



**PAULDING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORK SESSION MINUTES
August 13, 2024**

Watson Government Complex
Second Floor – Board of Commissioners Meeting Room

CALL TO ORDER: David L. Carmichael, Chairman

INVOCATION & PLEDGE: David L. Carmichael, Chairman

PRESENT: David L. Carmichael, Chairman; Keith Dunn, Post I; Sandy Kaecher, Post II; Virginia Galloway, Post III; Dean Schneider, Post IV; Jayson Phillips, County Attorney; Frank Baker, County Manager; Rebecca Merideth, County Clerk

MINUTES:

- The July 23, 2024 Work Session Minutes and the July 23, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes were available for review.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Team Paulding: Employee of the Month video, Gareth Palmer with the Paulding County Department of Transportation aired for the Commissioners and the audience.

Paulding County Fire/Rescue recognized Captain Jonathan Culpepper and FAO Steven Doll for their actions during a head on collision June 21, 2024 involving a Paulding County fire truck and a passenger vehicle. The Paulding County Board of Commissioners presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Captain Jonathan Culpepper and FAO Steven Doll.

INVITED GUESTS: None

BID AWARDS: None

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES & DEPARTMENTS: None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

CONSENT AGENDA: Chairman Carmichael read the following consent agenda items:

- Appoint Frank Baker to the Cemetery Preservation Commission to fill the unexpired term of Mark Long, with a term ending December 31, 2024.*
- Appoint Amanda Summers to fill the unexpired term of Mary Wade on the DFCS Board with a term ending December 31, 2025.*
- The Paulding County Sheriff's Office would like to request the Commission to retire or surplus Deputy Andy Allen's service weapon. Policy states that in order to retire a service pistol to a Deputy they must serve a minimum of 15 aggregate years, then they are eligible to retain their service pistol. Deputy Allen has served 22 years and will retire on August 20, 2024.*
- Declare the following items listed as surplus, and approve their disposal through auction, trade, or donation to the Georgia Public Safety:*

Surplus Items			
Department	Item Name	Make/Model	Serial Number
Landfill	Unit 318	2007 CAT 938G	CAT0938GLCRD02357
Water	Unit 710	2000 Ford Ranger	1FTYR10C4YPB06138
Fire	Generator	Generac	3654634
Fleet	1-Post lift		
Fleet	1-Rotary Two Post Lift		
Fleet	2- Air Compressors		

Fleet	3- Floor jacks		
Fleet	2-Old Generators		
Fleet	1-Wire Feeder		
Fleet	1-Old Pressure Washer		
Fleet	Unit 304	1996 Ford F350	1FDKF37HXTEB80059
Sheriff	Unit P-79	2014 Chev Caprice	6G3NS5U23EL980129
Sheriff	Unit P-73	2014 Chev Caprice	6G3NS5U29EL938368
Sheriff	Unit P-53	2014 Chev Caprice	6G3NS5U22EL934999
Sheriff	Unit P-31	2009 Ford C.V.	2FAFP71V09X139938
Sheriff	Unit 16	2007 Ford C.V	2FAFP71W57X134523
Sheriff	Unit S-97	2004 Ford C.V.	2FAFP71W94X114402
Sheriff	Homemade Trailer	4X8	T402743
Sheriff	Homemade Trailer	8X16	-
DOT	Unit 130D	1997 Ford E-350	1FBJS31L9VHB93738

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- 6. ***Public Hearing to discuss action to accept the Marjorie Taylor Greene Congressional Spending allocation in the amount of \$49,000 to purchase Breathing Equipment for Paulding Fire Rescue.***

Chairman Carmichael called on Tabitha Pollard, Finance Director to speak on the Marjorie Taylor Greene Congressional Spending allocation. Ms. Pollard stated Paulding County was awarded \$49,000.00. She aired a video explaining the Grant and the equipment to be purchased with the money.

Chairman Carmichael opened the Public Hearing. After hearing no comments from citizens, he closed the Public Hearing.

- 7. ***Discuss action to approve the adjustment of Sheriff Gary Gulledge's local supplement pay by \$25,000.00.***

Discussed action to approve the adjustment of Sheriff Gary Gulledge's local supplement pay by \$25,000.00. Frank Baker, County Manager stated a Salary Study was completed and went into effect on July 1, 2024. Sheriff Gulledge was not included in the study. This would be an adjustment to his local supplement and would be available through December 31, 2024.

Commissioner Galloway asked if the salary adjustment for Sheriff Gulledge was a yearly adjustment of \$25,000.00, and was six (6) months being paid out or the total amount.

Mr. Baker stated the \$25,000.00 is an annual adjustment. The Sheriff would only receive half of that amount for the remainder of the year.

- 8. ***Discuss action to authorize the Chairman to enter into a Supplemental Agreement with Heath & Lineback Engineers in the amount of \$27,200 for plan revisions for the roadway extension of Harmony Grove Church Road near Westbrook Creek to the Crossroads Middle School campus. Funding will be allocated from SPLOST. Project is located in Post 1.***

Discussed action to authorize the Chairman to enter into a Supplemental Agreement with Heath & Lineback Engineers in the amount of \$27,200 for plan revisions for the roadway extension of Harmony Grove Church Road near Westbrook Creek to the Crossroads Middle School campus. Funding will be allocated from SPLOST. Project is located in Post 1. George Jones, Transportation Director stated this would be the final request for additional funding on Engineering for this project. He further stated that portion is complete and the project was finished on time.

Frank Baker, County Manager commended and thanked Mr. Jones and his staff for getting the roadway opened on time. He further stated this was a tremendous help to the School System.

- 9. ***Discuss action to adopt Resolution 2024-18 adopting the County M & O Millage Rate at 4.10 mills.***

Discussed action to adopt Resolution 2024-18 adopting the County M & O Millage Rate at 4.10 mills. Tabitha Pollard, Finance Director stated she starts looking at the budget in January and February. She then sets the Budget, receives a Digest, and then the Millage Rate is set. The Digest had a small increase this year. She further stated, according to the Tax Payor Bill of Rights, the County is required to roll back the Millage rate. The County M & O Millage rate rolled back from 4.22 to 4.1 mills.

- 10. Discuss action to adopt Resolution 2024-19 adopting the Bond Millage Rate of 1.0 mills.**
Discussed action to adopt Resolution 2024-19 adopting the Bond Millage Rate of 1.0 mills. Tabitha Pollard, Finance Director stated the Bond Millage Rate rolled back from 1.2 to 1.0 mills.
- 11. Discuss action to adopt Resolution 2024-20 adopting the Fire Tax Millage Rate at 2.1 mills.**
Discussed action to adopt Resolution 2024-20 adopting the Fire Tax Millage Rate at 2.1 mills. Tabitha Pollard, Finance Director stated the Fire Tax Millage rate rolled back from 2.3 to 2.1 mills.
- 12. Discuss action to adopt Resolution 2024-21 adopting the County School Tax Millage Rate at 17.675 mills.**
Discussed action to adopt Resolution 2024-21 adopting the County School Tax Millage Rate at 17.675 mills. Tabitha Pollard, Finance Director stated the School Board is required to go through the same process as the County. They send a letter requesting the Millage Rate. Then, the Board of Commissioners set the requested rate. They have requested 17.675 mills.

Chairman Carmichael stated the three (3) County Millage Rates are lower this year.

Commissioner Galloway stated she was very proud of Ms. Pollard and all of the employees. She further stated it takes everyone on the team making good decisions and finding ways to save money.

- 13. Discuss action to adopt Resolution 2024-22 authorizing the Tax Commissioner to retain a 2.09% fee for the collection of School Tax.**
Discussed action to adopt Resolution 2024-22 authorizing the Tax Commissioner to retain a 2.09% fee for the collection of School Tax. Tabitha Pollard, Finance Director stated the School portion is collected by the Tax Commissioner and remitted to the School Board. The Tax Commissioner is allowed to retain up to 2.5% for collection cost. This year, the Tax Commissioner is asking for a 2.09% fee.
- 14. Discuss action to adopt the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget.**
Discussed action to adopt the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget. Tabitha Pollard, Finance Director stated the Budget was completed and published June 1, 2024. There were minor changes made and it was republished July 5, 2024. After the Public Hearing, there was only one change to increase the Utilities Expense for the Senior Center due to moving into a larger space.

CONCLUSION OF REGULAR BUSINESS

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: None

Chairman Carmichael asked the Commissioners if they had any announcements or comments.

Chairman Carmichael thanked Amanda Summers and Carol McLeod for their hard work and dedication to DFCS.

Commissioner Galloway stated State Route 92 is open in the south part of the County with six (6) lanes. She stated she was happy for the open lanes and asked the citizens to be careful.

EXECUTIVE SESSION/ADJOURNMENT: Sandy Kaecher made a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of Real Estate, seconded by Virginia Galloway. Voting Yea: Chairman Carmichael, Post I Keith Dunn, Post II Sandy Kaecher, Post III Virginia Galloway, Post IV Dean Schneider.

Chairman Carmichael stated the meeting would be adjourned from Executive Session.