



Talbot County Board of Commissioners

35 West Madison Street, P.O. Box 155
Talbotton, Georgia 31827

May 8, 2023

The Talbot County Board of Commissioners held their regular monthly meeting on Monday, May 08, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., at the Talbot County Commission Office, located at 35 West Madison Street, Talbotton, GA 31827. The meeting was originally slated for May 01, 2023, but was rescheduled to accommodate the ACCG yearly conference attended by commissioners. Present at the meeting were Chairman, Larry Sparks, Vice Chairman, Ken Chapman, and Commissioners Franklin Holmes, Anthony Couch, and Walter Wilson, Jr. Also in attendance were County Manager, Carol Ison, County Attorney, Edward Davis, Assistant County Manager, Ronnie Hendricks, and County Clerk, Jona Gibson.

Chairman Sparks called the meeting to order and led everyone in a moment of silence and the recitation of the "Pledge of Allegiance."

Commissioner Chapman made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Holmes seconded. The vote passed 5-0-0.

Commissioner Holmes made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 3, 2023, Regular Meeting & Executive Session. Commissioner Wilson seconded. The vote passed 5-0-0.

Chairman Sparks presented John C. (Clinton) Cosby with a plaque recognizing his recent retirement and thanked him for his 35 years of service to Talbot County .

Dr. Asante' Hilts was scheduled to appear to represent services offered in Talbot County by Valley Healthcare System but was not present at the meeting.

Tom Persons, Chairman of the Industrial Development Authority, came before the Board to request reappointment for three years for the following individuals: King Murray, Dal Gibson, Raines Jordan, Omar McCants, and Walter Swan. Commissioner Holmes made a motion to reappoint the named individuals for a three-year term on the IDA Board. Chairman Sparks seconded. The vote passed 5-0-0.

Randy Everett, representing Oakbridge Insurance Agency, came before the Board to present the Health Insurance Renewal for Talbot County employees for 2023-2024. Mr. Everett informed the Board that there would be a five percent cost increase after negotiations with the provider, United Healthcare. Mr. Everett's recommendation to the Board was to renew the United Healthcare contract "as is" with the

slight annual rate increase of \$25,500.00. Commissioner Holmes made a motion to renew with UHC. Commissioner Wilson seconded. The vote passed 5-0-0.

The Planning and Zoning Board requested that Russ Erenheim be appointed to serve a three-year term to fill the vacant position created by the resignation of David Ison. Commissioner Chapman made a motion to appoint Mr. Erenheim to serve on the Planning and Zoning Board. Commissioner Holmes seconded. The vote passed 5-0-0.

Commissioner Holmes made a motion to accept the resolution to temporarily close the Talbot County Courthouse offices during repairs and renovations. The offices will conduct business from the Talbot County Board of Commissioners building located at 35 West Madison Street, Talbotton, GA. The resolution will begin June 1, 2023. Commissioner Wilson seconded the motion. The vote passed 5-0-0.

Ben Brogdon, Chief of the O'Neal Volunteer Fire Department, came before the Board with a quote for repairs to the ONVFD main fire truck. ONVFD does not have enough funds in their budget to cover all repairs listed in the quote obtained. Chief Brogdon requested that he be allowed to designate the remaining funds in the ONVFD budget for FY23 to cover as many repairs as possible. County Manager Ison suggested that he should use the prioritized list when preparing the budget request for FY24 and to plan the repairs in phases. Commissioner Wilson made a motion to approve the request and proceed with the repairs, not to exceed the balance in the current year FY23 budget for ONVFD. Commissioner Couch seconded. The vote passed 5-0-0.

Talbot County Water Superintendent, Scott Huckaby, presented a Theft of Services policy to the Board. County Attorney Davis and Mr. Huckaby will work together on a Theft of Services policy for the county and present it to the Board at a later date. Also presented by Mr. Huckaby was an updated Water Service fee proposal. After review, Commissioner Holmes made a motion to accept the new Service Fee proposal. Commissioner Chapman seconded. The vote passed 5-0-0.

Water Superintendent, Scott Huckaby informed the Commissioners of the numerous leaks that have been repaired throughout the county resulting in tremendous savings for the cost to purchase water from the City of Manchester, as well as eliminating water loss.

Road Superintendent, Peter Nolan, appeared before the Board to discuss estimates on various county roads. He advised Commissioners that bid packets would go out next month on selected roads. Mr. Stan Poole, Engineer, also informed the Commissioners of the costs and obstacles involved in building shoulders on Oak Grove Church Road and Willis Road. Superintendent Nolan was directed to see if it would be possible to obtain millings to use for the repair of shoulders and, if so, the estimated cost to use this material. A decision was tabled until the next meeting after further information is obtained.

Chairman Sparks made a motion to move forward with the patching of Rock Church Road at a cost of \$23,000.00. Commissioner Chapman seconded. SPLOST funds from District 5 will fund the cost of the project. The vote passed 5-0-0.

Assistant County Manager, Ronnie Hendricks, informed the Commissioners on the following:

- 1) The courthouse offices would be ready to relocate by the end of May.
- 2) The Flint Hill recreation park is close to completion.
- 3) The GA Power battery storage project is underway.
- 4) The Middle Flint E-911 Authority Board is proposing an increase in the FYE 2024 Budget.
- 5) The use of trash collection dumpsters provided for Clean-up Day in Talbot was a success.

Commissioner Holmes noted that an Open House for the Flint Hill recreation park has been scheduled for May 20, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. He inquired on how reservations are made for the parks and if there was a fee to use the parks throughout the county. Discussion regarding fees was tabled.

Commissioner Holmes made a motion to go into Executive Session. Commissioner Wilson seconded. The vote passed 5-0-0.

Chairman Sparks called the meeting back to order at 12:25 p.m.

Possible litigation was discussed in Executive Session. No decisions were made.

Commissioner Wilson made a motion to proceed with asphaltting the parking area, basketball court, and installing new basketball goals at the Youth Center. The estimated price for the project is \$65,000.00. Commissioner Holmes seconded the motion. The vote passed 5-0-0.

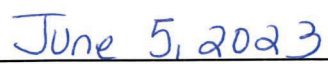
There being no further business, Commissioner Holmes made a motion to adjourn. Vice Chair Chapman seconded. The vote passed 5-0-0.



Larry Sparks, Chairperson



Carol Ison, County Manager



Date