

**MINUTES OF THE CRISP COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 8, 2020**

**OPENING CEREMONIES**

Chairman Sam N. 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 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.

**RESOLUTION 2020-022 HONORING COMMISSIONER WALLACE MATHIS**

Administrator Harrell read Resolution 2020-022 Honoring Commissioner Wallace Mathis. Commissioner Mathis serviced loyally and honorably as a County Commissioner from 1997 through 2002 and from 2009 through 2020, serving as Chairman for two years. The Commissioners thanked him for his dedication to the citizens of this county. **Motion was made by Mr. Nance to adopt Resolution 2020-022 Honoring Commissioner Wallace Mathis for Loyal Service and Dedication to the Citizens of Crisp County, seconded by Mr. Dowdy, motion carried unanimously.** Commissioner Mathis was presented the Resolution and a framed photo of the Commissioners taken at the last meeting by Administrator Harrell.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion was made by Mr. Nance to adopt the regular meeting minutes of November 10, 2020, seconded by Mr. Dowdy, motion carried unanimously.**

**SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Sheriff Billy Hancock reported that total tickets for the courts is down this month. He advised that in the last six months they have lost three individuals under the age of 28 in the sheriff's department, as all three have gone into the private sector. They are short staffed in the detention center, but they do have some interviews this afternoon. He turned over a check to Commissioners for November inmate housing in the amount of \$130,000, and advised that the jail population is down and averaging about 206 a day. On a good note, there is no positive COVID-19 cases inside the jail, but he does have one employee that has tested positive. Also, the patrol cars logged 93,226 miles driven and operated for about \$.14 a mile.

**KENNETH LONG DID NOT ATTEND**

Kenneth Long was on the agenda to discuss a couple of items, but he did not show up for the meeting.

**PUBLIC HEARING – CDBG 2020 MEADOW PARK**

Administrator Clark Harrell reported that we have a public hearing for CDBG 2020. Chairman Farrow opened the public hearing. Administrator Harrell reported that this is a \$715,227 project that has been approved for Meadow Park Street and Drainage improvements by the Department of Community Affairs;

it is a federal project. Crisp County will provide an additional \$72,254 in local support bringing the total estimated cost of the project to \$787,481. Of the 145 residents that will benefit from this project, 142 are low and moderate income. The estimated amount of CDBG Funds to be used on each activity associated with the project is: \$10,000 for Acquisition, \$483,340 for Street Improvements, \$223,992 for Flood and Drainage Facilities, and \$42,895 for Administration. Chairman Farrow asked if anyone wanted to speak regarding the public hearing, there was none; he closed the public hearing.

### **LANGUAGE ACCESS PLAN, NOVEMBER 2020**

Administrator Harrell reported that we need to approve the Language Access Plan, which is directly related to the CDBG project. This is a requirement by the federal government for those who do not speak English, and Mrs. Leverett will be the contact; he would ask for adoption of the plan. **Motion was made by Mr. Dowdy to adopt the Language Access Plan, November 2020, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.**

### **APPROVE APPLICATION FOR A BEVERAGE LICENSE FOR BLACKSHEAR BEVERAGE, LLC**

Administrator Harrell reported that we have received an application to sell beer, wine and liquor from Blackshear Beverage, LLC. The business address is 2453 Ga. Hwy. 300, and the principle people involved in this company are Wesley Hill, Thomas W. Hill, and Whitney Hill Brown. They have completed the steps needed with the county, and he would ask for Commissioners support in allowing this company to operate in the county. **Motion was made by Mr. Nance to approve the application for a Beverage License for Blackshear Beverage, LLC, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried unanimously.**

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Mrs. Leverett reported that included is a preliminary financial report for the period of July through November, 2020. For the County's General and three major Special Revenue Funds, combined, they are reporting YTD revenues of just over \$8 million and YTD expenditures at \$7.4 million leaving a positive 3% revenue over expenditure of \$601,261. The Water Fund is reporting YTD net profit of \$123,667, and the USDA Bonds principal balance is current at \$1.2 million. In the Landfill Fund, accrued YTD revenues less expenses leave this fund with net income of \$89,855, and the principal balance on the GEFA loans is current at \$1.7 million. In the Cash Report, General and Special Revenue Funds combined ended the month with \$12.1 million, the Proprietary Funds at \$6.9 million and the SPLOST & TSPLOST funds at \$5.1 million. In the 2011 SPLOST Issue, we ended the month at just over \$23 million. Distribution No. 34 for the 2017 SPLOST Issue in the amount of \$325,216 is down by about 5% from this time last year. It does bring issue to date collections to \$11.7 million. Expenditures and current obligations have reached \$8.8 million. Next is the report on the 2012 TSPLOST revenues. In summary, we have collected over \$7.9 million since January of 2013. Combine that with LMIG and GDOT Revenue, and we have appropriated over \$6.1 million in local road projects through the Special Transportation Sales Tax Fund. Also, this month's distribution of \$159,344 of the Local Option Sales Tax is down 5%. In the CDBG Revolving Loan Fund monthly report, we remain at eight outstanding loans with a total balance due of \$2.2 million. The last report is the revenue by fund and expenditures by department report, which shows the expended percentage of appropriations for each individual department and the total for each fund; expenditures should be below 42%. As of this report, the General & Special Revenue Funds Combined are at 36%, and the Water and Landfill funds are both at 28%.

## ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Harrell reported that 1) the 2020 LMIG project is complete; 2) the 2021 LMIG list is up for review and discussion; 3) he attended the Chamber of Commerce and Keep Crisp Beautiful meetings virtually; 4) he spoke to the Kiwanis Club concerning county affairs; 5) he attended the CDBG kick-off meeting; 6) he has contracted with NTS for a new county website and have a target date of March 31<sup>st</sup> to be completed and live. We will be able to make changes and updates ourselves, and Haley Wade with the Sheriff's Office is assisting with the project; 7) he reminded Commissioners of the reception for Commissioner Mathis today. Commissioner-Elect Mark Crenshaw will be sworn in sometime in December, and he is currently attending the required training as mandated by Georgia law; and 8) Brock Road should be open today, as the bridge on this road has been replaced.

### GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Mr. Dowdy to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel, seconded by Mr. Mathis, motion carried with all Commissioners present agreeing to go into Executive Session.

### COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

### ADJOURNMENT

By common consent, Commissioners adjourned the meeting at 9:52 a.m.

  
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Sam N. Farrow, Jr., Chairman

  
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Clark Harrell, Administrator