

Minutes  
Liberty County Board of Commissioners  
June 13, 2023  
Midmonth Meeting

1. The meeting was opened by Chairman Lovette, with all commissioners present except Commissioner Frasier.
2. The Chairman certified compliance with the Georgia open meetings act.
3. Prayer was offered by Mr. Joseph Mosley, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. The board recognized Kaiden Miller, Jayla McCall, Jabria Jackson, Brieon Richardson, Josiah Triplett, and Kemistry Sabb for their outstanding achievements in the Liberty County Recreation program and State GRPA competitions.
5. Departmental reports were presented:
  - A. Samantha Richardson, Liberty County CFO, appeared before the board to present resolutions associated with adopting the FY 2024 budgets. Following the presentation, the board discussed alternatives related to adopting the FY 2024 general fund operational budget. The board reviewed proposed changes in comparison to the FY 2023 approved budget. The board postponed action on adoption to allow for the gathering of information needed by the board.
6. The board considered an agreement with the Liberty County Board of Education. Sheriff Bowman appeared before the board to discuss the specifics of the agreement. A motion associated with the provision of SRO officers to certain school facilities was made by Commissioner Stevens to approve the agreement, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, and approved by all commissioners in attendance.
7. The board returned to departmental reports:
  - A. The LCPC report was presented:
    - (1) The board considered adopting a proposed unified development ordinance as presented by Mr. Jeff Ricketson. Commissioner Thrift made a motion to approve the ordinance with an effective date of July 1, 2023, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard and approved by all commissioners in attendance.
    - (2) The board considered a final plat for Coastal Oaks Phase I, as presented by Ms. Marty Sanchez. Commissioner Stevens made a motion to approve the final plat, seconded by Commissioner Walden and approved by all commissioners who were present.
  - B. The monthly engineering report was presented by Mr. Trent Long. The board considered bids received for upgrades to Limerick Road. Commissioner Jones made a motion to award the bid to Sikes Brothers at a total cost of \$646,529.70 plus a 10% contingency, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard and approved by all commissioners in attendance.
  - C. County attorney Kelly Davis appeared before the board to answer questions related to the speed zone camera program. Mr. Davis reviewed the specifics of the law and procedures necessary to implement the speed zone program. Following discussion, the board asked that Mr. Davis coordinate a meeting with the Sheriff to discuss the matter further.
8. The board continued discussion over the adoption of the FY 2024 budget for operations and reviewed specifics around increases over and above the current

budget. Following discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Thrift to adopt the proposed FY 2024 budget as submitted for commission consideration, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, with commissioners Stevens, Thrift, and Lovette voting in favor of the motion, commissioners Gilliard, Jones, and Walden voting against. The board discussed alternatives associated with adopting a budget for operations effective July 1, 2023. A motion was made by Commissioner Walden to adopt the FY 2024 budget at the current 2023 budget levels and to use fund balance as necessary for operations, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard, with commissioners Jones, Gilliard, and Walden voting in favor of the motion commissioners Stevens, Thrift, and Lovette opposed.

9. The board reviewed a final proposed ordinance related to the operation of food trucks in Liberty County. The board was advised that the final draft had been submitted to the county attorney for review.

10. The administrative report was presented.

Commissioner Walden made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard, and approved by all commissioners in attendance.

Liberty County Board of Commissioners

SIGNED:

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Donald L. Lovette, Chairman

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Connie Thrift, Vice-Chairman

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Marion Stevens, Sr., Commissioner

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Justin Frasier, Commissioner

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Maxie R. Jones, IV, Commissioner

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Gary Gilliard, Commissioner

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Eddie J. Walden, Commissioner

Attest:

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Joseph W. Brown, County Administrator