

Board of Commissioners Wilkinson County

MEMBERS OF BOARD:
MICHAEL GOTELL, Chairman
GLENN KESTER
JAMES HAGINS
PETE WILLIAMS
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COMMISSION MEETING
May 17, 2022
5:00 PM

The Wilkinson County Board of Commissioners met in a Regular Session at 5:00 PM on May 17, 2022, in Commission Chambers. The following Commissioners were present: Chairman Michael Gotell, Commissioner James Hagins, Commissioner Pete Williams, and Commissioner John Williams. Commissioner Glenn Kester was not present.

The following staff was present: County Manager Dennis Stroud, Lindsey Benefield Senior Account Tech 1 and Rakita Sinkfield Senior Account Tech 2.

Broadcasted Live via Facebook.

Invocation

Chairman Gotell asked Commissioner James Hagins to lead the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Gotell asked Commissioner Pete Williams to lead the pledge.

Agenda

Chairman Gotell entertained a motion to approve the agenda with amendments of 1. Motion to discuss the contract for legal representation for the Tax Assessors Office-Gloria Strange, Chairman Board of Tax Assessors and 2. Approve United Health Care. Motion made by Commissioner James Hagins and seconded by Commissioner Glenn Kester to approve the agenda with amendments Commissioner James Hagins voted yes, Commissioner John Williams 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 May 3, 2022, meeting. Motion made by Commissioner James Hagins and seconded by Commissioner Glenn Kester to approve the Regular Session Minutes and the Executive Session Minutes of May 3, 2022. Commissioner James Hagins voted yes, Commissioner John Williams voted yes, Commissioner Pete Williams voted yes, and Chairman Gotell voted yes. Motion carried there were none opposed.

Visitors' Present

Beverly Clark, Donna Asbell, Jennifer Lautzenheiser, Royce Brewer, Kathy Thompson, Vanessa Lewis, TeCe Bloodworth, Wendell Bloodworth, Mayor April Smith.

Recognition of Visitors / Presentations

- a. Judge Dykes – Capital Request. Judge Dykes began by mentioning that Tax Commissioner Vanessa Lewis is also speaking with her on behalf of the subject. Judge Dykes and Tax Commissioner Vanessa Lewis discussed how the current vehicle that they currently share is not dependable. They stated also that it continues to break down. Judge Dykes and Tax Commissioner Vanessa Lewis also discussed how the vehicle that they are currently using was a vehicle that was previously in the possession of the Sheriff's Office and how by the time they received the vehicle the cars are driven with hard miles. Judge Dykes and Tax Commissioner Vanessa Lewis discussed how the vehicle has already been in the shop around 3 times so far since having it. Judge Dykes discussed how there is no air conditioning and how they need something reliable. Judge Dykes discussed the income coming in for the year from the constable services alone were around \$36,925.00. Judge Dykes discussed how she has spoken with Sheriff Richard Chatman, and he said that he was willing to get the vehicle to auction to see what they could get for the vehicle and that Judge Dykes and Tax Commissioner Vanessa Lewis could use the money that they receive towards the down payment of a different more dependable vehicle. Judge Dykes and Tax Commissioner Vanessa Lewis talked about a 2022 Ford Maverick truck that gets 30 miles to the gallon, has a backup camera, 7-year warranty the cost would be around \$26,350.00, stated that they didn't want to wait until the budget would like to have this proposal considered saying that the county would be saving since they are sharing the vehicle as well as using the funds from the current vehicle at action towards a down payment. Chairman Michael Gotell stated that they would make the consideration and that it was a good idea. Chairman Michael Gotell stated that "I thought the problem was solved". Judge Dykes stated that herself and Tax Commissioner Vanessa Lewis both met with County Manager Dennis Stroud and that the problem was not resolved. Chairman Michael Gotell stated,

- “no one knew”. Judge Dykes stated that she wants a vehicle that is dependable
- b. Chairman Michael Gotell stated that letter B and C were satisfied.

Unfinished Business

Commissioner's District Report

1. Commissioner Glenn Kester discussed the Dam and its progress and how it's ongoing. He also discussed a firefighter training program that will be held at his ranch and the programs will be credible.
2. Commissioner James Hagins discussed the log trucks and their speeding.
3. Nothing to report
4. Nothing to report

Chairman's Report:

County Managers Report:

Comments from the Public:

County Attorney Dubose Porter took the time to discuss that current Tax Commissioner Vanessa Lewis will be leaving and that Jemesha Anderson will be sworn in the Friday before Memorial Day weekend.

Executive Session

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

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

Chairman Gotell entertained a motion to approve United Health Care. Motion made by Commissioner James Hagins and seconded by Commissioner John Williams to approve United Health Care. Commissioner James Hagins voted yes, Commissioner John Williams voted yes, Commissioner Pete Williams voted yes, and Chairman Gotell voted yes. Motion carried there were none opposed.

Chairman Gotell entertained a motion to approve Director of Finance Tracy Strange as interim County Manager. Motion made by Commissioner John Williams and seconded

by Commissioner James Hagins to approve Director of Finance Tracy Strange as interim County Manager. Commissioner James Hagins voted yes, Commissioner John Williams voted yes, Commissioner Pete Williams voted yes, and Chairman Gotell voted yes. Motion carried there were none opposed.

Adjournment

Moved by Commissioner Pete Williams and seconded by Commissioner James Hagins to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Hagins voted yes, Chairman Gotell voted yes, Commissioner Pete Williams voted yes, and Commissioner John Williams 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.