

Stewart County Board of Commissioners

Workshop Meeting Minutes

March 3, 2020

4:30PM

A county commissioner workshop meeting of the Stewart County Board was held on March 3, 2020. The meeting convened at 4:30PM at the Stewart County Courthouse with Chairman Joseph B. Williams presiding.

Roll Call - All commissioners were present (Chairman Joseph Williams, Vice-Chair Arcola Scott, Commissioner Joe Lee Williams, Commissioner Ernie Brown and Commissioner Tyrone Nelson)

Other Staff in Attendance: Jacqueline Sutton Ball (County Clerk) and Matthew "Mac" Moye (County Manager)

Commissioner Joe Lee Williams moved to amend the agenda by adding letter "B" to the "Public Appearance" section to include Reverend Willie Jordan and add letter "E" to "Items to be Discussed" for topic on "*Landfill Prohibition Zoning Ordinance*" seconded by Commissioner Tyrone Nelson. All were in favor and motion carried.

Public Appearance

- A. Attorney Bill Mills and Citizen Ken Penuel – Southwest Georgia Regional Development Authority
- B. Rev. Willie Jordan – Stewart County Recreational Department/Fundraisers/Volunteer, etc.

Reports

- A. Road Superintendent (Eugene Haynes) – Discussed and Reviewed
- B. EMS Director (Ed Lynch) – Discussed and Reviewed
- C. County Manager (Mac Moye) – Discussed and Reviewed

Items Discussed

- A. Omaha Voting Precinct
- B. SQHS
- C. Silicon Ranch
- D. Mooreland-Adams/Trotman
- E. Landfill Prohibition Zoning Ordinance
- F. Other Topics

Commissioner's Comments

- Commissioner Ernie Brown – Landfill Prohibition Zoning Ordinance – renewing/updating existing Ordinance, etc.
- Commissioner Joe Lee Williams – None
- Vice Chair Arcola Scott – None
- Commissioner Tyrone Nelson – None
- Chairman Joseph B. Williams – None

Commissioner Joe Lee Williams moved to adjourn and Commissioner Tyrone Nelson seconded. All were in favor and motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:29PM.


Jacqueline Sutton Ball, County Clerk


Joseph B. Williams, Chairman

Stewart County Board of Commissioners

Regular Meeting Minutes

March 10, 2020 – 4:30PM

The Stewart County Board of Commissioners held a Regular Meeting on March 10, 2020. The meeting convened at 4:30PM at the Stewart County Courthouse with Chairman Joseph B. Williams presiding.

Pledge of Allegiance—in unison

Roll Call

Commissioners in attendance: Chairman Joseph Williams, Commissioner Tyrone Nelson, Vice-Chair Arcola Scott and Commissioner Joe Lee Williams. Commissioner NOT in attendance: Commissioner Ernie Brown

Other Staff in Attendance: Mac Moye (County Manager), Jacqueline Sutton Ball (County Clerk) and Attorney Binford Minter

Reading and Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Joe Lee Williams moved to approve the minutes for February 2020 meetings and workshops seconded by Vice Chair Arcola Scott. All were in favor and motion carried.

Public Appearance:

- A. Dr. Shirley Perrymond (Fountain Wims Community Center Cafetorium) – When will the cafetorium be put back on the agenda for repairs and usage? Chairman suggested to give the county a little more time. We are trying to have it ready by May 16, 2020.

Reports:

- A. County Manager's Report (Mac Moye) – Reviewed and Discussed

Administrative Matters:

- A. Homeland Cybersecurity Offer – Commissioner Joe Lee Williams moved to approve free cyber-hygiene scanning (Vulnerability) from the Federal Government through Homeland Cybersecurity and seconded by Vice Chair Arcola Scott. All were in favor and motion carried.
- B. Reinstatement of Winston Morrison (Board of Assessors) – Commissioner Joe Lee Williams moved to reinstate Winston Morrison for a 6-year term on the Board of Assessors and seconded by Commissioner Tyrone Nelson. All were in favor and motion carried.
- C. Detach or Drop-deck Lowboy and Semi-Tractor – Commissioner Joe Lee Williams moved to approve the purchase of a Detach or Drop-deck Lowboy for the road department with a \$25,000 limit each and seconded by Commissioner Tyrone Nelson. All were in favor and motion carried.
- D. Landfill Resolution – The commissioners reviewed and discussed the resolution prohibiting un-approved landfills within Stewart County.

New Business:

- A. Southwest Georgia Regional Development Authority – County Manager gave an update on the process of MOU for Silicon Ranch.
- B. Emergency LMIG Funding – The Road Superintendent has been asked to submit a list of damage received in Stewart County from the recent storm to the DOT District Manager for possible Emergency LMIG Funding.

- C. Road Mowing (Craig Miller) – Craig Miller has offered to do road mowing. The commissioners has already voted and approved this event.
- D. Lifelink Resolution – Commissioner Joe Lee Williams moved to approve the Lifelink Resolution designating April as “Donate Life Month” and seconded by Commissioner Tyrone Nelson. All were in favor and motion carried.
- E. New Horizons Re-appointment of Edwina Turner – Chairman Joseph B. Williams moved to reappoint Edwina Turner to serve on the Board of Directors in representation of Stewart County and seconded by Commissioner Joe Lee Williams. All were in favor and motion carried.
- F. Purchase of Pick-up Truck for Road Department – Commissioner Joe Lee Williams moved to approve the purchase of a pick-up truck from Brannen Motor Company in Unadilla, Georgia for \$36,800 with T.I.A. funds and seconded by Commissioner Tyrone Nelson. All were in favor and motion carried.

Commissioners’ Comments:

- Commissioner Joe Lee Williams –None
- Vice Chair Arcola Scott - What was the complaint? Public appearance speakers are facing the commissioners and it is hard for the audience to hear. Stewart County Clerk of Court (Mona Dudley) is already discussing the matter with Judge Smith for approval to purchase a microphone system with codification funds.
- Commissioner Tyrone Nelson – None
- Chairman Joseph Williams - None

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Commissioner Joe Lee Williams and Seconded by Commissioner Tyrone Nelson. All were in favor and motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:08PM.



Jacqueline Sutton Ball, County Clerk



Joseph B. Williams, Chairman

Stewart County Board of Commissioners

Called Meeting Minutes
March 24, 2020 – 8:15AM

The Stewart County Commission held a called meeting on Tuesday, March 24, 2020. The meeting convened at 4:30PM at the Stewart County Courthouse with Chairman Joseph B. Williams presiding.

Roll Call – All Commissioners were present (Chairman Joseph B. Williams, Vice Chair Arcola Scott, Commissioner Joe Lee Williams and Commissioner Tyrone Nelson) except Commissioner Ernie Brown.

Other Staff in Attendance: Jacqueline Sutton Ball (County Clerk) and Mac Moye (County Manager)

Administrative Matters

- A. Resolution on Solar Farm Abatement – Vice Chair Arcola Scott moved to adopt a resolution which authorized Chairman Williams to sign a Memorandum of Understanding or MOU (attached to these minutes) and seconded by Commissioner Tyrone Nelson. This MOU provides for a tax abatement over twenty-five years on the personal property tax that will be owed on a solar energy production facility in Stewart County. The MOU was proposed by the company Silicon Ranch. All were in favor and motion carried.
- B. Resolution Declaring a Local Health State of Emergency – Commissioner Joe Lee Williams moved to adopt a resolution by the Board of Commissioners of Stewart County, Georgia declaring a local health state of emergency and seconded by Commissioner Tyrone Nelson. All were in favor and motion carried.
- C. Resolution to Waive Penalties and Interest – Commissioner Joe Lee Williams moved to adopt a resolution by the Board of Commissioners for Stewart County, Georgia approving the waiver of certain penalties and interest by the Stewart County Tax Commissioner and seconded by Commissioner Tyrone Nelson.

New Business


- A. COVID-19 – Out of consideration and concern for the staff in the Commissioners' office regarding the COVID-19 Pandemic, Commissioner Joe Lee Williams suggested that the staff in the Commissioners' Office rotate days off, so that they all wouldn't have to be in the office at the same time.

Commissioner's Comments - None

Commissioner Tyrone Nelson moved to adjourn the meeting and Vice Chair Arcola Scott seconded. All were in favor and motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:38PM


Jacqueline Sutton Ball, County Clerk


Joseph B. Williams, Chairman

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-0324A

**A RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF STEWART COUNTY, GEORGIA
DECLARING A LOCAL HEALTH STATE OF EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, the outbreak of the COVID-19 Corona Virus in the United States has placed the State of Georgia and the citizens of Stewart County, Georgia in ongoing and imminent danger; and

WHEREAS, there have been deaths from COVID-19 in counties in close proximity to Stewart County; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization (W.H.O.) has classified COVID-19 as a pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States, Donald J. Trump, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), have issued guidelines to slow the spread of COVID-19, warning that large gatherings of individuals in close proximity to one-another pose a risk of the the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Georgia, Brian P. Kemp issued Executive Order No. 03.14.20.01 declaring a Public Health State of Emergency in the State of Georgia on March 14, 2020, due to the impact of COVID-19, and

WHEREAS, the The Georgia General Assembly concurred with Executive Order 03.14.20.01 by joint resolution on March 16, 2020;

WHEREAS, O.C.G.A 38-3-28(a) provides the political subdivisions of the state with authority to make, amend and rescind orders, rules, and regulations as may be necessary for emergency management purposes to supplement rules and regulations promulgated by the Governor during a state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, in the judgment of the Chair of the Stewart County Board of Commissioners, with advice from the Stewart County Emergency Management Agency, there exist emergency circumstances located within the boundaries of Stewart County including the Cities of Lumpkin and Richland requiring extraordinary and immediate corrective actions for the protection of the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Stewart County, including individuals with household pets and service animals; and

WHEREAS, public health officials advise that large gatherings of individuals pose a risk of the spread of COVID-19 and the CDC recommends that persons maintain a distance of six feet from others when possible;

WHEREAS, the elected officials of Stewart County have determined that limiting large gatherings of people is necessary and critical to preventing and/or slowing the spread of COVID-19 throughout the community; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to take extraordinary and emergency actions to prevent the spread of this serious illness to people

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that a **Local Health State of Emergency** is declared in Stewart County, and in the City of Lumpkin and the City of Richland within the County; and accordingly the Board of Commissioners, acting through its Chairman, may exercise all powers contained in Section 14-35 of the Stewart County Code of Ordinances concerning Civil Emergencies; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED:

- (1) That public or private gatherings bringing or likely to bring together ten (10) or more persons at the same time in a single room or single confined indoor or outdoor space—including stadiums, auditoriums, tents, outdoor arenas, back yards, meeting halls, conference rooms, private homes, or other confined areas—are prohibited anywhere in Stewart County;
- (2) That all other gatherings, public or private, permitted under this declaration must nonetheless allow for a social distance of six (6) feet between attendees;
- (3) That a mandatory curfew shall be effective between the hours of 9:00 P.M. and 6:00 A.M., during which all persons within the county shall remain at home; but the curfew shall not apply to anyone performing emergency or first responder services, essential government services, law enforcement services, rescue services, safety services, health services, essential utility services, or military services; and the curfew shall not apply to anyone traveling to and from or engaging in lawful employment;
- (4) That restaurants may only provide take out, delivery, or drive through services;
- (5) That locations for consumption of alcoholic beverages on the premises, including bars, taverns, and private clubs, shall close and remain closed, except to the extent such locations are also restaurants (see above);
- (6) That Indoor recreation areas including gyms, health clubs, indoor amusement facilities, pool halls, theaters, or any similar facility must close and remain closed;
- (7) That grocery stores, shopping centers, and other retail establishments may remain open but must limit access to no more than thirty (30) customers at a time for grocery stores and twenty (20) customers at a time for other retail establishments;
- (8) That church services otherwise in compliance with the measures above shall be held in the discretion by the pastor, reverend, or leadership of each individual church (but, per the measures above, no such service may be held that is likely to bring together ten (10) or more persons at the same time in a single room or single confined indoor or outdoor space, nor may any such service, under any conditions, be held if it cannot provide a minimum of six (6) feet of distance between attendees);

- (9) That violation of this order shall constitute a misdemeanor and shall be punishable with a fine not exceeding \$1,000.00 and/or imprisonment not exceeding 180 days, or both;
- (10) That these provisions shall be enforced by the Stewart County Sheriff's Office, and, within their respective boundaries, the City of Lumpkin Police Department, and City of Richland Police Department;
- (11) That this declaration of a local health emergency allows the Board of Commissioners to dispense with compliance with Article I, Section 12 of the Stewart County Code of Ordinances, which required formal sealed bids for purchases in excess of \$7,500.00
- (12) That, as permitted under O.C.G.A. § 38-3-54, public meetings of the Board of Commissioners and other bodies of the local government of the County concerning regular County business may be held by telephone, internet, or other remote means, provided that such meetings are made available to the public by telephone or live video stream, and that the Board of Commissioners may hold emergency meetings in the light of the exigencies of the emergency situation without regard to or compliance with time-consuming procedures and formalities prescribed by law and pertaining thereto.
- (13) That if the provisions contained in this Resolution shall be held to be invalid, in violation of the Georgia Constitution, in violation of Georgia law, or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, violation, or unenforceability shall not affect any other provisions of this Resolution, but, in such case, this Resolution shall be construed as if such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision had never been contained within the Resolution; and
- (14) That all Resolutions or Ordinances in conflict with this Resolution are, to the extent and length of time of such conflict, hereby repealed or set aside.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall become effective following approval by the Stewart County Board of Commissioners on March 24, 2020 and shall continue to be in effect until **11:59 P.M. on April 13, 2020**, or until it is extended, rescinded, superseded, or amended in writing by the Board of Commissioners.

SO RESOLVED, this 24th day of March, 2020

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
STEWART COUNTY, GEORGIA

By: 
Joseph B. Williams, Chairman

Attest: 
Jacqueline Sutton-Ball, Clerk