



Miller County Government

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Board of Commissioners



REGULAR SESSION MEETING
10/10/2022, 6:00 P.M., County Government Complex
MINUTES

Present: Chairman Kreg Freeman, Vice Chairman Ladon Calhoun, Commissioner Edwards, Commissioner Worsley, Commissioner Nixon. Others Present: Faye Whittaker, Austin Lambert, Douglas Cofty, Andy Moore, Jeff Cox, Earl and Martha Cox, Shawn Watson. Keith Bowen, Jimmy Holt, Angela Hagan

Chairman Freeman calls the meeting to order. Regular session 10/10/2022 and called for a moment of silent prayer then the pledge of allegiance.

HOUSEKEEPING:

Chairman Freeman stated first thing we need to do is approve the agenda. Chairman Freeman stated we have an addition, and he is putting it under old business, it is a bill from Israel Houston about the road department uprooting an irrigation pipe. Chairman Freeman asked is there anything else that needs adding. If not, we need a motion to approve. Vice Chairman Calhoun made the motion, Commissioner Nixon seconded it. All in favor, motion carried.

Chairman Freeman stated approval of the minutes from the regular session meeting on 9/12/2022. Everything looked like it was in order. We need a motion to approve. Vice Chairman Calhoun stated he made the motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Nixon. Commissioner Worsley and Commissioner Edwards stated they would not vote because they were not present at the meeting. Chairman Freeman stated he was in favor. Motion carried.

FINANCIALS:

Chairman Freeman stated next is the financials and accounts payable. Accounts payable, Any questions on that? If not need a motion to approve Commissioner. Edwards made motion with Commissioner Worsley seconding. All in favor. Motion carried. Chairman Freeman stated financial report. Any questions on that? If not need a motion to approve Commissioner Edwards made motion to approve, Vice Chairman Calhoun seconded. Chairman Freeman voted for it as well. All in favor. Motion carried.

APPEARANCES:

Chairman Freeman stated on the appearances, we got Shawn Watson with Super B Express for county property purchase. Shawn, you want to come up here and talk to us. Mr. Watson stated yes sir. My name is Shawn Watson. Thank you for your time. We would be interested in purchasing the Department of Ag, that little area where we want to put diesel lanes in it. We are doing full remodel at this time. But that would be for like a year and a half until we could put a travel center in those lines with franchise in. We just wanted to present it to you all for your consideration on selling that profit. Vice Chairman Calhoun stated are you talking about selling the whole Ag center over there. Chairman Freeman asked, you are talking about the whole thing all the way through. Vice Chairman then stated you are talking building and everything. Mr. Watson stated the building everything. We are just basically we're going to knock it down. We thought about even incorporating it with the park behind it, putting a real nice parking lot. Maybe a dog park. Something that when you are coming into town. It's the first thing. Vice Chairman Calhoun stated so are you going to buy that other place right there, the federal state building. Have you all already made a deal on that? Mr. Watson stated well it's all,

Vice Chairman Calhoun stated contingent on everything. Mr. Watson stated yes, we want to make some real nice on the city, that the county can be proud of. Vice Chairman Calhoun asked do you got any plans you could show us? Mr. Watson stated no, I was called last week. Vice Chairman Calhoun stated Okay. Mr. Watson stated said get in here and I told him I didn't have any kind of architecture or anything like that, but we could expedite that real quick, but immediately acquiring the building next door gives us access to where we can have a rear exit of the store, angled parking lots coming in because I mean, there's really no place in town where you get in and out. so that we could get this all to the right of us. We have access coming in with the diesel lanes where that next building the side of this is. And then just roll it on the ground, parking for about a year and a half because we're three, we're putting completely new bathrooms in the back of the store, where the subway used to be. All of that is going to be nothing but restrooms in the back. To the left of where the coolers are when you open the door, that entire wall is going to be knocked down to where the store is more open. New floors and redoing the entire Kitchen, but if we can acquire that, it gives us about a year and a half. It takes about 10, 11 months just to get the tanks, diesel tanks to put it in the ground. So, architecture, the plans, everything else. It gives us about a year and a half, just over 2 years to get every, all the ground level work done and put something real nice in town. Chairman Freeman stated whether we do it or not, we've got to find another place. That's the county agent's office and all that right there. We're going to have to find another piece of property. And see about a building and all. So, we got to have some time also. How quick?

Mr. Watson stated well, that can all be worked out. I mean, because it, you all are having to do something on your side. This first building right beside of us, we can knock it down and that would fix our parking. Possibly we're going to go ahead and architecturally justify putting the diesel lanes in with the fore total knowledge that we're going to put a travel center behind it where it just compliments what we do and not have to back track and then when you get to that point, it would be pretty close to you all in that year and a half to your time frame. Vice Chairman Calhoun asked so, can you give us a month. Mr. Watson stated yes. Chairman Freeman asked do you want us to contact you again or you want to come back to the next meeting? Mr. Watson stated whatever. Vice Chairman Calhoun stated I think if you could get us up, maybe like a

preliminary drawing. Mr. Watson stated okay. Vice Chairman Calhoun stated kind of what you want, maybe come by the office. Commissioner Worsley stated and kind of what are willing to pay. Mr. Watson stated right. Vice Chairman Calhoun stated, and we can kind of start moving forward. Chairman Freeman stated we have to look about because probably I don't know that there's another building that we could acquire. It might be. Just to make a move. Right. We have seen see about that right there. If We got to build one from scratch. That's all. We're going to have to work that. Mr. Watson stated Yeah. Vice Chairman Calhoun stated give us a month. I mean anything that you can get us in that time we can be talking and look. Mr. Watson stated I will be happy to. Mr. Watson stated Thank you. Chairman Freeman stated we appreciate it. Chairman Freeman stated next on appearances we have Keith Bowen.

Keith Bowen – Elections Update

Chairman Freeman stated Keith, you want to update us. Mr. Bowen stated Yes, sir. It is like, and once again, thank you all for allowing me to speak to you all like you all have in the past. I'm coming talking about the election integrity like we have several times before. In the past we have all understood that the QR codes that are on the ballots now, when you vote in person are unconstitutional, it was ruled that way by US District Judge Soderberg. We already know those are unconstitutional. You hear nothing to build people's confidence up in our election system. This is constantly a drum beat of negative stuff out there. And not the things that I'm coming to you all about is trying to help build up confidence once again in our election system. I'm not asking us to do anything we're not already doing. I don't know how many of you all were here when you when you all we had the Zoom meeting with the voter GA and his recommendation is to use the absentee ballots we already using now. Those already are approved. We already have scanners for it. You already have everything, and it and it doesn't matter if you're a Republican, a Democrat, an independent. It doesn't matter. I just want people's votes counted the way they intended to be counted. The way they tend to cast them. And right now, what we have if there's a recount it recounts a QR code, and we don't know what it is.

Mr. Bowen stated when you color in a circle, I graduate from Seminole County High School, and I can see a circle colored in. I can figure out what that means. And that's why when everybody can see that and have confidence in it, we can heal from that. I know you all probably saw the news where that Konnech company got caught storing information in China especially keeping poll workers information. Some counties in Georgia use that company for the poll worker stuff. I checked with Judge Josh who our county does not. So, none of our poll workers information is somewhere where it shouldn't be. But it's just a constant drum beat of nothing but negative stuff about our election process. I'm not talking about the candidates and I'm not talking about people that vote. I'm talking about the actual process of casting the ballots. And that's why I'm coming before you all to ask if we can just and I found out through all this and like we talked before that the county commissioners in our county since we don't have a board of elections, the county commissioners have the right to change stuff up and I'm just going to for you all tonight to ask if we can vote to use absentee ballots on day of voting here in Miller County, Georgia to start the process of building up confidence in our elections once again. Chairman Freeman asked are you talk about this election. Mr. Bowen stated I would prefer that. Chairman Freeman stated Keith, I'm getting mixed signals with this right here. I mean, some of them saying that this all this stuff's got to go for the legislature because they already got a process in place. I'm not I don't know, you know, whether we could actually do that or not. I mean, that's what I'm finding out.

The legislatures already got an election process in place and guidelines about who uses absentee ballots, and I don't got no problem with working with that right there, but I don't I don't know whether we could do that right now or not. Mr. Bowen stated I can understand your concern, but I brought you all the information and passed it where there's a question of legality or impracticality that the commission since we don't have an election board that falls on you all shoulders. If there's election board, they would be the ones who have to do it. But since we don't, and I know we're in the process kind of sort of going to get one sometime in the future. That's why I'm of the of the belief that we should just go ahead and do something. Because if we wait for the perfect time Ladon's done enough farming. There is never a perfect time. Somebody just got to do something. And you'll find it later if it was right or wrong but sometimes you got to do some. And I don't want anybody do anything. If this was against our state constitution, I would not be asking you all to do anything. This would be that would be wrong for me to do that. Chairman Freeman stated we're going to get with the county attorney and get his opinion. If we're going to do this, I don't know whether we got time before the election to do it. If we do, we'd have to call a special meeting. and vote this in and I don't know I'm just telling you, I don't know whether we do it. Mr. Bowen stated I understand, and I've been waiting on some information from other states also and that's why I'm so late in coming down here. Chairman Freeman stated do you have something you can pass along that was handed to you that we can review. Mr. Bowen stated I do not have anything except that what I have given you before.

Commissioner Worsley asked are there any other counties in Georgia doing it. Mr. Bowen stated there are 42 other counties in the state of Georgia that have been approached about using absentee ballots. Commissioner Worsley asked have any actually done it. Mr. Bowen stated I do not know of any that have, and this was actually this was like six weeks ago, the last time I heard from Mr. Garland he was the one I've been talking to the from the voter GA. There are 42 counties most of them have a board of elections. A few of them have county folks, it's just like anything else that's going to one county, do it first. Chairman Freeman stated I don't have a problem with that but the fellow you are talking about does he work with the state. Mr. Bowen stated he is independent I think the fancy words non-partisan is not a Republican or Democrat. He's just for voter rights in Georgia. To the have the election done the right way. Chairman Freeman stated I'm going to talk to Josh tomorrow. Doug is going to contact the county attorney to see if this is even doable. And I don't know being the time frame that it's in right now. I don't know whether the absentee ballots. The process may be done once far where all that's done been loaded in to be printed out. I don't know. Mr. Bowen stated I'll be glad to set up another meeting between you all and Mr. Garland and the county attorney, if you need to get because I can tell you a little bit about peanuts and cotton but about in-depth voting things, I would prefer someone with the information that could answer questions out there. It's like Mr. Garland said that we ain't got to figure out a new process. You already got an absentee ballot process. Works and there's no use to reinvent the wheel when you already got work. We already got the readers. We already got ballots and got everything that you could use so there's no use of trying to rebuild something. So, and once again, I I'm not here trying to cause you all any problems, your me any problems, or the county any problems. I just want people when they come and cast their vote, they can literally get done and say, I voted for this one, this one, that, that's exactly what I intended. They can go and put it in their scanner. And if some question comes up, anybody that's counting ballots can look and say, yes, that circles colored in. The way it is now what you read on that ballot does not make a hill of beans. That QR code is the only thing that that scanner reads. And we can't none of us in here.

We can't get app on our phone to read it. It's impossible. No one except a Dominion machine can read it. And that's what makes it unconstitutional and illegal in our state. Because that is in our constitution that when you cast your ballot you have to be able to read what you have cast. And if they don't if they're not reading those things printed out there's QR code if they count it 1000 times, how do we know they count them out? I just want confidence built back. Our country was founded on our free and fair elections. In our country is going to keep going downhill. We can have confidence that what we voted for is what was counted. And that's what I'm getting back to. That's why I say it doesn't matter to me. Which way anybody votes? You might vote the right way considered to me or the wrong way I want to count the way they intended the votes to be counted. And that's to be able to go back and look and see. He said there's 1200 votes here. We'll count them back a month or a year or 2 years there still will be 1200 votes. That's all I'm asking. and we can do that with absentee ballots. With these Dominion machines it is 100%. I don't say anything's a hundred percent except the Bible, but this here is a hundred you can never count them and know exactly what the person casting into it because we can't read the QR codes.

Chairman Freeman stated let us talk with Josh and talk to county attorney. If we get an answer from him tomorrow, we will get back a hold of you. Your intentions are, is to have this in this next November election. Mr. Bowen stated that's what I would love. I mean and if it's possible, if we already have it, I don't know enough about the process, but be dangerous, but if we have enough absentee ballots already, we can get them printed up, we already got the readers. What's the public, I mean, how they going? Are they going to want one mailed out to them or when they get in the polls? Do they want? Mr. Bowen stated using the absentee ballots the day of in place of the machines. Chairman Freeman stated well I don't know how the public will receive that. I mean, I don't I don't know. They've been using the machine. I just don't know. But anyway, we worked toward that. Mr. Bowen stated most folks didn't like the machines they come out either. It took us some training for all of us people that voted on them, we know. And in a in a perfect world, they would be great. But we, you see every day how things are hacked. All this kind of stuff. And we don't know what all went on, but I do know that when you color in circle, I took a standardized test in my esteemed college career of 1 year. You take a test and if you have a question, go back to look and you can see which one is colored and that's all I am asking. You know, sometimes, I know I make things a lot tougher than it's got to be and this appears to be one of the times that our voting system. Technology is great but when it doesn't work the way it was intended, it ain't it ain't that good and we've all, we've all been caught with a computer that crashed or something that don't work like you wanted to. Let's get it where it is simple where we can all understand, and I say this then I will quit.

Mr. Bowen stated but I remember back when we fought overseas and then people in those countries that we were able to liberate, they went and voted and stuck their thumb, in an ink well. They come out holding that thumb while they were so happy to prove they had voted. The simplest thing that's ever been here, you stick your thumb in an ink well to prove that you went, and you voted, and I've got proof. That's all I am asking here. We can go. We can vote we can color in the bubbles. We can cast our votes, and we know we went back to the house that I voted, and I voted for who I wanted to and that's all. If the person we voted for don't win, we have confidence in knowing that it well I need to pick a better candidate next time, because I know what I intended to do work, work right, and that's all I'm asking. Thank you all so much. Chairman Freeman stated appreciate it.

Ronnie Sheffield – Road Issues

Chairman Freeman stated next thing we got on the appearance is Ronnie Sheffield with road issues. Ronnie, you want to come up here and talk to us? Mr. Sheffield stated I'm going to talk to you all about Sheffield Road that goes through my property. I got about a 350 acre field and goes right through it. And it's kind of aggravating. And I would like to get it abandoned. And take some of the heat off the county because if it belonged to me, the county wouldn't get sued for whatever happened out there. It'd be me. And I think we can make it a safer place. We want to be able to away with the gates and get some signs about the size of them on the doors and put on each end explaining that it's a private road. And if you go through and do something wrong and have an accident and tear something up. You are liable. Not me, Not Miller County. And that's what we're wanting to do. We ain't going to get rid of the road because we need help worse than anybody. Did I miss anything. Chairman Freeman stated no, I mean, explained to everybody about the gates and how the things. Mr. Sheffield stated yeah, about the gates. We've had gates out there for about 15 years. I don't know how long the system's been on the road. But folks got to where they just ignored the gates and zoomed right on in. They don't ask nothing, just gone. And we got to slow them down and stop them. Chairman Freeman asked so, they're going around the gates. Mr. Sheffield stated yeah got a road made around. Of course, we do too sometimes but we got to, you know you're farming or trying to. Chairman Freeman stated but what tell us about the irrigation? What's the layout with the irrigation and why the road needs closing. Mr. Sheffield stated well we put in the irrigation and the system was too long. It had to go across the road it's about three towers or two, I don't know. And it's worked really good so far. And then I got two systems on the other side of the road. They overlap out there and all that. But so far it hasn't been a real problem. But I'm getting worried about these people just ignoring everything and zipping in and out.

Vice Chairman Calhoun stated so, at times the system is across the dirt road. Mr. Sheffield stated Uh huh. At times Two or three towers. Vice Chairman Calhoun stated so, if somebody were to come through there, they could run into it. Mr. Sheffield stated oh yeah that's the whole thing. If it wasn't, we wouldn't, I wouldn't be here. But sometimes the systems almost hit each other but I wouldn't get sued for that. I would get pocketbook sued but anyhow, I think we can make it a lot safer and smoother. And I'm willing to do it. And right now, if something happened Miller County is the, you know, one that gets sued, of course, they sue everybody that's involved. Me and Ty, the folks that work for Ty. Commissioner Worsley asked but it is still a county road, right? Is that correct? Mr. Sheffield asked What? Yes, right now and that's what I was talking about they would get sued if something happened out there. They would get the big loads of lawsuit. Of course, they'd sue everybody they could. You know that but anyway, I'd like to make a little more sense than did but I ain't got none. Can you of think anything else? Chairman Freeman asked do you all understand what he's talking about. Mr. Sheffield stated well, I've seen these things on before and to me, a big sign comes up that you can't miss. You know, they claim it didn't walk the road before they did because we ain't got real gates. We just got bars across the road. They work. You know, if they didn't drive around them and we will are worked on it if we get the abandoned. There's a lot more stuff that I won't get into it. Thank you all for your time. Chairman Freeman asked you got any more, you got any questions for him about what he's proposing, what he wants to do. Commissioner Nixon stated I do want to ask something because I do know that Mr. Earl, I think, had some concerns about that. So, I was just going to see what, you know, what Mr. Earl's concerns were. So, everybody could hear it at the same time.

Mr. Earl, what are your concerns with it? Mr. Earl Cox stated that road he is speaking about he knew about irrigation before you put on him. That road has been right there for 50 years before I even built my home. This has been, I'm speaking don't interrupt. Mr. Sheffield stated sorry, excuse me. Mr. Cox stated when I build my house, I build it on a county road where it will be maintained now, all of a sudden, he is greedy for land. He's letting his irrigation walk across the county road. I do not want that road to close. Because once it's abandoned, you'll never get it back. And when it floods due to heavy rain, I have to go out that way me and my wife. Chairman Freeman Earl, let me, let me add something to that. When it rains and that road is underwater. Between your house and the Bellview Road is underwater on both ends of the other road. I come over there in the middle of the night one night and I took you all home and if it had been an alternate route in there, you all would have took it. Mr. Cox stated it don't matter I still don't want to live on a dead end road. That road was a public road ever since I can remember. And I do still go out that way. The UPS truck goes that way. All the delivery trucks go that way. And it's not going to benefit nobody but Mr. Sheffield. And he knew it before he put the irrigations out there. I have already spoke to my attorney and all that from the past. And he said one person objects kills it legally. Jeff Cox asked what about Emergency personnel if they can't come into this other place anymore. Chairman Freeman stated they can't come in the other way. Mr. Cox stated yes, they can. Chairman Freeman stated the road, when I took him home that night. Mr. Cox stated that was a 10" rain Kreg and you know it.

Chairman Freeman stated it don't matter you can't go out either way. Jeff Cox asked why is the irrigation allowed to come across the road to start with? Chairman Freeman stated I didn't have anything to do with that. Mr. Cox stated yes you was involved. Mr. Sheffield stated I asked him if it was fine I did it and he said it would be alright. Mr. Cox asked who, and I didn't say that. Mr. Sheffield stated yes you did. Mr. Cox stated no I didn't, you are telling a lie. Mr. Sheffield asked huh. Mr. Cox stated you telling a lie. Chairman Freeman stated look here we aren't going to fuss. Mr. Cox stated I know that, but he is saying something I never said. Chairman Freeman stated we are here to gather the facts now, that is what we want to hear, we want to hear your side now. But there ain't going to be no fussing. Mr. Cox stated I am not fussing I am just speaking up for my rights. I know what my attorney told me, and once the road is closed it is gone. Mr. Sheffield would be gathering three more acres of land. Chairman Freeman stated He, Mr. Cox stated I'm speaking. I'm speaking. Chairman Freeman stated go ahead. Mr. Cox stated I already talked to him, this is old news. Mr. Allen Worsley knows it because he was on the board back then and all and I'm sick of it too. Chairman Freeman asked well, how is he gathered three more acres of land when they gave the land? Mr. Cox stated from that road. Go out there and measure it, 40 feet. Chairman Freeman stated his family gave the road to start off with. Mr. Cox stated I can't help that. It was a county public road when Mr. Roscoe Sheffield sold me that land.

Chairman Freeman stated he's not gaining. He gave the road, or his family did. Mr. Cox stated I don't care about that, I still don't want to live on a road that is abandoned, I want it to be maintained. Chairman Freeman asked what if we divert the road. Mr. Cox stated excuse me? Chairman Freeman stated what if we divert the road. Mr. Cox stated you all already done that one time. Chairman Freeman stated we are not talking about that, we are talking about going around the field. Mr. Cox stated I ain't wanting to go around no field. That is 2 more miles Kreg. No, I do not want the road abandoned. Commissioner Nixon stated well from. Chairman Freeman stated the road is a hazard, that is what we are here to address. Mr. Cox stated you all need to do something about those

irrigations. Chairman Freeman stated I wasn't monitoring that situation out there. Mr. Cox stated you was on the board then. Chairman Freeman stated I was on the board was on the board. Mr. Cox stated so was Frankie Phillips. Chairman Freeman stated I didn't give him permission to do that. Mr. Cox stated you may not have gave him permission, but you were on the board of commissioners. Jeff Cox asked, why hasn't it been stopped. Mr. Cox stated yeah why hasn't it been stopped everybody else has been stopped. Chairman Freeman stated they put the gates up there to stop the folks from traveling the road because it was a hazard. Jeff Cox asked did the county allow them to do it. Chairman Freeman stated all that happened the four years I was out of here. Jeff Cox asked the county told you to put gates up. Mr. Cox stated no, the county told you, you were going to be responsible if somebody wrecked, that is what they told him, I was at the meeting with my attorney. Let's talk facts if we are going to talk. Chairman Freeman stated the 4 years I was out of here is when all that took place. Mr. Cox stated I can't help that, I know what I know.

Commissioner Worsley state I know we have been here before. And at that time the law was it only takes one objection, and it could not be closed. Mr. Cox stated that is exactly what my attorney told me. Commissioner Worsley stated unless the law has changed. Mr. Cox stated it hasn't changed. Chairman Freeman stated we are going to consult with the county attorney about it and if it doesn't have to be a unanimous vote on this board and what you're saying we're going to we're going to check that too. We're going to take a vote on it next month. Yes, or no? We're here to gather the facts tonight. Now, is there anything else about this that hadn't been talked about that we need to know? Mr. Cox stated Andy knows about that situation out there. He has been out there several times? Am I right Andy? There you go. I ain't put nobody on the spot. I'm telling you all Don't do that to my road. Chairman Freeman stated Earl it ain't your road, Mr. Cox stated It ain't Ronnie's Road neither it is the county's road. Chairman Freeman stated well, there's been other roads being closed and ain't, you the only house on the road now. Mr. Cox stated no sir, Mr. Jerry got somebody in his trailer house now. Mr. Sheffield stated it is fine with him. Mr. Cox stated well, it's because it's your cousin. Mr. Sheffield stated Yeah. Mr. Cox stated had you've been a man and came to me from start with it, it might have been different, but you never done that, right? And you know it. You like jammed it down my throat. Chairman Freeman stated Earl, Earl, don't talk like that. We are here to gather the facts. Mr. Cox stated those are the facts. Chairman Freeman asked you got anything else you want to add to it now. Mr. Cox stated I'm going to say I'm going to sue the county and I'm going to sue the County Commissioners personally one by one if you all do. Chairman Freeman stated well, if it ain't something life threatening, then I don't see. Mr. Cox stated no ain't nobody, ain't nobody bothering us.

Chairman Freeman stated well, put it like this if somebody gets, goes down that road. Mr. Cox stated Mr. Sheffield needs to shorten his irrigation. That irrigation means a lot to him. That road means that much to me. Chairman Freeman asked are they going to sue you if somebody gets hurt down there? Mr. Cox asked are they going to sue you? Chairman Freeman stated I am not going to be a County Commissioner after December. Mr. Cox stated that's right and I'm proud. Chairman Freeman stated well, thank you very much. Mr. Cox stated you have been a burden in my side. Chairman Freeman stated Earl don't start. I ain't here to fuss. You ain't cooperated with no. Mr. Cox stated don't sit there and say that. Chairman Freeman stated Listen. Mr. Cox stated don't point your finger at me to start. Chairman Freeman continued I went out of the way to take you home in the middle of the night down yonder. Mr. Cox stated yeah. Chairman Freeman stated I did and if I had some personal grudge, I wouldn't went over there to get you all.

let me tell you something. I went in the middle of the night to pick you up. Mr. Cox stated why did you put the word out do not do anything for Earl Cox until I approve it. Chairman Freeman asked who said that? Who told you that? Mr. Cox stated someone was going around saying that. Chairman Freeman asked who said that there's no personal feelings toward you all. Mr. Cox stated calm down. Chairman Freeman stated I am calm, listen I went in the middle of the night, there is no personal grudge here. Mr. Cox stated yea they are. Chairman Freeman continued and picked you up and I picked Martha up and if there had a been a personal grudge, I actually picked Martha and her aligning brother over there on Highway 253 and she was toting a youngin and walking and if I had some personal grudge, I done went turn the corner went right on. Mr. Cox stated you got to tell something else son. Chairman Freeman stated Martha, I took you down at the Tommy Watson's one day, one morning. Mr. Cox stated it wasn't my wife. Chairman Freeman stated you and your brother, and you had a youngin on your hip. The car was broke down at the end of the Babcock Road and 253 and I took you all down yonder to Tommy Watson's. Mr. Cox stated you ain't never picked my wife up I promise you, naw you haven't. Jeff Cox asked what happen to the pipes that were laying by the drainage ditch Mr. Cox asked why they wasn't installed. Chairman Freeman asked which pipe are you talking about. Jeff Cox said it they sat there about 6 months ago.

Chairman Freeman stated I ain't have anything to do with the pipe. The pipes were put it was put off there for whatever reason. Andy, you know anything about the pipes? Mr. Cox stated you all told him to pick up the pipes. Mr. Moore stated the board decided not to put them in. We who decided not to put him in. So, we moved them. Chairman Freeman asked who decided not to put them in. Mr. Moore stated the board did. Chairman Freeman asked was the pipes there when I was a county commissioner. Mr. Moore stated I don't know Kreg, I don't remember who were county commissioner at that time. We laid the pipe was going to redo that spot then decided not to do it and we moved somewhere else. Chairman Freeman stated I didn't tell him to move the pipes. Mr. Cox stated that is what I was told. Chairman Freeman stated I am going to tell you something, there has been a lot of stuff started around here for the wrong reasons. Mr. Cox stated I can't help that, I know is I tend to my little business on Sheffield Rd, even his cousins have come down and accused me of stealing the land, I ain't wanting to get into all that mess. I wasn't moaning with a silver spoon in my mouth like some of us. Chairman Freeman stated oh really? Don't start that right there because I tell you something right now. I had to work out the land out there when I was a young one, my daddy added one and I have had to work it all out again and buy it all back from my family. You can wave all over if you want to. Commissioner Nixon stated Okay, can I just say this? People watch this. People are watching this. We need to keep it classy guys because we don't want people laughing at us. Mr. Cox stated there are already doing that.

Commissioner Worsley stated well, there was a concern that were brought up. I am concerned about. And it's nothing meant toward Mr. Sheffield. But that irrigation system is walking across that road and that road is open. And we know it. Chairman Freeman stated that's right. It's a liability to county. Commissioner Worsley stated we are going to get sued before its over. Mr. Cox stated that's what the attorney from Blakley stated over there at the courthouse that night. Chairman Freeman stated I wasn't there when the attorney come. I wasn't no county commissioner that time. Commissioner Worsley stated anyway the irrigation system does not need to be walking across the road. We got to get this thing resolved. Chairman Freeman stated well the crops going to be out the field. So, they've been doing their own thing for I don't know how long. So, it's going

to be put up for a vote one way or another. Mr. Cox stated Ladon farmed that land from Mr. Thornton, he knows the situation. I know it'll make my life real inconvenient if you all close that road. Chairman Freeman stated is there anything else we need to go over with this? any more facts need laying out here on the table by the road. Any more information? Commissioner Worsley stated we just need to make sure that we will within the law. Chairman Freeman stated we have done talked to the county attorney. We're going to talk to the county attorney before we take over. It'll be, it'll be voted on next month to do it or not. So, it ain't no more facts. We're going to move on. Any more information need passing on or bringing out. Mr. Cox stated he was trying to understand why nobody told him about it if it was already put out. Chairman Freeman stated what are you talking about? Mr. Cox stated I didn't know nothing about it. Chairman Freeman stated about what. Mr. Cox stated I didn't know nothing about this meeting. Chairman Freeman stated its on the agenda Earl, the agenda is on Facebook its posted. Mr. Cox stated yea I saw it. Chairman Freeman stated and this right here. This is the reason for the meeting. We ain't voting tonight. Mr. Cox stated I know you ain't. Chairman Freeman stated ain't nobody done nothing underhanded or wrong. Chairman Freeman stated I don't want to hear no more you sarcasm Earl. Mr. Cox stated I don't care what you want to hear. I'm telling facts. Chairman Freeman stated well, don't get out of order. Mr. Cox stated don't point your finger at me. Chairman Freeman stated don't get out of order. Mr. Cox stated I am not out of order. Chairman Freeman stated because if you do, I'm going ask the sheriff to escort you out of here. Mr. Cox stated you'd love that anyway. Chairman Freeman stated that's enough about the road then. Mr. Cox stated that's right. Chairman Freeman stated we're going to move on.

OLD BUSINESS:

Angela Hagan – Animal Shelter Tax Waiver - Contract

Next thing we got is the old business. We got Angela Hagan for the Animal Shelter the tax abatement. Ms. Hagan stated last time I was asked to get a letter from the accountant for the animal rescue? They cannot quite give, they couldn't say that they could only, they're not even the ones that write the checks They're the bookkeepers. But I did bring this. I think that may help. It's the lease. and it shows it's a dollar a month. Chairman Freeman stated ok look here the taxes on that thing would be \$2600 a year. There was a contract brought over here for the county to provide I guess payment for taking care of the animals. Do you know, do you know anything about the contract? Ms. Hagan stated No, I don't. I don't. I'm just the landowner and the building owner. Chairman Freeman stated I mean we're going to we're going to run it by the board about the contract. Ms. Hagan stated that would make important than my request. If you're wondering if you have to do one or the other, there's would be more important than mine. What is that funny? Vice Chairman Calhoun stated well, I think where he was going was, we, we don't want to pay if we give a tax abatement. Chairman Freeman stated yes, if we enter into a contact, we do not need to be giving tax abatement We don't need to be go entering it into a contract for to provide care for the animals also. Another thing what in that in that situation like that, I ain't seen the contract but the how would we document where the animals are coming from? Were they all coming from this county or? Ms. Hagan stated that is handled with this company ARA. Carol Williams. She'd be the one that would have all the answers to that. and I could forward her number. But like I say, I didn't realize there was requests in from them or something in the works. I don't want this, this should have nothing to do with that. Chairman Freeman stated I think we all willing to work with you but we kind of need to get the whole package together. Ms. Hagan stated I got you. Chairman Freeman

stated because I mean, the tax abatement and then we got the contract to enter into if we decide to. But we need some documentation. I mean, if we need to contact these people. Or they contact us before we do anything. Because We got no way to document with all the dogs or cats or whatever coming from Seminole County or where they're coming from. Ms. Hagan stated I do know I was there yesterday and there was a mama dog that was just skin and bones and her puppies and I asked where they came from, and they said Miller County. Chairman Freeman asked how did they document that? Ms. Hagan stated I do not know. There's got to be some documentation. I promise. Chairman Freeman stated if we get some documentation with the driver's license or something that affect saying these dogs with the people's address and all that right there on there. So, we know that the animals came from here. That that give everybody a little bit more comfort. Vice Chairman Calhoun stated that would be the only way we pay is that the sheriff dropped it off. Sheriff Holt stated I'm hard of hearing.

Vice Chairman Calhoun stated I'm hard understand it so. Is that right, Nikki? Am I reading that right? So, if They want us to pay if your department dropped it off. Sheriff Holt stated I think in the contract if have an animal and we take it down there, you know, like then they would charge \$100 and \$25 a day I think for three days. If I am right, they wouldn't take animals from just anyone. Private citizens couldn't take an animal down there you know. Vice Chairman Calhoun stated right. Sheriff Holt stated If we got a call to one. Like we had one. We had one the other day out at I think Rentz Apartments out there. It was a dog and of course he was laying there with a chain on. We got a and we made animal cruelty charge against the owner of the animal. It died the next day. but before the place opened. So, we didn't, you know, there's nothing we could do with animal. We didn't take it nowhere. And I to my knowledge we hadn't took any down there you know at this point, but it was just. Chairman Freeman stated okay but if this is just involving you all or and I ain't read this thing in no detail. You all are the like the vet down there. I don't know whether you know or not him and his coworker down there was designated as the if there was an aggressive dog is to determine whether or not they were he's the one that determines that. Sheriff Holt stated right, his staff and I understanding Doctor Henley is going to was going to go down a one day a week in spayed and neuter and operate at no charge. You know he was going to donate his time one day a week at the facility down there. Ms. Hagan stated that is my understanding too. Sheriff Holt stated that that was my understanding from what the people that brought the contract said. Ms. Hagan stated yeah, and I talked to Doctor Henley about it too and he confirmed it. Chairman Freeman asked do you all want to give this some more thought. Do we need to contact the folks? Because I don't want to get wrapped up in something here that.

Vice Chairman Calhoun asked who do we need to talk to? Ms. Hagan stated Carol Williams. Do we have a contact information? Ms. Hagan stated I'll get it for you. Vice Chairman Calhoun asked you all aren't going to that 100 a week down there. Sheriff Holt stated No. no, Ms. Faye said she would take about everything we would take. Vice Chairman Calhoun good. Sheriff Holt stated she loves dogs. Yeah. Chairman Freeman stated the contract states not to exceed. Sheriff Holt stated so then I think they would adopt them out and you know enjoy. If it takes a year or whatever that takes, the rest is on them. Chairman Freeman stated we will act on the contract next month. Do you all want to make any decision about the taxpay abatement. Vice Chairman Calhoun and Commissioner Nixon stated we should table it. Ms. Hagan stated can I give you your number just quickly? Vice Chairman Calhoun stated give it to that man over there. Chairman Freeman asked do we need to get her to come and talk to us too. where does

she live at. Ms. Hagan stated that would definitely be good. I'll mention to her and that she lives in the county. Chairman Freeman asked In Miller County or Seminole. Ms. Hagan stated Miller I think, right on the line though. It's Iron City. No, that is Seminole. Chairman Freeman stated that's ok, we will make contact with her. We will try to work something out to help you. We are just I think everybody want to try to do something, but we'll try to get it all together. Ms. Hagan stated Okay. Thank you. Chairman Freeman stated Do you any more questions about anything? No. Okay we appreciate it.

Fueling Station Report:

Chairman Freeman stated next thing on the old business is the fuel station report. Got any questions on that? Okay.

Irrigation Pipe reimbursement – Israel Houston

Chairman Freeman stated alright. Ladon brought up here what we talked about a while ago and we put it under the old business because we already talked about it. Was the bill for the pipe repair where the motor grader dragged the pipe up out of the ground. The irrigation pipe is Israel Houston's. He came up with a bill of \$1,852 dollars and 92 cent and he's got it on his phone and he's telling me a while ago that about half of that was labor. But he has got it buried like it ought to be buried. Its brand new pipe. You all want to pay for a part of it. All of it, how do you want to handle it. ½ of it is labor and ½ of it is material. It wasn't really marked like it ought to be, but I think you need to do a little something for him. Commissioner Worsley stated it was grown up around it with bushes and everything else. Chairman Freeman asked do you think it is fair to pay for the labor? Commissioner Worsley stated I don't. Commissioner Edwards asked were we responsible for cutting around it. Chairman Freeman stated no, it wasn't marked really well but I mean the man brought the bill to see if we do something. Mr. Moore stated that is something we need to probably run another ad and tell people we need to update that because you know that sign was faded to the point where you about couldn't tell what it was. I mean and we put those signs up about 15 years ago so they probably get to be a lot more and they wouldn't hurt them. Try to get everybody to maybe update some of the stuff and remind them that they need to keep on learning. Commissioner Nixon asked so it will it was marked then?

Commissioner Edwards stated he said it was faded. Mr. Moore stated it was faded and it's supposed to be marked on both sides of the road but it at one time, it had been marked but the sign was probably six, seven feet off the road and it was faded really bad. We worked on that at night. It, you know, Ms. Cristine know that we had a problem there. We worked on it at night, and we were just trying to get the water to run down one side and the pipe wasn't but by that deep. I mean, and we really weren't ditching. We were just trying to a little low side to the road and we did catch pipe and there was a whole sign on one side. Mr. Cofty advised Mr. Moore that wasn't the road they were discussing. Vice Chairman Calhoun stated Newberry Chambers. Newberry Chambers Rd. Mr. Moore stated oh, I'm sorry. I'm talking about the wrong thing. Commissioner Worsley stated it was grown up around that pipe really bad. Mr. Moore stated oh, Newberry Chambers wasn't marked at all. They weren't a sign there on Newberry Chambers whatsoever. Commissioner Edwards stated so then, we should because that falls on us. Chairman Freeman stated I'm just going to call for motion. Do you all want to repair the pipe part of it, partial, or none of it or I mean Commissioner Edwards stated I think we should be responsible for at least half of it if it wasn't marked or anything that falls on us. Chairman Freeman asked do you want to pay for any of it? Commissioner Edwards stated yes, half of it. Are you going to put that form of motion. Commissioner

Edwards stated motion. Commissioner Nixon seconded All in favor. Commissioner Worsley stated I am against it. Commissioner Edwards stated something. Chairman Freeman stated you got three votes to pay the labor on the repair. So, motion carried. So, we're going to pay half of that right there for the labor Any more discussion on that?

Tax Assessor Board appointment:

Chairman Freeman stated Jajuan Bowen, time ran out for her to get the class that she had to take. And she went and took the class, so she passed that. So, we got to officially appoint her to the board of tax assessors. So, we need a motion to appoint Jajuan Bowen. Vice Chairman Calhoun made a motion to approve Jajuan Bowen, Commissioner Nixon seconded, Chairman Freeman voted in favor. All in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Comprehensive Plan Resolution

Chairman Freeman stated new business is the comprehensive plan resolution and that's page 24 and 25. We got to sign off tonight, Doug. Mr. Cofty stated yes, that's just a resolution saying we can go ahead and submit that plan to DCA. Vice Chairman Calhoun asked is just this just redoing it for another three years? Chairman Freeman stated he came he came over here and he sat down with me and Doug and Cory and all that and we went through all this that whole list of stuff. I mean, it's something we got to redo. You got to have this in place to be able to, Vice Chairman Calhoun stated to get that money. Chairman Freeman stated well, any, any kind of corporation out of them, you know. So, we need a motion to give me permission to sign this this resolution to adopt a comprehensive plan. Commissioner Worsley made motion with Commissioner Edwards seconding. All in favor. Motion carried

5311 Resolution - SWGRC

Chairman Freeman stated the 5311 resolution is Southwest Georgia Regional Commission. That's page 26 to 30. Mr. Cofty stated that is the resolution to get the federal funds from transit. Chairman Freeman stated the transit yeah. So, this is the thing. It's the same thing that we've been doing as to keep the buses rolling. That same thing. Vice Chairman Calhoun stated I believe so. Chairman Freeman stated that's the transit buses. Everybody familiar with that. I need a motion to give me permission to sign this resolution to keep that. Vice Chairman Calhoun made motion, Commissioner Nixon seconded it. All in favor. Motion carried.

Reauthorization of the Southwest Georgia Joint Development Authority – Jayme Smith

Chairman Freeman stated next is the reauthorization of the Southwest Georgia Joint Development Authority. Jayme, do you want to speak to us on this. Jayme Smith stated yes sir. I wanted to say I am here to answer any questions, I know there's 9 pages there that layout the new proposed constitution and bylaws as well as the articles of incorporation. This was an active group. It was a collaborative effort between Early Seminole and Miller Counties probably about 20 years ago and sometimes things just fade away. This is one of those elements that just faded away likely due to someone just might keep in the ball rolling. But the State Department of Economic Development reached out to a group of us in Miller Early and Seminole County had meeting together and explained the benefits. It's a really simple process. It's just the state authorizing the acknowledgement of this joint development authority. It would allow some incentives

for employers and new investors in the Tri-County region with some job creation tax credits and there's also elements like the initial rehabilitation of the state theater in downtown Colquitt. That grant was submitted through the Joint Development Committee. So, it opened having the joint development committee opens up some opportunities funding sources through the state. It's fairly simple. Early has already passed their resolution. It's the same resolution you all have. Donaldsonville or Seminole County has also done that, and I spoke with Mr. Kevin Calhoun who's the chair of the Miller County Economic Development Authority and he and I would be willing to serve in the two Miller County positions and it's likely that we would only meet once a quarter and talk about opportunities with the state. Chairman Freeman asked does he need an appointing by us, or he just volunteered to be on there. Ms. Smith stated we did have a conversation yesterday. He is willing to serve alongside me. Chairman Freeman stated we don't need to opponent. He can just volunteer. Ms. Smith stated yes sir and if I don't know the answer to any of your questions, I will find out from Ms. Tina Herring with the state. Chairman Freeman asked did you all want to go over anything for this. Any questions on it? You were talking about I mean what a job wise. I mean what would this do as far as numbers or anything to boost that. You got any idea. Ms. Smith stated I don't have any specific metrics. No, sir, but I do know that there are joint development authorities set up across the state and it helps incentivize investors. Now, Miller County, it's not necessarily poised for heavy industry. But in some of the areas that have joint development authorities, heavy industry has been recruited through the joint development authority because there are funding opportunities when the state recognizes that there's a collaborative effort between counties but as far as any specifics,

Vice Chairman Calhoun stated so it is a vehicle to maybe get some grant money. Ms. Smith stated It is, it's like the comprehensive plan you all just talked about. You got to have that box checked off when you apply for certain funding sources. It is an arduous process the comprehensive plan. This is fairly simple. This is just saying it acknowledges that there's two people from each of the three counties. They get together. They meet. There are notes kept, notes maintained. We regularly check in with our elected bodies, both the city and the county just to acknowledge that there is conversation happening about recruit employment opportunities, new businesses, no matter if they're small businesses or large scale It's fairly simple. But it has to come to you all as the county for the resolution. And then what happens once Ms. Herring has Miller County's resolution. She's going to pair it with the Seminole and the Early resolutions. Send them to the state and they will authorize that it basically is an acknowledgement that there is a Southwest Georgia Joint Development Authority again. Chairman Freeman asked did it just when it was formed back in early 2000s, did it just kind of fall through the cracks or what was, what it need going on? Ms. Smith stated I think just evolution of the people that we're serving and maybe someone just didn't keep calling the meetings. I'm not really sure because it predates me. I will say though that it appears that originally the Chamber of Commerce for Colquitt Miller County, held the bank account. There's about \$1, 300 and a long-standing bank account that has remained untouched since the joint authority was dissolved. not necessarily dissolved, just unauthorized anymore. I think people change roles and they like I said that that no one just picked up the ball and ran with it in any of the three counties. There's a lot of change over especially in Early County right now with a new county manager or city manager and the lady in Seminole County she's not been in a position very long. So, what I do know about the Joint Development Authority is just from dust off some old Records at the chamber office after Ms. Tina Herring contacted me.

Chairman Freeman asked are you all planning to meet elect the officers or is that something that already been done? Ms. Smith stated there has not, we were waiting for the county governments to approve the resolution that just acknowledges the formation. Chairman Freeman asked have they got all their members appointed already? Ms. Smith stated Yes sir the two other counties now. Chairman Freeman asked what do we need to do with this to give you to go ahead? What do you think? Ms. Smith stated I just need Mr. Cofty to stamp you all's signatures on that resolution if that's how that happens. Then if you all sign and date it, I'll get a copy from him and submit it to the state to show that Miller County participate in the Southwest Georgia Joint Development Authority. Chairman Freeman stated we need a motion to go forward with his. Commissioner Worsley made motion, Vice Chairman Calhoun seconded it, All in favor. Motion carried.

Fueling Agreement / Senior Building – Robin Rau

Chairman Freeman stated next thing we got is Ms. Robin. You want to talk this about a couple of things? Ms. Rau stated sure, the fueling station, the hospital would like to participate in purchasing of fuel for our vehicles only. There's a contract that I've got but we failed to get it up to Doug for this meeting today. But we understand that it would be I believe 0.10 cent over of the cost of the fuel. It would just be hospital vehicles. Now the second item is the is the rental of the senior center. As you guys probably will recall about a year and a half ago, the hospital authority entered into a rental agreement for the senior center on Delores Street. I have an extension of that rental agreement with me. That agreement actually lapsed, and we have continued to pay the rent for the building a little bit more than 31, 000 a year. the hospital would like to actually acquire that building formally. Not right now although we certainly can but I would like for us to acquire it from the county for the purpose of expanding our elder care services. That's what the hospital is all about. The population is aging. There is a program that I'd like to put in there that would help our aging population. It would help our under insured individuals. It's a Medicaid program. So, people who don't have the resources sometimes to pay for some of the medical here Medicaid would cover this, and it is basically, ultimately, the program that I want to put in there is an adult day care program. That program is basically designed to avoid long-term care placement, so during the day, the hospital and our staff would care for individuals who are otherwise at that level of care where they need supervision, they need some medical care, but they're not yet ready. They don't want to be committed into a long-term care facility. This would provide daytime. It's just like childcare except for its adults. So, I'd like the county to consider selling that building to us.

Chairman Freeman stated it had been mentioned about opening it up to the public, to the seniors, or like one day a week. Is that is that something that maybe. Ms. Rau stated You did ask me specifically about that last week and that is a possibility. To do one day a week for the community. But the whole program is really about the community. Chairman Freeman stated Right. Vice Chairman Calhoun stated you would have them get them get them signed up if they came. Like, is that? Ms. Rau asked signed up into what? Vice Chairman Calhoun stated into this program, community people. Ms. Rau stated yes. Commissioner Worsley stated I think we need. Ms. Rau then stated I mean, today, we're providing enabling services already for community people. You know, who need to fall between the gaps, the Medicare, Medicaid, don't know how to apply for it. So, we do that already. This is a group of people, for example, if my mother was alive and I'm working like I'm working today, she would need some kind of oversight. I lived with my aunt who really does. So, this would provide 10 to 12 hour period where an

elderly person or it could be somebody who's even mentally challenged in some way with the behavioral outcome. But it would give people and you know and that kind of category, the opportunity to be basically supervised during the day, entertained during the day, their minds kept active during the day, there would be some medical care that is available in the facility for them, and I can continue to work as a CEO. As opposed to leaving my job because of a family member. I will tell you also tell me that the government is really pushing this. These things are cropping up all over. Chairman Freeman stated you all got any? Did she tell you what you needed to know? You got any more questions on that right there? Commissioner Worsley stated my suggestion is maybe we need to get some of the senior citizens involved in that place down there and get their input on this thing. They feel like. Chairman Freeman asked Robin how soon do you need to know about this. Ms. Rau stated well, I would desire to know sooner rather than later. Chairman Freeman asked would next month meeting be okay. Ms. Rau stated if you guys can't make a decision today, then we can postpone it for another month. But there is a lot of work that I have to do, and my intention would be to get this thing up and running by next summer. There's not a lot of time there for me to do that. Right now, we're about to hit November and you might as well figure that the state and federal government November and December is dead then I'm going to go after licenses and certificates of need and things of that nature. So, I am already kind of up against it.

Chairman Freeman stated alright we have an agreement here and we need to renew the agreement. Because it's actually lapsed. If you want the if you want the money to keep coming in for her renting the building. Do you all have a copy of the agreement. The board stated yes. Chairman Freeman stated there's lease purchase option in this. Commissioner Worsley stated I personally think you should get the seniors involved in this. Chairman Freeman asked what is the rest of you all's feelings on it. Vice Chairman Calhoun stated I think we need to go ahead and lease it, can we do that. Chairman Freeman stated we need to continue the rental agreement on the thing so money will keep coming in because tentatively, we can verbally agree to that right there. And then act on this. If you all want to postpone it. We need to verbally agree to let her lease this thing. Vice Chairman Calhoun asked how long it the lease for, another year. Chairman Freeman stated you read it in section two now he's got month to month. Vice Chairman Calhoun stated month to month's okay Ms. Robin. Chairman Freeman stated it says, after completion of the initial one-year to lease it's for one more year if I'm reading it right then you can automatically renew on a month-to-month basis is that right. Ms. Rau stated yes. Chairman Freeman asked do you all want to verbally agree today. Commissioner Edwards stated, I guess. Vice Chairman Calhoun asked need a motion? Chairman Freeman stated we need a motion to do that right there and then we can just take this back up next month about the signing off on this actual whole agreement here. Is that is that doable? Ms. Rau stated well, I respectfully ask. So, how do we communicate with the seniors? What is the form for doing that?

Chairman Freeman asked how do you want to go about it, if this went into effect tonight, how would you go about doing that? Do we need to communicate with them, or do you want to? Ms. Rau stated well, I wasn't going to. It wasn't my suggestion to communicate with them. Chairman Freeman asked alright Allen what you want to do? Commissioner Worsley state I'm for communicating with the senior and find out what they've got on their mind about this thing because they were basically told within a year that we would take a look at it and if there was funding available even before that year was up. Commissioner Nixon stated but there's not any funding, is there? Commissioner Worsley stated I don't know if they, if they have any funding their sale or

anything, I just think you need to. Vice Chairman Calhoun asked how you going to communicate with them? I think it's where we're headed. How do you propose to communicate with them? Commissioner Worsley stated call some of them. I know they got in a pretty good uproar before about this thing. And I don't want them to feel left out and then have no say about it. Chairman Freeman stated well it shut down because to COVID. The funding went away for the director. And there's no funding for that. The meal voucher. That program's still going on. They get the meal just like they've been getting them. But there's not from me talking to the woman. Her name's Izzy. There's no funding for the director, that part isn't coming back. They're not going to find that. And there's not any of these other counties around here. They some of these buildings. Most all of them have been reassigned and one over there in Baker County. They rented out like a community center. Commissioner Worsley stated well, I'm not saying what she's talking about isn't a good idea. I'm not saying that. I just don't want the seniors to be left. Feel like they left out of this thing again and then, we should have done it the first time, we should've consulted with some of them.

Chairman Freeman stated it was shut down, Allen. I mean, it was going to be sitting there vacant. It wasn't going open back up, the doors weren't going to open back up. That was a way to get 30 something thousand dollars a year when she approached just about wanting to because Deon had nowhere to go and now you got physical therapy that stayed in the county and when they get the building completed over there that's going to make a transition over there. And she's talking about I wanting to start this senior program up. And that might be putting something down, you know, and it may not ever be because I mean, unless there is some way to get some funding, it can't open back up the way it was. Commissioner Worsley stated well, I said that's my take on it. I just think that they should be involved in it. Find out what their feelings are. Ms. Rau stated so if I can say one more thing, okay. So, by April of next year I will have completed the construction of that new medical office building. When I'm done with that, I will vacate the senior building. Unless I know that I have that ability to buy it, I will move on really quickly. And if that answer is no, we assume that I will start to look at construction. Now, because April is around the corner for me. Chairman Freeman stated right. so, maybe if we have a meeting next week early in the week. After that right there I am not going to be at any meeting unless it rains. Commissioner Nixon stated so, there's a potential that this what Ms. Robin's talking about could actually be helping some of the seniors that were in that program before. I mean is there a possibility of that? Ms. Rau stated that's exactly what. Commissioner Nixon stated so, I mean it's going to be given them something today. Ms. Rau stated this is not anew conversation a year and a half ago I had this conversation. And so, we could those people who are already displaced they could have. Had I open a center. It could have already been involved and engaged. It's not the same people. Whoever they are, if they're the same people that I know that the hospital used to go in and provide them with some education, some counseling, things in that nature. If they are the same seniors, then many of them would take advantage of adult day.

Chairman Freeman stated okay so to sum it all up, if we don't let her know something pretty quick, she's going to make plans to do her own building somewhere else, and then the deal is going to be off. The rent's going to go away, and you got the opportunity to make a sale on the building. so, you need to consider that too. Commissioner Worsley stated I am considering all of it. Chairman Freeman stated well, just you got 30,000 a year that you going to have to come up with. That we've been getting this this been going into the general fund as revenue So, and we ain't got no money to be paying

to hiring a director. You can't just open the door down and say here it is. Somebody's got to be in authority down there. Commissioner Worsley stated well, I am saying to me personally, I would like to hear what they've got to say about the situation. You all do whatever you want to do. You know, but I'm just saying that's the way I feel about the seniors. Chairman Freeman stated Monday or Tuesday next week do you all want to have a meeting? With them? Commissioner Nixon and Edwards stated yes. Chairman Freeman stated well, it needs to be publicized that we'll have like a public hearing, whatever you want to call it. It won't be a vote meeting it'll just be that. Is that agreeable? The board agreed. Chairman Freeman asked what is you all's schedule. Mr. Cofty and Ms. Whittaker stated whatever is fine with us. Chairman Freeman asked which day you want to have because I don't need to do it past Tuesday. It's six o'clock the. 17th Monday, Is there more discussion about that? Ms. Robin, you got anything else you want to add to that or you all got any questions for about any of this? Alright, we going to Before we do anything, we don't verbally agree. We need a motion to continue with this lease agreement. Commissioner Nixon made the motion, Commissioner Edwards. All in favor. Motion carried. Chairman Freeman stated and this right here will be finalized. Yes, or no? You want it? Would it be alright at the next meeting, or we need to do? Ms. Rau stated you know, the next meeting is fine. I won't leave you next week. Chairman Freeman stated I mean, we just, this, the other meeting with the seniors is just a public hearing thing. Ms. Rau stated right, but I won't be there if you, if you need me to be. Chairman Freeman stated alright. We'll vote on this at the next regular County Commissioners meeting. Is that okay? Ms. Rau stated that'll be fine. Chairman Freeman stated Alright is there anything else we need to go over? Anything with the department heads. Doug, you got anything else. Mr. Cofty stated no sir. Chairman Freeman stated alright, if not, we need a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Nixon stated I'll make a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Edwards seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.