

Lamar County Board of Commissioners
Regular Business Meeting
October 20th, 2020
7:00 p.m.

Present for the meeting were Chairman Glass, Vice-Chair Thrash, Commissioner Horton, Commissioner Heiney, Commissioner Traylor, County Administrator Townsend, County Clerk Davidson, and County Attorney Mayfield. The meeting was available to the public via Zoom.

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. The Invocation was given by Clayton Andrews of Building Relationships Ministries International.

III. Recess for Public Hearing

Commissioner Heiney made a motion to recess the Regular Business Meeting to go into a Public Hearing. Vice-Chair Thrash seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Reconvene After Public Hearing

Commissioner Horton made a motion to adjourn the Public Hearing and reconvene the Regular Business Meeting. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Agenda Approval

Commissioner Heiney made a motion to approve the agenda and Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Minutes Approval

Commissioner Heiney made a motion to approve the following 3 sets of minutes and Commissioner Horton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- i. Workshop Meeting-September 10th, 2020
- ii. Public Hearing Meeting-September 15th, 2020
- iii. Regular Business Meeting-September 15th, 2020

VII. Second Reading 2020-07 Zoning Ordinance

Commissioner Traylor made a motion to table the Second Reading of Zoning Ordinance 2020-07 Zoning Ordinance until November. Vice-Chair Thrash seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Second Reading 2020-08 Development Regulations

Commissioner Heiney made a motion to table the Second Reading of Ordinance 2020-08 Development Regulations until November. Commissioner Horton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. Ordinance 2020-10 Rezoning by Thomas Lamb and Keri Thompson

Commissioner Traylor made a motion to deny Ordinance 2020-10 Rezoning by Thomas Lamb and Keri Thompson. Vice-Chair Thrash seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

X. Resolution 2020-20 Budget Amendment

Commissioner Heiney made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-20 Budget Amendment for \$610,112.29 based on the staff's recommendation. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The budget amendment covers the following areas:

- Centennial Celebration: \$ 12,500.00
- Debt Service Principal: \$370,234.62
- Debt Service Interest: \$ 6,125.91
- Contingencies: \$193,504.80
- Fire Department Salary: \$27,746.96

XI. Hunting on Estate Residential Property-Elaine Hallada

Susan Elaine Hallada of 131 Steeple Chase Lane addressed the board. Mrs. Hallada said that as a resident of the Redbone Community there had been an issue that had occurred this year. She said that previous to this year, there was fee for hunting in Redbone that occurred South of the subdivision that did not interfere with their daily lives. Mrs. Hallada presented a map of her subdivision to the board along with an affidavit signed by a number of owners. She said that their subdivision is zoned Estate Residential and they do not want to see people hunting in their subdivision. She said that it is for people to enjoy their personal property. She said that she is a land owner on Little Tobesofkee Creek Ranch Fly-In and Equestrian subdivision and she is there to voice her concerns about the commercial hunting operation being conducted on Steeple Chase Lane and other areas in the subdivision deeded to them by the original land owner, Floyd Moye. Mrs. Hallada said that when the property was purchased from the original land owner who created the subdivision, they were told numerous times by Floyd Moye, that the land on the east side of Steeple Chase Lane was common area and would never be developed for any reason. She said that the 49-acre track is still owned by the Moyes. She said that this tract is still part of their subdivision. She said that they were told that the tract would

be left vacant to be used for their children to play, their horses to ride and so that they could walk their dogs in safety. She said that commercial hunting was never mentioned as a use. Mrs. Hallada said that if anytime that the Moyes had suggested that this would be a place for the commercial hunting operation, across from her property or along her driveway, she doubted that she would have built her home there. She said that the land area in question is zoned as a Estate Residential and said that nowhere in the zoning does it say that commercial hunting is permitted. Mrs. Hallada said that hay bales are setup along Steeple Chase Lane and the taxiways which is the common area that is a shared ownership amongst the residents. She said that hunters were shooting across the taxiways and the runways without regard for the safety of the citizens of the community. She said in addition to this, they fired across their driveways and at their homes. Mrs. Hallada said that she stopped at the mailbox as she entered onto Steeple Chase Lane. She said that someone at a haybale shot across Steeple Chase Lane in front of her and he thought it was pretty funny that he did not hit her or her car. Mrs. Hallada said that she was pretty ticked off. She said that the phone lines were hit and AT&T had to come out to repair the lines. She said that phone and internet services were disrupted because of careless disregard by the hunters. Mrs. Hallada said that when you have to work from home because of COVID-19 pandemic you have to rely on your internet service for income and asked how they would be compensated for loss of income. She said that she cannot drive down her private road when they are hunting. She said that they cannot use their taxiways, and they cannot use their airstrip because they are in fear of being struck. Mrs. Hallada said that when an airplane comes to land and the hunters are shooting up in the air, can you imagine the accidents that could occur. She said that she cannot invite guest to visit when they are hunting. Mrs. Hallada said that she cannot ask a potential buyer to see her property, if she wanted to sell it, for fear that the buyer may be shot at. Mrs. Hallada said that obviously they would not buy the homes once that happens. Mrs. Hallada said that they fear for their safety living in their own subdivision and their own property created by the Moyes. She said that a commercial hunting site in this area is unsafe and dangerous for them all. Mrs. Hallada said that she also has to consider the liability in case someone was shot and injured on her own property or in the common area that she shares ownership with the other neighbors in the subdivision. Mrs. Hallada said that she understands that the hunters paid a fee to hunt on this property that is no longer owned by the operators of this commercial hunting club. Mrs. Hallada said that she submitted copies of the affidavits to the board that they have given to the Department of National Resources (DNR) from all the residents who are concerned about this at this time. She said that there are a few residents who have not signed an affidavit but they have indicated that they would.

Mrs. Hallada said that on one of the recent hunting events someone pulled into Steeple Chase Lane, made a right turn, and went right up the taxiway. She said that he drove in his truck without any regard for the signage that is posted that clearly states that the area is for air traffic purposes only. She said that they proceeded to drive along the taxiway on Steeple Chase. She said that there is another sign that says that this area is intended for aircraft usage only. She said that it is not safe to have vehicles driving on runways where airplanes are taxiing. She said that while she is not against hunting, if her husband saw a deer on their property he would shoot it, she is against commercial hunting for a profit on property that is no longer owned by the individual that created their subdivision. Mrs. Hallada said that in the Lamar County Code, Sec. 202, the farmers and seller of the goods, which happens to be hunting, must provide

adequate parking for the paying guest. She said that this is not done and this code needs to be enforced as the hunters are parking all along Community House Road.

Mrs. Hallada said that she pulled a statement from the DNR website. “ Though it is illegal to shoot within 50 yards of a public road there is no such buffer between adjacent privately owned property in an unincorporated area of your neighbor, you can stand just outside the boundaries of your yard and shoot a gun as long as he is not aiming at wildlife on your property. He said that this does not refer to fee for hunting operations and refers to one individual landowner or an individual neighbor and not a for profit business. She said that the Estate Residential zoning constitutes their subdivision. She said that she would hope that the Board of Commissioners and the County would agree to enforce or clarify what Sate Residential means to the residents of Little Tobesofkee Creek Ranch subdivision, a fly-in and equestrian community.

Mrs. Hallada said their subdivision is collectively paying around \$80,000.00 in taxes per year and there are five new homes being built in Little Tobesofkee Creek Ranch subdivision which means that another \$15,000.00 in taxes for this community. She said that the land was subdivided and sold to people to build homes. She said that no fee-for hunting should be allowed in a residential area. Mrs. Hallada said that you can hunt individually on your own property.

XII. LMIG Priority List of Roads

Option # 1

Crawford Rd	Howards- Johnstonville	10,350	1,506.39	\$ 183,741.87	Horton
High Fall Rd	Hwy 36 - Chappell Mill	23,200	3,275.56	\$ 396,369.06	Heiney
Five Points Rd	3500 FT Bad Area	8,000	1,075.56	\$ 128,407.83	Thrash
Berry Road	Cannafax – Williams	6,000	806.67	\$ 96,305.87	Traylor

SPLOST REQUIRED \$420,938.17 \$804, 824.63

Option # 2

McLean Road	Etheridge Mill-County Line	15,800	2,124.22	\$ 253,605.46	Thrash
Johnstonville Rd	City Limits- Brooks Rd	16,000	24,444.44	\$ 301,788.19	Horton
Berry Road	Cannafax – Williams	6,000	806.67	\$ 96,305.87	Traylor
Chappel Mill Rd	HFP- Hwy 36	6,200	843.33	\$ 101,015.15	Heiney

SPLOST REQUIRED \$368,828.21 \$752,714.67

Option # 3

Crawford Rd	Howards- Johnstonville	10,350	1,506.39	\$ 183,741.87	Horton
McLean Road	Etheridge Mill-County Line	15,800	2,124.22	\$ 253,605.46	Thrash
Berry Road	Cannafax – Williams	6,000	806.67	\$ 96,305.87	Traylor
Chappel Mill Rd	HFP-Hwy 36	6,200	843.33	\$ 101,015.15	Heiney

SPLOST REQUIRED \$250,781.89 \$634,668.35

County Administrator Townsend presented a list of choices for the Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant (LMIG) priority list of roads. He said that the Public Works Director is recommending Option # 3 because these roads tie into already paved roads. Commissioner Horton made a motion to approve Option # 3 that was recommended by the Public Works Director. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

XIII. Lamar County Audit

County Administrator Townsend presented the 2019 Lamar County Audit completed by the new auditor Mauldin and Jenkins. He said that they went over everything with a fine-tooth comb and that there were only a few internal findings that would need to be corrected. County Administrator Townsend reported that the net position changed to \$1,000,000.00 and that the Local Options Sales Tax (LOST) increased by \$15,000.00. He said that internal controls included things such as one person opening the mail, entering in the cash receipts and then making the deposit. He said that two people need to be doing this. County Administrator Townsend reported that the staff has already adopted the recommended internal controls. County Administrator Townsend said that the contract is for three years and reported that the 2019 Lamar County Audit is on the Lamar County website. Commissioner Traylor made a motion to approve the 2019 Lamar County audit from Mauldin and Jenkins. Vice-Chair Thrash seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

XIV. Administrator's Report

County Administrator Townsend gave an Administrators Report. He said that the revenues are coming in higher than proposed. County Administrator Townsend said that that the net position changed by one million dollars and that is why they have a carryover. He said that the \$610,112.29 received from the Cares Act was a contributing factor and because of this they will not have to borrow as much from the Tax Anticipation Note (TAN). County Administrator Townsend reported that the amount borrowed to date from the TAN is \$2,001,657.39. He said that there will no more drawn downs from TAN for the rest of the year. He said that last year at this time they had drawn down \$3,413,000.00. He reported that the Departments are doing a great job with their spending and this has also contributed to the increase in revenue. County Administrator Townsend reported that they are also working on the following:

- Courthouse Windows Replacement
- County Phone upgrade to Voice Over IP (VOIP)

Chairman Glass reported that the increase in sales tax distributions is also a contributing factor in the increase in revenue. He said that because of COVID-19 people are spending more money in the County and companies are in compliance with reporting online sales tax to the correct counties. County Administrator Townsend said that a major IT company was audited and had to pay back around \$247,000,000.00 to the State. He said that this has helped with both the LOST and the SPLOST distributions.

XV. Public Comments

Laura Smith of 145 Steeple Chase Road addressed the board. Ms. Smith said that she lives in the Steeple Chase community and said that she agrees with everything that Mrs. Hallada has said. She said that her home is actually the one that was hit by the shrapnel at a minimum of seven times. Ms. Smith said that her phone and internet went out and it took her two and a

half days to get the internet back on. She said that the lines were hit. Ms. Smith said that as soon as AT&T came out, they would not give her anything in writing, but they told her that the hunters had hit the lines. She said that as soon as the lines were hit the fifth time the phones started ringing and ringing and then she lost service. Ms. Smith said that the mail carrier refused to deliver the mail while they were hunting. She said that she is concerned about her insurance being affected and wondered if someone gets hurt on her property if she responsible. Ms. Smith said that with the holidays coming up she has to manage the days around the hunting in order to have her family gatherings. Ms. Smith says that she loves the community and it was very peaceful up until this point. She said that it is very serene there and she hates to see that it has been made into a commercial hunting property.

Jennifer Willis of 231 Steeple Chase Road addressed the board. She said that the hunting began in September of 2019. Ms. Willis said she wrote a letter to Fred Moye, who manages the hunting preserve, and read it to the board She said that she wrote the letter in September of 2019.

“Dear Fred, It is with a heavy heart that I feel compelled to write this letter. When I came here in 2001, I purchased a tract in a fly-in and equestrian community. I knew about the Redbone Hunting Preserve but was informed that it was off and behind our community. Had I known that it would have been in the middle of the community of Steeple Chase I never would have purchased here. I was also told that there would be nature trails, and bridal paths but those never materialized. I pay my yearly dues because I want to be part of this community and be included in the decision making. Even though my expectations of what I was told were not fully met, I have appreciated the peace and tranquility of our environment. However, a commercial hunting site smack in the middle of Steeple Chase is not acceptable and I am not alone in my feelings. I am hoping that what you and your father have done is because you are not thinking about the affects it would have on a quiet community and not realize how disrespectful it is as well as the danger and liability not to mention what might happen to our insurance policy. At the very least we should have all received a letter asking for our opinions and consent to a commercial hunting site in our community. Imagine some person or family with children arriving to view a tract or home for sale and encountering multi trucks around the entrance and on Steeple Chase and hunters in camouflage with shot guns up and down the road. That would not be a positive site and not good for sales or property value. From my personal life, I walk our dogs along Steeple Chase and have always felt fortunate enough to have a great place to exercise with little traffic or danger. I have changed now and I do not feel comfortable with my normal routine on the days you have your commercial hunting events. It is stressful and confining. A hunting site in the middle of Steeple Chase is a dangerous and negative idea. Please take it to a site off of our community grounds. It would be better for all of us as well as our relationships with each other. Sincerely, Jennifer Willis.”

Ms. Smith said that she never heard from Fred Moye after she sent this letter. She said that after writing this letter she had a few encounters that left her feeling upset and disturbed. She said that the first one was on a Saturday in January of 2020. She said that she was driving home in her car and when she tried to turn onto Steeple Chase Lane, she was unable to keep going because there were about 30 people in camouflage standing in the middle of the road talking. She said that she stopped and waited for about 10 seconds hoping that they would

notice her and move out of the road. She said that when they did not, she tapped on her car horn. She said that no one moved and she heard someone say, "If you just wait a moment we will be finished soon". Ms. Smith said that she started to drive forward slowly and the crowd moved aside little by little and begrudgingly. Ms. Smith said that this is her road where she lives and she felt bullied. Ms. Smith said that the second incident was on a Saturday in September of 2020 and again she said that she was driving home and when she turned onto Steeple Chase Lane the hunting was in full force. Ms. Smith said that there were cars and trucks parked everywhere on the side of Community House Road and Steeple Chase Lane. She said trucks were driving on the taxiways. She said that signs were posted on the taxiways as a no drive zone. Ms. Smith said that she saw Mrs. Hallada on the side of the road looking distressed and she got out of her car to talk to her. She said that there were hunters on both sides of the roads on Steeple Chase Lane shooting at birds from bales of hay. They were shooting from one side of the road to the other. She said that as she was talking to Mrs. Hallada one hunter shot directly over her car and then laughed and said not to worry that he did not shoot her car. Ms. Smith said that this has always been a quiet community and it is important to them and they would like it to remain so. She said that paid hunting in the midst of their community is not wanted.

Commissioner Heiney inquired about the fees that she is paying. Ms. Smith replied that they pay for their Homeowner's Association (HOA). Commissioner Heiney asked if she had a copy of the HOA. Mrs. Hallada answered the question and said that they pay \$360.00 per year per tract. Mrs. Hallada said that under the map, part of the covenant shows that it says that the airstrip and taxiways are used for airplanes only.

Laurie Hardesty of 231 Steeple Chase Road addressed the board and said that there are many places where you cannot do certain things. Ms. Hardesty said you cannot go into stores topless; you cannot go into the grocery store without shoes and you cannot have sex in public. She said that it seems weird that you can have commercial hunting in the middle of a residential area. Ms. Hardesty said that she is a nurse and she goes to work at 2:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays and she sees the hunters. She drives slowly and makes eye contact with as many people as she possibly can so that they do not shoot her. Ms. Hardesty said that it is a very unsettling feeling with her to have to go through this. She said that she cannot say whether or not she is for or against hunting but she is against it, very much so, in the middle of her property that she shares with other homeowners. Ms. Hardesty asked the board if they would like it if it was going on across the Street from where they live. She said that this is the only thing that she can say that will make them understand how she feels. Ms. Hardesty said that they cannot walk their dogs because they react to all of the firing off of the guns. She said that no one takes this into consideration that it is just them that have to live with the noise or people that drive thru the subdivision and they could possibly hit their car. Ms. Hardesty said that it is unsettling. She said that when she moved there it was the most beautiful place she had ever seen. She said that they feed the birds and the chipmunks. She said that it is not somewhere that she wants to see anything killed or people with guns. Ms. Hardesty said that she works in the Emergency Room in Spalding County and anyone that says, "I am sorry I did not hit your car" does not understand. She said that the Vice-President got shot in the butt hunting and accidents happen. She said that people are coming and going on the street and they tried to avoid it but said that they should not have to where they live.

Cindy Bushby of 219 Steeple Chase Road and 155 Redbone Run in the Little Tobesofkee Creek Ranch subdivision. Ms. Bushby said that she has children that are Cross Country runners. She said that she has not been able to let them run while they are hunting because she is afraid that they will be hit by a stray bullet while they are running from the taxiway onto Steeple Chase. She said that she feels that it is very unsafe and she agrees with Mrs. Hallada and what is going on in their community.

Michael Floyd of 108 Rosewood Court in Milner, Georgia addressed the board. He said that he was glad that the board was doing so well with their budgeting and everything is on the up and up and said if they are going to waste tax payer money they should direct it towards something more useful. He said that after the last election was held there were some very questionable things that occurred. He said that the board was well aware of this. He said that there were some very questionable actions and things said and it made a lot of people concerned. Mr. Floyd said that a lot of people spoke out. Mr. Floyd said that he received a letter and the letter got him thinking. Mr. Floyd asked how many other people have been as vocal about the last election. Mr. Floyd said that there have been six people. He said that six people have been just as vocal as he has been about the last election. He said that of those six people, only one is running for political office. Mr. Floyd said that this would be him. Mr. Floyd said that out of those six people he was the only one that received a Cease and Desist letter for attempting to hold politicians, who think that they are not accountable to people, accountable. Mr. Floyd said that if you do not want to be criticized for your actions then get out of politics. Mr. Floyd said that he was curious about what the Cease and Desist letter cost the taxpayers of Lamar County because the board was all about needing to raise property taxes. Mr. Floyd said that obviously money is not needed. Mr. Floyd said that he agreed with the reasons needed to pay property taxes and said that this was not it. Mr. Floyd said that it cost \$150.00, that the taxpayers paid, for a laughable letter. Mr. Floyd said that in his Open Records request he asked who else got one of these letters. Mr. Floyd said that this was on behalf of Vice-Chair Thrash, Elections Superintendent Reid and he copied Chairman Glass because he wanted to let him know what was going on. Mr. Floyd said that someone told him that this was a good idea and said let's do this but yet Vice-Chair Thrash and her son Mayor Marlowe just so happened to be staunch supporters of his opponent yet no one else received a letter. Mr. Floyd asked if the board was okay with this and wanted to know if this is how this Country works where people cannot express their opinions that are based on factual information. Mr. Floyd asked if this was how Lamar County is where you cannot speak, or they will silence you if you do not like what we are saying. He said that this is how it comes across. Mr. Floyd said that this will be going public soon since he is being accused of bad-mouthing people and making people look bad. He said that he heard a recording of Vice-Chair Thrash where she admits that everything he did that got him the notoriety in Milner and points out all the flaws and all the corruption and then turns around and says that he was given a position on the Planning and Zoning committee to shut me up. Chairman Glass asked that Mr. Floyd direct all his comments to him as the leader of the meeting. Mr. Floyd said that he speaks with his hands. Chairman Glass said that he discouraged negative comments and actions about other people in the meeting. Mr. Floyd said that he could not call out actions of others but said that they can criticize him. Mr. Floyd said for the record, Skip Seda did not make him Chairman of the Planning and Zoning committee because he is not on the committee. He said that they voted

for this themselves and amongst themselves. He said that this did not stop their colleague from spreading this information, yet he gets a Cease and Desist letter for being questioned. Chairman Glass asked that Mr. Floyd be careful of his accusations. Mr. Floyd said that this was not an accusation because there is a recording. Mr. Floyd said that he wanted to point out the hypocrisy of the system. Mr. Floyd said that no Cease and Desist letter is going to stop him from calling out wrongdoing that he sees in his government. He said that it should not stop anybody. Mr. Floyd said that he was the only one that received a Cease and Desist letter out of six people and said that this should be alarming.

Ashley Giles of 425 Abbott Road addressed the board. She said that she wanted to piggyback on one thing that Mr. Floyd mentioned. She said that in the last election, two other people received Cease and Desist letters that was running against the opponent which was Mayor Marlowe. Ms. Giles said that she heard that more money was used for the Fire Department because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Chairman Glass responded that this was one of the factors. Ms. Giles said that she is all about personnel responsibility. She said that she loves this community. She said that there was a "Make America Great Again" rally in Macon, Georgia and Vice-Chair Thrash and herself both attended. Ms. Giles said that this was the problem because you have a COVID-19 pandemic, and she is present for the meeting with a mask on. Ms. Gilles said that she understands that it is everyone's individual rights but she is there with a mask on just to make sure because she knows that Mr. Horton takes care of his wife and Chairman Glass takes care of his mother. Ms. Giles said that they should be thinking about the citizens present. Ms. Giles said that she knows it's a person's personal responsibility but she said that she wished everyone there had a little more sense to understand that if you go to something super huge, you could bring it right back here. Ms. Giles inquired about Lamar County's current COVID-19 rate. Chairman Glass responded that he did not know what the trend is for Lamar County. Ms. Giles said that if they are shutting the poles down for incidents dealing with COVID-19 why are they not doing everything that they can to protect the neighbors and everyone who lives in this town. Commissioner Heiney asked Ms. Giles if she wants them to be mask mandated. Ms. Giles responded that she did not want to see a mask mandate. Ms. Giles said that she believes that it should be a person's personal responsibility when you go to something that huge and if you can wear a mask for 2.5 hours and sit behind the President of the United States then why aren't you wearing a mask around people that take care of people where their lives are in jeopardy. Commissioner Heiney asked Ms. Giles if she thought that even though there should not be a mask mandate people should wear a mask anyway. Ms. Giles said that she does not believe that she is just voicing her opinion. Commissioner Heiney said that it sounded to him like Ms. Gilles wants everyone to wear a mask. Ms. Giles said that if you go to an event that super large then why would you come here and sit around people that could pass it on. Chairman Glass asked if Ms. Giles had a recommendation. Ms. Giles said that she did not have a recommendation, and this was just her opinion. Commissioner Heiney asked if they should pass some type of Resolution that everyone should take personal responsibility. Commissioner Heiney said that there was a newspaper article written that states that 85 percent of the people who tested positive for COVID-19 wore a mask.

XVI. Round Table

Commissioner Horton said that we all have faults and said that despite this he wanted to commend the citizens because everyone is in this together. Commissioner Horton commended the community for setting the trend for the State and maybe even the United States. He said that he hoped and prayed that this could continue and especially on the racial issues. Commissioner Horton said that so far everyone has come together and if there are problems hopefully, they could get it resolved. He said that about a year and a half ago there was a problem that could have erupted into a major racial incident but through the work of Sheriff White and bringing the black and white leaders together, they worked it out. He said that regardless of race we are living in some hard times. Commissioner Horton said that he told a group recently, which included some Veterans, that when you start talking about entering a war you do not want to do that. He said that we all love this community, and he is so proud of this community. He said that he was able to witness a ceremony involving his neighbor and there was a Street named after them. He said that there are so many Country's where you could not do this unless you were royalty. Commissioner Horton said that if you have a problem you need to sit down and work it out and especially with the young people in the community. Commissioner Horton said that if you have been in the service then this is a dangerous thing, and we do not need to go into a war. Commissioner Horton said that he loves Lamar County and Barnesville, Georgia and he wants everyone to continue.

Commissioner Heiney said that he did hear some things tonight that are troubling regarding the situation in Redbone. He said that if someone is standing in the middle of the road, such as the 30 people, and they will not move when you are trying to turn into a road that is wrong. He said that people are afraid of what appears to be careless shooting according to the neighbors who spoke tonight. Commissioner Horton said that he could not confirm what the neighbors who spoke are saying is true but if this is true then they were not careful. Commissioner Heiney said that the disputes amongst neighbors can usually be resolved with people civilly talking to each other and having consideration for each other. He said that this practice of dove shooting has gone on for hundred years or more and long before people moved into this area. He said that if there was a little more consideration then maybe they would not be having this conversation tonight. Commissioner Heiney said that he comes from Long Island and in the early 1940's there was an airport that was built in an area that was just potato fields. He said that eventually the airport got bigger and as it got bigger people began to move and subdivisions were sold in that area. He said that more and more subdivisions were built in that area and the airport also got bigger and then there was friction in that area. He said that the neighbors demanded that the airport shut down even though it was providing a valuable service to Long Island. He said that it was the only airport on Long Island where people could easily get to it. Commissioner Heiney said that his point was that you had a small airport and people-built houses around it, and they began to complain about the airport even though the airport was there first. He said that he was very sympathetic to the issues presented tonight and said that he wished that it could be resolved amicably between the parties involved with Fred Moye and the neighbors who live on Steeple Chase Road.

Commissioner Traylor thanked everyone for taking the time to come out tonight. He said that even though there was a situation that happened or that didn't make you feel special he thanked them for coming out to share their opinions and to listen to what is going on in Lamar County. He said that this makes him feel special. Commissioner Traylor said that there is more anxiety going on in our Country than ever before. He said that people are really inspired to vote, and he encourages everyone to vote. Commissioner Traylor said that regardless of what happens there are several articles that they can go out and google. He said that he had to present one at Gordon State College today regarding anxiety and the term "aftermath of the election". He said that the one thing that he will challenge everyone to consider is that after all this is said and done, they still will be Lamar County, Barnesville, Milner and Aldora. Commissioner Traylor said that they will still give high fives and shake hands and stop and hug, after COVID-19, and they will still have the same neighbors that they see in the grocery store. He said that they will still hug and love on them regardless of what their opinions are. Commissioner Traylor challenged them to share this with their youth because they model when they hear and what they say. He said that they watch the shows that they turn on and sometimes they are not at the point where they can filter and understand it and they need your guidance. Commissioner Traylor said that last night the Lamar County softball team went down and unfortunately lost to Vidalia in the first round of the State Championship in Toombs County. Commissioner Traylor said that he wanted to share a story about the importance of relationships. He said that he did not realize that Toombs County was in Vidalia, Georgia. He said that his wife wanted some unsweet tea and when they stopped at Dairy Queen, he saw a Toombs County Deputy Sheriff car go by. He said that he did not realize that Toombs County was in Vidalia, Georgia. He said he texted the Chairman of Toombs County who he meet while in training at the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG). He said that the Chairman invited him to dinner, at this home, but because it was going to be a late game, he brought about 35 Chick-Fil-A sandwiches to his family, the entire team and the coaches. Commissioner Traylor said that this was phenomenal, and it made the softball team and everyone that received a Chick-Fil-A sandwich feel special. Commissioner Traylor said that everything that you see on television is not all bad and there is still good people out there. Commissioner Traylor said that the Chairman of Toombs County name is David Sikes and he wanted to publicly commend him for this.

Vice-Chair Thrash announced that her church, Rock Springs Church, is having a blood drive on October 29th, 2020 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. She also announced that on November 8th, 2020 at Rock Springs Church, during all three services, they will be recognizing the Veterans. Vice-Chair Thrash invited all families with Veterans to come to the service.

Chairman Glass announced that there would be a blood drive on October 22nd, 2020 at the Barnesville First Methodist Church from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. He said that reservations could be made for appointments after 3:00 p.m. He said that early voting is underway, and it has gone really well. Chairman Glass said that at times the lines are long and they are pleased with the turnout. He encouraged everyone to vote this year by either absentee ballot, early voting between 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Saturday, October 24th, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and then on November 3rd all six precincts will be open. Chairman Glass said that this may be the largest turn out in history.

XVII. Executive Session and Adjournment

The board adjourned the meeting and went into Executive Session for Litigation at the request of County Attorney Mayfield. Commissioner Heiney made a motion to recess to go into executive session for Litigation at approximately 8:13 p.m. Vice-Chair Thrash seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The board came out of executive session at approximately 8:24 p.m. and reconvened the meeting. Vice-Chair Thrash made a motion for Attorney Mayfield to send a letter denying a claim requested by Sean Ross. Commissioner Traylor seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Vice-Chair Thrash made a motion to adjourn the Regular Business meeting at approximately 8:26 p.m. Commissioner Heiney seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

THE LAMAR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Charles Glass, Chairman

Nancy Thrash, Vice-Chair

Bennie Horton, Commissioner

Robert Heiney, Commissioner

Ryran Traylor, Commissioner

Attest: _____ Carlette Davidson, County Clerk