

**MINUTES OF THE CRISP COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 14, 2023**

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 Larry Felton, A. James Nance, Jr, Sam Farrow, 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.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion was made by Commissioner Felton to adopt the agenda for the March 14, 2023 Commission Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Farrow, motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE MINUTES

Motion was made by Commissioner Felton to approve the regular meeting minutes of February 14, 2023, seconded by Commissioner Crenshaw, motion carried unanimously.

SHERIFF'S REPORT

Sheriff Hancock was unable to attend the meeting. Stat report was given to the Board for review.

PUBLIC HEARINGS – UPDATES TO CURRENT CODES

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, informed the Board of the Public Hearing requested by Helena Industries, LLC to rezone approximately 0.758 acres from Rural Residential to Industrial for the purpose of building a 12,000 square foot storage warehouse at 423 Fenn Road. Mr. Cliff Harpe was present representing Helena Industries explaining the purpose of the rezoning and the new storage warehouse is for produced AG chemical storage. Mr. Harpe explained to the Board this will be for storage only and no manufacturing. Mr. Harpe also advised the Board this will be a reconfiguration of an existing parcel and the Planning and Zoning Department has already approved the plat based on it being an addition to an existing parcel as opposed to a completely independent parcel. Mr. Gerald Mixon, residing at 370 Fenn Road, spoke in support of the rezoning request with the condition that a visual buffer be granted to surrounding property owners in the area. Planning and Zoning Director, Mickey Dunnavant, also addressed the Board explaining the buffer requirements and assured the Board that he and Mr. Harpe have already discussed these requirements and addressed the matter of a buffer, agreeing to plant a faster growing evergreen tree(s) to serve as a privacy curtain.

Public Hearing Closed 9:27 am NO DECISION MADE AT THIS TIME

NEW BUSINESS

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

RESOLUTION 2023-007

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, advised the Board Resolution 2023-007 is an agreement for settlement and memorandum of understanding in the National Opioid Litigation. Mr. Harrell read the Resolution of Crisp County agreeing to participate in the National Teva, Allergan, CVS, Walgreens, and Walmart Settlements and agreeing to be bound by an anticipated memorandum of understanding between the state of Georgia and Georgia Subdivisions regarding the National Teva, Allergan, CVS, Walgreens, and Walmart settlements. **Motion was made by Commissioner Nance to adopt Resolution 2023-007 in agreement for settlement and memorandum of understanding in the National Opioid Litigation, seconded by Commissioner Farrow, motion carried unanimously.**

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION PROCUREMENT POLICY

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, advised the Board of the Transit Services new policy and their vote to ratify the new policy in order to move forward to update the FTA Procurement Policy. This Policy conforms County regulations governing the use of FTA and GDOT Funds for 5311 Transit Service. **Motion was made by Commissioner Nance to ratify the FTA Procurement Policy, seconded by Commissioner Farrow, motion carried unanimously.**

SURPLUS REQUEST

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, advised the Board of seven pieces of inoperable equipment located at the Public Works Department. Mr. Harrell requested the Board's approval in considering this equipment surplus and it be listed for sale on GOVDEALS, if the equipment does not sell, consider it scrap and the County will receive 0.11 cents a pound for scrap.

The inoperable equipment is as follows:

1996 CAT Motor Grader, 1993 CAT Motor Grader, 1991 CAT Dozier, 1998 JD Backhoe, 2008 CAT Loader, 2001 CAT Backhoe, and 1999 JD Motor Grader

Motion was made by Commissioner Felton to determine the Public Works Equipment as surplus and sell, seconded by Commissioner Nance, motion carried unanimously.

FRONTLINE FIRE APPARATUS

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, informed the Board he received a letter in February from Fire Chief, Michael Postell, requesting tough books and broadband internet for the fire stations. Mr. Harrell explained to the Board his concerns if this request is not granted to place laptops in the vehicles of the firefighters. Mr. Harrell advised the Board the broadband infrastructure request is for \$56, 500 and will be paid for through the American Rescue Plan monies. **Motion was made by Commissioner Felton to**

approve the Fire Chief's request for the purchase of tough books and broadband internet for frontline fire apparatus, seconded by Commissioner Crenshaw, motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mrs. Leverett gave a preliminary report and executive summary on the major funds of the County as of the end of February, 2023. Monthly and YTD activity for the general & three major Special Revenue Funds combined ended the month with a 3% positive revenue over expenditure position of \$777,000. The Water Fund, February activity brings YTD net income here to \$74,676. Customer usage billed for the month was 5,187,000 gallons and the USDA Bonds are current at \$1.1 million. The Landfill Fund, February activity brings the YTD accrued net income to \$1,043,808. Total tonnage received for the month of February was 20,104.37 tons. 78% of that was received from CCPC's Coal Ash Project. Of the remaining, approximately 10% was delivered under Waste Management's commercial contract, 2% under the City's residential contract and 1% under the County's curbside contract. The GEFA Loans are current at just over \$1.0 million. The cash on hand report as of February 28, 2023 ended the month with \$18.3 million in the General and Special Revenue Funds; \$10.1 million in the proprietary funds; and \$13.2 million in the SPLOST and TSPLOST funds giving a countywide total at 02/28 of \$41.6 million. SPLOST report expenditures remained at \$23.2 million. The 2017 SPLOST Issue, Distribution no. 61 is up 3.6% from this time last year. Actual expenditures and appropriations have now reached \$15.9 million. SPLOST Expenditures for the month of February total \$327,911 in Special Local Option Sales Tax pennies during the month. Projects benefiting were the Airport, Crisp County Sheriff's Office, Roads, Public Works, Sanitation/Solid Waste and the Cities of Cordele and Arabi. Issue to date report on the 2012 TSPLOST revenues, both capital and operating projects supported by those funds, in summary, collected a total of \$8.3 million over the ten-year period covered by this issue. Combine that with LMIG and GDOT Revenue and the county has expended and/or obligated \$13.7 million in local road maintenance and capital projects through the 2012 TSPLOST Funds, having just over \$162,000 in available cash remaining in this fund. The 2022 TSPLOST, Distribution #1 of this issue came in at \$81,705.17. The county has not expended nor obligated any of the 2022 TSPLOST funds yet. LOST receipts is up 3.8% over this same reporting period last year. CDBG Revolving Loan Fund Accounts ended the month of February with a total outstanding balance of \$1.7 million for all these accounts. Preliminary revenue by fund and expenditures by department report shows the expended percentage of appropriations for each individual department and the total for each fund. Expenditures should be at 67% or below. As of this report, overall, the General and Special Revenue Funds combined are slightly over budget at 70%; the Water Fund is also over at 69%; and the Landfill is within budget at 65%.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Harrell reported to the Board he is still waiting for any status on the water system grant totaling \$9 million dollars. Rock Road Railway Project work continues, clearing and grubbing is underway and dirt hauling will begin this week. Meadow Park Subdivision/CDBG Project street and drainage improvement is underway. The 2022 LMIG resurfacing project including 30th, 31st, Exa Avenue, Cross Road Store Road, portion of Arabi-Warwick Road, and 8th should be finished within the next 30 days. Mr. Harrell also stated the 2023 LMIG will be let very soon. FEMA reimbursement process has begun for storm damages occurring January 12, 2023. Currently working on the 2023 SPLOST projecting approximately \$25 million to be generated over a 6 year period pending the electorate passes the November referendum. Sheriff Hancock is securing a lease with the state for use of the firing range

located at the Fish Hatchery. Mr. Harrell stated he continues to work with the hospital administrator on updating the 1998 EMS contract. Mr. Harrell attended several meeting last month.

GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR PERSONNEL

Motion was made by Commissioner Felton to go into Executive Session for personnel, seconded by Commissioner Farrow, motion carried with all Commissioners agreeing to go into Executive Session at 9:57 am.

COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Commissioner Farrow to come out of Executive Session at 10:30 am, seconded by Commissioner Felton, motion carried with all Commissioners agreeing to come out of Executive Session.

TAX ASSESSOR BOARD

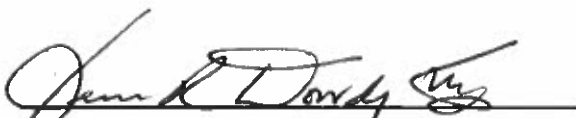
County Administrator, Clark Harrell, advised the Board he received three letters of interest to serve on the Crisp County Tax Assessors Board. **Motion was made by Commissioner Crenshaw to appoint Brenda Boothe to the Tax Assessor Board, seconded by Commissioner Farrow, motion carried Commissioner Larry Felton abstained.**

PERSONNEL POLICY

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, reminded the Board of the change to the personnel policy voted on in the February 14, 2023 Commission Meeting. After some thought, Mr. Harrell suggested the policy change be amended to a "Call Back" Policy for non-exempt employees called back in to work for assistance after regular scheduled working hours. **Motion was made by Commissioner Felton to approve the "Call Back" policy for non-exempt employees called back into work after regular scheduled working hours, seconded by Commissioner Crenshaw, motion carried unanimously.**

ADJOURN MEETING

By common consent, Commissioners adjourned the meeting at 10:35 a.m.


James R Dowdy, III, Chairman


Clark Harrell, County Administrator