

Minutes  
Liberty County Board of Commissioners  
July 5, 2022  
Regular Meeting

1. The meeting was opened by Chairman Lovette with all commissioners in attendance.
2. The Chairman certified compliance the Georgia open meetings act.
3. Pastor Richard Hayes presented the opening prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. The board considered minutes of their June meetings. A motion was made by Commissioner Walden to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, and approved unanimously.
5. Departmental reports were presented.

A. The LCPC monthly report was presented by Mr. Jeff Ricketson.

A motion was made by Commissioner Frasier to adjourn to public hearing for rezoning purposes, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, and approved unanimously.

(1) The board considered rezoning petition 2022-040-LC a request by Travis Stringer to rezone 436.97 acres from A-1 to I1 for warehouse distribution facilities. Property is further described as LCTM-302-001. Following the presentation of staff reports Mr. Stringer appeared before the board with the project engineer to answer questions. Mr. David Kaye appeared before the board to address issues related to traffic and fire protection in the Tradeport East area. Following further discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Frasier, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, to follow the LCPC recommendation for approval with all commissioners voting in favor of the motion.

(2) The board considered rezoning petition 2022-043-LC a request by SLA communities LLC to rezoning 249 acres from A-1 to R1 for a subdivision. Following the presentation of staff reports a motion was made by Commissioner Walden, and seconded by Commissioner Gilliard, to approve the recommendation of the LCPC subject to standard and special conditions which included vegetative buffering along existing properties on Bright's Lake Road and properties on the east side of McIntosh Lakes Road with all commissioners voting in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stevens, and seconded by Commissioner Frasier, to adjourn public hearing and return to regular session with all commissioners voting in favor of the motion

(3) The board considered conditional use request 2022-038-LC a request submitted by coastal solar on behalf of Diana Koceja to place a small ground mounted solar energy system on her property at 150 Harris Ave. Property is further described as LCTM-102-055. Following the presentation of staff reports a motion was made by Commissioner Stevens, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, to approve the conditional use request with all commissioners voting in favor of the motion.

(4) The board considered a home occupation type B request 2022-044-LC filed by Vanessa Walthour to locate a commissary base of operations at 692 Freddie Walthour Senior Road. Property further described as LC TM 104-045. Following the presentation of staff reports a motion was made by Commissioner Stevens, seconded by Commissioner Frasier, to approve the request with all commissioners voting in favor of the motion.

(5) The board considered side yard setback variance request 2022-046-LC submitted by Terry J Wheeler on behalf of Danny and Larry Brandt for property located on Circle Drive on the west side of Isle of Wight subdivision. Property is a further identified as LC TM 261D-121, 261D-057, and 261D-124. The applicant requests to decrease side setbacks of these three properties from 15 feet to 10 feet. Following the presentation of staff reports the petitioner answered questions from the board related to the proposal. Mr. Ronnie Howard, and adjacent owner, appeared to express concerns over small lots being created in the area. Following further discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Jones to table the matter until such time as he had a chance to look at the properties in question, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, and approved unanimously.

6. The board considered new business.

A. The board considered an agreement to conduct a special election for the Liberty County School District to fill the vacant positions of districts one and four. A motion was made by Commissioner Thrift to approve the agreement, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, and approved unanimously.

B. The board considered a resolution fixing the qualifying fees for districts one and four of the Liberty County Board of Education to be filled in the special election. A motion was made by Commissioner Frasier to set the qualifying fee at \$180 for each position, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard, and approved unanimously.

C. The board considered an amendment to the ARPA budget to transfer \$562,864 from outstanding contingency to FY 2023 capital ARPA eligible requests associated with departments 2150, 2430, and 3326. A motion was made by Commissioner Thrift to approve the amendments, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, and approved unanimously.

D. The board considered a contract for services with Condrey and Associates to conduct a position and wage analysis for all Liberty County divisions. A motion was made by Commissioner Walden to approve the contract, second by Commissioner Gilliard, and approved unanimously.

E. The commission considered appointments to various boards:

(1) CADDA – A motion was made by Commissioner Gilliard, and second by Commissioner Walden, to appoint Mr. James Rogers with all commissioners voting in favor of the motion.

(2) Tax Assessors – A motion was made by Commissioner Gilliard, and second by Commissioner Walden, the reappoint Mr. David Smiley with all commissioners voting in favor of the motion except Commissioner Stevens.

(3) Cultural Historical Resources – A motion was made by Commissioner Walden to appoint Ms. Carolyn Carter, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and approved unanimously.

F. The board reviewed a proposed intergovernmental agreement associated with special purpose local option sales tax 7. The board also discussed attachment A of proposed projects associated with the referendum for the tax. Following discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Thrift to approve the exhibit A list of proposed projects, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard, with commissioners Walden, Gilliard, Thrift, and Chairman Lovette voting in favor, commissioners Jones, Frasier, and Stevens opposed.

G. The administrative report was presented:

(1) The board was advised that NACO dues would now be an inclusive part of monies paid to ACCG.

(2) The board was updated on the results of the SR 25/Limerick traffic study. Commissioner Jones asked that any action on the matter be put on hold pending further discussion associated with the possible removal of the caution light at that intersection.

(3) The board was given an update on current capital projects.

(4) The board was advised of vandalism which it occurred at James Allen Brown Park.

(5) The board was advised that the Miller Park fire station site was cleared and thus ready to hold a groundbreaking ceremony for the new station.

7. A motion was made by Commissioner Gilliard to adjourn regular meeting, second by Commissioner Walden, and approved unanimously.

SIGNED:

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Donald L. Lovette, Chairman

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Maxie R. Jones, IV, Commissioner

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Justin Frasier, Vice-Chairman

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Gary Gilliard, Commissioner

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Marion Stevens, Sr., Commissioner

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Eddie J. Walden, Commissioner

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Connie Thrift, Commissioner

ATTEST:

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Joseph W. Brown, County Administrator