

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Lee Hearn, Chairman
Edward Gibbons, Vice Chairman
Eric K. Maxwell
Charles W. Oddo
Charles D. Rousseau



FAYETTE COUNTY, GEORGIA

Steve Rapson, County Administrator
Dennis A. Davenport, County Attorney
Tameca P. Smith, County Clerk
Marlena Edwards, Chief Deputy County Clerk

140 Stonewall Avenue West
Public Meeting Room
Fayetteville, GA 30214

MINUTES

June 9, 2022

5:00 p.m.

Welcome to the meeting of your Fayette County Board of Commissioners. Your participation in County government is appreciated. All regularly scheduled Board meetings are open to the public and are held on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 5:00 p.m.

Call to Order

Chairman Lee Hearn called the June 9, 2022 Board of Commissioners meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. A quorum of the Board was present. Vice Chairman Edward Gibbons was absent.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance by Commissioner Charles Oddo

Commissioner Charles Oddo offered the Invocation and led the Board and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Acceptance of Agenda

Commissioner Oddo moved to accept the agenda with the exception of item #1. Commissioner Charles Rousseau seconded. The motion passed 4-0. Vice Chairman Gibbons was absent.

PROCLAMATION/RECOGNITION:

1. Recognition of the 2021-2022 Fayette County State Court Interns.

This item was removed from the agenda.

PUBLIC HEARING:

2. First of two Public Hearings on Fayette County's proposed annual budget for Fiscal Year 2023 which begins on July 1, 2022 and ends June 30, 2023.

Fayette County Chief Financial Officer Sheryl Weinmann stated that this presentation would be much smaller than the initial Budget overview. She stated that the General Fund Balance financial projection for fiscal year (FY) 2022 remained the same, except for the figures for the stabilization fund, which changed slightly based on the following revisions that were being recommended to the Board. She stated that the Budget Summary remained the same with a positive impact to the General Fund of \$974K. Ms. Weinmann outlined the proposed budget revisions.

Budget Revision #1: Budget Revision #1 impacted the Commissioners budget. She stated that the County received notification that Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) fee would increase by \$12,069. This would require the budget to be increased to \$146,821 with a negative impact to the budget of \$12,069.

Budget Revision #2: Budget Revision #2 affected the Probate Court budget. Probate Court received late notice that there would be a \$3,600 increase for the case management software. This would require the budget to be increased to \$7,200 and an increase to the expense budget, causing a negative impact to Fund Balance by \$3,600.

Budget Revision #3: Budget Revision #3 impacted a grant award and would impact Superior Court's Drug Abuse and Treatment Court budget. In this case, the court received more money than was budgeted. They were awarded \$341,570, which was an additional \$4,524 in revenues. There were no changes to the expenditures. This was a positive impact to fund balance in the amount of \$4,524.

Budget Revision #4: Budget Revision #4 was caused by a grant award and impacted State Court – Accountability Court – DUI Court budget. The grant award was lower than the application and what was budgeted. The request was for \$236,933 for revenue, and they received \$77,972. This would require a decrease in revenue by \$158,961. The expenditures decreased also leaving a positive impact to the Fund balance of \$17,799.

Budget Revision #5: Budget Revision #5 was also triggered by a grant award and impacted State Court- Accountability Court – Veterans' Treatment Court. The grant award was lower than the application and what was budgeted. The request was for \$43,557 and they received \$17,368. The expenditures decreased also from \$48,784 to \$20,043. As a result, there would be a positive impact to the fund balance of \$2,882.

Ms. Weinmann stated that these recommended changes are reflected in the FY2023 proposed Budget Summary, and would affect the General Fund, Accountability State Court Fund, and the Drug Abuse and Treatment Fund. She noted that the only change that was shown on the General Fund- Fund Balance trends chart, was a slight change to the Stabilization Fund which was now \$16,493,516. She reviewed a few of the FY2023 Budget highlights, stating that the Budget was balanced with a positive impact to the General Fund of \$959,060. The Rolling 5-Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) was fully funded with \$8M. The County continued to provide outstanding service to the citizens. The Budget continued to be balanced by current year revenues with current year expenses. County employees' benefits were maintained, and county-wide departmental cooperation continued to yield positive results. Ms. Weinmann stated that there was no proposed millage rate increases for the General Fund; however, not rolling back would require advertising as a property tax increase. This leaves the millage rate at 4.034 and was considered a 14.5% increase versus the rollback. She stated that there was a proposed millage rate increase from 0.456 to 0.50 for EMS. This would be advertised as a 9.65% increase. She stated that the final adoption of the FY2023 Budget was on June 23, 2022.

Commissioner Rousseau asked if there was any feedback provided from the grant facilitating agencies, as to why an award amount was increased or decreased.

Ms. Weinmann stated that she was not aware of any direct feedback but stated that this was typical. Some of the grant awards were based on expenses and/or participation. The application may have requested a certain amount but upon review, the award amount would only be for what the court qualified for.

Commissioner Eric Maxwell expressed his appreciation for the budget preparation. He stated that he would not be present at the June 23, 2022 Board Meeting, which would be the budget adoption meeting. He wanted to acknowledge that if present, outside of any major revision, he would vote in favor of the budget. Commissioner Maxwell stated that he was aware that a lot of hard work went into preparing this budget and the team had made it extremely easy this year, which he appreciated.

Chairman Hearn expressed his appreciation to everyone who assisted in preparing the budget and acknowledged that it was a team effort.

No vote was taken.

No one spoke in favor or opposition.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Commissioner Oddo moved to accept the Consent Agenda with the exception of item #5. Commissioner Rousseau seconded. The motion passed 4-0. Vice Chairman Gibbons was absent.

3. **Approval of the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) Title VI Non-Discrimination Agreement and Assurances (40 CFR Part 21.7).**
4. **Approval of proposed Environmental Health fee increases effective July 1, 2022.**
5. **Approval of the revision of the motion for Item #19; "Consideration of staff's recommendation to enhance recruitment and retention by increasing Constitutional & Elected Officers by 10.45%; with an effective start date of January 1, 2022" of the December 9, 2021 minutes.**

Commissioner Oddo moved to approve the revision of the motion for Item #19; "Consideration of staff's recommendation to enhance recruitment and retention by increasing Constitutional & Elected Officers by 10.45%; with an effective start date of January 1, 2022" of the December 9, 2021 minutes. Commissioner Maxwell seconded. The motion passed 3-1, with Commissioner Rousseau voting in opposition. Vice Chairman Gibbons was absent.

6. **Approval of the May 26, 2022 Special Called Budget Meeting Minutes.**
7. **Approval of the May 26, 2022 Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes.**

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

8. **Consideration of staff's recommendation to award FY 2023 Property & Casualty Insurance coverage in the amount of \$732,228.00 to the proposed combination of AmGuard Insurance Co., Wright Specialty Insurance, Global Aerospace, Corvus Insurance, and The Hartford.**

Ms. Weinmann stated that this request was to award FY 2023 Property & Casualty Insurance coverage in the amount of \$732,228. She stated that the proposed combination of AmGuard Insurance Co., Wright Specialty Insurance, Global Aerospace, Corvus Insurance, and The Hartford. Ms. Weinmann stated that each year the county looked for the best insurance carriers based on coverage and price to provide property and casualty policies. Because of the nature of the industry, the most effective way to procure insurance was to authorize a Broker of Record to solicit on behalf of the county. Apex Insurance Services, the Broker of Record for Fayette County, surveyed the current market by reaching out to twelve insurance carriers for consideration of coverage. Majority of the recommended carriers have remained the same except for Corvus Insurance who provided the County a better price for cyber insurance. There was an overall increase of about 15.7%.

Commissioner Oddo moved to approve to award FY 2023 Property & Casualty Insurance coverage in the amount of \$732,228.00 to the proposed combination of AmGuard Insurance Co., Wright Specialty Insurance, Global Aerospace, Corvus Insurance, and The Hartford. Commission Maxwell seconded the motion passed 4-0. Vice Chairman Gibbons was absent.

9. **Consideration of the Public Facilities Authority Selection Committee's recommendation to reappoint Alice Reeves to the Public Facilities Authority for a term beginning July 24, 2022 and expiring July 23, 2023.**

Ms. Weinmann stated that the Public Facilities Authority was a volunteer body, comprised of three (3) individuals who are appointed to one-year terms by the Fayette County Board of Commissioners. Some of the duties include, but are not limited to, the acquisition, construction, equipping, maintaining, and operating of building and facilities, including facilities constituting a storm-water management system, and to sell or lease any or all such properties. The Public Facilities Authority met infrequently, on an as-needed basis, approximately once a year. She noted that all three applicants previously sat on the Board and wanted to continue to serve.

Commissioner Oddo moved to approve the Public Facilities Authority Selection Committee's recommendation to reappoint Alice Reeves to the Public Facilities Authority for a term beginning July 24, 2022 and expiring July 23, 2023. Commissioner Maxwell seconded. The motion passed 4-0. Vice Chairman Gibbons was absent.

10. Consideration of the Public Facilities Authority Selection Committee's recommendation to reappoint Edward Outlaw to the Public Facilities Authority for a term beginning July 24, 2022 and expiring July 23, 2023.

Commissioner Rousseau moved to approve the Public Facilities Authority Selection Committee's recommendation to reappoint Edward Outlaw to the Public Facilities Authority for a term beginning July 24, 2022 and expiring July 23, 2023. Commissioner Oddo seconded. The motion passed 4-0. Vice Chairman Gibbons was absent.

11. Consideration of the Public Facilities Authority Selection Committee's recommendation to reappoint Thomas Gray to the Public Facilities Authority for a term beginning July 24, 2022 and expiring July 23, 2023.

Commissioner Oddo moved to approve the Public Facilities Authority Selection Committee's recommendation to reappoint Thomas Gray to the Public Facilities Authority for a term beginning July 24, 2022 and expiring July 23, 2023. Commissioner Rousseau seconded. The motion passed 4-0. Vice Chairman Gibbons was absent.

12. Consideration of a recommendation from the Selection Committee, comprised of Chairman Lee Hearn and Vice Chairman Edward Gibbons, to appoint Joy Peterson to the Fayette County Department of Family and Children Services Board for a term beginning July 1, 2022 and expiring June 30, 2027.

Chairman Hearn stated that he and Vice Chairman Gibbons conducted interviews for this position and unanimously voted for Mrs. Peterson, who had incredible experience and the desire to serve on this committee.

Chairman Hearn moved to approve the Selection Committee, comprised of Chairman Lee Hearn and Vice Chairman Edward Gibbons, to appoint Joy Peterson to the Fayette County Department of Family and Children Services Board for a term beginning July 1, 2022 and expiring June 30, 2027. Commissioner Oddo seconded. The motion passed 4-0. Vice Chairman Gibbons was absent.

13. Consideration of a recommendation from the Selection Committee, comprised of Commissioners Edward Gibbons and Eric Maxwell to nominate Brenda Marie Parker, Roger Cochran and Michael Hofrichter to the Fayette County Hospital Authority for consideration of appointment to serve a term beginning June 1, 2022 and expires May 31, 2026.

Commissioner Maxwell stated that this process was different than the previous appointments because this motion would recommend three individuals to the Fayette County Hospital Authority for consideration and the Fayette County Hospital Authority would then make the selection for the position. He stated that all three of the candidate resumes were outstanding. Commissioner Maxwell disclosed that he and Mr. Hofrichter had been business partners for several years and that he was well qualified for the position, as was the other applicants.

Commissioner Maxwell moved to approve to nominate Brenda Marie Parker, Roger Cochran and Michael Hofrichter to the Fayette County Hospital Authority for consideration of appointment to serve a term beginning June 1, 2022 and expires May 31, 2026. Commissioner Oddo seconded. The motion passed 4-0. Vice Chairman Gibbons was absent.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS:

A. Contract #1825 -B: Annual Contract for Waterline Extension Task Order 13: Longview Road Loop – Revised

Mr. Rapson reminded the Board that Monday, June 20, 2022 was the Juneteenth Holiday and Administrative Offices would be closed.

Mcintosh Trail Service Board

Mr. Rapson advised the Board that they need a representative on the McIntosh Trail Community Service Board.

County Attorney Dennis Davenport stated that the McIntosh Trail Community Service Board position was previously filled by Sheriff Babb, who recently resigned. Mr. Davenport stated that State law identified several officials that could serve as a replacement. He outlined that a Commissioner, the County Manager, any mayor or elected official of a city within the County, the Police Chief or Fire Chief within the County, he noted the common theme being an elected or appointed official within the County could serve as a replacement for this Board.

Chairman Hearn agreed with Commissioner Rousseau. He suggested soliciting amongst the outlined group of people for interest. He asked County Clerk Mrs. Tameca Smith to reach out to the outlined group for any interest in serving. Chairman Hearn stated it could be brought back at the next meeting.

ATTORNEY'S REPORTS:

Notice of Executive Session: County Attorney Dennis Davenport stated that there were five items for Executive Session. Two items involving real estate acquisition, two items involving threatened litigation, and the review of the May 26, 2022 Executive Session Minutes.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS:

Commissioner Maxwell

Commissioner Maxwell acknowledged a promotional pen he received from the Fayette County Animal Shelter and stated that he remembered the hours of long meetings that the Board had about the Animal Shelter and various concerns. He noted that the subject had since gone silent, which was an indication that things were going well. He expressed his appreciation for the hard work of Animal Control Director Jerry Collins and staff.

Commissioner Maxwell also expressed his appreciation for a recent Water System pamphlet he received in the mail with his water bill. He stated that the information it provided was very informative and detailed and he was extremely impressed with it.

Commissioner Rousseau

Commissioner Rousseau stated that he wanted to publicly thank Sheriff Babb for his service on the McIntosh Trail Community Service Board.

Chairman Hearn

Chairman Hearn stated that he recently attended the Atlanta Regional Committee (ARC) meeting on behalf of the County. While there he received a packet, which he made copies of and provided to his fellow commissioners, that outlined how the County benefited from the ARC. He acknowledged the increase in dues but noted that in comparison to what the county received from ARC, it was money well spent. He also advised that they approved the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) amendment #5, which was an \$152M increase in spending for transportation projects around the region. He also stated that the Board should

be keeping an eye on the Infrastructure Investment Jobs Bill which was worth \$1.2T and would be a great opportunity for potential aid for the county. He encouraged having "shovel ready" projects that would put Fayette County in front of the line when funding opportunities are opened.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Two items involving real estate acquisition, two items involving threatened litigation, and the review of the May 26, 2022 Executive Session Minutes. Commissioner Oddo moved to go into Executive Session. Commissioner Rousseau seconded. The motion passed 4-0. Vice Chairman Gibbons was absent.

The Board recessed into Executive Session at 5:33 p.m. and returned to Official Session at 5:59 p.m.

Return to Official Session and Approval to Sign the Executive Session Affidavit: Commissioner Oddo moved to return to Official Session and for the Chairman to sign the Executive Session Affidavit. Commissioner Rousseau seconded. The motion passed 5-0. Vice Chairman Gibbons was absent.

Approve of the May 26, 2022 Executive Session Minutes: Commission Oddo moved to approve the May 26, 2022 Executive Session Minutes. Commissioner Rousseau seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0. Vice Chairman Gibbons was absent.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Oddo moved to adjourn the June 9, 2022 Board of Commissioners Meeting. Commissioner Rousseau seconded. The motion passed 4-0. Vice Chairman Gibbons was absent.

Marlena Edwards, Chief Deputy County Clerk

Lee Hearn, Chairman

The foregoing minutes were duly approved at an official meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Fayette County, Georgia, held on the 23rd day of June 2022. Referenced attachments are available upon request at the County Clerk's Office.

Marlena Edwards, Chief Deputy County Clerk