

**MINUTES OF THE CRISP COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 12, 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, Jr, Larry Felton (present by phone), 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 Nance to approve the regular meeting minutes of June 16, 2022, seconded by Commissioner Crenshaw, motion carried unanimously.

SHERIFF'S REPORT

Sheriff Hancock reported subpoenas were down last month which meant there was no court last month but calendar week is starting this week and the Sheriff's Office has around 25 officers at the court house for trial calendar week for the next two weeks. Citations are up and seeing an increase in man power. Sheriff Hancock stated the number of employees is increasing, which is a good sign. The average jail population is 224, which seems to be the normal average over the past few months. Monthly housing check presented for this month is \$56,000.00. Fuel cost per mile has increased, the office is currently seeking alternative ways to answer calls in hopes of reducing fuel costs. Sheriff Hancock advised the board the Sheriff's Office is currently conducting Active Shooter Drills at the Crisp County Middle School. The training consists of classroom training and active training skills scenarios. Sheriff Hancock invited the Commissioners and citizens to stop by and observe.

PROCLAMATION – HONORING CRISP COUNTY HIGH 2022 VARSITY TRACK TEAM

Commissioner Nance read the Proclamation recognizing the Crisp County Varsity Track Team. Coach Bowen and Coach Alexander were present as well as three members of the track team. The Board congratulated the coaches and students and urged all Crisp County citizens to continue their support. **Motion was made by Commissioner Nance to adopt the Proclamation honoring the 2022 Crisp County High School Varsity Track Team, seconded by Commissioner Felton, motion carried unanimously.**

NEW BUSINESS

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

SIMMONS DAIRY ROAD

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, advised the Board he was approached by Mr. Artis Wetbrook in reference to paving Simmons Dairy Road. Mr. Westbrook was not present at the meeting to address the Board. Nelson Haugabrook, resident of 143 Simmons Dairy Road and James Harris, resident of 1115

Simmons Dairy Road, were present and explained their reasons for approaching the Board and requesting the Commissioners take a look at Simmons Dairy Road and consider paving it. Public Works Director, Carl Gamble, also addressed the Board explaining issues with the road and protocol that must be in place in reference to a right-of-way before paving the road can be considered. **No Action Taken At This Time.**

CORONER'S REQUEST – ADDITIONAL DEPUTY CORONER

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, advised the Board Crisp County Coroner, Ricky Dawson, has requested an additional Deputy Coroner. Mr. Harrell reported the Georgia Law states the Coroner may have a Deputy Coroner without the Commission's approval and any beyond that will take the approval of the Board of Commissioners. County Coroner, Ricky Dawson, stated to the Board he requested the additional Deputy Coroner for more man power and schedule flexibility. Mr. Dawson advised the Board the additional Deputy Coroner will operate within the set budget. **Motion was made by Commissioner Nance to approve the request for an additional Deputy Coroner, seconded by Commissioner Crenshaw, motion carried unanimously.**

BOARD OF ELECTIONS – AGREEMENT WITH ARABI FOR ELECTIONS

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, requested the Board approve for the Chairman to sign the agreement on behalf of the board to move the polling place within the city of Arabi. The Arabi City Hall has been remodeled and Mayor Huckabee along with the City of Arabi is requesting the polling place be relocated from Arabi Baptist Church back to City Hall. **Motion was made by Commissioner Nance to allow the Chairman to sign the agreement on behalf of the Board to relocate the Arabi polling place, seconded by Commissioner Crenshaw, motion carried unanimously.**

HOLT CONSULTING SERVICES

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, advised the Board of a Professional Service Agreement with Holt Consulting Services for the Airport. The Georgia Department of Transportation has approved if the Board approves the recommendation of Holt Consulting Services. Out of four companies that bid, Holt Consulting Services scored the highest. County Administrator, Clark Harrell, stated that he recommended the Board approved the County to hire Holt Consulting Services for the Crisp County Airport in reference to engineering design and different projects. **Motion was made by Commissioner Nance to approve the Professional Services Agreement and hire Holt Consulting Services, seconded by Commissioner Crenshaw, motion carried unanimously.**

QUIT CLAIM DEED

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, advised the Board the Quit Claim Deed is from the IDA to Crisp County for the construction of a substation on Pateville Road. County Administrator, Clark Harrell, asked the Board's consideration in allowing the Chairman to sign the Quit Claim Deed on behalf of the Board for this action to be taken. **Motion was made by Commissioner Nance to allow the Chairman to sign the Quit Claim Deed between the IDA and Crisp County, seconded by Commissioner Crenshaw, motion carried unanimously.**

FINANCIAL REPORT

Finance Director, Sherrie Leverett, gave a preliminary summary on the major funds of the County as of June 30, 2022. The General & three major Special Revenue Funds are reporting YTD revenues of \$21,635,000 and expenditures at \$21,608,000 leaving a revenue over expenditure balance of only \$27,281 as of this report. Water Fund revenues and expenditures increased preliminary net income for the year to \$224,420 and the USDA Bonds are current at \$1.2 million. The Landfill Fund, June revenues and expenditures pushed the preliminary net income for the year here up to \$1,053,052. Due to the coal ash project, the total tonnage received for the month of June is up considerably, 24,220.02 tons. The GEFA Loans are current at \$1.2 million. Mrs. Leverett also reported the County received the final ARPA distribution of \$2,172,749 pushing our General and Special Revenue Funds combined ending balance up to \$18.5 million at June 30, 2022. The proprietary funds ended the month at \$8.5 million, the SPLOST & TSPLOST funds \$9.5 million giving a countywide total of \$36.6 million at June 30, 2022. Approximately \$22.0 million is reserved or restricted for special projects or uses. The schedule on the 2011 SPLOST as of June 30, 2022 has appropriated \$23.1 million of the \$23.2 million collected. The 2017 SPLOST Issue Report. June's distribution is up 13% over this same reporting window from a year ago. It brings issue to date collections to \$19.8 million and actual expenditures and appropriations have reached \$13.6 million for this issue. Projects benefiting from Special Local Option Sales Tax penny for the month of June were the Airport, Public Works, Data Processing for Finance and Planning & Zoning, Sanitation & Solid Waste, and the cities of Arabi and Cordele for a total amount expended of \$197,890. The 2012 TSPLOST revenues have collected \$7.7 million since January of 2013. Combined with LMIG and GDOT Revenue the County has expended and/or obligated \$11.2 million in local road maintenance and capital projects through the TSPLOST Funds. L.O.S.T distributions for June is \$237,809, which is up approximately 13% over last year. CDBG Revolving Loan Fund monthly report, which includes the balance and status of all our CDBG Revolving Loan Fund Accounts. Eight outstanding loans reporting a total combined balance due of \$1.8 million. Mrs. Leverett also reported to the Board in order to remain in compliance, the county had to return \$585,645 to DCA during the month of June leaving a total of \$613,263 at the end of the fiscal year. Preliminary numbers indicate the General and Special Revenue Funds are slightly over at 102%, the Water Fund is at 76% and the Landfill Fund is within budget at 92%.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Harrell reported property and right-of-way acquisition continues in the Meadow Park Subdivision. Verbal agreements have been reached with the Road Rock Project. County Attorney, Rick Lawson, is currently working on the legal side of both the Meadow Park CDBG Project and the Road Rock Project. The Local Options Sales Tax lost negotiations began with the city of Cordele and Arabi on June 30, 2022. Verbally we agreed that the split between the parties would remain the same for the next ten year period 49/49/2. Mr. Harrell stated he is waiting to hear back from Mrs. Redding with Cordele for the next meeting on the matter. Mr. Harrell also reported the County is currently bidding the FY22 LMIG as approved. The County has received the notice of award in the amount of \$630,423.69 for the FY23 LMIG and the GDOT. Mr. Harrell reported four Public Works employees graduated from the first motor grader class offered through South Georgia Technical College. The employees were all awarded with certificates of completion. Mr. Harrell also reported he attended several meetings last month and will be out of town this month attending NACO.

GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR LITIGATION AND PERSONNEL

Motion was made by Commissioner Nance to go into Executive Session for personnel and litigation, seconded by Commissioner Crenshaw, motion carried with all Commissioners agreeing to go into Executive Session at 10:05 am.

COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Commissioner Nance to come out of Executive Session at 10:35 am, seconded by Commissioner Crenshaw, motion carried with all Commissioners agreeing to come out of Executive Session.

IDA BOARD APPOINTMENT

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, explained to the Board, Bob Evans is resigning from the IDA Board and has asked that Jeffery Hester be appointed in his absence. **Motion was made by Commissioner Nance to appoint Jeffery Hester to the IDA Board, seconded by Commissioner Felton, motion carried unanimously.**

ADJOURN MEETING

By common consent, Commissioners adjourned the meeting at 10:37 a.m.


James R Dowdy, III, Chairman


Clark Harrell, County Administrator