

**MINUTES
TERRELL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING**

Date: February 1, 2022

Time: 6:00 P.M

Place: Terrell County Government Building

Commissioners and staff present: Chairman Wilbur T. Gamble, III, Larron Copeland, Ernest Johnson, Brad Stafford, Jimmy Skipper, Sandra O'Stean, Kenna pate, Mechelle Miller

Others present: Bo Hamby, Janice Bryant, Victoria Freeman, Nanci Ayers, Linda Freeman, Seth McAllister, Margaret Halbrook, Shawn O'Connor-Veazie, Linda Mills, Jim Edge, Martha Ann Coe, Gail Faust, Darlene Paul, Lisa DeMott, Terri Hightower, Molly McManus,

Call to order: Chairman Gamble

Prayer: Chairman Gamble

Approval of Agenda: *Ernest Johnson made the motion to approve the February 1, 2022 agenda with addition of amending it to add purchase of equipment for the Probate Office. Larron Copeland gave the second. Motion carried.*

Approval Minutes of January 4, 2022 regular meeting – *Ernest Johnson made the motion to approve the minutes of the January 4, 2022 meeting. Brad Stafford gave the second. Motion carried.*

Chairman's Report: Chairman Gamble had nothing at this time.

Clerk's Report: Bank statements, Fuel report, Jail Count were presented by Sandra O'Stean.

EMS/911/EMA Report: Bo Hamby presented information on the Georgia Medicaid Fee-for-Service Ground Ambulance Upper Payment Limit Supplemental Payment Program for calendar year 2020. Mr. Hamby requested the Board to approve the terms of the payment program which required a Notice of Intent to Transfer form to be submitted by January 31, 2022 and to be followed by an Intergovernmental transfer (IGT) for Ground Ambulance UPL payment due by February 7, 2022 in the amount of \$ 2,347. The Department of Community Health would in turn send payment of \$8,708.73 (Federal share \$6,361.73 and State share \$2,347) through bank ACH deposit by February 24, 2022. Also, Mr. Hamby reported that the Medicaid/Medicare Ambulance Medical Billing should be reinstated. *The Board asked Jimmy Skipper to look over the documents and to get back with his review of the program and request.* Mr. Hamby asked if the incorrect reporting of employees' Social Security payments had been resolved. Chairman Gamble stated that the problem had been sent to the County auditor Bill McDaniel who would fix the numbers.

Minutes of February 1, 2022 Regular Commissioners' meeting continued.....

Extension Service Report: Margaret Halbrook reported on the 4-H activities and Seth McAllister gave the agriculture report for the County.

Chamber of Commerce: Shawn O'Conner-Veazie presented a written report and gave highlights from the Chamber activities.

Road Department Report: Jason Webb submitted a written report.

Warden's Report: Richard Kilby submitted a written report.

Fire Department: Edward Harvey submitted a written report.

Delinquent Garbage Report: Sandra O'stean gave the January 2022 garbage report.

Delinquent Tax Report: Not available

Sheriff's Report: Not available

Recreation Department Report: A written report was submitted.

Attorney Jimmy Skipper at this time interjected his explanation of the Georgia Medicaid Fee-for-Service Ground Ambulance Upper Payment Limit Supplemental Payment Program discussed previously in the meeting by Bo Hamby. ***Ernest Johnson made the motion to send the Intergovernmental Transfer (IGT) funds to the Georgia Department of Community Health. Brad Stafford gave the second. Motion carried.***

OLD BUSINESS:

Timber Harvest ordinance and State laws – Reading & adoption- Attorney Jimmy Skipper presented the Ordinance to amend Chapter 34, Article II, of the Code of Ordinances of Terrell County relating to logging operations within the unincorporated areas of Terrell County; so as to provide that the County's ordinances are consistent with the legislation adopted during the 2021 session of the General Assembly; to provide for an effective date; to provide for repeal of conflicting ordinances; and for other purposes. Mr. Skipper stated that this amendment brings the County's ordinance up to State laws. ***Brad Stafford made the motion to adopt the ordinance to amend Chapter 34, Article II, of the Terrell County Code of Ordinances Relating to logging operations in Terrell County. Ernest Johnson gave the second. Motion carried.***

Minutes of February 1, 2022 Regular Commissioners' meeting continued.....

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution to use 4-H Pavilion for court purpose – The Chairman stated that the Court needed to use the space at the 4-H Pavilion for procedures such as jury selection and a resolution should be drawn up to that effect. Ernest Johnson made the motion to have the County attorney draft a resolution to designate the 4-H Pavilion as a site for the Court to use and to have the Chairman sign the resolution.

Reassess pay for Extension Department staff – Margaret Halbrook discussed with the Board the fact that three full time employees in the County Extension office did not receive the bonus pay from the CARES Act funds in December. She explained that one-half of their pay comes from the County and the other half from the University of Georgia. She requested the Board to reconsider that decision of the Extension Dept. not receiving a payout. ***Ernest Johnson made the motion to pay the three full time employees in the Extension Department the full bonus amount based upon years of service. Larron Copeland gave the second. Motion carried.***

Purchase of mini excavator for Road Dept – *Tabled*

Lease County property of 13.5 acres to JHP Farms, Inc – ***Ernest Johnson made the motion to lease the 13.5 acres of County property on Billy Strong Road to JHP Farms, Inc. for the amount of \$75 per acre for a total of \$1,012.50 per year. Larron Copeland gave the second. Motion carried.***

Garbage/trash dump on Ernie Kennedy Road – Linda Mills, resident of Ernie Kennedy Road, asked the Commissioners to clean up the area nearby to her home on Ernie Kennedy Road that has become a waste dump site. ***Ernest Johnson asked Code Enforcement Director to send letters out to the owners of the property being dumped on instructing them to clean up their property or they will be fined if not in compliance. Brad Stafford gave the second. Motion carried.***

Equipment for Probate Office – Probate Judge Carol Speir submitted a list of filing cabinets and pocket folders that are required by the State for the housing of estates and vital records. The cost for all items listed is \$ 6,403. It was mentioned that the items could be purchased from SPLOST funds. ***Brad Stafford made the motion for the Probate Judge to purchase the equipment needed to house the estates and vital records in the amount of \$6,403.00. Ernest Johnson gave the second. Motion carried.***

Executive Session – Personnel – Chairman Gamble asked for a motion to leave regular meeting and to go into executive session to discuss personnel. ***Ernest Johnson made the motion to enter executive session to discuss personnel. Larron Copeland gave the second. Motion carried.***

Minutes of February 1, 2022 Regular Commissioners' meeting continued.....

The Commissioners returned to regular meeting. **Brad Stafford made the motion to hire Amanda Cooper as a contractor to conduct the business of delinquent tax collections. Ernest Johnson gave the second. Motion carried.**

Adjourn – Brad Stafford made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Larron Copeland gave the second. Motion carried.

Respectively submitted by: Sandra O'Stean
Sandra O'Stean County Clerk

Approved by: Wilbur T. Gamble III
Wilbur T. Gamble, III Chairman Board of Commissioners

Date: March 1, 2022