

**MINUTES OF THE CRISP COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 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 James Nance to approve the regular meeting minutes of February 8, 2022, seconded by Commissioner Larry Felton, motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE WORK SESSION

Motion was made by Commissioner Larry Felton to approve the work session minutes of February 24, 2022, seconded by Commissioner James Nance, motion carried unanimously.

PROCLAMATION OF EXTENSION LIVING WELL MONTH

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, read the Proclamation which encourages Crisp County residents to take advantage of the educational opportunities that Family and Consumer Sciences educators of University of Georgia Extension offer in the community. **Motion was made by Commissioner James Nance to approve the Extension Living Well Month of March Proclamation, seconded by Commissioner Sam Farrow, motion carried unanimously.**

SHERIFF'S REPORT

Sheriff Billy Hancock gave the Sheriff's report. He reported not much has changed in the Sheriff's Office. Citation numbers are going up and currently running two court rooms at this time which is putting a strain on the Sheriff's Office. The detention center is picking-up numbers on housing averaging about 186 every day in inmate population. Sheriff Hancock also reported incoming calls at the 911 center are still very expensive. The Sheriff's Office has hired 10 employees since the January meeting and only lost two employees during this time. He also reminded everyone the Mobile Command Vehicle will be at the Veterans State Park next week as part of the Georgia Emergency Management exercise hosted by the Sheriff's Office. Sheriff Hancock thanked the Commissioners for approving several changes needed to be made in the employment structuring of the Sheriff's Office and for approving several purchases of items needed within the department.

AUDIT REPORT FINDINGS

Miller Edwards from Mauldin & Jenkins reported the Crisp County Board of Commissioners had a lot of financial improvement through the year. Across the board, the county's equity position rose about 2 million dollars due to expenses being less than the county's revenue, which is a great place to be. Mr.

Edward suggested the county fund more towards the pension fund rather than the minimum requirement being the pension fund is currently lower than most. The General Fund is in a great position, the fund balance is very liquid with about 10 months' worth of operations. Mr. Edward reported the county did a very good job working within budget to break even and actually did better than anticipated. He also stated a material weakness was found, which has been cited in the past, and that is segregation of duties. He stressed there are areas needed to be looked at and how certain duties in these areas can implement safe guards that are needed.

NEW BUSINESS

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, advised the Commissioners of several items under new business needing their consideration:

RMS 5311 TRANSIT POLICY UPDATE

The Georgia Department of Transportation recalled the November 2021 annual policy update and the February 2022 revision need to be adopted. **Motion was made by Commissioner Larry Felton to adopt the 5311 Transit Policy Update, seconded by Commissioner Mark Crenshaw, motion carried unanimously.**

AIRPORT MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN CRISP COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND CORDELE FLYING SERVICE INC.

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, explained to the Board Cordele Airport Manager, Dub Cooper, is looking to scale back and this agreement consist of Mr. Cooper and his wife. **Motion was made by Commissioner Larry Felton to approve the Airport Management Agreement, second was made by Commissioner Mark Crenshaw, motion carried unanimously.**

FIXED-BASE OPERATOR'S AGREEMENT

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, explained to the Board Cordele Airport Manager, Dub Cooper, is retiring from managing the Fixed-Base Operator – A new agreement was reached with Eric Richter doing business as Richter Aviation, LLC. This agreement will be between the Crisp County Board of Commissioners and Richter Aviation, LLC. **Motion was made by Commissioner James Nance to approve the Fixed Base Operator's Agreement, seconded by Commissioner Larry Felton, motion carried unanimously.**

MAINTENANCE HANGAR SITE

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, reported the Georgia Department of Transportation Aviation Division along with an Engineering Firm received the bid for this project and opened the bid last week. The bid was for \$340,000.00 to tear down an area of about 96 feet and build a pad. Mr. Harrell requested to put this bid on the minutes and asked that the Board of Commissioners no-bid this project. Mr. Harrell advised the Board this project need s to a "turn-key" project and not piece milled. **Motion was made by Commissioner Sam Farrow to reject the Maintenance Hangar Site Work Bid and re-open the bid, seconded by Commissioner Larry Felton, motion carried unanimously.**

GOVERNMENT ANNEX BID

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, reported the truss failure and issue with the roof of the Government building which houses the 4-H Extension Office, FSA Office, and the NRCS Office was discussed during the work session last month. Mr. Harrell advised the board of the two available options to resolving this issue; 1) keep the existing roof on the building and repair current trusses for a total of \$98,000. 2) replace trusses, tear roof completely off and replace with a new roof for a total of \$220,000. Mr. Harrell stated to the Board there is SPLOST money available to pay for this job and recommended option 2 as the best solution. **Motion was made by Commissioner Nance to approve option 2 to replace trusses and replace roof, seconded by Commissioner Crenshaw, motion carried unanimously.**

LANGUAGE ACCESS PLAN

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, advised the Board the Language Access Plan has to be adopted for the Community Development Block Grants. **Motion was made by Commissioner James Nance to adopt the Language Access Plan, seconded by Commissioner Crenshaw, motion carried unanimously.**

FINANCIAL REPORT

Finance Director, Sherrie Leverett gave a preliminary report and executive summary on the major funds of the County as of the end of February, 2022. Mrs. Leverett reported the monthly and YTD activity for the General & three major Special Revenue Funds combined ended the month with an 8% positive revenue over expenditure position of \$1.7 million. The Water Fund YTD net income as of February is \$118,922. Customer usage billed for the month was 3.9 million gallons and the USDA Bonds are current at \$1.2 million. The Landfill YTD accrued net income is \$310,491. The total tonnage received for the month of February was 4,488.41 tons. Approximately 40% of that was delivered under the commercial contract, 10% under the City's residential contract and 7% under the County's curbside contract. The GEFA Loans are current at \$1.3 million. Mrs. Leverett reported at the end of the month the cash on hand was \$19.3 million in the General and Special Revenue Funds; \$7.9 million in the proprietary funds; and \$9.4 million in the SPLOST and TSPLOST funds giving us a countywide total at February 28th of \$36.7 million. No change to report on the 2011 Issue from last month. Mrs. Leverett reported the 2017 SPLOST Issue as good news with distribution no. 49 is up 17% from this time last year and actual expenditures and appropriations have now reached \$11.7 million. The County spent a total of \$152,330 in Special Local Option Sales Tax pennies during the month. Projects benefiting were the Airport, Recreation, Sanitation/Solid Waste, Roads and the Cities of Cordele and Arabi. The County has expended and/or obligated \$10.9 million in local road maintenance and capital projects through the TSPLOST Funds.

Mrs. Leverett also reported the County ended the month of February with a total outstanding balance of \$1.8 million for the Revolving Loan Funds. The last report included is preliminary revenue by fund and expenditures by department report and as of February, overall, the General and Special Revenue Funds combined are slightly over budget at 71%; the Water Fund is good at 52% and the Landfill is also within budget at 60%.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Harrell reported Reeves Construction is working towards completion of the 2021 LMIG resurfacing project on Hoover Street, Seedling Drive, Pateville, Ferry Landing, Lakeshore Way, and Brock Road. Brock Road should be finalized this week and striping and shoulder work will be completed

afterwards. Pipe installation for Cannon and Arabi Warwick Roads have been completed and Hatley Road is pending completion this week. Mr. Harrell advised the Board of bids received for the Disaster Recovery Contract and that bids will be evaluated Wednesday and recommendations will be presented during the April Board of Commissioner's Meeting. Mr. Harrell also reported a project to take place including widening and resurfacing Coney Road from Highway 300 to the Dooly County line and Dooly County will continue the widening and resurfacing from the Crisp County line to Vienna. Mr. Harrell advised the Board of the Transportation Investment Act that will be on the ballot in May for voters to consider which represents an \$18,567,320.86 investment over a 10 year proposed life period.

GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR LITIGATION AND PERSONNEL

Motion was made by Commissioner Nance to go into Executive Session for litigation and personnel, seconded by Commissioner Felton, motion carried with all Commissioners agreeing to go into Executive Session at 10:04 am.

COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

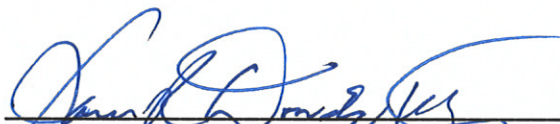
Motion was made by Commissioner Felton to come out of Executive Session at 11:05 am, seconded by Commissioner Farrow, motion carried with all Commissioners agreeing to come out of Executive Session.

2022 TAX ASSESSOR BOARD

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, read the recommendations for the Tax Assessor's Board 2022 and requested an appointment from the Commissioners. The Commissioners appointed Terrell "Frank" Posey, Jr to the Crisp County Board of Tax Assessors with the term of office to begin April 8, 2022 and expire on April 8, 2026. **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 11:07 a.m.


James R Dowdy, III, Chairman


Clark Harrell, County Administrator