

# Board of Commissioners Wilkinson County

MEMBERS OF BOARD:  
MICHAEL GOTELL, Chairman  
GLENN KESTER  
JAMES HAGINS  
PETE WILLIAMS  
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COMMISSION MEETING  
March 1, 2022  
9:00 AM

The Wilkinson County Board of Commissioners met in a Regular Session at 9:00 AM on March 1, 2022 in Commission Chambers. (moved to courtroom A due to large crowd). The following Commissioners were present: Chairman Michael Gotell, Commissioner Glenn Kester, Commissioner James Hagins, Commissioner John Williams, Commissioner Pete Williams,

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

Broadcasted Live via Facebook.

## Invocation

Chairman Gotell asked County Manager to lead the invocation.

## Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Glenn Kester 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

- I. Motion to discuss and approve the 5 Year Quote from Axon Enterprise – Chief Deputy Bache.

- II. Motion to discuss and approve modifying the Mask Mandate - The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention announced Friday it is relaxing its mask guidance for communities where hospitals aren't under high strain. Under the new guidance, nearly 70% of the U.S. population lives in an area considered to be low or medium risk, and residents there are advised they can go indoors without masks.

### 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 February 15, 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

Charles Dear, Donna Asbell, Doug Selby, Pat Topping, William Sheppard, Danny Tanner Clark Tanner,

### Recognition of Visitors / Presentations

Ulysses B. Wilson, Richard Brantley, Billy Pitts, Chief Deputy Heath Bache

1. Billy Pitts – Discussed a proposal for becoming the broker of record for medical and supplemental benefits. Chairman Gotell requested that he coordinate with the County Manager to set up a workshop to discuss.
2. Richard Brantley – Discussed a \$3,000.00 payment for Surveyor Donnie Brooks and 50,000.00 allocated for the Ivey area.
3. Ulysses B. Brown – Discussed big trucks continues to use the road near his home and the red clay keeps the asphalt dirty.
4. Chief Bache – Discussed the need for active body worn cameras. He stated the

Axon proposal had 24 cameras, upgrade after 2.5 years. Total cost 98,000 or roughly 20,000 per year for five years.

5. CDC has published new guidelines stating that number of COVID cases are down and mask mandates modification are open for discussion.
6. EMA Director Emma Bacon clarified that Wilkinson County is in a medium range.

### Unfinished Business

- a.

### District Report

1. Commissioner Kester announced that he will be qualifying for Chairman and not District 1
2. Verified that last year's LMIG contract was cancelled.
3. No report
4. Asked County Manager about District maps.

### Chairman's Report:

- a. Utilizing funds to support Overview was a good project.
- b. Director Carswell reported that:
  1. Recreation Department participants numbers were down, however stated he did not want to turn kids away, referencing the lack of coaches.
  2. Fund raiser to offset cost of registration
  3. At last game he did not have anyone to coach two teams
  4. Emphasized that the 5-year plan was a good one

### County Managers Report:

- a. May 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarterly Financial Update
- b. Check Registry
- c. Bridge on Wriley and Cross Justice Road Pre-Bid 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of March
- d. RFP for demolition of old senior center is being advertised
- e. Courthouse entrance renovation and Waste Management 3:30 Workshop 3-15-22
- f. Chairman asked the CM to follow up on the cooler for the Coroner, Cooler cost is \$18,000.

### Comments from the Public:

None

Motion made by Commissioner P. Williams to enter into Executive Session, Seconded by Commissioner James Hagins, no opposes

Motion made to exit Executive Session, Commissioner J. Williams seconded by Commissioner P. Williams

Action None

### 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.