

**AGENDA**  
**GEORGETOWN-QUITMAN COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**MARCH 9, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER 6:30 PM

AGENDA AMENDMENTS

PUBLIC COMMENTS (Time allocated 10-minute's total)  
APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS  
MONTH CHECK REGISTERS  
APPROVAL OF BILLS

MINUTES Regular meeting minutes February 11, 2020  
MONTH Called meeting minutes February 17, 2020  
Called meeting minutes March 4, 2020  
REPORTS MANAGER'S REPORT

EMS  
EMA DIRECTOR  
FIRE  
FAMILY CONNECTIONS

OLD BUSINESS

\*UPDATE\*

\*ACTION ITEM\*

\*ACTION ITEM\*

01-2020 Ordinance Election Qualifications 2<sup>nd</sup> reading  
02-2020 Ordinance General Prerequisites for Approval of Alcoholic Bev. Lic.  
2<sup>nd</sup> reading

\*ACTION ITEM\*

03-2020 Ordinance Mobile Home permit fee 2<sup>nd</sup> reading

NEW BUSINESS

\*ACTION ITEM\*

Disposition of blue building (845 US Hwy 82)

\*ACTION ITEM\*

\*ACTION ITEM\*

\*ACTION ITEM\*

\*ACTION ITEM\*

\*ACTION ITEM\*

\*ACTION ITEM\*

\*ACTION ITEM\*

EXECUTIVE SESSION

APPEARANCES

MEETING ADJOURN

**GEORGETOWN-QUITMAN COUNTY COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 11, 2020  
6:30PM**

**CALLED TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m. with prayer followed by the pledge. Members present were Commissioners: Lewis, Blackmon, Hayes, Kinsey and Bussey. County Attorney Tracy Cary, County Manager Jason Weeks, County Clerk Carolyn Wilson, and Financial Officer Teri Odom.

**AGENDA AMENDMENTS-**

Chairman Lewis added Census, 2019 budget and Prayer to the agenda. **Motion made by Blackmon to accept the amended agenda. Second by Kinsey.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

**PUBLIC COMMENT-** Probate Judge Matt Self announced that on Monday February 17, 2020 beginning at 12:00 noon anyone that wants to practice using the new voting machine at the Probate Office can do so. The state is sending a representative Clint Boyd to be here to help the community with the new machines. Tax Commissioner Mindy Ward gave a summary of the year ending. She stated that there has been a total of \$177,316.56 collected for the Emergency service fee thru January 2020. The next Tax sale will be April 7, 2020. An ad will be ran in the March 8, 2020 paper.

**PREVIOUS MONTH CHECK REGISTER-** **Motion made by Hayes to approve previous month check register. Second by Bussey.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

**Motion made by Bussey to approve the bills as presented. Second by Hayes.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon and Lewis.

**MINUTES**

January 14, 2020 Regular meeting minutes. **Motion made by Blackmon to approve the minutes of the Public Hearing. Second by Hayes.** Voting Yes- Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

January 27, 2020 Called meeting minutes. **Motion made by Blackmon to approve the minutes of the Regular meeting. Second by Kinsey.** Voting Yes-Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis. (Bussey was not present at the Called meeting on January 27, 2020)

### **MANAGER'S REPORT**

Weeks reported there were 20 EMS calls for the month of January 13 transports and 7 refusals. Weeks met with EMS director Jamie Sauls to go over a few issues. One of those issues being the slow response time for the month of January. Sauls explained to Weeks that there was a GPS failure on 2 different calls, which caused a slow response time. Weeks talked to Lee Collins with GPS Dynamics about our issues and Mr. Collins has a software program that we can install on a tablet or laptop to use in the ambulance. This will allow them to be directed to the address by the GPS Coordinates. Grady EMS is willing to purchase the tablets to be used in the ambulance to help with the GPS issues.

EMS will be moved the first part of next week from the Blue building on US Hwy 82 to the building next door to the Adult Learning Center/Probate office.

**CDBG-** Weeks stated that they had the preconstruction meeting on January 30, 2020 for the drainage project on Depot Street. All contracts have been signed and there is an attentive start date of March 15, 2020.

**RIVER BLUFF WALKING TRAIL-** Weeks explained that the walking trail has been closed due to trees being down. The road dept. is working on getting all trees cleaned up and getting the trail back open for walking. They are also installing new benches where the other ones were stolen.

**REPEATER-** Weeks informed everyone that we currently have an analog repeater that is on the City well tank. This system is outdated and needs to be upgraded to a Digital repeater and moved to the County well tank for better coverage. Weeks received a quote from Mobile Communications formerly known as Albany Communications for around \$20,000.00 dollars for equipment and labor. We will also need new radios for the fire dept. and a 12 x12-storage building will have to be purchased. The total will be around \$30,000-\$35,000.00 dollars. We are having horrible communication issues with the fire dept., Sherriff's dept., and EMS. Weeks explained that we received \$102,302.00 dollars from FEMA for hurricane Michael that would fund this. **Motion made by Blackmon to move forward with using the FEMA funds to**

**purchase the new repeater and all equipment that is needed. Second by Kinsey.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

**LIBRARY-** Weeks gave an update on the new library. Barrett & Simpson did the survey work on the site and started the environmental study that is required. The road dept. also did some tree cutting at the site.

Librarian Ms. Betty Fair gave an update about the library. She announced that the summer reading program would be held at the school this year. She has received grant money to purchase more books. She is very excited about the events that are going on at the library.

**FAMILY CONNECTIONS-** Chairman Lewis gave a brief update on behalf of Ms. Sara Lee Crumbs. Ms. Crumbs wanted to extend a Thank you to the Commissioners and staff for helping her with the budget cuts that the state made.

### **Fire Dept. Report-**

#### **OLD BUSINESS-**

#### **NEW BUSINESS-**

**DFCS APPOINTMENT-** Ms. Rooks is no longer able to serve on the DFCS board due to health issues. Ms. Rooks stated that Ms. Deborah Ricketson is willing to serve on this board. **Motion made by Blackmon to appoint Ms. Deborah Ricketson to the DFCS board. Second by Kinsey.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

**R01-2020 VERIZON CONTRACT SIGNATURE AUTHORIZATION-** Chairman Lewis read the Resolution for the Verizon Contract signature authorization. This Resolution gives Chairman Carvel Lewis authorization to sign the Verizon contract for the cell tower. **Motion made by Blackmon to approve Resolution R01-2020 Verizon Contract Signature authorization. Second by Hayes.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

**ORDINANCE 01-2020 ELECTION QUALIFICATIONS-** Chairman Lewis read Ordinance 01-2020 to the audience. After reading the ordinance, it was decided that some of the language needs changing. This was the first reading of Ordinance 01-2020.

#### **ORDINANCE 02-2020 GENERAL PREREQUISITES FOR APPROVAL OF**

**ALCOHOLIC BEV. LICENSE-** Chairman Lewis read ordinance 02-2020 to the audience. This was the first reading of ordinance 02-2020.

**ORDINANCE 03-2020 MOBILE HOME PERMIT FEE-** Chairman Lewis read ordinance 03-2020 to the audience. This was the first reading of ordinance 03-2020.

**C1-2020 GA. MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES BENEFIT SYSTEM DEFINED BENEFIT RETIREMENT PLAN ADOPTION AGREEMENT-** Motion made by Hayes to approve C1-2020 for the Ga. Municipal Employees benefit system defined benefit retirement plan adoption agreement. Second by Kinsey. Voting Yes- Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

**2019-05 EXHIBIT A BUDGET AMENDMENT-** Motion made by Bussey to approve 2019-05 Exhibit A budget amendment. Second by Kinsey. Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

**2019-06 EXHIBIT A BUDGET AMENDMENT-** Motion made by Hayes to approve the 2019-06 Exhibit A budget amendment. Second by Kinsey. Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

**R2-2020 RESOLUTION FOR CREATION OF THE 2020 GEORGETOWN-QUITMAN COUNTY LOCAL COMPLETE COUNT COMMITTEE-** Chairman Lewis read Resolution R2-2020 to the audience and gave a brief explanation of the Resolution. **Motion made by Bussey to approve Resolution R2-2020. Second by Kinsey.** Voting Yes- Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

Chairman Lewis asked everyone to look over their calendars to setup a Called meeting. Called meeting set for Monday February 17, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.

**PRAYER AT PUBLIC MEETINGS-** Chairman Lewis explained to everyone that prayer is allowed before any public meeting as long as we do not open prayer up to the public. **Motion made by Kinsey that prayer will be handled by the Chairman or Vice Chairman only. Second by Hayes.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION-**  
**APPEARANCES-**  
**MEETING ADJOURN**

Motion to adjourn 7:41 p.m.

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Carvel Lewis, Chairman

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Danny Blackmon, Vice Chairman

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Willie H. Bussey, Jr., Commissioner

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David Kinsey, Commissioner

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Jim Hayes, Commissioner

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Attest: Jason Weeks, County Manager

**GEORGETOWN-QUITMAN COUNTY COMMISSION  
CALLED MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 17, 2020  
2:00 P.M.**

**CALLED TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order at 2:00 P.M. with prayer. Members present were Commissioners: Lewis, Blackmon, Hayes, Kinsey and Bussey. County Manager Jason Weeks, Financial Officer Teri Odom and County Clerk Carolyn Wilson.

**AGENDA AMENDMENTS-** Chairman Lewis asked to add Grant writing, Water & Sewage Board, and FLPA to the agenda. **Motion made by Hayes to amend the agenda. Second by Kinsey.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

**ORDINANCE 01-2020 ELECTION QUALIFICATIONS-** After some discussion, it was decided that there needed to be some changes made to this ordinance. The age requirement changed from 21 years to 25 years and the years of residency changed from 1 year to 2 years.

**FLPA-** Tax Commissioner Mindy Ward presented the FLPA numbers to the Board of Commissioners. Ms. Ward explained how the money is being calculated from the State. We were under the impression that FLPA was going away totally but this is not the case. We will take a cut each year until we hit the benchmark figure. The 2019 money is being processed now and we should receive it shortly.

**FY 2019 BUDGET** –Chairman Lewis opened the discussion up for the FY 2019 budget. After a lengthy discussion, a **Motion was made by Kinsey to not amend the 2019 budget and let all the figures stay as is. Second by Hayes.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

**GRANT WRITING-** Chairman Lewis explained to everyone that it is becoming more apparent that there is a need for a Grant Writer for the County. We do not have the funds to employ a person to do this. Chairman Lewis suggested that if we were able to find someone to write grants for the County that this person would be paid out of the grant if it were funded. This person would be a contract employee. Vice Chairman Blackmon stated that his suggestion would be that the 3 surrounding counties and our county get together, find someone, and pay them a salary between the 4 counties. He feels like we would have an easier time finding someone to fill the position with a guaranteed salary instead of only getting a percentage from grants that are awarded. Lewis and Blackmon both stated that there is a grant available right now for a new firetruck. After some discussion, it was decided that the County would work on this grant in house and pursue a grant writer for future grants.

**WATER & SEWER AUTHORITY BOARD-** Chairman Lewis met with Richard Pitts who is a member of the Water & Sewer Authority Board. He stated that he feels like Mr. Pitts is a valuable member to the Water and Sewer Authority Board. Mr. Pitts wanted to meet with Lewis about a few concerns with the Water and Sewer Board. Mr. Pitts and Lewis agreed that the Water and Sewer Authority Board and the County Commission Board need to work together and both are willing to do just that.

**GA. HWY 27 TANNERITE BLASTING-** Weeks explained that there is a citizen that is using tannerite to blast beaver dams on Ga Hwy 27. There are citizens that are complaining about the noise and the shaking of their homes. Chairman Lewis asked what we were supposed to do about this blasting. Weeks stated that we could do an Ordinance to prohibit the blasting. Lewis advised Weeks to reach out to Bill Twomey with ACCG to find out if other counties have such an ordinance.

**BLUE BUILDING-** Weeks stated that the Commissioners voted last year to list the blue building with Baker Realty once EMS moves out. He stated that EMS should be out next week. Weeks asked the Commissioners if they want to move forward with listing it with Baker Realty or do they want to do something else. It was discussed about the possibility of leasing it to someone. After a lengthy discussion, Chairman Lewis wants Weeks to contact the surrounding property owners that are willing to sell their land and based upon what Weeks finds out this can be decided on at the March meeting.

**LETTERS TO CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS-** Chairman Lewis asked for a motion to send any Dept. heads and Constitutional officers a letter stating where their current spending is and where they are projected to be. This has to be done for legal purposes. If we are legally notifying those entities, then there is no negating that we have not made them aware. We need to mail a copy and hand deliver a copy. We also need to make sure the County Attorney gets a copy monthly. According to the Attorney General's office we have to do this for individuals that are elected by the public and do not answer to the Commissioners. **Motion made by Hayes to send out monthly letters to the dept. heads and Constitutional officers that are over budget. Second by Kinsey.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

**APPEARANCES -**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION -**

**MEETING ADJOURN**

Motion to adjourn at 3:59 p.m.

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Carvel Lewis, Chairman

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Danny Blackmon, Vice Chairman

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Willie H. Bussey, Jr., Commissioner

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David Kinsey, Commissioner

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Jim Hayes, Commissioner

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Attest: Jason Weeks, County Manager

**GEORGETOWN-QUITMAN COUNTY COMMISSION  
CALLED MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 4, 2020  
2:00 P.M.**

**CALLED TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order at 2:14 P.M. with prayer. Members present were Commissioners: Lewis, Blackmon, Hayes, and Bussey. Financial Officer Teri Odom and County Clerk Carolyn Wilson. (Kinsey and County Manager Weeks were not present).

**AGENDA AMENDMENTS-** Motion made by Blackmon to accept the agenda as presented. Second by Bussey. Voting Yes-Bussey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

**TAX ABATEMENT-** Vice Chairman Blackmon informed the Commission of a possible business coming to the County (Motel). He discussed with the others that the developer would like to know if they would consider a tax abatement. The Commissioners had a discussion on the issue. Everyone agreed that it would be great. No action taken.

**SOLID WASTE-**Chairman Lewis talked about some of the issues and complaints associated with solid waste. We need to consider some positive changes. The fees, language and service are main things to work on. We will look into taking on the service to be called commercial dumpster service. Lewis and Wilson will work on tightening the language up in the Ordinance. Clay County is looking at getting out of the commercial side of solid waste. This may be something for us to look at as well.

**ACCG MEETING UPDATE-** This will be discussed later when County Manager Weeks is present.

**APPEARANCES -**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION –**

**MEETING ADJOURN**

Motion to adjourn at 3:23 p.m.

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Carvel Lewis, Chairman

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Danny Blackmon, Vice Chairman

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Willie H. Bussey, Jr., Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_not present\_\_\_\_\_  
David Kinsey, Commissioner

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Jim Hayes, Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_not present\_\_\_\_\_  
Attest: Jason Weeks, County Manager