

Board of Commissioners Wilkinson County

MEMBERS OF BOARD:
MICHAEL GOTELL, Chairman
GLENN KESTER
JAMES HAGINS
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COMMISSION MEETING September 6,2022

The Wilkinson County Board of Commissioners met in a Regular Session at 9:00 AM on September 6,2022 in Commission Chambers. The following Commissioners were present: Chairman Michael Gotell, Commissioner Glenn Kester, Commissioner James Hagins, and Commissioner John Williams. Commissioner Pete Williams was not present.

The following staff was present: County Manager Tracy Strange, 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. Motion made by Commissioner James Hagins and seconded by Commissioner John Williams to approve the agenda. Commissioner Glenn Kester voted yes, Commissioner James Hagins voted yes, Commissioner John Williams voted yes, and Chairman Gotell voted yes. Motion carried with no opposition.

Minutes

Chairman Gotell entertained a motion to approve the Regular Session Minutes and the Executive Session Minutes of the August 16,2022 meeting. Motion made by Commissioner James Hagins and seconded by Commissioner Pete Williams to approve the Regular Session Minutes and the Executive Session Minutes of August 16,2022. Commissioner Glenn Kester voted yes, Commissioner James Hagins voted yes, Commissioner John Williams voted yes, and Chairman Gotell voted yes. Motion carried with no opposition.

Visitors' Present

Royce Brewer, Penelope Moye, Ulipes Wilson, Beverly Clark, Pat Topping, Donna Asbell, Dennis Holder, Flint Shepherd, Tece Bloodworth, Wendell Bloodworth, Allen Rogers, Tanya Mixon, James Brooks, Jeff Dixon.

Recognition of Visitors / Presentations

- a. Sheriff Richard Chatman introduced Randal Rymes with Red speed. Randal Rymes discussed about including Red Speed in Wilkinson County specifically in the areas of school zones. He talked about how there wouldn't be any initial cost to the county when setting everything up. He talked about how they did a speed study and people did not follow the traffic laws in those areas.
- b. Lieutenant Hackney and Tom Kelly spoke about how the roads that the trucks are driving on are state highways. They did say however if they do come on county roads that the county can post a sign that says no through trucks to help with trucks coming through. They stated that once those signs on the county roads are posted that they can come in and enforce them.
- c. Donna Asbell asked about the size and use of the multipurpose building behind the East Wilkinson County Library. She asked if it was larger than the original plans. Chairman Michael Gotell said that it was 40 X 24 based on what is on the contract. County Manager Tracy Strange said that she spoke to the contractor who is working on the construction and will have him check into the progress.
- d. Commissioner Glenn Kester and his wife Karen Kester discussed the trailer/ tax issue with Wilkinson County. Karen Kester talked about an issue with the transfer of a mobile home title. She asked that commissioners look into the issue and assist with getting it corrected and eliminating outstanding fees.
- e. Penelope Moye asked about the progress of the E911 system and the appointment of a new Chairman. Sheriff Richard Chatman discussed how the people who were on the team previously have been leaving the company and it has been a slow process to get things up and going.

Old Business

- a. Motion to approve or deny the request for a performance review of Board of Assessors. No Action Taken.

New Business

- a. Auditor Brian Wright went over the audit for Wilkinson County discussed the county's assets and liabilities.
- b. Terri Howard with Oconee EMC discussed a proposal for broadband for the county. She discussed an organization that they work with called Connexon. She talked about the goal of getting high speed fiber into the county.
- c. Chairman Gotell entertained a motion to approve County Manager Contract. Motion made by Commissioner John Williams and seconded by Commissioner James Hagins to approve County Manager Contract. Commissioner Glenn Kester voted yes, Commissioner James Hagins voted yes, Commissioner John Williams

voted yes, and Chairman Gotell voted yes. Motion carried with no opposition.

Commissioner's District Report

1. Nothing to Report
2. Commissioner James Hagins said that he needs to get with Charlie the Road Superintendent about the condition of the roads.
3. Nothing to Report
4. Commissioner John Williams asked for an update on the flame. County Manager Tracy Strange said that she reached out to GNS gas and that we are on the list.

Chairman's Report:

Chairman Michael Gotell talked about the strength of Wilkinson County. He also talked about loving your neighbor and supporting each other's voice.

County Managers Report:

County Manager Tracy Strange talked about to two vendors, one vendor took a look at the library windows and took measurements and will get us quotes on those. She mentioned that there are issues with the door, that it is very hard to open. She said another company is coming out this week by the next meeting she should have two quotes to present. She said that the RFP for the road striping is out now so far, she hasn't had anyone to request yet but it is out. She stated that the ambulance contract is up at the end of this year so we will be getting that RFP out by mid-October.

Comments from the Public:

- a. Mayor Joyce Denson talked about how writing letters to the company for the 911 programs to help get it going should help move things along, and said to put it in writing.
- b. Tece Bloodworth said she wants to direct a question to the county auditor. Mr. Wright had left the meeting by this time.
- c. Mayor Roger Bacon talked about the unfortunate decision of the motion of the Tax Assessors office.

Adjournment

Moved by Commissioner John Williams and seconded by Commissioner Glenn Kester to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Hagins voted yes, Chairman Gotell voted yes, Commissioner Glenn Kester voted yes, Commissioner John Williams voted yes. Motion carried with no opposition.

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.