

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE WILCOX COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD ON DECEMBER 7, 2021 AT 6:30 P.M. IN THE COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM OF THE WILCOX COUNTY COURTHOUSE.

Those present for the meeting were as follows:

Lanier Keene	Chairman
Alfonza Hall	Vice Chairman
Jowan Johnson	Commissioner
Mel Powell	Commissioner
Toni Sawyer	County Attorney
Paula J. Ball	County Manager/Clerk

Chairman Lanier Keene called the meeting to order.

The invocation was given by Chairman Lanier Keene.

Everyone gave the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes from the October 28, 2021 special call meeting were approved with a motion from Commissioner Mel Powell. Commissioner Alfonza Hall seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

Department Head Reports/Requests were as follows:

Recreation Director Michael Pomirko stated the Recreation Department and the Ag Center were doing well.

Superior Court Clerk Janet Mauldin presented quotes for the archival of deeds and old files that are being stored in the old vault were they continue to be damaged by water.

EMA/Fire Coordinator Larry Brown stated he was working on dry hydrants and pump testing had begun today on the fire trucks.

The first item of new business was an updated Drug and Alcohol policy for the Transit Service. Commissioner Jowan Johnson made a motion to approve the policy. Commissioners Alfonza Hall seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

County Manager Paula Ball stated she had been talking with Jeffrey Bishop, Georgia Department of Natural Resources and he had sent a contract for Statham Shoals Landing. It would benefit the County if they had a signed contract on file. This would not guarantee DNR would accept the Landing but it would certainly benefit the County because it would show their willingness to participate in the Boat Landing Improvement Program. Commissioner Mel Powell made a motion to sign the contract. Commissioner Alfonza Hall seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

An appointment needs to be made to the Heart of Georgia Regional Commission. This appointment is for the City appointment. The mayors of the four cities should discuss who they would like to serve. City of Abbeville Mayor Michael Estes, who currently serves on the board, stated the City of Pineview and the City of Pitts had agreed to support Ronald Spires, newly elected Mayor of the City of Abbeville. Commissioner Jowan Johnson made a motion to appoint Ronald Spires to the board. Commissioner Alfonza Hall seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

There were no items of old business.

Commissioner comments were as follows:

The County Manager's report was as follows:

A settlement on the Opioid lawsuit has been reached. If 95% of the counties participate, Wilcox County will get \$112,000.00 less 25% attorney fees for a total of \$84,000.00. This will be paid over the next 18 years for a total of \$4,666.67 annually. If there is not 95% participation, Wilcox County will get \$78,000.00 less 25% attorney fees for a total of \$58,500.00. This amount would be paid over the next 18 years for a total of \$3,250.00 annually.

Three applications have been received for the County Manager's position. These were distributed to the Commissioners for review.

A meeting needs to be held to begin discussions on the American Rescue Plan.

All appointments to the Wilcox County Board of Elections need to be made January 1, 2022.

A meeting has been held with Dodge County concerning the upgrade of E911 equipment. They are replacing all equipment at the dispatch center. County Manager Paula Ball stated she felt we should replace our radios and tower at the same time. This may prove to solve our problem and if so it will be the most cost effective way to have 911. This would eliminate all blame being passed between Dodge County 911 and Wilcox County radios.

County Attorney Toni Sawyer gave an update on Redistricting.

A meeting was set for December 14, 2021 at 6:00 to hold interviews and discuss the American Rescue Plan.

There being no further business, Commissioner Jowan Johnson made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Alfonza Hall seconded the motion that carried unanimously.



Lanier Keene, Chairman



Paula J. Ball, County Manager/Clerk