

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**FLOYD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**February 13, 2018                      4:00 P.M.**

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

**OTHERS**

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

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chair Wallace called the meeting to order.

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

**PLEDGE OF**

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

Chair Wallace called for approval of the February 13, 2018 agenda. MOTION made by Commissioner Bagby. SECOND Commissioner Watters VOTING:

YES

NO

Commissioner Bagby

"              Watters

"              Maxey

Vice-Chair      Hancock

Chair              Wallace

Motion Carried

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

Chair Wallace asked County Attorney Wade Hoyt if the minutes were in order. County Attorney Hoyt stated the minutes have been reviewed and are in order. MOTION made by Commissioner Bagby to adopt the minutes of the Caucus, and Regular Meeting of January 23, 2018. SECOND by Commissioner Watters. VOTING:

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YES

NO

Commissioner Bagby

" Watters

" Maxey

Vice-Chair Hancock

Chair Wallace

Motion Carried

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION:**

- 1. Recognize John Davis, Rome-Floyd Parks & Recreation Crew Leader, for his performance of life saving measures on a co-worker in distress.**

Chair Wallace stated Vice-Chair Hancock was going to read the recognition and asked if Mr. Davis was present if he would stand for them.

Vice-Chair Hancock thanked Mr. Davis for doing what he was trained to do, and for being there for one of his fellow employees.

- 2. Recognition of Floyd County Sheriff's Officers who helped in an emergency delivery of a baby at the Floyd County Judicial Center.**

Commissioner Maxey read the recognition to Deputy Jason Pearce, Captain Dave Roberson, and Lieutenant Jody House.

Deputy Jason Pearce stated it was an honor to work for Floyd County, and the officers present were like family to him. He stated since he has been in the courthouse most recently with the two officers by his side, and every moment they think something is coming up, he can turn around and they are there. He stated that it just goes to show that there is family in Floyd County. This is where he was born and raised, he is raising his kids here, and when you're gone all you have is your family. He stated he tries to do everything he can to carry that name out and hold it up high. He wouldn't of been able to do it without the officers by his side.

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Captain Dave Roberson stated he wanted to thank the Commissioners and everyone on the panel for recognizing the officers. He stated that the Commission did a very good job of recognizing not just public safety, but all Floyd County employees. He noticed that with the current Commission. He stated Deputy Pearce has been with the county for ten (10) years, five (5) with the Sheriff's Office, he was actually the first on scene, and they were just there to back him up. He stated that Deputy Pearce had been a God send to them at the court house. He stated Deputy Pearce was a great employee with a positive attitude.

Lieutenant Jody House stated he told Deputy Pearce not to cry when he got up there. He stated he has supervised Deputy Pearce for over a year now and he is an emotional person, but he is emotional about his job, his friends, family, and the Sherriff's Office. He stated that they were proud of him, he is a good person to work with, and to supervise.

Chair Wallace thanked them for being there and they were glad that they had the opportunity to honor each of them.

**PROCLAMATIONS:**

**1. Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month on behalf of the Hospitality House.**

Commissioner Watters presented the Teen Violence Awareness and Prevention Month to Erin deMesquita of the Hospitality House. She stated that the proclamation weighed on her because she has two teen daughters, and reading the statistics breaks her heart, but she was so glad that they had people like the Hospitality House in the Community making a difference in this avenue.

Ms. deMesquita stated that she was the Community Outreach Coordinator for the Hospitality House for Women. On behalf of the Hospitality House she wanted to start by saying thankyou to the Commission for the support and opportunity to do the proclamation. She stated that their advocates were working everyday as the only domestic violence agency in Rome and Floyd County, they see families everyday that are already in crisis. They see families that are fleeing abuse, seeking safety, seeking self-sufficiency, and lives free of violence. She stated it was so very important to them as far as education with their youth. Any moment that they can speak to the youth about how to manage emotions, how to have healthy relationships, and healthy

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personal boundaries, and take that with them as they grow and start relationships. Every moment they do that it brings them a step closer to preventing what it is the advocates see every day. She thanked the Commission again.

Ashley (unable to discern the last name), Hospitality House, stated that they were really excited to soon be launching some programs in some elementary and middle schools, they know it is never too early to talk about emotional intelligence, healthy communication. She stated that they were so happy to have the Commissions support as they move forward doing this work in the community. Again, as Ms. deMesquita said, every time they do that with a young person they hope that is one less person that they see in the future. She stated that eventually they hopefully won't have a job anymore, that would be the end goal.

Kimberly King, Program Coordinator, Sexual Assault Center of Northwest Georgia. Ms. King stated that she also serves as a prevention educator and oversee the prevention education services that they provide to Rome and Floyd County. About five (5) years ago they started a curriculum in the school systems within the health class in the freshman class at each of the county and city schools called safe days. This is a prevention program that is researched, and evidence based, to promote healthy relationships, to be able to identify what a healthy relationship actually looks like, as well as identifying the harmful things in relationship, and things that need to be avoided. She stated that they all really hope one day the Sexual Assault Center of Northwest Georgia and the hospitality house will not have to exist by teaching each of these young people and because they understand that they will be the future of the community. Hopefully they will embrace these beliefs, and values of understanding what expectations look like in a relationship, what boundaries look like, and that one day they will have a violence free Rome and Floyd County.

Amy Patton, Bilingual Advocate and Prevention Advocator, Sexual Assault Center of Northwest Georgia, stated it was such an honor to be there, and she thanked the commission for creating the space for them to communicate this issue and to bring more awareness to Rome and Floyd County. She stated that she works with the victims and she gets to go into the schools to try to prevent this from happening. Unfortunately, they go into the schools and talk with freshman and she would like to think that they're preventing this issue from happening, but no so many of those individuals in those classes have already been so deeply affected by this issue. She stated that they just wanted to thank the commission so much for their time and for their support.

Chair Wallace thanked them so much for being there.

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**2. Arbor Day on behalf of Keep Rome-Floyd Beautiful.**

Commissioner Bagby stated that he thought this was really appropriate. They have a great community that they live in. They had Mr. Davis save somebody's life, officers brought a new life in, and young women who are working to make it a better place, so he thinks it's appropriate that the end this with the beauty that they have in the community. He presented the proclamation on behalf of Keep Rome-Floyd Beautiful.

Winnie Holland stated she felt highly privileged to be a part of preserving the environment, trees are a part of the environment, and they are part of their survival. She stated this isn't always true right now with some of their national leaders. Environment is not on top of their list, she is hoping that the local systems will have this at the top of their list for the environment. She thanked the Commission

Mary Hardin Thornton, Director, Keep Rome-Floyd Beautiful, stated that they were all invited to Arbor Day on Friday, February 16, 2018, rain or shine.

Chair Wallace thanked them for being there

**FIRST READING:**

**(SECOND READING TO BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 27, 2017)**

**1. RE-ADOPTION FOR THE ROME-FLOYD ULDC & ZONING MAPS.**

Chair Wallace stated that they heard from Mr. Artagus Newell, Director, Rome-Floyd Planning Department, in their caucus, Mr. Newell explained the zoning maps to everyone, so she did not know if anyone had any questions.

**CHAIR'S REPORT:**

1. Floyd County Library Board, Ansley Saville's second term is expiring 12/31/17.

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2. Floyd County Animal Control & Welfare, Dr. Daniel Todd has resigned. His term was set to expire 9/30/19.
3. Floyd County Animal Control & Welfare, Greta Willoughby has resigned. Her term was set to expire 9/30/20.
4. Floyd County Animal Control & Welfare, Joan Fluegge has resigned. Her term is set to expire 9/30/19.
5. Comprehensive Plan Committee

Chair Wallace made a MOTION to approve having a Comprehensive Plan Committee formed. SECOND Commissioner Maxey. VOTING:

YES NO

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

Motion Carried

6. Appointment of Karen Cook to the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Development Disabilities Board

Chair Wallace made a recommendation to appoint Karen Cook to the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Development Disabilities Board with a term expiring June 30, 2018. Vice-Chair Hancock made a MOTION to approve. SECOND by Commissioner Watters. VOTING:

YES NO

Commissioner Bagby  
" Watters  
" Maxey

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Vice-Chair    Hancock  
Chair            Wallace

Motion Carried

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:**

- 1. Administrative/Finance Committee-Chair Wallace & Commissioner Bagby (Alternate)**
  - a. Next meeting, Thursday February 15, 2018, at 8:00am.
- 2. Public Safety Committee- Commissioner Bagby & Commissioner Maxey (Alternate)**
  - a. Next meeting, Wednesday, February 14, 2018, at 8:00am.
- 3. Public Works Committee- Vice Chair Hancock & Commissioner Watters (Alternate)**
  - a. Next meeting, Wednesday, February 21, 2018, at 7:30am.
- 4. Water Committee- Commissioner Maxey & Vice Chair Hancock (Alternate)**
  - a. Next meeting, Monday, February 19, 2018, at 3:30pm.
- 5. Judicial Committee (CJIS)- Commissioner Bagby**
- 6. Floyd County Library Board- Commissioner Watters**
  - a. Next meeting, Thursday, February 15, 2018, at 4:00pm.
- 7. Special Committee Reports.**

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- a. **Fire Overview Committee- Commissioner Bagby and Vice Chair Hancock**
  
- b. **Joint Services Committee- Chair Wallace, Commissioner Bagby & Commissioner Maxey**
  - i. Next meeting, Tuesday, April 3, 2018, at 8:00am.
  
- c. **Joint Development Oversight Committee- Chair Wallace & Vice Chair Hancock**
  - i. Next meeting, Tuesday, May 1, 2018, at 8:00am.
  
- d. **Joint Solid Waste Oversight Committee- Vice Chair Hancock & Commissioner Maxey**
  
- e. **SPLOST Project Overview Committee- Commissioner Maxey & Commissioner Watters**
  
- f. **RFPR Task Force Committee – Vice Chair Hancock**
  - i. Next meeting, Tuesday, February 20, 2018, at 11:30am.

**MANAGER’S REPORT:**

**1. 2017 ANNUAL REPORT PRESENTATION**

Chair Wallace asked County Manager McCord to present them with the 2017 Annual Report. She stated that they were also excited to see this.

County Manager McCord thanked them all for being there and appreciated everyone’s attendance. He stated a lot of work went in to this and he wanted to thank Erin Elrod, County Clerk, and Amy Dawkins, Assistant County Clerk who did a majority of the leg work, every time a change needed to be made it required a significant amount of work. He stated it was a good summary of where they were, and where they are. It basically covers 2017. He stated that the

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Commission would be provided a bound copy for a reference guide, they were also going to make it available online so the public could view it. He presented the report to the Commission, and stated going back to the beginning, there are some Floyd County vital statistics listed, 96,000 population, sixty one percent (61%) unincorporated, thirty-nine percent (39%) within the city limits. 513 square miles, by population they are the twenty sixth (26<sup>th</sup>) largest county and by land mass the twenty third (23<sup>rd</sup>) largest county. Obviously, everyone knows they are in a triangle between Chattanooga, Birmingham, and Atlanta. He thinks that Rome is still the largest city in northwest Georgia. The median household income is \$41,500.00. He stated that they have developed over many, many years, after the Civil War Armuchee and Coosa became strong in the lumber industry in addition to Lindal and Shannon thriving in the textile market. Their rivers are a strength, they are excited about what has happened in the rivers in the community that has happened in the last several years. He remembers twenty (20) years ago when there may have been a boat or two on the weekends on the rivers, decent weather is anywhere between March and November. Now on the weekends the rivers are thriving with tourists, guests, and residents having a good time on their rivers. They are a Commission, Manager formal government, five (5) Commissioners, a County Manager appointed by the board that oversees directives and policies. He stated that he appreciates working for the current Commission and previous Commissions. He has been there approximately five (5) years with previous time spent with both the City of Rome and Georgia DOT. He stated they finished 2016 in a really positive position, with a \$2.3M increase to fund balance, expenditures were below projections, revenues were above projections, and they have done a lot of good things going into 2017. They did phase III of their Law Enforcement Pay Plan, they crated phase I of the Corrections side, he thinks that is a going to be a positive move going forward in really trying to improve retention. they came out of the recession back in 2006, 2007, and 2008, they were really trying to hang on for a lot of years. They are still not where they need to be, but they are really working hard to do the right things and try to prioritize what is most important to the community. They got their Land Bank up and running. They opened up the Wellness Clinic, the clinic has been standing room only for the past couple of weeks, the county is using the clinic just as much as the city at this point. The 2013 SPLOST that passed about the time that he came on board, he remembers presenting SPLOST applications and projects as a city employee and the next day he was the County Manager looking at the counties applications and trying to implement these projects. It has been a really great process with the rebranding of the Forum, four (4) new playground installations this past year, making it a total of six (6). The Everett Springs water system, a new water system in the northern part of the county went underway this past December. Another SPLOST that passed by sixty percent (60%), but they would talk about that later. A lot of effort goes into this by the people standing behind him making him look good and making him have the information that he needs to present to the committee, and the committee to present to the residents, so he just

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wanted to thank everyone in the room for that effort, it has been a really good start to 2018. Talking about services, a lot of cities and counties will not speak to each other unless they are obligated to as required by the law. In their case that is not the case, they have thirty-one (31) joint agreements. City Manager Rich has spent a of of time in the county building and he (County Manager McCord) has spent a lot of time in the city's building, so they kind of understand each other in what each of them deal with. He stated they have eighteen (18) county wide services that they do as a whole such as: Police Department, E-911, Judicial and some other areas. Then they have twenty-nine (29) joint services which he has too look at on a regular basis because it fluctuates, it seems like they add one every year. With communications being county wide and the Land Bank being reactivated in the past year, it is good to have these joint services for residents, he thinks it is good for business and industry where they only deal with one agency, they don't have to go through county and then go to city and stat all over, that is a very positive thing for not only the community but for commercial business as well. He stated that he wanted to show them a little bit of a time line and what is going on before they wake up, he mentions this frequently when he speaks to anyone, he knows a little about a lot and a lot about a little, but it is Animal Control to Zoning and everything between. It starts at midnight with Floyd County Sheriff booking an offender, 3:00am 911 dispatches someone to a medical distress call, 5:00am they have a water main break leading into rush hour an everyone taking a shower first thing in the morning, 8:00am Human Resources is helping a citizen with an online job application, 9:00am Fleet Services is replacing an engine or doing service on a vehicle, 12:00pm Economical Development meets with a client who is coming into town to look at a potential location in the community, and at 4:00pm a Board of Commissioners meeting. The next slide shows what goes on later in the day, 6:00pm the Board meeting, 7:00pm Police respond to a suspicious vehicle, 9:00pm Floyd County Sherriff's Office serves a warrant, 10:00pm a CodeRED is sent out notifying the community that there may be severe weather, 11:00pm, hopefully this never happens, there is a tornado warning or watch to be aware of, and 12:00am Police, Public Works, E911, and Sheriffs respond to any storm debris or damage that may be out there. All of this goes on while they are sleeping, while they are awake, and it starts all over. The county never sleeps, it's a twenty-four (24) hour a day, seven (7) day operation. When their Administrative offices are closed, over fifty percent (60%) of their workforce is still working and doing their jobs in rain, sleet, or snow. They have a large group of professional organizations that they are associated with, this is a small sampling, there are over forty (40) associations in professional accreditations that they work with, they recognized the Sheriff's Office several weeks ago for CALEA, obviously there is ACCG, American Public Works Association, International Society of Arborists, GFOA, so on and so forth. They really do a good jo and he encourages the department heads to be involved in these associations to stay ahead of trends, the latest technologies, Kevin Payne, Tax Commissioner, spoke to them in caucus about something

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that he got first hand from his association, so it is good to have these contacts, there is no need in recreating the wheel. He stated that County Clerk Elrod and Assistant County Clerk Dawkins taught him a new acronym, its called CASE, copy and steal everything, and use it, there is no reason to try and recreate a wheel. He stated a little bit about their dollar, what they pay for and get: County M&O for a \$100,000.00 home it is \$380.00 a year, add fire and solid waste to it it's sixty-six dollars (\$66.00) and twenty-six dollars (\$26.00) that is \$472.00 annually, which works out to thirty-nine dollars and thirty three cents (\$39.33) a month, for that they get: parks, roads, police services, library, Sheriff, judicial services, EMA, fire, and solid waste. That is a sweetheart deal, to be frank. They do obviously have to pay school system taxes, so the bill would be a little bit higher than that. He stated he was really pleased at the level of services that they provide for their tax level in comparison to other communities. A little bit more about their budgets and revenues, he mentioned earlier that they had about a \$15M fund balance at the end of 2016, the millage rate is currently nine point four, eight, seven percent 9(.487%), in 2017 they slightly rolled back to the rollback rate, a majority of their revenue does come from taxes, through sales tax or property taxes. A majority of their expenditures go out in different areas, Parks & Recreation at one time was a stand-alone authority, a couple years ago they made them a county department, and they are currently funding them about \$600,000.00 less than they were back in 2008. He stated he is going back several years, pre-recession, or about the time recession hit, which was kind of a peak time for funding and revenues. Keep in mind they have had a shift in how they have restructured the agreement. Barron Stadium moved out, the Legion Field moved out, the city took over some of the trail system, and they have lowered fees twenty percent (20%) for their four (4) major sports that go throughout the year. They are funding it a little bit less, but he thinks that they are still providing the same level of service, if not a better service in some ways. Judicial services have a modest increase, he believes by adding Drug Court, Mental Health Court, and adding an addition Superior Court Judge, at that level of increase, \$400,990.00 over a nine (9) year period is a pretty good statement on how Judicial is monitoring their expenses and keeping their cost under control. Law enforcement and Corrections did go up about ten percent (10%), \$2.1M since 2008, that is just the nature of the beast, a lot of this has been through pay increases, which they have just done recently. If they take the pay adjustments it would virtually be flat. Fire services are the same way they are about thirteen percent (13%) and almost \$900,000.00 since 2008. Again, they operate county wide fire department, county wide ISO at 2.0. They are so fortunate to have that, and so fortunate that they (the Fire Department) do not know county lines and city limits, they just go, respond, and put the fire out, or rescue a victim that is in a wreck, or whatever the situation may be. A \$200,000.00 slight increase since 2008, but it has been virtually flat. Lisa and her group do a really good job promoting the community, but they would talk more about that later. He stated economic development is down slightly from what they actually fund for operation with their joint

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economic development with the Chamber of Commerce, keep in mind that they and some of their predecessors voted to eliminate energy excise, they have also approved multiple incentive packages over that time, so it is a very skewed number. Energy excise alone for companies that use energy in manufacturing is in excess of \$1M a year. He thinks that 2017 has been the first calendar year where it was fully implemented, 2018 will be the second. Library service have somewhat decreased, but they have done a lot of good things in the last couple of things at the library, including chiller replacement, control replacement, and a fire system replacement. The library has changed the use of how information, books, eBooks, and things are done online now, so they are still adjusting to that and he thinks that Delana Hickman, Library Director, and the Library Board are doing a really good job staying ahead of that. He stated Public Works decreased \$867,000.00 since 2008, it concerns him because of their roadways, and how much money they put into their infrastructure. They were over fifty (50) years on paving a couple of years ago, they have crimped down a little bit through House Bill 170, some changes have been made, but they still need to do more. They have some aging bridges and aging infrastructures that are going to have to be addressed. The bottom of the page is the thing that sticks out the most, with the economic collapse in 2008, financial hardship became between owing in 2016, but the CPI has grown fifteen percent (15%), their county budget has grown seven percent (7%) so that is half the consumer price index which means that they are paying attention to what is going on here. They are trying to still provide services but live within their means. He stated a little example of stretching their tax dollars: general fund is \$49.6M, seventy-nine percent (79%) of that revenue has come from taxes, some charges for services, some intergovernmental and some other. Then expenditures, public safety forty-four percent (44%), general government is a lot of different departments such as: The Board, Manager, Clerk, Finance, Purchasing, that kind of focuses on the Administration Building, the Tax Commissioner, Tax Assessor, Facilities, and some of those departments that are all lumped into that. Judicial comes next, transfers out, and he has an explanation on that as far as capital projects, debt services, Forum fund, Metro fund and others. This gives them a snapshot of where it comes from and where it goes, with public safety being the vast majority of that group. He stated he could not be more happy about the 2013 SPLOST projects and how they have developed, they kind of got into that mid-year, they chose to cash flow, and he really does not have a problem with that. He thinks it was a good decision in hindsight because it allowed them to manage the projects and be timely in their management. He stated that he knew they hated their spread sheet because it was impossible to understand unless they worked with it every day, they have about \$11M incumbent and about \$12M in the bank. They are managing that as the money is put into reserve for these projects, such as Everett Springs, the P.A.W.S facility, and what not. They are not issuing any bonds to do everything upfront. Quite frankly he is not sure that they could have managed it and stretched that dollar had they not done that. Had they issued \$20M and the money was handed to them to

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do projects, he thinks that either through consulting and construction management it would have been a lesser product at the end. He stated he appreciates the foresight that they had to do this. Animal Control opened in late 2016, they went through their first year with euthanasia rates under eleven percent (11%), they have adopted out over 3,000 animals, and their visit rate has went up 180% in the first full year of operations. In jail services, they completed the third and final phase of placing the second elevator, the back up elevator for redundancy in the jail. They also have the jail medical project off the ground with design and engineering currently being under way. In public works there has been a lot of work in the Riverside and Lindale communities, as well as replacing the bridge deck sidewalk in Lindale, and multiple sidewalk replacements in the Riverside community. Again, he has talked about Everett Springs and the positive movement in that community for the new water system. It is a brand-new system that will add additional customers, and it will stand alone on its own starting at 156, working up into the pocket, and coming off of Floyd Springs road. They had about 13,000 feet in the ground as of Friday of last week, so it is really moving along. Facilities assisted with conversions at the Forum River, but he would talk about that a little bit later, and he mentioned Parks & Recreation with their playground installations. He stated the 2017 SPLOST had a sixty point seven percent (60.7%) yes, he thinks that this has shown a lot of confidence in the community, and the package that was put out before the voters. Their SPLOST normally passed by one hundred (100) votes or less, not by 2,400. He feels good about the level of effort that went into this with staff. Historic courthouse renovations, which is their landmark that definitely needs to be upgraded and improved. Jail medical phase II, which is part two, Sheriff Burkhalter and staff did not really get what they needed, and unfortunately, they have to deal with a large medical community with the closing of their state hospital several years ago. Also, an agricultural center that was an anchor project, it kind of stretched out into the unincorporated area, and would potentially allow for agritourism to attract more people to Rome and Floyd County. He stated he also wanted to thank David Newby, Chair, 2017 SPLOST Committee, for his 800 hours of grinding effort that he put them through this past year, Mr. Newby was right there beside them the whole time. The airport is well underway with design, engineering, and environmental assessment for that project that was a 2103 SPLOST project, it should be underway sometime later this summer, they are probably about seventy to eighty percent (70%-80%) complete with the environmental design. He stated he wanted to mention their Wings over North Georgia Airshow that brought over 80,000 visitors in October this past year, they have about got it figured out on how to get in and get out. Getting in is not so bad, getting out has been a problem in the past, but there was much better traffic control, parking, and it has become an annual event that a lot of people look forward to. He stated the Tax Assessor and Tax Commissioner, both of these guys have thankless jobs, it is a tough spot to be in, they have almost 49,000 parcels in Floyd County, 7,800 personal property files and over 3,000 mobile homes. They spend a lot of times dealing with

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appeals, dealing with the public, the dreaded parking lot where there is not enough space in the parking lot, he wants to go on record saying that no matter what they do in that parking lot, he cannot create more spaces. They are trying to work, potentially maybe those guys can be located somewhere else or work on some improvements to that lot, where they can get the public in and out. It is not always happy when people are there writing a check and come out to a ticket for parking in a reserved space. Building inspection had a really good year in 2017, they are responsible for 125 new homes, which is a thirty-eight percent (38%) increase over 2016, that is a really good sign that the economy is moving. They have also had some big commercial improvements, the Ball property on the Florida Tile side was redeveloped, it also included a business expansion and relocation, the apartments at State Mutual, there are several hundred that they could of put in, they just picked a couple of pictures to show them. That is a good sign that things are moving, a lot of inspections. Howard Gibson and his staff is a one stop shop, no one has to go to city or county, they go to one place and get all there information to move forward. The Coroner's office is a brand-new facility, something that they have not had in the past, Berry Henderson retired in 2017, and Gene Proctor was appointed to take the remainder of his term. In 1988 the SPLOST passed an Animal Control facility and it opened sometime in the early 90's, the one thing about it, and he means no disrespect, but the one thing they wanted to do when they got through the door was figure out how quickly to get out of it. It was dated, it smelled, it did not have enough space, it just had problems, but it no longer looks that way. They have had the offices redone, the carpet replaced, and going to have a world class Coroner's office in his opinion. Gene has done a good job in working with them and has really done this on a shoestring budget, they are probably going to be slightly over \$100,000.00, but there is no doubt in his mind that its is a \$700,000.00-\$800,000.00 facility through some cooperation with county schools, they were able to donate them so equipment that they did not have to buy. These guys are just really resourceful. They are really excited about it, where they can be proud, and be able to deal with these issues. They have over 1,000 deaths a year, not necessarily the Coroner's office, but it is inevitable for all of them. The Eco Center, Keep Rome-Floyd Beautiful have a full staff, and fully funded. Emma Wells came on board the first of the year, they also hit over 10,000 students. This is just a part of city and county environmental education that they have to do. This looks like a why are they doing something like this, what is the benefit to it, the state and federal government required them to do certain amounts of environmental education as part of their NPDES, or stormwater, program that they have to do statewide. They get kudos flying past this and flying colors by having the Eco Center there available for these activities. They hit the 10,000 milestone in November of 2017, and they are really excited about it and continuing it. E911, he has been bragging on John Blalock, E911 director, and his staff for two (2) or three (3) years, 2016 department of the year, 2017 Director of the Year John Blalock, 2017 Supervisor of the Year Summer Splendor, and 2017 Dispatcher of the Year Christy Hazelwood, Mr. Blalock

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and his staff did not get to vote, it is voted on by peers, so that really says something about E911 and what they have done. They had had a really tough turnover at E911, Mr. Blalock came in early on and said they had to fix the shift issue, because he (Mr. Blalock) believed it was their main issue, sure enough, they have not had a recognition in seventeen (17) months. He stated this was no offence to guys but he thought the girls are better at this than the boys. He has been there when a shooting has happened, it was very coincidental, they can just multi-task, they are taking care of each other, one is covering one thing, one is covering another, it is just an amazing group of individuals that do a great job for the community. This is very important, there is more than one avenue a, b, c, d, and it is community, there is actually three, so you want the right dispatch to the right location when they are on the phone. He thinks their average response time was down to six (6) minutes and forty-one (41) seconds. 102 out of the 106,000 calls were answered within ten (10) seconds, so hats off to the E911 staff. Economic development had a good year, they had three (3) major expansions, the Balta Group with a \$10M investment, Suhner Manufacturing added forty (40) jobs, Advance Tax Solution added forty-four (44) new jobs. The county purchased a ten (10) acre tract at the corner of their 100 Acre site, up in Shannon, at \$1,453,025.00 which was used with SPLOST funds. The ten (10) acres are valuable, but the access is the most valuable, they have the median cut and two (2) driveways that will allow them to show the property, and hopefully sell it to the next business that is willing to locate here in Rome-Floyd County. The Floyd- Bartow Economic Development Quarter was established in 2017 as well, it has always been called the 411 Connector, and he has been hearing about it since the late 70's. The current route has been selected, they have a project ID, the chose route 2B, which will come out just north of the Anheuser-Busch plant, it will extend under the bridge, go through the norther part of Bartow County and connect to I-75. They have environmental approval in 2020, right-of-way in 2020-2022, and construction lead in late 2022. That is the nearest schedule that he has seen in his twenty-five (25) years in being involved. He stated he is excited about that, it will give them a signal to go to I-75. The Elections office had a good year, they had a municipal election, and both ELOST and SPLOST elections handled in 2017. It was an active year, which is normally somewhat of a down year, with only the city election, but they (the county) had SPLOST and ELOST. One of their big improvements Dr. Green and his staff had was ballot on demand, they cannot be short on ballots, so they have to over project depending on the outcome, that is hard to predict sometimes. They have a ballot on demand system now that has reduced their balloting cost by ninety percent (90%) and will be an even bigger deal this year with the general election going forward. Emergency management Time Herrington, Director, Emergency Management, and Tom Bowing do a really good job of responding. They are constantly training and constantly working with citizen groups and the community to make them more aware. They did a search class I the deaf community back in August with seventeen (17) participants, and offered the deaf to receive some preparedness

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training, because it can be seen as somewhat of a challenge for that community. They also had three (3) partial activations with hurricane Harvey, hurricane Irma, and a December snow storm event. Mr. Herington and Mr. Bowing can be there twenty (20) or thirty (30) hours straight trying to make sure that they have the information that they need, the school system has the information that they need to make the best decision to keep the community safe. They also negotiated a tower rental on their communication tower with T-Mobile, where they are sharing space and not building towers next to towers, or towers in the same location. He stated that Mr. Herington and Mr. Bowing did a good job with that and in getting some revenue in to help them to maintain their system. The Engineering Department worked with several different projects throughout the year, they also hired a new County Engineer, Jeff Burnes came on board a couple of months ago. They closed the Oreburg Road railroad crossing which was part of their bypass project, it was a condition of allowing the bypass to go over the railroad. They worked with the Georgia Department of Driver Services on a new CDL testing facility here in Floyd County behind the current Drivers Training Center. That was bit of a challenge, Commissioner Maxey could speak on this being in the construction business, the CDL pad was built on top of a swamp. They went out and dug a couple of test holes to see what they had and they went to lunch and came back, and they were full of water, so they had to use some unique engineering principals and put some cement stabilization in place to make the pad hold up for the trucks. They are really excited about it, their employees have to go to Dalton or Kennesaw, and there is a six (6) month waiting list. Now they can go to the one here in Rome where there is only a three (3) month waiting list. They also worked with the recycling facility on Lavender Drive. Again, a lot of projects and a lot of support out of the Engineering Department. Extension Services, Abby Salmon and Keith Mickler have a lot of events going on throughout the year. Ms. Salmon was nominated and selected to present at the Association for International Agricultural Extension Education Officers in Yucatan, Mexico coming up this April, that is a big shout out for her. They have had over 1,000 touched by 4-H in 2017. They continue to work with the Chieftains Museum and advancing the Major Ridge Demonstration Garden. Mr. Mickler was awarded Communicator of the Year Award for the Georgia Green Industry Association in 2017. They are very active and are excited about their AG Center and where that is going to be located, no one knows where it will be located yet, they are still doing planning, but they will most likely be the new tenants of the Agricultural Center since that is the perfect fit for them. Facility Management, Ryan Davis, Director, Facilities Management, rarely gets thanked, but it is almost like he gets ten (10) work orders an hour, and he has to prioritize, some people are real happy that they are on top of the list, and some people are upset when they are at the bottom. Mr. Davis does a really good job at not only maintaining their facilities but he has helped them with these upgrades with stretching their dollar at the morgue by doing some of the work internally with his crew and inmate labor, also at the Forum Rivercenter. They also put in 10,000 square feet of carpet in the

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Law Enforcement Center, the previous year they did it in Judicial, but Law Enforcement was original carpet from 1994. The Finance department, Susie Gass, Director, Finance Department, and her staff do a great job keeping them in line. Thirty-four (34) years in a row they have received, they have the forty-fourth (44<sup>th</sup>) year of the award and twenty-ninth (29<sup>th</sup>) in a row that they have received the highest level of recognition in governmental accounting. Hopefully they will make it the thirtieth (30<sup>th</sup>) this year. They have already started on the audit and had visitors come in last week, and they would be starting on that from this point forward. It takes several months to get that in order and done, but Ms. Gass and her staff do a great job in providing that information, and department heads as well. The Fire Department, he wanted to talk a little bit about Chief Troy Brock and his team. He stated there was not a fire at the courthouse, they have nan issue with the clock, every time they get it fixed it stops working, hopefully they can get that renovated, they have replaced the mechanics and now they are replacing the computers that keep it timed. Chief Brock is always willing to help them with that, it is a good little exercise for them, and the only way they can get to the clock without renting a piece of equipment. 7,000 calls in 20017, 343 events that reached 42,000 people, these guys are also planning a memorial behind City Hall, they have talked about it and he thinks that it may become a reality in 2018. He just wanted to complement them for their efforts, and work. They received some SPLOST funds that have benefited them in the past, their tanker truck, and the future potential for burn building and other training facilities that will make them even better going forward. Fleet services Bruce Ivey, Special Projects Manager, and Brad Walker are part of the department. Mr. Ivey is Special Projects Manager that helps them on the capital side, budgeting, and looking at their fleet. They currently have 406 currently, 373 are actually assigned to departments and are on the road. Obviously, they work twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week, they have a take home policy with public safety, and they have a lot of need to determine the right vehicle for the right event. He thinks that Mr. Ivey and Mr. Walkers work with that has been really good. Mr. Walker and his staff accomplished 2,171 work orders in 2017, with about 1,000 of them being scheduled maintenance. The Forum River Center, they have been working with Safari Hospitality Management over the past year plus. They are coming up on one year, and they have to look at their agreement and see how it is going to go forward. Hopefully, with the renovations winding down, they are almost to the end of their renovations, the main ballroom was renovated, up stair meeting rooms, they have blackened the ceilings, floor coverings, carpet, wayfinding monitors are in but he is not sure if they are active yet. It was a renovation that needed to be done, they were absolutely color coated and coordinated with the early 90's, it was time in 2017-2018 to upgrade that. They hope that continues so be a draw. With the Marriot Hotel, The Hawthorne Suites, and the new Hampton, hopefully it will bring them some new opportunities for conferences and other events at the Forum going forward. Human Resource and Risk Management, Darryl Bowie, Director, Human Resources and his staff have really worked hard

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this year. A lot of things were done, too many to name but he would mention a few: Security for their personnel files, ten percent (10%) discount for ACCG safety programs, they were also able to get \$25,000.00 from Blue Cross Blue Shield for the wellness program, it was not received in the past, updated the county's drug policy, and developed a new performance management system that just rolled out this January. He stated he is really excited about the direction Human Resources are going and all of their hard work. They are very important, because they do payroll every week. He stated that he may be their supervisor but, Mr. Bowie was their boss because he certifies payroll. Judicial Services, they kicked off Floyd County felony Drug Court with Judge Colston. Chiquita Swan Crawford was named as Drug Court Coordinator in 2017. They are looking forward to that program getting on its feet and moving forward to get some public safety and rehabilitation efforts to its participants to keep them out of the system if they do not need to be in the system. There is a proven track record with drug courts and a record of reducing recidivism as they become active and go fully operational. They also did Mental Health Court that actually goes back to midyear 2015, Judge Niedrach and Karen Tovey got that off the ground. He cannot remember their exact number of participants, but it has been a very positive thing in the community, especially with the closing of Northwest Regional. He thinks that it is a proactive thing to try and address some of this where they are not dealing with some of these issues along with jail medical. Hopefully they can get that down to a manageable level. Judge Price became one (1) of only three (3) judges in the state of Georgia that received a national certification as a specialist in child welfare, only 590 attorneys or judges in the united states have achieved this, so congratulations to him and his group, they do a wonderful job dealing with the juvenile court system. Floyd County Victim Witness assisted over 3,000 victims in 2017 and had 23,000 contacts with those. The District Attorney Leigh Patterson has been very instrumental in getting grants that have funded these additional advocates, he thinks she is up to six (6) and they pay for everything, they pay for office supplies, computers, benefits, and that has been a great thing. They do have a problem finding space for them to do their job in, because they are getting a little cramped with their growth at the courthouse, but she is doing a great job with that and they encourage it to continue. Law enforcement, their law enforcement leader is Sheriff Burkhalter, Warden Mike Long, Retiring Police Chief Bill Shifflett went out in December and Mark Wallace was appointed Chief shortly after that. A lot of good things are happening on the law enforcement side. They had a successful PREA audit down at the prison which is a very difficult thing to get through, especially when they do not receive any PREA funds. Since they have state inmates and since the state took funding they have to maintain those guidelines to keep the prison certified. Major Jeff Jones concluded the Floyd County Board of Education investigation with numerous hours of work and effort. Patrolman First Class Cory Wright was named Officer of the Year. The shop with a cop program raised \$14,000.00 through the Sheriff's Office and Police Department. The Task Force seized \$310,000.00 in illegal drugs in 2017, this

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was a significant increase over the previous year. Synthetic drugs have become a problem as they go forward. In the wake of hurricane Harvey and Irma the Floyd County Sheriff's Department along with a lot of staff activate Rome Georgia Cares and collected much needed supplies for communities in both Texas and Florida. He stated some of his group, the Commanders Office, some of Finance, and others went out and worked one afternoon filling up some of the care packages and getting them loaded on pallets and ready to send out for those folks. He thinks that the Sheriff learned a lot on their two (2) trips out to both Texas and Florida. Legislative affairs, they have a pretty good list of priorities for their Legislators. Local sale tax being their second largest revenue and has been one of the biggest things to deal with over the past several years. They just cannot predict what their revenue is going to be with sales tax. They have an issue they just do not know why. It is frustrating, and they will continue to be frustrated and hope that they continue to see some growth. They were pretty flat and started the year at one point one percent (1.1%) and ended the year at one point three percent (1.3%) they had a little bit of a bump in December, but there is really lot that they can do. They are trying in every way to do things that helps sales tax in the community and create jobs, so they can do the things that it takes to get there. They are struggling as far as that goes, so that is something that definitely something that needs to be worked on. TAVT reforms, per diem for state prisoners, they have not had an increase since the 90's. They get twenty dollars (\$20.00) a day, and he mentioned to CPI that it has went up fifteen percent (15%) alone since 2008. Doing the math on that they are falling behind on their per diem from the state. He mentioned the Bartow Floyd Development Quarter and he thinks that that will be a good thing for them going forward if they can see that project to provision. IT and GIS, IT replaced all the switches in the county and that is basically like replacing every bridge in the city, it did not go without hiccups, but they now have all the same switches installed with familiarity with the same brand and being able to use those switches that will handle all of their IT transactions throughout the county. All full-time employees got email addresses in 2017, even if they do not have a workspace or computer, the departments have a log in where they can go to a computer and check their email, or they can go through the portal through the joint website. Digital wayfinding at the Forum, IT was involved with that, voice over IP phones, they installed some phones in Special Ops as well as some set up for the Morgue. They are working on GIS upgrades, they were about a week away from having a new and refreshed GIS. It has gotten to the point where it was time for that upgrade. Public Animal Welfare Services, had another good year, he mentions the eleven percent (11%) euthanasia, he does not know how they are doing this, it is an amazing stat, they were much higher previously. A lot of this goes to their rescues that are helping them, over 3,000 animals were adopted through P.A.W.S in 2017. Its best management practice along with the rescues working together to get the animals. The bigger problem that they have is they are intaking over 4,000 animals a year. He mentioned a 184% increase. They had over 13,500 visitors to the new facility, which is great.

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They did a target zero audit back in January 2017 and they implemented over ninety percent (90%) of their recommendations. They still have couple big hurdles left that they need to talk about in the near future. They are really excited about P.A.W.S and the direction they are going in their facility. Parks and Recreation, he mentioned some of their events, got the Hero Hustle, the Leprechaun O Thon, multiple gymnastic events, he mentioned new playground equipment at: Alto, Etowah, Ridge Ferry in 2017. They did a roof replacement at the Shannon Center, and a partnership with between Rome-Floyd YMCA , Parks & Rec, and Restoration Rome for a summer feeding program. Where they would be feeding one hundred (100) plus or minus kids a day at multiple locations. They are looking forward to that partnership and looking forward to growth in that area. They spent \$100,000.00 in capital that they had from funds from backing the Floyd Medical bonds, and also created a scholarship program. The scholarship program did not go quite as active as they thought it would, but they are going to evaluate it in the first part of this year to see how it goes. They did not have as much utilization as they expected. They lowered fees 2016 by over twenty percent (20%) for football, cheerleading, basketball, baseball, and softball. They did exactly what they said when they did the joint agreement, it has given the opportunity to get kids out on the fields to exercise and have a good time. Public Works, he mentioned paving, he mentioned a lot of the things that they did earlier. They were involved in Driver Services, DDS. He mentioned the paving cycle, they are at a forty-three (43) year cycle. They were over fifty (50) two (2) years ago, so they are gaining on it but forty-three years is a long time for a road to go. A road with ten (10) cars a day could probably make it forty-three years, but Armuchee Connector is not, it has 9,000 a day, that is the difference that they have to prioritize and put paving out there. They did over 400,000 in thermoplastic signage through a state grant, which brings them over \$1M for the past three (3) years. Mr. Skeen has been aggressive at going out and getting these federal and local state grants and putting those resources on the ground at no charge to Floyd County. They did a Lindale Village collection, drag it to the curb, over 50,000 pounds of material was collected in that area as part of a cleanup neighborhood enhancement. They did over seventeen (17) miles of road this past year including helping out the school system, they did a few projects for them including: the demolition of the old Johnson School, and the Coosa Highschool parking lot and a couple of driveways for them. They work well together with the county school system and provide assistance when they have the opportunity to do so. Public Works processed over 4,300 work orders in 2017. Recycling, they have some changes coming mid-year this year and they have been working on this for over a year, they are relocating their current facility in north Rome to Lavender Drive, which is a much more industrial setting and a building large enough for them to have the opportunity to be successful. They just do not have the opportunity to be successful through the existing building. There is more coming in than they can push through the building and process to get on a truck, It backs up, and makes the community of north Rome not really happy on how they leave their

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facility overnight. This opportunity for them to relocate to the west Rome area along with some SPLOST funds is going to allow them to have a much smoother transition. He hopes that it will allow them to give something back. They are hoping that they have enough space to do weekly drop off for electronics which they currently only do quarterly now. Sarah Hightower Regional Library, a lot of good things going on. First Lady Sandra Deal came back in August and presented them a Georgia flag and she brought her husband the Governor with her which was great. He got to spend the afternoon with him and Mrs. Deal did some reading to some children in the theater. They received a grant from NASA for eclipse glasses, they had over 2,500 pairs of solar eclipse glasses for the unique event this past year. They have had a large donation from the Sennett family they will be constructing an amphitheater along the river and trail. He thinks it is going to be a really good tie in to the facility and the ability to utilize that for either poetry readings, concerts, or anything from the art side of things. It will be open to the public and managed by the library and it will be a great addition to the facility. They talked a little bit about the Lindale cleanup. The solid waste is also remote sites, they did forty-five (45) tons of electronic this past year, with over 1,500 residents participating in that. 648 cubic yards of limbs, 4,000 cubic yards of leaves, keep in mind they have two trucks, and leaves do not weigh a whole lot, so that is a lot of trips for a lot of things that people put out. Obviously, clustered in urban settings citizens do not have a lot of option for mulching and disposal any other way. Solid waste is a service that they all utilize. Tourism, he mentioned a few events, Wings Over North Georgia, Georgia High School Track, and Georgia Highschool Baseball. Track was at Berry College, baseball was at State Mutual Stadium, and they were three or four-day events. It was a good event and that is when visitors from out of town come, stay the night, and enjoy Rome and Floyd County, it also generates sales tax that comes from other communities. Also, the ACC Tennis Tournament, tourism reported a twenty-nine percent (29%) increase over 2016 for a total of \$17,615,000.00 spent. That is not money coming directly to Floyd County, but that is transactions, again they get hotel/motel tax or sales taxes off of those funds. He is excited about their activity and for them to continue to grow as a sports tourism community. Water Department, 2017 brought about a lot of projects, they completed the pump station on Highway 53, they completed the 140 relocation, the water line is part of that project, widening the road from State Route 53 to the interstate. Also, on Woodward Creek water intake system that they purchased several years ago. They have started on the Everett Springs project, that is one of the water lines going in to the Everett Springs project, and the foundation of the pump station on 156. He stated they are really excited about the Water Department and the direction they are headed going forward for this year. The wellness clinic could have not come at a better time with flu season they have dealt with. He thinks it has been very positive to employees and positive throughout the community. Everyone understands free, its not technically free, but it is free to employees. They are paying for the bills, but it can keep the employee out of the emergency

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room, where they may not need to be, and help to manage care with their self-insured insurance plan. He thinks that they are being proactive because they had a tough end of the year last year with several months being above budget. He stated they are really excited about that and he believes most of the employees are too. He stated there is a quick reference guide in the back of the report with the citizen committees and it has the terms, how many members there are. This will be online and, in their handout, as well. It states what each committee is and what they are if someone is interested in. They are going to try and get a link up at a later date on the website where they can directly go to it or contact the Clerk's Office. There is a list of department heads, and their contact information as needed. Last year the Commission decided instead of doing a mid-year picnic, they decided to do face to face and try to cover a couple of shifts. He feels like they have reached out and touched 500 or more employees by doing these visits. They went to every department and multiple departments within the month, had lunch with them and the opportunity to sit down and talk. A lot of good ideas came out of it, a lot of people got fussed at, including himself, but that is part of it and sometimes they need to be fussed at. He thinks it was good interaction for the employees to get to know management and the Board, and for them to get to know the employees. He stated that was it.

Chair Wallace thanked County Manager McCord. They had charged him with giving them a state of address about the county because there so many good things going on that she does not think that everyone gets to hear about. She stated it was great information and she looked forward to getting her own personal copy and it will e great to see it on the website. She thanked him again.

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT:**

No Report

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Chair Wallace asked County Clerk Elrod if the Consent Agenda has been reviewed and is in order.

County Clerk Elrod stated there was one change to item five, it should be corrected to be a Quit-Claim deed redemption. Outside of that everything is in order.

Chair Wallace called for a Motion. MOTION made by Commissioner Bagby to approve and

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authorize execution of items submitted under the Consent Agenda as presented. SECOND by Commissioner Maxey. VOTING:

YES

NO

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

Motion Carried

- 1. Approve Quit-Claim deed for surplus and transfer of property at 122 Payne Road to the Rome-Floyd Land Bank Authority.**
- 2. Approve Quit-Claim deed for surplus and transfer of property at 12 Leon Street to the Rome-Floyd Land Bank Authority.**
- 3. Approve Quit-Claim deed for surplus and transfer of property at 405 East 19th Street to the Rome-Floyd Land Bank Authority.**
- 4. Resolution to adopt 2018 qualifying fees**
- 5. Approve Quit-Claim deed Redemption to Bradley Keith Land for property located on Eden Valley Road.**
- 6. Approve new beer and self-service fuel license for Shifa Store, LLC located at 102 Park Avenue, Lindale, Georgia. The application is paid in full and has been approved by the Floyd County Health Department, Police Department, Tax Commissioner, Fire Marshall, and Building Inspector.**
- 7. Approve new beer, wine, 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 Floyd County Health Department, Police Department, Tax Commissioner, Fire Marshall, and Building Inspector.**

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8. **Approve new beer, wine, & self-service fuel license for Jubilee 2017, Inc. dba Rozy Food Mart located at 2406 Gadsden Road, Cave Spring, Georgia. The application is paid in full and has been approved by the Floyd County Health Department, Police Department, Tax Commissioner, Fire Marshall, and Building Inspector.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH WEST CO FOR WORK TO BE DONE ON PROSPERITY DRIVE: MULCHING TREES AND BRUSH TO GROUND LEVEL AT A RATE OF NO MORE THAN \$4,500.00 PER ACRE FOR FOUR (4) ACRES.**

Chair Wallace asked County Manager McCord for insight.

County Manager McCord stated there were two items for consideration. First is approval of the agreement with West Co. for some tree clearing on Prosperity Drive. This is the area behind the Lowe's property, its more of a visual but definitely trees will have to be removed if the property were to be developed. \$4,500.00 per acre for four (4) acres. He recommended approval of the agreement with West Co for mulching on Prosperity Drive at \$4,500.00 per acre.

Chair Wallace called for a Motion. MOTION made by Vice-Chair Hancock to approve agreement with West co for work to be done on Prosperity Drive: mulching trees and brush to ground level at a rate of no more than \$4,500.00 per acre for four 8 (4) acres. SECOND by Commissioner Watters. VOTING:

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

Motion Carried

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**2. APPROVE LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN ROME-FLOYD PARKS & RECREATION AND SOUTHERN SOCCER ASSOCIATION.**

County Manager McCord stated the last item is to approve the lease agreement between Rome-Floyd Parks & Recreation and Southern Soccer Association. This goes back to multiple years ago when they had an agreement with North Georgia United Soccer, there was no soccer program at the north Rome or Armuchee Park at that time and the Rec Authority partnered with an individual to do a program there for about one hundred (100) plus or minus kids on a spring and fall season basis. They had partnered with Southern Soccer Association and this is really is a change in what they had previously been dealing with. It is also a change in their agreement. Their agreement has expired. The agreement was not what it should have been when they converted over to a county department. It needed to be revised, but they were honoring their ability to continue that program until the agreement expired. The terms of the agreement basically changed in December as they parted with SSA. What this will do is give them a six (6) month agreement with Southern Soccer Association for use of the North Floyd Park. They have already advertised the spring season; the season changes over in the summer and they go on a fall spring rotation. They will be paid \$2,000.00 at the time of signing the contract and \$2,000.00 on April 01, 2018 and \$2,000.00 on June 01, 2018. The agreement will expire in July and during this interim period they intend to put out an RFP to have anybody that may be interested. He knows of one local entity that is interested, and they are Rome-Floyd YMCA, it will give them the opportunity to propose on this and then they can bring it back to them for approval, either with SSA or with YMCA, or any other programmer that would like to utilize that facility. He recommended approval of a six (6) month lease agreement between Rome-Floyd Parks & Recreation and Southern Soccer Association for the use of the North Floyd Park until July 01, 2018.

Chair Wallace called for a Motion. MOTION made by Vice-Chair Hancock to approve a six (6) month lease agreement between Rome-Floyd Parks & Recreation and Southern Soccer Association for the use of the North Floyd Park until July 01, 2018. SECOND by Commissioner Watters. VOTING:

YES

NO

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

Motion Carried

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Chair Wallace asked if there was anyone there from their Leadership Rome Class, she asked that they come to the podium and introduce themselves.

Erin deMesquita, Hospitality House for Women, stated she was really honored to be a part of Leadership Rome this year and she knows that everyone fights for best class ever, but she really does love her peers in Leadership Rome and she is honored and very thankful.

Chair Wallace stated that they were glad that she was there. She stated that they went in to executive session for possible pending litigation.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the Board, a MOTION was made by Commissioner Maxey. SECOND by Vice-Chair Hancock that the meeting be adjourned.  
VOTING:

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

Motion Carried

**(02/13/18 - Regular Meeting)**

**ATTEST:**

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**ERIN ELROD, FLOYD COUNTY CLERK**

**FLOYD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**CAUCUS**

**February 13, 2018 2:00 PM**

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

Tax Commissioner Kevin Payne spoke on a mandated tax software update the state is requiring for tags. Rome Floyd Panning Department Director Artagus Newell presented the changes to the ULDC and zoning maps. The Commissioners and staff reviewed and discussed items on the agenda for the meeting of February 13, 2018.

**ATTEST:**

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**ERIN ELROD, FLOYD COUNTY CLERK**