

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**FLOYD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**November 12, 2019                      6:00 P.M.**

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

**OTHERS**

**PRESENT:**                      County Manager Jamie McCord, Assistant County Manager Gary  
Burkhalter, County Clerk Erin Elrod, County Attorney Wade Hoyt III

**CALL TO  
ORDER:**

Chair Hancock called the meeting to order.

**INVOCATION:**              Chair Hancock led the Invocation.

**PLEDGE OF**

**ALLEGIANCE:**              Chair Hancock led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chair Hancock called for a motion to approve the November 12, 2019 Agenda. MOTION made by Vice-Chair Bagby... SECOND by Commissioner Watters. VOTING:

YES                                      NO

Commissioner Wallace  
"                      Watters  
Vice-Chair              Bagby  
Chair                      Hancock

Motion Carried

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**Mitch Skandalakis, 3579 Sawmill Terrace, Marietta, Georgia** stated he was an attorney who does pro bono work for animal rights groups. Even though he is not a Floyd County citizen he was there to talk about the conditions in which some dogs are kept by citizens in the community.

## **11/12/19 - Regular Meeting**

He stated some are chained and left out to the elements, their practice focuses on helping groups their issues with animals and county and city governments. When going through the process it is important to ask “why do people keep animals chained up?”. The volunteers that are present take weekends and go out and feed and water animals in blighted conditions. There are two state law O.C.G.A 16-12-4 deals with negligence, as well as intentional acts against animals. They can do with more enforcement and ask the Commission to consider tethering laws, to keep these people from keeping animals on tethers.

**Rachel Meyer, Floyd County Animal Alliance, 127 Nelson Boulevard, Rome, Georgia** stated she is part of a large group that has been doing this for five (5) years. They have been going out in the community and taking care of these chained, tethered dogs that are in horrid conditions. They are asking for an unassisted tether ban, they are not concerned with people who have dogs tied out when they are washing their cars or doing their gardening, it’s the people who have their dogs out 24/7. These people live with absolutely no consequences. The dogs being unassisted they run the risk of dying of thirst, starving freezing, hanging themselves, being attacked by other animals, and breaking their chains to attack. Education, pleading with people to bring their animals in is not working. It is time for enforcement.

**Jessica Cagle, No More Puppies Georgia, 38 Wellington Way, Rome, Georgia.** Their organization has been offering free spay and neuter programs to animals in Floyd County, Bartow County and surrounding counties. They go out and find animals that are not alter, to see if they can put a stop to overpopulation. As they do that they are also trying to tackle this chain epidemic. They are trying to stop this and not put a Band-Aid on it. She stated she knows that Mr. Mitchell of P.A.W.S has a concern of there being an influx of dogs, which means more euthanization done by banning tethers. They understand that, but there are things that are far worse than the dogs being euthanized. A chained dog is 2.8% more likely to attack, an unaltered male dog is even more likely bite someone.

**Andrea Miller, Unchain Floyd County, Cobb County, Georgia,** stated she was there to speak regarding the K9 issue as a public safety issue. The K9s are kept in deplorable conditions have no other choice but to be reactive on the chain, and given the chance they react negatively. To speak regarding the trips that they take, time and time again they see the most heartbreaking conditions. Without regulation it just continues to get worse. They continue to educate but it just does not seem to work. She asked for their support and to take into consideration to change current ordinances to create a safer and better environment, not only for the K9s but also the human residents of Floyd County. She presented the Commissioners with binders showing photos, articles and veterinarian science behind the difficulties in chaining animals.

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**Jordan Dean, Berry College, 2277 Martha Berry Highway, Rome, Georgia**, stated she has been at Berry College for three (3) years and for most of that time she has been volunteering with Floyd County Animal Alliance. She fully supports what they have said but wants to touch on a few things regarding shelter. She stated she comes from Atlanta and the Fulton County Shelter is huge and outdated, open intake. Her issue with the shelter in Floyd County is that it is not open intake. As a college student, whenever she finds a stray dog she has to take it, but if they are not accepting animals what is she supposed to do. The hard pill to swallow is there are worse things than euthanization.

**Grace Hamlin, Wunder Dogs**, stated she works with kids on breaking the cycle of violence and cruelty. She basically uses animals to teach kids how to be kind, empathetic and keep them out of gangs. The things that she has seen between animal violence and human violence is really important to use as a tool, because the community has such a huge problem. It's extremely hard to teach a child what is wrong when there is no law to back it up. It is not just about being put on chains, it's the starving and dying. They work with public safety to expose dog fighting, and she believes that learned behavior is tied to tethered dogs, children normalize it and the cycle repeats itself.

### **ADDITIONAL IN SUPPORT OF TETHER BAN**

Lauren Kearns, 2149 Azalea Circle, Decatur, Georgia

Lynn Ross, 5311 Shotwell Court, Woodstock, Georgia

Elizabeth Meier, 127 Nelson Boulevard, Rome, Georgia

Monika Wesolawski, 20 Hickory Street, Rome, Georgia

Blake Ashworth, 41 Woodberry Drive, Apartment C, Rome, Georgia

Jennifer Kovacs, 1686 Toonight Road, Canton, Georgia

Jessica Shultz, Kayla White, 541 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Atlanta

Tanisha Richardson, 409 Woodward Street, Rome, Georgia

Sibyell Reuter, Fiona Reuter, 5118 Vinings Estates Way, Mableton, Georgia

Chair Hancock thanked everyone for being there and being respectful. He added that this was something that the Commission has been considering.

### **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. Chair Hancock called for a motion. MOTION made by Commissioner Wallace to adopt the Caucus, Regular

**11/12/19 - Regular Meeting**

Meeting of October 22, 2019. SECOND by Vice-Chair Bagby. VOTING:

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

Motion Carried

**FIRST READING**

**(SECOND READING TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 26, 2019)**

- 1. FILE Z-19-11-05 REQUESTING REZONING FROM COMMUNITY COMMERCIAL (C-C) TO HEAVY COMMERCIAL (H-C) FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED 4756 CALHOUN ROAD, ROME, GEORGIA; FLOYD COUNTY TAX PARCEL M10Y106. THIS WAS RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT.**

Artagus Newell, Rome-Floyd Planning Department Director, stated this is a property that the board looked at a couple of weeks ago and was denied without prejudice. They spoke to the applicants to reapply as a Heavy Commercial (H-C). This is to use the property as an automotive repair company.

- 2. FILE Z-11-02 REQUESTING REZONING FROM OFFICE INSTITUTION (O-I) TO SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL (S-R) FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1606 KINGSTON HIGHWAY, ROME, GEORGIA; FLOYD COUNTY TAX PARCEL K14W334. THIS WAS RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

Mr. Newell stated the applicant is wanting to market for sale or either build himself a single-family residential. The planning department reached out to GDOT to make sure the existing driveway on the property would be sufficient for use,

**SECOND READING**

**11/12/19 - Regular Meeting**

**(FIRST READING TO BE HELD ON OCTOBER 22, 2019)**

- 1. ADOPT AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 2-14 OF THE FLOYD COUNTY CODE ENTITLED “PERSONNEL” IN ITS ENTIRETY BY DELETING ALL EXISTING PROVISIONS AND INSERTING IN LIEU THEREFORE OF A NEW FLOYD COUNTY PERSONNEL AND/OR CIVIL SERVICE ACT ORDINANCE PURSUANT TO O.C.G.A 36-1-21.**

**Chair Hancock reviewed the rules of the public hearing, each person recognized to speak shall come before the board, state his or her name and home address. Each side as a whole whether in favor or opposition will have no less than ten minutes to speak.**

County Attorney Hoyt stated this is to readopt the personnel code based on O.G.G.A 36-1-21 as opposed to doing it by local legislation. The original personnel code was adopted by local legislation through the legislature, meaning any little change the county wanted to make was a nightmare and would take forever, and they could hardly ever get it done. The legislator did finally agree to allow them to use another vehicle, which they did. They have not changed anything, they have left everything that legally needs to be in the code then have taken it out and made it into policy.

County Manager McCord added they have pulled everything that was legally still intact out of ordinance and into policy. Everything that was taken out was either a clear practice that they had already been acting on. So if this was approved they will go back through policy and do some additional cleaning, hopefully by mid-year or sooner.

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

Chair Hancock called for a motion. MOTION made by Vice-Chair Bagby to adopt amendment to chapter 2-14 of the Floyd County Code entitled “Personnel” in its entirety by deleting all existing provisions and inserting in lieu therefore of a new Floyd County Personnel and/or Civil Service Act Ordinance pursuant to O.C.G.A 36-1-21. SECOND by Commissioner Wallace.  
VOTING:

YES

NO

**11/12/19 - Regular Meeting**

Commissioner Wallace  
" Watters  
Vice-Chair Bagby  
Chair Hancock

Motion Carried

**2. ADOPT AN AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 2-19 ENTITLED "ZONING" OF THE FLOYD COUNTY CODE.**

County Manger McCord stated item two is basically a certification that if a citizen asks for a rezoning request or special use permit, they have to certify that all taxes are current before the zoning can go into place.

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

Chair Hancock called for a motion. MOTION made by Commissioner Watters to adopt amendment Chapter 2-19 entitled "Zoning" of the Floyd County Code. SECOND by Vice-Chair Bagby. VOTING:

YES NO

Commissioner Wallace  
" Watters  
Vice-Chair Bagby  
Chair Hancock

Motion Carried

**3. ADOPT AN AMENDMENT TO SECTION 2-14-12 OF ARTICLE II ENTITLED "LICENSE" OF CHAPTER 2-4 OF THE FLOYD COUNTY CODE ENTITLED**



**11/12/19 - Regular Meeting**

Chair Hancock called for a motion. MOTION made by Vice-Chair Bagby to adopt a resolution for the new Floyd County Personnel and/or Civil Service Act. SECOND by Commissioner Watters. VOTING:

YES

NO

Commissioner Wallace  
" Watters  
Vice-Chair Bagby  
Chair Hancock

Motion Carried

**CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair Hancock made a motion to cancel the December 24, 2019 Floyd County Board of Commissioners Meeting. SECOND by Commissioner Watters VOTING:

YES

NO

Commissioner Wallace  
" Watters  
Vice-Chair Bagby  
Chair Hancock

Motion Carried

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

No Report

**MANAGER'S REPORT**

**11/12/19 - Regular Meeting**

1. Economic Development

County Manager McCord stated 4.272 loads of dirt have been hauled since October 28, 2019 from the Reynolds property to the Ball property. They are looking at ten (10) days or less to be done with their commitment on that incentive. He stated it was going really well and they would have a great site left on the ten (10) acres that adjoins the one-hundred-acre site (100).

2. Space Needs

County Manager McCord stated they have been narrowing in on several options for their consideration and they will have that at their December 12, 2019 planning session.

**ATTORNEY’S REPORT**

No Report

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Chair Hancock asked County Clerk Elrod if the Consent Agenda was in order. Mrs. Elrod stated the Consent Agenda was in order with the addition to item number 13 for a recommendation made by the finance director, and the refund policy for Parks and Recreation. This was discussed in Caucus and reviewed by the County Attorney.

Chair Hancock called for a Motion. MOTION made by Commissioner Wallace to approve and authorize execution of items submitted under the Consent Agenda with the addition to item 13 as presented. SECOND by Commissioner Watters. VOTING:

YES NO

Commissioner Wallace  
" Watters  
Vice-Chair Bagby  
Chair Hancock

Motion Carried

## 11/12/19 - Regular Meeting

1. Approve new application for beer and wine license for RomeAvenue, Inc. dba Stop N Shop located at 4392 Calhoun Road, Rome, GA. The application is paid in full and has been approved by the Health Department, Police Department, Tax Commissioner, Fire Marshall, and Building Inspection.
2. Approve renewal applications for beer license and self-service fuel license for Walker Mountain Store located at 2342 Cedartown Highway, Rome, Georgia. The application is paid in full and has been approved by the Health Department, Police Department, Tax Commissioner, Fire Marshall, and Building Inspection.
3. Approve renewal applications for beer license and self-service fuel license for Mr. C's located at 6280 Martha Berry Highway, Armuchee, Georgia. The application is paid in full and has been approved by the Health Department, Police Department, Tax Commissioner, Fire Marshall, and Building Inspection.
4. Approve renewal applications for beer license and self-service fuel licenses for The Rock Store dba Jay Khodiyar Inc. located at 3403 Kingston Highway, Rome, Georgia. The application is paid in full and has been approved by the Health Department, Police Department, Tax Commissioner, Fire Marshall, and Building Inspection.
5. Approve renewal applications for beer & wine license and self-service fuel license for MJM Business, Inc. located at 581 Chulio Road, Rome, Georgia. The application is paid in full and has been approved by the Health Department, Police Department, Tax Commissioner, Fire Marshall, and Building Inspection.
6. Approve renewal applications for beer & wine license and self-service fuel license for RaceTrac Petroleum, Inc. dba RaceTrac #2482 located at 3006 Martha Berry Highway, Rome, Georgia. The application is paid in full and has been approved by the Health Department, Police Department, Tax Commissioner, Fire Marshall, and Building Inspection.
7. Approve the title release for two (2) existing fleet vehicles (2001 Chevrolet Silverado County Asset #00042 and 2002 Ford Taurus County Asset #77291) at the Floyd County Board of Health for the trade in on the purchase of a new Kia Sorrento.

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8. Approve reclassification of Senior Accounting Technician position from a paygrade 110 to a 113.
9. Approve correction of job classification for position #530019 from a paygrade 112 to a 114.
10. Approve purchase of vehicle for Animal Control and reimbursement of \$5,500 to the prison fund (520495-52000).
11. Approve purchase of Network Firewall Bundle for the IT Department in the amount of \$36,311.17 from SHI International Corporation.
12. Approve additions to Parks and Recreation rental policies.
13. Approve refund policy for all Parks and Recreation sports and camping spaces at Lock and Dam.
14. Approve contract with Reserve America for reservation process at Lock and Dam Park.

## OLD BUSINESS

No Report

## NEW BUSINESS

1. **APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF FOUR (4) VAULTS (ONE (1) 12' X 8' X 6' AND THREE (3) 9' X 6' X 6' CONCRETE METER VAULTS) WITH LID AND 3' X 3' LOADED HATCH FROM DELTA MUNICIPAL SUPPLY CO. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$24,541.**

County Manager McCord stated these are for the Ball Container project that was part of the incentive package, the low bids were from Delta Municipal Supply in the amount of \$24,541.00. He recommended approval

**11/12/19 - Regular Meeting**

Chair Hancock called for a motion. MOTION made by Commissioner Watters to approve the purchase of four (4) vaults (one (1) 12' x 8' x 6' and three (3) 9' x 6' x 6' concrete meter vaults) with lid and 3' x 3' loaded hatch from Delta Municipal Supply Co. in the amount of \$24,541. SECOND by Vice-Chair Bagby VOTING:

YES

NO

Commissioner Wallace  
" Watters  
Vice-Chair Bagby  
Chair Hancock

Motion Carried

- 2. APPROVE EXPANSION AND UPGRADE OF FLOYD COUNTY WATER SYSTEM FOR BALL CONTAINER EXPANSION. THIS WILL INCLUDE THE INSTALLATION OF APPROXIMATELY 500' OF NEW DUCTILE IRON WATER LIENS, LARGE METERS, AND FIRE HYDRANTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$134,440.**

County Manager McCord stated this is an estimate on the labor for the Ball Container project, they have to yet decided if they were going to do that in house. He recommended approval.

Chair Hancock called for a motion. MOTION made by Commissioner Wallace to approve expansion and upgrade of Floyd County Water system for Ball Container Expansion. This will include the installation of approximately 500' of new ductile iron water liens, large meters, and fire hydrants in the amount of \$134,440. SECOND by Commissioner Watters. VOTING:

YES

NO

Commissioner Wallace  
" Watters  
Vice-Chair Bagby  
Chair Hancock

Motion Carried

**11/12/19 - Regular Meeting**

- 3. APPROVE PURCHASE OF TWO (2) POLICE PURSUIT VEHICLES FROM PRATER FORD, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$51,313.40 (ONE (1) FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT AND ONE (1) FOR THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE).**

County Manager McCord stated this would be funded through the 2017 SPLOST.

Chair Hancock called for a motion. MOTION made by Commissioner Wallace to approve purchase of two (2) police pursuit vehicles from Prater Ford, Inc. in the amount of \$51,313.40 (one (1) for Police Department and one (1) for the Sheriff's Office). SECOND by Commissioner Watters. VOTING:

YES

NO

Commissioner Wallace	
"	Watters
Vice-Chair	Bagby
Chair	Hancock

Motion Carried

- 4. APPROVE THE TAX SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN FLOYD COUNTY, THE CITY OF ROME, AND THE FLOYD COUNTY TAX COMMISSIONER THROUGH 2029.**

County Manager McCord stated this is a mirror image of the previous agreement that was approved ten (10) years ago with the Tax Commissioner.

Chair Hancock called for a motion. MOTION made by Commissioner Watters to approve the Tax Service Agreement between Floyd County, the City of Rome, and the Floyd County Tax Commissioner through 2029. SECOND by Commissioner Wallace VOTING:

YES

NO

Commissioner Wallace



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Chair Hancock called for a motion. MOTION made by Commissioner Wallace to approve contract & addendum with Windstream for phone services for twenty-four (24) months. SECOND by Commissioner Watters VOTING:

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

Motion Carried

**7. APPROVE UPDATED FLOYD COUNTY PERSONNEL POLICY.**

County Manager McCord stated this pulls thing removed from the ordinance into policy. He recommended approval.

Chair Hancock called for a motion. MOTION made by Commissioner Watters to approve updated Floyd County Personnel Policy. SECOND by Commissioner Wallace. VOTING:

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

Motion Carried

**8. APPROVE AIRPORT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR FY21-FY25.**

County Manager McCord stated they went over the details in caucus and had clarification from Mr. Carrol. He recommended approval.

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Chair Hancock called for a motion. MOTION made by Commissioner Wallace to approve airport capital improvement program for FY21-FY25. SECOND by Commissioner Watters. VOTING:

YES NO

Commissioner Wallace  
" Watters  
Vice-Chair Bagby  
Chair Hancock

Motion Carried

- 9. APPROVE REQUEST TO PURCHASE 3,000’ OF 8” DUCTILE IRON PIPE AND FORTY (40) LOCKING GASKETS FROM CORE AND MAIN INC., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$48,075 FOR THE WATER DEPARTMENT TO INSTALL WATER SERVICE TO THE NEW BALL PLANT ON HIGHWAY 53.**

County Manager McCord recommended approval.

Chair Hancock called for a motion. MOTION made by Commissioner Watters approved request to purchase 3,000’ of 8” Ductile Iron Pipe and forty (40) Locking Gaskets from Core and Main Inc., in the amount of \$48,075 for the Water Department to install water service to the new Ball Plant on Highway 53. SECOND by Commissioner Wallace VOTING:

YES NO

Commissioner Wallace  
" Watters  
Vice-Chair Bagby  
Chair Hancock

**11/12/19 - Regular Meeting**

Motion Carried

- 10. APPROVE WORK AUTHORIZATION #45 FOR MICHAEL BAKER, INTERNATIONAL FOR RUNWAY 1 SAFETY AREA & OBJECT FREE AREA IMPROVEMENTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$33,521 AS PART OF A 90/5/5 FEDERAL/STATE/LOCAL PROJECT FOR RUNWAY 1 SAFETY AREA AND RUNWAY OBJECT FREE AREA IMPROVEMENTS.**

County Manager McCord stated this was discussed in caucus and is a recommendation to approve.

Chair Hancock called for a motion. MOTION made by Commissioner Wallace to approve work authorization #45 for Michael Baker, International for Runway 1 Safety Area & Object Free Area Improvements in the amount of \$33,521 as part of a 90/5/5 Federal/State/Local project for Runway 1 Safety Area and Runway Object Free Area improvements. SECOND by Commissioner Watters. VOTING:

YES

NO

Commissioner Wallace	
"	Watters
Vice-Chair	Bagby
Chair	Hancock

Motion Carried

**OTHER BUSINESS**

The Commission recognized Focus on Floyd participant Jeff Burns, Floyd County Engineer.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**11/12/19 - Regular Meeting**

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

	YES	NO
Commissioner Wallace		
" Watters		
Chair Hancock		Bagby

**ATTEST:**

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**ERIN ELROD, FLOYD COUNTY CLERK**

**11/12/19 - Regular Meeting**

**FLOYD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
CAUCUS**

**November 12, 2019                      3:30PM**

Present: Commissioners Rhonda Wallace, Allison Watters, Scotty Hancock, Wright Bagby; County Manager Jamie McCord, Assistant County Manager Gary Burkhalter, County Clerk Erin Elrod, County Attorney Wade Hoyt III,

Others Present: Susie Gass, Floyd County Finance Director; Chris Fincher, Floyd County Police Department; Mark Wallace, Chief of Floyd County Police Department; Steve Hulsey, Floyd County Water Department; Bruce Ivey, Floyd County Special Projects Manager; John Carroll, Richard B. Russel Regional Airport Manager; La Sonja Holcomb, Floyd County IT Director; John Blalock, Public Safety Liaison; Darryl Bowie, Floyd County Human Resource Director; Bill Gilliland, Floyd County Purchasing Director; Randy Self, Floyd County Purchasing Department; Mike Long, Warden, Floyd County Prison; Corey Townsend; Olivia

County Manager McCord and Mrs. Susie Gass presented the first draft of the 2020 Floyd County budget. Mr. John Carrol spoke about the current projects at the airport. Staff and Commission reviewed the November 12, 2019 agenda.

**ATTEST:**

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**ERIN ELROD, FLOYD COUNTY CLERK**