

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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



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

February 8, 2024

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.

OFFICIAL SESSION:

Call to Order

Chairman Lee Hearn called the February 8, 2024 Board of Commissioners meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. All members of the Board were present.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance by Commissioner Charles Oddo

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

Acceptance of Agenda

Commissioner Oddo moved to accept the agenda as written. Vice Chairman Edward Gibbons seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

PROCLAMATION/RECOGNITION:

1. Recognition of the Honorable Judge Ann Jackson for her 15 years of service to Fayette County as Probate Judge.

Chairman Hearn, on behalf, of the Board expressed his appreciation of Judge Ann Jackson for her hard work and dedication to Fayette County during her 15 years of service.

Judge Jackson stated that it had been a privilege to serve and thanked her staff, who kept her office running. She thanked the Board for their continued support.

2. Recognition of Darryl Hicks for his 13 years of service on the Board of Elections.

Chairman Hearn, on behalf, of the Board recognized Darryl Hicks for his 13 years of service on the Board of Elections. Chairman Hearn stated that though there had been some challenges regarding elections on a national level, he expressed his appreciation to Mr. Hicks for his leadership, dedication, and fairness shown during his tenure.

Mr. Hicks stated that it had been an honor to serve his community and stated that he would not have been able to do so without the support of the Board and staff over the years. He acknowledged the hard work of his peers on the Elections Board as well as Elections Office staff for their continued effort and hard work.

3. Recognition of Aaron Wright for his eight years of service on the Board of Elections.

Chairman Hearn, on behalf, of the Board recognized Aaron Wright for his eight years of service on the Board of Elections. He expressed his appreciation for his leadership and willingness to serve the community.

Mr. Wright stated that serving on the Elections Board was a great privilege and honor and thanked the Board for the opportunity. He expressed his appreciation to the Election Office staff for their hard work and diligence in serving the community. Mr. Wright relayed his respect and deep appreciation for Mr. Hicks for the example he set and his leadership.

4. Recognition of Arnold Martin for his seven years of service on the Planning Commission.

Mr. Arnold Martin will be presented at the February 22 Board of Commissioners meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

CONSENT AGENDA:

Commissioner Oddo moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Vice Chairman Gibbons seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

- 5. Approval of the annual Budget Calendar for Fiscal Year 2025, which begins July 1, 2024 and ends June 30, 2025.**
- 6. Approval to amend the December 14, 2023 Board of Commissioners minutes to reflect the re-appointment of Walter Ponder to the Board of Assessor for a term beginning January 1, 2024 and expiring December 31, 2029, instead of December 31, 2026.**
- 7. Approval to award Quote #2354-A for Crosstown High Service Pump #1 Pump & Motor Repair to Cornerstone Mechanical in the not-to-exceed amount of \$91,826 for replacement of Pump #1 control valve and to transfer \$17,864.33 from 3MG Clearwell Improvement (22WSB) to Pump Refurbishment CIP (9WSPR).**
- 8. Approval of the January 25, 2024 Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes.**

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

- 9. Consideration of an Annexation Notification from the Town of Tyrone regarding a request from the Fayette County Development Authority to annex two (2) parcels, approximately 99.88 acres, located along Hwy 74 N between Kirkley Road and the Fulton/Fayette County line, encompassing parcels 0725 027 and 0904 008.**

Planning and Zoning Director Debbie Bell stated that staff received annexation applications for two (2) parcels, approximately 99.88 acres, located along Hwy 74 N between Kirkley Road and the Fulton/Fayette County line, encompassing parcels 0725 027 and 0904 008. She stated that the proposed applications would not create an unincorporated island and noted that both subject properties have access to State Route 74. Ms. Bell provided a visual of the location of these properties. She stated that staff had no objection to the annexation and suggested discussion between Fayette County and the Town of Tyrone to determine if the project was feasible and desired.

Commissioner Eric Maxwell acknowledged Town of Tyrone Mayor, Eric Dial.

Mayor Dial stated that he was there to observe and be present for any questions, if needed.

Commissioner Maxwell asked if there were any plans for the property.

Mayor Dial stated that this was a project via the Fayette County Development Authority and not one initiated by the Town of Tyrone staff or Council. He noted that sediment/rock and wetland concerns did exist on the property and were being evaluated on how to address. He stated that he had limited knowledge on the project. Mayor Dial stated that this item had not been brought before his Council yet for consideration and he could not express an opinion but to his knowledge there were no objections. He added that this project was in alignment with the designated BTP (Business Technology Park) zoning of the area.

Commissioner Maxwell expressed his appreciation to the Town of Tyrone for the beautification of the area along State Route 74 traveling into Fayette County. He stated that as this project was developed, he hoped the Town maintained the same aesthetics and design. He hoped the Town of Tyrone continued to be a shining spot for Fayette County.

Commissioner Charles Rousseau asked as a point of clarification, what acreage this annexation included.

Mayor Dial stated that this annexation included two (2) parcels, approximately 99.88 acres, located along Hwy 74 N between Kirkley Road and the Fulton/Fayette County line.

Vice Chairman Gibbons moved to approve Annexation Notification from the Town of Tyrone regarding a request from the Fayette County Development Authority to annex two (2) parcels, approximately 99.88 acres, located along Hwy 74 N between Kirkley Road and the Fulton/Fayette County line, encompassing parcels 0725 027 and 0904 008. Commissioner Oddo seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

10. Consideration of a recommendation from the Selection Committee, comprised of Chairman Lee Hearn and Vice Chairman Edward Gibbons to re-appoint Dr. Loida Bonney, MD, MPH to the Fayette County Board of Health for a term beginning January 1, 2024 and expiring December 31, 2029.

Vice Chairman Gibbons moved to approve to re-appoint Dr. Loida Bonney, MD, MPH to the Fayette County Board of Health for a term beginning January 1, 2024 and expiring December 31, 2029. Commissioner Rousseau seconded.

Vice Chairman Gibbons asked Dr. Bonney if she would like to speak.

Dr. Bonney stated that it had been a pleasure to serve and be involved in the progress, specifically related to the health, of this community.

Vice Chairman Gibbons moved to approve to re-appoint Dr. Loida Bonney, MD, MPH to the Fayette County Board of Health for a term beginning January 1, 2024 and expiring December 31, 2029. Commissioner Rousseau seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

11. Request to award Contract #2378-S to Arcadis U.S., Inc. to perform engineering services on an as-needed basis for the Water System and Solid Waste departments for the 12-month term ending June 30, 2026, and with the provision for two one-year renewals, in amounts to be determined by each task order as assigned.

Water System Director Vanness Tigert stated that this item was seeking approval to award Contract #2378-S to Arcadis U.S., Inc. to perform engineering services on an as-needed basis for the Water System and Solid Waste departments for the 12-month term ending June 30, 2026, and with the provision for two one-year renewals, in amounts to be determined by each task order as assigned.

Chairman Hearn stated that he had been pleased at the work from Arcadis and was happy to support this.

Vice Chairman Gibbons moved to approve to award Contract #2378-S to Arcadis U.S., Inc. to perform engineering services on an as-needed basis for the Water System and Solid Waste departments for the 12-month term ending June 30, 2026, and with the provision for two one-year renewals, in amounts to be determined by each task order as assigned. Commissioner Oddo seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS:

A: Contract #2128-B: Annual Contract for Waterline Extension Task Order 24-06: Trilith Tank Water Main

B: Contract #2334-A Crack Sealing & Mastic One Services

C: Contract #2343-A Roadside Tree Pruning

Hot Projects

Mr. Rapson stated that the Hot Projects report was forwarded to the Board and included updates on the Parks and Recreation multi-use facility, Redwine Road multi-use path, Redwine Road/Bernhard Road/Peachtree Parkway roundabout, Coastline Bridge, and the Animal Shelter.

Region Six Mental Health Board

Mr. Rapson advised that a selection Committee was needed for the Region Six Mental Health Board.

Commissioner Oddo moved to appoint Vice Chairman Gibbons and Commissioner Rousseau to serve on the Region Six Mental Health Board selection committee. Chairman Hearn seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Rapson recognized County Clerk Tameca Smith, Chief Deputy County Clerk Marlena Edwards, and Administrative Assistant Vicki Orr for their respective Georgia County Clerk Association appointment and receiving Clerk and Master Clerk Certification.

Mr. Rapson also stated that he and Human Resource Director Lewis Patterson were selected by ACCG Lifelong Learning Academy (LLA) which was a collegial and contractual partnership between ACCG and the Carl Vinson Institute of Government (CVIOG) at the University of Georgia, to participate in a 2-day, overnight retreat for a deep and comprehensive examination of the CORE (78 classes) certification curriculum.

Chairman Hearn stated that he appreciated the update regarding the Highway 85 bridge construction. He stated that staff had done an outstanding job getting this work completed. He stated that he had received great feedback with staff from Department of Transportation regarding working with Fayette County staff. He was extremely proud.

Mr. Rapson stated that this was a prime example of why building these types of partnerships was so important.

ATTORNEY'S REPORTS:

Notice of Executive Session: County Attorney Dennis Davenport stated that there were two items for Executive Session. One item involving threatened litigation and the review of the January 25, 2024 Executive Session Minutes.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS:

Vice Chairman Gibbons

Vice Chairman Gibbons expressed his appreciation to the recognized staff for their hard work and dedication.

Commissioner Rousseau

Commissioner Rousseau echoed Vice Chairman Gibbons comments regarding the accomplishments of County staff and expressed a job well done to those recognized during the meeting for serving on the various Boards and Offices within the community.

Chairman Hearn

Chairman Hearn stated that he would be part of a discussion panel showcasing Fayette regarding the soccer training facility at the upcoming Atalanta Regional Commission (ARC) meeting next week.

Commissioner Maxwell

Commissioner Maxwell stated that the “road to nowhere” truly became something for Fayette County. Approving it cost him and several of his colleagues their positions. But stated that the decision to approve Veterans Parkway was a bold but pivotal decision and was the right decision.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

One item involving threatened litigation and the review of the January 25, 2024 Executive Session Minutes.

Commissioner Oddo moved to go into Executive Session. Vice Chairman Gibbons seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

The Board recessed into Executive Session at 5:37 p.m. and returned to Official Session at 5:47 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. Vice Chairman Gibbons seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Approval of the January 25, 2024 Executive Session Minutes: Commissioner Oddo moved to approve January 25, 2024 Executive Session Minutes. Vice Chairman Gibbons seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0-1. Chairman Hearn abstained.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Oddo moved to adjourn the February 8, 2024 Board of Commissioners meeting. Vice Chairman Gibbons seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

The February 8, 2024 Board of Commissioners meeting adjourned at 5:52 p.m.

Marlena M. 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 22nd day of February 2024. Attachments are available upon request at the County Clerk’s Office.

Marlena Edwards, Chief Deputy County Clerk