

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
April 5, 2022
9:00 AM

The Wilkinson County Board of Commissioners met in a Regular Session at 9:00 AM on April 5, 2022 in Commission Chambers. 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 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 Commissioner Pete Williams to lead the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Glenn Kester led the pledge.

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 March 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.

Commissioner John Willimas who arrived after said vote made a motion that his motion at the previous meeting be corrected to reflect Resend and not Amend, Commissioner Pete Willimas seconded and seconded by all. County Attorney advised that the motion had to be readopted and printed with the edited correction. Readoption approved in the minutes. Commissioner Williams John, made the motion, Commissioner Kester seconded none oppose.

Visitors' Present

Charles Trumbo, Robert Davidson, Royce Brewer, TeCe Bloodworth, Flint Shepherd, Ulyses B. Wilson, Odesia Rouse, Karen Kester, Felicia Burney, Lisa Dykes, Donna Asbell and Beverly Clark

Recognition of Visitors / Presentations

Charles Trumbo presented his concerns over a post on social media that it appeared to him that arresting officers was posed in a picture with a suspect as if they had a hog.

Commissioner Williams John, stated the need to follow the posted social media policy.

Unfinished Business

- a. Commissioner Hagins made a motion to approve the Wriley Road bridge contract, Commissioner Pete Williams seconded. None oppose
- b. Commissioner Kester made a motion to approve the Cross-Justice Road bridge contract, Commissioner Haginis seconded. None opposed
- c. Commissioner Kester made a motion to approve the old senior center contract, Commissioner James Hagins seconded. None opposed

District Report

1. The City of Ivey has received a grant for the damn repair, the lake could be open again in 6-8 months
2. The stripping project is going well, asked the CM to follow up with contractors.
3. Inquired about the GDOT changing out road signs
4. Apologized for tardiness and reiterated the need for the wording to be changed from "Amend" to "Rescend" Stressed as stated previously. Commissiner Williams also informed everyone that he had met with the Oconee EMC President and Exxon to discuss delivering broadband to this area. He mentioned Oconee EMC is willing to work with Exxon. He also requested a

letter of support for said project. Commissioner Williams also recommended that the Board of Commissioners consider adding June 19th to our current holiday schedule as it is already a state holiday and that 45 states other than Georgia recognized this date Juneteenth.

Chairman's Report:

- a. The Chairman recognized Commissioner Williams efforts on the broadband initiative and for serving on the Development Authority.

County Managers Report:

- a. May 3rd Quarterly Financial Update
- b. Check Registry
- c. Ordinance update

Comments from the Public:

Mayor Denson – commented about the lack of lighting at the unmanned trash collection points

County Manager will price permanent poles for the placement of the solar lights for better visibility.

Mayor Denson stated safety is more important than dollars

Beverly Clark stated nearly 4500 people from across several states attended the Banana Festival

Ulysess Clark stated trucks are still coming onto Balls Church Road and something needs to be done about it.

Felicia Burney stated that she cannot walk to her mailbox for the dust and dirt from the trucks.

Felton Swicord inquired to the Commissioners why was the BOC involved with assisting a contractor or resident on a state highway project. County Attorney DuBose Porter explained that this was a rare circumstance and that the County did not make a motion to cover the breach. The County Attorney also stated that he would attend the next Tax Assessors meeting to answer any further questions.

Mayor Roger Bacon stated his disagreement with the demolition of the old senior center.

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

Motion made to exit Executive Session, Commissioner Glenn Kester seconded by

Commissioner J. Williams

Action

No action taken

Adjournment

Moved by Commissioner John Williams 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.