

AGENDA
GEORGETOWN-QUITMAN COUNTY, GEORGIA
REGULAR MEETING

NOVEMBER 14, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

AGENDA AMENDMENTS

PUBLIC COMMENTS

PREVIOUS MONTH BILLS

APPROVAL OF BILLS

MINUTES

REPORTS

6:30 p.m.

(Time allocated 10 minutes total)

Check Registers

NOVEMBER 2023

Regular meeting minutes October 9, 2023

Called meeting minutes October 23, 2023

MANAGER'S REPORT / EMS

ELECTED OFFICIALS

TAX COMMISSIONER

PROBATE

SUPERIOR COURT CLERK

SHERIFF

FAMILY CONNECTIONS

LIBRARY

FIRE

EMA DIRECTOR

4-H Coordinator

OLD BUSINESS

ACTION ITEM

NEW BUSINESS

ACTION ITEM

ACTION ITEM

ACTION ITEM

ACTION ITEM

ACTION ITEM

ACTION ITEM

ACTION ITEM

ACTION ITEM

03-2023 Exhibit A Budget Amendment

04-2023 Exhibit A Budget Amendment

Water & Sewer Authority Board appointment

Recreation Board new appointment & re-appointment Walter Fuller

Planning & Zoning re-appointments Joyce Jones, Carol Webb

Local Economic Dev. Authority Board re-appointment Danny Blackmon

R16-2023 Mobile Home decals Resolution

Kids Christmas, Employee Christmas dinner, and Board member
Christmas reception dates

EXECUTIVE SESSION

APPEARANCES

Mrs. Belva Dorsey-Mott-Enrichment Services update

MEETING ADJOURN

November 14, 2023 Board Meeting

GEORGETOWN-QUITMAN COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 9, 2023
6:30 p.m.

CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lewis at 6:37 p.m. with a prayer and the pledge. Members present were Commissioners: Lewis, Blackmon, Hayes, Kinsey and Bussey. County Clerk Carolyn Wilson, and County Manager Weeks. (Financial officer Teri Odom was not present.)

AGENDA AMENDMENTS- Chairman Lewis asked for a motion to amend the agenda to add executive session to discuss possible litigation. **Motion made by Blackmon to approve the amended agenda to add executive session to discuss possible litigation. Second by Kinsey.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

PUBLIC COMMENTS- Chairman Lewis asked Mrs. Joyce Jones from the Water & Sewer Authority Board if she had received any complaints from citizens about the new water rates. Mrs. Jones stated that she has not received any complaints personally but was aware of some complaints that the office has received about the new commercial water rates that went into effect September 1, 2023. County Manager Weeks mentioned that the private water system that supplies water to CPE and Deer Point Rd. has a new owner and the new owner just did a rate increase on all of those citizens. Chairman Lewis asked Mrs. Cassie Young the Quitman County 4-H Coordinator if she had any updates at this time. Mrs. Young reminded everyone of the Fall fundraiser that is currently underway. The deadline to order is October 23, 2023. Mrs. Young also mentioned about a rural infrastructure grant that she is researching and trying to receive. This is the RFSI (Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure program). It is to build resilience in the middle of the food supply chain, to provide more and better markets to small farms and food businesses. Chairman Lewis asked Mrs. Young to send any information that she has on this to County Clerk Carolyn Wilson for him to look into this.

PREVIOUS MONTH CHECK REGISTER

Motion made by Kinsey to approve the previous month's check register. Second by Bussey. Voting Yes- Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Vice Chairman Blackmon asked about the Eufaula Glass bill. County Manager Weeks explained all of the charges for this bill. Vice Chairman Blackmon asked if any of these charges could be filed with insurance. Weeks stated that nothing qualified for insurance payment. **Motion made**

by Hayes to approve the bills. Second by Kinsey. Voting Yes- Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

MINUTES

September 12, 2023 Public hearing meeting minutes-Motion made by Bussey to approve the Public hearing meeting minutes. Second by Kinsey. Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

September 12, 2023 Regular meeting minutes-Motion made by Bussey to approve the Regular meeting minutes. Second by Kinsey. Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

September 20, 2023 Called meeting minutes-Motion made by Blackmon to approve the Called meeting minutes. Second by Kinsey. Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis

MANAGER'S REPORT- Chairman Lewis asked County Manager Weeks for his report. Weeks stated that the EMS report for September has been delayed because of our meeting date change from Tuesday to Monday for the month of October. Weeks stated that he will give 2 EMS reports at the next Regular Commission meeting.

RIVER BLUFF BRIDGE UPDATE- Weeks explained to everyone that he along with Vice Chairman Blackmon, our engineer Chad Griffin, and the engineer with Southern Concrete had a Webex meeting with the U.S. Army Corp. of Engineers bridge engineer and Ms. Carrie Litteken concerning the bridge repair plans at River Bluff Park. The U.S. Army Corp bridge engineer did not accept the plans for the repair as presented. He did not think that the repair plan was strong enough even though the plans that our engineer Chad Griffin presented were from the GDOT repair manual. After some discussion during the Webex meeting, it was concluded that our engineer would go back and add the things that the U.S. Army Corp. asked for. Weeks stated with the additions that the U.S. Army Corp. is asking for on the repairs it is driving the cost up. Weeks said the projected cost was around \$50,000.00 but now with these additions to the repairs we are looking at around \$75,000.00. Weeks asked the Commission what they would like to do at this point. Chairman Lewis asked Weeks to write up a synopsis of the Webex meeting and send it to our County attorney. He would also like the County attorney to write a letter to Congressman Bishop.

FORESTER PONTOON- Weeks stated that we are holding the final pay request because we have not received a letter of approval on the driveway from GDOT. Once we receive this letter, we will send the final payment to the contractor. This is the only thing we have to hold over on the contractor if it does not meet approval. Weeks feels like there shouldn't be any issues, but we have to receive that in writing.

Chairman Lewis mentioned to everyone that he met last Monday at Albany Tech. with Larry Richardson the owner of Ameripro. Mr. Richardson has agreed to pay individuals that are interested in going to school to become an EMT or a paramedic. Chairman Lewis would like to see 4 or 5 individuals from Georgetown-Quitman County take advantage of this opportunity. The goal is to have individuals that live here work here.

Tax Commissioner Report-

Probate Report-

SUPERIOR CLERK OF COURT-

SHERIFF REPORT-

FAMILY CONNECTIONS-

Library- Chairman Lewis asked Weeks to send a letter to Doug Blackmon of Doug Designs about the sign at the Library. Lewis would like to give him 30 days to finish the sign or payment will be withheld. Commissioner Kinsey stated that the complaints that he has heard are mostly about the color on the not being correct. Weeks stated that he will be overseeing the yard work that he wants done at the library during the winter months to improve the looks of the grounds.

Fire Dept. Report-

CHAIRMAN REPORT-

OLD BUSINESS-

NEW BUSINESS-

TRUNK OR TREAT, KIDS CHRISTMAS, EMPLOYEE CHRISTMAS DINNER, AND RECREATION MEMBERS CHRISTMAS RECEPTION DATES-

Chairman Lewis asked if everyone wanted to go ahead and set the dates for all of these events or just plan Trunk or Treat and hold off on the other dates. After a few moments of discussion, it was decided to set Trunk or Treat for October 31, 2023 from 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. here in the parking lot of the Commission office and wait until the November meeting to handle the rest of the event dates.

RESOLUTION R14-2023 RETIRMENT AMENDMENT AND C5-2023 RETIRMENT AGREEMENT AMENDMENT-

Chairman Lewis read over Resolution R14-2023 and C5-2023 Retirement amendment. **Motion made by Blackmon to approve Resolution R14-2023 and C5-2023 Retirement amendment. Second by Bussey.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

RESOLUTION R13-2023 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES-

Chairman Lewis read Resolution R13-2023 Mental Health services. Chairman Lewis explained that this Resolution is to help push for more help and resources for individuals with mental health issues. **Motion made by Blackmon to approve Resolution R13-2023 Mental health services. Second by Kinsey.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

DFCS BOARD APPOINTMENT-

Chairman Lewis stated that Mrs. Martha Kinsey has agreed to serve on the DFCS Board. **Motion made by Blackmon to approve the appointment of Mrs. Martha Kinsey to the DFCS Board. Second by Hayes.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis. (Kinsey abstained from voting due to a conflict of interest.)

TAX ASSESSOR BOARD RE-APPOINTMENT FOR MRS. NORMA HAYES-

Chairman Lewis asked for a motion to re-appoint Mrs. Norma Hayes to the Tax Assessor Board. **Motion made by Bussey to re-appoint Mrs. Norma Hayes to the Tax Assessor Board. Second by Kinsey.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Blackmon, and Lewis. (Hayes abstained from voting due to a conflict of interest.)

WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY BOARD APPOINTMENT-

Chairman Lewis explained that Mrs. Joyce Jones has to come off of the Water and Sewer Authority board because she has served 2 back-to-back terms. This was tabled until the next regular commission meeting.

LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD-Chairman Lewis asked Vice Chairman Blackmon what his thoughts were about appointing a board member. Vice Chairman Blackmon asked that this be tabled as they work on some changes to the number of Board members required to serve on this board. Currently it is a 7-member board and they would like to reduce that number to 5.

GOLDEN TRIANGLE RC&D MEMBERSHIP-Chairman Lewis reminded everyone that Ms. Rhonda Gordan with Golden Triangle RC&D was present at the last Regular Commission meeting explaining what Golden Triangle RC& D is and what they do. Chairman Lewis asked Commissioner Kinsey if he was still interested in becoming a member to represent our County. Commissioner Kinsey stated that he would like to become a member. Commissioner Bussey stated that he would join Commissioner Kinsey and become a member. **Motion made by Kinsey to approve Commissioner Kinsey and Commissioner Bussey's membership to Golden Triangle RC&D for 2023. Second by Bussey.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

Vice Chairman Blackmon would like to know how the interest is being formulated on all of our accounts at Ameris Bank. Chairman Lewis asked that a letter be sent to Ameris Bank to answer what the interest is based on and why are we being paid different amounts. **Motion made by Hayes to send a letter to Ameris Bank regarding the questions on how the interest is being formulated. Second by Kinsey.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

EXECUTIVE SESSION- **Motion made by Blackmon to go into executive session to discuss possible litigation. Second by Kinsey.** Voting Yes- Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis. **Motion made by Blackmon to close executive session. Second by Kinsey.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis. **Motion made by Hayes to reopen regular session. Second by Kinsey.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

Chairman Lewis asked for a motion to petition the U.S. Army Corp. of Engineers to purchase both bridges and roads in River Bluff park and to allocate up to \$75,000.00 from TSPLOST to repair the first bridge that has the entrance to the entire park closed down. **Motion made by Kinsey to petition the U.S. Army Corp. of Engineers to purchase both bridges and roads in River Bluff park and to allocate up to \$75,000.00 from TSPLOST to repair the first bridge that has the entrance to the entire park closed down. Second by Hayes.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

APPEARANCES –
MEETING ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 8:37 p.m.

Carvel Lewis, Chairman

Danny Blackmon, Vice Chairman

Willie H. Bussey, Jr., Commissioner

David Kinsey, Commissioner

Jim Hayes, Commissioner

Attest: Jason Weeks, County Manager

**GEORGETOWN-QUITMAN COUNTY COMMISSION
PUBLIC HEARING
CALLED MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 23, 2023
4:00 p.m.**

CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Blackmon at 4:05 p.m. Members present were Commissioners: Blackmon, Kinsey, and Bussey. County Manager Jason Weeks. (Commissioners Lewis and Hayes were not present.) (County Clerk Wilson and Financial Officer Odom were not present.)

PUBLIC HEARING- Vice Chairman Blackmon opened the public hearing for the Beer and Wine applications for Empowerment Management DBA Depot Food store and M & R Business Investment inc. DBA Quick Serve. There was no discussion or questions at the public hearing. Vice Chairman Blackmon closed the public hearing at 4:35 p.m.

Vice Chairman Blackmon called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m. followed with a prayer. Members present were Commissioners: Blackmon, Kinsey, and Bussey. County Manager Jason Weeks. (Commissioners Lewis and Hayes were not present.) (County Clerk Wilson and Financial Officer Odom were not present.)

AGENDA AMENDMENTS- Vice Chairman Blackmon asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. **Motion made by Kinsey to approve the agenda as presented. Second by Bussey.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, and Blackmon.

Vice Chairman Blackmon asked for a motion to approve the Beer and Wine application for Quick Serve. **Motion made by Kinsey to approve the Beer and Wine application for Quick Serve. Second by Bussey.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, and Blackmon.

Vice Chairman Blackmon asked for a motion to approve the Beer and Wine application for Depot Food Store. **Motion made by Kinsey to approve the Beer and Wine application for Depot Food store. Second by Bussey.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, and Blackmon.

FORESTER PONTOON- Vice Chairman Blackmon stated that the Local Economic Development Authority met and voted to send a letter to Forester Pontoon to put them on notice that they have 30 days to either meet the parameters of the contract that they have signed or the contract will be canceled. The County Attorney explained to County Manager Weeks that the Commission Board needs to go over this and also vote for their approval of this letter to be sent. **Motion made by Kinsey to send a letter from the Local Economic Development Authority Board giving Forester Pontoon 30 days to meet the parameters of the contract that they have signed or the contract will be canceled. Second by Bussey.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, and Blackmon.

November 14, 2023 Board Meeting

EXECUTIVE SESSION-

MEETING ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 4:55 p.m.

not present
Carvel Lewis, Chairman

Danny Blackmon, Vice Chairman

Willie H. Bussey, Jr., Commissioner

David Kinsey, Commissioner

not present
Jim Hayes, Commissioner

Attest: Jason Weeks, County Manager