

**MINUTES OF THE CRISP COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 12, 2024**

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 James Nance, Sam Farrow, Larry Felton 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. Commissioner James Nance 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 Nance to adopt the agenda for the November 12, 2024 Commission Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Crenshaw, motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE MINUTES

Motion was made by Commissioner Nance to approve the regular meeting minutes of October 8, 2024 seconded by Commissioner Farrow, motion carried unanimously.

SHERIFF REPORT

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, stated Sheriff Hancock was unable to attend the meeting due to training. Sheriff Hancock did submit a monthly report.

NEW BUSINESS

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

RESOLUTION 2024-017 POST TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER INSURANCE

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, stated the resolution authorizes the participation in the second supplemental ACCG Interlocal Risk Management Agency medical, accident, and disability fund known as the First Responder PTSD Program. Mr. Harrell read the Resolution. **Motion was made by Commissioner Crenshaw to approve the second supplemental medical, accident, and disability fund for First Responder PTSD Program, seconded by Commissioner Nance, motion carried unanimously.**

CRISP COUNTY 2024 BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, stated Mrs. Leverett will present budget adjustments for fiscal year 2024. Finance Director, Sherrie Leverett, stated the housekeeping budget adjustments for FY24 to "sure-up" line items to close out the year are as follows: The General Fund overall budget ended the year at \$21,214,785.00. One million dollars was budgeted for surplus from the General Fund but only \$101,000.00 was used. A few unexpected revenues was Solid Waste Management of \$300,000.00 and a

final distribution of \$70,000.00 from Hurricane Michael that did not come in until FY24. \$573,739.00 was transferred from the ARPA Fund into the General Fund. Central Disbursement Fund on centralized AP Fund Budget adjustments is \$5,639.00.

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
Law Library	\$35,000.00	\$47,738.00
Jail Maintenance	\$186,500.00	\$223,347.00 (\$65,743.00 transferred from General Fund)
Data Fund	\$25,500.00	\$27,813.00
Opioid Fund	\$50,000.00	\$58,419.00
E911 Fund	\$1,452,520.00	\$1,262,803.00 (\$661,000 transferred from General Fund)
ARPA Fund	\$573,739.00	\$573,739.00
TSPLOST Revenue	\$1,067,525.00	\$1,168,802.00
CDBG MIT	\$337,474.00	\$273,469.00
CDBG 20	\$768,232.00	\$712,836.00 (Meadow Park Street Drainage Project)
Special Service Dist.	\$2,501,895.00	\$2,705,829.00
Hotel Motel Tax	\$80,000.00	\$32,954.00 (shift in revenue due to Retreat closing)
Splost 2011	\$21,243.00	Closed 6/30/24
Splost 2017	\$2,753,509.00	\$3,221,938.00
Splost 2023	\$0	\$872,283.00
TSplost Capital Fund	\$510,732.00	\$2,196,475.00
Water Distribution	\$757,100.00	\$826,874.00
Landfill Fund	\$3,032,718.00	\$2,895,687.00
CDBG RLF Fund	\$15,053.00	\$626,398.00 (shift due to return of funds back to the State totaling \$623,000.00)
Asset Forfeiture Fund	\$201,000.00	\$201,000.00
Overall budget	\$34,615,338.00	Adjustments \$4,554,733.00

Final County Wide Budget \$39,170,071.00

Motion was made by Commissioner Nance to approve the adjustments for FY24 and the final county wide budget totaling \$39,170,071.00, seconded by Commissioner Farrow, motion carried unanimously.

CITY OF CORDELE and CITY OF ARABI – CONTRACT FOR JAIL SERVICES

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, stated the jail services contracts are with the City of Cordele and the City of Arabi. Both contracts mirror each other exactly and with Sheriff Hancock’s blessings, the Crisp County Detention Center will provide jail services to the two cities at a cost of \$42.00 per day. **Motion was made by Commissioner Felton to approve the jail services contracts with the City of Cordele and the City of Arabi, seconded by Commissioner Crenshaw, motion carried unanimously.**

CRISP COUNTY POWER COMMISSION FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, stated the franchise agreement is between Crisp County, Georgia and the Crisp County Power Commission for a period of 60 months, beginning January 1, 2025 and ending December 31, 2029. The agreement states Crisp County Power Commission pays Crisp County, Georgia a franchise fee based on a percentage commission of monthly revenues. The commission percentage stated in the contract is 5.30% for the term of the agreement. Crisp County Power Commission also agrees, per the franchise agreement, to pay Crisp County Georgia an annual fee of \$250,000.00 for the term of the agreement. **Motion was made by Commissioner Nance to approve the Crisp County Power Commission Franchise Agreement, seconded by Commissioner Felton, motion carried unanimously.**

WEBSITE CONTRACT FOR SERVICES

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, stated the contract is for the continuation of services provided by Mrs. Haley Wade for the Crisp County website. Mrs. Wade has taken a new job with the Department of Natural Resources but will continue to maintain the county website for the same stipend amount which is \$5,200.00 per year paid in 4 quarterly payments. **Motion was made by Commissioner Felton to approve the contract with Haley Wade for website services, seconded by Commissioner Nance, motion carried unanimously.**

FINANCE REPORT

Mrs. Leverett gave a preliminary report for the period of July through October, 2024. The report of revenues and expenditures for the County's General & three major Special Revenue Funds combined, YTD revenues of \$5.8 million and expenditures of \$9.7 million leaving an FY to date deficit position of -\$3.9 million at the end of October. The Water Fund ended the same period with a net profit of \$17,148. Water consumption billed for the month was just under 5.7 million gallons to 1516 customers and the USDA Bonds principal balance is current at \$1,044,158. The Landfill Fund, YTD Revenues of \$697,000 and expenses of \$989,000 leave this fund with a year-to-date net loss of -\$291,376 at 10/31/24. The total tonnage received for the month of October came in at 4,022.27. 37% of that was received under commercial contracts, 10% under the city's residential contract and 4% under the county's curbside contract. The principal balance on the GEFA loans is current at \$505,630. Cash Report for October 31, 2024: The General and special revenue funds combined ended the month with \$14.4 million; the proprietary funds with \$12.1 million and the SPLOST & TSPLOST funds with \$14.4 million; bringing the County wide total to \$43.4 million. The SPLOST Report Summaries: Expenditures from the 2017 SPLOST Issue remain around \$21.5 million. Distribution #9 under the 2023 Issue came in at \$463,282, which is down about -7.1% from this same reporting period one year ago. It does however exceed the six-year average for retail sales during the month of September from the 2017 issue. Issue to date collections are now up to \$4.2 million while expenditures & encumbrances came at \$2.7 million. Detailed list of all the SPLOST Expenditures: \$706,668 in Special Local Option Sales Tax pennies spent during the month of October. Projects benefiting were the Airport, Public Safety, County Roads, Public Works, the CCSO, Sanitation & Solid Waste, the City of Cordele and the City of Arabi. In summary, we have collected \$1.9 million under this TSPLOST Issue. Combining that with other State and Local Revenue Sources, the county currently has over \$8.1 million appropriated for local road capital and maintenance projects through the Special Transportation Tax Fund. The Local Option Sales Tax Distributions pretty much mirrors the SPLOST as this month's LOST distribution is also down by over -7%. The last report is the revenue by fund and expenditures by department report. The summary report shows the expended percentage of appropriations for each individual department and the total for each fund. As of October 31st YTD

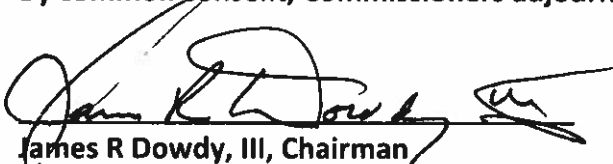
Expenditures should be below 33%. As of this report with the General & SRF's at 37%, Water fund at 34% and the Landfill at 37% all fund categories came in slightly over.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

County Administrator, Clark Harrell, stated the county is in process of relocating infrastructure for Fenn Road. Progress will begin soon for Phase 1 from CSX RR to Macedonia Church Road. The 2024 Local Maintenance Improvement Grant with road resurfacing has started. This resurfacing project is 10.26 miles of road for portions of Williford Crossing, Dockweiler Road, Penia Road, and Twin Pines Road. Mr. Harrell also stated the county has bid out a new garbage collection RFP. Bids are due on Friday, November 15th at 2:00 pm. The Insurance Service Office has scheduled the Fire Department's next inspection for January 22, 2025. The Fire Department currently has two fire trucks out of service. A new fire truck has been purchased SPLOST funding and scheduled to be delivered in 2026. Additionally, a new fire stations is planned to be built in North Crisp County with SPLOST funding in 2025. Mr. Harrell also attended several meetings last month.

ADJOURN MEETING

By common consent, Commissioners adjourned the meeting at 10:50 a.m.


James R Dowdy, III, Chairman


Clark Harrell, County Administrator