

**Lamar County Board of Commissioners**  
**Regular Business Meeting**  
**August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018**  
**7:00 P.M.**

Present for the meeting were Chairman Glass, Vice-Chairman Heiney, Commissioner Horton, Commissioner Traylor, Commissioner Thrash, County Administrator Zellner, County Clerk Davidson and County Attorney Mayfield.

**I. Call to Order**

Chairman Glass called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation**

Everyone said the pledge of Allegiance. Reverend Jeff Morgan from Antioch Baptist Church gave the invocation.

**III. Agenda Approval**

Commissioner Horton made a motion to approve the agenda with three amendments. The addition of two 911 Resolutions and a Memorandum of Understanding between Gordon State College, Lamar County and the Lamar County Senior Center. Vice-Chairman Heiney seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**IV. Minutes Approval**

Commissioner Thrash made a motion to approve the following four sets of minutes with one name change related to a committee for the Three Rivers Regional Commissioner. The name should have been Kathy Oxford and was listed as Kelly Hughes. and Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- i. Budget Workshop July 6th, 2018
- ii. Public Hearing Meeting July 17th, 2018
- iii. Regular Business Meeting July 17th, 2018
- iv. Special Called Meeting July 31st, 2018

**V. Policies Mandated by the Georgia Crime Information Center**

Commissioner Thrash made a motion to approve an Inter-Funds Transfer of Funds Policy required by the Georgia Crime Information Center related to the handling of background information for Lamar County business licenses. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**VI. Computers for IT Surplus**

Commissioner Traylor made a motion to approve a list of Surplus Computers for the IT Department and Commissioner Thrash seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**VII. Ante Litem Notice on behalf of Cynthia Hardy Wadsworth**

Chairman Glass reported that he and the County had both received and an Ante Litem Notice on behalf of Cynthia Hardy Wadsworth. County Attorney Mayfield said that this was received last June and was discussed in Executive Session but it was never put out to vote. County Attorney Mayfield requested that it be put on the agenda for approval or denial. County Attorney Mayfield said whether they approve or deny the Ante Litem he would then send a letter to Cynthia Hardy Wadsworth. Commissioner Thrash inquired about what this would do and County Attorney Mayfield responded that you either pay her the money or you don't pay her the money. He said that counties do not have to reply but cities do have to reply but if you don't reply in 30 days the Statue of Limitation for a party to sue the County is stayed. County Attorney Mayfield said that the County wants the clock to tick on the statue of limitations so by denying it makes the clock tick faster from the time that that she could sue if she so desires. Commissioner Thrash stated for the record that she is asking for an undetermined damage totaling a half a million dollars. County Attorney Mayfield said that she is asking for \$500,0000.00 for denial of the permit and other allegations. Vice-Chairman Heiney stated that he wanted to understand this issue and County Attorney Mayfield said that several Years ago the State law changed where cities have to reply in 30 days. The words state that it doesn't apply to counties. He said that he has been to seminars where scholars argue that it is good policy for Counties to adopt a 30-day rule even though counties don't have too. County Attorney Mayfield said that the Statue of Limitations is for two years could be lengthened. So, you want to reply where the clock ticks and she doesn't get a day longer than the Statue of Limitations and the law gives her. Commissioner Thrash made a motion to deny the Ante Litem Notice and Commissioner Horton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**VIII. Tax Digest and Millage Rate**

Commissioner Heiney made a motion to approve Resolution 2018-09 setting the Lamar County Board of Commissioners millage rate at 12.621. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Thrash made a motion to approve Resolution 2018-10 setting the LOST millage rate at 12.621. Commissioner Horton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Traylor made a motion to approve Resolution 2018-11 setting the Board of Education millage rate at 12.351 and Vice-Chairman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Horton made a motion to approve Resolution 2018-12 setting the Bond millage rate for the Board of Education at 1.5 and Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Thrash inquired if this bond millage rate was for the new high school because they had a bond that was paid off. Chairman Glass said that it was his understanding that they had several different bonds. Chairman Glass said that it was for the debt repayment and not one particular bond. Commissioner Thrash noted that it was just for the total debt and for whatever outstanding bonds the school has. Chairman Glass said it doesn't cover 100 percent of the bond debt. Chairman Glass said part of it is to finance the Educational Special Local Options Sales Tax (ESPLOST) debt. Chairman Glass said the bond millage rate will all go to debt. Commissioner Thrash stated that she wanted to make sure that this what this goes for. County Attorney said that he didn't hear back from the school board but he did read in the paper that it was the same as last year's millage rate. Tax Assessor Haddock said that she thought that it was to pay off the 2007 ESPLOST debt. Chairman Glass said that it is a bond to pay off projects from the 2007 ESPLOST. Chairman Glass said that this is debt repayment. and not specific debt but debt that they owe. Tax Assessor Haddock stated that the Board of Education is not required to hold Public Hearings for the bond millage rate.

#### **IX. Resolutions Imposing the Prepaid 911 Fee**

Vice-Chairman Heiney made a motion to approve Resolution 2018-13 Authoring 911 Charges on Prepaid Wireless Services. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Thrash made a motion to approve Charges on Telephone Services and Wireless Enhanced 911 Charges other than Prepaid Wireless Services. Commissioner Horton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **X. Memorandum of Understanding between Gordon State College and Lamar County on behalf of the Lamar County Senior Center.**

Chairman Glass explained that this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Gordon State College and Lamar County was on behalf of the Senior Center whereby Gordon Nursing Students will practice their nursing on the Senior Citizens at the Lamar County Senior Center. The nursing students will check blood pressure and have the Seniors fill out statistical history forms with the Senior Citizens as a part of their nursing training. Commissioner Thrash inquired about Gordon State providing something that holds them responsible in case someone gets hurt. County Attorney Mayfield said that they have people come out to the Senior Center to give the Senior Citizens advise on how to do their taxes and their Wills. It's no different than if Edward Jones goes to the Senior Center to give them financial advice. Commissioner Traylor noted that Gordon State College is similar to independent contractors who maintain

their own insurance. Commissioner Traylor made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Gordon State College and Lamar County on behalf of the Lamar County Senior Center with the addition that Gordon State College provide proof of liability. Commissioner Horton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **XI. Public Comments**

Melissa Cline of 420 Country Kitchen Road stated that she was looking for clarification of the Code Enforcement budget and she did see that it had dropped by 40 percent. She stated that she appreciated that the fact that the board did a good job in cutting the budget. Ms. Cline stated that she is on the long-term planning committee and she did hear that the Code Enforcement was being contracted out and she was wondering where that money was coming from in the budget. She asked if it was coming from Building and Zoning or General Administration. County Administrator Zellner stated that it is coming from Planning and Zoning. Chairman Glass said that it is coming from that budget line item. Ms. Cline asked if someone retires from the County do they get a retirement plan or do they have just their 401 K plan. Chairman Glass stated that the County has a defined contribution/pension plan. This is sponsored by GEBCORP and the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG). They manage all of the details for the County and provide annual statements. Chairman Glass stated that the Feds state all of the ratio. Mrs. Cline said that she is aware of this and working with a County she still gets all of her statements. Mrs. Cline said that her concern was with that fact that you have someone who it retired from the County and then they are a contracted employee for the County. If they are retired is the County funding their insurance. Chairman Glass said that once they are retired they begin receiving their distribution from the plan. Melissa Cline stated that she heard Chairman Glass say that is really their money, it is 401K money. She said this was good because her concern was that you don't want to have someone have a false impression that you have someone that is retired from the County and then they are double dipping. Mrs. Cline said that you don't want to have someone that is retired and then you are paying someone all this money. Chairman Glass said that the contractor has saved the County money.

## **XVI. Round Table**

County Administrator Zellner stated the following.

- 1) Industrial Road is finished and they are \$110,000.00 under budget with one change order for \$26,000.00. They will net around \$85,000.00 under budget. The project has turned out really well and all of the Industries in that area really appreciate what has been done.
- 2) On Crawford Road a 7 ft. pipe will be replaced. Public Works is working on the measurements. This is about the same size pipe as the one replaced on Country Kitchen Road but it is only 1 pipe rather than 2 pipes. There have been no issues reported with busses on Country Kitchen Road.
- 3) Public Works has trenched and installed a silt fence on Hwy 36 at the Liberty Hill Recreation Park.

4) He has a list of priority roads with cost to give to each board member.

**XVII. Adjournment**

Commissioner Horton made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. Commissioner Thrash seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

THE LAMAR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Charles Glass, Chairman

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Robert Heiney, Vice-Chairman

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Bennie Horton, Commissioner

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Ryran Traylor, Commissioner

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Nancy Thrash, Commissioner

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ Carlette Davidson, County Clerk