

**MINUTES OF THE CRISP COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 8, 2022**

**OPENING CEREMONIES**

Chairman James Dowdy, III, 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, Sam Farrow, Jr, and Mark Crenshaw in attendance. Others present were County Administrator Clark Harrell, County Attorney Rick Lawson, Finance Director Sherrie Leverett and County Clerk Monica Irwin. 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 Dowdy welcomed all in attendance.

**APPROVE MINUTES**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Larry Felton to approve the regular meeting minutes of January 11, 2022, seconded by Commissioner Sam Farrow, motion carried unanimously.**

**SHERIFF'S REPORT**

Sheriff Billy Hancock gave the Sheriff's report. He reported the Sheriff's office is gradually filling staff openings. The current warrants and roads division openings was filled by a wife and husband from Valdosta. He reported the numbers are up slightly in reference to tickets and inmate housing. Patrol miles have decreased in comparison to miles patrolled several years ago. Employee retention is good at this time, the office not losing any current employees. The Sheriff also advised there will be a Mobile Command Exercise scheduled for March, 2022, at the Veterans State Park. This exercise will allow participation with Homeland Security and communication with others during a disaster on how to operate and control such a situation.

**NEW BUSINESS**

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, advised the Commissioners of the nine mandatory state minimum standard codes under the new Georgia State Amendments that needs to be readopted. These amendments became effective January, 1, 2022 and are as follows: 2018 International Building Code, 2018 International Residential Code, 2020 International Electrical Code, 2015 International Energy Conservation Code, 2018 International Mechanical Code, 2018 International Plumbing Code, 2018 International Fuel Gas Code, 2018 International Fire Code, and 2018 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code. **Motion made by Commissioner Felton to readopt mandatory minimum standard codes, seconded by Commissioner Crenshaw, motion carried unanimously.**

**SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR MICHAEL MCCARTY**

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, advised the Commissioners that a Public Hearing was required during the January 11, 2022, Commission Meeting which was a request from Michael McCarty for a Special Use Permit for the purpose of a metal building located at 1463 Tremont Road to be used as a construction contractor with machinery equipment and storage. Mr. Harrell read the finding of facts and requested a motion from the Commission. **Motion was made by Commissioner Farrow to adopt the findings of facts and approve the special use permit for a metal building to be used as a**

**construction contractor with machinery equipment and storage, seconded by Commissioner Crenshaw, motion carried unanimously.**

### **SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR INNOVATIVE SENIOR SOLUTIONS**

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, advised the Commission that a Public Hearing was required during the January 11, 2022, Commission Meeting which was a request from Innovative Senior Solutions for a Special Use Permit for the purpose of rezoning a parcel of property from Single Family Residential to Two Family Duplex for the purpose of constructing a family personal care home. The property is located adjacent to and south of 243 and Valhalla Road. Mr. Harrell reported since the January 11, 2022 public hearing, Innovative Senior Solutions has withdrawn their request for the special use permit.

### **GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, advised the Commissioners of two bridge projects the Georgia Department of Transportation is wanting to do in Crisp County. These projects will be completed with federal funds. Project 0016751 is a bridge project on Story Road at North Branch Swift Creek Tributary. Project 0016572 is a bridge project on Lower Pateville Road at Swift Creek Tributary. Total cost for both projects will be \$1,000,000.00, each. The county will be responsible for contributing \$50,000 per project for the purpose of acquiring right of way. Money not expended will be returned to the County. Mr. Harrell asked the Chairman be authorized to sign the necessary documents for Georgia Department of Transportation to proceed with the named projects. Mr. Harrell also advised the Commission that the money for these projects will come from Transportation Special Local Options Sales Tax. **Motion made by Commissioner Farrow in support of the two projects, seconded by Commissioner Felton, motion carried unanimously.**

### **ADOPT RESOLUTION 2022-007 – BANK SIGNATURE AUTHORIZATIONS**

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, reported that Resolution 2022-007 is a resolution concerning bank account signature authorizations for Crisp County Board of Commissioners. Mr. Harrell read the Resolution. **Motion was made by Commissioner Crenshaw to adopt Resolution 2022-007 as stated above, seconded by Commissioner Nance, motion was carried unanimously.**

### **ADOPT RESOLUTION 2022-008 – TELECOMMUNICATIONS PROJECT CONTRACT WITH THE MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC AUTHORITY OF GEORGIA**

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, reported that Resolution 2022-008 is a resolution authorizing the execution, delivery, and performance of the fourth amendment to telecommunications project contract with the municipal electric authority of Georgia and for other purposes. Mr. Harrell advised Georgia Public Web and Municipal Electric Cities of Georgia are wanting to be removed from the internet business and this will be sold to a third party. The county's affiliation with the Crisp County Power Commission requires a signature from the Commission. **Motion was made by Commissioner Farrow to adopt Resolution 2022-008 as stated above, seconded by Commissioner Felton, motion was carried unanimously.**

## ASSIGNMENT OF CONTRACTS IN FAVOR OF GEORGIA PUBLIC WEB

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, advised the Commission that County Attorney, Rick Lawson, reported there is an additional document needed for consideration. The consent to the assignment of contracts made in favor of Georgia Public Web, a Georgia Corporation located at 1470 River Edge Parkway, Atlanta, Georgia. This contract is between Georgia Public Web and McGuire Communications Infrastructure Holdings a Delaware Limited Liability Company. **Motion was made by Commissioner Felton to approve consent to the assignments of contracts in favor of Georgia Public Web as stated above; seconded by Commissioner Farrow, motion carried unanimously.**

## JUDICIAL ALTERNATIVES OF GEORGIA

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, reported the Judicial Alternatives of Georgia has requested acceptance of a contract agreement between JAG Probation and the Crisp County Probate Court for probation services. JAG is a private probation company that will not cost the county any money, probationers will make actual payments to JAG Probation. The contract shall commence performance on January 1, 2022 and shall continue until December 31, 2026. This is a continuation of a contract that has been in place for probation services through the Probate Court. **Motion was made by Commissioner Farrow to authorize and execute the contract between Judicial Alternatives of Georgia and Crisp County, seconded by Commissioner Crenshaw, motion was carried unanimously.**

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Finance Director, Sherrie Leverett reported revenues and expenditures for the County's General & three major Special Revenue Fund YTD Revenues exceeded expenses as of January 31<sup>st</sup> by about 14% leaving a positive revenue over expenditure balance of just under \$3.0 million. The County has received about 92% of the projected revenue from the 2021 ad valorem tax billings. Monthly activity for the Water Fund pushed the Fiscal YTD net income for this fund up to \$106,378. Water consumption billed for the month was 5.6 million gallons to a total of 1,456 customers and The USDA Bonds are current at \$1.2 million. The Landfill Fund monthly revenues less expenses pushed the YTD net gain here up to \$270,622. Including the delivery of over 6,000 tons of coal ash, the total tonnage for January was 11,557.3. Approximately 18% of that was received under the local commercial contracts, 4% under the City's residential contract and 3% under the County's residential curbside service contract. The GEFA loans are current at \$1.4 million. The General Fund and special revenue funds combined are reporting cash on hand of \$20.3 million; The proprietary funds \$7.8 million and the SPLOST and TSPLOST funds \$9.2 million... leaving a County Wide total of \$37.3 million. Just over \$24.0 million of that is reserved or restricted for special projects or uses. January's SPLOST distributions pushed the total expenditures up to \$23.1 million on the 2011 Issue. 2017 SPLOST Issue Distribution #48 is up considerably over last year, 22%. Issue to date collections total \$17.5 million while expenditures and current obligations have reached \$11.6 million. SPLOST Expenditures spent for the month of January total \$138,722 in Special Local Option Sales Tax. Projects benefiting were the Crisp County-Cordele Airport, Public Works, Sanitation/Solid Waste, County Roads and the cities of Arabi and Cordele. 2012 TSPLOST distribution number 108 pushed issue to date collections up to \$7.3 million. To date, including LMIG and GDOT funding on several projects has expended a total of \$9.5 million for local road improvements with these transportation tax pennies. Local Option Sales Tax Distributions representing December retail sales is also up by 22.4% over last year. CDBG Revolving Loan Fund total outstanding balance is \$1.9 million as of 1/31/22. Mrs. Leverett also reported expenditures should be at

58% or below. Overall, the General and Special Revenue Funds combined are over budget at 62%; the Water Fund is good at 46% and the Landfill is also within budget at 53%.

### **ADOPT LANGUAGE ACCESS PLAN**

Sherrie Leverett, Finance Director, advised the Commissioners of the updates needed to the Language Access Plan for current Community Block Development Grant projects. The current projects include the CBDG20 Northside Drainage Project and the CBDGMIT Public Safety Equipment Project. **Motion was made by Commissioner Nance to adopt the updated Language Access Plan for current CBDG projects, seconded by Commissioner Farrow, motion was carried unanimously.**

### **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Administrator Harrell reported the County is working on several projects 1) Reeves Construction has begun the 2021 LMIG resurfacing project on Hoover Street, Seedling Drive, Pateville, Ferry Landing, Lakeshore Way, and Brock Road. 2) Authorized a pipe installation project for Hatley Road, Arabi Warwick Road and Cannon Road. 3) Projects currently being bid include the Disaster Recovery Plan for debris management and the maintenance hangar for the Crisp County Airport. 4) Pending Projects include Arabi/NS Railroad project, daily coal ash at the landfill, Lake Blackshear Water System, Crisp County Clean Community, road striping, Equipment Operators Certification, and ISO Pre-inspection for Fire and Rescue. 5) Attended several meetings and events last month.

### **GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR LITIGATION AND PERSONNEL**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Felton to go into Executive Session for litigation and personnel, seconded by Commissioner Farrow, motion carried with all Commissioners agreeing to go into Executive Session at 10:00 am.**

### **COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion was made by Commissioner Felton to come out of Executive Session at 11:40 am, seconded by Commissioner Farrow, motion carried with all Commissioners agreeing to come out of Executive Session with no action taken.**

### **AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS**

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, requested the Commissioner's consideration for approval and a motion to distribute ARPA Funds to employees, same as the County did last year. **Motion was made by Commissioner Felton to give all Crisp County employees a portion of ARPA funds, the same as last year, seconded by Commissioner Nance, motion was carried unanimously.**

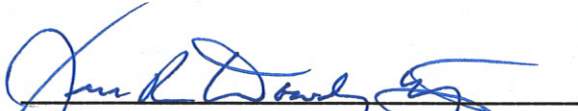
### **2022 Boards of Authority**

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, read the recommendations for the board appointments for 2022 and requested approval from the Commissioners. **Motion was made by Commissioner Farrow to**

approve the 2022 Boards of Authority, seconded by Commissioner Felton, motion was carried unanimously.

ADJOURN MEETING

By common consent, Commissioners adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

  
James R Dowdy, III, Chairman

  
Clark Harrell, County Administrator