



After Agenda
Board of Commissioners – Extraordinary Session
May 15, 2023 6:00 PM
Room 108, Spalding County Annex Building
119 E. Solomon Street
Griffin, GA 30223

The Spalding County Board of Commissioners held their Extraordinary Session on Monday, May 15, 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, Steve Ledbetter, County Attorney, Stephanie Windham and County Clerk, Kathy Gibson to record the minutes.

I. OPENING (CALL TO ORDER) was led by Chairman Clay Davis.

PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONES AND ALL OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES.

II. INVOCATION

1. Commissioner Gwen Flowers-Taylor, District #1, delivered the Invocation.

III. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

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

IV. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None.

V. PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Consider approval of financial statements for the ten months ended April 30, 2023.

Jinna Garrison, Administrative Services Director, advised she would be happy to answer any questions the Board may have regarding the Financial Statements.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Bowlden to approve the financial statements as presented for the ten months ended April 30, 2023. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

VI. PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

1. Recognize Chairman Clay Davis on completing the classes necessary to become a Certified County Commissioner.

Dr. Ledbetter stated that this designation is awarded by the University of Georgia, Carl Vinson Institute of Government and the ACCG. When the prescribed core educational classes and the Lifelong Learning Academy are completed by an

individual. Chairman Davis was recognized for this achievement at the ACCG Annual Conference in Savannah, and we have his certificate here this evening.

2. Consider approval nunc pro tunc of a Proclamation for the National Day of Prayer in Spalding County, Georgia.

Commissioner Dutton advised that the Board has approved the National Day of Prayer but had never approved the Proclamation. He presented the Proclamation at the ceremony on the courthouse veranda on May 4th, 2023 and asked the Board to adopt the Proclamation nunc pro tunc.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Johnson to approve nunc pro tunc a Proclamation recognizing the National Day of Prayer in Spalding County.

Commissioner Dutton then read the Proclamation for everyone present at the meeting.

Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

VII. CITIZEN COMMENTS

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 Member or to the audience. Personal disagreements with individual Members 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 (3) minutes to speak on their chosen topics as they relate to matters pertinent to the jurisdiction of the Board of Commissioners. No questions will be asked by any of the members 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 (3) minutes or more than once, unless the Board votes to suspend this rule.

Kerry Gebler, 646 MacArthur Drive, Griffin, GA expressed her concerns regarding the change in directors at the Animal Shelter, we have gone through three shelter supervisors in a year. We worked hard to get the shelter built, it is a state-of-the-art facility. There is no reason we should be going through so many directors. She then expressed her concerns regarding the proposed opening of the Aquatic Center and the Recycling Centers. We have a commissioner defending Code Enforcement violators on codes that he may or may not have voted on and that seems like a conflict of interest. She is concerned that we have a commissioner passing laws and then defending citizens against violations of those laws.

Newton Galloway, 406 n. Hill Street, Griffin, GA updated the Board on the status of properties currently owned by the Land Bank Authority. He stated that since January

1st of this year the Land Bank has completed twelve (12) closings: three side-lot closings where somebody can acquire the property that is adjacent to their property if the Land Bank owns it so that they can make small lots into larger lots. They are allowed to do this without cost. We have sixteen (16) that are ready to close and there are an additional eleven (11) that are prepared to close within sixty (60) days after the right of redemption is completed.

The twelve (12) properties that we have recently closed puts the value of properties we have in Spalding County raised at \$29,000 in revenue. Bringing totals sales for the Land Bank on foreclosed properties to approximately \$140,000 over the past four years. He complemented David Penland of Beck, Owen, and Murray for concentrating on these properties and bringing them to closing. This confirms what we have always said, that if we can get a permanent employee who is willing to do the work to get the properties closed, the Land Bank can function as it is supposed to and get these properties sold.

Mr. Galloway stated that we have now closed more properties in four months than most Land Banks do in one year and without an Executive Director. He then advised that the Board has before them tonight an Intergovernmental Agreement that makes the anticipated employee of the Land Bank an employee of the City of Griffin, but with consultation with the Land Bank and members of the Authority. That is acceptable to the Land Bank. He then added that at the meeting of the Land Bank last Thursday, Ms. O'Connor, the Mayor and Ms. Reid-Ward said they would be fine with letting the employee be an employee of the County. We don't care about for whom they work, we just need someone in a position that can do the work that Mr. Penland is not able to complete, that needs to be an administrative function, so we are not paying unnecessary attorney fees. That person does not need to be a lawyer, but it does need to be someone who has a background in real estate and is committed to doing the work the way it is supposed to be done.

Erica Pagan 3006 Lincoln Log Way, McDonough, GA spoke about the Urban Outreach Association and their desire to host the 2nd Annual Juneteenth Celebration at Fairmont Park.

Reginald Watts, 128 Huntington Terrace, Griffin, GA stated that he is the President and CEO of the Urban Outreach Association in Griffin, and we are coming before the Board and requesting to have a Juneteenth Celebration on June 17th at Fairmont Park from noon until 5:00 p.m.

VIII. MINUTES

1. Consider approval of the Minutes from the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting on May 1, 2023.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Dutton to approve the Minutes of the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting on May 1, 2023. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

IX. CONSENT AGENDA – None.

X. OLD BUSINESS

1. Lift from the table and consider recommendation from the Parks and Leisure Services Advisory Commission to accept a donation from the Spalding County Pickleball Association and the facility improvements for which they are specified.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Dutton to lift from the table and consider recommendation from the Parks and Leisure Services Advisory Commission to accept a donation from the Spalding County Pickleball Association and the facility improvements for which they are specified. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that she was at the Parks and Leisure Services Advisory Commission meeting when this was presented by the Pickleball Association, and she has no problem with this request.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Dutton to approve the recommendation from the Parks and Leisure Services Advisory Commission to accept a donation from the Spalding County Pickleball Association in the amount of \$50,000 to perform the facility improvements as listed in the request. These improvements are to be made at no cost to Spalding County. Motion carried unanimously by all.

2. Lift from the table and consider recommendation from the Parks and Leisure Services Advisory Commission to approve the Spalding County Pickleball Association's long term pickleball facility improvement plan with the purpose of the Spalding County Pickleball Association seeking and accepting sponsorships.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to lift from the table and consider recommendation from the Parks and Leisure Services Advisory Commission to approve the Spalding County Pickleball Association's long term pickleball facility improvement plan with the purpose of the Spalding County Pickleball Association seeking and accepting sponsorships. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to consider recommendation.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that a Leisure Services and Park Master Plan have not been updated since 2005, there is money that has been set aside in the Impact Fee that can be utilized to complete this study. She stated that the Board would not be good stewards if we allowed Pickleball to give us a strategic plan that may not match with the strategic plan for the remainder of Leisure Services. We need to know what we want to look like in 5 – 15 years. So rather than not approving this, she would say that the Board should approve Leisure Services to move forward with a Leisure Services and Parks Master Plan study and incorporate these things

into that study. This would make it a holistic study and not favoring one activity over another. We want to grow all of Leisure Services at the same pace. These projects do need to be included in the Leisure Services and Parks Master Plan.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that the Spalding County Pickleball Association is an entity who can raise money and accept sponsorships as an Association and doesn't need the Board's permission to seek sponsorships. Should the improvements be included in a Leisure Service and Parks Master Plan, then the Association could collect sponsorships to implement the projects as part of the proposed Master Plan.

Commissioner Dutton then withdrew his motion and Commissioner Flowers-Taylor withdrew her second.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Bowlden to direct Spalding County Leisure Services to move forward with a Leisure Services and Parks Master Plan to include the future changes for the Pickleball facility as presented by the Association to allow for that group to solicit sponsorships and raise money for those improvements. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

3. Lift from the table and consider results of RFP for Indigent Defense for Spalding County.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Johnson to lift from the table and consider the results of the RFP for Indigent Defense for Spalding County Motion carried by a 4-0-1 (Commissioner James Dutton left the room as he works within the Court System and wished to recuse himself from this vote).

Dr. Ledbetter advised that the Board requested an opportunity to meet with both law firms before making a decision. Those discussions were held earlier today and both firms presented their RFP bids. He advised that one of the firms is present this evening.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that she had looked at the two proposals and while she is certainly always looking for a lower rate for a service, she stated that she has had none of her constituents contact her about being treated poorly by the indigent defense office. That was a huge thing for her. She is comfortable with the Jewkes Law Firm because everything has gone up and she feels these numbers are appropriately reflective of how much this service is going to go up. She further stated that she feels the increase they are requesting is within reason based on the increase of goods and services that has occurred since they started working with the County.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Bowlden to accept the bid presented by the Jewkes Law Firm for indigent defense for a renewable three-year contract.

Commissioner Johnson thanked the attorneys who came in earlier today to present to the Board.

Commissioner Dutton then stated that since he works in the Court where the indigent defense would be provided, and indigent defense is in competition for his law firm it would be of monetary benefit in one way or another, so he is recusing himself from this vote.

Motion carried 4-0-1 (Dutton recused himself.)

4. Lift from the table and consider approval of an MOU with UGA for the FY24 Archway Program.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Johnson to lift from the table and consider approval of an MOU with UGA for the FY24 Archway Program. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to approve an MOU with UGA for the FY24 Archway Program. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

5. Lift from the table and conduct a discussion regarding the direction the Board would like to take with regard to the Griffin-Spalding Land Bank Authority.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Dutton to lift from the table and consider a discussion regarding the direction the Board would like to take regarding the Griffin-Spalding Land Bank Authority. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Dr. Ledbetter advised that this item was tabled by the Commissioners at the Zoning Public Hearing on March 23rd, and you asked that we bring this back for your consideration this evening.

Commissioner Dutton then asked if the sticking point was if the employee would be a City of Griffin employee. Mr. Galloway said earlier that the city expressed their willingness for this individual to be a county employee. He doesn't have a problem with this.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor then stated that the Board's goal all along has been to put properties back on the tax roll. However, they have done it, that has happened. She thinks this is a good thing and she goes along with this suggestion.

Commissioner Johnson then stated that she appreciated Mr. Galloway coming up and giving the Board an update. That was very enlightening, and she would ask that the Land Bank update the Board periodically on the properties that are selling.

Commissioner Bowlden stated that we do have a lot invested in the Land Bank and he would like to learn more about the Land Bank before making the decision. There are a lot of properties currently owned by the Land Bank located in the county.

Ms. Windham advised that the Personnel Lease is a ten (10) year lease with the City of Griffin. That is the time that we have on the Airport Director's personnel lease as well.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor to amend the interlocal agreement to employ a fulltime Director for the land Bank Authority and that individual be an employee of the City of Griffin. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Ms. Windham stated that Mr. Galloway suggested the possibility of the Director being a county employee, it wasn't a recommendation.

Ms. O'Connor stated that the city had not voted on the employee being a county employee and that would have to be put before her Board. The statement was simply made at the last Land Bank meeting.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to amend the Interlocal Agreement for the Spalding County Land Bank Authority to employ a fulltime executive director who is to be an employee of Spalding County. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider request from Griselda Montes for an Amplification Permit for 466 N. McDonough Road, Georgia on Saturday, June 10, 2023, from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Dr. Ledbetter advised that the request is for the Moon Hollow area, the property is located well off the roadway of McDonough Road, and they will be having a birthday party. Both the Sheriff's Office and Community Development have approved this permit.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Dutton to approve a from Griselda Montes for an Amplification Permit for 466 N. McDonough Road, Georgia on Saturday, June 10, 2023, from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

2. Consider request from Ricardo Sustaita Casillas for an Amplification Permit for 490 Lakeview Drive, Brooks, Georgia on Saturday, July 8, 2023, from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Dr. Ledbetter advised that this request is for 5 hours and is for a Quinceanera located at 490 Lakeview Drive in Brooks. Both the Sheriff's Office and Community Development have reviewed and approved the request.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Dutton to approve a request from Ricardo Sustaita Casillas for an Amplification Permit for 490 Lakeview Drive, Brooks, Georgia on Saturday, July 8, 2023, from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

3. Consider cancellation of the Regular Meeting on Monday, July 3rd, in observance of the 4th of July holiday.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Dutton to cancel the Regular Meeting of the Spalding County Board of Commissioners on Monday, July 3rd, in observance of the 4th of July holiday. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

4. Consider approval of a GDOT Competitive Negotiation Qualifications Policy-based Selection for Projects Using Federal Aid Highway Program (FAHP) Funding.

Dr. Ledbetter advised that the previous agreement was signed by Chairman Bart Miller and County Manager, William Wilson. This affords us the opportunity to locally administer projects for the Georgia Department of Transportation and it is a requirement moving forward and just brings this document up-to-date.

Chairman Davis then stated that we have two people who qualify to locally administer these projects.

Dr. Ledbetter advised that he and T.J. Imberger have been through the locally administered project training, and they have completed that training.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Bowlden to approve the GDOT Competitive Negotiation Qualifications Policy-based Selection for Projects Using Federal Aid Highway Program (FAHP) Funding. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

5. Consider approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Georgia Department of Corrections for the FY 24 to house and care for certain State offenders.

Warden Carl Humphrey stated the dollar amount per diem for inmates will remain the same at \$22.00 per day. We are reducing the population from 385 to 300. There are some municipalities that have elected to not renew their contract, so we are reducing the inmate population to accommodate that reduction.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Dutton to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Georgia Department of Corrections for the FY 24 to house and care for certain State offenders.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor asked how this was going to affect the plan that we have for the CI? Will all the 300 be in work details?

Warden Humphrey advised that the focus for the inmates will be inside of Spalding County. Most of the inmates will be performing some function to support Spalding County.

Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

6. Consider review of the Annual MOA report from the Griffin-Spalding County Airport authority.

Dr. Ledbetter stated that Dr. Randall Peters, Chairman of the Griffin-Spalding Airport Authority and Robert Mohl, Director of the Griffin-Spalding Airport Authority are here this evening to discuss this item.

Dr. Peters advised that approximately a year and a half ago, the Airport Authority completed a Supplemental Environmental Assessment of the area the airport will be going into. As a result of that assessment, there were sixteen (16) items that needed to be addressed. At that time, there was a location on the property that may have been an Indian Burial location. We had an archeologist dig in the area and it was determined that it was not a burial location. There are fifteen (15) things that haven't been completed because we currently do not own all the properties involved. The report simply shows that we have completed one of the sixteen (16) items and the report is an annual requirement until we have completed all sixteen (16) items.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to approve the Annual MOA report from the Griffin-Spalding Airport Authority. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

7. Consider approval of Amendment #1 to the Airport Improvement Grant AP021-9046-34(255) for the new replacement airport Project.

Dr. Peters stated that the AIP Grant was for the movement by Georgia Power and Georgia Transmission Corporation of powerlines over the future location of the airport. The companies are already doing the work, but because of the time it has taken for them to complete that work we need to extend the length of time for this AIP Grant. It doesn't change any of the work, it is simply permitting the grant to extend the time to complete that work.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Dutton to approve Amendment #1 to the Airport Improvement Grant AP021-9046-34(255) for the new replacement Airport Project for a one-year period and that the Chairman be authorized to sign electronically this extension when it is provided by GDOT. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

8. Consider a recommendation from the Parks and Leisure Services Advisory Commission for Spalding County, in its general budget, to provide \$10,000.00 for the youth football program to maintain the same cost of registration per participant as FY 23 (\$145 plus \$40 equipment deposit).

Dr. Ledbetter then introduced Kelly Carmichael, Leisure Services Director and Tyrone Ward, Member of the Parks & Leisure Services Advisory Commission.

Ms. Carmichael stated that the cost to operate this program has gone up by \$10,000 from one year to the next. The primary reason for the increase is the cost of game officials, game staff and the cost of helmets. The helmets have nearly doubled in cost to continue the program. Staff has been diligent in searching out ways to make the program affordable. Staff have procured reversible jerseys so that team members won't feel it necessary to purchase alternating colors of jerseys as they play different color teams.

Staff have also worked with the High School Program to offer concessions and they are giving us the benefit of offering those concessions and the school system is graciously allowing us to use the stadium to host even more people at the games. We will be hosting 5 games this year at the stadium, these games will be all day events and this will include teams from out-of-town.

We have a sponsorship program and when combined with the anticipated concessions revenues they will be able to contribute \$6,000 to help supplement, but this still leaves a \$10,000 need and they are here this evening to ask the Board for these funds.

Mr. Ward stated they are asking for help because this program is needed in the community. With gang affiliation and the crime in this area, we need help. As a coach, we mentor these children. You must be passionate and understanding because these children are from different backgrounds. We spend a lot of time with the children, and we need your help.

Chairman Davis then asked why this program was not designed to be revenue neutral like other programs offered by Spalding County?

Ms. Carmichael stated that the costs for this program have increased exponentially. Last year alone, the sourcing of equipment was a huge problem, and it has carried over to this year. When there is difficulty sourcing, costs go up. We were prepared to present the actual cost of play, but when it was brought before the Advisory Commission, they wanted to find other sources for funding. We wanted to start advertising this program tomorrow, normally we are already accepting applications. Staff was told to pause, because it was an exponential increase, we brought it before the Parks and Leisure Services Advisory Commission as requested and this is where we are today.

Ms. Carmichael then stated that one thing the staff can do is to have the helmets reconditioned every year. They are recondition and recertified by Rydell for concussion safety.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that \$10,000 is a lot of money, but with gang activity in this community we could spend \$10,000 on one child, getting them through the Judicial System. She feels this is money better invested on this end, then to find somewhere for them to stay incarcerated or put them through our Court system. She knows the recommendation from the PLAC Board; however, she feels that it should cost the individual more and that \$200 per participant is not unwarranted considering the other programs out there. That is the least amount required to play any sport that we currently have. She would ask the Board to supplement the \$10,000 because everyone would not be able to afford the \$200 per child and staff could scholarship those who are in need from that \$10,000.

Chairman Davis stated that the desire is to make all sports revenue neutral, which means you may have to raise the costs to participate. If this is an unusual circumstance, he doesn't have a problem. But generally, it should be revenue neutral to be able to have the program.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that she knows that is a consensus. There have been a number of people who have played recreational ball and have gone on to play high school and then continue to play football in college. Every other sport in this community except for football has an association and demographically 80% of the kids are either African American or Other races. Clearly, demographically there are children in the community who would like to do something sports wise, but maybe can't afford it. It is bigger than just this season.

Commissioner Dutton then stated that he agreed that the cost for playing football should increase to \$200 and that maybe the Board could give a one-time supplement of \$10,000 for folks that you would lose with that difference.

Chairman Davis then asked the County Manager to look for partnerships and other possible sponsorships to try to raise the \$10,000.

Motion/Second by Davis/Flowers-Taylor to approve \$145.00 as the registration cost for football and to try to come up with the \$10,000 for the program when they need it next year even if it must come out of the FY24 Contingency Fund. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

9. Consider approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Griffin and the Griffin-Spalding Airport Authority for Joint Funding of General Aviation Operations.

Dr. Peters stated this is a renewal of an expiring ten (10) year intergovernmental agreement that is in place for operating Griffin-Spalding Airport.

Motion/Second by Dutton/Flowers-Taylor to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Griffin and the Griffin-Spalding Airport Authority for Joint Funding of General Aviation Operations. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

XII. REPORT OF COUNTY MANAGER

- ✓ Today is Peace Officers' Memorial Day. God Bless the men and women who serve in this role and thank you to our Sheriff and all who serve our community.
- ✓ Budget workshops continue. The staff is working to prepare updates to our community through Fire Station townhalls. More information to come through our social media sites.
- ✓ Re-codification: Municode completed their review and staff, the county attorney, and the county zoning attorney are reviewing the initial 45-page document in front of our first meeting scheduled for next week to update our county ordinances.
- ✓ Our Code Enforcement office will gain a new employee next week.
- ✓ We continue our search for a Director of Finance and Accounting and a Human Resource Director. Both positions are posted on a number of sites so if you know anyone who might be interested, please have them contact us.

XIII. REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS

Rita Johnson – The presentations this morning was very thorough and congratulations to the Jewkes Law Firm for getting the contract.

She would ask that the Board consider approving the request from the UOA for the Juneteenth Celebration on June 17th. She is a member of the organization and will stand by them and vouch for the good work that group is doing within the community. This is also in conjunction with a Juneteenth parade that we have also been talking about.

Ryan Bowlden – He would like to start setting dates for Town Hall meetings because there are a lot of rumors regarding the Collections Center and other items. He would

like to keep the community involved in some of the hard decisions that are going to have to be made, talked about and considered.

Gwen Flowers-Taylor – Asked DeAndre Smith, Citizen Engagement Specialist, if people say things on our Facebook page that they say on the Discussion Page? Mr. Smith said that no one asks us about it. She also advised that North Hill Street needs to be looked at for resurfacing because it is full of potholes. She gets phone calls every day about that road. We have to something; those holes are too big for mastic.

Dr. Ledbetter stated that he would check, but he does believe North Hill Street is on the list for resurfacing this year.

The list for resurfacing, the cost of paving has gone up tremendously and based on the money we are spending we're going to have to shorten that list.

She asked the UOA to come this evening to make a presentation because time is of the essence. They went to Leisure Services and in that meeting our questions were have you talked with the City of Griffin and arranged to block the streets for the event. How much security are you going to have. Leisure Services had some things that Mr. Watts needs to do. We could not vote as a Board until those items are addressed, but she would ask that Ms. Carmichael stay in contact with them because there is no reason, we shouldn't be involved in a community event that is going to happen at Fairmont on that date.

James Dutton – The 4-H Awards night was great. He was asked to hand out the awards. The Juneteenth parade is underway as far as planning is concerned and he feels that we need to be involved in the Celebration at Fairmont as well, we just need to make sure all of the boxes are checked.

Building code changes, he is going to keep “harping” on this at every meeting until it is done.

He spoke with Judge Thacker and stated that other places charge different amounts in fines than Spalding County. He goes to Courts in the whole region, and they also have different fee amounts. Judge Thacker responded that the direction he would take is to charge whatever fine is set. Right now, our Indigent Defense fee is \$50.00, Henry County's is \$428.00. The County spends no money on Indigent Defense, it is covered on a per client basis. These are things that we need to look at.

He was challenged this evening about doing something that was unethical. He wants to say on the record that he defends City Code Violations. Many people come to him for County Violations, but he directs them to other attorneys. He stated that he has talked with the State Bar Association, and this is not a violation; however, he still chooses not to do County Code Violations because he doesn't want any ethical objection. He just wanted to set the record straight, we have people who set these standards and he has check with them and all of the standards and ethics are being upheld.

Clay Davis – We are going to need to have a couple more workshops on budget and he is asking the County Manager to pick out some dates that we can sit down and talk about

this. Secondly, we are looking at everything possible on the budget. Just because we ask what the impact of something might be, doesn't mean we are going to do it. There are a number of these things going on, it is a rough budget time for all of us and there is nothing that we are "taking off the table" for consideration. Everything we have is being placed on the table and we are looking at alternative ways of doing some of these things that will reduce the budget.

He then thanked the County Attorney for the work she has done regarding the laws that have recently been passed by giving the members of the Board her interpretation of the impact these laws will have on us.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Consider request to conduct an Executive Session to discuss the future acquisition or sale of real estate as provided by O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(4) and discussion or deliberation on the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a county officer or employee as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(6).

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Bowlden to enter into an Executive Session to discuss the future acquisition or sale of real estate as provided by O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(4) and discussion or deliberation on the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a county officer or employee as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3(6) at 7:38 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Johnson to close the Executive Session at 8:04 p.m. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Johnson to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.