

CHARLTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2021
BOC CONFERENCE ROOM
6:00 P.M.

10/7/2021 - Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

Those present were: Chairman James Everett, along with Commissioners Alphya Benefield, Jesse Crews, Drew Jones, and Luke Gowen; County Administrator Hampton Raulerson; County Clerk Jenifer Nobles; HR Clerk Becky Harden; County Attorney John Adams, and visitors as recorded hereafter.

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Chairman Everett led the Invocation and Pledge to the Flag.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Benefield made motion to amend agenda to include approval proclaiming Friday, October 8, as "Pink Out Friday", and move item #13 to #5. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Gowen, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Crews made motion to adopt October 7, 2021 agenda to include above amendments. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Gowen, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Commissioner Crews made motion to approve September 16, 2021 Minutes. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Jones, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

5. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ACCG VOTING DELEGATE

Commissioner Crews made motion to designate Chairman James Everett as 2021 ACCG Voting Delegate to adopt the Policy Agenda. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Jones, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

6. CONSIDER ADOPTION OF MILLAGE RATE

Commissioner Crews made motion to adopt Tax Levy for Charlton County

Recap:

County 20.91 (2.49 Rollback Credit = 18.42)

Schools, M&O 17.19

Gross Millage Rate 38.10

Less Credits -2.49

Total 35.61

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield, Board voted; motion carried unanimously. Tax Levy becomes integral part of Minutes.

7. CONSIDER BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Commissioner Gowen made motion to table budget amendment for Sheriff's Office. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield, Board voted; motion carried unanimously

8. UPDATE ON BID FOR TRADERS HILL BUILDING LEASE

Administrator Raulerson updated the Board on bid for Traders Hill Building Lease. Mr. Raulerson reported that Adam and Tammy Bell have agreed to \$350.00 per month to the BOC for Traders Hill Building Lease for concessionaire space and 3% of the weekly gross of the campground to cover efforts of maintaining the campground. Commissioner Gowen made motion to approve agreed upon bid from Adam and Tammy Bell as presented by Administrator Raulerson. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Jones, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

9. CONSIDER AWARD OF BID FOR LAWN MAINTENANCE

Bids for Lawn Care were received as follows:

S & K Lawncare \$55,680.00

Keene's Landscape & Irrigation \$93,900.00

Commissioner Jones made motion to award Lawn Care Bid to Keene's Landscape & Irrigation for \$93,900.00. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

10. CONSIDER AWARD OF ROOFING BID FOR COUNTY SHOP

Roofing bids for County Shop were received as follows:

Platinum Roofing \$21,933.73

Rooftec Systems \$42,250.00

Gary Tippins Construction \$21,923.36

Commissioner Gowen made motion to award bid to Platinum Roofing for \$21,933.73. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Jones, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

11. DISCUSS PURCHASE OF ENGINE FOR VFD

The Board discussed the need of Fire Engine at the Bend Station; cost to repair pump will costs over \$30,000.00. The Board will consider grant application and SPLOST funds for the purchase of a new Engine.

12. DISCUSS SICK AND VACATION LEAVE FOR 24 HOURS EMPLOYEES

Administrator Raulerson discussed proposal for 24 hour shift employees at EMS Service. No action was taken.

13. DISCUSS ARPA PREMIUM PAY

Commissioner Crews was absent last meeting, and asked about motion that failed last meeting concerning ARPA Premium Pay. Commissioner Benefield made motion that all eligible employees receive Premium pay (not to exceed \$2,000.00) at the maximum hourly rate allowed under the Department of the Treasury's Interim Final Rule, and all Registered Firefighters, not to exceed \$13.00 per run Premium Pay for Firefighters; - (pay not to include public officials). Motion was seconded by Commissioner Crews, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

14. ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF SUMMER, 2021 WELLNESS REPORT

The Board acknowledged receipt of Wellness Report for Summer 2021.

15. PUBLIC COMMENTS: (PLEASE LIMIT TO 3 MINUTES)

Antwon Nixon was present and informed Board that he was in support of Resolution to support protection of the Okefenokee. He stated other communities have already approved Resolution of support and asked Charlton County to do the same.

Herminee Glass-Hill was present and provided letter written to the Charlton County Commissioners, Governor Brian Kemp, Senator Raphael Warnock, and Senator Jon Ossoff from religious leaders representing a variety of faith traditions and backgrounds, asking to protect the Okefenokee Swamp, and calling for the rejection of any permits that would allow mining less than three miles from the boundary of the Okefenokee Swamp and refuge.

Alice Keyes, One Hundred Miles, stated that she appreciated Herminee Glass-Hill and Antwon Nixon for their support of the Okefenokee. Ms. Keyes informed the Board that Resolutions that have been adopted by other communities are not Anti-Mine, but Pro-Swamp Resolutions.

16. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Jones thanked Antwon Nixon for "all you do". "I support you and all you do for the youth. I appreciate the employment and benefits provided to the employees by Southern Ionics. I totally support the Swamp."

Commissioners Jones and Gowen exited meeting at 6:30 p.m.

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF REQUIRED)

Commissioner Crews made motion to enter executive session at 6:35 p.m. to discuss personnel. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Everett declared meeting open at 6:40 p.m. and stated personnel was discussed in executive session and no action was taken.

18. NEXT BOC WORKSHOP, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2021 - BOC CONFERENCE ROOM 6:00 P.M.

19. ADJOURN

Commissioner Crews made motion that meeting be adjourned at 6:40 p.m. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

Jenifer Nobles, County Clerk