

HABERSHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES
6:00 P.M., MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2024
HABERSHAM COUNTY COURTHOUSE
JURY ASSEMBLY ROOM
295 LLEWELLYN ST, CLARKESVILLE, GA 30523

The Habersham County Board of Commissioners held a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, April 15, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Jury Assembly Room of the Habersham County Courthouse located at 295 Llewellyn St, Clarkesville, GA 30523.

Present was Chairman Ty Akins, Vice Chairman Bruce Harkness, Commissioner Bruce Palmer, Commissioner Dustin Mealor, Commissioner Jimmy Tench, County Manager Alicia Vaughn, County Attorney Donnie Hunt, County Clerk Brandalin Carnes, staff, members of the media and the public.

Chairman Akins called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Commissioner Harkness lead the invocation.

Commissioner Tench lead the pledge of allegiance.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Palmer, seconded by Commissioner Harkness and voted unanimously (5-0) to adopt the agenda with the following change:

- 1) Remove item "g. Consider/Approve Acceptance of S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women Grant Award for Calendar Year CY 2024, CY 2025 and CY 2026" from the consent agenda and add it to new business as item "a." with subsequent renumbering of following items.

PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- a. Employee Spotlight:
 1. Jimmy Yon
- b. Proclamation of April 14th through April 20th as Public Safety Telecommunications Week
- c. Proclamation of April 21st through April 27th as Crime Victim's Rights Week
- d. Presentation- Boys and Girls Clubs of Lanier
- e. Request For Citizen Volunteers for Three Vacancies for Board of Equalization Alternates- Please Contact Clerk of Court's Office If Interested

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- a. Map Amendment Application Z-24-01: David Irvin Seeking Map Amendment to Change Land Use District of Two Parcels Totaling 8.15 Acres (Map Parcels 145 040 and 145 033) at Intersection of Glade Creek Parkway and Toccoa Hwy From LI, Low Intensity District to MI, Medium Intensity District for Purpose of Development as Commercial Property.

Planning Director Mike Beecham addressed the Commission regarding map amendment application Z-24-01. David Irvin submitted an application to the Planning Department requesting a map amendment to change the land use district of two parcels (Map parcel 145 040 and 145 033) totaling 8.15 acres from LI, Low Intensity District to HI, High Intensity District for the purpose of their development as commercial property. These two parcels are located at the intersection of Glade Creek Parkway and Toccoa Highway. The Planning Commission held a hearing regarding this application on April 2, 2024. Applicant David Irvin owns the Burger King in Cornelia and would like to potentially use this property to open a Burger King restaurant at this location as well. Several people spoke against

the application at the Planning Commission hearing stating that the area is largely residential and agricultural. While this is true, all the comprehensive plans and long-range plans for the county show this intersection as future commercial property. With the property lying between two four lane highways, he does not feel that it is realistic to expect that the property will be developed residentially. The Planning Commission asked David Irvin if he would be willing to change his request to MI, Medium Intensity District as it would allow for the retail and commercial use of the property without opening it up for high intensity uses like junkyard or auto repair shops in the future. David Irvin agreed to change his request for these parcels to MI, Medium Intensity District. The Planning Commission is in favor of the application with this modification. Another concern that was brought up by neighboring property owners was the potential impact on traffic, as they felt that the increased commercial activity could lead to traffic backing up on Tocca Highway and blocking Glad Creek Parkway. The Planning Commission had an in-depth discussion regarding this and thought that a possible solution may be having a right turn only entrance and exit directly onto highway 441, however they did not make this a condition of the map change due to the fact that Highway 441 is a state road and the county has no ability to grant driveway access to it. Applicant David Irvin has stated that he has begun talks with GDOT about the possibility of acquiring this driveway access.

Attorney Hunt invited the applicant to speak on behalf of his application. Applicant David Irvin clarified that they have requested access for the property come from Glade Creek Parkway, and he has had discussions with GDOT who have said that this access would need to be granted through the County. David Irvin stated that he grew up in this area and has never had any issues getting in or out when driving as there are two red lights. He may have to wait for the red lights to change so that traffic can move to get out, however there are many places in the county where this is a much worse issue. David Irvin stated that most of the traffic the Burger King would receive would come from existing traffic and that it was most likely that it would return from where it came from, making it unlikely to increase traffic past any residential homes in the area. David Irvin's son/business partner Brian Irvin spoke in favor of the application. The parcels in question are ideal commercial real estate located between two red lights between highway 441 and highway 365. It is already listed as for future use as Commercial Property on the County's Comprehensive Plan. Brian Irvin stated that BK Corporation has been targeting this area for a future Burger King location for quite some time now, and they would like to go ahead and lock down this site for this purpose. They already have an established presence in the community through their Clayton and Cornelia Burger King locations. This allows them to maintain that presence rather than having an outside Burger King operator coming in. There are very few residential homes in the area and a Dollar General and BP Gas Station lay directly across Highway 441 from their property.

Commissioner Harkness inquired as to whether the Irvin's have ownership of parcel 145 041 that lies between the two parcels in question and Highway 441? David Irvin stated that GDOT owns that parcel, however they are in discussion with GDOT about the possibility of purchasing it from them to try to put a right turn only entry and exit onto Highway 441 with an acceleration lane. They feel that this would help relieve access traffic between the two red lights.

Commissioner Mealor asked if they are considering having additional parking for large agricultural trucks? David Irvin stated they don't have any plans for that. They may be looking into building an additional restaurant and either more retail or a small hotel or motel in the future, but there are no immediate plans.

Attorney Hunt invited anyone else who wished to speak in favor of the application the opportunity to address the Commission. No one else wished to speak in favor of the application.

Attorney Hunt invited anyone who wished to speak in opposition of the application the opportunity to address the Commission. Robin Frady wished to speak in opposition of the application. She informed the Commission that the area surrounding the parcels in question is mostly agricultural and residential. She realizes that David Irvin stated that there was not much residential property around, but the reason for this is because it is residences with pasturelands. She has concerns regarding the impact of traffic, stating that tractors are on that road all the time and she had a friend who was hit on their tractor on this road just a few weeks ago. She also has concerns regarding the as well as the impact on nearby streams that are used for cattle and the chicken houses.

Attorney Hunt invited anyone else who wished to speak in opposition to the application the opportunity to address the Commission. No one else wished to speak in opposition to the application.

Commissioner Palmer stated that he had received several phone calls about this application this past weekend and went out to the property to observe the traffic firsthand. He felt that the traffic on Glade Creek Rd was lighter than what he expected, stating that from 7:20 am to 8:20 am he saw 92 cars come to the stop sign. He is unsure what the traffic is like in the afternoon, and it could possibly be that it was a light traffic day.

Commissioner Harkness inquired about the map overlay for the property. Commissioner Akins informed him that the property is in an area that has been designated as a future business corridor. Planning Director Mike Beecham added that consistently throughout all the comprehensive plans he has participated in the Lee Arrendale exchange area has been planned for future commercial development.

Motion by Commissioner Palmer, seconded by Commissioner Akins to approve map amendment application Z-24-01. Motion carries 4-1 with Commissioner Tench dissenting.

- b. Conditional Use Application CU-24-03: Global Storage Solutions Seeking Conditional Use For Self-Storage Facility at the Corner of Harvest Church Rd and Hwy 17N, Map Parcel 040 022, in LI, Low Intensity District

Planning Director Mike Beecham addressed the Commission. Conditional use application CU-24-03 was submitted by applicant Global Storage Solutions for the construction of a self-storage facility on 10.92 acres located at the corner of Harvest Church Rd and Hwy 17N (map parcel 040 022). The parcel is located in the LI, Low Intensity District. The surrounding uses are exclusively residential except for a church across from Harvest Church Rd. The site plan shows five proposed storage buildings with a separate office building, as well as 34 parking spaces in the rear available to rent for parking RV's and tractors. The proposed access would be off Harvest Church Rd. He reminded the Commission that the new Harvest Estates subdivision has been recently constructed near this parcel and that there are 17 building lots on Harvest Church Rd in addition to 5 lots constructed east of this property along Hwy 17N. Staff had concerns regarding the nature of the traffic using the site, as it can be assumed that the traffic will generally consist of RVs, campers, and trucks with trailers. A right-hand deceleration lane is already being installed on Hwy 17N due to the increased traffic caused by the subdivision. During the hearing process for the subdivision, existing residents brought up numerous complaints and concerns regarding difficult line of sight on Harvest Church Rd, and staff feel like the self-storage facility will only exacerbate this issue. Those who spoke in opposition to this new conditional use application continued to express concerns regarding traffic. While the State's minimum requirements for sight distance are being met, if someone is speeding on Hwy 17N it could be an issue for someone who is pulling out with an RV. An additional concern brought up by citizens was commercial intrusion into a residential area. The Planning Commission held a hearing on CU-24-03 on April 2, 2024 and is recommending denial.

Attorney Hunt invited the applicant to speak on behalf of their application. The applicant was not present, however Alex Mitchum with LJA Engineering and Surveying spoke on behalf of the applicant. Mr. Mitchum stated that, while he understands the concerns regarding traffic, storage facilities have infrequent access use and that he doesn't feel that there will be a huge impact on the traffic. He feels that his client picked this area in part because of the growth that is occurring there. Only 50% of this 10-acre property can be used due to the watershed, and they will only be using about 3 acres. This leaves a buffer along the sides of the property that border residential areas. This facility would be similar to others that are already currently located off of Hwy 17. They heard the concerns of those attending the Planning Commission hearing regarding the impact of RV traffic on Harvest Church Rd and they could push the site back to have more room for trucks to get off and onto the road to reduce the impact on Harvest Church Rd. His client plans to have the boat and RV storage in the rear of the property and to install year-round landscaping to screen the property from view. The property would be secured with a fence and gate.

Attorney Hunt invited anyone else who wished to speak in favor of the application an opportunity to do so. No one else wished to speak in favor of the application.

Attorney Hunt invited those wishing to speak in opposition to the application an opportunity to do so.

Linda Ashe-Fitzpatrick spoke in opposition to the application. While she does not reside in the neighborhood, her parents were some of the first to pick a lot in the neighborhood and they did so with the idea that this area would stay residential. Her parents are in their mid-80's and she is speaking on their behalf. Though the proposed area

being used for storage on this property would not face the road, it would face her parents' backyard. She feels that this would disrupt the peacefulness and safety of the neighborhood, expressing concerns regarding the traffic.

Chase Thomas spoke in opposition of the application, stating that the traffic on Hwy 17 has only gotten worse and they still don't know the impact all the new subdivision homes being built will have on traffic. It takes several minutes to pull off onto the road, and this driveway would be right at the end of Harvest Church Rd. It was his understanding that this portion of Habersham County was planned to remain rural. If this conditional use is approved, what would come next? Mr. Thomas is asking the Commission to go along with the unanimous vote from the Planning Commission to deny the application.

Tyson Bond spoke in opposition of the application. He moved into one of the new homes on Harvest Church Rd two days ago. He and his wife moved from Lumpkin County to get away from the development that was going on, which had decreased their quality of life. He is concerned about the impacts of increased traffic, noise, and light pollution from the business. He is requesting that the Commission accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission and deny the application. He wished to add that those who live in the subdivision did not know about the proposed self-storage facility until the notice was posted on April 5th and he felt this was short notice.

Attorney Hunt invited the applicant back up to address the concerns. Mr. Mitchum stated that while his client does not wish to add to any traffic problems, part of the reason they want to build at this location is because of the volume of traffic already on Hwy 17. He stated that the proposed use is allowed under the zoning with conditions, and he is happy to discuss those conditions including buffers, landscaping, etc.

Commissioner Mealor stated that while he welcomes Mr. Bond as a new resident of the Harvest Estates subdivision, he was vehemently opposed to the subdivision as he had seen the accidents that could occur at that location. He feels that as a county that is growing rapidly, the Commission needs to be very direct and intentional in the way they allow this growth to occur.

Motion by Commission Mealor, seconded by Commissioner Palmer and voted unanimously (5-0) to deny Conditional Use Application CU-24-03.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- a. ~~Doug McDonald: State/County Election Procedures, Support of Proclamation of Crime Victim's Rights Week (April 21st through 27th), Support of S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women Grant~~ Mr. Doug McDonald was not present to speak.
- b. Richard Rumble: Relocation of Orchard Subdivision E911 Tower

Mr. Rumble presented facts and figures that he had collected that he felt showed the negative financial impact of cell phone towers on the values and marketability of surrounding properties. He stated that even though the current tower is not being used for cell phone purposes, there are gaps in cell phone coverage in the area and he feels that a future Commission will end up approving a commercial phone tower for the area. Mr. Rumble stated that he feels that relocating the tower that has been proposed for the Orchard would keep it from affecting property values and allow for a future income stream from renting space on the tower to commercial phone carriers.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by Commissioner Mealor, seconded by Commissioner Harkness, and voted unanimously (5-0) to approve the consent agenda as amended during the adoption of the agenda.

- a. Consider/Approve Minutes for March 18, 2024 Regular Meeting
- b. Consider/Approve Minutes for March 26, 2024 Departmental Budget Review Meeting
- c. Consider/Approve Minutes for March 27, 2024 Departmental Budget Review Meeting

- d. Consider/Approve Minutes for March 28, 2024 Departmental Budget Review Meeting
- e. Consider/Approve Alcohol Sales License Application for County Boys LLC located at 2476 Cannon Bridge Rd in Demorest for Malt Beverage and Wine Package Sales
- f. Consider/Approve Revisions to Lease Agreement for Airport Hangar M-1 with Air Methods
- ~~g. Consider/Approve Acceptance of S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women Grant Award for Calendar Year CY 2024, CY 2025 and CY 2026 (Moved to new business item a. during the adoption of the agenda).~~
- h. Consider/Approve Contract with Emergency Billing, LLC for Habersham County EMS Transport Billing
- i. Consider/Approve Contract with All State Fencing for Habersham County Judicial Center Judge's Parking Lot Fencing
- j. Consider/Approve FY24 Data Storage/Compute/Infrastructure Replacement Project for Sheriff's Office and Courthouse

REPORTS:

- a. County Manager's Report: Alicia Vaughn

APPOINTMENTS:

DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Appointment Will Serve Remainder of 6-Year Term Ending 02/17/2028

- 1. Kelly Woodall (Resignation-Term Expires 02/17/2028)- Commissioner Harkness

Motion by Commissioner Harkness, seconded by Commissioner Mealor and voted unanimously (5-0) to table the appointment until next month.

LIBRARY BOARD

3-Year Term Ending 06/30/2027

- 1. Wanda Dunn (Term Expires 06/30/2024)- At Large Appointment

Motion by Commissioner Mealor, seconded by Commissioner Harkness and voted unanimously (5-0) to reappoint Ms. Dunn to the Library Board.

- 2. Matthew Osborne (Term Expires 06/30/2024)- At Large Appointment

Motion by Commissioner Palmer, seconded by Commissioner Harkness and voted unanimously (5-0) to reappoint Mr. Osborne to the Library Board.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Consider/Approve Acceptance of S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women Grant Award for Calendar Year CY 2024, CY 2025 and CY 2026

This item was moved from consent agenda item "g" to new business item "a" during the adoption of the agenda with all other new business items being subsequently renumbered.

Mountain Judicial Circuit Superior Court Administrator Maggie Rickman addressed the Commission. She informed the Commission that the STOP (Services, Training, Officers, and Prosecutors) Violence Against Women Act Grant has a subsection category for funding for court services, and they applied through the Superior Court for funding for funding for their offender accountability program that funds a compliance coordinator. This compliance coordinator position monitors and tracks compliance in civil family violence protective orders when an offender is ordered to attend the family violence intervention program. Criminal cases have probation officers, however without this position there would be no one to track these civil cases. The grant has awarded them \$32,000/year for the next three years that would fund a part time compliance coordinator as well as all the travel and office expenses needed to support the position. While a match is required, Ms. Rickman informed them that a portion of her salary counts toward the match as she will be supervising and maintain the grant as well as assisting with the program.

Motion by Commissioner Palmer, seconded by Commissioner Harkness and voted unanimously (5-0) to approve.

- b. Consider/Approve Task Order #10 with Lead Edge Design Group for Construction Phase 1 and Phase 2 Service for ROFA Grading Improvements at Airport

Lead Edge Airport Consultant Phil Eberly addressed the Commission. He gave the Commission an update on the Runway Object Free Area (ROFA) project that involves cutting down the high ground adjacent to the runway and expanding the apron. On April 5th they had the final inspection on the project with DOT, which went positively. He reminded the Commission that doing the ROFA project positioned Habersham County for funding for the Runway Overlay project. The runway closer for this project begins on April 29th and the runway will be closed for 21 days. When they reopen the pavement will be new and they will not need to do anything else to it for about 20 years. The task order being presented to the Commission tonight is for construction phase services for January and February with Lead Edge. Additionally, he informed the Commission that the RFP for the construction of the new hangars will be going out soon and that they should have the results for presentation at the June Commission meeting.

Motion by Commissioner Palmer, seconded by Commissioner Mealor and voted unanimously (5-0) to approve.

- c. Consider/Approve Motion of No Objection to the Proposed Annexation of Map Parcel 112C019 by City of Cornelia

Planning Director Mike Beecham addressed the Commission. On March 5th the City of Cornelia notified the County of its intentions to annex 28.71 acre property on Elrod Street (Parcel 112C019). This was originally scheduled to be heard by the Board of Commissioners at their March 18th meeting. At that time staff had objections because the annexation would have created an unincorporated island which would have been illegal according to state laws. Since that time the annexation request has been modified leave out a 75-foot unincorporated strip along Elrod St. This modification would meet the state law requirements and would prevent an unincorporated island. The Planning Department staff no longer has an objection to the annexation and is suggesting a vote of no objection by the Commission. The Commissions options are to vote to not have objections, make an objection and go through the arbitration process, or take no action and the annexation will move forward after the 45-day waiting period is over (end of this week).

Motion by Commissioner Mealor, seconded by Commissioner Harkness and voted unanimously (5-0) to make no objection to the proposed annexation.

- d. Consider/Approve Revisions to Contract with McCormick Solutions for Additions to the Scope of Work

Finance Director Tim Sims addressed the Commission. He reminded the Commission that they hired McCormick Solutions to assist the Tax Assessors Office with the digest tax. The first phase of this work was to take place this fiscal year and encompasses assistance with the software upgrade to Wingap as well as the commercial/industrial property reassessments. McCormick feels that they are also capable of reassessing all the residential properties over the next 12-18 months. The proposed amendment to the contract would enable McCormick to provide this additional service, which they will allow the county to pay for over a three-year period. The Board of Tax Assessors is recommending this amendment to the contract for these additional services. The additional cost for these new services is approximately \$1.02 million. Commissioner Harkness voiced concerns about wanting to make sure that property owners and their tenants had ample notice that someone may be coming onto their property to take pictures. Mrs. Vaughn informed him that a press release can be issued to this effect. Commissioner Akins wanted to

express the importance of getting these reassessments done quickly, as House Bill 581 has been passed by the state legislators that will implement a cap on property taxes. A county-wide reassessment has not been done in many years, and doing so would allow all the property owners to be treated equitably. If the properties are not assessed accurately prior to this law taking effect then it would be difficult to make up ground later.

Motion by Commissioner Palmer, seconded by Commissioner Mealor and voted unanimously (5-0) to approve.

- e. Consider/Approve Request for Qualifications for Energy Service Provider for Guaranteed Energy Savings Performance Contracting Program

Finance Director Tim Sims addressed the Commission. This is a request to put out an RFQ for an energy service provider to help us with a guaranteed energy savings performance audit of the county facilities. The Georgia Environmental Facilities Association (GEFA) authorizes governments entities to enter a contract with an energy service provider to finance utility and energy savings projects for their facilities. There are around twenty companies approved by GEFA to provide these audits. The audit will identify energy savings that can be used to make renovations to the facilities. The company that is chosen would guarantee these energy savings and would finance the identified amount through a twenty-year loan to the county that would use to make the renovations. This loan would be paid back from the energy savings. ABM gave a presentation regarding this to the Commission at the previous Board of Commissioners meeting that was held on March 18th. He reminded the Commission that this RFQ does not bind them to having to move forward with the program and that they can decide whether they wish to do this once they see the results of the audit.

Motion by Commissioner Palmer, seconded by Commissioner Mealor and voted unanimously (5-0) to approve.

- f. Consider/Approve Purchase of 2024 Lektro Aircraft Tug for Airport and Budget Adjustment for Purchase

Finance Director Tim Sims addressed the Commission. The tug that the airport had was no longer mechanically functional and was sold for scrap. A replacement was not included in the budget as the airport thought that they could get by without it for a few years, however they have had several airplanes stall on the runway that they have had to either jump off or tow from the runway and into the terminal area. An RFP was put out for the tug and the Airport Commission has unanimously asked for the purchase and associated budget adjustment to be brought before the Board of Commissioners for approval. The cost would be \$59,225, however the airport plans to charge a fee to the owners of the airplanes for which this tug is used. They believe the tug will pay for itself eventually. If the Commission approves the purchase, the money will be lent to the airport fund from the general fund. This money would be paid back to the general fund over the next three years. Airport Manager Bill Harden stated that a charge of around \$150-\$200 can be assessed every time that the tug is used to tow a plane or jump it. He informed them that the way the tug clamps prevents tugging on the front end of the jet and takes the weight off allowing the jet to be locked in adequately.

Motion by Commissioner Mealor, seconded by Commissioner Palmer and voted unanimously (5-0) to approve.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Commissioner Palmer reminded everyone of the tragedy that occurred last June when a child drowned in Lake Russell. This event is what spurred the creation of the Swim Safely event at the aquatic center. This event helps teach children how to react in a situation where they need to get out of the water safely. He invited everyone to bring their children and grandchildren and informed them that the event is free and each child that attends receives a free life preserver. This event will occur on April 20th at 10:00 a.m. Commissioner Palmer wanted also provide clarity to citizens regarding voting for Commissioners, reminding them that all the Commission seats are “at large”, and it is not a requirement to live in the district to vote on an open Commission seat.

Commissioner Harkness stated that if Habersham County averages 60 new building permits per month it would translate into 720 new building permits per year. According to his calculations, over a 10-year period this would be 7,200 new houses, meaning a population increase of at least 28,800 if each home has four individuals living in it. This does not include mobile homes and apartments. He feels that the population could potentially double in the next 10 to 15 years. Commissioner Harkness stated that if they don't work to defend Habersham County then their

way of life, including their religious beliefs and their freedoms, will be gone. He promises that he will fight for the people of Habersham County.

Commissioner Mealor stated that the population growth is why the recently completed Comprehensive Plan and the zoning changes the Commission are looking into are so important. He feels like growth should be focused in the business corridor and that the rest of the county should remain residential. There are options they can look at to control growth such as increasing the required acreage needed for building. There is a fine balance between controlling growth but also attracting the types of businesses needed to reduce the residential tax burden. This is easy in theory but difficult in practice. He invited citizens to reach out to him with any ideas that they have in this regard.

Commissioner Akins reminded everyone that taxes from new residential homes don't pay completely for the services that they use. There have been countless studies that have shown that it costs more for the government to provide services to those residences than the tax revenue each brings in. As the number of people that move into the county grows the burden on departments like emergency services, animal control and the landfill grow. Many people think that the cost of the expansion of these services is covered by the tax revenue being received from this residential growth, but it is not. This is why it is important to try to attract some industry to designated areas.

Commissioner Tench had no comment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Litigation, pursuant to O.C.G.A §50-14-2; Property Disposal, pursuant to O.C.G.A §50-14-3 (b)(1).

Motion by Commissioner Mealor, seconded by Commissioner Harkness to enter executive session for the purpose of Litigation, pursuant to O.C.G.A §50-14-2; Property Disposal, pursuant to O.C.G.A §50-14-3 (b)(1).

ROLL CALL:

Commissioner Palmer- aye
Commissioner Harkness- aye
Commissioner Akins- aye
Commissioner Mealor- aye
Commissioner Tench-aye

Motion carries 5-0 to enter executive session at 7:52 p.m.

Motion by Commissioner Harkness, seconded by Commissioner Mealor and voted unanimously (5-0) to leave executive session at 8:45 p.m.

County Attorney Donnie Hunt reported that all matters discussed in executive session were limited to those matters allowed by the laws of the State of Georgia and asked for a motion authorizing the Chairman to make such a representation under oath on the affidavit.

Motion by Commissioner Akins, seconded by Commissioner Mealor and voted unanimously (5-0) to adopt the representation authorizing such affidavit as per the Attorney's recommendations.

Motion by Commissioner Mealor, seconded by Commissioner Palmer, and voted 4-1 with Commissioner Tench dissent to consider/approve MOU with Habersham County Development Authority, City of Clarkesville, and Parkside Partners LLC for the Redevelopment of the Old Courthouse Property.

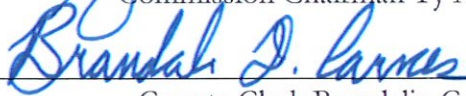
Motion by Commissioner Mealor, seconded by Commissioner Palmer and voted 4-1 with Commissioner Tench dissenting to consider/approve the intergovernmental agreement with the development authority regarding the old courthouse property and its redevelopment.

ADJOURN

Motion by Commissioner Meador, seconded by Commissioner Harkness and voted unanimously (5-0) to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Commission Chairman Ty Akins

Attest: 
County Clerk Brandalyn Carnes

