

**GORDON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORK SESSION MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 4, 2012**

The Gordon County Board of Commissioners held a Work Session Tuesday, September 4, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. in the conference room of the Administration Building.

MEMBERS PRESENT

**BECKY HOOD, VICE-CHAIRMAN
ALVIN LONG, COMMISSIONER
CHAD STEWARD, COMMISSIONER**

OTHERS PRESENT

**RANDALL DOWLING, ADMINISTRATOR
SUZANNE SMITH, COUNTY ATTORNEY
ANNETTE BERRY, COUNTY CLERK
MEDIA
9 GUESTS**

Vice-Chairman Hood called the meeting to order.

The Board discussed each item on the Agenda and made no changes to the Agenda.

Mrs. Rebecca Lanier, manager of Mulligans at Fields Ferry spoke to the Board requesting that her fees for the Malt Beverage and Wine license she holds be reduced for year 2013, to match the fees paid by others in Gordon County that hold the same type licenses; that being, consumption on the premises licenses to serve by the drink. County attorney Smith advised that the difference in the licenses is that the other three are categorized as non-profits. There was a consensus of the Board to bring this up for discussion at the next meeting, at which time the Board would have four members present.

Commissioner Long made a motion to adjourn the Work Session. Commissioner Steward seconded the motion and all voted aye.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Annette Berry, County Clerk

Becky Hood, Vice-Chairman

**GORDON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 4, 2012**

The Gordon County Board of Commissioners held their Regular Meeting on Tuesday, September 4, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. in the Conference Room of the Administration Building.

MEMBERS PRESENT

**BECKY HOOD, VICE-CHAIRMAN
ALVIN LONG, COMMISSIONER
CHAD STEWARD, COMMISSIONER**

OTHERS PRESENT

**RANDALL DOWLING, ADMINISTRATOR
SUZANNE SMITH, COUNTY ATTORNEY
ANNETTE BERRY, COUNTY CLERK
MEDIA
11 GUESTS**

Vice-Chairman Hood called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Invocation was led by Rev. John Allen. The pledge of allegiance was led by Vice-Chairman Hood.

WELCOME

Vice-Chairman Hood welcomed everyone to the meeting.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Vice-Chairman Hood presented Roberta Carbonneau with Family Connection, a proclamation from the Board of Commissioners proclaiming September as Suicide Prevention Awareness Month.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION – Employees with anniversary hire dates in September

Commissioner Long read the list of employees and drew the name of Jeff McBee as the employee of the month.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice-Chairman Hood asked if there were any additions, omissions, or deletions to the Minutes for the Work Session August 21, 2012, and the Regular Meeting August 21, 2012. Commissioner Long made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Steward seconded the motion and all voted aye. Minutes approved.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Dowling read the report.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

None

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – GERMANE TO THE AGENDA

None

CONSIDERATION OF OLD BUSINESS

None

CONSIDERATION OF NEW BUSINESS

SECONDARY METALS RECYCLER REGISTRATION FEES FOR THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

County Attorney advised the Board that this is a secondary metals recycler registration fee. Pursuant to an amendment to O.C.G.A. 10-1-360, state law has been changed to require that businesses of secondary metal recycling must register in order to operate in the county of their business. This request comes to the Board from the Sheriff's office, asking that the Board grant formal permission for the establishment of a \$200 registration fee. This will be collected by the Sheriff's office, with \$100 being retained by the county and the other \$100 to be transmitted to the Secretary of State to be used to maintain a statewide data base.

Commissioner Steward made a motion to approve the request from the Sheriff's office. Commissioner Long seconded the motion and Commissioners Long, Steward, and Hood voted aye. Motion passed.

OPERATING CONTRACT FOR 2013 WITH GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE SECTION 5311 TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

County Administrator Dowling advised that this is an operating contract for the 2013 Section 5311 Transportation Program through the Georgia Department of Transportation. This is an annual contract to operate the public transportation program.

Commissioner Long made a motion to approve the contract with the D.O.T. Commissioner Steward seconded the motion and Commissioners Long, Steward, and Hood voted aye. Motion passed.

APPLICATION FOR MALT BEVERAGE WINE & LIQUOR LICENSE FOR CALHOUN MOOSE LODGE

County Attorney Smith advised the Board that this is an amended application for a Malt Beverage Wine & Liquor license for Calhoun Moose Lodge under the new ordinance allowing for the sale of distilled spirits for beverage purposes by the drink for consumption on the premises. The Calhoun Moose Lodge currently holds a consumption on the premises license and this would allow for the sale of liquor by the drink through 2012. All paperwork is in order.

Commissioner Steward made a motion to approve the application for the Calhoun Moose Lodge. Commissioner Long seconded the motion and Commissioners Long, Steward, and Hood voted aye. Motion passed.

ACCEPTANCE OF A 2011 HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT FROM THE GEORGIA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT

County Administrator Dowling advised that this is acceptance for a 2011 Homeland Security grant from GEMA for Fire Department equipment. This is a \$20,000 grant for detection equipment.

Commissioner Long made a motion to approve accepting the grant from GEMA for the Fire Department for various equipment. Commissioner Steward seconded the motion and

Commissioners Steward, Long, and Hood voted aye. Motion passed.

CDBG GRANT FOR \$500,000 FOR VAC

Vice-Chairman Hood announced that Gordon County has received a \$500,000 CDBG grant for the VAC.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Long made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Steward seconded the motion and all voted aye. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Annette Berry, County Clerk

Becky Hood, Vice-Chairman

**GORDON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 4, 2012**

The Gordon County Board of Commissioners held a Special Meeting September 4, 2012 at 10:30 a.m. in the Administration Building Conference Room.

MEMBERS PRESENT

**BECKY HOOD, VICE-CHAIRMAN
ALVIN LONG, VICE CHAIRMAN
CHAD STEWARD, COMMISSIONER**

OTHERS PRESENT

**RANDY DOWLING, COUNTY ADMINIST.
SUZANNE SMITH, COUNTY ATTORNEY
ANNETTE BERRY, COUNTY CLERK
CITY OF CALHOUN
CITY OF FAIRMOUNT
10 GUESTS**

Vice-Chairman Hood called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

Administrator Dowling advised that this is a meeting to decide if the county and any of the cities want to participate in imposing a 2% local energy excise tax. No financial data is available for the Board or the cities to use in making a decision. If we don't participate then each will lose money, just how much that would be, no one knows. Commissioner Hood advised that this would not be a sales tax increase, it's just a continuation.

Gordon County Board members all spoke in favor of participation in imposing the tax.

City of Calhoun Mayor Palmer spoke to the Board and advised that the City of Calhoun would participate.

City of Fairmount Mayor Pierce spoke to the Board and advised that Fairmount would be willing to sign the agreement.

City of Resaca was not represented at the meeting.

City of Plainville mayor had advised by phone that the City of Plainville wished to participate in the excise tax.

There was a consensus of the Board to move forward and ask the County Attorney to prepare an intergovernmental agreement for the cities and county to execute, and an ordinance for the County to approve.

Commissioner Long made a motion to go into Executive Session for Personnel. Commissioner Steward seconded the motion and Commissioners Long, Steward, and Hood voted aye. Executive Session started at 10:50 a.m.

Commissioner Steward made a motion to go back into the Work Session. Commissioner Long seconded the motion and Commissioners Steward, Long, and Hood voted aye. Executive Session adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Annette Berry, County Clerk

Becky Hood, Vice-Chairman

**GORDON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 12, 2012**

The Gordon County Board of Commissioners held a Special Meeting September 12, 2012 at 10:30 a.m. in the Administration Building Conference Room.

MEMBERS PRESENT

**JUDY BAILEY, CHAIRMAN
BECKY HOOD, VICE CHAIRMAN
CHAD STEWARD, COMMISSIONER
ALVIN LONG, COMMISSIONER**

OTHERS PRESENT

**RANDY DOWLING, COUNTY ADMINIST.
SUZANNE SMITH, COUNTY ATTORNEY
ANNETTE BERRY, COUNTY CLERK
MEDIA
2 GUESTS**

Chairman Bailey called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

RESOLUTION SETTING THE 2012 MILLAGE RATE

Administrator Dowling advised that the first item of business is to adopt the County's millage rate for 2012. Administrator Dowling read the resolution establishing the 2012 tax levy (copy attached).

Commissioner Long made a motion to approve the total net mills of 29.309 for the incorporated and unincorporated areas of the county for county government operations and county school operations. Commissioner Long commented that the citizens of Gordon County think that the Board of Commissioners is responsible for the millage rate in the county and all the cities. The cities set their own and the Board of Education sets its own millage rate. All the Board of Commissions does is approve the total countywide millage rate so that the assessor can send the digest down to the State. Commissioner Steward seconded the motion and Commissioners Long, Steward, and Hood voted aye. Motion passed.

BUDGET AMENDMENT #2 TO RESTORE EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Administrator Dowling advised the Board that this is budget amendment #2 in the amount of \$319,100, to restore employee benefits including adding back three remaining unpaid holidays – Labor Day, Spring Holiday, and Memorial Day; also adding back the remaining 1.5% of the county's contribution to the employee retirement plan from 3.5% to the original 5% effective Oct. 1, 2012.

Commissioner Long made a motion approving the budget amendment to restore employee benefits and commented that the Board members want the staff and all employees to know that this Board fulfilled the promise made, that as soon as they could they would give back all the benefits and that promise has now been fulfilled. This was something that the Board worked hard to be able to do and the Board appreciates the sacrifices that the employees have made. Commissioner Hood seconded the motion and Commissioner Long, Hood, and Steward voted aye. Motion passed.

PERSONNEL REQUEST FROM THE TAX ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

Ashley O'Donald, Tax Assessor spoke to the Board requesting approval to hire one employee to work part time, to include benefits, in his department to fill the vacancy left by two part time temporary employees who have now left to go back to school. The employee currently works part time in Administration. The position would still work half in Administration and half in Tax Assessors' office and would be funded through the Tax Assessor's budget. The Board asked for a commitment from the employee to acquire appraisal certification as a stipulation for being offered the position. There was a consensus of the Board to delay approval for this position to be filled until Mr. O'Donald speaks with the employee to get an answer regarding the certification stipulation.

APPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD OF TAX ASSESSORS

Ashley O'Donald spoke to the Board about an appointment to the Board of Tax Assessors for Bobby House. The appointment would be for an unexpired term ending 12/31/13.

Chairman Bailey asked for a motion to approve an appointment to the Board of Tax Assessors for Bobby House to fill Mr. Walraven's unexpired term ending 12/31/2012.

Commissioner Long approved the appointment to the Board of Tax Assessors. Commissioners Steward seconded the motion and Commissioners Long, Steward, and Hood voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Long made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Steward seconded the motion. All voted aye. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Annette Berry, County Clerk

Judy Bailey, Chairman
