



After Agenda
Board of Commissioners - Regular Meeting
January 3, 2023
6:00 PM
Room 108, Annex Building
119 E. Solomon Street
Griffin, GA 30223

The Spalding County Board of Commissioners held their Regular Meeting on Monday, January 3, 2023, in Room 108 of the Spalding County Annex Building, beginning at 6:00 p.m. with Chairman Clay Davis presiding. Commissioners James Dutton, Gwen Flowers-Taylor, Ryan Bowlden and Rita Johnson 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) by Chairman Clay Davis.

II. INVOCATION

1. Pastor Will Doss of Eagles Way Church to deliver the Invocation.

Pastor Doss notified us that he had been called away unexpectedly this evening and would not be able to deliver the Invocation; however, he had arranged for Rev. Brandon Footitt of Carver Road Baptist Church to deliver the invocation this evening.

III. PLEDGE TO FLAG

1. Commissioner James Dutton, District #2 led the Pledge to the Flag.

IV. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

Chairman Davis then turned the meeting over to County Attorney, Stephanie Windham, handle the Election of the Chairman.

Ms. Windham then asked for a motion to open the floor for nominations for Chairman?

Motion/Second by Dutton/Johnson to open the floor for nominations for Chairman of the Board of Commissioners. Motion carried unanimously by all.

1. Election of Chairman of the Spalding County Board of Commissioners for Calendar Year 2023.

Commissioner Dutton nominated Clay Davis for Chairman of the Board. No other nominations were submitted.

Ms. Windham then asked for the nominations be closed.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Johnson to close the nominations for Chairman of the Board of Commissioners. Motion carried unanimously by all.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Bowlden to elect Clay Davis as Chairman of the Spalding County Board of Commissioners for Calendar Year 2023. Motion carried unanimously by all.

2. Election of Vice-Chairman of the Spalding County Board of Commissioners for Calendar Year 2023.

Commissioner Rita Johnson nominated James Dutton to continue as Vice-Chairman of the Board of Commissioners for 2023. No other nominations were received.

Motion/Second by Johnson/Bowlden to elect James Dutton as Vice-Chairman of the Board of Commissioners for Calendar Year 2023. Motion carried unanimously by all.

V. APPOINTMENTS

1. Appointment of Dr. Steve Ledbetter as County Manager for Calendar Year 2023.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Bowlden to appoint Dr. Steve Ledbetter as County Manager for Calendar Year 2023. Motion carried unanimously by all.

2. Appointment of Kathy Gibson as County Clerk for Calendar Year 2023.

Motion/Second by Bowlden/Dutton to appoint Kathy Gibson as County Clerk for Calendar Year 2023. Motion carried unanimously by all.

3. Appointment of Dr. Steve Ledbetter as Deputy County Clerk for Calendar Year 2023.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Johnson to appoint Dr. Steve Ledbetter as Deputy County Clerk for Calendar Year 2023. Motion carried unanimously by all.

4. Extension of County Attorney contract.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Johnson to extend the County Attorney's contract.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that even though this contract has gone out for bids, it hasn't been finalized and it's not right for Beck, Owen and Murray to have to sit for however long before they know if they are going to remain the County

Attorney. We have an obligation to notify these businesses that we are not renewing their contract, but we didn't do it. We haven't done what we needed to do because we knew that these contracts were due in January and now we are asking these people to wait to do their business while we take however long it takes to figure it out. She doesn't feel that is fair, she thinks the people we have appointed in the past have done an excellent job for us. It's not their fault we didn't get our stuff done before now.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor then stated her suggestion is that we go ahead and do our annual appointments until we figure out how we are going to bid this out. This is peoples' businesses and livelihoods. It's not fair, we would do that to anybody else, so why would we do that to them?

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor then rescinded her motion and Commissioner Johnson withdrew her second.

Commissioner Dutton then asked when the RFPs would be ready?

Dr. Ledbetter advised that the bids have gone out for both the County Attorney and the Zoning Attorney contracts and are due back in by January 10th. A committee has been put together that will score the bids and notify the Board.

Commissioner Dutton then asked what all was being bid out.

Dr. Ledbetter stated that currently there are three things under bid: Zoning Attorney, County Attorney, and the telephone system.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Johnson to extend the County Attorney contract with Beck, Owen, and Murray until December 31, 2023. Motion carried 3-2 (Davis/ Dutton)

5. Extension of County Zoning Attorney contract.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Davis to extend the County Zoning Attorney contract through February 2023.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor advised she felt the same should be done for the Zoning Attorney as these contracts are annual contracts that have been in place for many years and it simply isn't right for Mr. Galloway to have that uncertainty, we need to approve the contract through the end of the year and put the contracts out to bid in time for a decision to be made by December 31, 2023.

Motion failed 2/3 (Flowers-Taylor/Johnson/Bowlden).

Motion/Second by Johnson/Flowers-Taylor to extend the County Zoning Attorney contract with Galloway and Lyndall to December 31, 2023. Motion carried 3-2 (Davis/Dutton).

6. Continue current agreement with County Human Resources Attorney for Calendar Year 2023.

Dr. Ledbetter advised that this contract is in coordination with ACCG and should remain as it is for the upcoming year.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Davis to continue the current agreement with the County Human Resource Attorney for Calendar Year 2023. Motion carried unanimously by all.

VI. PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS – None.

VII. 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.

Dr. Ledbetter advised that no one had signed up to speak this evening.

VIII. PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – None.

IX. MINUTES

1. Consider approval of the Minutes from the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Extraordinary Session and Executive Session on December 19, 2022, and the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Special Called Meeting and Executive Session on December 22, 2022.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Johnson to approve the Minutes from the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Extraordinary Session and Executive Session on December 19, 2022, and the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Special Called Meeting and Executive Session on December 22, 2022. Motion carried unanimously by all.

X. CONSENT AGENDA – None.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider approval of a List of Roadways, On-System and Off-System as established by the Georgia Department of Transportation.

Dr. Ledbetter stated that this list is an annual requirement through the Georgia Department of Transportation to highlight length and width of all of the on-system and off-system roads and to designate the speed limit for each of those roads. It is based on information that was pulled together by the district engineer for GDOT and sent over to us for our consideration and approval.

The school zone speed limits are indicated on the roads as well. He then advised that this is for speed limit purposes only, the information does not address any of the speed limit cameras associated with the school zones. He then noted that the speed zones for the different schools are not the same and is based on a legal requirement that bases the speed on the 85th percentile of the vehicles that travel that particular road and that is how they set the speed limit. We challenged that with GDOT and asked them to reconsider the speed limits for certain roads and we were told that there is a process that they follow, they examine each road and the set the speed based on that 85 percentile.

Dr. Ledbetter was told that this was an engineering study and they based the speed on what they determined was the safest speed for each of the areas. We completed the review in September.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor asked if this was the same documentation that was presented to the Board previously?

Dr. Ledbetter stated that this is the same information with the exception of the school zone information which is highlighted in the document. It clarifies the times for the school zones.

Motion/Second by Johnson/Bowlden to approve the List of Roadways, On-System and Off-System as established by the Georgia Department of Transportation.

Commissioner Dutton expressed his concern that the Board is not a part of the decision yet we are being asked to sign off on.

Motion carried unanimously by all.

2. Consider appointment to the Board of Appeals and Adjustments Unsafe Building Abatement Code.
 - a. To succeed Charles Penney for a four-year term ending December 31, 2026.

Dr. Ledbetter stated that Mr. Penney does have a nomination form in the book and he would like to continue on this Board.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Bowlden to appoint Charles Penney to the Board of Appeals and Adjustments Unsafe Building Abatement Code to expire December 31, 2026. Motion carried unanimously by all.

- b. There are currently two other openings on this Board.

There are no other nominations in the book, this appointment will be placed on the next agenda for consideration.

3. Consider appointment to the Griffin-Spalding Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.

- a. Chairman or designee to succeed Commissioner Rita Johnson for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023.

Commissioner Johnson was reappointed to the Griffin-Spalding Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors for a one-year term ending December 31, 2022.

- b. To succeed County Manager Steve Ledbetter for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023.

Commissioner Johnson asked if the Dr. Ledbetter would like for DeAndre Smith, Spalding County Citizen Engagement Specialist, to be appointed as he is at all the meetings.

Dr. Ledbetter stated that Mr. Smith is there, and he has no problem with his being appointed to this Board.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flower-Taylor to appoint DeAndre smith to the Griffin-Spalding Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. Motion carried unanimously by all.

4. Consider appointment to the Council on Aging to replace Janie Clark for a three-year term ending December 31,2025.

Dr. Ledbetter advised that Ms. Clark does have a nomination form in the book and she does want to continue on this council.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Johnson to reappoint Janie Clark to the Council on Aging for a three-year term ending December 31, 2025. Motion carried unanimously by all.

5. Consider appointment to the Griffin Downtown Council.

- a. Chairman or designee to succeed Commissioner Rita Johnson for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023.

Commissioner Dutton asked Commissioner Johnson if she would like to move to the Griffin Main Street Advisory Board and he would move to the Griffin Downtown Council.

Commissioner Johnson stated she had no problem with that change.

Chairman Davis then appointed Commissioner James Dutton to serve on the Griffin Downtown Council for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023.

6. Consider appointment to the Griffin Main Street Advisory Board.

- a. Chairman or designee to succeed Commissioner James R. Dutton for a one-year term to expire December 31, 2023.

Chairman Davis appointed Commissioner Rita Johnson to the Griffin Main Street Advisory Board for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023.

7. Consider appointments to the Griffin-Spalding Area Transportation Committee.

- a. Chairman or designee to succeed Commissioner Ryan Bowlden for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023.

Chairman Davis reappointed Ryan Bowlden to the Griffin-Spalding Area Transportation Committee for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023.

- b. Chairman or designee to succeed Commissioner Gwen Flowers-Taylor for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that she no longer wished to serve on this committee.

Chairman Davis appointed Commissioner James Dutton to the Griffin-Spalding Area Transportation Committee for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023.

- c. To succeed Deputy Chief Glenn Polk for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023.
- d. To succeed Kellie Littlefield for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023.
- e. To succeed Steve Ledbetter for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023.
- f. To succeed Sheriff Darrell Dix for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to reappoint Deputy Chief Polk, Kellie Littlefield, Dr. Steve Ledbetter and Sheriff

Darrell Dix to the Griffin-Spalding Area Transportation Committee for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023.

- g. To succeed Bill Bryant for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023.

Dr. Ledbetter stated that Mr. Bryant has notified staff that he no longer wishes to serve on this committee and there are no nominations in the book for this position.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to table this appointment until the next meeting. Motion carried unanimously by all.

- h. To succeed Frank Harris for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023.

Dr. Ledbetter stated that Mr. Harris does have a nomination form in the book and he would like to continue on this committee.

- i. To succeed Todd Harris/Bruce Ballard for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Dutton to appoint Frank Harris, Todd Harris/Bruce Ballard for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023. Motion carried unanimously by all.

8. Consider appointment to the Griffin-Spalding Business and Tourism Association, Inc.

- a. To succeed Steve Ledbetter for a three-year term ending December 31, 2025.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor questioned if the term was correct as most of the appointments for employees are for a one-year term.

Kathy Gibson, County Clerk, advised that she had checked the By-Laws for this Association and the By-Laws state that all appointments are for three-year terms.

- b. To succeed T.J. Imberger for a three-year term ending December 31, 2025.
c. To succeed Gwen Flowers-Taylor for a three-year term ending December 31, 2025.
d. To succeed Vera McIntosh for a three-year term ending December 31, 2025.
e. To succeed Bonnie Pfrogner for a three-year term ending December 31, 2025.

Motion/Second by Johnson/Dutton to appoint Dr. Steve Ledbetter, T.J. Imberger, Gwen Flowers-Taylor, Vera McIntosh and Bonnie Pfrogner to the Griffin-Spalding Business and Tourism Association, Inc. for a three-year term ending December 31, 2025. Motion carried unanimously by all.

9. Consider appointment to the Griffin-Spalding Airport Authority.

a. To succeed Dennis Noll for a six-year term ending December 31, 2028.

Dr. Ledbetter stated that Mr. Noll would like to remain on this Authority and there is a Nomination Form in the book for Mr. Noll.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to reappoint Dennis Noll to the Griffin-Spalding Airport Authority for a six-year term ending December 31, 2028. Motion carried unanimously by all.

b. To succeed Commissioner James R. Dutton for a four-year term ending December 31, 2026.

Chairman Davis reappointed Commissioner James R. Dutton to the Griffin-Spalding Airport Authority to expire December 31, 2026.

10. Consider appointment to the Griffin-Spalding County Development Authority.

a. To succeed Commissioner James R. Dutton for a period of one-year ending December 31, 2023.

Chairman Davis reappointed Commissioner James R. Dutton to the Griffin-Spalding County Development Authority for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023.

11. Consider appointment to the Griffin-Spalding Hospital Authority.

a. To succeed Eddie Grogan for a four-year term ending December 31, 2026.

Dr. Ledbetter advised that Mr. Grogan has expressed his desire to continue on this Authority and he does have a Nomination Form in the book.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to reappoint Eddie Grogan to the Griffin-Spalding Hospital Authority for a four-year term ending December 31, 2024. Motion carried unanimously by all.

b. To succeed Clay Davis for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023.

Chairman Davis will remain on the Griffin-Spalding Hospital Authority for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023.

12. Consider appointment to the McIntosh Trail Community Service Board.

a. To succeed Clay Davis for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023.

Chairman Davis will remain on the McIntosh Trail Community Service Board for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023.

- b. To succeed Connie Klopfenstein for a three-year term ending 12/31/2025.

Dr. Ledbetter stated that Ms. Klopfenstein has expressed her desire to continue on this Board and she has a Nomination Form in the book.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to reappoint Connie Klopfenstein to the McIntosh Trail Community Service Board for a three-year term ending December 31, 2025. Motion carried unanimously by all.

- 13. Consider appointment to the Spalding County Board of Health.

- a. To succeed Johnie McDaniel for a six-year term ending December 31, 2028.

Dr. Ledbetter stated that Mr. McDaniel would like to remain on this Board and he does have a Nomination Form in the book.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor then asked Chairman Davis if there was a practicing doctor on this Board.

Chairman Davis advised that there was not a practicing doctor on the Board, but there was a retired physician on the Board.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that she believes it has to be a practicing physician. She will check on this and address it with the Board.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Johnson to reappoint Johnie McDaniel to the Spalding County Board of Health for a six-year term ending December 31, 2028. Motion carried unanimously by all.

- b. To succeed Clay W. Davis for a one-year term to expire December 31, 2023.

Chairman Davis will remain on the Spalding County Board of Health for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023.

- 14. Consider appointments to the Spalding County Board of Zoning Appeals.

- a. To succeed Robert "Rob" Peurifoy for a four-year term to expire on December 31, 2027, from District 2.

Dr. Ledbetter stated that Mr. Peurifoy has not notified staff if he would like to continue on this Board and there is no Nomination Form in the book for this position.

Commissioner Dutton asked that the appointment be tabled until the next meeting.

- b. To succeed Ed Brown for the remainder of his term scheduled to expire on 12/31/2024, from District 4.

Commissioner Bowlden advised that Mr. Brown has passed and asked that this appointment also be tabled until the next meeting.

- c. To succeed Billy Slaughter for a four-year term to expire on December 31, 2026, from District 5.

Dr. Ledbetter advised that there are two individuals in the book for this appointment the first one in the book is Douglas Hardwick.

Chairman Davis appointed Douglas Hardwick to the Spalding County Board of Zoning Appeals to succeed Billy Slaughter for a four-year term to expire on December 31, 2026.

- 15. Consider appointment to Spalding County Collaborative Authority for Families & Children, Inc.

- a. To succeed Irma Lewis for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023.

Dr. Ledbetter advised that Ms. Lewis is the Sheriff's Office representative on this Authority.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to reappoint Irma Lewis to the Spalding County Collaborative Authority for Families & Children, Inc. for a one-year term to expire on December 31, 2023.

- b. To succeed Rita Johnson for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023.

Chairman Davis reappointment Commissioner Rita Johnson to the Spalding County Collaborative Authority for Families and Children, Inc. for a one-year term to expire on December 31, 2023.

- c. To succeed Jewell Walker-Harps for a two-year term ending December 31, 2024.

Dr. Ledbetter stated that Ms. Walker-Harps has expressed her desire to remain on this Authority and there is a Nomination Form in the book.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to reappoint Jewel Walker-Harps to the Spalding County Collaborative Authority for Families and Children, Inc. for a two-year term ending December 31, 2024. Motion carried unanimously by all.

- 16. Consider appointment to the Spalding County Department of Family and Children Services Board.

- a. To succeed Mildred Stull for a five-year term ending December 31, 2027.

Dr. Ledbetter stated that Ms. Stull has expressed her desire to continue on this Board and there is a Nomination Form in the book.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to reappoint Mildred Stull to the Spalding County Department of Family and Children Services Board for a five-year term ending December 31, 2027. Motion carried unanimously by all.

17. Consider appointment to the Spalding County Ethics Review Panel.

Stephanie Windham, County Attorney, then read the following information from the Ethic Ordinance:

Sec. 2-12008. Ethics Review Panel.

- (a) Members of the Ethics Review Panel must be:

1. A resident of Spalding County.
2. A registered voter.
3. Computer literate and able to provide a valid email address.
4. Not an employee of the County or a covered official, or any immediate family member of an employee of the County or a covered official.
5. Not an officer or employee of any political party.
6. Not an elected official in the County and not a candidate for office of the United States, the State of Georgia, or the County of Spalding, and has not held any elected office during the 3 months immediately preceding his/her appointment.
7. Not a member of any board or authority appointed by the Board of Commissioners.

- (d) Each Ethics Review Panel shall consist of five randomly selected members from a list maintained by the Ethics Panel Clerk who shall serve for one (1) year. Members may serve successive one (1) year terms if randomly selected from the list.

- (e) The Ethics Panel Clerk shall maintain a list of not less than nine nor more than fifteen qualified individuals from which to draw members of the Ethics Panels, and shall confirm the qualifications and willingness of each to such individual to serve on an Ethics Review Panel not less than once per year.

- (f) The list may include the following persons provided they meet the qualifications for service and have no conflict of interest in providing service on the Ethics Review Panel:

1. A Member of Spalding County Bar Association.
2. A Member of local military organization.
3. The Executive Director or board member of a Non-Profit Organization with an office in Spalding County.
4. Interested citizens who have requested to be considered for service on the Panel.
5. A member of the clergy with a church located in Spalding County.

The Commissioners were then asked to submit three individuals to serve on the Ethics Review panel by the first meeting in February.

18. Consider appointments to the Spalding County Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission.
 - b. To succeed Kenneth Hester for a two-year term to expire on December 31, 2024 (District #1)
 - c. To succeed Tyrone Ward for a two-year term to expire on December 31, 2024 (District #1)

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor reappointed Kenneth Hester and Tyrone Ward to the Spalding County Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission for District #1 for a two-year term ending December 31, 2024.

- d. To succeed Chris Saxon for a one-year term to expire on December 31, 2023 (District #2)
- e. To succeed Byron Styler for a one-year term to expire on December 31, 2023 (District #2)

Commissioner Dutton asked that his appointments for District #2 to the Spalding County Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission be tabled until the first meeting in February.

- f. To succeed Beth Horne for a two-year term to expire on December 31, 2024 (District #3)
- g. To succeed Zachery Holmes for a two-year term to expire on December 31, 2024 (District #3)

Commissioner Johnson reappointed Beth Horne and Zachery Holmes for District #3 to the Spalding County Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission for a two-year term ending December 31, 2024.

- h. To succeed Reese Simmons for a two-year term to expire on December 31, 2024 (District #4)
- i. To succeed Thomas "TJ" McDaniel for a two-year term to expire on December 31, 2024 (District #4)

Commissioner Bowlden reappointed Reese Simmons and TJ McDaniel to the Spalding County Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission for District #4 for a two-year term ending December 31, 2024.

- j. To succeed Peter Phelps for a two-year term to expire on December 31, 2024 (District #5)

- k. To succeed Byron Pearce for a two-year term to expire on December 31, 2024 (District #5)

Chairman Davis reappointed Peter Phelps and Byron Pearce to the Spalding County Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission for District #5 for a two-year term ending December 31, 2024.

- l. To succeed Gwen Flowers-Taylor for a one-year term to expire on December 31, 2023. (Chairman or Designee).

Chairman Davis reappointed Commissioner Flowers-Taylor to the Spalding County Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023.

19. Consider appointments to the Spalding County Personnel Appeals Board.

- a. To succeed Gerald "Dan" McLean for a three-year term to expire on December 31, 2025.

Dr. Ledbetter advised that Mr. McLean notified staff that he no longer wishes to continue on this Board. There is one nomination in the book, Robert Parker for consideration.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Dutton to appoint Robert Parker to the Spalding County Personnel Appeals Board for a three-year term to expire December 31, 2025. Motion carried unanimously by all.

- b. To succeed Bill Kelley for a three-year term to expire on December 31, 2025.

Dr. Ledbetter stated that Mr. Kelley has not responded as to remaining on this Board and there is no one in the book at this time.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to table this appointment to the first meeting in February. Motion carried unanimously by all.

20. Consider appointments to the Spalding County Planning Commission.

- a. To succeed Bruce Ballard for a four-year term. (District #2 Appointment)

Dr. Ledbetter stated that Mr. Ballard would like to remain on this Commission and there is a Nomination Form in the book.

Commissioner Dutton reappointed Bruce Ballard to the Spalding County Planning Commission for District #2 for a four-year term to expire on December 31, 2026.

- b. To succeed Walter Cox for a four-year term (District #5 Appointment)

Chairman Davis appointed Mary Louise Upshaw to the Spalding County Planning Commission for District 5, for a four-year term to end on December 31, 2026.

21. Consider appointment to the Spalding County Water & Sewerage Facilities Authority.

- a. To succeed Fannie Delaney for a six-year term to expire on December 31, 2028.

Dr. Ledbetter stated that Ms. Delaney has expressed her desire to remain on this Authority and there is a Nomination Form in the book.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to reappoint Fannie Delaney to the Spalding County Water & Sewerage Facilities Authority for a six-year term to expire on December 31, 2028. Motion carried unanimously by all.

- b. To succeed Gwen Flowers-Taylor for a one-year term to expire on December 31, 2023.

Chairman Davis reappointed Commissioner Flowers-Taylor to the Spalding County Water & Sewerage Facilities Authority for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023.

22. Consider appointment to the Three Rivers Regional Commission Board of Directors.

- a. Commissioner Flowers-Taylor is currently the designee for this Board.

Chairman Davis reappointed Commissioner Flowers-taylor to the Three-Rivers Regional commission Board of Directors for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023.

23. Consider appointments to the Two Rivers RC&D Council.

- a. Commissioner James Dutton is the Chairman or Designee appointment to this council.

Chairman Davis reappointed Commissioner Dutton to the Two Rivers RC&D Council for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023.

- b. Alternate member to succeed Danny Meadows.

Dr. Ledbetter advised that staff has not heard anything from Mr. Meadows and asked that this appointment be tabled until the first meeting in February.

24. Consider appointment to the West Central Workforce Investment Board.

- a. This individual must be the Chief Elected Official for Spalding County which is the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners.

Chairman Davis will continue to represent the Board on the West Central Workforce Investment Board for a one-year term to end December 31, 2023.

25. Consider appointment of a business representative to the Three Rivers Regional Commission Board of Directors. This is a shared position where the City appoints in even years and the County appoints in odd years. The City appointed Mr. David Johnson in 2022.

Dr. Ledbetter stated that David Johnson was appointed by the City of Griffin in 2022. He has been contacted and would like to remain on this Board.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to appoint David Johnson as the business representative to the Three Rivers Regional Commission Board of Directors for a one-year term ending December 31, 2023. Motion carried unanimously by all.

26. Consider extension of the Judicial Alternatives Contract for probation services to Superior and State Courts through the end of the first quarter of 2023.

Dr. Ledbetter advised that he has had conversations with Judge Sams and Judge Thacker and they have asked that the contract be reviewed in whole with the County Attorney and that they have an opportunity to have input into the contract. He has spoken with Judicial Alternatives and they are aware of our request. They have resubmitted an extension of their current contract through the end of the first quarter. Ms. Windham has reviewed the contract and staff would ask that we have the opportunity to meet with all parties concerned with respect to our probation. Specifically, with Judge Sams, Judge Thacker and the County Attorney and bring back to you for consideration of how to move this contract forward.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Dutton to approve an extension to the Judicial Alternatives Contract for probation services to Superior and State Courts through the end of first quarter of 2023. Motion carried unanimously by all.

XII. OLD BUSINESS – None.

XIII. REPORT OF COUNTY MANAGER

- Dr. Ledbetter stated that severe weather is moving into the area this evening. In fact, we are currently under a tornado watch until 9:00 p.m. Please be weather aware and if you have signed up for CivicReady through the County, please visit our website or social media sites and sign up this evening.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor asked if the Fire Department could go out and assist people in signing up for the CivicReady app. Dr. Ledbetter stated that he would check on this.

- This afternoon, Spalding County received notice from the Georgia Department of Community Affairs that our Service Delivery Strategy has been approved. We are still waiting for final approval on the Capitol Improvement Element which is still under review. As soon as that is approved, we will bring it back to the Board for determination of what the IMPACT fees will be.
- He thanked the City of Griffin for the work completed to meet the deadline for LOST renegotiations on Friday.
- The annual Board of Commissioners Retreat is scheduled for Friday, January 20th. Staff is working diligently to finalize details for the retreat and will share more by the end of the week, to include location, pre-read materials and agenda.

XIV REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS

Rita Johnson – Friday was an interesting morning, but she couldn't be prouder of our team. She feels we worked well together. It all came together and worked for the benefit of the citizens and she feels we can still maintain a descent relationship with the City. Great work, it was tiring but awesome.

Are we going to continue having the Appointment Day training?

Ms. Windham stated that the last Appointment Day was very successful, and we plan to continue that program.

She then said that she would like to see more of the people appointed attend.

Ms. Windham stated that she feels personal asks by the Commissioners who appointed the individuals showing an expectation that they attend would be helpful. There are some people who have been on Boards for a number of years and that doesn't mean that they don't need to attend.

She is going to miss the MLK parade this year and she is not going to be there for it.

Ryan Bowlden – The last month and a half has been the most stressful, worst time to be sitting in this seat. He feels sorry for the people who will be sitting here in 2032, we need to start these negotiations in 2028. If we are going to have to negotiate, let's get it done early and not wait until the last minute.

Code Enforcement, he told Dr. Ledbetter, at the first of December, that he would like to have something on Code Enforcement by this meeting. Dr. Ledbetter has had a lot on his plate, so he is going to "let it slide." Commissioner Bowlden is planning on meeting with the Sheriff or Chief Deputy Thomason to get the backlog cleared up because he is getting a lot of calls and recalls and they are beginning to get angry

because he is having to give them the same answer. We have got to come up with something to get us through.

Gwen Flowers-Taylor – She would like to say that she is happy that LOST is over. One of the things that she realized about LOST is that she has to let people be where they are. To explain she feels that the City has done the County dirty in the 18 years she has served on the Board and that is in her relationship with the County in general and with the Water Authority. So, there is nothing that anybody is going to say that is going to change how she approaches the way she deals with them. That should be okay. By the same token, there are people at the City who believe the exact same thing. That we've messed them over all these years. You can't change that, but what she does see going forward is that somehow we need to get the message to our legislature that they need to do better. They need to come up with a standard that is objective with criteria so that these kinds of negotiations don't end up like this. What she has seen over the years is that every 10 years the State pits the Cities against the Counties and what she has seen happen within our County is it takes us two to three years to get back to a point where we can sit in the same room. She feels we need to give the City some space to be angry and for us to remember no matter how we feel we didn't get what we deserve, when you look at the ticket, we won. Somebody lost and she hopes that we can figure out a way to accept each other's disagreements, but to realize the principle of what we are trying to do is so much bigger than our personality conflicts.

She has faith in this Board and she has faith in the City Board because she feels that they also want what is best for this community, but we need to recognize that we are broken right now. Our relationship as a Board and a few of our personal relationships have just been trashed. She has things that she needs to work on as well, but at the end of the day she always wants to do what is best for Spalding County. She then asked that we tread lightly with the City because we have to give them space to work their way through this.

Code Enforcement, she really doesn't know what is to be done. There are so many things that are happening right now because people know that we don't have Code Enforcement. Her thing going into 2023 is that we have got to fix Code Enforcement, she doesn't know how we are going to do it, but we clearly need to think out of the box. This is a major problem for us and everything that we have accomplished to draw people to Spalding County is now being dumped on.

James Dutton – He agrees that trash is a problem, and he feels that if we increase the first offense fine to the maximum and talk with the judges that would be a major deterrent. It starts with us and we need to look into changing the ordinance and starting a process to really crack down on this.

With regard to LOST the State can come with a fact-based study and information packet that we have to sign when it comes to Speed Zones and things like that, but they let LOST negotiations go like they do, it is a design to pit us against one another so that we don't get mad at them when they do stuff. That process needs to be improved because clearly they have the ability to do better and yet they're not.

Congratulations to the Georgia Bulldogs, he is excited about the next big game coming up.

The Animal Shelter needs everybody's help right now. If you have some room in your home, don't go to a breeder, we have some "super cute" dogs in the shelter. Even if you can't take home an animal, just go over and play with them. They will let you take them out one at a time. They want you to do that because it socializes that animal and gives them a better chance of going home with somebody else.

The MKL parade is coming up and he encourages everyone to come out and participate.

Clay Davis – Reminded the Board to make sure they file their Personal Financial Disclosure Statements. They are now available on-line. You have until June to get it done, it has to be done annually.

On January 20th money is going to be a big issue in the upcoming year and he would like for everyone to take some time to think about what are three services that you feel could be reduced. We are going to get into some tough financial times, and this can be an easy way to get started. What are three services that we currently provide that can be reduced to save money.

There was a meeting with the Board of Elections and most of our local legislators were in attendance, Marty Harbin, David Knight and Karen Mathiak. Chairman Davis talked to them about LOST and they all agreed that it was bad, and it will have to be done again in 10 years. He's not sure they got the point of what we want to do. He feels we may need to do a resolution to send to them to show them how important it is and we want them to do something about it. It would be ideal for the City and the County to agree on one resolution and we send it to them and they take it and go forward.

Ms. Windham stated that based on her conversations in the last month she feels that we could get a huge joint resolution with other cities and counties, not just us.

We need to get something to the legislators so that they feel pressure to do something.

Ms. Windham stated she feels it is important enough to send it not just to our representatives, but to everyone in our legislature and to Governor Kemp.

Dr. Ledbetter stated that ACCG has gotten involved and is asking local legislators to stand up a study group. He talked with Bill Toumey at ACCG last week and they will be asking for a study group the first day of the new session.

He is extremely please with our Board being able to work through LOST. We changed direction, we talked about it and were able to do it. He is pleased with the diversity of thought that we had was very powerful with different people coming in from different directions and saying things. He was happy we were able to listen to one another and say we don't agree with that, but we understand the point of view.

The last thing is he has had a number of people want to talk with him about consolidation. The LOST negotiations shows us that we may want to have

consolidation back up again, because we saw how ugly it could get and we don't ever want to see that again. He mentions this as a "think" piece.

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION – None.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m. Motion carried unanimously by all.