

**GORDON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
OCTOBER 2, 2018**

The Gordon County Board of Commissioners held their Regular Meeting on October 2, 2018 beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the conference room of the Administration Building.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

**OTHERS PRESENT**

**JIM LEDBETTER, CTY. ADMINISTRATOR  
ANNETTE BERRY, COUNTY CLERK  
MEDIA  
25 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.

**EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION**

Commissioner Steward read the list of employees with anniversary hire dates in October. Commissioner Owens drew the name of Corey Tate with the Sheriff's Department as Employee of the Month for October.

**PUBLIC HEARING TO ABANDON SECTION OF PEARL JOHNSON ROAD**

Commissioner Owens made a motion to open the Public Hearing to abandon a section of Pearl Johnson Road. Commissioner Sexton seconded and all voted aye.

Administrator Ledbetter advised that this is a public hearing for public comments regarding the Board of Commissioners' intent to abandon a section of Pearl Johnson Road. The county would no longer be maintaining the road, but cannot extinguish any rights of travel across that road that already exists in deeds and plats.

Dr. Dennis Steele spoke to the Board in opposition of abandoning Pearl Johnson Road. Dr. Steele said he could not get his equipment up to his property, making his property useless because he has no road frontage. There also needs to be access for fire equipment to get in there in case of a forest fire, and this road has been a county road for a very long time.

Mr. Shane McDougale does not want the road abandoned and worries that he will not have the 125 feet of road frontage for possibly building one or two houses there for his children at some time in the future. Administrator Ledbetter pointed out that this was a good point to bring up, about what might happen in the future if the section of the road is abandoned.

Mr. Gary Barnes, an attorney for Weyerhaeuser, spoke to the Board in opposition of abandoning the road. Weyerhaeuser owns about 22,000 acres, the road is gated and dead ended as it hits the Weyerhaeuser property. Weyerhaeuser needs access to its property, this is the access they have used over the years.

Mr. Anthony Reis, stated that he is a property owner and his road frontage is Pearl Johnston Road. He wants the County to abandon that section of the road. If the County does abandon that section, he stated that he has been advised to gate it because that's the quickest way to resolve any easement issues and then at that point, we'll decide how to go about it. If

Weyerhaeuser leases or buys it from him or pays for him to maintain it or they maintain it on a regular schedule, then that would be decided, but that is what he has been advised to do. If the county does abandon it he said he has been advised to block it as of tomorrow or whenever the order goes through, until that is figured out, because it's not fair if he has to maintain it for everybody else to use. The road is not in a condition where he can bring construction vehicles in to build a house, because that's his intent. Weyerhaeuser does have other access and that's where most of the people come in through, but people do use the road in front of his property, it's a lot quicker and it's a lot easier, his only concern is footing the bill.

Administrator Ledbetter advised that he doesn't think Mr. Reis can gate the road. He advised that if the County does not abandon the road we have to go out and do some minimal work on it, but we do not have to pave it. If Mr. Reis went out and put up a gate tomorrow, the County would be answering to Mr. Barnes on behalf of his client and to Mr. McDougale and Dr. Steele's attorney, so he recommended to the Board that they should not abandon the road. Because they have made a case that it would cause a hardship on members of the public and there is a legitimate public need to keep the road open.

Commissioner Owens made a motion to deny the request for abandoning a portion of Pearl Johnson Road. Commissioner Sexton seconded the motion and Commissioners Owens, Sexton, Steward, and Cunningham voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Steward made a motion to close the public hearing. Commissioner Sexton 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 September 18, 2018, and the Regular Meeting September 18, 2018. Commissioner Sexton made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Steward seconded the motion and Commissioners Cunningham, Owens, Sexton, and Steward voted aye. Motion approved.

#### ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Ledbetter submitted the written report to the Board (copy attached).

#### COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

None.

#### CONSIDERATION OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

#### CONSIDERATION OF NEW BUSINESS

#### REAPPOINTMENT OF BUD OWENS TO THE NORTHWEST GEORGIA REGION ONE EMS ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM ENDING JANUARY 1, 2021

Administrator Ledbetter advised this is the reappointment of Bud Owens to the Northwest Georgia Region One EMS Advisory Council for a two-year term ending January 1, 2021.

Commissioner Sexton made a motion to approve the reappointment of Bud Owens to the Region

One EMS. Commissioner Steward seconded the motion and Commissioners Steward, Sexton, and Cunningham voted aye. Motion passed.

**CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST TO CLOSE TRIMBLE HOLLOW ROAD FOR A SPECIAL EVENT**

Administrator Ledbetter advised that this is a request to close a portion of Trimble Hollow Road for an upcoming special event. This would be on October 8, between the hours of 11:00 am and 8:00 pm. Each department and office has been notified of the road closure beginning at Highway 41 and Trimble Hollow Road travelling east to the intersection Spring Hill Road.

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

**DECLARATION OF SURPLUS PROPERTY FOR THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT FOR SURVEILLANCE EQUIPMENT TO BE OFFERED TO THE CITY OF CALHOUN POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Administrator Ledbetter advised that this is a request from the Sheriff's Department for a declaration of surplus surveillance property to be offered to the City of Calhoun Police Department.

Commissioner Sexton made a motion to approve the declaration of surplus property for the Sheriff's Department. Cmmissioner Owens seconded the motion and Commissioners Sexton, Owens, Cunningham, and Steward voted aye. Motion passed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Sexton made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Commissioner Cunningham seconded the motion and all voted aye.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

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Annette Berry, County Clerk

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Becky Hood, Chairman

**GORDON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
SPECIAL MEETING  
OCTOBER 2, 2018**

The Gordon County Board of Commissioners met in a Special Meeting at 10:12 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Administration Building.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

**OTHERS PRESENT**

**JIM LEDBETTER, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
KEITH KING, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT  
KEN JARRARD, ATTORNEY  
AARON MAYER, ATTORNEY**

Chairman Hood called the meeting to order and advised that the purpose of this meeting is to ratify the mediation settlement between Gordon County and the City of Calhoun for the HB489 Service Delivery Strategy.

Commissioner Owens made a motion to ratify the mediation settlement agreed upon by Gordon County and the City of Calhoun regarding the Service Delivery Strategy. Commissioner Sexton seconded the motion and Commissioners Owens, Sexton, Cunningham, Steward, and Hood voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Sexton made a motion to close the Special Meeting. Commissioner Cunningham seconded the motion and all voted aye.

There being no further business, the Special Meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Annette Berry, County Clerk

Becky Hood, Chairman

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Annette Berry, County Clerk

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