

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE WILCOX COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD ON MAY 5, 2020 AT 6:30 P.M. IN THE COURTROOM OF THE WILCOX COUNTY COURTHOUSE.

Those present for the meeting were as follows:

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

Chairman Lanier Keene called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Jowan Johnson gave the invocation.

Everyone gave the Pledge of Allegiance.

The prior month's minutes from the April 2, 2020 special call meeting, April 7, 2020 regular monthly meeting, April 20, 2020 phone conference and the April 24, 2020 workshop meeting were adopted as presented with a motion from Commissioner Clay Reid. Commissioner Jowan Johnson seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

There were no guests with public comments.

Department head reports/requests were presented as follows:

Larry Brown, EMA/Fire Coordinator presented an update on COVID-19 cases in Wilcox County.

Janice Brown, Coroner stated she had three cases in April but only one of them was a COVID-19 victim.

The first item of new business was the 2020-2021 Public Defender's budget. County Attorney Toni Sawyer reminded everyone the State of Georgia has not adopted a budget yet due to the COVID-19 shutdown. Commissioner Mel Powell made a motion to table the decision until the State has an adopted budget. Commissioner Alfonza Hall seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

The second item of new business was two vacancies on the Wilcox County Board of Elections and Registrations due to the resignation of Don Roberts and Gene Tomberlin. Chairman Lanier Keene stated we are running an ad in the Cordele Dispatch asking for people who might be interested in serving on the board. These appointments would serve the unexpired terms of the two members who resigned. He suggested we wait on the two appointments to appoint a Chairman.

County Attorney Toni Sawyer added the appointments need to be made prior to the June election. She stated there might be decisions that need to be made on Election Day. If the board needs to meet prior to then, they still have a quorum but all three remaining members will have to be present. All board members need to be certified within 12 months of their appointments. Chairman Lanier Keene stated we will look at meeting Tuesday afternoon at 5:00 p.m. County Attorney Toni Sawyer stated if there is a shortage of poll workers, consolidation of precincts is being allowed.

Michael Pomirko, Recreation Director, was then recognized. He explained that he had applied for a playground grant for the Recreation Department. He had received notification the grant has been funded. The total cost of the grant is \$75,875.00. They are asking for county involvement for the one day it will take to construct the playground. This will be a savings on the county match. This will cut the county costs down to \$36,682.00. The funding predictions were as follows:

|                     |          |
|---------------------|----------|
| General Fund Budget | \$10,000 |
| SPLOST Budget       | \$18,500 |
| Other Budgets       | \$ 1,500 |
| Grants              | \$ 3,500 |
| Donations           | \$ 3,182 |

Commissioner Clay Reid made a motion to approve the grant. Commissioner Mel Powell seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

There were no items of old business.

Commissioner Jowan Johnson made a motion to come out of the meeting and enter into executive session. Commissioner Clay Reid seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

Commissioner Mel Powell made a motion to enter into executive session. Commissioner Jowan Johnson seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

Commissioner Jowan Johnson made a motion to come out of executive session. Commissioner Clay Reid seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

There being no decision made Commissioner Clay Reid made a motion to reconvene. Commissioner Jowan Johnson seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

There were no commissioner comments.

The County Manager's report was as follows:

1. Wilcox County has received \$8,840 from the ACCG Subsequent Injury Trust Fund.
2. The State of Georgia is closing their equine rescue center in Mansfield, Georgia. They are turning over equine neglect and abuse claims to local governments and local law enforcement.
3. The four USDA grants for a truck and trailer, a rescue truck chassis, 4 chest compression devices and a tractor are moving along. USDA is preparing the underwriting of the grants at the present time.
4. Work began on the Courthouse security key fob system this morning.
5. They began work on the FSA heating and air repairs on Monday morning.
6. COVID updates were presented from Department of Revenue, the Judicial Court system and District Health Director Thomas Craft.

There being no further business, Commissioner Clay Reid made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Mel Powell seconded the motion that carried unanimously.



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Lanier Keene, Chairman



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Paula J. Ball, County Manager/Clerk