

MARCH 11, 2021
Pearson, Georgia
6:00 PM

The Atkinson County Board of Commissioners met in regular session March 11, 2021 in the Commission Board Room.

Vice Chairperson Gloria Farrell called the meeting to order and ask Clerk Nina Lott for a roll call.
Present: Commissioners Charlton Gillis, Johnny Durrance, Tom Morris, Buddy Willis, and Finance Officer/HR Nina Lott.
A quorum was established.

Absent was Chairman Lace Futch and County Clerk Miranda Peterson

Invocation/Pledge to the Flag

Invocation was given by Commissioner Morris. Pledge to the Flag by all in attendance.

Welcome Visitors and Guests

Signed in visitors were: Fire Chief Robbie Stone, Fire Fighter Tyler Green, Tammy Crosby, Mike Davis, Janice McKinnon and Andrew Harper.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Durrance motioned to approve February 11, 2021 Regular meeting minutes.
Commissioner Morris seconded. Motion carried.

EMS Report

February Runs: 44 total calls. 40 were transported and 4 were non transports. Pearson had 24, Willacoochee 14, Axson 5 and 1 call in Douglas.
Cardiac Arrests 5, DOA's 3, Air Evac 1, and 3 COVID-19 .

Telamon

Ms. Nikkia Mosley sent an email before the meeting that she would not be able to attend and would like to be put on the agenda for the April meeting.

Honeysuckle Lane – Jerry Cooper

Mr. Cooper did not attend the meeting.

Revisit Walnut Road Closure

In the March 12, 2020 meeting the board at the time approved for the temporary closure of Walnut Road due to Mr. Lester Davis' health issues. The board also voted to revisit this closure in one year.

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Davis sent the following request to the Board of Commissioners:

Dear Chairman and Commissioners,

We are requesting that you consider the road closure for County Road 225 continue that run through our property beside our chicken houses and home. The closure helps keep the dust down and helps protect Lester's health which is compromised due to immunosuppressive drugs for his heart and kidney transplant. Also, since the road was closed last year, we have not had any property stolen or damaged. As agreed, we have placed gates that can be opened upon request if needed to redirect traffic. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Motion was made by Commissioner Tom Morris for the road to remain closed for one more year and then revisit. Seconded by Commissioner Gillis. Motion carried.

Road Report

Road Supervisor James Gore ask if there were any questions. There weren't any. Meeting moved on.

Brick Bids for New Courthouse/Jail

One sealed bid was received for the brick work at the new courthouse/Jail.

The following was received from *McDonald Masonry*:

41,000 bricks @ \$1.00/brick - \$41,000

1,500 blocks @ \$2.50/block - \$3,750

Cleaning: \$5,000

Total: \$49,750

Motion was made by Commissioner Gillis and seconded by Commissioner Willis to accept the bid of \$49,750. Motion carried.

Fire/EMA Report

Fire Chief Robbie Stone handed out the February 2021 EMA/Fire Report

Chief Stone also had the following information for the board:

Got awarded the Fire House Sub Public Safety Foundation grant for a new Bullard Thermal Imaging Camera. Grant was in the amount of \$8,167

2021 Fireworks Tax Grant was denied for the Ready Rack Extractor Washer for cleaning turnout gear for \$5,800. Will reapply next year.

Hunter Justice (one of the full-time paid fire fighters), and Dalton Burkett, (a volunteer), will be leaving March 21st to attend the Fire Academy in Forsyth, Ga for their 8-week State Firefighter 1 training.

A special Thank You to Edward Mathews (Mathews Tree Service) for doing such a great job removing the trees, stumps, and shrubs from around the office.

Donated time and materials to the EOC Building: Volunteers did the painting, electrical work and assembly work. Towels, linen, kitchen utensils, pots, pans, book shelves and shelving have been donated.

Clerk Nina Lott thanked the fire fighters for the good job with the cleaning up around the courthouse.

Resolution/Agreement for the 457B Auto Enrollment

A resolution to amend the ACCG 457(b) plan to allow automatic enrollment for newly hired Full Time Employees, to provide that the automatic deferral percentage rate shall be three percent (3%) effective March 11, 2021.

Motion was made by Commissioner Gillis and seconded by Commissioner Durrance to accept the resolution. Motion carried.

An agreement to allow employees to be automatically enrolled in the ACCG 457(b) plan at (3%) effective March 11, 2021. This will be a pre-tax contribution. Applies to all Full time employees. Motion was made by Commissioner Gillis and seconded by Commissioner Morris to accept this agreement. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Durrance and seconded by Commissioner Gillis for Vice Chairperson Gloria Farrell to sign the Resolution and Agreement in the absence of Chairman Lace Futch. Motion carried.

Resolution and Agreement are filed in the Resolutions book.

RLF Loan – Janice McKinnon

Ms. Janice McKinnon informed the board that the RLF Board approved an RLF loan to *Freedom South* in the amount of \$150,000 @ 3% interest for 10 years.

A motion was made by Commissioner Morris and seconded by Commissioner Gillis to accept the RLF Board recommendation. Motion carried.

FY22 Budget

Finance Officer Nina Lott handed out the FY22 Budget Calendar.

Financial Report

General Fund	\$ 2,201,847
Contingency Fund	367,272
Bd. Of Comm. CD	51,203
Jail	25,110
LMIG	1,164,000
Capital Projects Fund	54,461
Total	\$3,863,893
SPLOST 2017 – 2023	\$307,776
TIA Account	\$273,303

Disbursements in February 2021:

Clerk of Court	\$15,799	For January 2021
Magistrate	2,511	For January 2021
Probate	15,498	For January 2021
Tax Commissioner	283,651	For January 2021
Sheriff	1,059	For January 2021

Disbursements in February 2020:

Clerk of Court	\$14,278	For January 2020
Magistrate	3,286	For January 2020
Probate	32,901	For January 2020
Tax Commissioner	254,569	For January 2020
Sheriff	1,456	For January 2020

Motion was made by Commissioner Gillis to approve the financial report. Seconded by Commissioner Willis. Motion carried.

Paid Invoices

Motion was made by Commissioner Gillis to approve the paid invoices that were presented in their packets. Commissioner Morris seconded. Motion carried.

Old Business

There was no old business.

Public Comments

Vice Chairperson Gloria Farrell ask if there were any public comments.

Ms. Tammy Crosby (Representing *Crosby Equipment*) addressed the board with the concern that a spec sheet was not given to prospective bidders for heavy equipment when it was needed. As an example Ms. Crosby questioned the last bid/quotes for a new tractor. Ms. Crosby ask Road Supervisor James Gore if the tractor that was purchased had the same equipment as the one *Crosby Equipment* quoted. Mr. Gore stated “Yes, it did.” Ms. Crosby informed the board that she had called several other counties and they did send out a spec sheet to the vendors for quotes/bids. She kindly ask the board to please do the same in Atkinson County. The board was in agreement. Ms. Crosby thanked the board.

Mr. Jerry Griner who lives on Ben Lindsey/Joiner Rd. had complaints about his ditches being cleaned and wanted his road graded more often. Vice Chairperson/Commissioner Farrell said she would ride with Road Supervisor to look at the situation. Mr. Griner thanked the board for their attention.

Executive Session

Vice Chairperson Farrell ask if there was any reason to go into Executive Session. There was none.

Adjournment

Commissioner Gillis made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. Commissioner Willis seconded. Motion carried.

Gloria Farrell, Vice Chairperson/Commissioner

Nina Lott, Clerk

Approved: