

**MINUTES OF THE CRISP COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING HELD ON JUNE 12, 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. Commissioners present were A. James Nance, Wallace Mathis, Larry Felton and J. R. Dowdy, III. Others present were County Administrator Tom Patton, County Attorney Rick Lawson, Finance Director Sherrie Leverett, and County Clerk Linda Finch. Carl Gamble 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. Felton to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on May 8, 2018 and the called meeting held on May 29, 2018, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE 4-H BB RECOGNITION DAY PROCLAMATION

Administrator Patton read the 4-H BB Recognition Day Proclamation stating that the 4-H BB Team is headed to nationals in Arkansas and proclaiming June 12, 2018 to be 4-H BB Recognition Day and urge every resident to support the 4-H BB Team as they head to nationals. BB Team coach Andy Adams stated that present are two members of the BB Team, Morgan Anderson and Ryleigh Farmer, and advised that these two girls are very good shooters and girls are actually better than boys in BB shooting. He advised for them to be able to go to nationals and not be a burden on the parents they have a donut sale going on now, a car wash this Saturday, a chicken sandwich sack lunch next Thursday at the Extension Office, and a fund raiser night at Zaxby's on June 26th from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Commissioners wished them good luck in the nationals and advised that they are proud of the team. **Motion was made by Mr. Nance to approve the 4-H BB Recognition Day Proclamation, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.**

JAMES HARTLEY COMMENTS

Mr. Hartley advised that he would like to close a 200 foot public easement behind his house on the corner of Penia and Old Hatley Roads. Chairman Farrow stated that we will get with the public works director and see what we have to do to accommodate the neighbors. Public Works Director advised that he will get with Mr. Hartley and get the process started.

FAMILY CONNECTIONS REPORT BY SHERRY EVANS

Sherry Evans, Family Connections Director, reported that they are closing on FY 18 and gearing up for FY 19, and she wanted to thank the commissioners for their support for the Community Council Family Connection. She advised that they have the legislative appointed duty for Georgia Family Connection Partnership to collaboratively address the needs of children and families in Crisp County. She handed out a plan and organizational chart of the Crisp County Community Council for them to go through the

plan and see what they have coming up for the new year. She advised that the At Risk Children & Family Team has begun a mentoring program where they hope to support and add capacity to current mentoring programs as well as identify gaps in services for mentors, they continue to work with the judicial circuit and the Department of Juvenile Justice to work on a CHINS (children in need of services) program as we do not have that in Crisp County now. The Early Child & Health Education Team has a mobile literacy center, which comes from the early learning department at the school system, that will be going into neighborhoods and they will be able to link and coordinate the local services as they address literacy needs. The Mental Health Strategy Team continues to bring the mental health service providers together to network and identify gaps in services for the mental health needs for families, and the Ministry Health Strategy Team networks together as they have a front line in touching our local families. Chairman Farrow thanked Mrs. Evans for the work her and the team do in the community.

FIRE DEPARTMENT INTRODUCE FIRE PLUG ROBOT

Assistant Fire Chief Michael Postell advised that last month they were able to purchase a fire plug robot called Pluggy for the fire safety program as Freddie the Fire Truck was around twenty years old. The new fire plug will be able to interact with the children. Shawn McNulty demonstrated how Pluggy works with asking it to say good morning and bye, opened his eyes, turned his head around, and showed how to stop, drop and roll. Mr. Postell advised that they still have a few kinks to work out but by the time school starts he should be perfect. Commissioners thanked the fire department for the job they do.

SHERRIF'S REPORT

Chief Deputy Denise Youngblood reported that the Sheriff's Department served 237 warrants, 171 civil papers and 306 subpoenas, and had 396 prisoner transports for the court last month. The Traffic Division wrote 470 citations and 83 warrants, arrested 2 on DUI's, arrested 22 with drugs, and worked 23 accidents. She brought a check for \$108,276.00 for May inmate housing. In inmate housing, they housed 2655 total days for US Marshals and 141 days for Cordele PD, and in the Detention report they booked 255 prisoners, released 235, had 30 Federal transports, 59 court transports, 26 medical transports, and 44 other transports, and had 11,982 miles traveled in May. In the E-911 report, the dispatchers answered 8,938 calls. Also, in the Animal Control Report they picked up 57 animals, sent 16 animals to the Cordele Animal Shelter, 18 animals sent to another facility or returned to owner, 2 animals adopted, and 2 animals are currently at the Crisp County Animal Control. Mrs. Youngblood stated that regarding the incident over the weekend, they had a tremendous turnout of resources and agencies from the surrounding counties to assist with this and it looks like they had about 1,064 man hours between Saturday at 4:00 p.m. and Monday morning around 10:30 a.m. She advised that the sheriff wanted her to mention to the commissioners that he has been in contact and in partnership with Colonel Haralson with the Department of Natural Resources, and they are looking at getting a lightning warning system to be placed at Lake Blackshear around the state park; at the present time it looks like it would be 100% funded by Emergency Management Agency. Commissioners commended their department for the work they did over the weekend and the job that they do every day.

APPROVE REQUEST FROM COMMODITY DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS, LLC

Chairman Farrow stated that they have worked on this decision for three months, Attorney Lawson has done a good job with our legal counsel and has requested outside counsel. Attorney Lawson advised that commissioners do have the authority to zone the right-of-way now that it is owned by a private

entity since 2015, there are legitimate concerns by the neighbors, we have looked at those and tried to address those concerns with suggestive conditions that the commissioners have looked at and will be considering but the county does believe that none of the neighbors have the special standing required in zoning cases as they are not adjacent to the zoned property and can show no diminution in value due to the applied for use. **Motion was made by Mr. Dowdy to approve the request from Commodity Distribution Systems, LLC to rezone a parcel of property from RS2 (Single Family Residential) to I (Industrial) for the purpose of a Railroad Car Storage Area subject to the following conditions/restrictions: 1) approval is only for the use that was presented at the April 10, 2018 Public Hearing: the storage of railroad cars on existing "rail siding". All other land uses and activities restricted to those allowed under RS2 (Single Family Residential) zoning; 2) railroad cars to remain empty at all times and shall not be loaded with any material including, but not limited to waste and recyclables; 3) no repair work shall be conducted on the property; 4) no more than 26 single-level railroad cars can be located on the existing "rail siding" that runs through the middle of the 4 acre tract; and 5) movement of railroad cars permitted only between the hours of 8 a.m. thru 6 p.m., seconded by Mr. Nance, motion carried unanimously.**

APPROVE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN GEORGIA DOT AND CRISP COUNTY

Carl Gamble, Public Works Director, reported that he has a Memorandum of Agreement between Crisp County and the Georgia Department of Transportation to replace a substandard bridge on Watson Road. The bridge falls into the program of a low impact bridge program which is subsidized through the Federal Highway Administration as well as the Georgia Department of Transportation. We will pay 50% of the cost of land acquisition and those acquisitions have to be performed by federal standards; once the agreement has been signed we will send our part of the land acquisition along with 50% of the cost to DOT, and any monies that is left over will be reimbursed back to the county. He advised that basically the agreement says that we are in agreement of replacing Watson Bridge, which is on the substandard bridge program. **Motion was made by Mr. Mathis to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Georgia Department of Transportation and Crisp County, seconded by Mr. Nance, motion carried unanimously.**

PICKENS POOL REPORT

Mr. Gamble reported that they are finalizing the backfill of Pickens Pool, they did find some voids, not as great as anticipated, and they are going to put sand in this area to make it feasible to play in that area. They will also remove the concrete under the edge of the fence. Commissioner Nance advised that Commissioners had some safety concerns about the pool, and we wanted to make sure that it will be modernized and updated; that is why the Commissioners took the position of insuring the safety of everyone. Commissioner Felton asked if they were removing the plumbing from the pool house, and Mr. Gamble reported they had capped off the old plumbing at the pool house. Commissioner Felton wanted the public to know that we are not just putting a pool there; we are going to put a new pool house also. Commissioner Mathis advised that we have so many bathrooms getting torn up over and over in the county, and we want the public to keep an eye out and help the commissioners to look out for anyone tearing these facilities up because it is the taxpayer's dollars that are replacing these facilities.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES REPORT

Bryan Shoun, with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, reported that he had a call from Connie Youngblood, Planning Director, regarding getting new maps for the county. They have a process with FEMA, the state actually controls all the new maps, and they plan about three years out in front to be able to get money in to process it. Crisp County is five years from now getting started as far as whole watershed basins, and we would go from the Georgia Power Dam in Albany up to Montezuma in one clip, they have another section from Georgia Power Dam all the way past Bainbridge to the Chattahoochee River, which they are working on now. He advised that they can do little sections, and he is looking at three different ways of getting the county elevations on the lake; 1) big map redo study which would take about five years and cost is around \$250,000 to do the entire county; 2) a smaller end study is called a PMR and will still have to run thru FEMA, they will do just a few panels and we will only do Lake Blackshear on both sides of the lake and cost of this is around \$50,000 and will take about two years to do, we will need FEMA's assistance on it and if FEMA doesn't put money into it, then it just sits there and doesn't do anything; and 3) do a swag and use the same methods as they would use to make the fancy maps they just don't change the maps, we just come up with another layer and get the elevations up to the National Flood Insurance Program so they have the same elevation we have and that takes about three months and that would all be done in-house. It would be something that Crisp County would be enforcing and their hard part is getting the National Flood Insurance people and FEMA to actually follow our elevation. We will have to run it by them and see if they will take our elevations. Chairman Farrow asked if the insurance companies accepted the PMR study, and he replied yes they will. He stated that there is a National Flood Hazard website; it is updated there but not on the printed maps. Also the State of Georgia has their own website that has the floodplains on it and you can put in an address and zoom right to the location; they update their map every time they get something new. He advised that a couple of things have happened since 1994, they have something that makes really great topography and if Crisp County doesn't have it now you probably will have it on there by the end of the year. He advised that they don't have any new data right now. Kenneth Long stated that we have a dam that is two foot above normal pool and at that time we had a 12 foot dam and we held it back, his issue is if we had a two foot dam then the water would have never got in his yard and he had 5 ½ feet of water in his house, and he doesn't care how long it takes to get it done or how much it costs somebody needs to take the bull by the horn. FEMA can fund this as we fund every other county when they have a disaster and somebody should take care of the people in the United States. We do need to put in a request to FEMA to change the map. Chairman Farrow advised that Commissioners will follow up and see what direction we need to go on for this.

RATIFY AMENDMENT TO POWER SALES CONTRACTS

Administrator Patton reported that the power commission has already signed and Chairman Farrow has signed the power sales contract as we had to send it back to MEAG by a certain date. Occasionally they have to make amendments to the power sales contracts, this amendment will delete the requirements that the Authority engage a Consulting Engineer and that the Consulting Engineer prepare an annual comprehensive engineering report and to provide that certain determinations currently required of the Consulting Engineer instead be made by the Authority. **Motion was made by Mr. Felton to ratify the Amendment to Power Sales Contracts between Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia and Crisp County and Crisp County Power Commission, seconded by Mr. Dowdy, motion carried unanimously.**

APPROVE MEAG POWER'S PETITION TO INCREASE BONDING CAPACITY

Attorney Lawson reported that the Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia (MEAG) recommended that their bonding authority has increased its bonding capacity; also Crisp County Power Commission has already authorized this action. We have a draft petition and a draft answer of a petition filed by the State of Georgia to this lawsuit basically saying we do not object to additional bonds; they are asking the county to join the power commission in approving the petition and complaint and the answer for the additional MEAG bonds substantially in the form of the drafts dated May 31, 2018 and authorize the county officials and personnel to take all actions required to validate the additional bonds, including but not limited to executing and delivering the answer on behalf of the county. **Motion was made by Mr. Felton to approve MEAG Power's Petition to increase Bonding Capacity, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.**

RATIFY MOA BETWEEN RVRC AND CRISP COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR SERVICES ASSOCIATED WITH UPDATING THE CRISP COUNTY PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN 2016-2020

Mrs. Leverett advised that this is a Memorandum of Agreement between the county and the River Valley Regional Commission to conduct our 5-year update of the Crisp County Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan for the years 2016-2020. The actual project for this update will start 2021 thru 2025. We had to go ahead and execute a copy to be able to get it in for the grant funding, the county's portion will be \$3,600 and we have received a grant award for approximately \$30,000. **Motion was made by Mr. Dowdy to ratify the MOA Between RVRC and Crisp County Board of Commissioners for Services associated with Updating the Crisp County Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan 2016-2020, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.**

APPROVE CONTRACT WITH THIRD PARTY OPERATOR FOR 5311 TRANSIT SERVICES

Mrs. Leverett reported that the renewal of the contract with the Third Party Operator (TPO) for the 5311 Transit program has been quite a challenge, and we have finally come down to a draft agreement as we do have to renew the RFP with the TPO every five years. We received one bid from Resource Management Systems, which is the same TPO that has been running our 5311 program for about ten years. She advised that this is the same agreement that we have approved in years past except the TPO does have some language in the agreement that if the Department of Transportation changes any amounts, and if they have pre-paid those amounts and we lose that funding, that the county would reimburse them for that. The DOT has been changing the amounts at the last minute on some of these projects, other than that and if things go as to what we are used to then the TPO's bid was to pay for all the local match, meaning that it doesn't cost the county anything. **Motion was made by Mr. Nance to approve the Contract with the Third Party Operator for 5311 Transit Services and give the county the authority, if the amounts change, that we will be able to pay based on the grant award form DOT, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.**

APPROVE INCREASE IN COUNTY'S EMA SUPPLEMENT FOR SHERIFF HANCOCK

Mrs. Leverett advised that she has a request from the Sheriff to increase his EMA Supplement from \$1,000 to \$8,000 and this would be what he receives as the EMA Director. She advised that 50% of this is the county's cost and 50% would come from the grant. Administrator Patton stated that they did check all of the surrounding areas, which puts him in line with the other EMA's Director's, and we all

know what a great job he does as an EMA Director. **Motion was made by Mr. Mathis to increase the EMA supplement for Sheriff Hancock from \$1,000 to \$8,000 per year, seconded by Mr. Nance, motion carried unanimously.**

CHANGE DATE OF REGULAR JULY MEETING

Motion was made by Mr. Nance to change the regular July meeting from July 10th to July 17th due to the Crisp County Power Commission MEAG annual business meeting, seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously.

GRANT BUCKLEY IDC UPDATE

Mr. Buckley advised that the last number he received on the unemployment for our area was 4.1%, which is the lowest it has been since 2000; the jobs are out there for people who want to work, especially the local manufacturers. The buildings are down by the railroad track on Wall Street, it was a slow process but the contractor was able to use those materials and didn't charge them anything; the billboard posts that are there are owned by a billboard company and the previous owner of that property had just signed about a ten year lease, but the billboard company is looking for other sites to put the posts. He advised that some of those buildings downtown were donated to the Development Authority as part of the Darton College expansion, so his board had agreed on some prior transactions to transfer those properties to the Downtown Authority. They are remodeling a building downtown for a dance studio and also the Pool Room is almost ready to re-open, he thinks this is all positive. The spec building on Hwy. 300 is getting a lot of activity now and hopefully something will come out of one of these. Mr. Buckley advised that he understands Albany State College here in town has about 150 students for the summer semester; Commissioner Felton stated that they have the nursing classes back again.

ADOPT RESOLUTION TO ADOPT FY 2019 ANNUAL BUDGET

Mrs. Leverett reported that the budget process has been completed along with all the advertising and state requirements have been met, and this is the final step. She read the resolution setting the following revenues and expenditures are: General Fund at \$16,076,350; Law Library at \$30,000; Jail Maintenance Fund at \$222,800; D.A.T.E. Fund at \$40,000; E-911 Fund at \$982,100; TSPLOST Special Revenue Fund at \$727,500; CDBG at \$200,000; Special Service District at \$1,723,350; Hotel/Motel Tax Fund at \$45,000; 2005 SPLOST at \$688,162; 2011 SPLOST at \$1,627,400; 2017 SPLOST at \$3,565,761; TSPLOST Capital Projects Fund at \$291,233; Water Fund at \$651,450; Landfill Fund at \$1,724,700; CDBG Revolving Loan Fund at \$28,000; and Asset Forfeiture Fund at \$101,500 with total Crisp County FY 2019 Budget at \$28,725,306. **Motion was made by Mr. Nance to adopt the Resolution to Adopt FY 2019 Crisp County Board of Commissioners Annual Budget, seconded by Mr. Dowdy, motion carried unanimously.**

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs. Leverett reported that the first page of the financial report shows the monthly and YTD activity for the General and three major Special Revenue Funds; combined these funds are reporting YTD revenues at \$17.4 million and YTD expenditures at \$15.9 million providing us with positive 8% revenue over expenditure balance of just under \$1.5 million as of May 31, 2018. In the Water Fund, monthly revenues

and expenditures increase the YTD net income to \$177,748. Customer usage billed for the month was 7,967,000 and the USDA Bonds are current at \$1.3 million. In the Landfill Fund, we are reporting \$1.8 million in accrued year to date revenue and \$1.4 million in accrued expenses leaving this fund with a net income of \$406,740 at the end of eleven months. The GEFA Loans are current at \$2.8 million. In the cash on hand report, we ended the month with \$12.5 million in the General and Special Revenue Funds combined, \$4.8 million in the proprietary funds and \$5.8 million in the SPLOST & TSPLOST funds giving us a county wide total of \$23.7 million. She advised that all the money under the 2005 SPLOST Issue has been spent or appropriated. For the 2011 SPLOST Issue, we have appropriated \$22.3 million of the \$23.2 million collected under this issue leaving us with \$1.5 million to complete projects associated with this issue. Distribution No. 4 for \$343,208 for the 2017 SPLOST Issue is up about 9% over last year. Actual expenditures and appropriations have reached \$3.9 million for this issue. Following that is an updated schedule on our L.O.S.T distributions. Just like SPLOST, this month's receipt of \$167,262 is up almost 12% compared to May of 2017; part of this is due to the fact that we gained a % point on the distribution formula at 1/1/18. In the CDBG Revolving Loan Fund monthly report, we ended the month with a total outstanding balance of \$2.3 million for all these accounts. The final report included in your packet is the revenues by fund and expenditures by department preliminary report for the eleven-month period of July 2017 through May 2018. The summary report shows the expended percentage of appropriations for each individual department and the total for each fund; all departments should be at or below 92% of their annual allowances. Overall, the preliminary numbers indicate the General Fund and Special Revenue Funds are at 90%, the Water Fund is at 67% and the Landfill Fund is at 82%.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Patton reported that in the interest of time he is not going to read his report since Commissioners have the report in their packet but he would like to let them know that this year we will receive a dividend of \$30,184 on our insurance program.

CONDOLENCES TO A. JAMES NANCE

Administrator Patton, on behalf of all county employees and Commissioners, wants to extend our sincere condolences on the loss of his mother, and we are here to support him.

PICKEN'S POOL UPDATE

Administrator Patton reported that to make up for Picken's pool not being there, they are opening up the pool at the recreation department on Saturday's and not charging to get in, also every week they will be renting a double water slide and move it around to the different parks during the summer.

GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Mr. Nance to go into Executive Session to discuss litigation and property, seconded by Mr. Felton, 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. Dowdy, motion carried with all Commissioners agreeing to come out of Executive Session.

JOSHUA DERISO COMMENTS

Joshua Deriso, who is running for state representative, stated he appreciates being at the Commission meeting and seeing what is going on in Crisp County. He stated he thanked the Commissioners for the great work they are doing and trying to make the county better, and that is his goal as well. He stated that he is from Crisp County and is a graduate of Crisp County High School.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Mr. Mathis to adjourn the meeting at 11:32 a.m., seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously.

Sam Farrow, Jr., Chairman

Tom Patton, County Administrator