Miller County Government
111 North 1st Street
Colquitt, Georgia 39837
Phone: 29-758-4104 Fax: 229-758-2229
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Present: Chairman Ladon Calhoun, Vice Chairman Jeff Cox, Commissioner Nixon, Commissioner Bush, Commissioner Bowen Others Present: Faye Whittaker, Douglas Cofty, Sheriff Clenney, Mitch Boley, Jason Cox, Courtney Alday.

6:00 P.M. – Welcome & Call to Order. Prayer and pledge of allegiance

Housekeeping

Approval of Agenda

Chairman Calhoun stated we need to approve the agenda. Vice Chairman Cox made motion, Commissioner Bush seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Calhoun stated everybody look over the minutes. I need a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Vice Chairman Cox made motion, Commissioner Bowen seconded. All in favor. Motion carried

Approval of Financial Reports

Chairman Calhoun stated Financial reports. Everything looks to be in order. I need a motion to approve. Commissioner Bowen made motion, Commissioner Bush seconded. Need a second. I second. All in favor. Motion carried.

Appearances

NONE

Old Business

Mayhaw Shooting Range Update

Chairman Calhoun stated Mayhaw shooting range. Mr. Cofty stated we have met with DNR and they have stated the rifle and pistol range will be included. I have sent them the requested invoice for the $40,000.00 pass through. We have to come up with a conceptual drawing and then submit it.

Creation of County Road Names

Chairman Calhoun stated moving on to the county road names. Mr. Cofty stated we discussed this last month, Mitch gave us the list of names that was suggested. Ms. Cristene ran a poll on her social media and I do not know the results but we need to decide a name so we can submit it to GOT for addition. By naming the road we will be able to pave the road at the park but not the parking lot or parking spots. So if you all want we can vote on a name at next months meeting. Chairman Calhoun stated any questions?

New Business

County Business License

Chairman Calhoun stated county business license. Mr. Cofty stated that I have been working with the County Attorney to update and come up with things we need in place. I presented the County Business license to you a few months back and now have completed it with the fee schedule. This is a combination of the City's and the surrounding counties. Take it and review it, let me know any questions and then we can approve it at next month's meeting. Chairman Calhoun stated any questions?

Miller County Charter Update

Chairman Calhoun stated Miller County Charter update. Mr. Cofty stated yes sir, so this was one of the task that the county attorney had me do, Our charter is so old it is piece milled together. It is like when they got something they just stapled it to the back, its really out dated. So what I did was go in and modernized it, it is still the same thing but it is in ordinance form, so when we start getting more ordinances in place we will move to codify it with Municode, this will help that. So it's the same thing with go just put in ordinance form, you don't have to approve that tonight, just look at it and we can approve the charter next month. Chairman Calhoun stated everyone look over that, and if you have any questions we will discuss it at the next meeting.

Beer and Wine License

Chairman Calhoun stated beer and wine license. Mr. Cofty stated that we have 2 beer and wine renewals, SOWEGA Meats and Kwiks Place. We just need approval for the Chairman to sign as well as the Sheriff. I also have been working with the Department of Revenue, they asked why we had license renew in the middle of the year when theirs renewal is December 31. So I got the fees and we will be moving everyone to the end of the year, theses will be December 2027. This will put them back on track, we only have 3 total. One is already on December 31 then these 2 will be. Chairman Calhoun stated so you need a motion to approve. Mr. Cofty stated for you to sign yes sir. Chairman Calhoun stated need a motion to be able to sign. Commissioner Nixon made motion, Commissioner Bush seconded. Not opposition, Commissioner Bowen abstained. Motion carried.

Spending Resolution

Chairman Calhoun stated Spending Resolution, Mr. Cofty stated yes sir so notices have not gone out correct, Mr. Hamilton stated no. Mr. Cofty stated so we are not going to meet our July deadline for the budget so if we don't, we just have to do a spending resolution. This resolution states we are going to continue to spend on last years budget. Chairman Calhoun read the entire spending resolution. After reading, Chairman Calhoun stated so we need a motion to approve that. Mr. Cofty stated yes sir. Vice Chairman Cox made motion, Commissioner Bowen seconded, All in favor. Motion carried.

Road Resurfacing RFP

Chairman Calhoun stated road resurfacing, Mr. Cofty stated I put out the RFP for 2026 resurfacing project, we only had one bidder and that was Oxford for $1,311,400.00 so I need you all to approve that and you sign the contract. Chairman Calhoun stated ok I need a motion to approve the bid from Oxford for the road resurfacing. Commissioner Bowen made motion, Vice Chairman Cox seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Parks and Recreation Board appointment

Chairman Calhoun stated Parks and Recreation Board appointment. Mr. Cofty stated we had one member that stepped away from the position and we ran an ad on social media and had 2 names. Dontavious Grier and Joy Haymon. I spoke with Mitch and the Rec board has recommended Joy Haymon. Mr. Bolley stated yes the Rec board did because she is currently doing our concessions, she runs the boosters for the parks and rec. There used to be 4 to 5 people and now its just Joy. We have been talking about taking back over that bank account to our parent board account now it kind of makes more sense. But on the other hand Dontavious Grier is a good individual as well, he coached for us this year. He is very passionate about what he does and his heart is in the right place. So the board did discuss and the board recommended Joy to take over and possibly be treasurer to take over the 1 or 2 accounts. Both individuals are good, but it is up to you all. Chairman Calhoun stated any discussion.

I would say if the board wants Joy and she is already involved. We need a motion appoint Joy to the recreation board. Mr. Cofty stated that will finish out the remaining term, which is a 3 year term. Commissioner Nixon made motion, Vice Chairman Cox second, all in favor, motion carried.

Survival Flight Lease Amendment

Chairman Calhoun stated Survival Flight Lease Amendment, Mr. Cofty stated so yes sir, the helicopter lease is coming up and its am autorenewal, we kind of was seating down and they have agreed to increase their lease. We started out at 18,000.00 annually and now they have agreed to $25,000.00 and also have agreed to a 3% increase every year. They are wanting to go ahead and do it for another 5 year auto renewal. Chairman Calhoun stated so we need a motion to approve that contract, Mr. Cofty stated yes sir. Chairman Calhoun stated all right, need a motion to renew this contract with Survival Flight. Vice Chairman Cox made motion. Commissioner Bush seconded, All in favor. Motion carried.

Miller County Transit Plan

Chairman Calhoun stated Miller County Transit Plan, Mr. Cofty stated we have been working on the 2027 Comprehensive plan, I have turned in all the names that were at the meeting. We do have the steering committee but this transit plan is a part of the comprehensive plan. This is a version for you all to look over. She emailed me today and said this may be the final version of it. So that is just for you all to look at, we do not have to have any action. Chairman Calhoun stated that is the little buses that go around taking people to the doctor and stuff. Mr. Cofty stated that's correct.

Department Reports

Chairman Calhoun stated do you want to talk about the John Deere tractor and lawn mower quote. Mr. Cofty stated yes I will let Mitch go. Mr. Bolley stated I got 2 quotes on a zero turn and the other was a tractor. The zero turn, we have 2 zero turns now, the newest one now is from 2016 and its pretty rough. So right now if we want to do something nice or the freedom fest, I bring my zero turn up just to make the grass look good. The other one, I got to rebuild 90% of the lawn mower just to make it cut nice. It cuts fine, its good around the play ground and by the woods and stuff like that. But actual presentable try to make something look nice its very hard to, so we need another one, what was that quote like $14,000. Mr. Cofty stated $15,600. Mr. Bolley stated ok, then the tractor we got now, we are getting by, I dump and 3 to 4 gallons of hydraulic fluid in it every week. I intended to tear it down and see what the problem was and fix it but we will have to split the tractor in half, its not just a seal on the exterior, we got to break it down and break it in half, so who knows what we will open it up to. In all reality when that tractor was purchased it's not, it doesn't do, its more for like residential home. Chairman Calhoun stated what size is that tractor. Mr. Bolley stated it's like a 3000. Chairman Calhoun stated like a 30 horsepower. Mr. Bolley stated yea, so just for example we buy field caulk from Moore's Hardware, right now we are paying 17.99 a bag, I go through about 10 bags a weeks

during the duration of the season. If we buy it in bulk, I can get it for 10.00 a bag, that's just one example. But our tractor will not pick it up in bulk, that's about 2800 lbs. This tractor is rated for 3400. That's just one example that can save us money in the long run but there is much more to it. The tractor they quoted us is not a brand new, a new one is about 77,000, this one is a used one with very little hours that was just traded in so 2016-17 model but it looks brand new. Chairman Calhoun stated what about the old little tractor, are you going to try to sell it. Mr. Bolley stated we cut do government surplus, I mean it is still functional for certain things but it is not really necessary. Chairman Calhoun stated what do you think the value is on it. Mr. Bolley stated he told me we would be lucky to get 1500 on trade. Chairman Calhoun stated really. Mr. Bolley state yes, that was actually Scotty that told me. Chairman Calhoun stated I guess there isn't that much of a market for that little tractor. Mr. Bolley stated its pretty beat, its been used to its full potential then some. We have been doing a lot of work with it lately and been moving some trees and stuff, coming up with some kind of trail, you know walking trail or something for the community, we would be borrowing equipment left and right with the tractor we got now. You know with the mower and tractor the more we use them. Chairman Calhoun stated what kind of mower you got now. Mr. Bolley stated we have an Exmark 60" cut, and we have a Spartan that's our newest one. It was bought in 2016. It's a 61" deck, the Spartan is worse than the Exmark. We use the Exmark all day long, the Spartan is just beat down, it doesn't cut nice, its been abused. Chairman Calhoun stated are you going to get rid of one of them. Mr. Bolley stated we will keep the Spartan to move around the woods. We will probably keep those 2 until they die and then the other would be for nice cutting, the baseball fields, the football fields, around the play grounds, by the basketball courts stuff like that. Not to run it through the swamp or through the woods or drive it like you stole it. Ms. Whittaker stated it would have to be monthly payments out of SPLOST. Mr. Bolley stated for both or just the one. Ms. Whittaker stated how much is the mower. Mr. Bolley stated if we buy the mower out right we got a 2000.00 government thing but you have to buy the mower out right. We got that discount at the John Deere place. The tractor. Mr. Cofty stated I got them down from 32,000 to 30,000, I will see if I can get them down a little be more but we are at 30,000. Chairman Calhoun stated and then we are going to sell the little tractor and see what we can get for it. Does it come with forks. Mr. Cofty stated it does come with forks. Commissioner Bowen stated so the tractor does have a front end loader on it, the one you are getting the quote for. Mr. Bolley stated yes. Chairman Calhoun state what is you all's pleasure. Vice Chairman Cox stated I think it would be very beneficial to them. I have looked at the other and its very wore out. It isn't because they want it, its because its very wore out. Commissioner Nixon asked what about the payment. Chairman Calhoun stated so we have to buy the lawn mower out right, and we can make payments on the other. Ms. Whittaker stated yes we can make payments on the other. Chairman Calhoun stated or what about paying the other one outright. Ms. Whittaker stated there is money in there, we share it with the Golf course. Commissioner Bush stated what do you think is best in the long run. Chairman Calhoun stated she said there is enough money in there to get both. Ms. Whittaker state but not to buy both straight out, we would need to finance. Vice Chairman Cox stated what about a warranty on the tractor. Mr. Bolley stated I can ask about it. Chairman Calhoun stated its probably got a 90 day. Chairman Calhoun stated you said we are good. Ms. Whittaker stated we can do the mower out right and then finance the tractor. Chairman Calhoun stated I need a motion to buy the mower out right and finance the tractor. Vice Chairman Cox made motion, Commissioner Nixon seconded. All in favor.

Motion Carried. Mr. Bolley stated he wanted to give an update on the SPLOST money that was approved, the 13,000.00. Faye and I went over it earlier this week and there is roughly about 3,100.00 left from that 13,000 total approved. Its paid for a little bit of dirt, a little bit of equipment and a lot of pipe. So now all the facilities, Merrit Park and the 2 at the top of Sprin Creek and the one down at the bottom where the board walk used to be, everything is functionable. Chairman Calhoun stated all the bathrooms and all the electricity is working. Mr. Bolley stated yes but there's more cosmetic stuff to do to them but when it comes to the infrastructure. Chairman Calhoun stated what about the lights at Merritt park, have you got around to doing that yet. Mr. Bolley stated yes, I got a phone call asking if we had to have that on all night because it is too bright. Chairman Calhoun stated yes. Mr. Bolley stated I have 2 more to put up. But right now, all ballasts are on, there is no leaks and the bathrooms are full operational. We have had to rebuild some toilets, replace faucets and things like that. We have repainted all of Merrit park but we still have more painting to do. But we still have $3,100.00 left. I just wanted to give you all an update. Chairman Calhoun stated all right, thank you sir. Sheriff you got anything. Sheriff Clenney stated no sir. Chairman Calhoun stated we need to go into executive session for a personnel matter.

Executive Session
Personnel

Chairman Calhoun stated no action taken from executive session. any other discussion? If not, I need a motion to adjourn. Vice Chairman Cox made motion to adjourn. Commissioner Bush seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Meeting is adjourned.

SIGNATURES

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Cristene Bush, Commissioner – District 1

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Jeff Cox, Vice Chairman – District 2

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Keith Bowen, Commissioner – District 3

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Niki Nixon, Commissioner – District 4

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Ladon Calhoun, Chairman – District 5

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Douglas Cofty, County Manager