

Lamar County Board of Commissioners
Regular Business Meeting
December 17th, 2024
7:00 P.M.

Present for the meeting were Chairman Traylor, Vice-Chair Gilles, Commissioner Fletcher, Commissioner Lovett, Commissioner Thrash, County Administrator Townsend, County Clerk Davidson, and County Attorney Mayfield. The meeting was available via Teams Meeting.

1. **Call to Order**

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

2. **Pledge of Allegiance & Invocation**

Everyone said the Pledge of Allegiance and Major Leslie Holmes gave the invocation.

3. **Approval of Agenda**

Commissioner Lovett made a motion to add an agenda item allowing the County Administrator to set the calendar for the remainder of the year as item # 6 under New Business. Commissioner Fletcher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Lovett made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of item # 6 under New Business. Commissioner Fletcher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. **Minutes Approval**

Vice-Chair Gilles made a motion to approve the following minutes. Commissioner Thrash seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- i. Public Hearing-October 15th, 2024
- ii. Public Hearing Meeting Minutes-November 19th, 2024
- iii. Budget Workshop Meeting-November 4th, 2024
- iv. Special Called Meeting-November 4th, 2024.
- v. Budget Workshop-November 5th, 2024
- vi. Workshop Meeting Minutes-November 12th, 2024
- vii. Regular Business Meeting Minutes-November 19th, 2024

Board Appointments

Vice-Chair Gilles made a motion to approve the appointments to the Barnesville-Lamar County Library Board as follows for the Term of January 1, 2025 - December 31, 2026. Commissioner Lovett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

1. Pippa Lee Davis, Dr. E. H. Harris, Britt Lifsey, Bill Lindsey, April Mason, Stacey Tenney.

Old Business

Second Reading of Ordinance 2024-11: Animal Shelter Regulations

Animal Shelter Director Tyler White gave detailed updates to animal shelter regulations, including tethering rules, animal cruelty, rabies, and fee schedules.

Article II

Sec. 2.4.11. – Establishment of the Animal Control Department. The animal control department shall be under the direction of the animal control director. Such director shall be appointed by the Lamar County Sheriff and shall have the authority, with approval of the Sheriff, to select and hire deputies or animal control officers. The animal control director and his/her designees shall be charged with the responsibility of enforcing the animal control ordinances of the county and the operation of the animal shelter and shall be authorized to issue citations for violations of this chapter. The director may also be designated by the Lamar County Board of Health as the official rabies control officer for the county.

Sec. 2.4.13. – Establishment of Fred Morris Adoption Center; Adoption

Lamar County honors the legacy of Fred Morris, a lifelong advocate of the humane treatment of all animals, by the naming of Lamar County’s Animal Shelter hereinafter as “Fred Morris Adoption Center.”

The change to the Animal Ordinance includes:

- a) The animal control director or his/her designee may offer for adoption any animal that has been surrendered to the Fred Morris Adoption Center immediately or has been impounded and has remained in the shelter for more than five (5) calendar days.
- b) Any eligible litters of multiple animals that are taken into custody by any means may be offered for adoption or rescue immediately.

Article III. – General Responsibilities of Owners

Sec. 2.4.21. – Duty of Animal Owners

This section includes including but not limited to, shelter, food, water, veterinary care, and safe and sanitary living conditions.

Sec. 2.4.22- Keeping of Animals; Restraints; Nuisances.

- a) ***Failure to Restrain; Roaming.*** It shall be unlawful for any owner, custodian, or guardian of any animal to fail to keep the animal under restraint or control as provided for in this chapter.
- b) It shall be the duty of the owner of any animal to keep the animal under control at all times while the animal is off of the real property limits of the owner. For the purposes

of this section, an animal is deemed under control when it is confined safely and humanely within a vehicle, parked or in motion, is secured by a leash of six (6) feet or less in length, held by a competent person, is under voice command of a competent person being present with the animal, or is properly confined within an enclosure.

- c) Acceptable methods of restraint for dogs kept within the real property limits of the owner, other than those classified as a dangerous dog or vicious dog, include:
 - (1.) It is securely and humanely enclosed within a house, building, fence, pen, or other enclosure out of which it cannot climb, dig, jump, or otherwise escape on its own volition, at any time the animal is left unattended; (match definition)
 - (2.) It is securely and humanely restrained by an invisible containment system. If using an invisible containment system, a sign must be posted on the property indicating that the system is in place.
 - (3.) Took away the fixed object and pushed it to a tethering fixed object from point A to point B like a runner or trolley system along with fenced in yards understanding the liability that your pet may come off the property and cause damage to others or cause harm other pets. Other methods include invisible fencing or general kennels.

It is securely and humanely attached to a cable line or trolley/runner system:

 - a. **Length.** A cable line or trolley/runner system must be attached to a stationary object that cannot be moved by the animal. The cable or trolley system must be at least ten (10) feet in length and shall not allow the animal to come within five (5) feet of the edge of the property line of the property upon which such animal is tethered.
 - b. **Substance.** Tethers attached to the animal to the cable line or trolley system must be made of a substance which cannot be chewed by the animal and shall not weigh more than five (5) percent of the body weight of the animal.
 - c. **Swivel.** The tether attached to the animal to the cable line or trolley system must have a swivel installed at each end.
 - d. **Height.** The tether must be at least ten (10) feet in length and mounted to the cable line or trolley system no more than seven (7) feet above the ground level.
 - e. **Lead.** The length of the tether from the running cable line or trolley system to the animal's collar should allow access to the maximum available exercise area and allow the animal free access to adequate food, water, and shelter at all times.
 - f. **Collar.** The animal must be attached to the tether by a properly fitted harness or collar with enough room between the collar and the animal's throat through which two (2) fingers may fit. Choke collars and pinch collars are prohibited for the purpose of tethering an animal to a cable line or trolley system.
 - g. **Entanglement.** The trolley/runner system must be sufficient distance from any other objects or animals to prohibit the tangling of the cable, to prohibit the cable from extending over an object or an edge that could result in injury or strangulation of the animal and be of sufficient distance from any fence so as to prohibit the animal from having access to the fence.
- a) **Failure to Restrain; Fixed Object.** Except for temporary tethering during special events/occurrences, it shall be unlawful to tether an animal outdoors using a rope, wire, chain, or a similar material attached to a stationary or fixed object.

Sec. 2.4.24. – Prohibition on Rehoming Stray Animals Without Notification

This is a brand-new section added to the Ordinance. This is to ideally add Lamar County's Animal Shelter as a Lost and Found Center. If someone finds a stray on the side of the road, they need to make a report so the animal can be rehomed with their animal.

- b) Definitions:
 - (1.) **Rehoming:** Shall mean the act of placing a stray animal in a new home or with a new owner.
 - (2.) **Microchip Check:** Shall mean the process of scanning an animal for a microchip to identify its owner.
- c) Purpose: To establish the Lamar County Animal Shelter as the lost and found center for the community, to increase the chances of pet owner reunification with their pets, to protect pet owners' rights and to ensure that stray animals are properly identified and returned to their rightful owners, preventing the unlawful rehoming of pets.
- d) Prohibition: It shall be unlawful for any person to pick up a stray animal from the side of the road or private property and rehome the animal without first notifying Lamar County Animal Control and checking for a microchip at a local veterinary clinic or animal shelter.
- e) Notification Requirements: Any person who picks up a stray animal must notify Lamar County Animal Control within twenty-four (24) hours.
- f) The person must also take the animal to a local veterinary clinic or animal shelter to check for a microchip within forty-eight (48) hours.
- g) Penalties: Violation of this ordinance shall be considered theft under Georgia Code § 16-8-2, which defines theft by taking as unlawfully appropriating any property of another with the intention of depriving them of it.

Sec. 2.4.26. – Animal Impoundment

Mr. White stated that in 2023 Georgia was one of the top five ranked States for pet euthanasians across the board. Therefore, this section has been added.

- a) Sterilization Ordinance for owner reclaims of impounded animals:
 - (1) Purpose. The purpose of this ordinance is to mandate the sterilization (spay/neuter) of owned dogs and cats impounded as a result of any violation of this chapter by Lamar County or provide owners, custodians, or guardians with the option to purchase an unaltered permit to keep said dog's and cat's reproductive organs intact. This measure aims to control the population of stray and unwanted animals, reduce euthanasia rates in the shelter, and enhance public health and safety by lowering the risk of zoonotic diseases, such as rabies, and aggressive behaviors in pets. It also seeks to improve animal welfare by decreasing the likelihood of certain cancers and infections, and to prevent the birth of animals that may be neglected or abandoned. Additionally, this ordinance aims to reduce the costs associated with animal control and sheltering, contribute to a cleaner and safer community, and promote responsible pet ownership. By these means, Lamar County ensures the welfare and safety of both animals and residents.
 - (2) Mandate.
 - i. In addition to subsection d), an owner, custodian, or guardian must also provide proof of sterilization by certificate or letter from a licensed veterinarian.

- ii. If an animal is found not to be spayed/neutered, the owner, custodian, or guardian must sign an agreement to sterilize their animal(s) within thirty (30) calendar days; or
 - iii. If an animal is found not to be spayed/neutered, the owner, custodian, or guardian may purchase an unaltered permit tag from Lamar County. The cost of an unaltered permit tag is outlined in section 2.4.66.
- (3) Exemptions.
- i. Individuals who are nonresidents of Lamar County and reside temporarily in Lamar County for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days within a twelve (12) month period.
 - ii. Lawful humane societies/animal shelters licensed by the Georgia Department of Agriculture whose principal purpose is to secure the adoption of animals or offer sanctuary for dogs and cats.

Sec. 2.4.27. – Wildlife

This section was added to the Animal Shelter Ordinance 2024-11.

All complaints and matters concerning wild animals not of a domestic nature and complaints involving game animals or protected species and/or hunting, shall be forwarded to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Game and Fish Division, or the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Law Enforcement Division for proper disposition, i.e., compliance, apprehension, control and/or enforcement as may be necessary as provided by the state and federal rules and regulations.

This section was added to the Animal Shelter Ordinance 2024-11

Sec. 2.4.28. – Disposal of Deceased Animals

- a) The animal control director, or their designees, is authorized to remove dead animals from public property including public schools, parks, and roadways.
- b) Carcasses on private property must be disposed of by the property owner or possessor in accordance with state laws and regulations.
- c) Failure to Dispose of Carcass Properly. It shall be unlawful for any person to dispose of a dead animal, its parts, or blood on the land of another without the permission of the owner of the land.
- d) Unlawful Littering of an Animal Carcass. It shall be unlawful for any person to dispose of a dead animal in a well or open pit of any kind on private or public land.
- e) All dead livestock, including horses, cattle and any other large animal must be disposed of by the animal owner or property owner/possessor in accordance with state and local regulations.

Article IV. – Animal Cruelty and Nuisances

This section had some verbiage changes.

Sec. 2.4.36. – Cruelty

Several Sections were added to Ordinance 2024-11.

b) Prohibited Animal Enhancements. It shall be unlawful for any person to perform or cause any animal enhancement procedure to be performed unless it is deemed medically necessary by a licensed veterinarian.

(1.) This shall not apply to practices that are otherwise permitted under state or federal law, including but not limited to agriculture, animal husbandry, and veterinary practices conducted by a licensed veterinary.

(2.) This shall not apply to procedures performed for the purpose of saving or prolonging the life of an animal or alleviating pain or suffering as determined by a licensed veterinarian.

This section is new to Ordinance 2024-11

c) Prohibited Animal Fighting and Related Activities. It shall be unlawful for a person to intentionally train, breed, possess, harbor, keep, or have custody or control of any animal for the purpose of animal fighting. It shall be unlawful to be a spectator at or bet on an animal fighting activity. The intentional fighting of dogs, dog and hog, and cocks is expressly prohibited.

d) Prohibited Leaving of Animals in Vehicle. It shall be unlawful to leave animals unattended in a parked vehicle without proper ventilation to prevent the animal from suffering physical distress from heat exhaustion. The Animal Control Officer or any sworn officer shall take such action as is necessary including entry of the vehicle by any reasonable means to remove an animal from such jeopardy and may impound said animal and secure medical treatment for said animal as needed at the owner's or custodian's expense. If the vehicle is damaged during such removal, the law enforcement officer shall not be liable for any damage to the vehicle.

This section was added to Ordinance 2024-11.

Sec. 2.4.37. – Inspection Warrants; Impounding of Animals

h) At any time there is probable cause to believe that a violation of this article or any rule or regulation adopted pursuant to this article has occurred, the Sheriff, his or her designated agent, or animal control director, or an animal control officer may apply to the Lamar County Magistrate Court, the county in which the animal is located for an inspection warrant under the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 2-2-11.

i) Any sheriff, deputy sheriff, or other peace officer shall have the authority to enforce the provisions of this article and O.C.G.A. § 16-12- 4 and § 16-12-37.

j) The Sheriff, his or her designated agent, or animal control director, or an animal control officer who is an employee of Lamar County, is authorized to impound any animal:

(1.) That has not received humane care.

(2.) That has been subjected to cruelty in violation of O.C.G.A. § 16-12-4.

- (3.) That is used or intended for use in any violation of O.C.G.A. § 16-12-37; or
- (4.) If it is determined that any violation of this article has occurred.
- k) Prior to an animal being impounded pursuant to paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of subsection (c) of this section, a licensed accredited veterinarian approved by the Georgia Commissioner of Agriculture or a veterinarian employed by a state or federal government and approved by the Georgia Commissioner of Agriculture, shall, at the request of the Sheriff, his or her designee, or animal control director, or an animal control officer, a deputy sheriff, or other peace officer, examine and determine the condition or treatment of the animal.

This section was added to Ordinance 2024-11

Sec. 2.4.38. – Duty to Make Arrangements for Care of Impounded Animal; Lien for Cost of Care; Return of Animal to Owner

- a) It shall be the duty of the animal control director or their designee impounding an animal under this article or O.C.G.A. §4-11-9.2, 16-12-14, or 16-12-37 to make reasonable and proper arrangements to provide the impounded animal with humane care and adequate and necessary veterinary services. Such arrangements may include, but shall not be limited to, providing shelter and care for the animal.
- b) Any person impounding an animal under this article or O.C.G.A. §§ 16-12-4 or 16-12-37 or providing care for an impounded animal shall have a lien on such animal for the reasonable costs of caring for such animal. Such lien may be foreclosure in any court of competent jurisdiction to hear civil cases. Liens shall be foreclosed in the Lamar County Magistrate Court only when the amount of the lien does not exceed the jurisdictional limits established by law for such courts.
- c) Any person impounding an animal under this article shall be authorized to return such animal to its owner, upon payment by the owner of all costs of impoundment and care and upon the entry of a consent order, unless such owner has been convicted of, pled guilty to, or pled nolo contendere to animal cruelty or dog fighting under any local, state, or federal law, regulation, or ordinance, or in a prior administrative or legal action in this state or any other state, was found to have failed to provide humane care to an animal, committed cruelty to animals, or committed an act prohibited under O.C.G.A. 16-12-37 in violation of the laws of this state or of the United States or any of the several states. Such consent order shall provide conditions relating to the care and treatment of such animal, including, but not limited to, the following, that:
 - (1.)Such an animal shall be given humane care and adequate and necessary veterinary services.
 - (2.)Such animal shall not be subjected to cruelty; and
 - (3.)The owner shall comply with this article.
- d) The provisions of subsection (c.) of this section shall not apply to an animal that was an object or instrumentality of a crime. Any agency impounding an animal as a result of a violation of O.C.G.A. §§ 4-11-9.2, 16-12-14, or 16-12-37 shall not return such animal to its owner.
- e) Any agency having custody of an animal that was seized as an object or instrumentality of a crime may, with the consent of the prosecuting attorney, apply to the court having jurisdiction over the offense for an order authorizing such agency to dispose of the animal prior to trial of the criminal case as provided by law.

This section was added to Ordinance 2024-11

Sec. 2.4.39. – Hoarders

It shall be unlawful for any person to collect animals and fail to provide them with humane/adequate care, collect dead animals that are not properly disposed of as required by this chapter, or collect, house, or harbor animals in filthy, unsanitary conditions that constitute a health hazard to the animals being kept, and/or to the animals or residents of adjacent properties.

This section was left in Ordinance 2024-11

Sec. 2.4.40. – Nuisances.

The section is related to excessive barking. Subsection C was changed to the following:

Excessively make disturbing noises including, but not limited to, continued and repeated howling, barking, whining, meows, squawks, or other utterances to such a degree as to cause loss of sleep, discomfort, and anxiety of any citizen who commonly dwells within audible distance of the property or common place of abode of the animal. For the purpose of this article, “barking dog” shall mean a dog that barks, bays, cries, howls or makes any other noise incessantly for a period of fifteen (15) minutes, or barks continuously for one-half (1/2) hour or more to the disturbance of any person at any time of day or night, provided however, that a dog shall not be deemed a “barking dog” if, at the time the dog is barking, a person is trespassing or threatening to trespass upon property in or upon which the dog is situated.

Article V. – Rabies Prevention and Control

Required by State Law for local animal control to enforce. They were pulled exactly as the State Statute Requires and is listed in the Manual for the State of Georgia for the Department of Health.

Sec. 2.4.46. – Rabies Overview

Rabies is a viral infection that is transmitted through the saliva of infected mammals. The virus infiltrates the central nervous system of the host, leading to encephalomyelitis, which is invariably fatal. Lamar County is dedicated to mitigating the risk of rabies and ensuring public safety, as delineated in this chapter.

Article VI. – Dangerous Dog and Vicious Dog

There was nothing significantly changed with this Article from the first reading of Ordinance 2024-11. This article takes the declaration of dangerous and vicious dogs from the Magistrate Court and gives it to the Board of Commissioners. It has been general practice in many other counties that when a meeting is held to declare a dog dangerous or vicious the constituents of the community would be the ones to make a vote to determine the case. Sec. 2.4.51. – Sec. 2.4.54 defines the steps in the approval process. The cases would be sent over from the Animal Control Director to the Board of Commissioners. This includes case findings, medical reports, receipts, and behavioral

test from the dog and medical exams. The pet owner would also be involved in this process and the meeting.

Article VII. – In General, & Miscellaneous Regulations

This article is related to the fee schedule.

Sec. 2.4.66. – Fee Schedule

All fees collected by the Animal Control Director shall be established and periodically updated by the Board of Commissioners. These fees shall be documented and maintained on file with the Animal Control Director. All collected fees shall be remitted to the County Treasury on a weekly basis. The fees were determined by comparing surrounding counties: Butts, Spalding, Meriwether, Upson, and Monroe County. The Lamar County fee schedule proposed will reflect those numbers as a common medium or an average. He also compared Veterinarian clinics from the same surrounding counties.

This section ties back to animal impoundment and required to be spayed or neutered or purchasing an unaltered animal permit. It is an annual tag or annual fee allowing the pet owner to keep the animal reproductive organs intact so they can have at least one litter. Outside of one litter per State law you are not allowed to have.

Sec. 2.4.67. – Unaltered Animal Permit

Sec. 2.4.68. – Violations and Enforcement; Penalties

- (1.) This section falls in accordance with the State statute for the Magistrate Court to impose. The maximum punishment which may now, at the effective date of the enactment of this Chapter section, be imposed under and by virtue of the pertinent laws of Georgia, being section 36-1-20(b) of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, shall not exceed a fine of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or imprisonment for sixty (60) days, or both, which such maximum amount of the fine or the maximum number of days of imprisonment, or both, may hereafter be changed, increased or decreased, from time to time, by the enactment of an amendment, or amendments, to the pertinent laws of Georgia.

Commissioner Thrash said she had a pet owner to contact her about the unaltered pet permit. The animal is 14 years old, and its organs are intact. Mr. White said this goes back to the State Statute and if the Veterinarian signs off that the pet is too old or young to handle the surgery this would be qualifications for exemption.

Commissioner Lovett made a motion to approve the 2nd Reading of Ordinance 2024-11 Animal Shelter Ordinance. Vice-Chair Gilles seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

8. New Business

1. Resolution 2024-09: Approval of 2025 Budget

County Administrator Townsend explained that the General Fund is \$18,162,866. The Date Fund is \$70,000.00. The Law Library is \$7,500.00, the Sheriff's Office is \$250,000.00, E911 is \$472,262.00, Hotel Motel Funds is \$370,000.00, and Capital Project is \$3,573,000.00. There is a balanced budget between expenditures and revenues.

Commissioner Thrash made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-09 2025 Budget. Commissioner Lovett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Resolution 2024-10: Budget Amendment for Fire Trucks and Animal Shelter.

This is cleaning up the revenue side of the budget. A grant of \$1,000,000.00 for two new fire trucks, a reimbursement from an insurance company for \$60,000.00 and for the Community Foundation Donation for the Animal Shelter for \$330,320.00. The total difference goes from \$15,501,742.00 to \$16,897,792.00. this is for both the Revenues and the Expenditures in order to have a balanced budget.

Commissioner Lovett made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-10 Budget Amendment. Commissioner Fletcher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Resolution 2024-11: Animal Shelter Fee Schedule.

Vice-Chair Gilles made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-11 Animal Shelter Fee Schedule. Commissioner Thrash seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Surplus Vehicles-Sheriff's Office

- a. Vin# 8075 2010 Ford Fusion
- b. Vin # 3764 2021 Ford F-150 XL Super Crew 4WD

County Clerk Davidson explained that Vin# 8075 2010 Ford Fusion This vehicle was hit by a by a client of State Farm and will be totaled. Not the fault of Lamar County. State Farm will pay the County for the damages. The vehicle will be surplus. Vin # 3764 2021 Ford F-150 XL Super Crew 4WDT. This vehicle was hit by a client of State Farm and was totaled. This vehicle will go into surplus and the funds received from State Farm will go towards the replacement. No one was injured in either of the incidents.

Commissioner Lovett made a motion to approve the surplus of Vin# 8075 2010 Ford Fusion and Vin # 3764 2021 Ford F-150 XL Super Crew 4WD. Commissioner Lovett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Purchase of Two New Trucks for the Animal Control Department

Animal Shelter Director Tyler White obtained three bids for two new Dodge trucks. The funds for the vehicles will come from SPLOST. The plan was to contact Countryside to see if they could beat Ginn's quote. The bottom-line price for each car dealer is as follows. The vehicle from Countryside and Ginn have the vehicles ready for delivery at no additional cost.

- a. Countryside \$84,681.00
- b. Chronic \$86,701.75
- c. Ginn \$ 84,988.00

Commissioner Lovett made a motion to approve two vehicles from Countryside out of Jackson Georgia for \$84,681.00. Commissioner Fletcher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Calendar setting by County Administrator

Commissioner Lovett made a motion for the County Administrator to set the calendar for the remainder of the 2024 calendar year. Commissioner Fletcher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Administrator's Report

Updates on county projects, financial status, and tax revenue.

- Revenues for the Month of November are \$1,721,498.07.
- Expenditures for the Month of November are \$1,180,603.48.
- Excess Deficiency of Revenue over and under Expenditures are \$540,895.49.
- Property Taxes Received for the month of November are \$1,237,593.93.
- General Fund Revenue is \$1, 301,894.64 for the month of November
- Special Revenue Funds is \$29,232.80 for the month of November
- Capital Project Funds are \$2,893,607.02 for the month of November.
- TSPLOST sinking funds are \$2,684,422.01 for the month of November.
- Total Governmental Funds are \$6,909,156.47.
- Animal Shelter: Exterior is close to complete and working on final additions. Electrical Lights are being installed. The IT Contractor will begin installation of cameras.
- Senior Center bus is ready and once it gets into Georgia it can be picked up.
- The coating on the bricks is complete. The roof work is scheduled to begin in about a week.
- Collections for LOST for October were \$155,004.22.
- Collections for SPLOST for October were \$271, 544.17.
- Collections for TSPLOST for October were \$251, 726.87.
- Ameri-Pro Health: Requested 254, Transport 142, Refusal 92, Cancellation 20, Response Time 7:16.

10. Public Comment

Harold Jackson 200 Laurel Drive: Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and to remember that Jesus is the reason for the season. As they begin the new year, prayers that the debacle for our

County will soon end and even tomorrow. Prayers for the board and Truman Boyle as he goes about this new endeavor in January.

11. Round Table

Vice-Chair Gilles wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Commissioner Thrash wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and said she would give her exit speech at a later time and said they would not want to miss it.

County Administrator Townsend wished everyone a Merry Christmas and thanked everyone for their thoughts and prayers for his family.

County Clerk Davidson wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. She also wished Commissioner Thrash, who she has worked with for the last 14 years, no matter what has transpired, or what has happened, she wished her all the best.

Chairman Traylor presented Commissioner Thrash with a Proclamation and a Plaque from the Board of Commissioners. Chairman Traylor said he spoke about the promise of peace last month. He said as Christmas is upon us, and they are heading into a new year, his prayer is based on his grandmother's favorite hymn. The lyrics are, "When peace like a river, attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll, whatever my lot, though has taught me to say, it is well with my soul." Chairman Traylor said regardless of if there are gifts under the tree or none at all, he prays that God grants everyone peace during this time for you and your family and they remember the birth of Jesus. Chairman Traylor also wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Safe New Year.

Executive Session

None: Discussions on Real Estate, Litigation, and Personnel matters.

Adjournment

Vice-Chair Gilles made a motion to adjourn the Regular Business meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m. Commissioner Thrash seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

THE LAMAR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Ryran Traylor, Chairman

Ashley Gilles, Vice-Chair

Jarrod Fletcher, Commissioner

Jason Lovett, Commissioner

Nancy Thrash, Commissioner

Attest: _____ Carlette Davidson, County Clerk