

CHARLTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2023
BOC CONFERENCE ROOM
6:00 P.M.

7/20/2023 - Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

Those present were: Chairman Jesse Crews, along with Commissioners Alpha Benefield, James Everett, 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

Commissioner Jones led the Invocation and Pledge to the Flag.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Jones made motion to adopt the July 20, 2023 Agenda. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Commissioner Benefield made motion to approve July 6, 2023 Minutes. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Jones, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT (SECOND MEETING)

Commissioner Everett made motion to approve Financial Report. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield, Board voted; motion carried unanimously. Financial Report becomes integral part of Minutes.

6. DISCUSS EXPIRED PERMIT PENALTY

Expired permit penalty was discussed. After survey of surrounding counties, each one handles the permit in the same way we do, if it expires a new permit must be purchased at full price. If progress is made within the allotted time, the permit is extended. Brantley County charges double if the expired permit is expired for more than a year.

7. CONSIDER APPLICATION FOR THE SOUTHEAST CRESCENT REGIONAL COMMISSION

There are two separate grant opportunities for the Board to consider, but for the same project. Okefenokee Swamp Park (OSP) is asking Charlton County to make an application for both the SEID and NEA grant in order to fund the planning and design of the Community and Cultural Center that OSP has proposed to be built in Folkston (John Harris Building property). The NEA grant requires a 100% match and the SEID grant requires a 20% match. If applications are made, the request from the SEID grant would be \$277,490. The County's matching amount would be \$55,498. These grants can be utilized as match for each other and that is why we would apply for the NEA grant at the same time, to cover the County's requirement. We can also use in-kind labor as match. The cost for the grant writer would be 50/50 with OSP and cost the county \$750 in total for the pre-applications and then an additional \$5,500 if selected for the full application. After discussion and consideration, Commissioner Benefield made motion to apply for grant application for the Southeast Crescent Regional Commission State Economic and Infrastructure Development Grant and the

National Endowment for the Art Our Town Grant. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Everett, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

8. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF BIDS FOR BETHUNE GYMNASIUM DOORS

Bids for Bethune Gymnasium Doors were received as follows:

Collins Lock and Safe - \$10,662.93
Locksmith Keys, LLC - \$12,327.48

As recommended by the Recreation Board, Commissioner Gowen made motion to award bid to Collins Lock and Safe for \$10,662.93, same to be paid with 2020 SPLOST funds. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

9. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF BIDS FOR FENCE AT LAUREL STREET BASKETBALL COURT

Commissioner Benefield made motion to table approval of bids for fence at Laurel Street Basketball Court. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Gowen, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

10. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CHARLTON DIESEL REPAIR - FIRE DAMAGE TO DUMP TRUCK FOR THE ROAD DEPARTMENT

Wiring harness bid for the Road Department Dump Truck were considered as follows:

Charlton Diesel Repair - \$9,213.51, plus \$300 for towing truck from Shop to Charlton Diesel

Commissioner Benefield made motion approve Charlton Diesel Repair bid for \$9,513.51. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Everett, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

11. ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF JUNE, 2023 WELLNESS REPORT

The Board acknowledged receipt of June, 2023 Wellness Report.

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

Commissioner Crews congratulated Joel Shivar, Recreation Director for golf team runner ups, and stated that Joel is doing well with the Recreation program. Volleyball signups are scheduled for this Fall.

13. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Crews congratulated Joel Shivar, Recreation Director for golf team runner ups, and stated that Joel is doing well with the Recreation program. Volleyball signups are scheduled for this Fall.

Commissioner Crews asked Commissioner Jones for update of Development Authority. Commissioner Jones stated that Executive Director Ashley Gowen has resigned and Abby Taylor has been hired. There are 2 "city vacancies" on the Development Authority Board.

Sheriff Robert Phillips was present and reported 911 delays with Motorola and AT&T. 2 radio operators' positions are currently available.

The Board thanked Sheriff Robert Phillips and Mr. Ronnie Pollock for attendance.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF REQUIRED)

None.

15. NEXT BOC MEETING, THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 2023 - BOC CONFERENCE ROOM, 6:00 P.M.

16. ADJOURN

Commissioner Benefield made motion that meeting be adjourned at 6:37 p.m. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Gowen, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

Jesse A. Crews, Chairman

Jenifer Nobles, County Clerk