

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
WARE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2023
5:00 p.m.**

The Ware County Board of Commissioners held a Regular Meeting, Monday, April 10, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. in the Ware County Commission Chambers, 305 Oak Street, Suite 201 Waycross, Georgia 31501 with Chairman Elmer Thrift presiding.

CALL TO ORDER	Chairman Elmer Thrift
COMMISSIONERS PRESENT	Commissioner Steve Barnard Commissioner Leonard Burse Commissioner Timmy Lucas Commissioner Jerry Pope
COMMISSIONERS ABSENT	None
STAFF PRESENT	County Manager Scott Moye; Assistant County Attorney Jennifer Herzog; County Clerk Melinda Brooks
PRESS	Danny Bartlett, WJH
INVOCATION	The invocation was waived from the Work Session
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE	The Pledge of Allegiance was waived from the Work Session

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion was made by Commissioner Pope to approve the agenda as presented, with Commissioner Barnard seconding the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Leonard Burse-aye; Commissioner Jerry Pope-aye; Commissioner Steve Barnard-aye, Commissioner Timmy Lucas-aye; and Chairman Elmer Thrift-aye.

GUEST SPEAKER: None

CONSENT ITEMS: None

AGENDA ITEMS

A. Resolution 2023-09: Award Bid for Airport Perimeter Fence Project

Chairman Thrift asked if there was a motion on this item.

Commissioner Burse made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-09 as written. Commissioner Lucas seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Leonard Burse-aye; Commissioner Jerry Pope-aye; Commissioner Timmy Lucas-aye; Commissioner Steve Barnard-aye; and Chairman Elmer Thrift-aye.

B. Resolution 2023-10: Approve Contract with Practical Design Partners

Chairman Thrift asked if there was a motion on this item.

A motion was made by Commissioner Barnard to accept Resolution 2023-10 for Practical Design Partners to design the Albany Avenue Overpass. Commissioner Pope seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Leonard Burse-aye; Commissioner Jerry Pope-aye; Commissioner Timmy Lucas-aye; Commissioner Steve Barnard-aye; and Chairman Elmer Thrift-aye.

C. Personnel Policy Amendment – Travel & Transportation

Chairman Thrift asked if there was a motion on this item.

A motion was made by Commissioner Burse Commissioner to approve the amendment as recommended. Commissioner Barnard seconded the motion.

Chairman Thrift asked if there is any discussion. Commissioner Barnard asked for the current mileage reimbursement rate. He was told it is \$.625 per mile.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Leonard Burse-aye; Commissioner Jerry Pope-aye; Commissioner Timmy Lucas-aye; Commissioner Steve Barnard-aye; and Chairman Elmer Thrift-aye.

D. Storage Facility Lease Agreement Modification – 378 Ossie Davis Parkway

Chairman Thrift said this item is a modification of the lease from annual to monthly. Commissioner Lucas asked if the signed yearly contract had been fulfilled or if it was being cut short. CM Moyer explained that this lease is to change over to the new owner who requested a monthly lease.

Chairman Thrift asked if there was a motion on this item. A motion was made by Commissioner Lucas to accept the change of lease agreement from yearly to monthly, with Commissioner Burse seconding the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Leonard Burse-aye; Commissioner Pope-aye; Commissioner Timmy Lucas-aye; Commissioner Steve Barnard-aye; and Chairman Elmer Thrift-aye.

E. Atlas Transportation Plan Proposal

CM Moyer stated he did not have this item listed for a vote, but he needs to know if the Commission wishes to move forward with Atlas or to go a different route. Chairman Thrift stated he didn't feel that he knew enough about the issue to make a move at this time. Commissioner Lucas said that earlier discussion had been to get input from the City before taking a vote. Commissioner Burse

concluded and then asked if there had been a bid from another engineer. CM Moye stated there had been another proposal received. He said the pricing from both engineers was about the same. Commissioner asked if both proposals could be shared with the City and then plan to make a decision.

Chairman Thrift asked if there was a motion on this item A motion was made by Commissioner Pope to table this item, with Commissioner Lucas seconding the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Leonard Burse-aye; Commissioner Pope-aye; Commissioner Timmy Lucas-aye; Commissioner Steve Barnard-aye; and Chairman Elmer Thrift-aye.

F. Proposed Request: Ware County Zoning Resolution Text Amendment - Signs

Chairman Thrift asked if there was a motion on this item.

A motion was made by Commissioner Barnard to accept the new zoning resolution text amendment, with Commissioner Burse seconding the motion.

Chairman Thrift asked if there is any discussion.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Leonard Burse-aye; Commissioner Pope-no; Commissioner Timmy Lucas-no; Commissioner Steve Barnard-aye; and Chairman Elmer Thrift-aye.

After voting the Chairman stated he wasn't sure what the amendment was for and asked if the signs would have to be moved. Asst. County Attorney Herzog explained that Ware County had greater distance requirements for billboard signs than DOT has. This request is asking for the distance be reduced from 1,000 feet to 500 feet.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT: None

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Burse reminded the public that the Pilots Fly in would be Saturday, April 15. There will be a guest speaker and plane rides for the kids. Food and drink will be provided as well. Commissioner Lucas asked about the shirts mentioned at a previous meeting that were so well received at last year's meeting. CM Moye said the last he had heard was those shirts have to be purchased directly from the vendor.

The Chairman then stated that Evelyn Denton from the library board was in the audience and wanted the Commission to take a look at a form that she created. Mrs. Denton said she met with some of the other library trustees to look at the constitution and bylaws. They noticed there was no clear cut process to become a board member, so she designed a candidate submission form. She offered it as a quick way to prequalify a candidate for the library's board of trustees. She added that she wasn't sure if the Commission would have to vote to approve the form. CM Moye explained that usually any changes come from the Regional Library Director, Martha Powers-Jones after the full library board has approved the change. Mrs. Denton said that Mrs. Powers-Jones was present but didn't want to be involved as she has had negative interaction with the Board of Commissioners in the past. Commissioner Pope asked if the library director is in favor of using this new form. Mrs.

Denton said the director seemed to be fine with it, but felt she had been in trouble before for appearing to be making recommendations to the board. Commissioner Burse asked if the full board had endorsed this document. Mrs. Denton responded that they had agreed to submit it to the Commission for review. Commissioner Burse then asked Commissioner Lucas's opinion since he sits on the library board. Commissioner Lucas said he supports the document because it would make it easier than looking at resumes that are several pages in length. Commissioner Pope stated he was trying to get a clear answer as to whether or not the library board will be recommending that this new form be used. Commissioner Lucas said he would recommend it. Commissioner Pope asked again if the full board would be recommending it. Mrs. Denton said she was on the special committee for reviewing the constitution and bylaws which is how this form came to be created. Commissioner Pope asked a third time if the full library board approved the form to be presented to the Commission. Commissioner Lucas said that they would be voting it in. The board had not voted on the form yet, but sent her to present it to the Commission. Mrs. Denton said the committee wanted to present it to the Commissioners before taking it to the library board. Commissioner Burse clarified that this select committee was an ad hoc committee from the board members who designed the form, but hasn't been endorsed by the full board. Mrs. Denton said he was correct. He then advised her that it would be a better idea to have the full board sign off on it before presenting to the Commission.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Commissioner Lucas made a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel. Commissioner Burse seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.


After the Commissioners returned to the Commission Chambers, Commissioner Lucas moved to come out of Executive session with Commissioner Burse seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

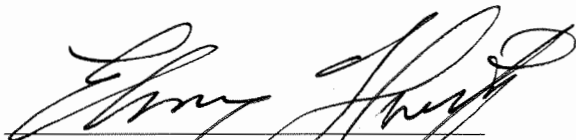
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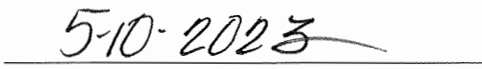
A motion was made by Commissioner Lucas to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 5:36 p.m., with Commissioner Pope seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Date proposed to be approved: May 8, 2023

ATTEST:


Melinda L. Brooks, County Clerk


Elmer Thrift, Chairman


Date

[SEAL]

