



**TALBOT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
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SHER'LONDA WALKER, CHAIRMAN  
KEN CHAPMAN, COMMISSIONER  
RAINES JORDAN, COMMISSIONER

FRANKLIN HOLMES, VICE CHAIRMAN  
FREEMAN MONTGOMERY, COMMISSIONER  
CAROL ISON, COUNTY MANAGER

**March 6, 2017**

The Talbot County Board of Commissioners held their regular scheduled monthly Board Meeting on Monday, March 6, 2017 at 6:00 pm, at the County Commission Office, located at 74 West Monroe Street, Talbotton, Georgia. Chairperson Sher'Londa Walker, Vice Chairman Franklin Holmes, Commissioners Ken Chapman, Raines Jordan and Freeman Montgomery attended the meeting. Also in attendance was the County Attorney, Andrew Dodgen, and the County Manager, Carol Ison. Vice Chairman Holmes arrived late.

Madam Chair Walker called the meeting to order and led everyone in a moment of silence and the recitation of the "Pledge of Allegiance".

There was one item added to the agenda: Emergency Medical Billing, LLC, Billing Services Agreement.

Commissioner Montgomery made a motion, Chairperson Walker seconded, for the Board to approve the agenda, as amended. The vote passed 4-0-0.

Commissioner Montgomery made a motion, Chairperson Walker seconded, for the Board to approve the Minutes from the February 13, 2017 Regular Meeting, and Executive Session. The vote passed 4-0-0.

Tax Commissioner Jamie Huff requested the Boards approval to refund \$1,215.28 to Timberlands II, LLC/J.F. Alexander Lumber Company as a result of a Board of Assessor and legal counsel settlement on December 5, 2016.

Following the discussion, Commissioner Montgomery made a motion for the Board to approve issuing Timberlands II, LLC/J.F. Alexander Lumber Company a refund in the amount of \$1,215.28. Commissioner Chapman seconded the motion. The vote passed 4-0-0.

Mr. Huff also ask the Board to reconsider a previous request to grant Ms. Julia Richardson the Disabled Veterans Exemption for 2016.

County Attorney Andrew Dodgen informed the Board that new legislation is in front of the General Assembly of Georgia for the 2017-2018 session concerning the disabled veteran's exemption.

Mr. Dodgen advised the Board to defer the decision until the legislation is voted on.

Commissioner Montgomery made a motion to defer the request to grant Ms. Julia Richardson the Disabled Veterans Exemption for 2016 until the legislation is voted on. Commissioner Jordan seconded the motion. The vote passed 3-1-0. Chairperson Walker opposed.

Michael Bolden representing Georgia Transmission Corporation (GTC) was present to inform the Board of their plans to install a fiber line across Smith Road to the Box Springs Substation. The fiber will be directional bored under Smith Road paralleling the existing transmission line easement to the GTC substation property.

No action was required by the Board.

Walter Wilson was not present.

John M. Poole, LTC, AR Commanding Fort Benning, gave the Board an update on the Community Partnership between Fort Benning and Talbot County, and the events that are taking place in Talbot County.

A lengthy conversation was held with Emory Carter residing at 361 Gibson Road, Talbotton, Georgia regarding the Gorman Road Bridge Closure.

The Georgia Department of Transportation issued an order to close the bridge, due to safety issues.

The Talbot County Road Superintendent assisted the City of Talbotton with proper closure of the bridge.

The Board informed Mr. Carter that Talbot County is willing to assist the City of Talbotton with the repair and/or replacement of the bridge, however, the bridge is in the city limits of Talbotton, the city council are responsible for taking the initiative to address the problems with the bridge.

Vice Chairman Holmes arrived at 6:23 pm.

Vice Chairman Holmes recommended scheduling a meeting with the City Council to come up with a resolution on the Gorman Road Bridge Closure.

The Emergency Medical Billing, LLC, Billing Services Agreement was tabled until the April board meeting.

The County Manager gave the Board an update on the proposed Courthouse Repairs.

**The Board of Commissioners are considering temporarily closing the Courthouse until the repairs and bat removal can be dealt with.**

**The County Manager has met with Judge John Terry and Superior Court Clerk Penny Mahone, they are both in agreement that closing the courthouse and relocating the court offices was in the best interest of all parties involved.**

**The County Manager is currently seeking for available office space to relocate the offices.**

**Commissioner Montgomery made a motion, Chairperson Walker seconded, for the Board to approve the Risk Management Property and Liability Renewal coverage for Emergency Medical Services and Volunteer Fire Departments with VFIS. The annual premium is \$31,623.00, an increase from last year's premium of \$29,698.00. The vote passed 5-0-0.**

**Vice Chairman Holmes made a motion, Commissioner Chapman seconded, for the Board to approve the proposed Proclamation honoring Willie Mae Hardy for celebrating her 109<sup>th</sup> birthday on March 11, 2017. The vote passed 5-0-0.**

**The Board authorized the County Manager and Commissioner Jordan to review the sealed proposals for the Jail Construction, and share their recommendations at the next meeting.**

**Commissioner Jordan made a motion, Vice Chairman Holmes seconded, for the Board to approve the RVRCA Area Agency on Aging Contract Amendment, subject to the County Attorney's review and approval. The vote passed 5-0-0.**

**Vice Chairman Holmes made a motion, Chairperson Walker seconded, for the Board to approve the purchase request from Road Superintendent Mike Smith to replace the culvert pipe on Juniper Mill Pond Road. The cost of the pipe is \$1,145.28. The vote passed 5-0-0.**

**Vice Chairman Holmes made a motion, Commissioner Jordan seconded, for the Board to approve the purchase request from Road Superintendent Mike Smith for the purchase of a 36 inch x 30 foot culvert pipe. The cost of the pipe is \$916.80. The vote passed 5-0-0.**

**The Road Superintendent gave the Board an update on the Ligon Road Bridge repair.**

**The County Manager was directed to schedule a work shop to discuss the road assessment that was conducted by Vaugh & Melton Consulting Engineers, Inc.**

**Vice Chairman Holmes made a motion, Commissioner Jordan seconded, for the Board to approve the purchase order request from the Senior Center to West Georgia Flooring, for \$4,712.21. The vote passed 5-0-0.**

**Attorney Dodgen informed the Board that he filed the condemnation order for right of way for the Welcome Church Loop Project.**

Vice Chairman Holmes made a motion, Commissioner Montgomery seconded, for the Board to go into Executive Session at 7:17 pm. The vote passed 5-0-0.

Madam Chair Walker called the meeting back to order at 7:48 pm.

Personnel and Real Estate were discussed.

No decisions were made in Executive Session.

Vice Chairman Holmes made a motion, Commissioner Montgomery seconded, for the Board to declare the old single story brick building formerly used as the depot for the old Talbotton 'Short' Railroad surplus, and advertise for sealed bids. The vote passed 5-0-0.

The County Manager was directed to advertise the lots in Oak Mountain Estates that are owned by Talbot County for sealed bids. The minimum starting price for each lot will be \$250.00.

There being no further business, Commissioner Jordan made a motion to for the meeting to adjourn. Chairperson Walker seconded the motion. The vote passed 5-0-0.



Sher'Londa Walker, Chairperson



Carol Ison, County Manager

4-11-17

Date