

**AGENDA**  
**GEORGETOWN-QUITMAN COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**JUNE 13, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER  
AGENDA AMENDMENTS

PUBLIC COMMENTS  
PREVIOUS MONTH BILLS  
APPROVAL OF BILLS  
MINUTES

REPORTS

**6:30 p.m.**  
Non-profit to use Community Center at no charge  
West Central Ga. Region 7 appointment-Norma Hayes  
R9-2023 Modification for Loan CWdra 20008  
(Time allocated 10-minute's total)  
Check Registers  
JUNE 2023  
Regular meeting minutes May 9, 2023  
Called meeting minutes May 11, 2023  
Called meeting minutes May 30, 2023  
Called meeting minutes June 5, 2023  
MANAGER'S REPORT / EMS  
ELECTED OFFICIALS  
TAX COMMISSIONER  
PROBATE  
SUPERIOR COURT CLERK  
SHERIFF  
FAMILY CONNECTIONS  
LIBRARY  
FIRE  
EMA DIRECTOR

OLD BUSINESS

\*ACTION ITEM\*

NEW BUSINESS

\*ACTION ITEM\*

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

APPEARANCES

MEETING ADJOURN

Family Connections Contract  
Employee Health Insurance  
Retirement  
Ordinance 02-2023 sec. 42-32 Solid waste ordinance-1<sup>st</sup> reading  
Appoint Fiscal Agent rep. to attend Family Connections meeting  
Resolution R5-2023 Emergency Svc. Assessment fund Budget  
Resolution R6-2023 E-911 Budget  
Resolution R7-2023 Law Library Budget  
Resolution R8-2023 General Fund Budget  
Non-profit to use Community Center at no charge  
West Central Ga. Region 7 appointment-Norma Hayes  
R9-2023 Modification for Loan CWdra 20008

*MAY 9, 2023 Board Meeting*

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**GEORGETOWN-QUITMAN COUNTY COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 9, 2023  
6:30 p.m.**

**CALLED TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lewis at 6:31 p.m. followed with a prayer and the pledge. Members present were Commissioners: Lewis, Blackmon, Hayes, Kinsey, and Bussey. Financial Officer Teri Odom, County Manager Jason Weeks, and County Clerk Carolyn Wilson.

**AGENDA AMENDMENTS**

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS-** Chairman Lewis asked for any public comments at this time. No comments were made at this time.

**PREVIOUS MONTH CHECK REGISTER**

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

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

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

**MINUTES**

**April 11, 2023 Regular meeting minutes-****Motion made by Bussey to approve the Regular meeting minutes. Second by Hayes.** Voting Yes- Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon and Lewis.

**April 18, 2023 Called meeting minutes-****Motion made by Blackmon to approve the Called meeting minutes. Second by Bussey.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

**MANAGER'S REPORT-** County Manager Weeks was present and gave his report. Weeks gave the EMS report for April which was better than last month.

**GA POWER CHARGING STATION-** Weeks met with Don Porter with Georgia Power to go over the other options the Commissioners discussed about places to put charging stations for electric vehicles. Mr. Porter stated that those options wouldn't work for them. Mr. Weeks took Mr. Porter to meet with Mr. Patel the owner of the Marathon gas station as an alternative option for the charging stations. Mr. Patel was in favor of having the charging stations at his store. Mr. Patel and Mr. Porter will meet again to go over more details.

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**ROAD PAVING PROJECTS-** Weeks stated that three of the paving projects are completed. They will start back on Monday May 15, 2023. They will start on High Street.

**BARRETT & SIMPSON ENGINEERING-** Weeks met with Mr. Tim Simpson at the Forester Pontoon building site last week. Mr. Simpson was explaining to Weeks that there was a lot of dirt that was just going to be pushed out of the way. Weeks stated that instead of just pushing the dirt out of the way the County could come with the dump truck and have them load the dirt on it and take it back to the yard to be able to sell to people needing dirt.

### **Tax Commissioner Report-**

### **Probate Report-**

### **SUPERIOR CLERK OF COURT-**

### **SHERIFF REPORT-**

**FAMILY CONNECTIONS-** Chairman Lewis asked Ms. Sara Lee Crumbs for her report on Family Connections. Ms. Crumbs went over several items that she is working on. The Collaborative received another year of funding from Deal Center for early learning and literacy work of \$10,000.00. Ms. Crumbs stated that Young Entrepreneur Studies (Y.E.S.) program is ending the first year on a high note. Students will pitch their business plans/ideas to judges via Shark Tank style to compete for monies to help further their plans. She has applied for additional funding of \$10,000.00 from Fund GA's Future to help plan a summer class for the Y.E.S. students and she is continuing work on the Recycling Grant submitted last year. She is going to reach out to surrounding counties to gather information on their recycling programs.

**WATER & SEWER AUTHORITY BOARD-** Chairman Lewis asked Mrs. Joyce Jones if she had anything to report from the Water & Sewer Authority Board. Mrs. Jones stated that everything is going well. They had to purchase new computers for the office due to new software that was not compatible with the old computers. She also said that the new garbage truck seems to be doing good too. Chairman Lewis thanked Mrs. Jones for the update and the work that they do on the Water & Sewer Authority Board.

### **Library-**

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

### **CHAIRMAN REPORT-**

### **OLD BUSINESS-**

### **NEW BUSINESS-**

**DFCS BOARD RE-APPOINTMENT FOR MRS. MAMMIE LEE-** Chairman Lewis asked for a motion to re-appoint Mrs. Mammie Lee on the DFCS Board. **Motion made by Blackmon to re-appoint Mrs. Mammie Lee to the DFCS Board. Second by Kinsey.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

Chairman Lewis asked everyone to look at their calendars for a work session date. The work session is scheduled for Thursday May 11, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. EST.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION-**

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**APPEARANCES –**  
**MEETING ADJOURN**

Motion to adjourn at 7:00 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

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**GEORGETOWN-QUITMAN COUNTY COMMISSION  
CALLED MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 11, 2023  
2:00 p.m.**

**CALLED TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lewis at 2:10 p.m. with a 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-** Vice Chairman Blackmon asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. **Motion made by Bussey to approve the agenda as presented. Second by Kinsey.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, and Blackmon. (Chairman Lewis was not present at this time.)

**BIBLE STUDY AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER-** County Manager Weeks explained that Ms. Cynthia Anderson mentioned that she would like to have a bible study at the Community Center during the week that would not interfere with anyone else using the center or being able to rent the center. This would be for anyone in the community that would want to attend. This would be used at no charge. **Motion made by Kinsey to allow the Community Center to be used at no charge for bible study during the week and not to conflict with anyone that wants to rent the center and no funds can be collected. Second by Hayes.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, and Blackmon.

**FOOD TRUCKS PERMITTED AT COMMUNITY CENTER-** County Manager Weeks stated that Ms. Sara Lee Crumbs asked if she held an event at the Community Center would food trucks be able to set up and sell food. She is aware that we don't allow this at the Community Center but she is asking for an exception for this event that she is planning to have in the late summer. After some discussion, this was tabled to find out more information to discuss at a later date.

**RETIREMENT-** Vice Chairman Blackmon asked County Manager Weeks to give an update on retirement. Weeks stated that there is money in the budget for retirement. Weeks explained that we have only had 1 company to come give a presentation on retirement. Mr. Ron Rowe with ACCG has asked if he could come and give his presentation on retirement. It was agreed to have Mr. Ron Rowe with ACCG to come give a presentation.

**COMMUNITY CENTER CAMERA-** Vice Chairman Blackmon asked County Manager Weeks to explain about having a camera at the Community Center. Weeks stated that we have had cameras installed at the landfill and on the outside of the Community Center. Weeks went over how the need for having one installed on the inside has become necessary. **Motion made by Kinsey to install 1 camera on the inside of the Community Center. Second by Hayes.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, and Blackmon.

**AMEND RECREATION PARK AND PAVILION RULES ON THE TIME TO HAVE THE PARK ATTENDANT PRESENT-**County Manager Weeks explained that it was approved at a previous commission meeting to allow people to drive thru the gate at the park to bring their items

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in with the park attendant present. After a recent event at the park, it was determined that there needed to be a time limit set on how long the park attendant would be available for people to get their items in and out of the park. **Motion made by Kinsey to amend the Recreation park and Pavilion rules policy to give whoever has the park rented 30 minutes to drive in the park to unload items and 30 minutes to drive in to the park to load items with the park attendant present. Second by Hayes.** Voting Yes-Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis. (Chairman Lewis arrived at the meeting at 2:34 p.m. Bussey stepped out during this vote.)

**FY JULY 2023-JUNE 2024 BUDGET-** Chairman Lewis asked if everyone had looked at the budget and give their thoughts. Vice Chairman Blackmon went over each departments budget. He stated that the Sheriff is over on his budget. Weeks asked the Commissioners to look at the cost of the landfill. He would like for the Commissioners to consider charging a flat fee for being able to dump at the landfill. He suggested a drop box to drop the money in and it would be collected every evening. Financial officer Odom stated that Tax Commissioner Mindy Ward has asked for an additional \$30,000.00-\$35,000.00 for new tax software in her budget. Odom said that Superior Clerk Becky Fendley asked for \$25,000.00 for her budget to be able to start scanning records from 1989 coming forward. After a lengthy discussion, Chairman Lewis stated that this will need to worked on some more before the final budget is set.

Chairman Lewis asked for dates for the next work session. Work session scheduled for May 30, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. EST.

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

Motion to adjourn at 4:09 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

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**GEORGETOWN-QUITMAN COUNTY COMMISSION**  
**CALLED MEETING MINUTES**  
**MAY 30, 2023**  
**2:00 p.m.**

**CALLED TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lewis at 2:21 p.m. with a prayer. Members present were Commissioners: Lewis, Blackmon, Hayes, and Kinsey. County Manager Jason Weeks. Financial Officer Teri Odom, and County Clerk Carolyn Wilson. (Bussey was not present.)

**AGENDA AMENDMENTS-** Chairman Lewis asked for a motion to amend the agenda to add ACCG representative Mr. Ron Rowe to discuss Retirement. **Motion made by Hayes to approve the amended agenda to add ACCG representative Mr. Ron Rowe to discuss retirement. Second by Kinsey.** Voting Yes- Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis

**LANDFILL FEE-** Chairman Lewis asked County Manager Weeks to go over the landfill fee. County Manager Weeks reminded everyone at the last meeting it was discussed about adding a fee to be able to use the landfill. Weeks recommended that the fee be set at \$10.00 per load. He suggested using a drop box like we have at River Bluff boat ramp. This money will be collected daily. After some discussion a **Motion made by Blackmon to add a landfill fee of \$10.00 per load. Second by Hayes. Voting Yes-Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis. Voting No-Kinsey.**

**BLUE BUILDING AT 845 US HWY 82 DEED-** County Manager Weeks explained that back in 2020 the County did a MOU between the County and the Local Economic Development Authority on the building located at 845 US HWY 82 but the deed was never completed to change ownership to the Local Economic Development Authority. Weeks stated that we have the deed now and as soon as it is recorded at the Courthouse a copy will be given to the Local Economic Development Authority.

**FOOD TRUCKS PERMITTED AT COMMUNITY CENTER-** Chairman Lewis explained that Ms. Sara Lee Crumbs and Ms. Leslie Culver are having a Community and Culture Appreciation day at the Community Center and would like to be able to allow food trucks or food vendors to be present to sell their food products. Currently the rules for the Community Center do not allow this. Chairman Lewis expressed that he feels like it would be okay to allow a one- time exception for them to be able to do this. It was suggested to allow food vendors and any vendor that wants to set up to sell items and charge a fee. **Motion made by Blackmon to allow food vendors and any vendor to be able to set up at the Community Center to sell their items for a fee in the amount of \$100.00 for the Community and Culture Appreciation day on September 23, 2023. Second by Kinsey.** Voting Yes- Hayes, Kinsey, Blackmon, and Lewis.

**RETIREMENT-** Mr. Ron Rowe with ACCG was present at the meeting to go over the different retirement plans that they offer. Mr. Rowe went over the Defined Benefit Pension Plan. He stated that this plan may be used in conjunction with other retirement plans, as well as Social Security, as a source of income upon retirement. It is considered the most traditional retirement plan. A defined benefit plan is also the most popular type of primary plan offered by local governments.

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This plan is termed "defined benefit" plan because the benefits employees will receive during retirement are set, or "defined," by the plan's terms. The benefit amount is typically based on a formula that considers one's salary and years of service in the organization. This plan provides a lifetime, fixed monthly benefit or the option for employees to choose from several other payment options that will determine the amount of their monthly benefit. Mr. Rowe also went over some highlights of the plan.

- Benefits in addition to Social Security
- Lifetime, monthly benefits
- Optional types of benefit payments for more effective retirement planning
- Can be used in conjunction with retirement savings plans
- Death benefits may be available

The next plan that Mr. Rowe went over was the 401 (a) Defined Contribution Plan. It is the second most popular primary plan. Mr. Rowe explained that the 401(a) Defined Contribution Plan is very similar to the 401(k)-pension plan offered by many businesses. Such plans can provide retirement benefits equal to 15 percent to 35 percent of an employee's final, pre-retirement earnings. The 401(a)-plan increased in popularity during the bull market of the 1990s and is now the second most popular primary retirement plan behind the traditional defined benefit plan. This plan is referred to as a "defined contribution plan" because the employer defines the monetary contribution that goes into the employee's account. The retirement benefit is determined by the amount of contributions made by the employer and any investment earnings during the individual's working career. Mr. Rowe went over some highlights of this plan.

- Tax-deferred investment returns.
- Diversified, high quality investment options.
- Participant directed investment selection.
- Transferable to other plans after termination.
- Other benefits are available in addition to Social Security.

The last plan that Mr. Rowe went over was the 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan. Mr. Rowe stated that this retirement plan is exclusive to local government. Local governments offer this plan to their employees as either a primary or secondary plan. As a secondary plan, it is used to supplement other types of plans, and all of the contributions into the plan come from employee contributions. The 457(b)-retirement plan is termed "deferred compensation" because it offers employees the opportunity to defer or postpone some of their current compensation and receive it, with earnings, in the future. The employer may deposit a select amount of deferred compensation into the employee's 457(b) account. That select amount of deferred compensation is then put toward investments selected by the employee. Depending on whether the 457(b) plan is used as the employee's primary or secondary plan, and in combination with investment success, it can often provide retirement benefits equal to 5% to 35% of an employee's final, pre-retirement earnings. Mr. Rowe went over some highlights of this plan.

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- 100% immediate account ownership
- Tax-deferred investment returns
- Diversified, high quality investment options
- Participant directed investment selection
- Transferable to other plans after termination
- Benefits in addition to Social Security

The Commissioners thanked Mr. Rowe for coming and going over these plans. After a lengthy discussion, it was decided that Commissioner Hayes and Commissioner Kinsey would work on these plans to figure what would work best for our County and the employees.

**FY JULY 2023-JUNE 2024 BUDGET-** Chairman Lewis opened the discussion on the budget. Chairman Lewis stated that he would like to have 1 year of operating money saved. After an extensive discussion about the budget for each office, Vice Chairman Blackmon suggested that there needed to be another work session before having the public hearing and adopting the budget.

Chairman Lewis asked for dates for the next work session. Work session scheduled for June 5, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

Chairman Lewis also set up the Public Hearing on the budget for 6:00 p.m. before the regular commission meeting.

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

Motion to adjourn at 4:34 p.m.

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Carvel Lewis, Chairman

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Danny Blackmon, Vice Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_ not present  
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

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**GEORGETOWN-QUITMAN COUNTY COMMISSION**  
**CALLED MEETING MINUTES**  
**JUNE 5, 2023**  
**2:00 p.m.**

**CALLED TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lewis at 2:22 p.m. with a prayer. Members present were Commissioners: Lewis, Blackmon, Hayes, and Kinsey. County Manager Jason Weeks. Financial Officer Teri Odom, and County Clerk Carolyn Wilson. (Bussey was not present.)

**AGENDA AMENDMENTS-** Chairman Lewis asked for a motion to amend the agenda to add Executive Session to discuss personnel and real estate. County Manager Weeks asked to add a request for consideration for a liquor store on Depot Rd. **Motion made by Hayes to approve the amended agenda to add Executive Session and the request for consideration for a liquor store on Depot Rd. Second by Kinsey.** Voting Yes- Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis

**FY JULY 2023-JUNE 2024 BUDGET-** Chairman Lewis asked Financial Officer Odom to go over the numbers for the budget. Mrs. Odom stated that the only changes that were made since the last work session were to the Commissioners line item and the Coroners line item. Those two changes were an increase in salary that was mandated by the State. Mrs. Odom asked County Manager Weeks to go over the Sheriff budget. Weeks stated that He and Odom had a meeting with the Sheriff to go over his budget. Weeks explained that the Sheriff agreed that the third person at night in the office will only be part time and he is going to sell 7 of the vehicles out of his department. After a lengthy discussion about the Sheriff budget, everyone agreed that the Sheriff should not go over on his budget.

**PACKAGE STORE ON DEPOT ROAD-** Weeks explained that Mr. and Mrs. Frankie Horst have purchased the property where the old carwash was on Depot Rd. and are interested in putting in a package store. Currently our ordinance does not allow a package store to be put on a piece of property that is not on US HWY 82 or abuts US HWY 82. Mrs. Horst was present at the meeting and asked to say a few things. She explained that this would be a very nice establishment and they are interested in doing this to help subsidize their income. They would like to have a positive economic impact on the County. Vice Chairman Blackmon asked Mrs. Horst a few questions and told her that they appreciate her coming and also their interest in being a part of the economic growth to our County. Vice Chairman Blackmon explained that the Commissioners would like to discuss this some more in detail and get back in touch with her.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION-** **Motion made by Blackmon to go into executive session to discuss personnel & real estate. Second by Kinsey.** Voting Yes- Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis. **Motion made by Blackmon to close executive session. Second by Kinsey.** Voting Yes-Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis. **Motion made by Blackmon to reopen regular session. Second by Hayes.** Voting Yes-Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis. Chairman Lewis stated that nothing was done in executive session that required a vote.

**MEETING ADJOURN**

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Motion to adjourn at 4:46 p.m.

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Carvel Lewis, Chairman

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Danny Blackmon, Vice Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_ not present \_\_\_\_\_  
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

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