

**JEFF DAVIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**AUGUST 13, 2019**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Chairman Ricky Crosby, Commissioners James Benjamin, Brad Crews and Vann Wooten, Attorney Carla Powell, Administrator Keith Carter and Clerk Sherri Lytle. Commissioner Hank Hobbs was not present.

Chairman Ricky Crosby called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and Commissioner James Benjamin gave the invocation. Chairman Crosby led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Karen Edge was present to discuss the Jeff Davis Service Center. She said "they use to deliver commodities to our community and ask which commissioner was over it. The Jeff Davis Senior Center was built to house victims in a disaster and to my knowledge it has never been used for that purpose. Also, the \$200,000 that was put in the budget was it to pay for the land? The chairman reminded her that this is a comment section."

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JULY 9<sup>TH</sup>**

**Motion:** To approve the minutes for July 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Brad Crews

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried**

**APPROVAL TO PAY MONTHLY BILLS**

**Motion:** To approve to pay monthly bills.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Second:** Commissioner James Benjamin

**Motion Carried**

**TIMERIE PODELL – DISCUSS INSURANCE**

Timerie Podell with LaRocca & Associates was present to give the board an update on the new health insurance plan. She discussed the enrollment participation the county has with the health and supplemental policies. She explained that she met with the office staff to show them how to manage the account.

**BILL TWOMEY, ACCG – DISCUSS POSSIBLE TRAINING**

ACCG Representative Bill Twomey was present to discuss possible training/retreat with other county officials. The board needs to provide a short list of topics to be covered along with a time period. He ask who they in vision participating and when they would like to schedule it. Commissioner Vann Wooten stated that he and J.D.A. Director Andrea Taylor had discussed holding a retreat with our local officials before the retreat in October to put together some ideas that we need to focus on. Mr. Twomey suggested the board come up with some preliminary dates. Tommy Purser spoke up and said

that his opinion this should be coordinated through Andrea. After much discussion, Mr. Twomey said his next step would be to speak with Andrea.

**J.D.A. DIRECTOR ANDREA TAYLOR – DISCUSS CENSUS**

Administrator Keith Carter explained that Andrea couldn't be here but what she wanted to discuss with the Board was forming a 2020 Census Committee. She's requested the Board to pass a Resolution.

**Motion:** To adopt a Resolution to create a 2020 Census Committee.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Brad Crews

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried**

**A RESOLUTION CREATING A CENSUS 2020 COMPLETE COUNTY COMMITTEE TO PLAN AND CONDUCT LOCAL EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES, PUBLICITY AND PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES TO INCREASE COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND PARTICIPATION IN THE 2020 CENSUS**

**WHEREAS,** THE United States of America has performed a nationwide census every ten years since 1790, with the last census being in 2010; and

**WHEREAS,** an accurate census is essential for the allocation of representatives to serve in the legislative bodies of the U.S House of Representatives, the Georgia State Legislature, and within the City of Hazlehurst and Jeff Davis County voting districts; and

**WHEREAS,** accurate census information is critical to planning for future growth, development, and the social needs of Hazlehurst and Jeff Davis County; and

**WHEREAS,** the more informed that residents become about the 2020 census operations, the better their understanding of the census process becomes, thus increasing their willingness to the 2020 Census; and

**WHEREAS,** the Census Bureau is not permitted to publicly release responses furnished by any individual, or on behalf of an individual, or release information to other governmental agencies, including the Internal Revenue Service, the Immigration and Naturalization Service, law enforcement agencies or welfare agencies. In addition, per the Federal Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015, census data is protected from cybersecurity risks through screening of the systems that transmit this data; and

**WHEREAS,** THE PURPOSE OF THE Complete Count Committee will be to advise and assist Hazlehurst and Jeff Davis County in obtaining the most accurate and complete population count for Census 2020 by increasing the number of County responses through a focused, structured neighbor-to-neighbor program. The committee will also utilize the local knowledge, expertise and influence of each committee member to design and implement a census awareness campaign targeted to the Hazlehurst and Jeff Davis County Community.

**THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of Jeff Davis County, Georgia that;

1. A Census 2020 Complete Count Committee is hereby established to advise and assist Hazlehurst and Jeff Davis County in obtaining the most accurate and complete population count for Census 2020.

2. The Committee shall discuss and formulate strategies and techniques, working with City and County staff and census bureau officials, to enhance and increase the response rate to Census 2020. The Committee shall be responsible for planning and conducting local educational initiatives, and for preparing of obtaining posters, flyers and handouts for use by the media and others. The Committee will also prepare materials for public service announcements on radio and social media.
3. The Committee shall consist of representatives from the City of Hazlehurst, Jeff Davis County, Jeff Davis County Schools, Hazlehurst-Jeff Davis County Chamber of Commerce, Joint Development Authority of Jeff Davis County, Coastal Pines Technical College, and any other community organizations. Jeff Davis County and the City of Hazlehurst shall each appoint a staff member to serve on said Committee.
4. The Committee members shall serve from August 2019 and including June 2020 at which time the Committee, having completed its work, shall dissolve, unless extended by the Board of County Commission. No resolution dissolving or rescinding the committee is necessary.
5. Meetings. The Committee shall meet at least every three months (quarterly) but may meet more often as needed.



---

County Commissioner Chairman

08/13/2019

Date

#### **JIM SEWELL – DISCUSS FENCING**

Board of Tourism Director Jim Sewell stated there was no curbing or anything to stop traffic where the Big House joins Hardee's. There's big trucks that park in our driveway to go to Hardee's and keeps the area beat down. There's areas where the concrete is getting broken real bad. Approximately a year ago we looked at possibly putting a fence along the county's property line next to Hardee's parking lot. The previous quotes ranged from approximately \$4600 to \$5700 to put fence in. Prior to the fencing the county will need to do some work such as putting in a layer of top soil and also to clean up the old concrete from the old service station that was torn down.

Commissioner James Benjamin suggested having our attorney to check the deed to see if there's any easements on the property.

**Motion:** If everything is legal and upright we give them the authority to take bids and put up a fence and the county will grade the property and get it ready for fencing.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Brad Crews

**Oppose:** Commissioner James Benjamin

Commissioner Vann Wooten stated we wanted more discussion. He's not for putting up a new fence if we're not going to do some work on the building. He wanted to know how the money from the 2012 SPLOST was spent on the Big House. If there's any money available he wants to do improvements to the Big House and then he'll be for putting up a fence. Mr. Sewell explained some of the 2012 SPLOST was spent on repainting the inside and put a new roof over the kitchen area where it was leaking. Two past hurricanes that came through took a lot of shingles off.

**Motion failed.**

**APPROVAL TO PURCHASE A 2012 FORD F150 TRUCK FOR RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

**Motion:** To approve purchasing a 2012 Ford F150 truck for Recreation Department.

**Proposed:** Commissioner James Benjamin

**Second:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Motion Carried**

**APPROVAL TO REQUEST BIDS FOR A MINI EXCAVATOR**

**Motion:** Approve to request bids for a mini excavator.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Second:** Commissioner James Benjamin

**Motion Carried**

**APPROVAL TO ACCEPT EAST COAST ASPHALT BID FOR PAVING THE ALTAMAHA ROAD**

**Motion:** To approve East Coast Asphalt bid for paving the Altamaha Road.

**Proposed:** Commissioner Vann Wooten

**Second:** Commissioner James Benjamin

**Motion Carried**

**DISCUSS NEW/OLD BUSINESS**

No discussion.

**ADJOURN – 7:02 P.M.**



\_\_\_\_\_  
Sherri Lytle, Clerk



\_\_\_\_\_  
Ricky Crosby, Chairman