

**MINUTES OF THE CRISP COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 13, 2020**

OPENING CEREMONIES

Chairman Sammie N. Farrow, Jr. called the meeting to order at 9:00 am 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 Clark Harrell, County Attorney Rick Lawson, Finance Director Sherrie Leverett and County Clerk Linda Finch. Rick Smarr gave the invocation and Administrator Harrell 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 September 8, 2020, seconded by Mr. Dowdy, motion carried unanimously.

SHERIFF DEPARTMENT'S REPORT

Sheriff Billy Hancock reported their department served 119 warrants, 112 civil papers, 76 subpoenas and recorded 161 man hours in court last month. He advised that they have one employee that is critical condition with COVID-19 in the hospital. Also, the Marshall Contract is in place at \$51 per day per federal inmate plus \$28.50 an hour for transporting federal inmates. He brought a check in the amount of \$106,188 for inmate housing, they are continuing to patrol with over 85,000 miles last month at .17 a mile, and he asked all citizens to make sure they lock their cars at night as the city and county have had several instances of individuals going in vehicles that were not locked. Sheriff Hancock also advised that they were notified last week that they will be the recipient of three Department of Homeland Security grants.

ADOPT NATIONAL 4-H WEEK PROCLAMATION

Administrator Harrell reported that last week he had the honor of raising the 4-H Flag at the Community Clubhouse for National 4-H Week, he read this proclamation at the ceremony and would like the Commissioners to memorialize it today. He read the proclamation. **Motion was made by Mr. Mathis to adopt the National 4-H Week Proclamation, seconded by Mr. Dowdy, motion carried unanimously.**

CRISP-DOOLY FORESTRY REPORT

Administrator Harrell reported that Marty Fore, Chief Forest Ranger with the forestry called this morning and advised that he has had a conflict come up and could not be here, so we will put his report off until next month.

ADOPT RED RIBBON WEEK PROCLAMATION

Administrator Harrell read the Red Ribbon Week Proclamation raising awareness about the harms posed by alcohol and drugs and proclaiming the week of October 23-31, 2020 as Drug Awareness Week. **Motion**

was made by Mr. Mathis to adopt the Red Ribbon Week Proclamation, seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE REZONING REQUEST FOR THERMO KING

Administrator Harrell reported that Connie Youngblood, Planning Director was were able to get in touch with a Thermo King Representative. She had previously presented this at a meeting a couple of months ago and advised that Thermo King wants Commissioners to approve the rezoning request with a variance for a crush and run parking lot. **Motion was made by Mr. Mathis to approve Thermo King's rezoning request with the variance of a crush and run parking lot, seconded by Mr. Dowdy, motion carried unanimously.**

ADOPT RESOLUTION 2020-018 AIRPORT DRAINAGE REHABILITATION – PHASE 2

Administrator Harrell read a Resolution to accept the DDOT Contract for the Airfield Drainage Rehabilitation, Phase 2 at the airport. He advised that the county will receive a contract to provide reimbursement for the costs associated with making improvements to the existing airport up to a maximum amount of \$718,143.06; \$224,259.16 will be Federal Funds, \$372,936.87 will be State Funds and requiring a local match of \$120,947.05. **Motion was made by Mr. Mathis to adopt Resolution 2020-018 – Authorization to Accept GDOT Contract Costs Associated with Airfield Drainage Rehabilitation – Phase 2 at the Crisp County – Cordele Airport, seconded by Mr. Nance, motion carried unanimously.**

APPROVE FY 2020 FINAL BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

Mrs. Leverett reported that we have the FY 2020 final year end budget adjustments; overall the original county-wide budget was \$29,859,844 with end of year adjustments at \$654,244 brings the final total to \$30,514,088. The good news is the General Fund adjustments were only \$158,092, and we did not have to use any surplus funds. We received a one-time L.O.S.T. distribution and money received from the Cares Act that had to be accrued to FY 2020. **Motion was made by Mr. Mathis to approve the FY 2020 Final Budget Adjustments by category within department within fund, seconded by Mr. Nance, motion carried unanimously.**

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs. Leverett reported that in the financial report is a preliminary report for the first quarter of FY 21. The General and three major Special Revenue Funds, combined, are reporting YTD revenues received of \$3.7 million and YTD expenditures at \$4.3 million leaving a -3% shortfall. The Water Fund ended the quarter with a net income of \$96,692, and the USDA Bonds principal balance is current at \$1.2 million. In the Landfill Fund, we are reporting an accrued net income of \$58,535, and the principal balance on the GEFA loans is current at \$1.7 million. In the Cash Report, the General and Special Revenue Funds combined ended the month with \$11.1 million, the Proprietary Funds with \$6.8 million and the SPLOST and TSPLOST Funds at \$4.7 million, bringing our County wide total to \$22.6 million. For the 2011 SPLOST Issue, as of September 30th, we have appropriated \$23.1 million of the \$23.2 million collected under this issue. For the 2017 SPLOST Issue, Distribution No. 32 in the amount of \$340,155 is up about 3% over last September. We received a sizable one-time pro rata statewide distribution resulting from an audit by the Department of Revenue covering the years 2015-2018 in an additional distribution of \$391,402 of which the County will retain \$285,899, (\$105,000 will go to the Cities of Cordele and Arabi). This pushed our total issue to date collections up to just over \$11.0 million with expenditures reaching \$8.3 million. We also received

an additional one-time DOR Audit for the 2012 Transportation Sales Tax Fund of an additional \$80,313. She reported that the Local Option Sales Tax monthly distribution is up about 3%, and we received an additional \$189,087 in local option sales tax resulting from the audit. In our CDBG Revolving Loan Fund report, we currently have eight loans with a total outstanding balance of \$2.3 million. The last report is the revenue by fund and expenditures by department report, and as of September 30th everyone should be at or below 25%. The General & Special Revenue Funds Combined are at 21%, the Water Fund is at 17% and the Landfill is 18%.

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT
AUTHORIZE ADMINISTRATOR HARRELL TO CONTINUE WITH NRCS PROJECT**

Administrator Harrell reported that 1) a notice to proceed was issued to Scruggs for the 2020 LMIG, and they have committed to begin resurfacing on October 19th. Roads benefiting from this project are portions of Cork Ferry Road, 13th Street, Landfill Road and Ferry Landing Road for 4.66 miles; 2) the water study is complete and the railroad will begin the project early in 2021 at Cedar Lakes subdivision; 3) NRCS has approved an application to work in Gum Creek and Cedar Creek, paperwork cannot be processed until after October 1, 2020 due to the Federal Fiscal Year. He asked commissioners to give him authority to continue with the NRCS grant project, which is cleaning out portions of Cedar and Gum Creeks. **Motion was made by Mr. Nance to authorize the administrator to move forward and continue with the NRCS grant project, seconded by Mr. Dowdy, motion carried unanimously.** He will be submitting paperwork after today's commission meeting; 4) he attended a Chamber of Commerce meeting, met with Synergy and attended a meeting with Sherry Evans; 5) he and Cordele Assistant Manager Steve Fulford attended a land bank meeting in Thomasville; and 6) he continues to work with Sherrie for reimbursement from FEMA for Hurricane Michael.

APPROVED MASK REQUIREMENT

Administrator Harrell reported that he and Commissioner Felton had a conversation a week ago about wearing of face masks, and they have ordered signs for all of our county facilities and should be in this week. **Mr. Nance made the motion, that out of care for the public and in an effort to follow CDC guidelines and public health recommendations, to require all county employees to wear a mask while physically engaged with the public and also make it a requirement for masks to be worn by the public when entering county buildings or attending and visiting county facilities, seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously.**

GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

By common consent, all Commissioners agreed to go into Executive Session to discuss property.

COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION


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

ACCEPT BID FOR ARTS ALLIANCE BUILDING

Administrator Harrell reported that Commissioners had authorized him to place the Arts Alliance building, 705 E. 17th Avenue, up for bid; it was advertised and we accepted sealed bids. We only had one bid turned in. The bidder was Daniel Rumsey with Hutchins, Clenney, Rumsey and Huckaby, PC, and their sealed bid was in the amount of \$230,000. He recommended Commissioners accept the bid. **Motion was made by Mr. Nance to accept the bid of \$230,000 from Daniel Rumsey and enter into a contract and authorize the chairman to sign the paperwork, seconded by Mr. Dowdy, motion carried unanimously.**

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Mr. Nance to adjourn the meeting at 10:20 am, seconded by Mr. Dowdy, motion carried unanimously.



Sammie N. Farrow, Jr., Chairman



Clark Harrell, Administrator