The Wilkinson County Board of Commissioners met in a Regular Session at 9:00 AM on February 5, 2019 at the Commission Chambers in the Courthouse. The following Commissioners were present: Chairman Michael Gotell; Commissioner James Hagins; Commissioner Glenn Kester; and Commissioner John Williams.

The following staff were present: County Manager Joseph Mosley; County Attorney DuBose Porter; and Sr. Account Tech I Deborah Osborne.

Invocation

Chairman Gotell asked Commissioner John Williams-District 4 to lead the invocation. Commissioner Williams acknowledged Reverend Horton and conceded the invocation to him. Reverend Horton gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Gotell asked Commissioner Glenn Kester-District 1 to lead the pledge.

Agenda

Chairman Gotell asked for a motion to approve the Agenda. Moved by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner Kester to approve the Agenda. Commissioner Hagins voted yes; Chairman Gotell voted yes; Commissioner Kester voted yes; and Commissioner Williams voted yes. Motion carried; there were none opposed.

Minutes

Chairman Gotell entertained a motion to approve the Regular Session Minutes of the January 15, 2019. Moved by Commissioner Hagins and seconded by Commissioner Williams to approve the Minutes of the Regular Session. Commissioner Hagins voted yes; Chairman Gotell voted yes; Commissioner Kester voted yes; and Commissioner Williams voted yes. Motion carried; there were none opposed.
Visitors’ Present


Recognition of Visitors / Presentations

a. None

Old Business

a. Update on status of Ball Church Road and Asbell Road. Commissioner Hagins said the Road Department has cleaned the ditch on Ball Church Road and he was told that Asbell Road would be washed to remove some of the mud from the road where logging trucks. Mr. Wilson said thank you for the Road Department cleaning the ditch but a drainage pipe or something else was needed to keep the water from pooling where they had cleaned the ditches. Commissioner Hagins will have more information at the next meeting.

New Business

a. Motion to reappoint Attorney DuBose Porter as County Attorney for calendar year 2019. Moved by made Commissioner Hagins and seconded by Commissioner Williams to reappoint DuBose Porter as the County Attorney for the calendar year 2019. Commissioner Hagins voted yes; Chairman Gotell voted yes; Commissioner Kester voted yes; and Commissioner Williams voted yes. Motion carried; there were none opposed.

b. Motion to appoint Mr. Jonathan Jackson to the Central Georgia Development Authority. Moved by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner Kester to appoint Mr. Jackson to the Central Georgia Development Authority. Commissioner Hagins voted yes; Chairman Gotell voted yes; Commissioner Kester voted yes; and Commissioner Williams voted yes. Motion carried; there were none opposed.

c. Motion to appoint Mr. David Smallwood to the Wilkinson County Board of Elections & Registration for the unexpired term of Regina Griffin (Term ends December 31, 2019). Chairman Gotell recognized Mr. Smallwood. Mr. Smallwood gave a brief summary of his work history and that he has presently been retired for approximately 7 years and that he would be willing to serve if so appointed. Moved by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner Hagins to appoint Mr. Smallwood to the Wilkinson County Elections & Registration Board. Commissioner Hagins voted yes; Chairman Gotell voted yes; Commissioner Kester voted yes; and Commissioner Williams voted yes. Motion carried; there were none opposed.

d. Motion to reappoint Mr. Roger Smith for a four (4) year term to the
Development Authority of Wilkinson County. (February 16, 2023) Moved by Commissioner Hagins and seconded by Commissioner Williams to reappoint Mr. Smith to the Development Authority of Wilkinson County for a four (4) year term. Commissioner Hagins voted yes; Chairman Gotell voted yes; Commissioner Kester voted yes; and Commissioner Williams voted yes. Motion carried; there were none opposed.

e. Motion to appoint Mrs. Karen Kester for a four (4) year term to the Development Authority of Wilkinson County. (February 16, 2023) Chairman recognized Mrs. Kester. Mrs. Kester stated that she and her husband (Commissioner Kester) had been residents of Wilkinson County for the past three (3) years and that she had Real Estate and Marketing experience and if appointed she believed her experience with both would bring new ideas to the table. Moved by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner Hagins to appoint Mrs. Kester to the Development Authority of Wilkinson County for a four (4) year term. Commissioner Hagins voted yes; Chairman Gotell voted yes; and Commissioner Williams voted yes. Commissioner Kester abstained. Motion carried; there were none opposed.

f. Motion to reappoint Mr. Roger Smith for a four (4) year term to the Fall Line Regional Development Authority (term began February 4, 2018 to February 4, 2022). Moved by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner Hagins to reappoint Mr. Smith to a four-year term to the Fall Line Regional Development Authority. Commissioner Hagins voted yes; Chairman Gotell voted yes; Commissioner Kester voted yes; and Commissioner Williams voted yes. Motion carried; there were none opposed.

g. Motion to issue a “Call for Election” for the vacant District 3 Seat. The election will be held on November 5, 2019. Moved by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner Hagins to issue a Call for Election for the vacant seat of District 3. Commissioner Hagins voted yes; Chairman Gotell voted yes; Commissioner Kester voted yes; and Commissioner Williams voted yes. Motion carried; there were none opposed.

h. Motion to approve the low bid of $11,839.20 from Southside Equipment to purchase a Zero-Turn Lawnmower for the Public Works Dept. (Funds budgeted in SPLOST). Commissioner Hagins had a quote for two (2) Arrow Zero-Turn mowers for approximately $20,134.80. Moved by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner Kester to postpone until we could give Southside Equipment a chance to bid on two mowers. Commissioner Hagins voted yes; Chairman Gotell voted yes; Commissioner Kester voted yes; and Commissioner Williams voted yes. Motion carried; there were none opposed.

i. Motion to approve our annual monitoring contract with Triple Point Engineering in the amount of $57,400.00. (Funds come from Landfill Account). Moved by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner Kester to approve the annual contract for landfill monitoring with Triple Point Engineering. Commissioner Hagins voted yes; Chairman Gotell voted yes; Commissioner Kester voted yes; and Commissioner Williams voted yes. Motion carried; there were none opposed.
j. **Discuss the Fare for Senior Citizens riding the Wilkinson County Transit System.** Moved by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner Kester to suspend the fare for the Senior Citizens until a more suitable decision could be reached. Commissioner Hagins voted yes; Chairman Gotell voted yes; Commissioner Kester voted yes; and Commissioner Williams voted yes. Motion carried; there were none opposed.

**Chairman’s Report:**

Chairman Gotell stated that the Commissioners, Constitutional Officers and Department Heads had a meeting at the Regional Commission on January 25, 2019 to find out what was needed by various departments and explain what direction that he and the Commissioners hoped to lead Wilkinson County in the future.

The Chairman then asked each Commissioner what they thought of the meeting.

Commissioner Kester said it was overwhelming but that the learning experience was good. He is getting to know more and more about the County’s business and how it operates.

Commissioner Hagins stated that he felt that we are on the right road as a County. The Development Authority was doing a wonderful job and that we would have a plant that would be opening soon.

Commissioner Williams also agreed that we had a good design and budget. He was really impressed with what Jonathan Jackson with the Development Authority had to say about the upcoming growth in the County.

The Chairman then expressed that it needed to be a Team Effort and that he looked forward to building a new foundation and moving forward.

**County Managers Report:**

1. **EMA & Fire Departments**
   a. Reminder that the Hazardous Mitigation Plan is underway. The monthly meeting is scheduled the fourth Thursday of the month at 6p.m. at the EMA’s office.
   b. EMA has been working on the Hurricane FEMA reimbursement.

2. **GDOT Projects**
   a. JR Simms Road Packet have been sent out to bid; I will advertise in the paper this week.
   b. Had Chairman to sign off on GDOT document.

3. **Budget & Finance**
   a. The auditor continues to work.
   b. Gave financial material to Constitutional Officers & Department Heads
4. Courthouse Updates
   a. Stained ceiling tile has been replaced. Cupola has been finished with the special paint, and we need to do the finishing touches on the project.
   b. Contractor will start work on Vanessa repairs this month.
   c. I met with Mr. Pitts to review all of the lights that need replacing.

5. Updates & Reminders
   a. Working on Website for the County.

Visitors Comments
   a. None

Adjournment

Moved by Commissioner Kester and seconded by Commissioner Williams to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Hagins voted yes; Chairman Gotell voted yes; Commissioner Kester voted yes; and Commissioner Williams voted yes. Motion carried; there were none opposed.

Notice to Visitors

The Board of Commissioners welcomes you to our meeting. We ask that you do not talk during the meeting to allow us to hear all discussion between Commissioners. If you would like to be placed on the agenda, please contact the Board of Commissioners Office at 946-2236 no later than the Thursday prior to meeting.