

Minutes
Liberty County Board of Commissioners
October 21, 2021
Mid-month Meeting

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lovette with all commissioners in attendance.

2. The County Administrator certified compliance the Georgia Open Meetings Act.

3. Mr. Joseph Mosley offered the opening prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Commissioner Walden to adjourn to public hearing to discuss the 2021 millage rate, seconded by Commissioner Stevens, and approved unanimously.

4. Ms. Kim McGlothlin, Liberty County CFO, appeared before the board to present a presentation and overview related to the recommended 2021 millage rate. Commission Stevens expressed concern over the lack of knowledge by the public associated with the Freeport exemption. Commissioner Stevens also expressed concern over absorption of the EMS functions without an associated reduction in millage rate by the hospital authority. The board entered into discussion over Liberty Regional Medical Center and debt associated therewith. Mr. Derek Rozier and Ms. Tammy Mims appeared before the board to answer questions related to hospital operations.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gilliard to adjourn public hearing and return to regular meeting, seconded by Commissioner Walden, and approved unanimously.

5. The board considered resolutions associated with the 2021 millage rate levy. A motion was made by Commissioner Thrift to adopt the millage rate for the unincorporated areas of Liberty County at 38.345 mils, seconded by Commissioner Walden, with commissioners Walden, Gilliard, Thrift, Frasier, and Lovette voting in favor of the motion. Commissioner Stevens and Jones opposed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gilliard to adopt the millage rate for the Incorporated combined other at 38.345 mils, seconded by Commissioner Walden, with commissioners Walden, Gilliard, Thrift, Frasier, and Lovette voting in favor. Commissioner Stevens and Jones opposed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Walden to adopt the millage rate for the incorporated area of Hinesville at 36.545 mils, seconded by Commissioner Frasier, with commissioners Walden, Gilliard, Thrift, Frasier, and Lovette voting in favor. Commissioners Jones and Stevens opposed.

6. Departmental reports were presented:

A. Mr. Jeff Ricketson presented an update on the Hinesville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization and transportation projects currently underway.

B. County engineer Mr. Trent Long of appeared before the board to update them on the status of ongoing work activities. The board considered the addition of several roads to the intergovernmental agreement between Liberty County and the City of Walthourville. A motion was made by Commissioner Gilliard to add these roads, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, and approved unanimously. Those roads approved included: Hillary Lane, Martin Court, Fabian Lane, Tempest Lane, Gregory Court, Tibet Hwy., and certain roads in Hampton Ridge subdivision including Broadleaf Rd., Nashville Trail, Red Blossom Court and Harold's Nook.

C. Assistant recreation director Mr. Ricky Gilliard appeared before the board to discuss the possibility of moving forward with the 2021 basketball season. Mr. Gilliard presented a list of protocols proposed to be use during the season. Following discussion, a motion

was made by Commissioner Stevens to approve the request to begin basketball season and to also open other indoor facilities for rental use at 50% capacity, seconded by Commissioner Jones, and approved unanimously.

D. Mr. Rob Jones, coach of Savannah swim Association, appeared before the board to update them on the successes of the swim team located in Midway Georgia. The chairman and board members congratulated Mr. Jones on these awards and accomplishments.

7. A motion was made by Commissioner Stevens to adjourn the, seconded by Commissioner Thrift, and approved unanimously.

Liberty County Board of Commissioners

SIGNED:

Donald L. Lovette, Chairman

Justin Frasier, Vice-Chairman

Marion Stevens, Sr., Commissioner

Connie Thrift, Commissioner

Maxie R. Jones, IV, Commissioner

Gary Gilliard, Commissioner

Eddie J. Walden, Commissioner

Attest:

Joseph W. Brown, County Administrator