Regular Meeting Minutes
Jenkins County Board of Commissioners
Tuesday, November 14, 2023
4:00 P.M.

- 1. The Jenkins County Board of Commissioners met for its Regular Monthly Meeting on Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 4:00 P.M. in the Commissioners' Meeting Room at the James L. Henry Administrative Building. Commissioners in attendance were Chairman Horace Weathersby III, Hiller Spann, Pamelia Dwight, Jonathan Powell, and Tracie Coney. Others in attendance were County Administrator Grady Saxon, County Attorney George Rountree, Mrs. Cheryl Tatum, Ms. Deborah Bennett, Mr. Bill Kent, Tax Commissioner Tina Burke, Mrs. Vivian Johnson, Chief Appraiser Vicky Patrick, Clerk of Courts Tracey Herrington, Mr. Chris Holmstrom, Mr. C.J. Green, Mr. Sam Eades, Mr. Alton Williams, Mr. Mike Chance, Mrs. Sherri Chance, County Field Director Jason Oglesby, Mr. Ben Wall, Mr. Bonner Jones, Mrs. Gwen Watson, and Mr. Emmanuel Watson.
- 2. Chairman Horace Weathersby III called the meeting to order at 4:00 P.M. He then gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Weathersby then welcomed all those in attendance.
- 3. Chairman Weathersby called for the approval of the AGENDA. Hearing no changes, a motion was made by Commissioner Spann and seconded by Commissioner Coney to approve the AGENDA as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
- 4. Chairman Weathersby called for the approval of the Minutes from the October 10, 2023 Regular Meeting. A motion was made by Commissioner Spann and seconded by Commissioner Coney to approve the Minutes from the October 10, 2023 Regular Meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.
- 5. Under Personal Appearances, Mrs. Gwen Watson inquired about information discussed during the recent Mayoral debate. She stated that during the debate, it was stated that it was the County's fault that the City was short \$100,000. Commissioner Spann provided an explanation, citing the Atlantic Waste contract for landfill services, that the City could impact its revenue stream though fees, so this was NOT the County's fault. Commissioner Spann also cleared up some incorrect information that was presented during the debate. He stated that Jenkins County was not the poorest county in the state—it is the 47th poorest county.
- 6. Next under Personal Appearances, Tax Commissioner Tina Burke requested the employment of an additional clerk in the Tax Commissioner's Office due to increased workload for the Tax Commissioner's Office beginning December 1, 2023. Mrs. Burke stated that UTVs would now go under a voluntary registration program, and that boat registrations may be coming soon. She then requested a remodel of her office to be able to accommodate the new employee. She provided an estimate in the amount of

- \$12,875 for the proposed remodel. Commissioner Spann requested a sketch of the proposed layout. Next, Mrs. Burke presented a list of unsellable properties (some are landlocked and some are mobile homes that are not suitable for dwelling) and stated that she needed a letter of authorization from the Board of Commissioners to remove these parcels from the property digest. The Board instructed attorney Rountree to research the deed information and develop a proposal for action on these parcels.
- 7. Next under Personal Appearances, Mr. Alton Williams expressed concerns over the current dumpster site at the intersection of Aaron Road and Williams Road. He stated that trash often blows into his yard and that refuse sometimes stays at the dumpster site for several weeks at a time, and that the site should not be an inconvenience to him. Can the dumpsters be moved to another location? Field Director Oglesby discussed the possible consolidation of dumpster sites. The County will continue to look for additional options.
- 8. Finally under Personal Appearances, Mr. Ben Wall provided an update of landfill activities and introduced the new Landfill Manager Bonner Jones. He discussed recent employee turnover due to operational concerns and also discussed recent odor complaints at the site. He stated that additional cover has been applied in order to help contain the odor. Mr. Wall requested to be notified when the County receives odor complaints.
- 9. Under Old Business, Commissioner Spann discussed a recent request by the Development Authority to increase the Authority's Annual Supplement from \$80,000 to \$120,000. Commissioner Spann stated that there was no specific need for the increase at this time so the Board agreed by consent to deny the request. Commissioner Spann also stated that, should the need arise, the Development Authority would need to make another request.
- 10. Next under Old Business, Mr. Saxon presented a copy of a Recreation Department Policy that was approved in 2018 that authorized refunds for All Stars for the current year. A motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Spann to authorize the payout for the current year and to amend the policy, effective immediately, to eliminate the refunds for All Stars moving forward. The motion carried unanimously.
- 11. Finally under Old Business, Mr. Saxon stated that after several calls, only one person agreed to serve on the Board of Assessors. Donnie Swinson was the former chief appraiser in Telfair County and was interested in being appointed to that Board. A motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Coney to appoint Donnie Swinson to the Jenkins County Board of Assessors. The motion carried unanimously.
- 12. Under New Business, Chairman Weathersby read aloud an amendment to the current operating agreement, in which Atlantic Waste would pay the three remaining annual

- payments of \$100,000 each, in advance, and forego any interest that would have been included in the annual payments. A motion was made by Commissioner Spann and seconded by Commissioner Dwight to authorize Chairman Weathersby to sign the amendment. The motion carried unanimously.
- 13. Finally under New Business, Mr. Saxon presented Probation Service Agreements for four courts (Magistrate Court, State Court, Superior Court, and City of Millen Municipal Court) served by Jenkins County Probation. These agreements will allow Jenkins County Probation to serve these courts for an additional five year period, beginning January 1, 2024 and ending on December 31, 2028. A motion was made by Commissioner Spann and seconded by Commissioner Coney to approve the four Probation Service Agreements. The motion carried unanimously.
- 14. Under Field Director's Report, County Field Director Jason Oglesby provided updates on the activities of the Road Department for the month. He stated that the new tractor with side cutter had arrived and cutting had already begun. He stated that the new dump truck has been shipped to have the dump body installed and could take 6-8 weeks. Chairman Weathersby asked about illegal dumping fines at various dumpster sites. Field Director Oglesby stated that the countywide internet would help in monitoring some of these sites.
- 15. County Attorney George Rountree stated that he hopes to have a draft of the new SWMP ready by the December meeting.
- 16. Under Administrator's Report, Mr. Saxon reported that it was nearing time to renew the County's Worker's Comp insurance. He has sent quote requests to two carriers. ACCG will be providing a quote as well. Renewal is January 1, 2024.
- 17. Next under Administrator's Report, Mr. Saxon reported that the bid opening for the 2024 LMIG project will be held on Thursday, November 16, 2024 at 11 A.M.
- 18. Next under Administrator's Report, Mr. Saxon stated that the Airport Hangar Slab Project was nearing completion. Asphalt was put down on November 13, and the trench drain covers should arrive next week. The new taxiway lights for that section have been ordered as well. Project completion is anticipated for mid-December.
- 19. Next under Administrator's Report, Mr. Saxon reported that the BB Lane Project had been briefly delayed due to Parker Engineering having to redesign a portion of the project to include a drainage easement across one property. Parker has spoken to the property owner and will set up a meeting with the property owner and the Commissioners' Office to discuss the terms of the easement.
- 20. Next under Administrator's Report, Mr. Saxon reported that the old Harrison Bridge had been demolished and that several pylons for the new bridge had been driven. There was no estimated completion date at that time.

- 21. Next under Administrator's Report, Mr. Saxon reported that the Board had approved Studio 3 as the architect for the Recreation Grant Project. He stated that the Board would need to authorize the chairman to sign the architect agreement so the project can get underway. A motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Spann to authorize Chairman Weathersby to sign the architect agreement with Studio 3. The motion carried unanimously.
- 22. Next under Administrator's Report, Mr. Saxon inquired if the Board had considered a Christmas Meal for County Employees this year. A motion was made by Commissioner Spann and seconded by Commissioner Powell to proceed with this year's Christmas Meal, which will be held at noon on Thursday, December 21 at noon. The motion carried unanimously.
- 23. Finally under Administrator's Report, Mr. Saxon stated that GDOT has committed \$40,000 toward the repairs of Mulkey Bridge. Parker Engineering is preparing that project for bid.
- 24. Chairman Weathersby discussed meeting with the TA Board in December regarding the services of TAS.
- 25. A motion was made by Commissioner Spann and seconded by Commissioner Coney to enter Executive Session at 4:50 P.M. The motion carried unanimously.
- 26. A motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Coney to exit Executive Session at 5:30 P.M. The motion carried unanimously. All Board members signed an affidavit stating that only (2) Personnel Matters and (1) Real Estate Matter were discussed.
- 27. A motion was made by Commissioner Powell and seconded by Commissioner Coney to promote Stacie Anderson (Paramedic) and Alysia Hankinson (EMT) from part time to full time. The motion carried unanimously.

28. The Board members signed all necessary meeting documents.

29. Chairman Weathersby adjourned the meeting at 5:32 P.M.

hairman Horace Weathersb

Tracie Conev

Jonathan Powell

Hiller Spann

Pamelia Dwight

Attest: Grady Saxon, Administrator