

Baldwin County Commissioners
Public Hearing and Regular Meeting
July 21, 2020
6:00 p.m.

A Public Hearing and the Regular Meeting of the Baldwin County Commissioners was held Tuesday, July 21, 2020, at 6:00 p.m., Suite 319, Baldwin County Courthouse, Milledgeville, Georgia with Chair Henry Craig presiding.

Members Present: Henry Craig
Emily C. Davis
Sammy Hall
John Westmoreland

Members Absent: Tommy French

Also Present: David McRee
Dawn Hudson
Jill Adams
Cindy Cunningham

Call to Order

Chair Henry Craig called the July 21, 2020 Public Hearing and Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Public Hearing on Code of Ordinances, Chapter 2, Administration

Chair Henry Craig opened the Public Hearing by stating this hearing is being held to consider an amendment to the Baldwin County Code of Ordinance, Chapter 2, Administration. Currently, the ordinance states passage of a motion shall require an affirmative vote of a majority of Commissioners. If there is a tie vote, the Chairman shall vote to break the tie. The Chairman may vote in circumstances where his vote will create or cause a tie vote. The proposed amendment specifies the voting rights of the Chairman at meetings of the Board of Commissioners. The amendment states the Chairman shall vote on all matters requiring a vote, brought before the Board.

Chair Craig opened the floor for comments from the public. There were no public comments. There were no comments from Commissioners.

Commissioner Emily C. Davis made a motion to close the Public Hearing at 6:05 p.m. Commissioner Sammy Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Regular Meeting

Chair Craig opened the Regular Meeting at 6:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Craig called for a motion to approve minutes of the July 7, 2020 Regular Meeting. Commissioner Sammy Hall made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 7, 2020 Regular Meeting as submitted. Commissioner John Westmoreland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Chapter 2, Administration, Code of Ordinances

Chair Craig stated a Public Hearing was held at the beginning of the meeting on Ordinance 2-53; he presented the Ordinance for the Board's consideration. Commissioner Emily C. Davis made a motion to approve the amendment to Chapter 2-53 of the Baldwin County Code of Ordinances. Commissioner John Westmoreland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A copy of the Ordinance is herewith attached and made an official part of the minutes at pages _____ and _____.

CJCC Accountability Courts Grant Awards

Finance Director Jill Adams presented three (3) CJCC grant awards as follows:

- Adult Felony Drug Court - \$295,049 federal; \$32,783 match; \$327,832 total
- Family Drug Court - \$182,224 federal; \$20,247 match; \$202,471 total
- Mental Health Court - \$251,684 federal; \$27,965 match; \$279,649 total

Ms. Adams stated the required match is paid from the circuit and court fines; there is no obligation for County funds.

Commissioner Emily C. Davis made a motion to approve the CJCC grant awards for Adult Felony Drug Court; Family Drug Court and Mental Health Court as presented. Commissioner John Westmoreland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Schedule for Setting Millage Rate and Budget Calendar

Assistant County Manager Dawn Hudson stated the final digest numbers should be complete by Friday, July 31st, and Tax Commissioner Settle has requested the Board have a Called Meeting on August 12th to set the millage rate and accept the resolution to be adopted by the Board of Education on August 11th. Ms. Hudson presented the 2020 Millage Rate Calendar. She reported the millage rate and five (5) year history must be published seven (7) days prior to setting the rate on August 12th. The digest will be submitted to the State Revenue Commissioner by the Tax Commissioner on August 13th. Upon approval of the County Tax Digest, tax bills will be mailed August 20th with taxes being due sixty (60) days later on November 15th.

Commissioner Emily C. Davis asked if any consideration had been given regarding the tax due date for people affected by the virus. Ms. Hudson responded the Tax Commissioner sets the schedule for collection of taxes. Commissioner Hall commented the rate that is set on August 12th will be for the previous year, i.e. the 2020 Budget year. He further stated that by mailing tax bills in August rather than September there will be approximately three (3) weeks earlier notice and time to pay taxes that are due by November 15th.

Commissioner John Westmoreland made a motion to approve the 2020 Millage Rate Calendar as presented. Commissioner Sammy Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

County Covid-19 Procedures

Assistant County Manager Dawn Hudson discussed County Employee Policies for COVID regarding masks, exposure and testing. She stated that currently the County is following the Department of Public Health (DPH) and Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines. Basically, employees are being asked: to monitor their own health—do not come to work if they are experiencing any of the symptoms associated with the virus; to wear masks in public areas of County facilities and anytime they are in contact with the public; to practice good

personal hygiene to wash their hands and use sanitizer; to practice social distancing. Ms. Hudson reported county employees are considered critical infrastructure employees. Employees who test positive are to quarantine until they no longer experience symptoms and have a negative test result before returning to work. Employees who have been exposed but do not have symptoms may continue to work unless they exhibit symptoms associated with the virus. Chair Craig stressed these policies apply to all County employees, not just Courthouse employees.

Chair Craig discussed policies related to recreation activities. He stated a tournament was held the prior weekend, and it appeared that several hundred people attended and participated in the tournament. He observed no one following COVID protocol, i.e. masks were worn and social distancing was not being practiced. Mr. Craig stated his concern over such large gatherings at County facilities and recommended the Board revisit the policy on hosting tournaments for an indefinite period of time until the COVID situation improves.

Commissioner Sammy Hall made a motion that the County discontinue to host ball tournaments for an indefinite period of time. Commissioner Emily C. Davis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Chair Craig also recommended that rentals at all County facilities, including indoor facilities and pavilions, be prohibited for an indefinite period of time until further notice. Mr. Craig reported he had spoken to Recreation Director Traci Rollins, and she doesn't recommend changing the policy for gym activities such as basketball, badminton and pickle ball which is currently being held outside.

Commissioner Sammy Hall made a motion that the County discontinue facility rentals for an indefinite period of time. Commissioner Emily C. Davis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Employee events were also discussed. Chair Craig stated the Employee Appreciation Day had been postponed from April, and he felt that it be postponed indefinitely until further notice. Chair Craig stated he felt County controlled events or occasions that bring large groups of employees and citizens together should be prohibited.

Old Business

There was no old business to come before the Board.

New Business

There was no new business to come before the Board.

County Manager's Report

Assistant County Manager Dawn Hudson provided an update on the construction of the Administration Building. She stated she would be meeting with the Engineer and Contractor the next day to further develop a more definite schedule on the project. She reported the anticipated completion date is the end of August with a move in date in September.

Ms. Hudson reported the construction of the new Health Department facility is moving along well.

Public Comment Period

Ms. Cindy Humphrey addressed the Board regarding the Land Development Code's provision addressing the replacement of manufactured homes on property.

Ms. Pam Peacock reported on activities through Paws for Georgia. She reported vouchers are now being issued for low cost rabies vaccines and chipping of animals.

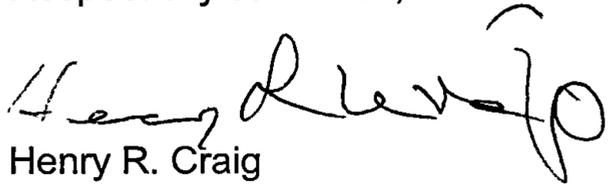
Ms. Judy Veal reported Paws for Georgia has been working in conjunction with Family Connection to provide a "food bank" for dogs and cats.

Mr. Hudman Evans addressed the Board to acknowledge and pay tribute to Congressman John Lewis for his lifetime of service as a Freedom Fighter, Civil Rights Icon, and Esteemed Georgian. He recognized C.T. Vivian who was a close friend of Dr. King and who established the Upward Bound organization. He invited everyone to attend a celebration for Congressman Lewis on Saturday at the Plaza near Allen's Market.

Adjournment

Commissioner John Westmoreland made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 6:50 p.m. Commissioner Sammy Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Henry R. Craig
Chair



Cynthia K. Cunningham
County Clerk

ORDINANCE 2-53

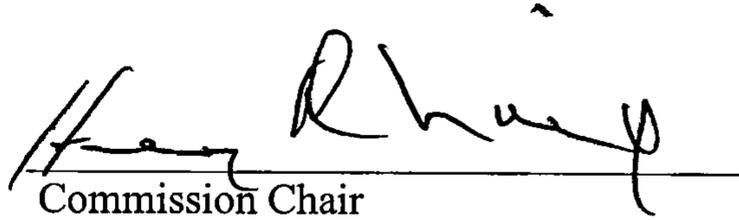
TO AMEND THE MAJORITY VOTE REQUIRED SECTION OF THE COUNTY OF BALDWIN CODE OF ORDINANCES TO SPECIFY THE VOTING RIGHTS OF THE CHAIRMAN AT MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS.

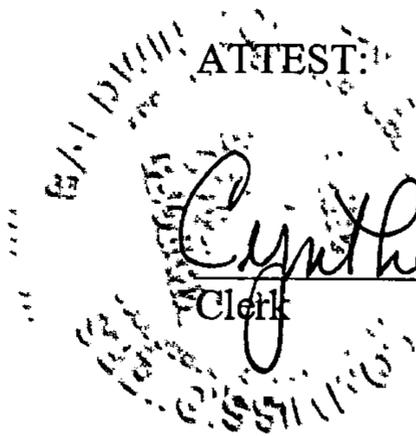
WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Baldwin County, Georgia is desirous of amending Chapter 2, "Administration," of the Baldwin County Code of Ordinances to amend a provision to specify the voting rights of the Chairman at meetings of the Board of Commissioners; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of Baldwin County, meeting in formal session, that the Majority Vote Required Section of the Baldwin County Code of Ordinances be amended so that Section 2-53 shall read as follows:

Passage of a motion shall require the affirmative vote of a majority of commissioners (Minimum of three affirmative votes required). The Chairman shall vote on all matters requiring a vote, brought before the Board of Commissioners.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 21 day of July, 2020.


Commission Chair

ATTEST:


Clerk