

AGENDA
GEORGETOWN-QUITMAN COUNTY, GEORGIA
REGULAR MEETING

JANUARY 9, 2024

6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

AGENDA AMENDMENTS

ACTION ITEM

ACTION ITEM

ACTION ITEM

ACTION ITEM

PUBLIC COMMENTS

PREVIOUS MONTH BILLS

APPROVAL OF BILLS

MINUTES

CHAIRMAN
VICE-CHAIRMAN
COUNTY ATTORNEY
AUDITOR

(Time allocated 10 minutes total)

Check Registers

JANUARY 2024

Public hearing meeting minutes December 14, 2023

Regular meeting minutes December 14, 2023

Called meeting minutes December 18, 2023

Called meeting minutes January 3, 2024

MANAGER'S REPORT / EMS

ELECTED OFFICIALS

TAX COMMISSIONER

PROBATE

SUPERIOR COURT CLERK

SHERIFF

FAMILY CONNECTIONS

LIBRARY

FIRE

EMA DIRECTOR

4-H Coordinator

REPORTS

OLD BUSINESS

ACTION ITEM

Ordinance O4-2023 Special Event Alcohol License- 2nd reading

NEW BUSINESS

ACTION ITEM

Approval of FY 2024 monthly recurring payments

ACTION ITEM

Ordinance O1-2024 Emergency Service Assessment -1st reading

ACTION ITEM

R1-2024 SPLOST Resolution

ACTION ITEM

R2-2024 Qualifying fee Resolution

ACTION ITEM

Board of Assessors request for pay increase for training

ACTION ITEM

C7-2023 Planning & Zoning technical assistance contract with

ACTION ITEM

River Valley Regional Commission

EXECUTIVE SESSION

APPEARANCES

MEETING ADJOURN

JANUARY 9, 2024 Board Meeting

**GEORGETOWN-QUITMAN COUNTY COMMISSION
PUBLIC HEARING MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 14, 2023
6:00 p.m.**

CALLED TO ORDER

The public hearing was called to order by Vice Chairman Blackmon at 6:05 p.m. followed with a prayer. Members present were Commissioners: Blackmon, Hayes, Kinsey, and Bussey. Financial Officer Teri Odom and County Manager Weeks Chairman Lewis arrived during the public hearing. (County Clerk Carolyn Wilson was not present.)

PUBLIC HEARING-

Vice Chairman Blackmon opened the public hearing for Booze Barn, LLC Beer, Wine and Distilled Spirits retail application.

Vice Chairman Blackmon closed the public hearing at 6:25 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION-
APPEARANCES –
MEETING ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 6:25 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
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 14, 2023
6:30 p.m.

CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lewis at 6:30 p.m. with a prayer and the pledge. Members present were Commissioners: Lewis, Blackmon, Hayes, Kinsey and Bussey. County Manager Weeks, and Financial officer Teri Odom. (County Clerk Carolyn Wilson was not present.)

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS-

PREVIOUS MONTH CHECK REGISTER

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

APPROVAL OF BILLS

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

MINUTES

November 14, 2023 Regular meeting minutes-**Motion made by Blackmon to approve the Regular meeting minutes. Second by Hayes.** 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 November was total calls 30, 18 transports, 7 refusals, and 5 cancelations with an average response time of 12 minutes.

SIX MONTH AUDIT ENDING JUNE 2023-Weeks stated that Mr. Richard Wingate has completed the 6-month audit ending June 2023 and the findings were exactly as the previous audit. Mr. Wingate asked Mr. Weeks to ask the Commission Board if they would like for him to come present the audit in a meeting.

GDOT-Weeks stated that GDOT has approved the driveway at the Forester Pontoon site so our Bond funds can now be released.

BLUE BUILDING @ 845 US HWY 82-Weeks updated everyone that the Blue building at 845 US HWY 82 has sold and we have received full payment.

KIDS CHRISTMAS TOY DONATIONS-Weeks explained that the toys that are in the board room and in the hallway were all donations from a couple of different organizations. Weeks said we received more toys this year than in previous years.

RIVER BLUFF BRIDGE UPDATE- Weeks spoke with Mr. Chad Griffin with Stillwater Engineering about the revised bridge repair plans and Mr. Griffin stated he should have those plans ready by the middle of January. Weeks said as soon as he knows something he will update everyone.

JANUARY 9, 2024 Board Meeting

Weeks asked the Board to look at their schedules to set up a called meeting. Called meeting set for January 3, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.

Tax Commissioner Report- Tax Commissioner Mindy Ward was present and gave a brief update. She stated that she went to Carrollton, GA. and got to see the new Tax Commission software and is excited about the changes that have been made. Mrs. Ward also stated that she is working on the April 2024 tax sale. Mrs. Ward wanted to also let everyone know that the citizens of Georgetown-Quitman County are blessed with the Board of Commissioners and all the staff that work for the County to keep things running.

Probate Report-

SUPERIOR CLERK OF COURT-

SHERIFF REPORT-

FAMILY CONNECTIONS-

Library-

Fire Dept. Report-

CHAIRMAN REPORT-

OLD BUSINESS-

NEW BUSINESS-

BEER, WINE, AND DISTILLED SPIRITS APPLICATION FOR BOOZE BARN, LLC-

Chairman Lewis asked for a motion to approve the Beer, Wine, and Distilled Spirits application for Booze Barn, LLC. **Motion made by Blackmon to approve the Beer, Wine, and Distilled spirits application for Booze Barn, LLC. Second by Hayes.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

WATER & SEWER AUTHORITY BOARD APPOINTMENT-Chairman Lewis stated that we have a letter from Mr. Larry Rigsby from Whispering Pines asking to be considered to be appointed to the Water & Sewer authority board. Chairman Lewis also stated that Mr. Jeff McMiller has also asked to be considered for the appointment. After some discussion, Chairman Lewis asked that this be tabled until the work session.

ORDINANCE O4-2023 SPECIAL EVENT ALCOHOL LICENSE 1ST READING-

Chairman Lewis read Ordinance O4-2023 Special Event Alcohol license. Chairman Lewis stated this is the 1st reading.

DEER POINT RD EMERGENCY SERVICE ASSESSMENT FEE- Chairman Lewis asked

County Manager Weeks to go over the Deer Point Road emergency service assessment fee. Weeks explained that Mr. Terry Batton owns the road in Shelomi Acres which is located off of Deer Point Rd. and has been charged the Emergency Service assessment fee on the roads. Weeks stated that he contacted the County Attorney on this matter and they have drawn up a deed for the Batton's to sign deeding the roads over to the County and the Emergency Service assessment fees will be removed at that time. **Motion made by Blackmon to approve the deed for the Batton's to sign over the roads to the County and removing the Emergency service assessment fee. Second by Kinsey.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

FUNDS FROM THE SALE OF THE BLUE BUILDING 845 US HWY 82- County Manager Weeks stated that there is an Intergovernmental agreement that states 95% of the funds go to the Unified Government of Georgetown-Quitman County general fund and 5% go to the Local Economic Development Authority and we have to fulfill that agreement.

GRADER QUOTES- Weeks went over the quotes that were given from John Deere and Yancey Brothers. Weeks stated that these 2 quotes are very comparable with only a \$6.00 difference in the monthly payment. The warranty and maintenance are the same for both quotes. **Motion made by Blackmon to approve the motor grader quote from Yancey Brothers. Second by Kinsey.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

BEER & WINE LICENSE RENEWAL FOR DEPOT FOOD & QUICK SERVE- Chairman Lewis explained that these 2 stores renewed their Beer and Wine License for the year 2023 in October and have asked that this be carried over for the year 2024. **Motion made by Blackmon to approve the Beer and Wine License renewal for 2023 for Food Depot and Quick Serve stores to carryover for 2024. Second by Bussey.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

GOLDEN TRIANGLE APPOINTMENTS FOR 2024- Chairman Lewis asked Commissioner Bussey and Commissioner Kinsey if they would like to continue to serve in 2024 as the representatives from Georgetown-Quitman County for Golden Triangle. Bussey and Kinsey agreed to continue to serve.

EXECUTIVE SESSION-
APPEARANCES –
MEETING ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 7:16 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
CALLED MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 18, 2023
2:00 p.m.**

CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lewis at 2:05 p.m. followed with a prayer.

Members present were Commissioners: Lewis, Blackmon, and Hayes. County Manager Weeks

AGENDA AMENDMENTS- Chairman Lewis asked for a motion to amend the agenda to add Non-profits using the Community Center at no charge. **Motion made by Blackmon to add Non-profits using the Community Center at no charge. Second by Hayes.** Voting Yes-Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

ORDINANCE O4-2023 SPECIAL EVENT ALCOHOL LICENSE 1ST READING-

Chairman Lewis explained that because of an advertising issue we are having to have another 1st reading on Ordinance O4-2023 Special event alcohol license. Chairman Lewis read Ordinance O4-2023 and stated this is the 1st reading. This will be advertised in the December 23, 2023 Eufaula Tribune and will meet the advertising deadline.

NON-PROFITS USING THE COMMUNITY CENTER AT NO CHARGE- County Manager Weeks stated that in a regular meeting in June of this year it was voted to allow a non-profit to use the Community center at no charge. We currently have another non-profit organization that would like to use the center but wanted to make sure it was no charge. Weeks stated that the Commissioners would need to vote if they would like for all non-profits to be able to use the Community Center at no charge. **Motion made by Blackmon to allow all non-profit organizations associated with Georgetown-Quitman County with proper paperwork showing they are a non-profit organization to use the Community Center for events that are open to the Community at no charge. Second by Hayes.** Voting Yes-Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

EXECUTIVE SESSION-

APPEARANCES –

MEETING ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 2:25 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
CALLED MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 3, 2024
2:00 p.m.**

CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lewis at 2:16 p.m. followed with a prayer.

Members present were Commissioners: Lewis, Blackmon, Hayes, Kinsey, and Bussey. County Manager Weeks and County Clerk Wilson.

AGENDA AMENDMENTS- Chairman Lewis asked for a motion to amend the agenda to add Sheriff Dept. and funds from the sale of the Blue Building at 845 US HWY 82. **Motion made by Blackmon to add Sheriff Dept. and funds from the sale of the blue building at 845 US HWY 82. Second by Kinsey.** Voting Yes-Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

PLANNING & ZONING BOARD MEMBERS- Chairman Lewis opened the discussion on the Planning and Zoning board members. Chairman Lewis stated that there are a few members that are not attending the meetings and Steve Newton resigned because he is planning on running for Sheriff. After some discussion, it was talked about reducing the board from a 7-member board to a 5- member board. Also, it was discussed on spending some money to provide the board members with training thru River Valley Regional Commission. **Motion made by Kinsey to spend the money to offer training to the Planning & Zoning board members thru River Valley Regional Commission. Second by Hayes.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

WATER & SEWER AUTHORITY BOARD- Chairman Lewis explained that there are 2 individuals (Mr. Larry Rigsby and Mr. Jeff McMiller) interested in the vacancy on the Water & Sewer Authority board. After a brief discussion, a **motion was made by Hayes to appoint Mr. Jeff McMiller to the Water & Sewer Authority board. Second by Kinsey.** Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

LMIG- Chairman Lewis asked County Manager Weeks to go over the 2024 LMIG projects. Weeks stated that the LMIG funds for 2024 are \$208,000.00. Weeks gave a handout to each Commissioner with different roads that he and Tim Simpson looked at for projects for the LMIG funds. Weeks also stated that we have \$203,000.00 dollars available that was granted for the Forester Pontoon site. Weeks spoke to Mr. Shannon Bradford with GDOT about our options to use the \$203,000.00 for a different project since we no longer need it for the Forester Pontoon site. Mr. Bradford told Weeks that we need to do a letter addressed to the GDOT Commissioner and send it to Mr. Bradford asking if we can use those funds for a different project and to make sure we list in the letter exactly what the funds would be used for and give a cost breakdown for the project. Commissioner Blackmon stated that he would like to bank the 2024 LMIG funds for a larger project instead of using it on smaller projects. Commissioner Blackmon would also like to get in contact with Ms. Cathy Williams with GDOT to get her help with getting funds to pave

JANUARY 9, 2024 Board Meeting

Deer Point Rd. After a lengthy discussion, Weeks is going to contact Ms. Cathy Williams our area representative with GDOT to let her know what we are working on and let her know what Mr. Bradford with GDOT has said about what we need to do in regards to the \$203,000.00 funds that were granted for the Forester Pontoon site.

SHERIFF DEPT.- Commissioner Hayes stated that he wanted to discuss the robbery that occurred at one of the local convenience stores. Commissioner Hayes stated that the Sheriff only had 1 deputy on duty the evening of the robbery and that deputy received a call for another part of town. Commissioner Hayes said that the Sheriff wants to hire another deputy to have on duty at night for incidents like this. County Manager Weeks explained that the Sheriff has the money to hire another deputy but hasn't been able to find adequate help.

BLUE BUILDING AT 845 US HWY 82- Chairman Lewis asked Vice Chairman Blackmon to open the discussion on the funds from the sale of the building at 845 US HWY 82. Vice Chairman Blackmon explained that he would like to see a significant amount of money in the Local Economic Development account for future property investments.

EXECUTIVE SESSION- **Motion made by Blackmon to go into executive session to discuss real estate. 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 Kinsey to reopen regular session.**

Second by Blackmon. Voting Yes-Bussey, Kinsey, Hayes, Blackmon, and Lewis.

Chairman Lewis stated nothing was discussed in executive session that required a vote.

APPEARANCES –

MEETING ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 4:18 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