



CALLED JOINT MEETING MINUTES

WITH MEMBERS FROM:

PAULDING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PAULDING COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
PAULDING COUNTY INDUSTRIAL BUILDING AUTHORITY
PAULDING COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY
PAULDING COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
ORGANIZATION, PAULDING COUNTY CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE, MAYORS OF DALLAS AND HIRAM

OCTOBER 14, 2021 - 9:00 AM

Chattahoochee Technical College, Building B
400 Nathan Dean Blvd
Dallas, Georgia 30132

CALL TO ORDER:

David L. Carmichael, BOC Chairman

INVOCATION & PLEDGE:

Mr. Clifford McGrady, City of Hiram

ATTENDEES:

Dave Carmichael, Lloyd Frasier with North West Georgia Regional Commission, Keith Dunn, Sandy Kaeher, Brian Stover, Frank Baker, Rebecca Merideth, Erica Parish, Stacy Hamby, Tommy Morris, Terry Tibbitts, David Small, Steve Barnette, Dan Nolan6, Michael Hughes, Tracy Hulsey, Frank Moran, Jody Palmer, Clifford McGrady,

GUEST SPEAKER:

- **Lloyd Frasier & Staff, North West Georgia Regional Commission.** Mr. Frasier introduced himself and his staff. Mr. Frasier stated that there are a total of 12 regions in Georgia and Paulding is located in Region One, which is the largest and most active region in the state. The region covers 15 Counties and 49 Cities and was created in the 1060's as the first Regional Commission in the State of Georgia. He further explained the requirements for members and the responsibility of the commission. He went over the different programs that NGRC covers and how this helps Paulding County Citizens. He introduced staff that spoke on the program of Area of Agency on Aging which is the largest program the commission oversees.

EDO/IBA BOARD CHAIRMAN & DIRECTOR REPORTS:

- **Brian Stover, EDO Board Chairman,** deferred to Mr. Morris and Mr. Hughes to give updates on the EDO Board.
- **Tom Morris, IBA Board Chairman,** stated they are excited to bring in new businesses to the County. He further stated his excitement over the new website and believes the county can attract large business if the right approach is used. Mr. Morris further stated that he is pleased with the Boards all working together and mentioned the new rezoning and incentives to make Paulding more attractive to potential businesses.
- **Michael Hughes, Exec. Director EDO/IBA,** gave an update on several items including the re-branding of the EDO, the development of new economic development incentives, new zoning districts and development standards. He reported that a new bond transaction process has been created by the Board of Tax Assessors and the Industrial Building Authority. He is excited about a new business retention program in Paulding County called "Business Walks" where the first one was held in Post 4. He also reported that Hatchery Planning Group is moving their headquarters from Cobb County into Paulding. Lastly, he reported that he is serving on the County's CTP committee.

BOC REPORT:

- **David L. Carmichael, BOC Chairman,** stated he is so excited the Airport litigation is over and behind us. He is excited to move forward with a strong General Aviation Airport. He spoke on the prayer vigil spearheaded by himself and Commissioner Kaeher along with many local Pastors for the 13 members of our military that did not survive the bombing in Afghanistan. He reported he

continues to participate in weekly calls with Wellstar regarding COVID. He stated the County is looking at a total revamping of the Zonings. He asked County Administrator, Frank Baker to update everyone on the recent MOU with Metro Ambulance.

- **Frank Baker, County Administrator**, stated Metro Ambulance has taken some hits in the last few months, the Fire Department looked at some of the staging areas and came up with a good MOU. The County has earmarked the ARPA funding for Broadband, water and sewer. He further stated the County Transfer Station will be closing soon and looking at land in Hiram for Transfer Station #2. He let everyone know about some other projects the Board is moving forward on such as Paulding in the Pines. Mr. Baker also updated everyone on the new State Court coming and a new Fleet Maintenance Building the County will start soon.
- **Sandy Kaecher, Commissioner Post II**, stated there is sewer going down Buchanan Highway as well as water.
- **Brian Stover, Commissioner Post IV**, stated that the Board is looking at all of the Zoning Categories and restructuring some of them. The category of PRD has been retired but there are still some that were approved years ago when it was active. Commissioner Stover also spoke on the Cares Act and stated one part of the funds will be going to expand the Richland Creek Water line to more of the County to provide water for more commercial growth.
- **Keith Dunn, Commissioner Post I**, stated it was very refreshing to have these kinds of meetings. He further stated the Board does not always agree, but works together and considers every decision very seriously before moving forward.

PCBOE REPORT:

- **Steve Barnette, Interim Superintendent**, stated that this is his fifth month as Interim Superintendent and appreciates being invited to participate in the joint meeting. Mr. Barnette gave an update on the current number of active COVID cases in the School District at this time and where they were just a few months ago, stating that the cases have gone down substantially. He further stated they are monitoring the wellbeing of their teaching staff and the toll this pandemic has taken on their physical and mental health. Mr. Barnette stated that the largest growth in number of students has been in the Union community. Paulding is the 13th largest district in Georgia and growth is a concern.
- **Dan Nolan**, stated he commends staff for the great job they have done during this pandemic. He further stated that he is excited to see the Aviation Academy coming to the Airport and hopes to see a connection with the Carrier Academy. Mr. Nolan stated the school board plans to vote on a senior tax exemption at the next Board Meeting and they are working on a facility plan and where they can acquire land in the County.
- **Steve Barnette, Interim Superintendent**, asked to have a meeting set up between Scott Greene, County Director of Operations and Eric Hofstetter, BOE Chief Operations Officer regarding growth in the County.

PCAA CHAIRMAN REPORT:

- **David Small, PCAA Chairman**, stated he is excited about the litigation against the Airport being resolved and is excited about the new Aviation Academy and what that will mean for the County.
- **Terry Tibbitts, Airport Director**, gave an update on the status of the Aviation Academy, the businesses that are out at the airport currently and is excited to partner with the Board of Education on programs. He touched on the sewer connection that is coming which will allow for expansion at the Airport.

CITY OF HIRAM REPORT:

- **Mayor Frank Moran**, stated the City of Hiram currently has 800 business and Burlington Coat Factory will be opening by the end of the year. The City is in negotiations with a property owner to purchase the only sliver of property downtown that the City does not already own. If acquired the property will be used for more downtown parking.
- **Jody Palmer, City of Hiram Manager**, stated he is proud of the staff. He further stated he is glad the Hwy 92 Project is moving forward.
- **Clifford McGrady**, updated everyone on event Faith in Blue which was spearheaded by the City

of Hiram and included all County law enforcement. It was a great success, they want to make this an annual event and Mr. McGrady thanked all that participated. He further stated that on October 28th the City will host an event called “Trunk or Treat” as well as the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting event which will be held on December 3rd.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:

- **Stacy Hamby, Chamber Director**, stated the Chamber is proud to offer 10 monthly programs and will kick off Leadership Paulding 32 soon and she is excited to head up this LP group. Ms. Hamby listed some of the upcoming events hosted by the Chamber.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Erica Parish, Paulding County DOT Assistant Director**, stated she was excited to be here, and reminded everyone that DOT is not just roads but is trails, bike paths, pathways and roadways. Ms. Parish gave an update on the Hwy 92 project, and the Macland Rd project. She further stated that 47 miles of paving has been done by Contractors and 7 miles of paving has been done by staff. Ms. Parish did state that they were in the beginning stages of updating the Transportation Comp. Plan which is required to be updated every five years and she believes that this time, there will be a technology component in the plan.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FROM CITIZENS: None

ADJOURNMENT: Brian Stover made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Sandy Kaeher, Chairman Carmichael adjourned the meeting.


Rebecca Merideth, County Clerk


David L. Carmichael, Chairman