

AGENDA
GEORGETOWN-QUITMAN COUNTY, GEORGIA
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 11, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

6:30 p.m.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS

Executive Session-Pending Litigation

PUBLIC COMMENTS

(Time allocated 10-minute's total)

PREVIOUS MONTH BILLS

Check Registers

APPROVAL OF BILLS

MAY 2021

MINUTES

Regular meeting minutes April 13, 2021

Called meeting minutes April 27, 2021

REPORTS

MANAGER'S REPORT

EMS

ELECTED OFFICIALS

TAX COMMISSIONER

PROBATE

SUPERIOR COURT CLERK

SHERIFF

FAMILY CONNECTIONS

LIBRARY

FIRE

EMA DIRECTOR

OLD BUSINESS

UPDATE

ACTION ITEM

NEW BUSINESS

ACTION ITEM

ACTION ITEM

ACTION ITEM

ACTION ITEM

ACTION ITEM

ACTION ITEM

ACTION ITEM

ACTION ITEM

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Pending Litigation

APPEARANCES

MEETING ADJOURN

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**GEORGETOWN-QUITMAN COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 13, 2021
6:30 p.m.**

CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting called to order at 6:35 p.m. with a prayer followed by the pledge. Members present were Commissioners: Lewis, Blackmon, Hayes, Kinsey, and Bussey. County Attorney Tracy Cary, Financial Officer Teri Odom, County Clerk Carolyn Wilson, and County Manager Jason Weeks.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS

Chairman Lewis asked for a motion to accept the amended agenda as presented. **Motion made by Kinsey to accept the amended agenda. Second by Bussey.** Voting Yes- Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

PUBLIC COMMENTS-

PREVIOUS MONTH CHECK REGISTER

Motion made by Kinsey to approve previous month's check register. Second by Hayes. Voting Yes- Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

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

MINUTES

March 9, 2021, Regular meeting minutes- **Motion made by Bussey to approve the regular meeting minutes. Second by Kinsey.** Voting Yes- Bussey, Kinsey, Blackmon, and Lewis. (Hayes did not vote because he was absent from the March regular meeting).

March 23, 2021, Called meeting minutes-**Motion made by Blackmon to approve the called meeting minutes. Second by Hayes.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

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MANAGER'S REPORT-Weeks gave his report on E.M.S. for March.

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT- Weeks stated that the playground equipment was installed today April 13, 2021. Chairman Lewis asked to have the Recreation Dept. take some pictures before it is opened.

LED SIGN-Weeks reported that the new digital LED sign was installed today April 13, 2021. This is to replace the one that was not working correctly.

C. D. B. G. - Weeks explained that he has spoken with Pierre Rakel the Engineer for the CDBG project on Clay and Depot Street. There are still problems and things that have not been done. Weeks said that we are still withholding payment until all of these issues are completed.

SAFETY GRANT- Weeks stated that there is a safety grant thru ACCG for \$1250.00 dollars. This grant money is to be used to purchase any type of safety products. We have received this grant for the past 2 years.

GARBAGE TRUCK- Weeks informed everyone that the Water & Sewage Authority approved the purchase of a new garbage truck and the order has been placed.

Tax Commissioner Report- Tax Commissioner Mrs. Ward was present at the meeting and reported that she only has 10 property's on the 2019 past due list. She explained that these are being worked on. She stated that she is very pleased with this report and commended her office staff for their hard work.

Probate Report-

CLERK OF COURT-

SHERIFF REPORT- Sheriff Davis was present at the meeting and asked Mrs. Telicia Rogers to give the report for the Sheriff's office. Mrs. Rogers stated that there were a total of 29 arrest made from January 2021-March 2021. They currently have 4 in jail. The amount in citations for this same period is \$33,925.00 dollars before disbursements. Mrs. Kim Burnette wanted to thank Sheriff Davis for his work this far.

FAMILY CONNECTIONS- Ms. Sara Lee Crumbs, the Family Connections coordinator, was present at the meeting and gave a brief report. She has submitted her second article in the Southern Tribune. The column will feature the work the Collaborative is doing around early learning and literacy with a focus on The Basics of Boston five principles:

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- Maximizing Love, Managing Stress
- Talk, Sing, & Point
- Count, Group, & Compare
- Explore Through Movement & Play
- Read & Discuss Stories

She stated that Quitman County Family Connection was invited to join the Community Partnership to Support Youth (CPSY) Cohort funded by the Joseph P. Whitehead Foundation. The cohort is a multi-year effort to support high school graduation completion through community derived and support efforts. The grant award is \$10,000.00 dollars each year for five years. Ms. Sara Lee Crumbs also explained that Quitman County Family Connection supports families in the community by giving \$1500.00 dollars to the Local Enrichment Services Program to assist with food, rent, utilities and baby items for families. Up to 15 families can receive support for \$100.00 dollars toward any of these services. In addition, the local transportation authority, RMS, received \$1,000.00 dollars to cover transportation costs for medical appointments for indigent residents. All funds were provided from the State of Hope grant received by the Collaborative in the amount of \$10,000.00 dollars for literacy and parent/community support.

Library- Librarian Mrs. Betty Fair was present at the meeting and gave an update on the library. She spoke about how excited she is to see the progress on the new library. She stated that she received \$3,000.00 dollars from the State of Hope grant that Ms. Sara Lee Crumbs wrote. Mrs. Fair used all of the money she received from Weyerhaeuser on books. She is ready for the Summer Reading program. She went on to thank the Commissioners for all that they do for her and the library.

Fire Dept. Report-

CHAIRMAN REPORT-

OLD BUSINESS-

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NEW BUSINESS-

DFCS BOARD RE-APPOINTMENT OF DEBORAH RICKETSON- Chairman Lewis asked for a motion to reappoint Mrs. Deborah Ricketson to the DFCS Board. Mrs. Ricketson has agreed to continue to serve. **Motion made by Blackmon to reappoint Mrs. Ricketson to the DFCS Board. Second by Hayes.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

BOARD APPOINTMENT FOR LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

BOARD- **Motion made by Bussey to appoint Leslie Culver to the Local Economic Development Authority Board. Second by Blackmon.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

SWGA REG. DEV. AUTHORITY FINANCIAL SUPPORT LETTER- Chairman Lewis explained that we received a financial support letter from the SWGA Reg. Dev. Authority board for years 2020 and 2021 for \$1,000.00 dollars. Chairman Lewis asked all the Commissioners to consider this financial support and this would be discussed at the next work session.

PANIC BUTTON SYSTEM- County Manager Weeks asked to have this added to the next work session. Chris Wortz, with Wortz Consulting found the information on the original company that installed the current panic button system and they are coming on Tuesday April 20, 2021 to meet with Financial Officer Odom to give a quote to upgrade to a current system. Chairman Lewis stated that this would be added to the work session.

NAMING THE BRIDGE ON UNION CHURCH RD.- Weeks explained that he met with retired state trooper Paul Campbell and current trooper Tommy Young several weeks ago and the state is naming or renaming several bridges in memory of state troopers. He asked if the bridge located on Union Church Rd. could be renamed as “*Georgia State Patrol Trooper Sgt. Billy F. Payne #475 Memorial Bridge*”. Chairman Lewis asked for a motion for approval to rename the bridge on Union Church Rd. **Motion made by Blackmon to rename the bridge located on Union Church Rd to “Georgia State Patrol Trooper Sgt. Billy F. Payne #475 Memorial Bridge”.** **Second by Hayes.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis. Chairman Lewis asked the Commissioners to decide on a date for a work session. The work session is scheduled for April 27, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION-

APPEARANCES –

MEETING ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 7:21 p.m.

Carvel Lewis, Chairman

Danny Blackmon, Vice Chairman

Willie H. Bussey, Jr., Commissioner

David Kinsey, Commissioner

Jim Hayes, Commissioner

Attest: Jason Weeks, County Manager

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**GEORGETOWN-QUITMAN COUNTY COMMISSION
CALLED MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 27, 2021
4:00 p.m.**

CALLED TO ORDER The meeting called to order at 4:19 p.m. with prayer. Members present were Commissioners: Lewis, Blackmon, Hayes, and Kinsey. Financial Officer Teri Odom and County Clerk Carolyn Wilson. (Blackmon arrived at 4:35 p.m.)

AGENDA AMENDMENTS-

Chairman Lewis asked for any agenda amendments. **Motion made by Hayes to accept the agenda as presented. Second by Kinsey.** Voting Yes-Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

COMMUNITY CENTER & PAVILION RENTAL-Chairman Lewis opened the discussion on reopening the community center and pavilion for rental. Commissioner Kinsey brought up the issue with parking. He stated that we are still having problems with people parking inside the gate. He explained to everyone that this is a safety issue and we need to come up with a way to stop this. After a lengthy discussion, Chairman Lewis said he would like to add the reopening of the Community Center to the May regular commission meeting agenda to be decided on.

Chairman Lewis asked for a motion to reopen the pavilion for rental with some changes made to the rental form and signage being installed along with the gate being locked so no one can drive behind the fence. **Motion made by Kinsey with the changes to the rental form and signage being installed along with the gate being locked so no one can drive behind the fence.**

Second by Bussey. Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

BOARD OF REGISTRARS APPOINTMENTS- Probate Judge Self was present at the meeting to discuss the reappointments for the Board of Registrars. He explained that Mr. Art Neville, Mrs. Annette King, and Mr. Willie Ed Lee need to be reappointed to the Board of Registrars and typically he would present the names to the Grand Jury and the Superior Court Judge would appoint them but since Grand Jury has not met Georgia law 21-2-212 states that the governing authority of the county shall appoint the Board of Registrars do to some kind of pandemic such as the Coronavirus pandemic. This will be added to the May 11, 2021 regular commission meeting agenda for these reappointments.

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COMMUNITY GARDEN FERTILIZER- Probate Judge Self stated that a company out of Florida has donated plants to be planted in the community garden. He has his tractor ready to plant. He is looking for someone to donate the fertilizer.

(Blackmon entered the meeting during this discussion.) After some discussion, Chairman Lewis suggested that the Local Economic Development Board make the donation of \$500.00 for the purchase of the fertilizer. Vice Chairman Blackmon, who is the Chairman of the Local Eco. Dev. Board stated that he did not see an issue with this donation. Vice Chairman Blackmon asked County Clerk Carolyn Wilson to have an email sent out to all the Local Eco. Dev. board members to get their thoughts on making this donation.

2019 OUTSTANDING TAXES FOR CHURCHES- Chairman Lewis asked for a motion to have the deeds researched on St. Paul Church, Liberty Baptist Church, and Alabama Cong Jehovah Witness to have the property go back to the original owner. The \$72.00 Emergency Service Fee is not being paid because these churches are abandoned. **Motion made by Bussey to have the research done on the deeds on St. Paul Church, Liberty Baptist Church, and Alabama Cong Jehovah Witness to have these property's go back to the original land owners. Second by Kinsey.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Blackmon, and Lewis. Voting No-Hayes.

SWGA REGIONAL DEV. AUTHORITY FINANCIAL SUPPORT LETTER AND LIABILITY INS.- Chairman Lewis opened the discussion for the financial support letter and Liability Ins. Payments for the SWGA Regional Dev. Authority. During the discussion it was mentioned that this Authority needs to have an audit completed before any funds are contributed. Chairman Lewis asked County Clerk Carolyn Wilson to send the minutes that she took for the Authority for 2020 to Eddie Watson in Clay County. After an audit is completed, everyone is in agreement to support the Authority. Chairman Lewis stated that during the time that Mr. Danny Blackmon was Chairman of the Authority the audit was brought up four times and it was not presented. **Motion made by Kinsey to request Deloach and Wingate to provide guidance to The Unified Government of Georgetown-Quitman County on how to proceed with this and ask them to send a letter to the Authority stating that we will not provide funds until an audit is complete. Second by Hayes.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

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WAVE PLUS SYSTEM PANIC BUTTONS- Chairman Lewis stated that the owner of Secure Tech Systems came by the County office to discuss the panic button system and provided a quote. **Motion made by Hayes to approve the quote from SecureTech Systems, Inc. for the panic button system. Second by Kinsey.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

DFCS LEASING AGREEMENT- County Clerk Carolyn Wilson stated that this agreement is for 8 years and the annual rent will be \$21,210.00 dollars. The other parts of the agreement are the same as they have been. **Motion made by Bussey to accept the DFCS Leasing agreement. Second by Hayes.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

GPS DYNAMICS 911 ADDRESSING SYSTEM- Financial Officer Teri Odom explained that this is a quote from GPS Dynamics to update the 911 addressing system. It is recommended that this system be updated every five years. **Motion made by Bussey to approve the quote from GPS Dynamics for the 911 addressing system update. Second by Bussey.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

APPEARANCES -

EXECUTIVE SESSION –

MEETING ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 5:56 p.m.

Carvel Lewis, Chairman

Danny Blackmon, Vice Chairman

Willie H. Bussey, Jr., Commissioner

David Kinsey, Commissioner

Jim Hayes, Commissioner

Attest: Jason Weeks, County Manager

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