

**MINUTES OF THE CRISP COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MAY 8, 2018**

OPENING CEREMONIES

Chairman Sam Farrow, Jr. called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in Room 305 of the Crisp County Government Center, with Commissioners A. James Nance, Wallace Mathis, Larry Felton and J. R. Dowdy, III in attendance. Others present were County Administrator Tom Patton, County Attorney Rick Lawson, Finance Director Sherrie Leverett and County Clerk Linda Finch. Commissioner Nance gave the invocation and Administrator Patton led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. Chairman Farrow welcomed all in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Mr. Nance to approve the regular minutes of the April 10, 2018 meeting, seconded by Mr. Dowdy, motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE OLDER AMERICANS MONTH PROCLAMATION

Administrator Patton read the Older Americans Month Proclamation stating that the Crisp County UGA Extension is committed to engaging and supporting older adults, their families and caregivers, and Crisp County Commissioners proclaim May 2018 to be Older American Month and urge residents to take time during the month to recognize older adults and the people who serve them as vital parts of our community. **Motion was made by Mr. Nance to approve the Older Americans Month Proclamation, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.**

APPROVE FOOD ALLERGY AWARENESS WEEK PROCLAMATION

Administrator Patton read the Food Allergy Awareness Week Proclamation making people aware of food allergies and proclaiming May 13-19, 2018 as Food Allergy Awareness Week in Crisp County. Rebecca Stackhouse, Extension Department, stated that she will be promoting through some of her programs and articles both the supporting of older americans and food allergy awareness. **Motion was made by Mr. Nance to approve the Food Allergy Awareness Week Proclamation, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.**

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT CERTIFICATION AWARD

Sheriff Billy Hancock reported for the last several years they have been working on obtaining certification of the Crisp County Sheriff's Office; Tammera Sears was their certification manager and responsible for gathering all the data and writing the policies but it has been an entire agency process. Today he has Mark Bender with Georgia Chief's Association who is responsible for certifications in Georgia; he would like to address the board and make a presentation. Mr. Bender reported that the state certification process is a voluntary process which an agency can opt into and by so doing, the sheriff's office has voluntarily agreed to adhere to the state certification standards. The standards deal with all law enforcement to include operations, hiring, training, patrol, etc., and by Crisp County Sheriff's Office meeting those standards they now become the 22nd sheriff's agency in the state to achieve state

certification. He advised that the state certification process increases the community awareness of the sheriff's office and greater confidence in the sheriff's office stating that they are going to be a better sheriff's agency as they will adhere to the standards to serve the community better. He presented Sheriff Hancock the State Certification Plaque awarded by the Chief's Association and the Sheriff's Association. Sheriff Hancock stated that some of the benefits of this certification are some insurance agencies will give us a reduction in our insurance premiums, grants will become easier to apply for, and the entire agency was involved. He thanked Lt. Sears and all the employees of the sheriff's office. Commissioners congratulated and thanked the Sheriff and the department for making the sheriff's department the best it can be.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT REPORT

Sheriff Hancock gave the commissioners a check for \$91,860 for inmate housing. He advised that last month they served 154 warrants, 165 civil papers and 81 subpoenas, and transported 175 prisoners. They also issued 667 citations and worked 22 accidents in the county. They housed 2578 days for U.S. Marshals and 103 days for Cordele PD, at present they have 224 prisoners in the detention center, and they traveled over 10,000 miles for prisoner transports. They also picked up 21 animals last month and had a total of 53 animal assist calls. In the 911 report, they received 3124 calls for last month.

TABLE DECISION REQUEST FROM COMMODITY DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS, LLC

Chairman Farrow advised that there have been some legal issues that have come up in the last few days regarding the rezoning request from Commodity Distribution Systems, LLC. and they would like to go into Executive Session for legal counsel. Commissioner Nance asked if we couldn't read the standards first, and Chairman Farrow agreed. Connie Youngblood, Planning Director, read the rezoning request review checklist eight standards. **Motion was made by Mr. Nance to go into Executive Session for potential litigation, seconded by Mr. Dowdy, motion carried with all commissioners agreeing to go into Executive Session. Motion was made by Mr. Felton to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried with all commissioners agreeing to come out of Executive Session. Motion was made by Mr. Nance, stating that in light of the information that they are considering and they want to make sure that they research this properly and get all information from both sides, to table the request so that they can have an opportunity to study this further, seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously.** Chairman Farrow advised that there will be an announcement of when we will make the decision, and if the attorneys have any more information regarding the rezoning they can submit information to the county attorney. Joel Owens submitted a picture of the back marker of the state park, which is 75 yards from the rail spur, and said the fact that we are even having this conversation is insane.

APPROVE POLICY FOR FTA/DOT PURCHASES

Mrs. Leverett reported that DOT has a new requirement for a separate procurement policy to apply to all the activities by FTA/DOT funding. We developed the manual using their template, filled in the blanks, sent it to DOT in draft form to get their blessings on it; they have approved it and she presents the procurement policy for approval. She advised that once it is approved, she will forward the document to DOT to be in compliance to continue with our FTA/DOT activities. **Motion was made by Mr. Nance to approve the Policy for FTA/DOT Purchases, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.**

APPROVE HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWAL WITH ACCG/BCBS

Mrs. Leverett reported that it is time for the renewal of our health insurance plan, last year we moved from a self-insured plan to a fully insured plan with ACCG/Blue Cross Blue Shield; it is time to renew that plan for the next fiscal year. The proposal represents a 13.2% increase in premiums from the period of July 1, 2018 thru June 30, 2019; there will be no changes in the plan definitions such as deductibles, co-pays, etc. She stated that our partner in the health benefit fund, Crisp County Power Commission, will also be presenting the same proposal at their next board meeting. **Motion was made by Mr. Dowdy to approve the health insurance renewal with ACCG/BCBS, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.**

PRESENTATION OF THE FY 2019 BUDGET PROPOSAL & SET DATE FOR PUBLIC HEARING

Mrs. Leverett presented a proposed FY 19 Budget to the board and taxpayers; the General Fund is still unbalanced with a \$710,319 shortfall and they will continue to work on that shortfall to get it down before July 1st. Also, they will need to set the date to hold the public hearing for the budget. **By common consent, commissioners agreed to hold the public hearing on May 29, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.**

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs. Leverett reported that this packet includes a preliminary report and executive summary on the major funds of the County as of April 30, 2018. The first page is the financial report which shows the monthly and YTD activity for the General and three major Special Revenue Funds; combined these funds are reporting YTD revenues of \$16,479,635 and YTD expenditures at \$14,559,347 providing a positive 11% revenue over expenditure balance of \$1,920,288. In the Water Fund, monthly revenues and expenditures brought YTD totals to a net income of \$162,251. The USDA Bonds are current at \$1.4 million. In the Landfill Fund, we are reporting \$1,569,832 in accrued YTD revenue, \$1,216,447 in YTD expenses increasing the Landfill's YTD net income to \$353,385. The total tonnage received for the month of April was 6,496.61k and the GEFA Loans are current at \$2.8 million. In the cash on hand report, we ended the month with \$12.9 million in the General and Special Revenue Funds combined, \$4.6 million in the proprietary funds and \$6.1 million in the SPLOST & TSPLOST funds giving a county wide total of just over \$24 million; \$17.2 million is reserved or restricted for special projects or uses. In the 2005 SPLOST Issue, to date we have total expenditures and appropriations of \$24.7 million leaving around \$34,000 to complete the projects included here and close out this issue. In the 2011 SPLOST Issue, we have appropriated \$22.3 million of the \$23.2 million collected leaving \$1.5 million to complete projects associated with this issue. For the 2017 SPLOST Issue, Distribution No. 3 of \$341,597 is up slightly, just over 1%, from this time last year. Actual expenditures and appropriations have reached \$3.8 million for this issue. Following that is an updated schedule on our L.O.S.T distributions, which is up over last April by 5.4%. In the CDBG Revolving Loan Fund monthly report, we ended the month with a total outstanding balance of \$2.3 million. The final report included is the revenues by fund and expenditures by department preliminary report. The report shows the expended percentage of appropriations for each individual department. All departments should be at or below 83% of their annual allowances. The preliminary numbers indicate the General and Special Revenue Funds at 82%, the Water Fund at 60% and the Landfill Fund at 74%. **Motion was made by Mr. Dowdy to approve the financial report, seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously.**

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Patton reported they he and a couple of commissioners attended the annual convention and he received manager training, one class was on Service Delivery Strategy and the county and city will begin planning for that next year. He advised that ACCG will be offering training on that and he would encourage all commissioners to attend a training session. Also, the 2020 Census will be coming up soon and along with that we will have to look at re-districting. He advised that we had a pretty good legislative session for local governments and some of the bills that passed that helped the counties are 1) increased some 911 fees and we should see a little bit more revenue on it; 2) some modification on Gate Tax as they increased the exemption from \$2,500 to \$5,000; 3) TAVT tax fee was increased to a formula where local governments will receive 65% as compared to 51% this year; 4) wireless carriers will not be able to use the county right-of-ways; and 5) internet sales tax was approved. Also, there will be a re-evaluation of property next year. Commissioner Felton asked how we are coming on Pickens Pool. Administrator Patton advised they did a dye test on the pool and it is not going into the storm water system or the waste water system so that means it is going somewhere underneath the pool; they have applied for a grant, they hit a little speed bump but he thinks that is behind them as it looks pretty good to be able to get the grant. He advised that the commissioners will have to decide if they want to open the pool for the kids this summer, and he would recommend not opening it because we don't know exactly where that water is going. Commissioner Felton stated that if we shut the pool down we need to at least allow the kids to go to the gym and cut out the summer recreation program. Administrator Patton stated that we need some alternative things to do like enhance some things at Reid Park, outdoor theater, etc. Commissioner Mathis asked if we couldn't get someone with a ground penetrating radar and see if they can find the hole and see if we can find that out soon. Commissioner Nance stated that it is a widely used pool and we want to make sure the kids are safe and a plan in place.

GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Mr. Nance to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel, litigation, and property, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried with all commissioners agreeing to go into Executive Session.

COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Mr. Felton to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Nance, motion carried with all commissioners agreeing to come out of Executive Session.

ADJOURN MEETING

Motion was made by Mr. Nance to adjourn the meeting at 11:43 a.m., seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.

Sam Farrow, Jr., Chairman

Tom Patton, County Administrator