

**MINUTES OF THE CRISP COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 9, 2018**

**OPENING CEREMONIES**

Chairman Sam N. Farrow, Jr. called the meeting to order in Room 305 of the Crisp County Government Center with 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. 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 regular meeting minutes of October 9, 2108, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.**

**SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Chief Deputy Denise Youngblood handed out the sheriff's department stats for last month, and she presented a check for \$109,479.00 for last month's inmate housing. Also she wanted to bring to their attention a public notice regarding three U.S. Department of Agriculture grants to replace some vehicles, a generator and a macerator and as part of the grant application they have to hold a public hearing to inform the citizens about the project. The hearing has been set for Tuesday, November 13, 2018 in this room at 9:00 a.m. She also stated that the sheriff would like to have their permission to enter into some leasing contracts on some vehicles, they appreciate the purchase order they gave them for ten patrol cars, however they have some administration and unmarked vehicles that they are going to look at leasing. She also gave the website information for anyone to sign up for Code Red weather emergency.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Assistant Fire Chief Michael Postell reported that Standards and Training came in last week to check their employee records, equipment, training, etc. and they passed on all paid personnel. He stated that October is Fire Safety Month and they will be in the schools with their new robot during the month. Also, he advised that Chief Windham is resting well in Emory Hospital.

**PUBLIC WORK'S REPORT**

Public Works Director Carl Gamble reported that they received a letter from Georgia Department of Transportation in regards to the local bridge replacement program and DOT has identified two bridges, one on Story Road and the other on Lower Pateville Road, as falling below the ability of state requirements and the potential replacement of these bridges. He advised that they will have to respond back to them by October 29<sup>th</sup> advising if we are interested in the replacement of these bridges. It is a state program.

## BENNY WADE COMMENTS

Benny Wade stated that he wanted to know what is happening on Floyd Road; he knows the county has been discussing this road being paved since around 2000. He advised that later on the property owners signed an agreement and they were told that the Commissioners were going to get the state to provide funding to pave the road but in order to get state funding they had to have a 60 foot right-of-way. His is concerned that this has been promised for fourteen plus years and they still have no paving promise but if Commissioners don't intend to pave the road after it is widened, he asks them that when they get to the boundary of the Julius Wade estate to just leave the road bed placement as it is. Public Works Director Carl Gamble reported that they when we started grading this road many years ago we completed part of the road, the part with the substandard bridge structure was not completed. He advised that there has not been another road built, graded, drained and paved, since that one has been worked on. If the commissioners elect, once the road is finished as far as the widening, grading and drainage, if we request the funds to put the top on the road at that time, the top will be put on that road. Chairman Farrow advised that commissioners would look into this matter, get up more information, and address it the best as we can.

## CITY CHAIRMAN WIGGINS COMMENTS

John Wiggins, Chairman of the City of Cordele Commissioners, extended an invitation to the Commissioners and county staff to attend a town hall meeting that he will be hosting on November 8<sup>th</sup> at the Community Clubhouse beginning at 6:00 p.m. It will be very important to him that the Commissioners and some of the staff attend that meeting because he is trying to form some cohesiveness and togetherness and to get people to try to work together in our community.

## APPROVE RED RIBBON WEEK PROCLAMATION

Administrator Patton read the Red Ribbon Week Proclamation promoting family and individual responsibilities for living healthy, drug-free lifestyles, without illegal drugs or the illegal use of legal drugs as well as focusing on being a "bully & gang free" community. It also proclaims the month of October "Free of Drugs, Bullying and Gangs". **Motion was made by Mr. Dowdy to approve the Red Ribbon week proclamation, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.** Monica Simmons, Chamber of Commerce Director, thanked the commissioners for their support.

## APPROVE NATIONAL 4-H WEEK PROCLAMATION

Administrator Paton read the National 4-H Week Proclamation proclaiming the week of October 7-13, 2018 to be Crisp County 4-H Week and urge all citizens to assist in according this observance and the attention and importance to which it is so rightly entitled. **Motion was made by Mr. Dowdy to approve the National 4-H Week Proclamation and proclaim the week of October 7-13, 2018 to be Crisp County 4-H Week, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.** Chairman Farrow thanked the 4-H staff for the work they do for the citizens of the county.

## APPROVE PROPOSAL FOR FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNT

Monica Irwin, Human Resource Director, reported that we are currently using the company Tasc for our flexible spending account and have been with this company about four years. She advised this company is

currently charging \$6.65 per employee; we have also had a lot of complaints. Beginning on January 1, 2019 we would like approval to go with a company called Admin America. They will charge \$4.50 per employee and this price will be guaranteed for four years. **Motion was made by Mr. Dowdy to approve the proposal changing the flexible spending account to Admin America beginning January 1, 2019, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.**

#### **RATIFY INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH WORTH COUNTY FOR OPERATION OF WATER SYSTEM**

Administrator Patton reported that commissioners need to ratify the Intergovernmental Agreement with Worth County for operation of the water system and collection of charges and fees; it was due October 1, 2018 and we had to go ahead and sign the agreement. The terms of the agreement have not changed with the exception of the time of the agreement as they want it in two year renewals. **Motion was made by Mr. Felton to ratify the Intergovernmental Agreement with Worth County for operation of the county water system, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.**

#### **APPROVE 2019 CRISP COUNTY HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

Administrator Patton reported that it is time for approval of the 2019 county employee Holiday Schedule; it is the same as in years past. **Motion was made by Mr. Dowdy to approve the 2019 Crisp County Holiday Schedule as presented, seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously.**

#### **RATIFY THREE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT GRANT AWARDS**

Finance Director Sherrie Leverett reported that she has three grants that we need to ratify acceptance of the awards. The first one is the Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force Grant from the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council for the period of July 31, 2018 through December 31, 2018 for \$33,463.00 which helps to cover personnel costs of those employees for that period of time that work with MSNTF. **Motion was made by Mr. Felton to approve the MSNTF grant in the amount of \$33,463.00 for the period of 7/31/18 through 12/31.18.** She advised the second one is the Law Enforcement VWAP and the funds are utilized by the Sheriff's Department in support of the two victim's advocate positions; it also comes through the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council and total project is \$146,000.00; federal funds at \$116,800.00 and the local matching funds are \$29,200.00, which is budgeted. The period of this grant is October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019. **Motion was made by Mr. Felton to approve the Law Enforcement VWAP grant in the amount of \$146,000.00 for the period of 10/1/28 through 09/30/19, seconded by Mr. Dowdy, motion carried unanimously.** Mrs. Leverett advised that the final grant is acceptance of the annual GEMA EMA Director's grant, the amount is the same as it was last year at \$20,119.00; it is funded through GEMA. **Motion was made by Mr. Felton to approve the GEMA EMA Director's grant in the amount of \$20,119.00, seconded by Mr. Dowdy, motion carried unanimously.**

#### **APPROVE BID REQUEST FOR NEW AMBULANCE**

Mrs. Leverett reported that they put out bids on a new ambulance, it was properly posted. She advised that they received five bids, and David Edwards, EMS Director, recommended that we go with the bid submitted by Custom Truck & Body Works for \$117,996.00; he does have the money in SPLOST to purchase the ambulance. She advised that this is not the lowest bid, it is the second lowest, but Mr. Edwards has listed his reasons as stated but basically it came down to references. **Motion was made by Mr. Felton to**

**approve the purchase of a new ambulance in the amount of \$117,996.00 from Custom Truck & Body Works, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.**

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Mrs. Leverett reported that the first page includes the report of revenues and expenditures for the County's General & three major Special Revenue Funds; combined, these funds are reporting YTD revenues received of \$1.8 million and YTD expenditures at \$4.4 million leaving a -14% shortfall after the first 90 days of fiscal year 2019. We should see that gap begin to close as the 2018 Ad Valorem Tax Revenue begins to come in. The Water Fund ended the quarter with a net income of \$40,293. Water consumption billed for the month was 5.9 million gallons, and the USDA Bonds principal balance is current at \$1.3 million. The Landfill Fund is reporting an accrued net income of \$90,389 at 9/30/18. The total tonnage received for the month of September of was 4110.16, and the principal balance on the GEFA loans is current at just over \$2.6 million. In the Cash Report, the General and special revenue funds combined ended the month with \$10.3 million, the proprietary funds with \$4.9 million and the SPLOST and TSPLOST funds at \$3.4 million, bringing our County wide total to \$18.8 million. Of that amount, over \$12.0 million is reserved for special projects or purposes. In the 2005 SPLOST Issue, as of September 30, 2018 we have spent or appropriated \$24.7 million on projects approved under this Issue, and spent \$22.4 million from the 2011 SPLOST Issue. Distribution No. 8 of the 2017 SPLOST Issue, in the amount of \$301,592, is down about -2% from the average collected for this time period under the previous issue. Actual expenditures and appropriations have reached \$4.6 million for this issue with current revenue distributions totaling \$2.5 million. In the Local Option Sales Tax Distributions, due to the extra % point on the distribution we began receiving at 1/1/18, this month's distribution of \$147,772 is up, but without that gain in the distribution method this number would also be down about -2%. In the CDBG Revolving Loan Fund monthly report we currently have eight loans with a total outstanding balance of \$2.2 million. The last report included is the revenue by fund and expenditures by department report. The report shows the expended percentage of appropriations for each individual department and the total for each fund. Expenditures should be below 25%. As of this report, the General & Special Revenue Funds Combined were at 23%, the Water Fund was at 21% and the Landfill Fund finished the month at 23%. Mrs. Leverett also advised that the easements have been secured on the 2017 CDBG and she has received an email from the engineer that will advertise on the construction bids and the bid opening date has been set for November 15, 2018.

### **APPROVE ALCOHOL LICENSE**

Mrs. Leverett reported that she has a new alcohol license for Mr. Keeten Patel at Farmers Liquors on Hwy. 41 North. In accordance with our Alcohol License Ordinance since, it is a new license and it needs the Board's approval. She advised that he did go through all the background steps that are required in the ordinance. **Motion was made by Mr. Felton to approve the new alcohol license for Keeten Patel, seconded by Mr. Dowdy, motion carried unanimously.**

### **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Administrator reported that they attended the semi-annual railroad meeting in Vidalia and listened to Geneses Wyoming on their plans for the railroad, and they along with the state have applied for a Tiger Grant to help with the repair of the rail lines; the Tax Assessors office began re-evaluation on property last week; and we have completed the major modification for the landfill plan, it is in and expect it to be approved soon so we can begin moving the ash out of the ash pond.

**GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion was made by Mr. Felton to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel, litigation and property, seconded by Mr. Dowdy with all Commissioners agreeing to go into Executive Session.**

**COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Commissioner A. James Nance was present in the Executive Session, and he made the motion to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Mathis with all Commissioners agreeing to come out of Executive Session.**

**APPOINT ANNIE RUTH ROGERS TO CRISP COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT BOARD**

**Motion was made by Mr. Nance to appoint Annie Ruth Rogers to fill the unexpired term of Katherine Kelly on the Crisp County Health Department Board term ending December 31, 2020, seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously.**

**APPROVE SALE OF COUNTY PROPERTY ON COWN ROAD**

**Motion was made by Mr. Felton to approve the sale of county property on Cown Road at the agreed price, seconded by Mr. Dowdy, motion carried unanimously.**

**APPROVE QUIT CLAIM DEED ON FRONTAGE ROAD**

Attorney Lawson advised that the county paid nothing for the old closed Frontage Road southeast of I-75 and Farmers Market Road intersection, and the road was closed in 2004. A quit claim deed will allow the county to simply give the road back to the adjacent landowners. **Motion was made by Mr. Felton to approve the Quit Claim deed on Frontage Road giving the road back to the adjacent landowners, seconded by Mr. Nance, motion carried unanimously.**

**RATIFY ENCROACHMENT AGREEMENT WITH ATT AT WILLOW LAKE**

**Motion was made by Mr. Nance to ratify an Encroachment Agreement with ATT at Willow Lake for an easement on behalf of the County's Water Department, seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**By common consent, Commissioners adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.**

---

**Sam Farrow, Chairman**

---

**Tom Patton, Administrator**

