

HEARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
September 17, 2024 - 6:30 P.M.

The Heard County Board of Commissioners held a regular Commissioners Meeting on September 17, 2024, 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 3 Commissioner Iris Harris, District 4 Commissioner Larry Hammond, District 5 Commissioner David Walls, and County Attorney Michael Hill. District 1 Commissioner Larry Hooks was unable to attend.

Agenda Item # 2 - Welcome, Invocation, and Pledge to the American Flag

Chairman Lee Boone called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone present, and gave the invocation.

Agenda Item # 3 – Public Hearing

Chairman Boone went over the rules for public comments and asked that each person speak directly into the microphone. On a motion (Perry) and second (Walls), the Board voted unanimously to suspend the maximum time limitations on public comments for this Public Hearing.

a) Special Use Application from Viridi RE Development LLC

Ellen Smith, attorney for Viridi RE Development LLC, addressed the Board on behalf of the applicant. Commissioner Hammond had several questions for the applicant. Ms. Smith, Lindsay Latre, Javier Latre, and Eduardo Casipda addressed the Board to answer questions pertaining to the proposed Special Use Application. Commissioner Perry made several inquiries regarding the number of corporations owned by Ms. Latre. Michael Hill asked the applicant if they had filed their Beneficial Owners Information Report for the business to which Ms. Smith responded that the applicant was unsure and would need to

check with their C.P.A. Commissioner Harris had inquiries regarding herbicides, revenue, and existing contracts. Henry Jacobs, Deputy Director of the Chattahoochee River Keepers, addressed the Boards with concerns about the project and how it may affect the river. The following citizens spoke in favor of the application: Debra Jo Steele and Amy Tipton. One non-resident, Tyler Bius, spoke in favor of the application. The following citizens opposed the application: Mark Callahan, Eric Larson, Alton Hudgins, Diane Dunlap, Tiffany Powers, Spencer Barronton. On a motion (Hammond) and a second (Perry), voted to continue the Public Hearing until the next regularly scheduled meeting on October 15, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.

Agenda Item # 4 – Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the Work Session and regular Commissioner’s meeting on August 20, 2024, as well as the minutes from the Work Session and Called Meeting on August 29, 2024, were presented to the Board for approval. On a motion (Harris) and second (Hammond), the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the Work Session and regular Commissioner’s meeting on August 20, 2024, along with the minutes from the Work Session and Called Meeting on August 29, 2024, as written.

Agenda Item # 5 – Amend Agenda

There were no amendments to the agenda.

Agenda Item # 5 – New Business

a. Adopt Federal transit Title VI Program

On a motion (Perry) and a second (Harris), the Board unanimously voted to adopt the Federal transit Title VI Program. Additionally, they authorized the Chairman to sign the contract on behalf of the county.

b. Adopt Tobacco Ordinance

The Chairman read the title of the ordinance and stated that the ordinance mirrored the state law and was codified into the county ordinances. Attorney Hill confirmed that other jurisdictions had also mirrored the same statute and adopted it into their ordinances. On a motion (Hammond) and a second (Walls), the Board unanimously voted to adopt the Tobacco Ordinance.

c. Discussion/Decision on application from Viridi RE Development LLC

On a motion (Harris) and a second (Perry), the Board unanimously voted to defer the decision on the application from Viridi RE Development LLC until the next regular meeting on October 15, 2024.

Agenda Item # 6 – Old Business

There was no old business.

Agenda Item # 7 – Public Comments

The following individuals spoke to the Board regarding various issues:

- Melton Cole

Item # 8 – Executive Session

There was no Executive Session.

Item # 9 – Adjourn

There being no further business, on a motion (Harris) and second (Hammond), the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Adjourned 9:43 p.m.

Katrina Billingsley

County Clerk

Lee Boone

Chairman

Date 10/15/2024

