



Talbot County Board of Commissioners

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

April 1, 2024

The Talbot County Board of Commissioners held their regular monthly meeting on Monday, April 1, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., at the Talbot County Commission Office, located at 35 West Madison Street, Talbotton, GA 31827. Chairman Larry Sparks, Vice Chairman, Ken Chapman, and Commissioners Anthony Couch and Walter Wilson, Jr., were present. Commissioner Franklin Holmes had a prior engagement. Also in attendance were County Attorney Edward Davis, County Manager, Carol Ison, 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 Wilson made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Vice Chair Chapman seconded the motion. The vote passed 4-0-0.

Vice Chair Chapman made a motion to approve minutes from the March 4, 2024, Regular Meeting and Executive Session. Commissioner Wilson seconded. The vote passed 4-0-0.

The following two employees were recognized for their terms of service: Lauren Harbin, 25 years, and Peter Nolan, 5 years.

Joretha Ryles, former Talbot County employee, appeared before the Board to request that she receive the 2023 Annual Bonus in the amount of \$500.00. Ms. Ryles was employed by the county until August 2023. After discussion, Chair Sparks made a motion to prorate the amount to \$250.00. Vice Chair Chapman seconded. The vote passed 3-1-0 with Commissioner Wilson abstaining because he is related to Ms. Ryles.

Vice Chair Chapman made a motion to approve a Resolution to submit an application to obtain FY2024 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for water system improvements. Commissioner Wilson seconded. The vote passed 4-0-0.

Selecting a project for Local Road Assistance Administration (LRA) funds was tabled.

Vice Chair Chapman made a motion to approve an FYE 2024 Budget Amendment to Box Springs Volunteer Fire Department to include a donation of \$5,506.32 given by Oglethorpe Power. Commissioner Wilson seconded. The vote passed 4-0-0.

Chairman Sparks presented a possible equipment purchase for the Road Department that might help with the repair of potholes. This piece of equipment is known as a Hot Box. The commissioners requested more information before making a decision.

County Attorney Davis advised the Commissioners that Talbot Solar LLC has not filed an application for a "Conditional Use" Zoning amendment for the proposed Solar Project.

County Manager Ison and Commissioners had no announcements.

Assistant County Manager Ronnie Hendricks provided an update to the Board regarding the status of the Broadband Equity Program. Data has been collected and submitted showing the lack of internet service in our area. It is up to Internet Providers to provide the service to unserved and underserved areas.

Commissioner Wilson inquired about the status of the Community Building in Talbotton. Assistant Manager Hendricks informed the Board that the county was in the process of accepting bids. Bids received will be opened at the May meeting.

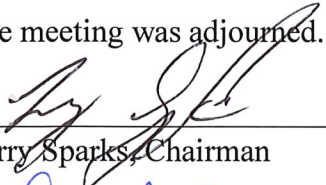
Commissioner Couch suggested installing a phone line for residents to leave messages with any concerns they may have at any hour of the day. Commissioners asked County Manager Ison to research this request.

Chair Sparks requested Road Superintendent, Peter Nolan, check on the possibility of purchasing guard rails and present at the next meeting.

No Executive Session was needed.

Commissioner Wilson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chair Chapman seconded. The vote passed 4-0-0.

The meeting was adjourned.



Larry Sparks, Chairman



Carol Ison, County Manager

5-6-2024

Date