

**MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING**  
**February 24, 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 5 Commissioner Derek Doster

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

District 4 Commissioner Brian Kirk

**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 January 27, 2020 Regular Business Meeting**

**Minutes of the February 3, 2020 Agenda Setting Meeting**

On motion by Commissioner Doster and second by Commissioner Strickland the Board voted to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2020 Regular Business Meeting. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis and Doster voted YES.

Commissioner Strickland made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2020 Agenda Setting Meeting. Commissioner Bettis seconded the motion. Commissioner Doster recommended clarification of the last sentence in item number ten as amendments were not presented at that meeting and there was only general discussion. Commissioner Strickland made an amended motion to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2020 Agenda Setting Meeting with the last sentence in item number ten changed to: General discussion was held on the amendments to be presented at the next meeting. Commissioner Bettis seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Strickland, Bettis and Doster voted YES. Commissioner Allen abstained.

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

**Jennifer Ivey, Madison County Library Branch Manager**

Ms. Ivey gave the 2019 Fourth Quarter Library Report. She stated there were 66 adult library programs with 523 in attendance and 141 youth programs with 3,310 in attendance. She also advised the Board that National Library Week is April 19-25, 2020 and requested approval of a forthcoming proclamation.

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

No report given

**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.

Ruth Ann Tesanovich, Drago Tesanovich, Leigh Ann Jones and Gina Ward addressed the Board in support of agenda item number eight.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Item No. 5. Consider amending the purchasing policy**

On motion by Commissioner Doster and second by Commissioner Allen the Board voted to postpone this agenda item for one month. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis and Doster voted YES.

**Item No. 6. Consider appointing Robin Purcell to the Recreation Board**

On motion by Commissioner Bettis and second by Commissioner Doster the Board voted to approve appointing Robin Purcell to the Recreation Board. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis and Doster voted YES.

**Item No. 7. Consider purchasing a new backhoe out of Road Department SPLOST funds**

Public Works Director Alan Lapczynski provided information regarding a purchase price of \$84,855, including trade-in value, for a new model 420XE Caterpillar backhoe loader with a 48 month extended warranty.

On motion by Commissioner Strickland and second by Commissioner Allen the Board voted to approve the purchase of a new model 420XE Caterpillar backhoe loader for \$84,855, including trade-in value. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis and Doster voted YES.

**Item No. 8. Consider a resolution to address environmental concerns of material use or processing of creosote based materials**

On motion by Commissioner Doster and second by Commissioner Strickland the Board voted to approve a resolution endorsing and urging members of the General Assembly to approve, and the Governor to sign, House Bill 857, and further encouraging Georgia Renewable Power to take all steps possible to mitigate, reduce, and eliminate potential environmental and health hazards resulting from its activities. The vote was as follows: Commissioners Allen, Strickland, Bettis and Doster voted YES.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**None**

**Item No. 9. Roads Update**

Chairman Scarborough said we have a crane scheduled for Thursday of this week to put Planter Gunnel Road back in place. He stated we have several other roads that are either impassable or have sink holes that need to be addressed. He said he declared a local State of Emergency which allows the County to be in a good position should the governor declare a State of Emergency as it relates to weather and damages to roads.

Commissioner Allen said we have roads that have been washed out and we have all been calling Road Superintendent Derrick Horne. He understands that once it stops raining, they will be able to take care of the road work that needs to be done.

**Item No. 10. Urgent Matters**

There were no urgent matters.

**Item No. 11. Statements and Remarks from Citizens**

Chairman Scarborough asked if there were any statements or remarks.

Ruth Ann Tesanovich said she would like to report a road and safety hazard caused by two very bright lights at the GRP plant. When driving west on Highway 72 and attempting to make a left turn on HV Chandler road you are blinded by the lights. She requested that the lights be shielded. Mrs. Tesanovich also requested a special emergency response plan for the plant in the event of a fire.

Drago Tesanovich addressed the Board regarding the proposal submitted by the Madison County Clean Power Coalition. He requested that the proposals be listed on the agenda of an Agenda Setting Meeting.

Danielsville Mayor Michael Wideman addressed the Board regarding the City's proposal of turning the sewer pond over to the County. He asked for the Board's thoughts and said the council members will be around after the meeting to talk to and ask questions.

## **Item No. 12. Statements and Remarks from Commissioners**

Commissioner Allen asked Mr. Tesanovich if he said he was going to the Capitol on Wednesday and said that he would be there that day also.

Commissioner Strickland thanked the Danielsville City Council for coming to the meeting. He said that was a step in the right direction.

Commissioner Bettis said that we are all on the same team and should work together. Commissioner Bettis also stated that she appreciated the citizens' input and passion.

Commissioner Doster inquired about any action items that need to be taken regarding department goals and objectives and wanted to follow up on employee training records to allow for a better view of training needs. Commissioner Doster also said he would like to pursue some sort of driveway permit application as a safety consideration. Commissioner Doster closed with a request for the Board to support the Industrial Development and Building Authority in completing a rate study to develop what kind of mutual benefit can be done to help with capital expenses.

## **Item No. 13. Executive Session to discuss land acquisition, personnel matters and/or potential litigation (if needed).**

There was no need for executive session.

## **Item No. 14. Adjourn.**

On motion by Commissioner Doster and second by Commissioner Strickland the Board adjourned at 6:52 p.m.