

**GORDON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
WORK SESSION MINUTES  
MARCH 19, 2019**

The Gordon County Board of Commissioners held a Work Session Tuesday, March 19, 2019, at 5:30 p.m. in the conference room of the Administration Building.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

**CHAD STEWARD, VICE CHAIRMAN  
M. L. BUD OWENS, COMMISSIONER  
NORRIS SEXTON, COMMISSIONER  
KEVIN CUNNINGHAM, COMMISSIONER**

**OTHERS PRESENT**

**JIM LEDBETTER, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR  
ANNETTE BERRY, COUNTY CLERK  
MEDIA  
APPROXIMATELY 20 GUESTS**

Vice Chairman Steward called the meeting to order.

Administrator Ledbetter explained each item on the Agenda for the Regular Meeting. No items were deleted or added to the Agenda as presented.

Ms. Allison Karch came before the Board to speak about the flooding at Plantation Place on Doe Lane. Ms. Karch said she had spoken to the Public Works Department and had been told there was no solution to the accumulation of water flooding Doe Lane and no way to drain it out faster. Ms. Karch further said, "As of today the road is still closed and the water has not gone down at all as there has been no solution or remedy for the ongoing problem. Cars have to park along the roadside and residents have to walk through yards to get to their house, because residents are unable to safely cross the flooded part of the road to get to their homes, no mail can be delivered and emergency personnel could not get through if needed. I pay someone to mow my yard, they can't get there, I don't have another option, I don't own a lawnmower. This is unacceptable for us to live like this. The County needs to find a short-term solution and then find a way to prevent the problem. Children are having to walk around the flooded area to get to their school bus. The county put out a road closed sign, but, how do you close a cul-de-sac with no plan for fixing the problem. The county has not done anything to help get the water off the road, and to solve the future flooding, there is a field that the water could be pumped to".

County Administrator Ledbetter explained that the County has looked into the problem in the past, this has been an issue on Doe Lane for years. Chris Frix, the developer and others have looked at the problems there. The developer had sold lots to a Bob Shafley who changed the watercourse to lessen the development costs. The homeowners at that time, were encouraged to look to Mr. Shafley for recourse for redirecting the water and causing damage to the property. Unfortunately, Mr. Shafley had fled the Country and returned to his home country. The Board saw the need to make changes in the subdivision development regulations as a result of these problems and elsewhere. It's not true that the County has done nothing. It is true that the County does not have a feasible solution to flooding on Doe Lane. Engineering was done several years ago, and the recommendation at that time would have required a 1,300 linear foot relief drain line to get the water over to the field that Ms. Karch referred to. The cost of the drain line several years ago was estimated to be about \$500,000. We can't just take water and put it on another person's property. Just recently while we were looking at this problem, our Public Works Department was forbidden to get on this property. We couldn't even put a drain pipe across it, without acquiring the right to do so, even if it's a temporary pipe. These homes and where the road floods is the low point of about 10 acres that's drained there. According to our engineer, there is about a million gallons of water in there right now, so putting that much water in tanker trucks and moving it out, that's about 100 tanker trucks, just without another drop going back in, which is unlikely. Doe Lane appears on the County's paving list for this summer. The next thing we are going to have engineering do, is to calculate for us what kind of an elevation of the road would be necessary. We can't really get the water out of there, we would have to acquire property rights to cross about nine different private properties, that was not figured into the cost of the linear drain pipe.

A developer created this problem years ago. We have had an engineer look at this but we don't know how to pump this water off.

County Administrator discussed an annexation request to the City of Calhoun for 13.6 acres on Dews Pond Road. It is an island of County in the City. It's one of those annexations that should take place.

Commissioner Cunningham made a motion to adjourn the Work Session. Commissioner Sexton seconded the motion and all voted aye.

There being no further business, the Work Session adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

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Annette Berry, County Clerk

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Chad Steward, Vice Chairman

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**GORDON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 19, 2019**

The Gordon County Board of Commissioners held their Regular Meeting on March 19, 2019 beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the conference room of the Administration Building.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

**CHAD STEWARD, VICE CHAIRMAN  
M. L. BUD OWENS, COMMISSIONER  
NORRIS SEXTON, COMMISSIONER  
KEVIN CUNNINGHAM, COMMISSIONER**

**OTHERS PRESENT**

**JIM LEDBETTER, CTY. ADMINISTRATOR  
ANNETTE BERRY, COUNTY CLERK  
MEDIA  
APPROXIMATELY 35 GUESTS**

Vice Chairman Steward called the meeting to order.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Invocation was led by Commissioner Owens. The pledge of allegiance was led by Vice Chairman Steward.

**EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION**

Vice Chairman Steward read the list of Employees with Anniversary Hire Dates in March, and drew the name of Scott Blackstock as Employee of the Month for March.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Vice Chairman Steward asked if there are any additions, omissions, or deletions to the Minutes for the Work Session February 26, 2019, the Regular Meeting February 26, 2019, and the Special Meeting March 2, 2019. Commissioner Sexton made a motion to approve the Minutes. Commissioner Owens seconded the motion and Commissioners Cunningham, Owens and Sexton voted aye. Motion passed.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Administrator Ledbetter read the Administrator's Report into the record. (copy attached)

**COMMISSIONERS' REPORT**

Commissioner Owens commented that he had met with animal rescue folks about animal shelter suggestions, also met with the architect regarding the agriculture center, met with Taylor England Decision people for his interview, and attended the Calhoun College and Career Academy meeting.

**CONSIDERATION OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**CONSIDERATION OF NEW BUSINESS**

**PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING APRIL AS "DONATE LIFE MONTH"**

Commissioner Sexton read the proclamation for April as "Donate Life Month".

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

#### ORDINANCE FOR A BROADBAND READY COMMUNITY - FIRST READING

Administrator Ledbetter advised that this is the first reading of an ordinance for Gordon County becoming a Broadband ready community, and to obtain whatever benefits go with that. The Board will consider the Ordinance at the second reading which will be at the next meeting, April 9, 2019.

#### REQUEST TO USE RESACA BATTLEFIELD BY GORDON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Administrator Ledbetter advised that this is a request from the Sheriff's Office to use the Pavilion at the Resaca Battlefield Park for jail staff day and night shifts during two afternoons in April for picnics during closed times at the park.

Commissioner Sexton made a motion to approve the request from the Sheriff's Office. Commissioner Owens seconded the motion and Commissioners Sexton, Owens, and Cunningham voted aye. Motion passed.

#### DECLARATION OF SURPLUS PROPERTY FOR AUCTION TO BE HELD MARCH 23, 2019

Administrator Ledbetter advised that this is a declaration of surplus property for old vehicles and other miscellaneous property to be offered at auction March 23rd.

Commissioner Sexton made a motion to approve the declaration of surplus property. Commissioner Cunningham seconded the motion and Commissioners Sexton, Cunningham, and Owens voted aye. Motion passed.

#### AT&T SERVICING AND PROVIDER CONTRACTS

Administrator Ledbetter advised that this is a renewal of the AT&T servicing provider contracts. These will renew and get Gordon County back to our original rates. These contracts had expired several months ago, there is need to renew these contracts to get back to our lower rate.

Commissioner Owens made a motion to approve the contracts with AT&T. Commissioner Cunningham seconded the motion and Commissioners Owens, Cunningham, and Sexton voted aye. Motion passed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

**There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:17 p.m.**

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**Annette Berry, County Clerk**

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**Chad Steward, Vice Chairman**