

**HEARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
January 17, 2023 - 6:30 P.M.**

The Heard County Board of Commissioners held a regular Commissioners Meeting on January 17, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. in the Commission Chamber of the Heard County Administration Building. In attendance at the meeting were Chairman Lee Boone, District 2 Commissioner James Perry, District 4 Commissioner Larry Hammond, and District 5 Commissioner David Walls. District 1 Commissioner Larry Hooks was unable to attend in person, but called in by phone. County Attorney Michael Hill was also present at the meeting.

Agenda Item # 2 - Welcome, Invocation, and Pledge to the American Flag - Chairman Boone called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone present and gave the invocation.

Agenda Item # 3 – Approval of Minutes

- a. **The minutes from the December 20, 2022, regular Commissioner’s meeting were presented to the Board for approval. On a motion (Perry) and second (Hammond), the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the December 20, 2022, 2022, regular Commissioner’s Meeting as written.**

Agenda Item # 4 – Amend Agenda – Chairman Boone stated that he needed an amendment to add item “f” to New Business regarding a Letter of Support from the Board on Pending Legislation. Commissioner Perry stated that he would like an amendment to add item “g” to New Business regarding the upcoming appointment to the Water Authority Board. There being no further amendments, on a motion (Perry) and second (Walls), the Board voted unanimously to add items “f” and “g” under New Business to the agenda.

Agenda Item # 5 – New Business

- a. **Appoint County Clerk and Deputy Clerks for 2023. Chairman Boone introduced Ms. Katrina Billingsley as the new clerk in the Commissioner’s Office, and**

requested that she be appointed as Clerk of the Board of Commissioners to take the minutes and to assist the Board in any requests they may have. On a motion (Perry) and second (Hammond), the Board voted unanimously to appoint her as Clerk of the Board. Chairman Boone then recommended that Ms. Felicia Adams and Ms. Susanne Palmer be appointed as Deputy Clerks to serve in the absence of the Clerk. On a motion (Hammond) and second (Walls), the Board voted unanimously to appoint Felicia Adams and Susanne Palmer as Deputy Clerks to the Board.

- b. **Appoint Vice-Chairman for 2023-** On a motion (Hammond) and second (Walls), the Board voted unanimously to appoint Commissioner James Perry as Vice-Chairman for 2023.
- c. **Appoint County Attorney for 2023-** Chairman Boone recommended to re-appoint Michael Hill as County Attorney for 2023. On a motion (Walls) and second (Hammond), the Board voted unanimously to appoint Michael Hill as County Attorney for year 2023.
- d. **Appoint County Auditor for 2023-** Chairman Boone stated that Mr. Kim Kimmel had agreed to serve as the County Auditor for 2023, his fee would be the same as 2022, and Finance Director Felicia Adams recommended his re-appointment. On a motion (Perry) and second (Walls), the Board voted unanimously to re-appoint Kim Kimmel as County Auditor for 2023.
- e. **Set Meeting Dates and Times for 2023 Commissioner's Meetings-** Chairman Boone recommended that the regular Commissioner's Meetings continue to be the third Tuesday of each month for 2023. On a motion (Hammond) and second

(Perry), the Board voted unanimously to keep the meeting dates and time the same for 2023.

- f. **Letter of Support for Pending Legislation-** Chairman Boone stated that he received a call from the Chief Superior Court Circuit Judge John Simpson regarding pending Legislation for an eighth Superior Court Judge position, a state paid Assistant District Attorney and staff for the Coweta Judicial Circuit. Chairman Boone stated that a template letter of support was received from Judge Simpson addressed to our local Representatives. The wording was subsequently transferred to Heard County letterhead with spaces added for each Commissioner to sign. Chairman Boone read the letter into the record and asked for a decision. On a motion (Hammond) and second (Walls), the Board voted unanimously to approve the letter as written and for each Commissioner to sign.
- g. **Water Authority Board Appointment-** Chairman Boone stated that Mr. Alvin Ginn was retiring and has submitted his letter of resignation from the Board. Chairman Boone reminded the Board that Mr. Ginn asked to be re-appointed when his previous term was to expire, so he could stay through the final completion of the upgrade to the Water Treatment Plant. Commissioner Perry recommended that an ad be placed in the paper and put on the website to solicit letters of interest and resumes' for qualified citizens that may want to serve. Commissioner Hammond stated that he would like to have term limits for each Board and guidelines for each appointment. Chairman Boone stated that the authority to appoint Board members is delegated to the Commissioners, and a short policy may be practical. Attorney Hill stated that he could draft such a

policy for the Board to review if desired. After further discussion, Attorney Hill was directed to draft a policy, and Chairman Boone stated that he would place an ad in the paper and include it on the county website.

Item # 6 – Old Business – None

Item # 7 – Public Comments- Chairman Boone and each individual Commissioner took the time to reflect on the memory and life of the late Commissioner Gwen Caldwell.

Item # 9 – Executive Session – None

Item # 10 – Adjourn – On a motion in Honor and Remembrance of the late Commissioner Mr. Gwen Caldwell (Perry) and second (Walls), the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting in honor of Gwen Caldwell.

Katrina Billingsley

County Clerk

Lee Boone

Chairman

Date 02-21-2023

