

REGULAR MEETING
FLOYD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
May 14, 2019 6:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Commissioners Scotty Hancock, Wright Bagby, Rhonda Wallace,
Allison Watters, Larry Maxey

OTHERS

PRESENT: County Manager Jamie McCord, Assistant County Manager Gary
Burkhalter, Assistant County Clerk Amy Dawkins, County Attorney
Wade Hoyt III

CALL TO

ORDER: Chair Hancock called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION: Commissioner Maxey led the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF

ALLEGIANCE: Commissioner Maxey led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Hancock called for motion to approve the May 14, 2019 Agenda. Commissioner Maxey made a MOTION to approve the agenda. SECOND by Commissioner Wallace.
VOTING:

	YES	NO
Commissioner Wallace		
" Watters		
" Maxey		
Vice-Chair Bagby		
Chair Hancock		

Motion Carried

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Chair Hancock asked County Attorney Wade Hoyt if the minutes were in order. Mr. Hoyt stated the minutes have been reviewed and are in order. MOTION made by Chair

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Hancock to adopt the minutes of the Executive Session and Planning Session of April 17, 2019, and to adopt the Caucus, Executive Session, and Regular Meeting of April 23, 2019. VOTING:

	YES	NO
Commissioner Wallace		
" Watters		
" Maxey		
Vice-Chair Bagby		
Chair Hancock		

Motion Carried

PROCLAMATIONS

1. National Public Works Week

Commissioner Watters presented the National Public Works Week Proclamation to Mr. Michael Skeen, Director of Public Works.

Mr. Skeen thanked the Commission for taking a moment to recognize public works and thanked them for the support.

2. Law Enforcement Memorial Week

Commissioner Wallace presented the Law Enforcement Memorial Week Proclamation to Chief Mark Wallace and Sheriff Tim Burkhalter.

Sheriff Burkhalter thanked the Commission for the recognition.

Chief Wallace thanked the Commission on behalf of the men and women of Floyd Police Department for recognizing them during police week and supporting the employees.

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FIRST READING

(SECOND READING TO BE HELD ON MAY 28, 2019 AT 6PM)

- 1. APPROVE FILE # Z-19-05-01 REQUESTING REZONING FROM SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL (S-R) TO AGRICULTURAL RESIDENTIAL (A-R) FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1405 RADIO SPRINGS ROAD, ROME, GEORGIA; TAX PARCEL G14Y047. THIS REQUEST IS RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY BOTH THE PLANNING STAFF AND THE PLANNING COMMISSION (8-0)**
- 2. APPROVE FILE #Z19-05-03 REQUESTING REZONING FROM OFFICE INSTITUTIONAL (O-I) TO COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL (C-C) FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1818 KINGSTON HIGHWAY, ROME, GEORGIA; TAX PARCEL K14W005 AND REZONING FROM OFFICE INSTITUTIONAL (O-I) AND COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL (C-C) TO SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL (S-R) FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1762 KINGSTON HIGHWAY, ROME, GEORGIA. THIS REQUEST IS RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY BOT THE PLANNING STAFF AND THE PLANNING COMMISSION (8-0)**
- 3. APPROVE FILE #SUP19-03-01 REQUESTING SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO OPERATE A SPECIAL EVENTS VENUE IN AN AGRICULTURAL RESIDENTIAL (A-R) DISTRICT AT 96 HIRAM ROAD, ROME, GEORGIA; FLOYD COUNTY TAX PARCEL L09-036. THE PLANNING STAFF RECOMMENDS THE APPROVAL.**
- 4. APPROVE FILE #Z19-05-04, REQUESTING REZONING FROM SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL TO LIGHT INDUSTRIAL FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 0 MELSON ROAD, CAVE SPRING, GEORGIA; FLOYD COUNTY TAX PARCEL D18031 AND O FOSTERS MILL ROAD, CAVE SPRING, GEORGIA; FLOYD COUNTY TAX PARCEL D18030. APPROVAL FOR THIS REQUEST WAS RECOMMENDED BY THE PLANNING STAFF. NO RECOMMENDATION WAS GIVEN BY THE PLANNING COMMISSION.**

SECOND READING

(FIRST READING HELD APRIL, 23, 2019 AT 6PM.)

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Chair Hancock explained the procedure of the public hearing; each person recognized shall come to the podium and state his or her name and home address. There is no less than ten minutes provided for all speaking in favor, and no less than 10 minutes should be provided by those speaking in opposition.

1. ADOPT AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF FLOYD COUNTY, GEORGIA TO AMEND CHAPTER 2-6-31 OF THE FLOYD COUNTY CODE KNOWN AS “GENERAL PROVISIONS” TO DEFINE JURISDICTION OF THE ORDINANCE.

County Manager McCord stated this is a requirement by FEMA to update the Flood Mitigation, Flood Plain Management Measures in the community annually. The only two changes are in 2-6-31 and is a simple sentence that says “this ordinance shall apply to all areas within the jurisdiction of Floyd County, Georgia...” so it is basically a cleanup. He stated he would jump ahead on item number two which is a one-word change, or one definition change under building, it says “see structure” and the structure was not changed to building, so it just is a definition change. It is very minor cleanup in those two ordinances as part of the ULDC and Flood Plain Management.

Chair Hancock opened the public hearing, he asked if there was anyone there to speak in opposition or favor, hearing none he closed the public hearing.

Chair Hancock called for a Motion. MOTION made by Commissioner Maxey adopt an ordinance of the board of commissioners of Floyd county, Georgia to amend Chapter 2-6-31 of the Floyd County Code known as “General Provisions” to define jurisdiction of the ordinance. SECOND by Commissioner Wallace. VOTING:

Commissioner	Wallace
"	Watters
"	Maxey
Vice-Chair	Bagby
Chair	Hancock

Motion Carried

2. ADOPT AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF FLOYD

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COUNTY, GEORGIA TO AMEND CHAPTER 2-6-35 OF THE FLOYD COUNTY CODE KNOWN AS “DEFINITIONS” TO DEFINE BUILDING.

Chair Hancock opened the public hearing open and asked if there was anyone there to speak in opposition or support, hearing none he closed the public hearing.

Chair Hancock called for a Motion. MOTION made by Commissioner Watters to adopt an ordinance of the board of commissioners of Floyd County, Georgia to amend Chapter 2-6-35 of the Floyd County code known as “Definitions” to define Building. SECOND by Vice-Chair Bagby. VOTING:

Commissioner	Wallace
"	Watters
"	Maxey
Vice-Chair	Bagby
Chair	Hancock

Motion Carried

CHAIR’S REPORT

Chair Hancock made a MOTION to appoint Dr. Randolph Sumner to Post 5 of the Floyd County Airport Commission with a start date on July 1, 2019 and will expire on June 30, 2023. TO appoint Ryan Leonard to serve on the Floyd County Development Authority with a start date of July 1, 2019 and will expire on June 30, 2023. To reappoint Bill Collins to serve a second term on the Tallatoona Community Action Partnership Board with a start date of July 1, 2019 and will expire on June 30, 2022. To appoint Nicole Harrison to fill the unexpired term of Kim Canada on the Floyd County Personnel Board with an immediate start date that will expire on December 31, 2022. SECOND by Commissioner Wallace. VOTING:

YES

NO

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Commissioner Wallace
" Watters
" Maxey
Vice-Chair Bagby
Chair Hancock

Motion Carried

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

No Report

MANAGER'S REPORT

County Manager McCord stated the space needs study with Sizemore Group kicks off next week, the stakeholder meeting will start after that. He stated they discussed in caucus how the DDS funding was not approved by the Governor, but they plan on meeting with DDS staff tomorrow to work on a plan for moving forward. He doesn't think there is lack of support for the project, there just needs to be some cleanup to get in line with funding for the next fiscal year. Economic development interviews have been ongoing the last week and the Parks and Recreation Director position closes this Friday.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

No Report

CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Hancock asked Assistant County Clerk Dawkins if the Consent Agenda was in order. Ms. Dawkins stated yes, the consent agenda was reviewed in caucus and is in order.

County Manager McCord wanted to make a comment on item twelve for the record, the effective date for this change will be today's date going forward. The evaluation date is in December but he wants to change to make it effective as of now.

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Chair Hancock called for a Motion. MOTION made by Commissioner Maxey to approve and authorize execution of items submitted under the Consent Agenda as presented. SECOND by Commissioner Watters. VOTING:

	YES	NO
Commissioner Wallace		
" Watters		
" Maxey		
Vice-Chair Bagby		
Chair Hancock		

Motion Carried

1. Approve surplus and transfer of Quit-Claim Deed for property located on Pleasant Valley Road, Tax Parcel L16-270, lying and being in Land Lot 212 in the 22nd District and 3rd Section of Floyd County, Georgia, being a portion of the property shown in Plat Book 11, Page 123, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, described as a portion of the property in Deed Book 1615, Page 922 to the Rome-Floyd County Land Bank Authority.
2. Approve surplus and transfer of Quit-Claim Deed for property located on Pleasant Valley Road, Tax Parcel L16-269, lying and being in Land Lot 212 in the 22nd District and 3rd Section of Floyd County, Georgia, being a portion of the property shown in Plat Book 11, Page 123, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, described as a portion of the property in Deed Book 1615, Page 922 to the Rome-Floyd County Land Bank Authority.
3. Approve surplus and transfer of Quit-Claim Deed for property located at 1705 Pleasant Valley Road, Tax Parcel L16-272, to the Rome-Floyd County Land Bank Authority.
4. Approve surplus and transfer of Quit-Claim Deed for property located at 600 Pennington Avenue, Tax Parcel I14W-561, to the Rome-Floyd County Land Bank Authority.

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5. Approve surplus and transfer of Quit-Claim Deed for property located at 1815 Flannery Street, Tax Parcel J14O-054, to the Rome-Floyd County Land Bank Authority.
6. Approve surplus and transfer of Quit-Claim Deed for property located at 1 Elberta Street, Tax Parcel I14Z-138, to the Rome-Floyd County Land Bank Authority.
7. Approve surplus and transfer of Quit-Claim Deed for property located at 4 Sunrise Street (aka 4 Sunrise Drive), Tax Parcel I15Z-031, to Oliver J. Shumate and Mildred E. Shumate.
8. Approve the abolishment of Position #454-063 (Patrol Officer) paygrade 112 in the Floyd County Police Department.
9. Approve the creation of Position #???-??? (Systems Analyst) paygrade 117 in the Floyd County IT Department. This position will be assigned from IT to the Floyd County Police Department.
10. Approve new beer license and ownership change for KwickWay Inc. located at 1190 Booze Mountain Road, Lindale, Georgia. This application is paid in full and has been approved by Floyd County Police Department, Tax Commissioner, Building Inspector, and Fire Marshal.
11. Approve a fee reduction in Rome-Floyd Parks & Recreation for cheerleading from \$45.00 per child to \$25.00 per child in 2019. This has been approved by the Rome-Floyd Unified Football and Cheerleading
12. Approve an increase for position #480-037 to increase salary from \$32,293.30 to \$36,573.86 in the Floyd County Tax Commissioner's office.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **APPROVE CAPACITY AGREEMENT WITH THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS TO HOUSE STATE INMATES AT THE FLOYD COUNTY PRISON.**

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County Manager McCord stated this was an annual agreement. The number did not change from 2019 so for FY2020 the number will be 439, and effective for twelve (12) months. He recommended approval.

Chair Hancock called for a Motion. MOTION made by Vice-Chair Bagby to accept the proposal approve the Capacity Agreement with the Georgia Department of Corrections to house state inmates at the Floyd County Prison. SECOND by Commissioner Watters. VOTING:

Commissioner Wallace	
"	Watters
"	Maxey
Vice-Chair	Bagby
Chair	Hancock

Motion Carried

2. APPROVE PURCHASE OF A HYDROSEEDER FROM DELTA LANDSCAPE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$54,900.00. THIS WILL BE PAID THROUGH 2013 SPLOST.

County Manager McCord stated Delta Landscape was the low bidder from the bid list, he recommended approval.

Chair Hancock called for a Motion. MOTION made by Commissioner Maxey to approve purchase of a Hydroseeder from Delta Landscape in the amount of \$54,900.00. This will be paid through 2013 SPLOST. SECOND by Vice-Chair Bagby. VOTING:

	YES	NO
Commissioner Wallace		
"		
"		
Vice-Chair		
Chair		

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Motion Carried

- 3. APPROVE PURCHASE OF A 2019 NISSAN TITAN CREW CAB PICK-UP TRUCK FROM TOWN CENTER NISSAN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$32,672.00. THIS IS A REPLACEMENT VEHICLE FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT. A VEHICLE ACCIDENT SETTLEMENT PROVIDED \$8,000.00 TOWARDS THE PURCHASE OF A NEW VEHICLE. THIS WILL BE PAID THROUGH 2013 SPLOST.**

County Manager McCord recommended approval.

Chair Hancock called for a Motion. MOTION made by Commissioner Watters approve purchase of a 2019 Nissan Titan Crew Cab Pick-up truck from Town Center Nissan in the amount of \$32,672.00. This is a replacement vehicle for the Public Works Department. A vehicle accident settlement provided \$8,000.00 towards the purchase of a new vehicle. This will be paid through 2013 SPLOST. This will be paid through 2013 SPLOST. SECOND by Commissioner Wallace. VOTING:

	YES	NO
Commissioner Wallace		
" Watters		
" Maxey		
Vice-Chair Bagby		
Chair Hancock		

Motion Carried

- 4. APPROVE THE CREATION OF DETAIL OFFICER POSITION FOR THE FLOYD COUNTY PRISON. THIS POSITION WILL BE FUNDED IN PART BY THE**

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ATLANTA BRAVES FOR MAINTENANCE SERVICES AT STATE MUTUAL STADIUM.

County Manager McCord stated the remainder of the position will be applied at the airport for maintenance and operations. He stated they have a four (4) month contract for up to \$20,000.00 offset for the Atlanta Braves at the Rome Braves Stadium. He recommended approval.

Chair Hancock called for a Motion. MOTION made by Commissioner Wallace to Approve the creation of detail officer position for the Floyd County Prison. This position will be funded in part by the Atlanta Braves for maintenance services at State Mutual Stadium. SECOND by Commissioner Watters. VOTING:

	YES	NO
Commissioner Wallace		
" Watters		
" Maxey		
Vice-Chair Bagby		
Chair Hancock		

Motion Carried

5. APPROVE THE FINAL REVISED 2018 BUDGET.

County Manager McCord stated they went over this in detail in caucus. There were some positive things that came out of the revision as well as some concerning things. One positive is significant increases to current year taxes, they collected at ninety-eight percent (98%) which has been the best year since 1997. There were some ins and outs on retiree's health insurance. A lot of savings in expenditures by department heads doing a really good job on different things. One good thing slash bad thing is over \$1M in salary and wages were unspent, a majority of that due to inability to hire. With the economy moving, over time and the free market kind of taking effect, the inability to hire is something that happens from time to time. Most of the savings was due to inability to hire or turnover that has happened throughout the year. In summary \$1.9M was budgeted as a reduction in fund balance. With the increases in revenue, and decreases in expenditures, they are going to be able to put \$263,000.00 back into the fund balance. The health insurance fund continues to struggle, the amount of claims and funds that are going out are

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continuing to rise. They are working on it daily to try to come up with new solutions. A premium increase was done last year which was unfortunate but it was also increased on the county side as well. They continue to work hard on it and hope to find some solutions going forward before the new plan year starts in October.

Chair Hancock thanked them for keeping expenditures down as much as they could, it is unfortunate about not being able to fill positions but they are working hard to figure out how to fix the problem.

Chair Hancock called for a Motion. MOTION made by Vice-Chair Bagby to approve the final revised 2018 Budget. SECOND by Commissioner Maxey. VOTING:

	YES	NO
Commissioner Wallace		
" Watters		
" Maxey		
Vice-Chair Bagby		
Chair Hancock		

Motion Carried

6. ACCEPT A PROPOSAL FROM SOUTHERN ENGINEERING & SURVEYING, INC., FOR A TOPOGRAPHICAL SURVEY OF GORDON COUNTY-FLOYD COUNTY JOINT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY PROPERTY, TAX PARCELS L11W-107, L11W-108, & L11W-109, LAND LOT 54, 23RD DISTRICT, 3RD SECTION, OF FLOYD COUNTY, GEORGIA. THIS WILL BE FUNDED FROM THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PORTION OF THE 2013 SPLOST.

County Manager McCord stated this would be funded through 2013 economic development SPLOST funds in the amount of \$48,500.00. He stated they would be assisting to try and speed it up. They have follow-up meetings later this week after the announcement of purchasing the property. He recommended approval, closing costs would be taken off the top and reimbursed to 2013 SPLOST for the expense.

Chair Hancock asked how long the property has been vacant before it sold.

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County Manager McCord stated it had been vacant from the mid to late 1980's.

Chair Hancock called for a Motion. MOTION made by Commissioner Maxey to accept a proposal from Southern Engineering & Surveying, Inc., for a topographical survey of Gordon County-Floyd County Joint Development Authority property, Tax Parcels L11W-107, L11W-108, & L11W-109, Land Lot 54, 23rd District, 3rd Section, of Floyd County, Georgia. This will be funded from the Economic Development portion of the 2013 SPLOST. SECOND by Commissioner Watters. VOTING:

	YES	NO
Commissioner Wallace		
" Watters		
" Maxey		
Vice-Chair Bagby		
Chair Hancock		

Motion Carried

1. APPROVE PROPOSED CHANGES TO RETIREMENT PLAN INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING TO BE EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2019:

- a. FIVE YEAR VESTING AT THE AGE OF SIXTY-FIVE**
- b. UNVESTED SERVICE TIME CREDIT GIVEN TO FORMER CITY OF ROME EMPLOYEES**
- c. WHEN MAXIMUM VACATION TIME HAS BEEN ACCRUED ALLOWING FOR ROLLOVER TO SICK TIME**
- d. ACCRUED SICK TIME TO BE USED TO REACH FINAL AGE AND SERVICE TIME**
- e. REDUCING THE PENALTY FOR EARLY RETIREMENT TO 3% FOR ALL EMPLOYEES**
- f. GRANTING FULL RETIREMENT BENEFITS FOR ALL EMPLOYEES WHO ARE AT LEAST SIXTY-TWO YEARS OLD AND HAVE REACH A MINIMUM OF THIRTY YEARS OF SERVICE**

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County Manager McCord stated this was something that has been discussed about for multiple years in looking at trying to improve the county's retirement plan to make it better for existing and new employees. A staff committee was developed that started meeting in late 2017, early 2018, that met throughout the year. A lot of time and effort was put into this, a lot of options, statistics, and scenarios were reviewed to improve the current plan. The current plan is a good plan but it has some limitations to it and not as competitive as some of the surrounding communities. He has spoken with numerous colleagues in other counties throughout his management peers and have tried to ask them what they have done. He has copies of nineteen (19) plan changes in the last twelve (12) months with GEBCorp where people are making changes to currently fit their current and changing workforce. The first change is a five (5) year vesting for employees aged sixty-five (65), this is a county benefit in hiring second career individuals. Unvested service time credit with City of Rome employees, this matches what the City of Rome already does. When maximum vacation time has been accrued this would allow for lost vacation time to roll into sick time. Accrued sick time can be used to reach final age and service time, this rewards the employee that saves their sick leave by allowing them to bridge to retirement age. Those for (4) things alone were virtually no charge, on actually had a negative effect on cost. Annually they were looking at \$20,000-\$25,000.00 for all of the changes combined. The two bigger options at the bottom line is reducing the penalty for early retirement from eight percent (8%) to three percent (3%). This will allow employees to have total control on their particular situation. It is the one common factor they saw about retirement and employees, everybody is different. This will also potentially help the county with worker's comp and health insurance by allowing an early out. So if someone retired at the age of sixty (60), they would take a fifteen percent (15%) penalty instead of a forty percent (40%) penalty. Item f would allow full retirement benefits for employees aged sixty-two (62) with thirty (30) years of service have access to full retirement benefits. He does not know if they will see that option going forward based on statistics and trends of the millennial generation. He believes this is a very good improved benefit, the committee recommended this to him and he is recommending approval. Timing wise they did not get the enabling resolution from GEBCorp and they anticipate to have it at the next meeting to approve the enabling resolution. They expect the effective date for July 01, 2019.

Chair Hancock asked if there were any comments from the Commission.

Commissioner Wallace stated that they have all wanted to make these changes sooner, they have been working on coming up with a solution and getting the revenue stream for the past seven (7) years. She is thankful the committee was able to come up with such good ideas and plans.

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Chair Hancock asked that the people who were on the committee stand and thanked them for all their time and commitment. He added that this was completely employee ran.

Sheriff Burkhalter stated there were a lot of meetings involved, a lot of spirited debates and disagreements, but they all came together for the common employee. They thought it was important work hard so that employees would have a finish line to look forward too. He thanked the Commission for doing this for the employees.

Chief Wallace stated the Board took the bull by the horn that no one else saw fit to take. Without their support in allowing them to come up with a viable plan for retirement.

Chair Hancock called for a Motion. MOTION made by Vice-Chair Bagby to approve proposed changes to retirement plan including the following to be effective July 1, 2019:

- a. five year vesting at the age of sixty-five
- b. unvested service time credit given to former City of Rome employees
- c. when maximum vacation time has been accrued allowing for rollover to sick time
- d. accrued sick time to be used to reach final age and service time
- e. reducing the penalty for early retirement to 3% for all employees
- f. granting full retirement benefits for all employees who are at least sixty-two years old and have reach a minimum of thirty years of service

SECOND by Commissioner Wallace. VOTING:

	YES	NO
Commissioner Wallace		
" Watters		
" Maxey		
Vice-Chair Bagby		
Chair Hancock		

Motion Carried

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OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Hancock recognized Focus on Floyd participants and stated they look forward to their upcoming graduation. He stated they went into executive session to discuss a possible litigation, no action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, a MOTION was made by Commissioner Maxey. SECOND by Commissioner Watters that the meeting be adjourned.

VOTING:

	YES	NO
Commissioner Wallace		
" Watters		
" Maxey		
Vice-Chair Bagby		
Chair Hancock		

Motion Carried

ATTEST:

AMY DAWKINS, ASSISTANT FLOYD COUNTY CLERK

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**FLOYD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CAUCUS
May 14, 2019 4:00PM**

Present: Commissioners Larry Maxey, Rhonda Wallace, Scotty Hancock and Allison Watters; Assistant County Manager Gary Burkhalter, County Clerk Erin Elrod, and County Attorney Wade Hoyt III.

Others Present: Susie Gass, Director, Floyd County Finance Department; Artagus Newell, Director, Rome-Floyd Planning Department.

Susie Gass presented the Final Revised Fiscal Year 2018 budget. Commission and staff reviewed and discussed items on the agenda for the meeting of May 14, 2019.

ATTEST:

AMY DAWKINS, ASSISTANT FLOYD COUNTY CLERK