

Minutes
Liberty County Board of Commissioners
November 16, 2023
Midmonth Meeting

1. The meeting was opened by Chairman Lovette, with all commissioners in attendance 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. Departmental reports were presented:

A. The engineering report was presented by Mr. Trent Long.

5. The board considered new business:

A. The board entered a public hearing to consider the 2023 millage rate. Ms. Samantha Richardson, CFO, presented information related to the proposed millage. The board received comments from various individuals, including Greg Nelms, Cassie Omohundro, David Kay, John Underwood, Martha Dykes, Lou Smith, Randall Edwards, Ron Edwards, Robert Daniels, Charlie Baccus, Jim Waldrop, Susie Walker, and Mr. Ed Gibbons.

B. The board considered a resolution authorizing the 2023 millage levy for the Board of Commissioners. Following comments from board members, a motion was made by Commissioner Walden, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, to approve the Resolution as follows:

Unincorporated and Incorporated other

General 14.15

Fire 3.97

EMS 1.83

Recreation 1.19

Incorporated Hinesville

General 15.49

EMS 1.83

Recreation 1.19

Commissioners Thrift, Walden, Stevens, and Lovette voted in favor of the motion, and Commissioners Gilliard and Jones voted against it.

C. The board considered a resolution recognizing receipt of the 2023 millage for Board of Education purposes. A motion was made by Commissioner Stevens, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, to accept the BOE millage of 15.25 mills, with Commissioners Stevens, Thrift, Walden, and Lovette voting in favor, Commissioners Gilliard and Jones opposed.

D. The board considered a resolution acknowledging the Liberty County Development Authority 2023 millage rate of 2.0 mills. Commissioner Thrift made a motion to accept the millage of 2.0 mills, seconded by Commissioner Walden and approved by all members present.

E. The board considered a resolution authorizing the millage rate for Liberty County Regional Medical Center. Commissioner Thrift made a motion to approve the millage of 3.843, seconded by Commissioner Walden, with Commissioners Thrift, Lovette, and Walden voting in favor and Commissioners Stevens, Gilliard, and Jones opposed.

F. The Board reconsidered a resolution authorizing the millage rate for Liberty County Regional Medical Center. Commissioner Walden made a motion to set the rate at 3.843 mills, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, with Commissioners Thrift, Lovette, Gilliard, and Walden voting in favor and Commissioners Jones and Stevens opposed.

G. The board considered an MOA with the Live Oak Library system associated with executive

committee requirements. Commissioner Thrift made a motion to approve the agreement, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard, with all members present voting in favor.

6. Commissioner Stevens made a motion to adjourn the midmonth meeting, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, with all members present voting in favor.

Liberty County Board of Commissioners

SIGNED:

Donald L. Lovette, Chairman

Connie Thrift, Vice-Chairman

Marion Stevens, Sr., Commissioner

Justin Frasier, Commissioner

Maxie R. Jones, IV, Commissioner

Gary Gilliard, Commissioner

Eddie J. Walden, Commissioner

Attest:

Joseph W. Brown, County Administrator