

Minutes  
Liberty County Board of Commissioners  
Regular meeting  
August 2, 2022

1. The meeting was opened by Chairman Lovette with all commissioners in attendance.
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 considered minutes of their July meetings. A motion was made by Commissioner Thrift to accept the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, and approved unanimously.
5. Departmental reports were presented:

A. the LCPC report was presented by Mr. Jeff Ricketson.

(1) The board considered variance request 2022-046-LC a request by Terry Wheeler on behalf of Danny and Larry Brant to decrease the side setbacks of three properties from 15 feet to 10 feet. Affected parcels are 261D-121, 261D-057, and 261D-124. Mr. Wheeler addressed the board on behalf of his request and to address concerns expressed over creating smaller lot sizes in the area. Following questions and comments from the board, a motion was made by Commissioner Jones to table action for 30 days on the matter, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, with commissioners Jones and Stevens voting in favor of the motion commissioners Gilliard, Thrift, Walden, Frasier, and Chairman Lovette voting against. A motion was made by Commissioner Gilliard to approve the variance, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, with commissioners Gilliard, Thrift, Walden, Frasier, and Lovette voting in favor, Commissioner Stevens and Jones opposed.

(2) The board considered conditional use request 2022-050-LC submitted by Myrkwod Farms on behalf of Edward Layden for a chemical free agricultural enterprise and agritourism hub. Property is located at 73 Johnson Cir. And is further identified as LCTM 235-014 and LCTM 235-015. Mr. Joseph Layden addressed the board on behalf of the petitioner and answered questions from the board. Following discussion and concerns over compliance with current issues occurring on the property the petitioner announced his withdrawal of the conditional use request.

B. The board considered an amendment of the agreement with Southeast Corrections associated with supervisory fees. A motion was made by Commissioner Stevens to amend the contract concerning supervision fees from \$41-\$45, seconded by Commissioner Frasier, and approved unanimously.

C. The board considered adoption of an updated speed ordinance for areas in Liberty County. Mr. Trent Long addressed the board to discuss the ordinance requirements. A motion was made by Commissioner Walden to approve the speed ordinance, seconded by Commissioner Gilliard, with commissioners Stevens, Thrift, Lovette, Walden, Jones and Gilliard voting in favor, Commissioner Frasier absent from the vote.

D. Mr. Bill Ross of Ross and Associates appeared before the board to present procedures and requirements related to the development and adoption of impact fees in the State of Georgia. Following questions from the board, Chairman Lovette thanked Mr. Ross for his presentation and advised that they would consider the matter further for possible implementation.

E. The board considered proposals received for replacement of an HVAC unit at the Liberty County Record Center motion was made by Commissioner Gilliard, and seconded by Commissioner Thrift, to award the proposal to H A Sack Company in the amount of \$240,900. With all commissioners voting in favor of the motion.

F. The board considered proposals received for the replacement of an HVAC unit for the Liberty County Justice Center. A motion was made by Commissioner Walden, and seconded by Commissioner Thrift, to award the proposal to Johnson Controls in the amount of \$309,550 with all commissioners voting in favor of the motion.

G. The board considered proposals received for the renovation of the Sam Harris with funding being derived as presented to the board. A motion was made by Commissioner Stevens, and seconded by Commissioner Gilliard, to award the proposal to Pope Construction Company at a cost of \$2,633,607 with all commissioners voting in favor of the motion .

H. The board was presented a memo on behalf of staff concerning recommendations associated with a Polycart study which examined the possibility of countywide Polycart implementation. The board agreed to accept the recommendation of staff not to proceed at the current time with such implementation.

6. A motion was made by Commissioner Frasier to adjourn to executive session for a land acquisition matter, seconded by Commissioner Stevens and approved unanimously.

7. A motion was made by Commissioner Gilliard to adjourn executive session and return to regular meeting, seconded by Commissioner Stevens and approved unanimously.

8. A motion was made by Commissioner Stevens to adjourn regular meeting, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, and approved unanimously.

Liberty County Board of Commissioners

SIGNED:

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Donald L. Lovette, Chairman

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Justin Frasier, Vice-Chairman

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Marion Stevens, Sr., Commissioner

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Connie Thrift, 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