

HEARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
November 15, 2022 - 6:30 P.M.

The Heard County Board of Commissioners held a Commissioners Meeting on November 15, 2022, 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 1 Commissioner Larry Hooks, District 2 Commissioner James Perry, District 4 Commissioner Larry Hammond, District 5 Commissioner David Walls, and County Attorney Michael Hill. District 3 Commissioner Gwen Caldwell could not attend the meeting.

Agenda Item # 1 – Chairman Boone called the meeting to order.

Agenda Item # 2 - Welcome, Invocation, and Pledge to the American Flag – Chairman Boone welcomed everyone in attendance, gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Agenda Item # 3 – Invited Guest – Georgia Forestry Chief Ranger Amy Weaver from our local Georgia Forestry Office in Troup County, in addition to 3 other Rangers from the Troup office were present. Chief Ranger Weaver disseminated copies of the Annual Report from their office and highlighted some information and stats from the previous year. Chief Ranger Weaver also expressed concern about the recruitment and retention of Rangers since 2015. The fact that they are on call 24/7, and the State will not provide any additional compensation for afterhours call outs, is the biggest deterrent for retention. Chief Ranger Weaver asked the Board if they would consider a supplement for the local Rangers to help with retention which will produce more experienced local Rangers for our area. Chairman Boone recommended Chief Ranger Weaver submit a written proposal and/or request to the Board of Commissioners for consideration.

Agenda Item # 4- Public Hearing – An application was submitted by Brian Wiggins to rezone from Agricultural to ELA. Chairman Boone highlighted the rules for Public Hearings and stated that the Planning Commission voted to approve the application at their meeting. The public hearing was declared open, and the applicant Mr. Brian Wiggins was invited to address the Board. Mr. Wiggins stated that he bought a tract of land off Powell Road consisting of 44.7 acres adjacent to his father’s property that contained an 80 ft. wide existing easement. Mr. Wiggins stated that he intended to divide the 44.7 acres into 3 parcels containing 14.9 acres each minus the easement property size for access to each parcel. Mr. Wiggins further stated that the property would be deeded to his siblings to each build a house. Commissioner Perry stated that he had been in consultation with Mr. Wiggins and the Zoning Office regarding the requirements of an ELA, and Mr. Wiggins agreed to the conditions. Attorney Hill stated that he would need to review the perpetual easement before development could start. There being no further comments, on a motion (Perry) and second (Hooks), the Board voted unanimously to close the public hearing.

Public Hearing #2- Final adoption of the approved Joint Comprehensive Land Use Plan for Heard County, City of Ephesus, City of Franklin and Town of Centralhatchee. Ms. Sharon Armstrong, Heard County Planner, advised the Board that the update to the Joint Comprehensive Land Use Plan has been reviewed and approved by the Three Rivers Regional Commission and the Department of Community Affairs. It has now been sent back to the respective jurisdictions for final approval and adoption by resolution.

Chairman Boone asked for any final comments from the Board, Mayors present or and member of the public. There being no further comments, on a motion (Walls) and second (Hammond), the Board voted unanimously to close the public hearing.

Agenda Item # 5 – Approval of Minutes – On a motion (Perry) and second (Hammond), the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes as written from the October 18, 2022 Commissioner’s work session and regular Commission meeting.

Agenda Item # 6 – Amend Agenda – Ms. Sharon Armstrong, Heard County Planner, asked for an amendment to the Agenda for the Final Adoption of the update to the Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plan for 2022 to 2026 at the request of GEMA. On a motion (Hammond) and second (Perry), the Board voted unanimously to add Part “2” to Item “b” under New Business.

Agenda Item # 6 - New Business

a. Decision/Discussion on Application by Brian Wiggins to rezone from Agricultural to ELA.

On a motion (Perry) and second (Hooks), the Board voted unanimously to rezone the property off Powell Road from Agricultural to ELA.

b. Decision/Discussion on approval and adoption of Final Approved Joint Comprehensive Land Use Plan. Chairman Boone read the Resolution into the record. On a motion (Perry) to adopt the Final Approved Joint Comprehensive Land Use Plan and authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board and Mayors sign on behalf of their respective Councils and second (Hammond), a roll call vote was taken. Mayor Denney, Mayor Crockett, Mayor Hayes, Commissioners Perry, Hooks, Hammond, and Walls all confirmed a “Yes” vote.

(b) Part # 2 – Discussion/Decision on the final adoption of the update to the Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plan for 2022 to 2026. Ms. Sharon Armstrong read the Resolution into the record. On a motion (Perry) to adopt the Final Approved Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plan for 2022 to 2026 and authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of the

Board and Mayors sign on behalf of their respective Councils and second (Hammond), a roll call vote was taken. Commissioners Perry, Hooks, Hammond, Walls, Mayor Denney, Mayor Crockett, and Mayor Hayes all confirmed a “Yes” vote.

- c. Appointment to Heard County Development Authority Board- Chairman Boone read a letter from the Heard County Development Authority Board of Directors recommending Mr. Tim Grizzard be appointed to the Board. On a motion (Perry) and second (Hooks), the Board voted unanimously to accept the letter of recommendation and appoint Mr. Tim Grizzard to the Development Authority Board.**
- d. Adopt HC Transit FTA Procurement Policy- On a motion (Hammond) and second (Hooks), the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Policy and authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board.**
- e. Adopt ARPA Budget Resolution for Fiscal Year 2022- Chairman Boone read the Resolution into the record. On a motion (Hooks) and second (Hammond), the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Resolution.**
- f. Review/Adopt MOU/IGA with City of Franklin for Codes Enforcement – On a motion (Hammond) and second (Perry), the Board voted unanimously to adopt the MOU/IGA with the City of Franklin and authorized the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board.**
- g. Review/Adopt MOU Public Safety LOST Agreement- On a motion (Perry) and second (Hooks), the Board voted unanimously to adopt the MOU Public Safety LOST Agreement with the City of Franklin and authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board.**
- h. Adopt LOST Agreement with Franklin, Centralhatchee and Ephesus- Chairman Boone read the LOST Agreement into the record. On a motion (Perry) to accept the LOST**

Agreement Contract as read and authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board and the Mayors on behalf of their respective Councils, and second (Hammond), a roll call vote was taken. Commissioners Perry, Hooks, Hammond, Walls, Mayor Denney, Mayor Crockett, and Mayor Hayes all confirmed with a "Yes" vote.

- i. Appointment to Heard County Library Board- Mayor Denney addressed the Board and recommended to appoint Ms. Becky Carlisle to replace Beth Hammond whose term limit had expired. On a motion (Hammond) and second (Hooks), the Board voted unanimously to accept Mayor Denney's recommendation and appoint Ms. Becky Carlisle to the Library Board.

Agenda Item # 7- OLD BUSINESS- None

Agenda Item # 8- Public Comments- Ms. Kathy Knowles spoke to the Board and gave an update on current projects and leases.

Agenda Item # 9- Executive Session- None

Agenda Item # 10- Adjourn

On a motion (Perry) and second (Hammond), the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.



County Clerk



Chairman

Date 12-20-2022