

Board of Commissioners Wilkinson County

MEMBERS OF BOARD:
MICHAEL GOTELL, Chairman
GLENN KESTER
JAMES HAGINS
PETE WILLIAMS
JOHN WILLIAMS

PO BOX 161
IRWINTON GA 31042
(478) 946-2236
FAX 946-3767

DENNIS STROUD, County Manager
DUBOSE PORTER, County Attorney

E-mail:
bdofcomm@wilkinsoncounty.net
Website: www.wilkinsoncounty.net

COMMISSION MEETING
January 18, 2022
5:00 PM

The Wilkinson County Board of Commissioners met in a Regular Session at 5:00 PM on January 18, 2022 in Commission Chambers. The following Commissioners were present: Chairman Michael Gotell, Commissioner Glenn Kester, Commissioner James Hagins, Commissioner Pete Williams, Commissioner John Williams (not present).

The following staff was present: County Manager Dennis Stroud, Lindsey Benefield Senior Account Tech 1 and County Attorney DuBose Porter.

Broadcasted Live via Facebook. A call-in phone number had also been installed for public attendance. (978) 990-5000 code 180826,

Invocation

Chairman Gotell asked County Manager Dennis Stroud to lead the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Michael Gotell led the pledge.

Motion to amend the Agenda

Chairman Gotell entertained a motion to approve to amend the Agenda. Motion made by Commissioner James Hagins and seconded by Commissioner John Williams to approve to amend the Agenda. Commissioner Glenn Kester voted yes, Commissioner James Hagins voted yes, Commissioner Pete Williams voted yes, and Chairman Gotell voted yes. Motion carried there were none opposed

Chairman Michael Gotell made a motion to amend the Agenda

- a. Amend to discuss redistricting to be item letter D in unfinished business.

Agenda

Chairman Gotell entertained a motion to approve the agenda. Motion made by Commissioner James Hagins and seconded by Commissioner Glenn Kester to approve

the agenda. Commissioner Glenn Kester voted yes, Commissioner James Hagins voted yes, Commissioner Pete Williams voted yes, and Chairman Gotell voted yes. Motion carried there were none opposed.

Minutes

Chairman Gotell entertained a motion to approve the Regular Session Minutes and the Executive Session Minutes of the January 4, 2022, meeting. Motion made by Commissioner Pete Williams and seconded by Commissioner James Hagins to approve the minutes of the Regular Session and Executive Session minutes Commissioner Glenn Kester voted yes, Commissioner James Hagins voted yes, Commissioner Pete Williams voted yes, and Chairman Gotell voted yes. Motion carried there were none opposed.

Visitors' Present

Jennifer Lautzenheiser (MGR L), Beverly Clark, Donna Asbell, Betty Browher , Sharon Carr, Peter Anderson.

Recognition of Visitors / Presentations

Beverly Clark- Update on library repairs.

Beverly Clark discussed multiple items that she would like to be looked into being fixed for the library repairs. Beverly Clark also discussed the request for a pavilion and a walkway and provided a picture for reference to the commissioners.

Unfinished Business

- a. Request to purchase a new computer from ARP funds- Tax Commissioner. Chairman Michael Gotell discussed to table this decision until the Tax Commissioner is able to come in and discuss to postpone until next meeting.
- b. Discuss Article IV Sec 1 para 2 of the East Wilkinson County Library Constitution. County Attorney Dubose Porter along with Middle Georgia Regional Library head Jennifer Lautzenheiser discussed the details in regards to a active library board for the county.
- c. Commissioner Glenn Kester discussed the process for updating agendas for the Commissioner's Meetings. Commissioner Glenn Kester discussed how there should be a back up person who can approve to amend the agenda if one individual is not available.
- d. County Manager Dennis Stroud yielded time to County Attorney to discuss items for redistricting. The group discussed that they will need to meet as a group to make some finalized decisions.

Commissioner's District Report

1. No Report.
2. No Report.
3. No Report.
4. Commissioner John Williams stated to please be safe with the virus.

Chairman's Report:

- a. Chairman Michael Gotell stated that the State of The County address will be on February 7, 2022 @ 5:30 via Facebook live.
- b.

County Managers Report:

- a. January 4th, March 1st, June 7th Quarterly Financial Workshop. County Manager Dennis Stroud stated that the 1st Tuesday in February comprehensive plan rescheduling. Chairman Michael Gotell discussed scheduling that meeting in between and possibly making it a workshop.
- b. Waste Management 3% increase (From Dec 2021). Chairman Michael Gotell along with Commissioner John Williams and Commissioner Glenn Kester discussed options for waste management with the county, they discussed the possibility of finding a smaller company to work with instead of a larger one so we could be more of a priority.
- c. Ordinance Update Workshop Jan 26 9:00-11:00 EMA Building. County Manager Dennis Stroud reminded about the date and time for the electronic ordinance update.
- d. Animal control IGA. County Manager Dennis Stroud stated that he is still actively communicating with Paws and Claws
- e. Telework Policy. County Manager Dennis Stroud stated we will come back to this item.
- f. County Manager discussed how there was a request for a film studio out in the parking lot in regards to the media policy for the 24th of January. County Manager Dennis Stroud also discussed that two business owners requested the possibility of upgrading the Beer and Wine license to include liquor. County Attorney Dubose Porter discussed how that would have to be a matter that would be voted on in a public hearing and we would need to revisit that proposal. County Manager Dennis Stroud also discussed how they got the stamp machine contract even lower than he was expecting from \$450 dollars to \$270.00.

Comments from the Public:

Beverly Clark had a question asking if the fee for trash companies to use our land? Chairman Michael Gotell stated that we already pay for that.

Bette Brower asked for the name of the businesses . County Manager Dennis Stroud stated that it was the Stop and Shop in Gordon and there is one outside the city limits and

mentioned that the City of Gordon sent the business to the County with this question.

Executive Session

Motion made by Commissioner James Haginis to enter into executive session to discuss personnel matters and pending litigation. Motion seconded by Commissioner Glenn Kester. Commissioner Pete Williams voted yes, Commissioner James Hagins voted yes, Commissioner Pete Williams voted yes, Commissioner John Williams voted yes, Chairman Michael Gotell voted yes, Motion carries there were none opposed.

Chairman Michael Gotell entertained a Motion to approve the retiree's as essential employees for 2021. Motion made by Commissioner John Williams and seconded by Commissioner John Hagins. Commissioner Glenn Kester voted yes, Commissioner James Hagins voted yes, Commissioner Pete Williams voted yes, Commissioner John Williams voted yes, Chairman Michael Gotell voted yes, Motion carries there were none opposed

Motion to exit Executive Session made by Commissioner Glenn Kester. Seconded by Commissioner James Hagins, Commissioner Glenn Kester voted yes, Commissioner James Hagins voted yes, Commissioner Pete Williams voted yes, Chairman Michael Gotell voted yes. Motion carries there were none opposed.

Adjournment

Moved by Commissioner James Hagins and seconded by Commissioner Glenn Kester to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Glenn Kester voted yes, Commissioner James Hagins voted yes, Commissioner Pete Williams voted yes, Chairman Michael Gotell voted yes. Motion carried there were none opposed.

Notice to Visitors

The Board of Commissioners welcomes you to our meeting. We ask that you do not talk during the meeting to allow us to hear all discussion between Commissioners. If you would like to be placed on the agenda, please contact the Board of Commissioners Office at 946-2236 no later than the Thursday prior to meeting.