

HEARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
January 25, 2022 - 6:30 P.M.

The Heard County Board of Commissioners held a Commissioners Meeting on January 25, 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 3 Commissioner Gwen Caldwell, District 4 Commissioner Larry Hammond, District 5 Commissioner David Walls, and County Attorney Jerry Ann Conner.

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 – Public Hearing – Text Amendment to Estate Lot Averaging- Chairman Boone reviewed the rules of a public hearing. The applicant, Mr. Mike Crane, who resides at 3993 Lower Fayetteville Road Newnan, Georgia, was invited to the podium to begin the public hearing. Mr. Crane explained that he bought 100 acres of land off Highway 27 with a single driveway to divide into 8 lots. Mr. Crane played a video of his idea of what this will look like when it is complete. Then Mr. Crane went on to explain that the residents in this “community” will understand that they will be required to maintain the easement. County Attorney Jerry Ann Conner explained there would be a covenant on record as part of the title to the property that the easement is to be maintained by the property owner. County attorney Conner explained to the Board that the first decision that needed to be made was if they wanted to allow this amendment first before they could make decisions on this project. Attorney Conner explained, then the Board would decide how many properties per access point, restricting splitting lots, and that this was not a one size fits all amendment, and that each “project” would have to come to the Board for reclassification. Ryan Maddox- 696 Whitten Road – Spoke in favor of the Board approving this

amendment. Andrew Betts – Asked questions concerning water supply, bus transportation, and who will maintain the road.

Dottie Duncan- 3525 Notnomis Road- Spoke about how she thinks this will work well for Heard County.

After many questions and concerns and discussion with the county attorney, on motion (Hammond) and second (Hooks), the Board unanimously voted to close the public hearing.

Agenda Item # 4 – Approval of Minutes – Approval of all meeting minutes from December 14, 2021. On motion (Perry) and second (Hooks), the Board unanimously voted to approve all the minutes as written.

Agenda Item # 5 – Amend Agenda – Chairman Boone stated he had two amendments to the agenda, under old business he would like to add “b” Adopt 2022 SPLOST Spending Plan. Also, he would like to add “c” Approve ARPA 2021-2022 Budget. On motion (Hammond) and second (Perry), the Board unanimously approved this request.

Agenda Item # 6 – New Business – a. Discussion/Decision – Text Amendment to Estate Lot Averaging –Laurie Cook, Director of the Heard County Water Authority stated that water lines can get damaged, and the Water Authority has no way of tracking where the lines are. County Attorney Conner stated that there may need to be wording added to prevent this from happening. Commissioner Hammond made the motion to include the changes that the county attorney will add to the text amendment (see attached text amendment) with a second from Commissioner Hooks, the Board unanimously voted to approve this amendment.

b. Appoint Vice-Chairman for 2022 – Commissioner Walls made the motion to appoint Commissioner Perry as the vice-chairman for 2022 with a second from Commissioner Hooks, the Board unanimously approved this appointment.

c. Appoint County Clerk – Chairman Boone stated that he would like the Board to reappoint Hope Cole as County Clerk. On motion (Perry) and second (Caldwell), the Board unanimously approved this request.

d. Appoint County Attorney – Chairman Boone asked the Board to come back to this after some other business had been handled. After item “g” Chairman Boone returned to this item. Chairman Boone reminded the public that County Attorney Conner was moving into retirement and allowed Attorney Conner to address the Board. Chairman Boone then allowed the Board to thank Attorney Conner for her service and wish her well. The Chairman then explained that Michael Hill is who was strongly recommended by Attorney Conner, however Mr. Hill is also the county attorney for Meriwether County, and they also meet on the 4th Tuesday of each month. Chairman Boone explained that if the Board chose to stay with Glover and Davis, using Mr. Hill as the County Attorney, the meetings dates would have to change. On motion (Hooks) and second (Walls), the Board unanimously voted to stay with Glover and Davis, using Mr. Hill.

e. Appoint County Auditor – Felicia Adams, Finance Director, asked the Board to reappoint Mr. Kim Kimmel as the county auditor. On motion (Hooks) and second (Hammond), the Board unanimously approved this request.

f. Appointment to the Heard County Water Authority Board- Mr. Alvin Ginn agreed to stay through the duration of the Water Treatment Plant Project but would like for his term to end when the project ends. County Attorney Conner stated that the terms cannot be shortened, however Mr. Ginn can be appointed for his regular term and he can just resign when he is ready. On motion (Perry) and second (Caldwell), the Board unanimously approved this appointment.

g. Appointment to the Heard County Board of Assessors – The Board of Assessors requested the Board of Commissioners reappoint Mr. Jerry Nixon and Mrs. Sandra Noland. On motion (Caldwell) and second (Perry), the Board unanimously approved this request.

Agenda Item # 8 – Old Business - a. Set Meeting Dates for the 2022 Heard County

Commissioners Meetings – Chairman Boone recommends moving the meetings to the third Tuesday of each month, as this would eliminate the need to move the meetings in November and December. Chairman Boone then asked the Board if anyone had a scheduling conflict if the meetings were moved to this day. With no one having scheduling conflicts, on motion (Perry) and second (Hammond), the Board unanimously approved this request.

b. Adopt 2022 SPLOST Spending Plan – On motion (Hooks) and second (Perry), the Board unanimously approved the 2022 SPLOST Spending Plan.

c. Approve ARPA 2021-2022 Budget – On motion (Hammond) and second (Perry), the Board unanimously approved this budget.

Agenda Item # 9 – Public Comment – Lawrence Lipford – 6061 Highway 27 – Mr. Lipford read a letter he wrote to the Board.

Agenda Item # 8 – Executive Session – On motion (Hammond) and second (Hooks), the Board unanimously voted to enter executive session to discuss personnel. After executive session, on motion (Hammond) and second (Perry), the Board voted to reenter regular session.

There being no further business, on motion (Caldwell) and second (Perry), the Board voted unanimously to adjourn.

Adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Hope Cole

County Clerk

Lee Boone

Chairman

Date 02-15-2022

