

After Agenda

Board of Commissioners of Spalding County
Regular Meeting
Monday November 1, 2021
6:00 PM
Room 108, Annex Building

The Spalding County Board of Commissioners held their Regular Meeting in Room 108 of the Spalding County Annex on Monday, November 1, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. with Chairman Clay Davis presiding. Commissioners Rita Johnson, James Dutton, Ryan Bowlden and Gwen Flowers-Taylor were present for the meeting. Also present were County Manager, Dr. Steve Ledbetter, County Attorney, Stephanie Windham and County Clerk, Kathy Gibson to record the minutes.

I. OPENING (CALL TO ORDER)

PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONES AND ALL OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES.

II. INVOCATION

Commissioner James R. Dutton, District #2, delivered the invocation.

III. PLEDGE TO FLAG

Commissioner Ryan Bowlden, District #4 led the Pledge to the Flag.

Motion/Second by Davis/Dutton to include under New Business an Item #7 a request for an Amplification Permit for 1650 N. Walkers Mill Road, Griffin.

Commissioner Dutton advised that this item would have been on the November 15th agenda, but since that meeting has been cancelled, we had to move it up for consideration. The applicant did everything right, we simply needed to consider it tonight.

Motion carried unanimously by all.

IV. PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

1. Consider a Proclamation recognizing James R. Fortune, Jr. for his lifelong service to the Spalding County Community and to the Spalding County Board of Commissioners.

Motion/Second by Johnson/Dutton to issue a Proclamation recognizing James R. Fortune, Jr., for his lifelong service to the Spalding County Community and to the Spalding County Board of Commissioners. Motion carried unanimously by all.

Chairman Davis then read the Proclamation and it was presented to Mr. Fortune.

Mr. Fortune thanked everyone and stated this was a real surprise. He stated he was very touched, happy and honored to have represented Spalding County for so many years. Jim Owen of the Beck Owen and Murry firm represented Spalding County for 37 years and Mr. Fortune has served in the capacity for 25

years and he is leaving the County in good hands with Stephanie Windham and the rest of the firm. He just wanted to say thank you for the opportunity given him to meet people that he never would know and enjoyed had he not been the County Attorney for so many years. He has been very impressed by the fine people who work for Spalding County, because they are the ones that make it work.

2. Consider presentation of proclamations to local funeral homes for assistance provided to the Spalding County Coroner's Office during the COVID crisis. This assistance was above and beyond the valuable services they provide to Spalding County residents everyday.

Burdens Funeral Home

Conner-Westbury Funeral Home

Haistens-McCullough Funeral Home

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to issue Proclamations to Burden's Funeral Home, Conner-Westbury Funeral Home and Haistens-McCullough Funeral Home for valuable services above and beyond provided to the Spalding County Coroner's Office during the COVID crisis. Motion carried unanimously by all.

Dr. Steve Ledbetter, County Manager, then read the Proclamations and they were presented individually to each Funeral Home.

Mike Pryor, Spalding County Coroner, stated that these three funeral homes went above and beyond and really helped us out during the COVID. I don't know how many people know, but we don't have a morgue here in Spalding, but because of the work that they did for us, they made his job much easier. He thanked them for what they have done and what they continue to do for us. The job they do is not easy, it is a very emotional time for families, but these gentlemen here go above and beyond with the families of Spalding County and in working with his office on so many things.

3. Consider a Proclamation recognizing Ms. Retha Hollis Brown for her dedication and work within the Spalding County Community.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Dutton to issue a proclamation recognizing Retha Hollis Brown for her dedication and work within the Spalding County Community. Motion carried unanimously by all.

Commissioner Johnson then read the Proclamation and Ms. Brown accepted the Proclamation on behalf the Knowledge Is Power Organization.

Ms. Brown stated it is an honor to be recognized for doing what she loves. She taught in Spalding County for 33 years and started her first after school program in 1991, it was recognized as a Point of Light. When she retired, she stayed at home for a year, but she missed the children and that is when she started another after school program that later on it became a home school academy. She stated she could not do this without Ms. Matt and Ms. Betty and we have been doing this together for the last 10 years.

4. Sheriff Dix has requested the opportunity to recognize the graduates of the 4th

Annual Citizens Sheriff's Academy.

Sheriff Dix recognized 19 individuals who completed the 4th Annual Citizens Sheriff's Academy:

Matt Bruun, Michelle Bruun, Brenda Chapman, Paul Chapman, Phil Culver, Barbara Enright, Brian Enright, Rick Francolini, Donnie Goolsby, Kirsten Gould, Kevin Huckaby, Tracy Huckaby, Eva Morales, Luke Ott, Cindy Phillips, Jackie Roberson, Peggy Smith, Regina Stephens and Lori Ann Turner.

The class then presented Sheriff Dix with a donation in the amount of \$1,500 for the Sheriff's fund that takes children to Washington DC every year. Sheriff Dix stated that this would finance 10 kids going to Washington this year.

V. PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – None.

VI. CITIZEN COMMENT

Speakers must sign up prior to the meeting and provide their names, addresses and the topic they wish to discuss. Speakers must direct your remarks to the Board and not to individual Commissioners or to the audience. Personal disagreements with individual Commissioners or County employees are not a matter of public concern and personal attacks will not be tolerated. The Chairman has the right to limit your comments in the interest of disposing of the County's business in an efficient and respectable manner.

Speakers will be allotted three minutes to speak on their chosen topics as they relate to matters pertinent to the jurisdiction of the Board of the Commissioners. No questions will be asked by any of the commissioners during citizen comments. Outbursts from the audience will not be tolerated. Common courtesy and civility are expected at all times during the meeting. No speaker will be permitted to speak more than three minutes or more than once, unless the Board votes to suspend this rule.

No one signed up to speak.

VII. OLD BUSINESS – None.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS -

1. Consider approval on first reading of budget amendment for FY 2021 encumbrances.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Dutton to approve a budget amendment for FY2021 encumbrances.

Jinnia Garrison, Administrative Services Director, stated that these are purchase orders that were outstanding on June 30th. We do this every year, we had to move them into the new year and the Board has to appropriate a Budget for them.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor asked what the actual number is for the change in the budget?

Ms. Garrison stated that she just had the ordinance in front of her. It was actually the least amount of change this year then she has seen in a long time. It was under \$200,000 for all funds.

Ms. Flowers-Taylor stated under expenditures there appears to be a number missing in the amount.

Ms. Garrison stated that she didn't catch that. This was a purchase order out for auto maintenance for the Water Authority.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that she is concerned that the Board may be approving a document that doesn't have correct information on it.

Ms. Garrison stated that the approval this meeting would be on first reading, it doesn't become final until the second reading. We are going to have to replace this document anyway because when we prepared it, she didn't realize there wouldn't be a second meeting this month so she has the final meeting scheduled as November 15th, so it would be approved, adopted and enacted at the meeting on December 6th.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that she doesn't know from this document if we are approving a change that is \$400,000 or \$400. If the remainder of the Board is good with that, it is fine, but she is not comfortable with voting for this at this time.

Commissioner Johnson then asked if this could be added to the Zoning Public Hearing for consideration?

Dr. Ledbetter stated that if there is not a quorum here on the 23rd, we will present for the first reading on December 6th and will take action on the first meeting in January.

Motion failed due to no vote taken.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to table the first reading of the budget amendment for FY2021 encumbrances. Motion carried unanimously by all.

2. Consider request from Spalding County State Court Judge Thacker to:

- The creation of an Ad Hoc Public Facility Committee. He would be willing to sit as the Chair to explore and evaluate our existing Judicial and Public Safety Facilities and make recommendations to the Commission for repairs, upgrades, and replacements. the members of the committee would a pre-agreed upon combination of Elected Officials, Department Heads, and Engaged Citizens. (Or any description or roster you all believe would be best suited for such a Committee.)

State Court Judge, Josh Thacker, advised that what he is asking for is a non-binding advisory committee that will include the Sheriff, himself, Chief Superior Court Judge Fletcher Sams and all of the other individuals who are affected by our judicial facilities like the courthouse and our public safety facilities such as the jail. We need to review items that will make these facilities meet our needs. If they don't meet our needs, what can we do to improve this situation. That is what he is asking permission to do, is have the Board give him permission to ask these questions. We will be a question/answering group that will gather information and put it together and report back to the Board.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that we have an Archway Representative in this community, and this is the type of thing that they

would be facilitating. She saw the suggested list of people, that is a large number of people to try to pull together, so her first suggestion would be that the committee not be that large and the second suggestion would be that you include Archways to assist in guiding and facilitating this research. You will also have the benefits of the University of Georgia system to bring graduate and doctorate students here whose interest would be in this area and who could also help to guide in a decision that is well thought out. When it comes back to us, she would like to make sure that it is matching what our strategic plan is for this community. If part of our strategic plan is that we feel like we need better law enforcement facilities, she would like for that to come under the realm of our strategic plan.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor then stated that she feels that what the Courts and Sheriff's Office has been saying all along is that we do need a new facility, but I don't want your report to come back to us skewed.

Judge Thacker stated he is very familiar with the Archway Partnership and they have done fantastic work here in Spalding County and these are the types of individuals and groups this committee would communicate and coordinate with. Anything that they want to come back with will need to be within the County's guidelines and he is not as familiar with those guidelines as the County Attorney and the County Manager and they would want to get all of those things buttoned down before they could come back and say that this is within all the guidelines that they could find and this is our recommendation.

Ms. Windham advised that she would send a copy of the Community Wide Strategic Plan to Judge Thacker.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Bowlden to allow Spalding County State Court Judge, Josh Thacker, to create an Ad Hoc Judicial and Public Safety Advisory Commission. Motion carried unanimously by all.

- Permission to communicate formally with the Administrative Office of the Courts and the Council of State Court Judges to request a time study and a weighted Judge evaluation of my caseload. This request will only result in a report, nothing more.

Judge Thacker stated that they would like to have the caseload of the State Court Evaluated by the Administrative Office of the Courts and the Council of State Court Judges. These two entities will do a formal study at their expense, no Spalding County money will be expended and they will rate him. They will advise that he is doing the job of ?? and they will give him a number. They will tell him exactly what his case load is and he can in turn bring that back to the Board to say this is where I'm at. There is nothing binding in this evaluation, he simply feels like he owes it to the State Court team to tell them this is where we're at. Unofficially, they are planning to conduct one in the Spring and he advised that he would go to the Board and ask to be able to participate in that study. This will give us some idea of the health of the State Court from the State of Georgia's perspective.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Dutton to formally communicate with the Administrative Office of the Courts and the Council of State Court Judges to participate in a study that will provide a weighted evaluation of the State Court's caseload. Motion carried unanimously by all.

3. Consider approval of the 2022 Alcohol License Renewals for Retail Sales-

Package Store- Beer, Wine and Liquor:

- Baljinder Singh-Highway 155 Package Inc. dba Highway 155 Package Store, located at 3430 N. McDonough Rd., Locust Grove, GA 30248. No Violations.
- Vijaykumar Patel-Vijhem, LLC dba VJ Sons, located at 2004 N Expressway, Griffin, GA 30223. No Violations.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to approve a 2022 Alcohol License for Retail Sales of Beer, Wine and Liquor for Highway 155 Package Store and V.J. Sons. Motion carried unanimously by all.

4. Consider request from the Spalding County Parks & Leisure Services Advisory Commission to send a letter to the National Parks Service in support of the creation of the Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools Historical Park.

Morgan Cantrell, Spalding County Parks and Leisure Services, Curator of the Museum at the Rosenwald School, advised there is a campaign being led by Ms. Dorothy Canter, who has worked with the National Parks system in the past. The campaign for the Julius Rosenwald National Park will be based in Chicago which is where Mr. Rosenwald is from, and they hope to have six satellite sites for Rosenwald Schools which will be satellite parks all across the southeast.

Currently, what we are asking from the Board is to submit a letter of support. All this does is stated that we are another organization that sees the value of this national park, we have a Rosenwald School in Griffin and we are currently working to preserve. The only thing we are asking for this evening is the Board's approval to send this letter of support.

Motion/Second by Johnson Dutton to approve the request from the Spalding County Parks & Leisure Services Advisory Commission to send a letter to the National Parks Service in support of the creation of the Julius Rosenwald & Rosenwald Schools Historical Park. Motion carried unanimously by all.

5. Consider request from the Spalding County Parks and Leisure Services Commission and the Project Steering Committee to establish the name for the History Museum and Park and adopt the vision and mission statement as recommended.

Ms. Cantrell stated that the park name that was suggested to us by the alumni of the Fairmont School. We have been working with them and the steering committee and the name being suggested is Fairmont Vocational Heritage Park. The museum name being suggested is "Our Legacy: The Griffin-Spalding African American History Museum."

All of these names have been work shopped either with colleagues in the museum and tourism industry in conjunction with the Fairmont Alumni, as well as the steering committee and other stakeholders in Spalding County. We feel that both of these names: Fairmont Vocational Heritage Park and the Griffin-Spalding African American History Museum speaks to this overall project. Whether that is the heritage project taking place within the Fairmont Community at the location of what was Fairmont and Vocation High. This is a community's legacy, Fairmont's legacy, it is our legacy in the County creating a space for future generations. So we feel that this phrasing of term is critical for the future success of this space.

Ms. Cantrell then presented the mission statement: To present the inspiring historical and cultural experiences of Griffin, Georgia's African American Community within a regional and national context. Pushing to the vision of to be a space where future generations of all backgrounds will learn of their shared heritage and discover what they can achieve together.

Commissioner Dutton stated he loves everything that Ms. Cantrell just shared; however, he wants to make sure that this is done correctly. There is a Naming Policy, was this part of the process?

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated "no" that is why they are here because they were not aware that a Board actually does the naming and we have some criteria for naming. That's the reason, this is the Leisure Services recommendation for acceptance of the vision and the mission statement and the names that the Committee has recommended. So, if we are happy with that as a Board we can accept these recommendations, if we're not then we will have to word shop it.

Commissioner Dutton then asked if procedurally it needs to go before the Ad Hoc Committee for approval.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor and Dr. Ledbetter stated that they are the Ad Hoc Committee.

Stephanie Windham, County Attorney, then advised that an Ad Hoc Committee is whatever committee that you want it to be.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor suggested that we table it this evening and give everyone the opportunity to review the Naming Policy, then bring it back up for a vote at the next meeting.

Motion/Second by Johnson/Flowers-Taylor to table the request from the Spalding County Parks and Leisure Services Commission and the Project Steering Committee to establish the name for the History Museum and Park and adopt the vision and mission statement as recommended until the December 6th Meeting and that staff provide the Board with a copy of the Naming Policy to review prior to that meeting. Motion carried unanimously by all.

6. Consider request from the Spalding County Fire Department to begin the process of ordering a new fire engine.

Mike Byrd, Chief of Operations for the Spalding County Fire Department, stated that the Fire Department would like to request moving forward with ordering a new Fire Truck. Currently, we are operating 7 fire stations, within the fleet we have 4 engines which are 2007 models. We also have an engine and a ladder truck that were purchased in the same year. Now they are starting to show some age. The typical national trends are to replace this equipment every 10-12 years and as you can see we are hitting the 15 year mark on these engines. They are starting to show wear and tear, we are beginning to have maintenance and dependability issues. Now we have been creative in how we deploy our units.

The ladder truck is the most expensive truck that we own, to replace it now, under current pricing, we are looking at \$1.3 million. So, what we are doing now is we have positioned it to where it only responds when absolutely

necessary. So, we are hoping to get a lot more years out of it. The heavy rescue is the second most expensive truck that we have, which at last pricing was at \$800,000.

Chief Byrd then presented the average mileage for the fire trucks, then added that when you look at mileage it can be very misleading because they sit on the side of the road for 4-6 hours running the motor, but the transmission is not engaged to move the wheels. That is a lot of wear and tear on those trucks.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor asked if that was the mileage or the wear.

Chief Byrd advised that the information provided gives both the hours and the mileage of each vehicle. So, the hours is a better gauge of the actual wear and tear of the vehicle.

Chief Byrd stated that if three of the larger units are out of service they are forced to use two mini pumpers as a single engine. This has happened 9 times in the past 12 months.

Currently pricing for an engine is \$620,000 as of October 1, 2021. In May 2021, the exact same engine was \$535,000 which is a 4.2% increase in five months due to steel tariffs and labor increase costs. This is where we're really getting into a deficit. If we order tomorrow, it could be as long as 24 months before it would be delivered. If you approved the purchase this evening, it could be 2 years before it is delivered. That is two more years of usage on our current vehicles.

We were originally going to ask that this be funded through fund balance, but we can do a lease package program, which has been done in the County for purchase of large pieces of equipment in the past. There is two options, a four year and a five year and if we choose this option the payments would be comfortable enough that we could work the payments into our yearly operating budget.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor asked that the County Manager explore the different financing options and bring back more information.

Dr. Ledbetter stated he would explore the financing options. Getting this before the Board this evening was simply about the time span that it will take to get this vehicles ordered and get us in the que. 18-24 months is a long time to wait for a fire truck, especially one that we need to replace a 1996 vehicle that is on its last leg.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated what she would like to see what it looks like not for one truck, but for two trucks. So we need to have the numbers for one truck and another set of numbers if we purchase two trucks. If we are having to put two truck together to accommodate one, then you have another one broken, it is crazy for us to think it is going to take us six years to get close to where we need to be.

Dr. Ledbetter advised they have the guidance and they will bring those numbers back to the Board at the December 6th meeting.

7. Consider request for an Amplification Permit from Humberto Colin for a wedding to be held at 1650 N. Walkers Mill Road on Saturday, November 20, 2021 from 2:00 p.m. until 10:30 p.m.

Dr. Ledbetter stated that the Amplification Permit is for 1650 N. Walkers Mill Road and the application is from 2:00 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. for a wedding.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Johnson to approve an Amplification Permit from Humberto Colin for a wedding to be held at 1650 N. Walkers Mill Road on Saturday, November 20, 2021 from 2:00 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. Motion carried unanimously by all.

IX. REPORT OF COUNTY MANAGER

- FY2021 Local Emergency Management Performance Grant base award application has been successfully processed and approved. Spalding County has been awarded \$19,222.00 in federal funds.
- Spalding County CI Counseling Staff has been selected by the Georgia Department of Corrections as the winner of the Excellence in Corrections for Program Service for this year.

X. REPORT OF ASSISTANT COUNTY MANAGER

XI. REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS

Rita Johnson – Kudos to everyone who received a proclamation this evening. It says a lot for what is going in this community. Thanked the Leisure Services Department for all the progress that has been made on the Heritage Park Project. It is very exciting. Commissioner Dutton mentioned a Christmas Parade, she asked if Commissioner Dutton was planning to speak on this?

Ryan Bowlden – He missed the discussion on the raises at the last meeting. He just wanted to add that we had one department head who stepped and fought for the people and the main thing we pushed was Public Safety. Everybody in Spalding County deserves a raise, but these individuals protect us, save us and do everything. He wanted to thank the Sheriff for his efforts and come together with the appropriate people to work this out. We are going to have to find a better way. He wants our officers, firefighters and EMT's to get their pay up, quick. If not, we're going to have a mass exodus. He has heard the City is planning on giving yet another raise. We've got to work on it.

Gwen Flowers-Taylor - She is agreeing with what Commissioner Bowlden said regarding the raises. She still hasn't got the paper regarding pay increases. When she brought the matter up, she was talking about the part time staff that works for the County that hasn't had a salary increase in years. Then the Sheriff came in and talked about his situation and we found out what was going on with the City. She can't speak formally on this because she hasn't seen the paper, but she is very much concerned that we need to something different. I'm sure Dr. Ledbetter figured something out, but until I see the numbers and where the funding is coming from for these raises, she still isn't good with it.

She also wanted to say that the Griffin Ballet had their production of The Adams Family. We went out on Friday night and despite the cold and the rain it was a really good production. In terms of Spalding County, this is the type of stuff that we want to see on our tourism page. This is the type of stuff we want to see on the FaceBook page and on the Instagram. That stuff is happening on Friday and Saturday night. After

that production, there was literally a traffic jam in Griffin. There were people downtown and these are the kinds of partnerships and us being able to work together that she feels that will make this a much happier community for people.

She wanted to thank the Coroner, when she use to work in the Emergency Room it was never good when you saw the Coroner, but our past Coroner was such a big hearted person that he made it easy not only for the staff in the Emergency Room, but family members to be able to deal with what was going on. She has followed everything that has been happening at the hospital and had these funeral homes not stepped up they would have had to put a freezer truck outside of the emergency room. That is their business, but this is their giving back to the community at a time where people needed to do what they needed to do to be okay. She is very grateful to them.

Tomorrow is election day. She encourages everyone to go out to vote.

She is concerned that we are really not “hitting the target” of what we need to do for first responders.

James Dutton – He also wanted to thank all the folks who came and were honored this evening. Especially those community organizations that stepped up and provided the solutions. Our community says what can I do, what can my organization do, what can my church do? Public and private businesses and that is the beauty of living in Spalding County.

Our Chamber of Commerce did a fantastic job and I was glad that they were able to step in and help with the ballet. There was an idea for tourism and landmarks and that type of thing down town to have specific QR Code placed on things that would go to a website that would have a “blurb” about what is happening and also links to the FaceBook pages and the Downtown Tourism Board.

Places in Florida have been using this type of market to do what is called “gamifying” the downtown. So, they put scavenger hunts and that type of stuff. Lakeland, Florida does them about once a quarter and something like 250 people will drive to Lakeland and tour and eat lunch and move around the City kind of like the folks who play Pokemon Go and you see them walking to different locations trying to catch Pokemon. This group wants to come and try this programming in Georgia.

Dennis Scott and his group are working on the Christmas Parade. They have been working on it. The route is literally an ordinance that says this is where you must begin, this is where the route goes and this is where it must end. So, they have had passed not a permanent ordinance change, but a temporary ordinance change to try out a new parade route. We’re trying to get more organization involved and all the fire trucks that aren’t out on calls.

Commissioner Johnson then asked how they are letting the public know?

Sheriff Dix advised that announcements went out today to some of the departments that people were getting \$4,000 pay raises that were going into affect tomorrow and they would reflect on their first paychecks. It went out to fire and it went out to public works. Can somebody please advise what I’m supposed to tell my people?

Dr. Ledbetter asked the Sheriff to send him copies of the emails, because he hasn’t seen them.

Sheriff Dix stated that after the meetings he had last week, he feels once again that he and his people have been punched in the mouth. He needs to know what is going on and his people need to know what's going on. Because tomorrow morning he is the one that is going to have to answer those questions. He is the elected official, he is the constitutional officer that is going to have to answer those questions. Tomorrow morning it is going to be "What about our pay raise? What about us?" It's like Commissioner Bowlden said, it was his people it was Chief Thomason and Wendy Stinchcomb who did all this stuff. And the things that makes it even worse is that the Human Resources Director isn't sitting in here right now. He was told this was going to be covered tonight in this meeting.

Commissioner Dutton responded that this is the first time he has heard of anything not going smoothly regarding the raises.

Dr. Ledbetter added that this was not on the agenda for this evening.

Commissioner Dutton then stated that the Christmas Parade committee has really gone above and beyond. They are still trying to get as many folks and sponsors as they can. They are working on getting awards for floats. We are going to have a cup for the civic award that will be passed every year from one organization to another. They've also acquired the State Shriner's with their mini cars. They have a schedule a year in advance and one of them is here.

The Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with other groups had a cemetery ramble at Oak Hill Cemetery where it was modeled after what Oakland Cemetery in Atlanta does where you come at night with luminaries and you walk from position to position and meet first hand the person buried there and learn their story. We have received a lot of feedback. They did a fantastic job and they are going to do it again next year.

Commissioner Dutton then encouraged everyone to go out and vote.

Chairman Clay Davis – Stated he would ditto Commissioner Dutton's encouragement to vote. He doesn't care how you vote, you simply need to exercise your right to vote. He wanted to say thank you for the Sheriff for what he is doing with the academy, it was one of his initiatives when he was elected and it has been a huge success as far as we're concerned.

He is continuing to research ARPA guidance and that some of that may be changing. He is excited about that opportunity and hopes that it continues to be here. Reminder to the Commissioners, Wednesday, we have a meeting here at 10:00 a.m. on redistricting. Be prepared to come and vote.

He then asked the status of the LMIG.

Dr. Ledbetter advised that the notice to proceed has been issued to E.R. Snell. We are moving forward with the repaving for the four roads that were approved.

Chairman Davis then asked the county manager to talk about recent hiring.

Dr. Ledbetter introduced DeAndre Smith and Amy Storey who are working as our Civic Engagement Specialists employed by the County and are doing a phenomenal job.

Code Enforcement – we need to continue to work on Code Enforcement. He spoke

with Judge Cavanaugh, we've gotta work on our ability to better prepare.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor advised there is a tract at ACCG for Civic Engagement and she believes it would be beneficial for DeAndre to take those courses.

Ms. Windham stated that she had emailed everyone a copy of the naming policy that was passed in 2013.

XII. CLOSED SESSION

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Motion carried unanimously by all.