

**GORDON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORK SESSION MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 1, 2015**

The Gordon County Board of Commissioners held a Work Session Tuesday, September 1, 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
JEFF GAZAWAY, COMMISSIONER**

OTHERS PRESENT

**JOHN KING, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
JIM LEDBETTER, COUNTY ATTORNEY
ANNETTE BERRY, COUNTY CLERK
APPROXIMATELY 7 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. Attorney Ledbetter explained the request for de-annexation of property. He explained that this is just a request from the Cochran's for the County to agree that, if the City of Calhoun decides to de-annex the property, then the County will accept the property back into the County. Attorney Ledbetter also commented on the item for the agreement with ABL Management for jail food service. He advised that ABL started providing food service to the jail as of July 1. A couple of items on the contract were requested to be modified and those changes have been made to the contract. He recommends the Board accept and sign the contract.

Ms. Sue Henson, Director of Animal Control gave the Board an update of her department activities. Director Henson advised the Board that she is visiting surrounding counties' animal shelters to get ideas for how their kennels are designed. She also said that she has several new dog rescue groups. Intake of animals is up right now because of the time of the year, but they are getting a lot of rescues from the groups and also they are getting a lot of adoptions. People seems to really like the spay and neuter programs that are in place now. Commissioner Hood asked when the SPLOST funds for the new facility will be available. Director Henson advised that it will be 2017 before they are collected for the new facility.

Administrator King commented that GEMA will be conducting an ICS402 class in Gordon County. The intent of this training is really for management executive level training that should give us all common ground to work from in case of an emergency. This will be on Tuesday, October 13, 2015, at the Ag Center. GEMA will be there to facilitate and provide the training.

Commissioner Cunningham made a motion to close the Work Session. Commissioner Gazaway seconded the motion and all voted aye. There being no further business the Work Session adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Annette Berry, County Clerk

Becky Hood, Chairman

**GORDON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 1, 2015**

The Gordon County Board of Commissioners held their Regular Meeting on Tuesday, September 1, 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
APPROXIMATELY 7 GUESTS**

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 Chairman Hood.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION – Employees with Anniversary Hire Dates in September

Commissioner Gazaway read the list of employees with anniversary hire dates in September. Commissioner Sexton drew the name of Adam Dortch as Employee of the Month for September.

PUBLIC HEARING – Proposed Millage Rate Increase

Commissioner Steward made a motion to open the public hearing for the proposed millage rate. Commissioner Gazaway seconded the motion and all voted aye.

Mr. James Chitwood came before the Board to speak about why the millage rate would be raised and what it would be used for. Mr. Chitwood was under the impression that the reason for the millage rate increase was for a purchase that was recently approved by the Board to buy the old BB&T bank facility. Board members spoke with Mr. Chitwood and explained the reason for the proposed millage rate increase was due to the increase in the Freeport exemption, which increased from 40% to 60%, thereby reducing tax on inventory coming in to the county from several companies.

No one else signed up to speak at the public hearing. Commissioner Cunningham made a motion to close the public hearing. Commissioner Gazaway seconded the motion and all voted aye.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Hood asked if there are any additions, omissions, or deletions to the Minutes for the Work Session August 18, 2015, and the Regular Meeting August 18, 2015. Commissioner Steward made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Cunningham seconded the motion and Commissioners Cunningham, Sexton, Gazaway 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 the Northwest Georgia Regional meeting and

the General Affairs Committee meeting at the Chamber. Commissioner Steward reported that he attended the Development Authority meeting. Commissioner Cunningham attended a meeting regarding the new Redbud fire station, and attended the Business After Hours at the Harbin Clinic. Commissioner Hood attended a meeting with Georgia Power and U.S. Representative Tom Graves.

CONSIDERATION OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

CONSIDERATION OF NEW BUSINESS

PROCLAMATION FOR SEPTEMBER AS SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH

Commissioner Steward read the proclamation declaring September as Suicide Prevention Awareness Month and presented it to Roberta Charbonneau, Coordinator with Family Connection of Gordon County.

REQUEST FROM TRACY AND MELISSA COCHRAN FOR DE-ANNEXATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF PROPERTY BACK AS AN UNINCORPORATED AREA OF GORDON COUNTY

County Attorney Ledbetter advised that this is a request from Tracy and Melissa Cochran asking the Board to agree to accept property back into Gordon County should the City of Calhoun approve the de-annexation request.

Commissioner Cunningham made a motion to approve accepting the Cochran's property back into the unincorporated area of Gordon County should the City approve the de-annexation. Commissioner Steward seconded the motion and Commissioners Cunningham, Gazaway, Steward, and Sexton voted aye. Motion passed.

AGREEMENT WITH ABL MANAGEMENT, INC. TO PROVIDE FOOD SERVICE AT GORDON COUNTY JAIL

County Attorney Ledbetter advised that ABL Management has been providing food service at the jail since July and this is formalizing the jail food service agreement with ABL Management, Inc. The agreement has been reviewed, some modifications have been made and it now reflects our bid requirements.

Commissioner Steward made a motion to approve the agreement with ABL Management. Commissioner Cunningham seconded the motion and Commissioners Gazaway, Steward, Sexton, and Cunningham voted aye. Motion passed.

ACCEPTANCE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE GRANT FY2015

Chairman Hood advised that this is for Board acceptance of the Emergency Management Performance grant for fiscal year 2015.

Commissioner Steward made a motion to approve acceptance of the grant. Commissioner Cunningham seconded the motion and Commissioner Cunningham, Steward, Gazaway, and Sexton voted aye. Motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Steward made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Cunningham seconded the motion and all voted aye. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

Annette Berry, County Clerk

Becky Hood, Chairman