



MILLER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



179 South Cuthbert Street, Colquitt, Georgia 39837
Telephone (229) 758-4104 Fax (229) 758-2229

Kreg Freeman/Chairman-District 2 Ladon Calhoun/Vice-Chairman-District 5
Allen Worsley-District 3 Cristene Edwards-District 1 Nicole Nixon-District 4
Douglas Cofty-County Manager Faye Whittaker-Finance Director

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING MINUTES JULY 6TH 2021 5:30PM COURTHOUSE ANNEX

PRESENT: Kreg Freeman, Ladon Calhoun, Nicole Nixon, Cristene Edwards, Alan Worsley, Sherrie Stewart, Faye Whittaker, Doug Cofty, Cody Hamilton, Preston Clenney, Garrison Clenney, Rodney Bryan, Leroy Bush, Keith Bowen, Jajuan Bowen, Brad Bell, Austin Lambert

PERSONNEL/APPOINTMENT

Chairman Freeman started the meeting off by stating the need for a county manager and that Doug Cofty was considering taking another job as county manager in another county. Chairman Freeman informed the board that he had spoken with Doug Cofty the county manager position in Miller County. He told the board we need to pass a resolution creating the position and sign an employment agreement. Chairman gave time to review the resolution and contract. Commissioner Edwards asked is this something we need to do today or could it wait. Chairman Freeman stated it needs to be done today. Commissioner Worsley asked Chairman Freeman when did all this come about and stated he was against the severance package section in the contract, stating if we terminate him we have to pay him \$60,000.00. Chairman Freeman stated that happened within the last week and that the normal contract and then asked Doug Cofty for input. Doug stated that the normal contract from the city/county managers association and nothing was changed other than the dates and salary amounts. Chairman Freeman stated Doug would still be overseeing the EMS and would appoint someone to run it. Chairman Freeman asked the board if they had any more questions. Chairman Freeman called for a motion. Commissioner Nixon made the motion with Commissioner Calhoun seconded it. Chairman Freeman called for a vote, Commissioner Worsley stated nothing against Doug but I am not for it because of that severance section. Commissioner Edwards voted yes, Commissioner Calhoun yes, Commissioner Nixon yes with Chairman Freeman going on record as a yes as well. Motion carried.

BUILDING MAINTENANCE

Chairman Freeman told the board that we needed to create a spate maintenance department with Brad Bell being over it. He told the board that the funding of \$10,000 per year would be moved from already existing funds for building maintenance in the other departments. Commissioner Worsley asked Brad Bell is he would be able to handle the rec department and maintenance. Brad stated he has already been doing it. Brad also stated the surrounding rec directors made no less than \$50,000.00 and by putting him over the maintenance department it would bring him in line with the surrounding counties. Chairman Freeman stated Brad and his crew has already saved the county a lot of money by handling routine maintenance. Brad stated they would handle minor to moderate repairs and contract out anything they could fix. Commission Calhoun asked would he also do preventive maintenance such as air condition filters. Brad stated yes that would be included. Chairman Freeman called for motion, Commissioner Worsley made the motion, and Commissioner Nixon seconded it. All in favor, motion carried.

COUNTY IT DEPARTMENT

Chairman Freeman informed the board that the city and county IT department were splitting. He stated Cody Hamilton would be doing city IT and proposed Austin Lambert continue on as the head of IT for the county. The city wanted the county to reverse the current contract and the county would pay the city for services. Chairman Freeman informed the board that it would be less expensive for the county to maintain a separate IT department. Commissioner Worsley asked him what education he had. Austin Lambert stated he had a degree in Networking Hardware and Maintenance. Commissioner Edwards asked if we would still contract for major issues such as the tax commissioner's office. Chairman Freeman explained that the problem with the tax commissioner's office was due to the state network and not the internal network at Miller County. He also stated that in the event of a major problem, we may have to contract outside of the IT department as we do with other departments. Commissioner Edwards stated that some departments wanted to hire their own IT Personnel. Chairman Freeman stated that individual departments do not have the authority to hire their own IT Personnel. Chairman Freeman called for a motion. Commissioner Calhoun made a motion. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

REAPPOINTMENT OF MIKE MIDDLETON TO TAX ASSESSORS BOARD

Chairman Freeman informed the board that they needed to reappoint Mike Middleton to the tax assessor's board for another 3 year term. Commissioner Calhoun made a motion to reappoint Mike Middleton to the tax assessor's board, Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR THE TAX ASSESSOR

Chairman Freeman advised the board that Chief Appraiser Cody Hamilton's last day as a county employee was 6/30/2021. Miller County must have a tax appraiser III to stay in compliance. The City offered an intergovernmental agreement to provide the county the services of Cody Hamilton as Chief Appraiser for \$2,600.00 per month. Chairman Freeman told the board that the county would also contract with GMASS field appraisals. He inform the board that going this route would save the county approximately \$20,000.00 per year on the tax assessors budget. Commissioner Edwards asked Chairman Freeman if the board would still be his boss. Chairman Freeman stated the when he was in the Tax Assessor role he would still answer to the Tax Assessors board and that the Board of Commissioners were not his boss. Chairman Freeman asked for a motion. Commissioner Nixon made the motion, Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion. In in favor. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BEER AND WINE LICENSE

Chairman Freeman present 2 beer and wine license to the board for approval. Commissioner Worsley made the motion to approve. Commissioner Edwards seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Commissioner Calhoun made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned.

MILLER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS BY:

Kreg Freeman, Chairman

Douglas Cofty, County Manager

Ladon Calhoun, Vice-Chairman

Allen Worsley, Commissioner

Nicole Nixon, Commissioner

Cristene Edwards, Commissioner