

**MINUTES OF THE CRISP COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2021**

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, Larry Felton, J. R. Dowdy, III, and Mark Crenshaw 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.

APPROVE MINUTES

Motion was made by Mr. Felton to approve the regular meeting minutes of August 10, 2021, and the work session minutes of August 17, 2021, seconded by Mr. Crenshaw, motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATOR HARRELL ANNOUNCED RETIREMENT OF COUNTY CLERK

Administrator Harrell announced the retirement of County Clerk Linda Finch effective September 30, 2021. He congratulated and thanked her for her 46 years of service to the county; she began on October 1, 1975 and has worked with seven administrators. Commissioners congratulated and thanked Ms. Finch for her many years of service to the county.

SHERIFF'S REPORT

Administrator Harrell advised that Sheriff Hancock was not able to attend the meeting this morning but did bring his report for commissioners' review. He also presented a check from the sheriff's office for inmate housing of the month of August for \$78,122.19. He advised that this commission is working with Sheriff Hancock, and they have helped to stop the bleeding in his department by putting together silhouettes of those positions that are still available; you can see that many have been filled in the last 45 days and also they have not had any employees leave. He thanked the board for what they did on behalf of the sheriff & his office.

DECISION – SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR BARBARA CLARK

Administrator Harrell reported that last month we had the public hearing on the request from Barbara Clark for a Special Use Permit for the purpose of operating a Day Care Facility in her home at 2317 Joe Wright Drive South. Property is zoned RSI (Single Family Residential) last meeting. He went over the review check for the Special Use Request. Chairman Farrow asked for a motion. **J. R. Dowdy, III, made the motion to adopt the findings of fact and grant the Special Use Permit for a Day Care Center to be conducted in the primary residence of 2317 Joe Wright Drive South and operated as presented by the applicant at the public hearing. Larry Felton, second the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

ADOPT RESOLUTION 2021-013 - ESTABLISH A SECOND BD. OF EQUALIZATION

Administrator Harrell reported that he has Resolution 2021-013 for their consideration. This annual resolution is to establish a second Board of Equalization. He read the resolution. **Motion was made by Mr. Dowdy to adopt Resolution 2021-013 - Establish a Second Board of Equalization, seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously.**

ADOPT RESOLUTION 2021-014 - AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

Administrator Harrell reported that Resolution 2021-014 is a resolution related to Covid-19, American Rescue Plan Act and is for their consideration. He read the resolution. **Motion was made by Mr. Dowdy to approve Resolution 2021-014 Resolution Related to Covid-19, American Rescue Plan Act; and for Other Purposes, seconded by Mr. Crenshaw, motion carried unanimously.**

ADOPT RESOLUTION 2021-015 2021 - TAX LEVY RESOLUTION

Administrator Harrell reported that the next Resolution 2021-015 is a resolution to approve the 2021 Tax Levy. He read the resolution, which also includes the tax levy for the Board of Education. Total County Millage Rate at 0.011490, Unincorporated District Special Service Millage Rate at 0.001650, and Millage Rate for the School System of 0.016513. **Motion was made by Mr. Felton to Adopt Resolution 2021-015, 2021 Tax Levy Resolution, Crisp County, Georgia, seconded by Mr. Dowdy, motion carried unanimously.**

APPROVE 2021 LMIG BID AWARD

Administrator Harrell reported that the last item he has is the 2021 Local Maintenance Improvement Grant (LMIG) bid award. We had the bid opening last month and has the bids for their consideration. The low bid on resurfacing with paving of 4.82 miles is Reeves Construction Company at \$964,155.00. We did have three companies that bid on this project. Paving includes portions of Brock Road, Lakeshore Way, Ferry Landing Road, Pateville Road, Seedling Drive and Hoover Street. He advised the resurfacing will cost about \$200,000.00 a mile. The LMIG funding will be \$560,595.27, and the difference will have to be made up either through SPLOST or TSPLOST. **Motion was made by Mr. Felton to approve the low bid of Reeves Construction Company in the amount of \$964,155.00 for the 2021 Local Maintenance Improvement Grant bid award, seconded by Mr. Dowdy, motion carried unanimously.**

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs. Leverett reported that today's financial report includes a summary of the financial status of the major funds of the county for the first two months of FY 22. The General and three major Special Revenue Funds, combined, are reporting YTD revenues received of \$2.1 million and YTD expenditures at \$3.1 million leaving a current expenditure over revenue shortfall balance of \$955,836. With \$126,662 in YTD revenue and \$86,660 in YTD expenses, the Water Fund ended the two month period with a net income of \$40,002. The USDA Bonds are current at \$1.2 million. The Landfill is showing YTD net income at \$37,364. The principal balance on the GEFA loans is current at \$1.5 million. The General and Special Revenue Funds combined, ended the month with \$15.2 million, the proprietary funds at \$7.5 million and the SPLOST & TSLOST funds at \$6.9 million bringing the County wide total to \$29.6 million; \$18.6 million of that amount is reserved or restricted for special uses or projects. Next are the SPLOST Issue Reports. In the 2011 SPLOST, we have appropriated \$23.1 million of the \$23.2 million collected under this issue. Distribution

No. 43 of the 2017 SPLOST Issue Report is up 23% from this same reporting period one year ago. Expenditures and appropriations have reached \$10.9 million for this issue. Next is an issue to date report on the 2012 Transportation Sales Tax Fund. Issue to date collections have reached \$6.8 million. Following that is an updated schedule on our L.O.S.T distributions. Mirroring SPLOST the monthly distribution is also up 23% over last July. Next, the CDBG Revolving Loan Fund monthly report shows the status of all our CDBG Revolving Loan Fund Accounts. We have nine loans with a total outstanding balance of \$2.1 million. The last report included is the revenue by fund and expenditures by department report. At two months into the new fiscal year everyone should be at or below 17%. As of this report, the General and Special Revenue Funds combined are at 15%, the Water Fund at 13% & the Landfill Fund at 15%.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Harrell reported that 1) he continues to receive trash complaints from time to time and is responsive to those complaints; it is obvious that they are being handled after the complaint has been known to us. Advanced Disposal is in a transition period, and they assured him they are in the process of hiring someone local in Cordele to answer the telephone; 2) we are still working on a minor modification to our EPD permit at the landfill to allow for the use of the old bailer building as a transfer station; 3) last month we found out that the Office of Planning and Budget had made funds available "state-wide" for competitive grants in the area of broad band, water and sewer. He got busy trying to expand the Lake Blackshear Area Water System. We have worked extremely hard with our engineers and will be proposing the expansion to allow for a potential 229 services in Crisp and Sumter along with replacing all water meters system wide. We received letters of support from Sumter and Worth and from Representative Noel Williams for this project. He attended commission meetings in Dooly and Sumter regarding the expansion. Additionally, conversations have taken place with Arabi and Greg Turton to expand broadband, and I expect to see an application for such. Chairman Farrow asked when we started this that we look at running the system up to Dooly County, but after further review this was not feasible. This water system was put in about 1997 so there are some improvements we need to put into it, it is running very well. We also would like to locate another well and tank in Sumter County with this project and tie these lines together with the existing lines. This way, Sumter County sustain itself if we had to make it sustainable. He believes this is a really good project, and people are looking at what we are doing with this on the state level as this will be a regional project. The project will cost somewhere between \$8-9 million. There will be no mandatory local match to this; you will get additional points if you match it with some monies, but he feels like our application will be strong enough that we won't have to match it with any local monies; 4) Monica Irwin is working with Linda Finch to transition into the clerk role. Valerie Black will pick up additional duties also. It is his intention not to hire additional staff in the commission office; 5) he attended several meetings and events last month.

ACKNOWLEDGE PASSING OF FORMER COMMISSIONER & CHAIRMAN FERRELL HENRY

Commissioner Nance stated that he wanted to honor the passing of former great high school football coach, school principle, and former Commissioner and Chairman of the Board of Commissioners. Coach Henry passed away on Saturday evening; he was an all-around good guy and was still involved with the high school touchdown club and football team. Commissioner Nance and Commissioners wanted the family to know that their prayers are with them during this difficult time.

GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Mr. Felton to go into Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Crenshaw, motion carried with all Commissioners agreeing to go into Executive Session.

COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

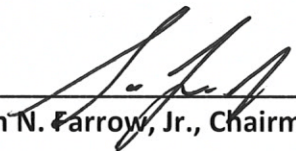
Motion was made by Mr. Felton to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Crenshaw, motion carried with all Commissioners agreeing to come out of Executive Session.

APPROVE SALARY ADJUSTMENT FOR ADMINISTRATOR HARRELL

Motion was made by Mr. Nance to approve a \$3,000.00 salary adjustment for Administrator Harrell after his evaluation, seconded by Mr. Felton, motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN MEETING

Motion was made by Mr. Nance to adjourn the meeting at 10:27 a.m., seconded by Mr. Dowdy, motion carried unanimously.



Sam N. Farrow, Jr., Chairman



Clark Harrell, County Administrator