

**GORDON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
WORK SESSION MINUTES  
AUGUST 18, 2015**

The Gordon County Board of Commissioners held a Work Session Tuesday, August 18, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. in the main courtroom of the Gordon County Courthouse.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

**BECKY HOOD, CHAIRMAN  
CHAD STEWARD, VICE CHAIRMAN  
NORRIS SEXTON, COMMISSIONER  
KEVIN CUNNINGHAM, COMMISSIONER**

**OTHERS PRESENT**

**JOHN KING, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
JIM LEDBETTER, COUNTY ATTORNEY  
ANNETTE BERRY, COUNTY CLERK  
MEDIA  
APPROXIMATELY 13 GUESTS**

Chairman Hood called the meeting to order.

The Board discussed each item on the agenda for the Regular Meeting and made no changes or additions. Administrator King explained the item on the agenda for Board's consideration of approving a tentative millage rate. Administrator King advised that the Finance Director recommends that the Board raise the millage rate based on the policy that the Board has set of maintaining a minimum General Fund balance that is 35% of what the annual operating expenses are for the County, what is optimal for the Finance Department is 50%. Right now at the last audit we came in at 44%, the minimum is 35% that we want to avoid going below, and optimal is 50%. We are in a range that we think probably is just about right. Commissioner Sexton advised the Board that his personal opinion is that he did not think they should raise the millage rate this year. He felt that there are plenty of reserved funds for the County to work with. Commissioner Steward commented that if the Board increases Freeport, and if the Board gives the employees raises next year, this is going to dwindle the reserves if we don't raise the millage rate. Commissioner Gazaway pointed out that if we don't raise the millage rate then we are going to have a deficit of about \$600,000 in next year's budget on top of everything already mentioned.

Commissioner Sexton made a motion to go into Executive Session for personal matters. Commissioner Steward seconded the motion and Commissioners Cunningham, Steward, Gazaway, and Sexton voted aye. Executive Session began at 5:49 p.m.

Commissioner Sexton made a motion to close the Executive Session. Commissioner Cunningham seconded the motion and Commissioners Sexton, Cunningham, Gazaway, and Steward voted aye. Executive Session closed at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioner Cunningham made a motion to close the Work Session. Commissioner Steward seconded the motion and all voted aye. There being no further business the Work Session adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

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Annette Berry, County Clerk

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Becky Hood, Chairman

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**GORDON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
AUGUST 18, 2015**

The Gordon County Board of Commissioners held their Regular Meeting on Tuesday, August 18, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. in the conference room of the Administration Building.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

**BECKY HOOD, CHAIRMAN  
CHAD STEWARD, VICE CHAIRMAN  
KEVIN CUNNINGHAM, COMMISSIONER  
NORRIS SEXTON, COMMISSIONER  
JEFF GAZAWAY, COMMISSIONER**

**OTHERS PRESENT**

**JOHN KING, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
JIM LEDBETTER, COUNTY ATTORNEY  
ANNETTE BERRY, COUNTY CLERK  
MEDIA  
APPROXIMATELY 12 GUESTS**

Chairman Hood called the meeting to order.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Invocation was led by Commissioner Sexton. The pledge of allegiance was led by Chairman Hood.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Hood asked if there are any additions, omissions, or deletions to the Minutes for the Work Session August 4, 2015, and the Regular Meeting August 4, 2015. Commissioner Cunningham made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioners Steward seconded the motion and Commissioners Cunningham, Sexton, and Steward voted aye. Motion approved.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

County Administrator King read the report into the record (copy attached).

**COMMISSIONERS' REPORT**

Commissioner Gazaway reported that he attended STEM Camp at the College and Career Academy, the 4-H Awards Banquet, the Chamber Booster Breakfast, the Chris Brown retirement from the Sheriff's Department, and the Community Government Affairs meeting. Commissioner Steward attended the Resaca Town Hall Meeting and the Finance Committee Meeting.

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR ZONING**

Commissioner Cunningham made a motion to go into the public hearing for zoning. Commissioner Gazaway seconded the motion and Commissioners Cunningham, Gazaway, Sexton, and Steward voted aye.

**APPLICATION #Z15-07 THOMAS E. SHANAHAN**

County Attorney Ledbetter advised that this is application number Z15-07, Thomas E. Shanahan's request to rezone from A-1 to C-C. This comes to the Board of Commissioners from the Planning Commission with their recommendations for approval. Mr. Bobby Howard with Hibbymo Properties, potential buyer and developer, came before the Board and advised that his

company is the developer for Dollar General and that this property, if rezoned, will be the site of a Dollar General store.

Commissioner Cunningham made a motion to approve the rezoning request. Commissioner Gazaway seconded the motion and Commissioners Cunningham, Gazaway, Steward, and Sexton voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Sexton made a motion to close the public hearing. Commissioner Steward seconded the motion and all voted aye. Public Hearing closed.

#### CONSIDERATION OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

#### CONSIDERATION OF NEW BUSINESS

##### APPOINTMENT TO THE CALHOUN-GORDON LIBRARY BOARD FOR AMY BEASON TO FILL AN UNEXPIRED TERM ENDING 6/1/16

County Administrator King advised that this is an appointment for Amy Beason to the Calhoun-Gordon Library Board to fill an unexpired term ending 6/1/2016.

Commissioner Steward made a motion to approve the appointment of Amy Beason to the Calhoun-Gordon Library Board. Commission Gazaway seconded the motion and Commissioners Gazaway, Cunningham, Steward, and Sexton voted aye. Motion passed.

##### ALCOHOL BEVERAGE LICENSE APPLICATION FOR CIRCLE K STORES

County Administrator King advised that this is an application for an alcohol beverage license for Circle K Stores. This is a location that has already been licensed and is now under new ownership.

Commissioner Gazaway made a motion to approve the application for Circle K. Stores. Commissioner Steward seconded the motion and Commissioners Gazaway, Steward, and Hood voted aye. Commissioners Sexton and Cunningham opposed the motion. Motion passed.

##### CONSIDERATION OF TENTATIVE 2015 TAX MILLAGE RATE

Administrator King advised that this is for Board consideration to set the 2015 tax millage rate at 9.930. This is a proposal to set the rate and then the Board will have to conduct three public hearings before a final determination and approval is made.

Commissioner Gazaway made a motion to propose a 9.930 tax millage rate for 2015. Commissioner Steward seconded the motion and Commissioners Gazaway, Steward, and Hood voted aye. Commissioners Sexton and Cunningham opposed the motion. Motion passed.

**CONSIDERATION OF ADJUSTMENT TO THE FREEPORT TAX EXEMPTION**

County Administrator King advised that two years ago the Board implemented a 20% increase up to 40% Freeport tax exemption and this is where the County is today. This is for the Board's consideration of adjustment from 40% to 60% exemption.

Commissioner Cunningham made a motion to approve an adjustment to the Freeport tax exemption from 40% to 60% which will take effect January 1, 2016. Commissioner Gazaway seconded the motion and Commissioner Cunningham, Gazaway, Sexton, and Steward voted aye. Motion passed.

**BUDGET AMENDMENT TO PURCHASE THE BB&T BUILDING**

County Administrator King advised that this is an amendment to the budget to allow the purchase of the BB&T building. (see attached)

Commissioner Steward made a motion to approve the budget amendment. Commissioner Cunningham seconded the motion and Commissioners Cunningham, Gazaway, Sexton, and Steward voted aye. Motion passed.

**BUDGET AMENDMENT TO COVER THE PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST PLUS OPERATING EXPENSES FOR REVENUE BOND AND BUILDING OPERATING EXPENSE FOR THE BB&T BUILDING**

Administrator King advised that this is a budget amendment to cover the principal and interest plus operating expenses for the revenue bond and building operating expenses for the BB&T building. (see attached)

Commissioner Cunningham made a motion to approve the budget amendment. Commissioner Gazaway seconded the motion and Commissioners Gazaway, Sexton, Steward, and Cunningham voted aye. Motion passed.

**BID AWARD TO REALIGN TENNIS COURTS AT SONORAVILLE RECREATION PARK**

Administrator King advised that Gordon County solicited for bids to realign the tennis courts at Sonoraville Recreation Park. Gordon County received five bids. The recommendation is to award the bid to Signature Tennis Courts in the amount of \$28,470.00, which will be funded from the Recreation Department budget.

Commissioner Cunningham made a motion to award the bid to Signature Tennis Courts. Commissioner Gazaway seconded the motion and Commissioner Cunningham, Gazaway, Sexton, and Steward voted aye. Motion passed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Commissioner Sexton 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 6:25 p.m.**

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**Annette Berry, County Clerk**

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**Becky Hood, Chairman**