



**Columbia County Board of Commissioners Meeting
Minutes of Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at 6:00 PM
Evans Government Center Auditorium, Evans, Georgia**

Present at the meeting included:

Vice Chairman Connie M. Melear
Commissioner Donald Skinner, Sr.
Commissioner Alison G. Couch
County Manager Scott Johnson
Deputy County Manager Glenn Kennedy
Deputy County Manager Matt Schlachter
County Attorney Chris Driver
County Clerk Patrice R. Crawley

Division Directors:

Paul Scarbary - Development Services
Kyle Titus - Engineering Services
Scott Sterling - Planning Services
John Luton - Community Services
Chief Jeremy Wallen - Fire Services
Michael Blanchard - Technology Services
Stacey Gordon - Water Utility Services
County Staff

Chairman Duncan was not present.

Members of the Media and Public

A. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairman Melear called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

B. INVOCATION

Commissioner Couch gave the invocation.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

County Manager Johnson led the pledge to the American Flag.

D. ROLL CALL / QUORUM

Vice Chairman Melear declared a quorum with three Commissioners present.

E. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

(E1) Minutes for the March 05, 2024 Commissioners Meeting

Commissioner Couch made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 05, 2024 Commission Meeting as presented. Commissioner Skinner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(E2) Minutes for the March 12, 2024 Elected Officials Work Session

Commissioner Couch made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2024 Elected Official Work Session as presented. Commissioner Skinner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

F. PRESENTATION AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Vice Chairman Melear presented the agenda.

G. SPECIAL RECOGNITION, PRESENTATION, AND / OR DECLARATION

Vice Chairman Melear welcomed members of the Youth Leadership Class to the meeting.

(G1) Special Recognition

(G1a) Recognition for the Animal Services Agency of the Year Award

Commissioner Couch recognized Animal Services for receiving the Animal Services Agency of the Year Award from the Georgia Animal Control Association.

H. CONSENT AGENDA

In accordance with Columbia County Code of Ordinance Section 2-81(6), the following items were voted on collectively. Commissioner Skinner made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Commissioner Couch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(H1) Management and Internal Services Committee

(H1a) Amendment Number 2 to MedNow Contract

Approved Amendment Number 2 to the MedNow Contract to add two additional MedNow Urgent Care

centers – Martinez (210 Bobby Jones Expressway, Martinez, GA) and Washington (1008 E. Robert Toombs Avenue, Washington, GA) to the current agreement.

(H1b) Appointment of Dr. Lauren Post to the Board of Health

Approved the appointment of Dr. Lauren Post to the Board of Health with a term ending December 31, 2027.

(H1c) Assignment of Private Drive Name McDonald Lane to Tax Map 071030.

Approved the assignment of Private Drive Name McDonald Lane to Tax Map 071 030.

(H1d) ESRI Subscription Renewal

Approved the ESRI subscription renewal for 2024 - 2027 at an annual cost of \$170,000; 6516500-533035.

(H1e) Software As A Services Agreement with Tyler Technologies, Inc. for Upgrade to Hosted Platform

Approved the Tyler Technologies, Inc. Software As A Service Agreement at a cost of \$616,782.78, 3503552.533035.35542.

(H1f) Purchase of T-BERD Network Testing Equipment from Power & Telephone Supply

Approved the purchase of T-BERD/MTS-5800 network testing equipment from Power & Telephone Supply in the amount of \$124,919.74; 3523522.533035.35205.

(H2) Development and Planning Services Committee

(H2a) Change Order 002 with SD Clifton for the Sheriff's Administration Building

Approved Change Order 002 with SD Clifton for the Sheriff's Administration Building to deduct \$120,535.42 from the contract sum and an additional 242 days to the contract time.

(H2b) Easement Encroachment Agreement, 229 Corley Circle, Tax Map 062 Parcel 1327 0.28 +/- acres, and currently zoned PUD (Planned Unit Development).

Approved the easement encroachment agreement for property located at tax map 062 parcel 1327.

(H2c) Acceptance of Permanent Utility Easement, 4975 Gateway Boulevard, Tax Map 068 Parcel 960, and currently zoned P-1 (Professional).

Approved acceptance of the utility easement as shown on the plat prepared by Cranston dated February 14, 2024 and revised on February 27, 2024 for property located at tax map 068 parcel 960 contingent upon staff's approval.

(H2d) Acceptance of Permanent Utility Easement, Off William Few Parkway, Tax Map 059 Parcel 027A, and currently zoned PUD (Planned Unit Development).

Approved acceptance of permanent easement "1" for Tax Map 059 Parcel 027A shown on the plat prepared by H&C Surveying, dated February 12, 2024, contingent upon staff's approval.

I. DEBATE AGENDA

(I1) Unfinished Business

(I1a) Community and Emergency Services Committee

(I1a1) Resolution 24-10 Establishing Rental Fees for The Market - *Second Reading*

Commissioner Couch made a motion to approve the second reading of Resolution Number 24-10 Fee Schedule for The Market. Commissioner Skinner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(I1b) Public Works and Engineering Services Committee

(I1b1) Resolution 24-08 to Establish a Street Light District in Carrington Subdivision - *Second Reading*

Commissioner Couch made a motion to approve the second reading of Resolution Number 24-08 to establish Street Light District 2024.506 in Carrington Subdivision. Commissioner Skinner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(I2) New Business

(I2a) Management and Internal Services Committee

(I2a1) Purchase of Dodge Chargers from Jacky Jones

Vice Chairman Melear made a motion to approve the purchase of twelve Dodge Chargers from Jacky

Jones CDJR for \$458,028.00. Commissioner Skinner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(I2a2) Resolution Number 24-17 Ratifying a Bond Resolution Adopted by the Columbia County Public Facilities Authority Authorizing the Issuance of its Series 2024 Bonds, Intergovernmental Contract with the Authority and Authorizing the Issuance and Delivery of the Series 2024 Bonds
Vice Chairman Melear made a motion to approve Resolution Number 24-17. Commissioner Couch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(I2b) Development and Planning Services Committee

(I2b1) RZ24-03-01, Rezoning from R-A (Residential Agricultural) to S-1 (Special), 4080 Gordon Highway, Tax Map 032 Parcel 109B. 4 +/- acre portion of an overall 25 +/- acres and currently zoned R-A (Residential Agricultural). - *Postponed to April 16, 2024*

Ray Westbrook stated his concerns on the conditions.

Commissioner Skinner made a motion to approve the request for a rezoning from R-A to S-1 for a portion of property located at tax map 032 parcel 109B subject to the following conditions:

- 1. A copy of the approved and recorded plat showing the subdivision of the portion of the property to be zoned S-1 must be submitted to the Planning Department prior to issuance of business license.*
- 2. An approved engineered site plan prepared by a civil engineer shall be required prior to the issuance of business license.*
- 3. A 30-foot buffers shall be provided along the side property lines meeting the requirements of Section 90-139. An approved landscape plan shall be required prior to the issuance of business license.*
- 4. A 10-foot landscape strip shall be provided along the Gordon Highway frontage. The requirements of Section 90-140 pertaining to planting of shrubs will be waived, but the landscape strip shall meet the requirements for planting of trees within the landscape strip. The trees shall be installed prior to issuance of business license.*
- 5. The driveway and parking lot shall be paved prior to issuance of business license.*

Commissioner Couch seconded the motion.

Applicant Elizabeth Westbrook requested to postpone so they could speak to staff concerning the conditions.

Commissioner Skinner amended his motion to postpone this rezoning to the April 16, 2024 meeting.

Commissioner Couch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(I2b2) VA24-03-02, Variance to Section 90-139 Buffers and Screening, 403 Beverly Road, Tax Map 074 Parcel 084A, 1.40 +/- acres and currently zoned C-2 (General Commercial).

Commissioner Skinner made a motion to approve the request for a variance for property located at tax map 074 parcel 084A to eliminate the 20' structural buffer requirement. Commissioner Couch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(I3) Items Added at the Meeting

J. LEGAL MATTERS

K. REQUESTS FOR REVIEW BY COMMITTEE

L. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND PARTICIPATION

M. EXECUTIVE SESSION

(M1) Property

(M1a) Edward Prescott, Jr. parcel 061073 to obtain right of way and/or easements for the Lewiston Road widening project.

Commissioner Couch made a motion to approve \$50,000 to Edward Prescott, Jr. parcel 061073 to obtain right of way and/or easements for the Lewiston Road widening project. Commissioner Skinner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(M1b) Parcel 072B144 and parcel 072B145 to Sonia Qadir & Mustafa Sayed to obtain right of way and/or easements for the Hereford Farm Road widening project.

Commissioner Couch made a motion to approve \$7,500 parcel 072B144 and \$7,900 parcel 072B145 to Sonia Qadir & Mustafa Sayed to obtain right of way and/or easements for the Hereford Farm Road

widening project. Commissioner Skinner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(M1c) Thomas Blanchard, Jr. parcel 073001 to obtain right of way and/or easements for the Hereford Farm Road widening project.

Commissioner Couch made a motion to approve \$328,328.50 to Thomas Blanchard, Jr. parcel 073001 to obtain right of way and/or easements for the Hereford Farm Road widening project. Commissioner Skinner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

(M1d) Intergovernmental Agreement with the Development Authority of Columbia County Regarding Parcel 072552A.

Commissioner Skinner made a motion to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Development Authority of Columbia County regarding Parcel 072552A. Commissioner Couch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

N. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Couch made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:21 p.m. Commissioner Skinner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.



Douglas R. Duncan, Jr., Chairman



Patrice R. Crawley, County Clerk