissioner Adams, Chandler, May, Kirk and Doster voted YES.

Item No. 7. Consider awarding the Request for Proposal for the Comprehensive plan update

On motion by Commissioner Doster and second by Commissioner Chandler the Board agreed to Award Hall Consulting, Inc. to perform the Madison County Comprehensive Plan Update not to exceed \$130,000. The vote was as follows: Commissioner Adams, Chandler, May, Kirk and Doster voted YES.

Commissioner Chandler expressed both companies had enjoyable and positive interviews.

Commissioner Doster explained his motion not to exceed \$130,000 would be to allow flexibility to add other services provided by Hall Consulting including but not limited to extra meeting, ordinances review and or advisements.

Chairman Higdon expressed the importance of hiring a consulting firm to assist with the Comprehensive Plan update. Hall Consulting firm will be able to help guide and assist Madison County with the future of it citizens.

NEW BUSINESS:

Item No. 9. Discuss the Request for Proposal for the Madison County Wage Study

County Clerk, Christina Baxter explained five Proposals were received and were due January 13, 2022. Tracy Dake, Human Resources Director and Mrs. Baxter reviewed the submitted proposals and narrowed the proposals to two recommendations. Mrs. Dake will contact references for both companies and schedule Zoom interviews.

Item No. 10. Roads Update

Chairman Higdon gave an update on Roads projects and maintenance. The County road study/survey began on January 24, 2022 in Harrison. Barwick Hill box culvert has been installed and head walls have been poured as of January 28, 2022. Back filling will begin once the head walls have had time to cure. Last week the road department scraped numerous dirt roads throughout the county and applied gravel where it was needed.

Tree trimming has been completed in the City of Colbert, Cleghorne Road and Audre Porterfield Road. The crew is currently working on Moons Grove Church Road and then will move to Spratlin Mill Road. Shoulder Clipping has begun on Brickyard Road and the patch wagon is out working on filling pot holes.

MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
January 31, 2022
6:00 PM

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 from Citizens.

Ms. Lisa Collins expressed her concerns of the abandonment of Osley Mill Road.

County Attorney, Mike Pruett advised the Public Hearing for Osley Mill Road abandonment was scheduled for tonight's meeting however, the Public Hearing was postponed until February 28, 2022. The ad will be ran in the local newspaper for the rescheduled Public Hearing.

Item No. 13. Statements and Remarks from Commissioners

Commission Doster made statements to the citizens. Doster encourages the public to reach out to your community and volunteer for programs if you are available. There are many volunteer opportunities in Madison County. There were no further remarks.

Drago Tesanovich shared examples of noise ordinances with the Board of Commissioners. Mr. Tesanovich also inquired with the Board about a need for a light ordinance to handle light pollution in Colbert.

Mr. David Jones approach the Board complimenting them on all of the hard work they have been showing towards the betterment of Madison County. Mr. Jones also stated he supports the Boards efforts towards the Comprehensive Plan.

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.

The meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.