

GREENE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
JANUARY 2022**

JANUARY 11, 2022 MEETING:

Chairman Usry led the Pledge of Allegiance and the invocation.

Call to Order: Chairman Usry called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Commissioners Filice, Lindsey, Deering, Smith and Chairman Usry were present. Also present was County Manager Byron Lombard.

Minutes: The Chairman inquired with the Commissioners to determine if any corrections were necessary for the minutes under consideration for approval. Commissioner Smith motioned to approve the Minutes from the December 2021 Regular Monthly Meeting, and the December 16, 2021 Called Meeting. Commissioner Deering seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Zoning & Subdivision Items:

Consideration of a Final Plat Request – Oconee Land Development Company, LLC, Richland Pointe, Section I: The Board reviewed a request seeking Final Plat Approval for 13 residential lots to be created from 21.38 acres of property zoned PUD located in the Reynolds Lake Oconee development. Commissioner Filice motioned to approve the Final Plat Request submitted by Oconee Land Development Company, LLC, for Richland Pointe, Section I, creating 13 residential lots from 21.38 acres. Commissioner Lindsey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Business Items:

Consideration of Appointment to the Planning & Zoning Board: The Board received background information that the term of Kevin Jackson on the Planning and Zoning Commission expired on December 31, 2021. He indicated that he does not desire reappointment. Commissioner Smith motioned to appoint Randy Purdy as the District Two representative on the Greene County Planning and Zoning Board for a three-year term ending December 31, 2024. Commissioner Lindsey seconded. Commissioner Smith commented that he would save the names of the other individuals that applied for appointment. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing the Indigent Care Agreement: The Board received background information that the Board has entered into a contract annually with Good Samaritan Hospital in recent years to provide \$400,000 in indigent care funding. The proposed contract for FY2022 includes provisions that Good Samaritan Hospital provide certain documentation to substantiate the level of indigent care services. Commissioner Filice motioned to adopt Resolution Number 2022.1.11(a) Authorizing the Execution of a Contract with St. Mary's Health Care System, Inc. Relating to the Provision of Covered Medical Services to Eligible Indigent County Residents for Calendar Year 2022, and for Other Purposes, and to waive the reading of the Resolution. Commissioner Deering seconded. Commissioner Smith inquired as to whether the Hospital had submitted documentation to exhaust the budget allocation, and County Manager Lombard replied that the documentation provided did not exhaust the budget allocation, noting that such had been the case for three years. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of the Chamber of Commerce Agreement: The Board received background information that the County enters into a contract annually with the Chamber of Commerce for provision of specified services. The financial encumbrance for the contract was included in the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget. Commissioner Lindsey motioned

to approve the contract with the Chamber of Commerce for Fiscal Year 2022. Commissioner Deering seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of a Resolution to Establish Qualifying Fees for 2022 County Elections: The Commissioners received background information that Georgia Law requires the county governing authority to establish qualifying fees for county offices during election years. The fees must be set by February 1, 2022 for this year's elections. Commissioner Deering motioned to adopt Resolution Number 2022.1.11(b) Establishing Qualifying Fees for 2022 County Elections, and to waive the reading of the Resolution. Commissioner Lindsey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Initiating the Process to Pursue a TSPLOST: The Board received background information regarding the possibility of holding a single-county TSPLOST Referendum, with County Manager Lombard advising the Commissioners of the various steps required leading up to a formal call for a referendum. Commissioner Lindsey motioned to move forward with the steps necessary to hold a TSPLOST Referendum in conjunction with the May 24, 2022 Primary Election. Commissioner Filice seconded. Commissioner Filice commented on discussions he's had and plans to have with citizens groups regarding the significance of the revenue generated by a TSPLOST and its offsetting effect on County property taxes. General discussion ensued as to the timing of the referendum to place a TSPLOST before voters and when the Board would need to act and approve any related intergovernmental agreement with the cities. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing Condemnation – Airport Property: The Board received background information regarding the stalled negotiation efforts to acquire a small piece of property adjacent to the west end of the runway due to vertical encroachment that creates a safety hazard. The FAA, through GDOT, is requiring that the safety hazard be addressed. Commissioner Lindsey motioned to adopt Resolution Number 2022.1.11 (c) Authorizing the Greene County Attorney to Exercise the Greene County Powers of Eminent Domain in the Acquisition of Certain Interests in Property Situated in Greene County, Georgia, for Public Transportation Purposes, waiving the reading of the Resolution, and to authorize the necessary budget adjustments to fund the acquisition and environmental clean-up costs from SPLOST VII. Commissioner Filice seconded. Commissioner Smith inquired as to which parcels were under consideration and the owners involved. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of a Resolution Requesting the Introduction of Local Legislation and the Creation of a Public Facilities Authority: The Board received background information regarding the creation of a Public Facilities Authority and its possible use. Commissioner Lindsey motioned to table the item. Commissioner Deering seconded. Commissioner Filice said that he spoke to County Manager Lombard about the item, and while he was inclined to support it, he supported tabling the item if the other Board members desired. Commissioner Lindsey asked how time-sensitive the item was, and County Manager Lombard replied that the local legislation and related legal advertisement would dictate whether the new Authority would become active this year or not. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Adjustments to the Animal Control Fee Schedule: The Board received background information that the Animal Control Officer reviewed fees charged in surrounding counties and requested that the Commissioners adjust the fees in Greene County. Commissioner Smith motioned to adopt the updated Fee Schedule for Animal Control. Commissioner Deering seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of Revisions to the County Code – Animal Control: The Board received background information that some minor revisions to the chapter of County Code were proposed by staff, including minor changes and incorporating a new section to address improper and dangerous tethering. Commissioner Deering motioned to adopt the revisions to Chapter 8 of the County Code to update the regulatory provisions applicable to Animal Control. Commissioner Lindsey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of a Consolidated Appropriations Act Contract – Senior Center Home Delivered Meals: The Board received background information that a separate contract specifically providing for home delivered meals through the Senior Center requires Board approval. Commissioner Smith motioned to approve the Fiscal Year 2022 Consolidated Appropriations Act Contract between the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission and the Greene County Board of Commissioners for funding of home delivered meals through the Senior Center. Commissioner Lindsey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner’s Report:

District Two Commissioner Smith reported that “We are national champions. Go Dogs!”

District Three Commissioner Lindsey wished everyone a happy new year and congratulated the UGA bulldogs, too.

District Four Commissioner Filice echoed the previous reports.

Chairman Usry agreed and also introduced the new Economic Development Director David Dubois.

Executive Session: None

Adjournment: Chairman Usry adjourned the meeting at 5: 30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sylvia V. Hill, County Clerk

The above minutes were adopted and approved this day 8th day of February, 2022.

Gary Usry, Chairman

Jeffery L. Smith, Vice-Chairman

Angela Walker Deering, Commissioner

Dee Lindsey, Commissioner

Ernie Filice, Commissioner