

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

Date: August 3, 2021
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: Terrell County Government Building

Commissioners and staff present: Chairman Wilbur T. Gamble, III, Ernest Johnson, Lucius Holloway, Brad Stafford, Larron Copeland, Davina Driver, Sandra O'Stean, Jimmy Skipper

Others present for regular meeting and public hearing: Seth McAllister, Kathy Wade, Ed Wade, James M. Johnson, Christie Cooper, James A. Driver, Darlene Paul, Adam Henley, Janice S. Bryant, Nanci Ayers, Victoria Freeman, Tammie McGill, Mark Glow, Linda Mills, Joan Jones, Ernest Kennedy, Mary Ellen Harnage, Jay Harrell, Kathy Hicks, Freida Boyles, Lee Geer, Gary Freeman, Linda Freeman, Gary McNeely, Nathaniel Scott, Bobby O'Stean, Ezekiel Holley, Gail Faust, Margaret Halbrook, Jeff Hanner, Edward Harvey, Jeff De Mott, Lisa De Mott, Paul Rakel, Sandra Walker

Call to order: Chairman Wilbur T. Gamble

Prayer: Commissioner Lucius Holloway

Approval of Agenda: *Brad Stafford made the motion to approve the agenda after making amendments to move LMIG discussion up to first item and to allow Judge Linda Freeman a few moments to address the Board. Ernest Johnson gave the second. Those in favor of the motion were Brad Stafford, Ernest Johnson, Larron Copeland, and Lucius Holloway. The motion carried.*

LMIG – recommendation to award bid- This item was moved up on the agenda. Bids for the LMIG 2021 road projects were received and opened at a meeting on July 22, 2021. Bids were: Jim Boyd Construction for \$ 1,168,500., Oxford Construction for \$ 1,034,500. and Reeves Construction for \$ 1,133,630. Paul Rakel of SOWEGA Engineering read the results of the bids and made recommendation to the Board that the award of the 2021 LMIG contract be given to Oxford Construction Company in the amount of \$ 1,034,500. ***Ernest Johnson made the motion to award the LMIG 2021 project to Oxford Construction for \$1,034,500 and Lucius Holloway gave the second. All in favor of the motion were Ernest Johnson, Lucius Holloway, Brad Stafford, and Larron Copeland. The motion carried.*** Paul Rakel announced that Tammy Lane work will begin September 9, 2021. The request for bids has been prepared for advertising in the local paper and the Georgia Procurement Registry. Mr. Rakel also stated the LMIG 2022 allocations have been approved for \$ 430,723.50 and the County match will be \$129,219.56 for a total of \$559,947.

Judge Linda Freeman- Judge Linda Freeman asked the Board and members of the audience to accept her apology for her previous actions and outburst at the budget hearing meeting. She asked for a copy of her budget.

Minutes of August 3, 2021 regular meeting continued

Approval Minutes of July 6, 2021 regular meeting: - *Ernest Johnson made the motion to approve the minutes of the July 6, 2021 regular meeting and Brad Stafford gave the second. Those in favor of the motion were Ernest Johnson, Brad Stafford, Larron Copeland, and Lucius Holloway. The motion carried.*

Chairman's Report: - Chairman Gamble extended condolences to the Ed Duskin Family on his death.

Administrator's Report: The Bank balances, Vendor Activity, CI bank accounts were read by Davina Driver.

Clerk's Report: The fuel report and Jail Count was read by Sandra O'Stean.

EMS/911/EMA Report: Not available

Extension Service Report: Margaret Halbrook and Seth McAllister presented reports from 4-H and extension programs. Mrs. Halbrook asked the Board for clarification on whether to repair or to sell the older 4-H van. This matter was discussed at the budget hearing meeting. ***Brad Stafford made the motion to approve repairs to the older 4-H van. Ernest Johnson gave the second. All in favor of the motion were Brad Stafford, Ernest Johnson, Larron Copeland, and Lucius Holloway. The motion carried.***

Road Department Report: Bobby O'Stean gave a report of road activities for the month. He reported the two new tractors have been delivered and he thanked the Board for the new trucks for the Road Department.

Warden's Report: Richard Kilby gave the report on the correctional institution (CI). He presented three (3) contracts for inmate work details that he had obtained. The contracts are with Sylvester, Albany, and Shellman. ***Ernest Johnson made the motion to approve the three (3) inmate work detail contracts for Sylvester, Albany, and Shellman. Larron Copeland gave the second. Those in favor of the motion were Ernest Johnson, Larron Copeland, Lucius Holloway, and Brad Stafford. The motion carried.*** Mr. Kilby reported an incident had occurred which resulted in five inmates being relocated from the facility and PREA claims being made by four of them. He requested sixty-three (63) cameras for the CI to cover blind spots and to replace the existing cameras. A quote of \$48,275.60 from Security Tech Solutions, LLC was submitted. Davina Driver stated the Inmate Communication and the Inmate Commissary funds of \$ 20,000 and SPLOST money can be used to purchase the cameras. ***This matter was tabled to the September meeting in order for the CI to get other quotes.***

Minutes of August 3, 2021 regular meeting continued

Fire Department: Edward Harvey submitted a written report.

Delinquent Garbage Report: Sandra O’Stean presented the report.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: 6:30 p.m. – Chairman Gamble paused the regular meeting and called the Public Hearings to order.

*****2021-003** – Rezone from AG to R3 an area that consists of 31.52 acres in Land Lots 33-34 of the 11th Land District of Terrell County. This property is located on Pat Whatley Road and owned by AC Capital, LLC – Martha Ann Coe presented the Zoning Board’s recommendation to approve the request to rezone map/parcel #033-034 from AG to R3. ***Ernest Johnson made the motion to approve the recommendation to rezone the property located on Pat Whatley Road, #033-034, to R3. Larron Copeland gave the second. Those in favor of the motion were Ernest Johnson, Larron Copeland, Lucius Holloway, and Brad Stafford. The motion carried.***

*****2021-004** – Conditional use on a certain property that is zoned AG and consists of 1127.00 acres (+/-) located in Land Lots 203-204-205-212 of the 3rd Land District of Terrell County. This property is located on Bobby Locke Road, and owned by L.A.W. Plantation Co. LLC. Martha Ann Coe presented the Zoning Board’s recommendation to approve the request for conditional use for property located on Bobby Locke Road. The property will be used to grow blueberries and to construct housing for migrant workers that will harvest the crop. ***Brad Stafford made the motion to approve the recommendation for conditional use of property located on Bobby Locke Road owned by L.A.W. Plantation Co., LLC. Larron Copeland gave the second. All in favor of the motion were Brad Stafford, Larron Copeland, Lucius Holloway, and Ernest Johnson.***

The Chairman resumed the business of the regular meeting.

Delinquent Tax Report: Christie Cooper presented the delinquent tax report.

Sheriff’s Report: A written report was submitted. Jail Administrator Sondra Walker reported that the Terrell County Jail is now housing Calhoun and Macon County inmates. The daily rate for inmate housing will be raised to \$45. per inmate. Inmate medical services was mentioned. ***This matter was tabled to the September meeting.***

Summary of Action of August 3, 2021 regular meeting continued

Recreation Department Report: A written financial report was submitted.

Minutes of August 3, 2021 regular meeting continued

OLD BUSINESS:

Historical Courthouse - use of office space for Juvenile Justice System and for Historical Museum –
Larron Copeland made the motion to proceed with an architect to draw plans for the courthouse as it currently is in order to determine renovation and costs repayment plans to the County. Juvenile Justice must be willing to pay architect fees if floor plan cannot be located by the County. Ernest Johnson gave the second. Those in favor of the motion were Larron Copeland, Ernest Johnson, Lucius Holloway, and Brad Stafford. The motion carried. Chairman Gamble stated that space is available for the Historical Museum to locate in the courthouse.

Road Dept- Quotes from Flint Equipment for excavator and motor grader –*Ernest Johnson made the motion to approve the purchase for John Deere mulcher from Flint Equipment for \$ 52,000.00. Larron Copeland gave the second. All in favor of the motion were Ernest Johnson, Larron Copeland, Lucius Holloway, and Brad Stafford. The motion carried. Larron Copeland made the motion to purchase a John Deere motor grader from Flint Equipment and finance through the best vendor after putting down a 20% down payment. Ernest Johnson gave a second. Those in favor of the motion were Larron Copeland, Ernest Johnson, Lucius Holloway, and Brad Stafford. The equipment is to be purchased from T-SPLOST funds.*

Quotes for repairs to Pleasant Hill and John Martin Roads – Two bids were presented for repair work to John Martin Road and Pleasant Hill Road. Zane Grace Construction and Tri County Ready Mix bids for John Martin Rd were: Zane Grace \$6,625 and Tri County \$6,340. The two bids for Pleasant Hill Rd were: Zane Grace \$7,574 and Tri County \$ 9,880. *Ernest Johnson made the motion to approve Zane Grace Construction, Inc for repairs to Pleasant Hill Road for \$7,574. Lucius Holloway gave the second. Those in favor of the motion were Ernest Johnson, Lucius Holloway, Larron Copeland, and Brad Stafford. The motion carried. Ernest Johnson made the motion to approve Tri County Ready Mix for repairs to John Martin Road for \$ 6,340. Lucius Holloway gave the second. All in favor of the motion were Ernest Johnson, Lucius Holloway, Larron Copeland, and Brad Stafford. The motion carried.*

Kirbo Road – water issues –Commissioner Larron Copeland presented results of a study conducted by Chad Griffin of Still Waters regarding water problems on Kirbo Road. *Larron Copeland made the motion to approve recommendation from Engineer Chad Griffin of Still Waters to fix the problem of water issues on a section of Kirbo Road. Ernest Johnson gave the second. Those in favor of the motion were Larron Copeland, Ernest Johnson, Lucius Holloway, and Brad Stafford. The motion carried. The Commissioners will contact the property owners affected by the problem.*

Budget – set dates for proceeding with budget for FYE22 – Administrator Davina Driver is putting the proposed budget together for print and will set dates for hearings according to State laws.

Minutes of August 3, 2021 regular meeting continued

Recreation Dept –The Recreation Board dismissed Wallace Price as Director. Board member Ryan Cannon stated that there are currently three (3) members serving on the five (5) man board. The Board is asking for recommendations from the Commissioners for a director and additional board members. *Ernest Johnson made the motion to table this matter to the September meeting. Larron Copeland gave the second. Those in favor of the motion were Ernest Johnson, Larron Copeland, Lucius Holloway, and Brad Stafford. The motion carried.*

LMIG – recommendation to award bid- This was moved up on the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS:

Aspire & Pecan City Peddlers – Roger Haggerty, Chief Operations Officer for Aspire and member of Pecan City Peddlers presented signs (caution for cyclists) to be placed on certain Terrell County roads.

American Rescue Plan (ARP) – Rev. Ezekiel Holley presented a proposal for use of the American Rescue Plan funds that the County will receive. *The Board will consider Mr. Holley's proposal and the topic will be placed on an agenda later within a reasonable time frame.*

Ernie Kennedy Road- request from solid waste and road depts to close portion of road – Resident Linda Mills voiced opposition to closing Ernie Kennedy Road. *The Board was also against the request to closing this road.*

Clerk of Court Office – Accusations and air conditioner matter – Janice Bryant apologized to the Board for her previous actions at the budget meeting. She submitted a list of items that she and some others would like to address to the Commissioners and asked for a one-on-one session with each of the Commissioners to be scheduled at separate times. *The Commissioners agreed to meet individually with the Clerk of Court.*

Constable Body Cam – *Ernest Johnson made the motion to approve the purchase of a body camera for the Constable. Lucius Holloway gave the second. All in favor of the motion were Ernest Johnson, Lucius Holloway, Brad Stafford, and Larron Copeland. The motion carried.*

– Vehicle for Constable – *The Chevrolet Impala currently at the CI can be moved over to the Magistrate for the Constable to use.*

Vehicle for Fire and Code Enforcement – Quotes from Brannen Motor Company were presented for the purchase of two (2) trucks. *Ernest Johnson made the motion to approve the purchase of two (2) 2021 Ford F-150 trucks from Brannen Motor Company, Unadilla, Ga. For \$ 32,775 each. Brad Stafford gave the second. Those in favor of the motion were Ernest Johnson, Brad Stafford, Lucius Holloway, and Larron Copeland. The motion carried.*

Minutes of August 3, 2021 regular meeting continued

Paul Fryer, Field Representative from Representative Sanford Bishop Office was recognized in the audience.

Adjourn – Ernest Johnson made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Lucius Holloway gave the second. Those in favor of the motion were Ernest Johnson, Lucius Holloway, Larron Copeland, and Brad Stafford. The motion carried.

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

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

Date: 9-14-21