



BALDWIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING

March 4, 2025

1601 N Columbia St, Suite 220

6:00 PM

MINUTES

PRESENT

Andrew Strickland, Chairman
Kendrick Butts
Sammy Hall
Emily Davis
Scott Little

OTHERS

Dawn Hudson
Brandon Palmer
Bo Danuser

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Andrew Strickland called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

INVOCATION

Amy Raburn of Northridge Church said the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Butts led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATIONS

Latonya Howell was unable to be present to give a Women's History Month presentation.

Commissioner Butts made a motion to strike the presentation from the agenda. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the February 18, 2025 regular meeting minutes and executive session minutes. Commissioner Little seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FISCAL MATTERS

Commissioner Hall made a motion to amend the agenda to make an appointment to the Central State Hospital Development Authority. Commissioner Little seconded the motion to amend the agenda.

Commissioner Butts asked if they were going to vote on the appointment that night. Chairman Strickland responded yes. Commissioner Butts stated he didn't know anything about this and asked who

picked the appointment, and when did the appointment get picked. He stated that all the commissioners should have known about this appointment and all five members be given a chance to recommend appointments.

There was a discussion about the urgency for having a quorum on the CSH Development Authority, the procedure for making appointments, and that not all commissioners knew that Robert Binion's name was being discussed for appointment to the Central State Hospital Redevelopment Authority.

Chairman Strickland called for the vote.

Commissioners Hall, Strickland and Little vote yes. Commissioners Butts and Davis voted no. The motion passed and the agenda was amended.

Commissioner Little made a motion to table the appointment to the Central State Hospital Redevelopment Authority. Commissioner Butts seconded the motion.

There was a brief discussion about making an appointment on the Central State Hospital Local Redevelopment Authority.

Commissioners Butts, Hall, Davis and Little voted yes. Commissioner Strickland voted no. The motion carried and the appointment was tabled.

RESOLUTION R-2025-20 – performance review of Board of Tax Assessors

County Attorney Brandon Palmer stated this was the same resolution previously presented and requested a performance review of the Baldwin County Board of Assessors and for other lawful purposes.

The resolution was presented as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-20
A RESOLUTION TO REQUEST A PERFORMANCE REVIEW OF THE BALDWIN COUNTY
BOARD OF TAX ASSESSORS; AND FOR OTHER LAWFUL PURPOSES

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, O.C.G.A. § 48-5-295.1 provides a process by which the Board of Commissioners of Baldwin County, Georgia ("Board of Commissioners") may request that an independent performance review of the Baldwin County Board of Tax Assessors and appraisal staff be conducted by an independent performance review board appointed by the Commissioner of the Department of Revenue;

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners desires to have a thorough and complete investigation of all actions of the Baldwin County Board of Tax Assessors and appraisal staff regarding the technical competency of appraisal techniques and compliance with state law and regulations; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners that they do hereby make a request to the Commissioner of the Department of Revenue for a performance review as provided by O.C.G.A. § 48-5-295.1 and that the Commissioner appoint an Independent Performance Review Board within thirty (30) days after receipt of this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners requests that the written report of the Performance Review Board's findings be forwarded to the Baldwin County Clerk upon completion, which report should include such evaluations, judgments, and recommendations as the Performance Review Board deems appropriate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners shall reimburse the members of the Performance Review Board for reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, including mileage, meals, lodging, and cost of materials.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Baldwin County Clerk shall submit a copy of this resolution to the Commissioner of the Department of Revenue following its adoption.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall become effective as of the date of its adoption.

SO RESOLVED, this 4th day of March, 2025.

Honorable Andrew Strickland
Chairman, Baldwin County Board of Commissioners
ATTEST:

Bo Danuser
Baldwin County Clerk

Robert Binion addressed the commissioner encouraging the commission to request a performance review of the Board of Tax Assessors. He stated that this was needed.

Maurice Liggins addressed the commissioner asking if Mr. Little would vote this time, if he could vote, what made him eligible now as opposed to last time.

Pam Peacock addressed the commission regarding her experience with her tax assessment and transparency in the tax assessor's office. She encouraged the commission to request a review of the Tax Assessors office and appraisal staff.

Chairman Strickland read a letter from Tax Commissioner Cathy Settle dated January 3, 2002 requesting the review of the Board of Tax Assessors.

There was a discussion about calling for a review of the tax assessor's office including a report on a meeting between various entities identifying corrective actions; providing the report to the public; the tax assessor's office not providing information to the commissioners; the evaluation would identify problems in the tax assessor's office and then they could correct them; the computer programs used in the tax commissioner's office and the tax assessor's office; scheduling a meeting with all parties involved; the state statues requiring reporting deadlines; and getting computer training on the Tyler system.

Commissioner Little explained why he abstained on the previous vote and that he had gotten a legal opinion that he had no legal right to abstain. He further stated that he needed baseline information about the Tax Assessor's Office.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve Resolution R-2025-20 to request a performance review of the Baldwin County Board of Tax Assessor. Commissioner Little seconded the motion. Commissioners Little, Strickland and Hall voted aye. Commissioners Davis and Butts voted no. The motion carried with a 3-2 vote.

RESOLUTION R-2025-21 – widening of State Route 49

Chairman Strickland stated this resolution was supporting and urging the commencement of Georgia Department of Transportation's widening of Georgia State Route 49 just off Felton Drive to east of Milledgeville Bypass.

The Resolution was presented as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-21

A RESOLUTION OF THE BALDWIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SUPPORTING AND URGING COMMENCEMENT OF GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S WIDENING OF GEORGIA STATE ROUTE 49, JUST WEST OF FELTON DRIVE TO EAST OF MILLEDGEVILLE BYPASS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, Baldwin County (the "County") is a duly formed political subdivision of the State of Georgia; and

WHEREAS, the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners desires multimodal transportation development, infrastructure improvements and innovation throughout Baldwin County; and

WHEREAS, the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners puts Baldwin County residents' safety first through innovation and technology; and

WHEREAS, the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners supports the Georgia Department of Transportation's ("GDOT") vision to boost Georgia's competitiveness via leadership in transportation; and

WHEREAS, the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners supports GDOT's mission to deliver a transportation system focused on innovation, safety, sustainability, and mobility; and

WHEREAS, there has been increased traffic congestion on Georgia State Route 49, which is currently a two-lane road and under the jurisdiction of GDOT;

WHEREAS, the increased congestion has been caused by the increased enrollment at our local colleges and universities and new housing starts; and

WHEREAS, the widening of Georgia State Route 49, just west of Felton Drive to east of Milledgeville Bypass, is vitally important to easing traffic congestion and sparking economic development in Baldwin County; and

WHEREAS, the construction of traffic signal devices at the intersection of Georgia State Route 49 and Horace Veal Road would serve the best interests of Baldwin County and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners finds that the immediate commencement of the project for widening of Georgia State Route 49, just west of Felton Drive to east of Milledgeville Bypass, would serve the best interests of Baldwin County and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners supports and urges GDOT to commence construction on GDOT' s Project ID 231450, SR 49 FM just west of Felton Drive to east of Milledgeville Bypass; and

WHEREAS, the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners requests that GDOT install traffic signal devices at the intersection of Georgia State Route 49 and Horace Veal Road; and

WHEREAS, on or about July 21, 2015, Baldwin County and GDOT entered into the memorandum of understanding ("MOU") attached hereto as Exhibit "A", pursuant to which GDOT agreed to fund all work necessary for the adjustment or relocation of utility infrastructure and facilities in the affected area.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Baldwin County, Georgia, and it is hereby resolved by authority of the same, as follows:

Incorporation of Recitals. The above stated recitals are true and correct and are incorporated as though fully set forth herein.

Support for Project. The County hereby supports and urges commencement of the widening of Georgia State Route 49, classified by GDOT as project ID 231450, SR 49 FM just west of Felton Drive to the east of Milledgeville bypass, including the installation of traffic signal devices at the intersection of Georgia State Route 49 and Horace Veal Road and all work necessary for the adjustment or relocation of utility infrastructure and facilities in the affected area at the sole expense of GDOT, in accordance with Exhibit "A" attached hereto.

Authorization of the Chairman. The Board of Commissioners authorizes the Chairman to sign this Resolution and to sign any other documents necessary to effectuate this Resolution.

Other Actions Authorized. The County Manager shall be authorized to take any other action necessary or reasonably required to carry out, give effect to this Resolution.

Severability. In case any one or more of the provisions of this resolution shall for any reason be held to be illegal or invalid, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect any other provision of this resolution, but this resolution shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provision had not been contained herein.

Repeal of Conflicting Resolutions. Any and all resolutions in conflict with this resolution this day passed be and they are hereby repealed.

Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

SO RESOLVED, this 4th day of March, 2025.

BALDWIN COUNTY, GEORGIA
Honorable Andrew Strickland

Chairman, Baldwin County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Bo Danuser

Baldwin County Clerk

DATE ADOPTED [SEAL]

Commissioner Butts made a motion to approve Resolution R-2025-21. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion.

Commissioner Hall stated the provision where the county would not pay for utilities and a request for a traffic light were included in the resolution.

The motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION R-2025-22 – authorize purchasing cards for elected officials

Assistant County Manager Dawn Hudson discussed issuing purchasing cards to elected officials and that the established procedures would be followed; there would be strict controls. She stated a resolution was required for elected officials to be issued purchasing cards.

The resolution was presented as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-22

A RESOLUTION OF THE BALDWIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGARDING
COUNTY ISSUED PURCHASING AND/OR CREDIT CARDS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, Baldwin County (the "County") is a duly formed political subdivision of the State of Georgia; and

WHEREAS, Georgia law prohibits counties from issuing purchasing cards and credit cards to elected officials unless the governing authority of the county has authorized such issuance and has promulgated policies regarding their use as provided by law; and

WHEREAS, such purchasing cards and credit cards shall only be issued to elected officials designated by the governing authority; and

WHEREAS, in order to comply with O.C.G.A. § 36-80-24, the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners desires to authorize certain elected officials to be issued a county purchasing and/or credit card, and to adopt the attached user agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Baldwin County, Georgia, and it is hereby resolved by authority of the same, as follows:
Incorporation of Recitals. The above stated recitals are true and correct and are incorporated as though fully set forth herein.

Adoption of User Agreement. The Baldwin County Board of Commissioners adopts the Purchasing Card and/ or Credit Card User Agreement between Baldwin County and Baldwin County Elected Officials, attached as Exhibit "A."

Designation of Elected Officials. The Baldwin County Board of Commissioners, by public vote, designates the following Baldwin County Elected Officials to receive a county issued purchasing and/ or credit card and approves the attached user agreement for the following elected officials:

Commissioners
Coroner
Magistrate Judge
Probate Judge
Sheriff
Superior Court Clerk
Tax Commissioner
Solicitor
State Court Judge

Severability. In case any one or more of the provisions of this resolution shall for any reason be held to be illegal or invalid, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect any other provision of this resolution, but this resolution shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provision had not been contained herein.

Repeal of Conflicting Resolutions. Any and all resolutions in conflict with this resolution this day passed be and they are hereby repealed.

Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

SO RESOLVED, this 4th day of March, 2025.

BALDWIN COUNTY, GEORGIA
Honorable Andrew Strickland

Chairman, Baldwin County Board of Commissioners
ATTEST:

Bo Danuser
Baldwin County Clerk

DATE ADOPTED [SEAL]

There was a discussion about issuing cards to elected officials, the cards would help lessen the risk of compromise. There was a discussion about controlling limits, using purchasing cards for travel, and the mechanism of accountability.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve Resolution R-2025-22. Commissioner Butts seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION R-2025-23 – Ocmulgee Drug Task Force Intergovernmental agreement

Assistant County Manager Hudson discussed the intergovernmental agreement with 14 multi-jurisdictional task forces; the agreement had been approved and signed by the sheriff and he is requesting the board approve the intergovernmental agreement.

The resolution was presented as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-23

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE AN INTEGVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE
OCMULGEE DRUG TASK FORCE/MIDDLE GEORGIA GANG TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners desire enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the Ocmulgee Drug Task Force/Middle Georgia Gang Task Force; and

WHEREAS, the participating entities agree that a collaborative effort is key to reducing drug use, sales, trafficking, gang violence, and other criminal activity; and

WHEREAS, this intergovernmental agreement is dedicated to the collaborative crime control initiative by seeking to rid the participating communities of illicit drug, gang, and other criminal activities by aggressively enforcing the laws of the State of Georgia through the arrest and prosecution of criminals; and

WHEREAS, this intergovernmental agreement shall be active upon the effective date of Byrne-JAG funding in 2025 and shall be active through the end of the grant period; and

WHEREAS, this intergovernmental agreement can be amended, revised, or otherwise renewed upon the agreement of the entities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Baldwin County, Georgia, and it hereby resolved by authority of the same, as follows:

1. Incorporation of Recitals. The above stated recitals are true and correct and are incorporated as though fully set forth herein.
2. Authorization of Grant Application. The Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the intergovernmental agreement with the Ocmulgee Drug Task Force/Middle Georgia Gang Task Force.
3. Authorization of Chairman. The Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Chairman of the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners to sign any documentation or take any other action necessary or reasonably required to carry out, give effect to, and consummate the application and administration of the intergovernmental agreement and to take all action necessary in conformity therewith.
4. Severability. In case any one or more of the provisions of this Resolution shall for any reason be held to be illegal or invalid, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect any other provision of this Resolution, but this Resolution shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provision had not been contained herein.

5. Repeal of Conflicting Resolutions. Any and all resolutions in conflict with this Resolution this day passed be and they are hereby repealed.
6. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

SO RESOLVED, this 4th day of March, 2025.

BALDWIN COUNTY, GEORGIA

Honorable Andrew Strickland, Chairman
Baldwin County Board of Commissioners
ATTEST:

Bo Danuser, County Clerk
Baldwin County Georgia
DATE ADOPTED _____
[SEAL]

Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve Resolution R-2025-23. Commissioner Butts seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION R-2025-24 – Ocmulgee Drug Task Force Grant \$392,451

Assistant County Manager Hudson discussed the first of two grants awarded to the Drug Task Force in the amount of \$392,451 to be used for personnel for the task force.

The resolution was presented as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-24

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE AN APPLICATION BE SUBMITTED TO THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR THE EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE (JAG) GRANT TO PROVIDE REVENUE FOR THE OCMULGEE DRUG TASK FORCE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners desire to receive funding from the Criminal Justice Coordinating County Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance (JAG) Grant to be used for the Ocmulgee Drug Task Force; and

WHEREAS, the Grant Subaward Number is AW-BJAG-L24-028-012 and the Award Number is 15PBJA-22-GG-00655-JAGX; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned grant provides \$392,451 for the period of October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Baldwin County, Georgia, and it hereby resolved by authority of the same, as follows:

1. Incorporation of Recitals. The above stated recitals are true and correct and are incorporated as though fully set forth herein.

2. Authorization of Grant Application. The Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the preparation and submission of a Criminal Justice Coordinating Council Edward Byrne Memorial Assistance (JAG) Grant.
3. Authorization of Chairman. The Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Chairman of the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners to sign any documentation or take any other action necessary or reasonably required to carry out, give effect to, and consummate the application and administration of the Grant and to take all action necessary in conformity therewith.
4. Severability. In case any one or more of the provisions of this Resolution shall for any reason be held to be illegal or invalid, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect any other provision of this Resolution, but this Resolution shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provision had not been contained herein.
5. Repeal of Conflicting Resolutions. Any and all resolutions in conflict with this Resolution this day passed be and they are hereby repealed.
6. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

SO RESOLVED, this 4th day of February, 2025.

BALDWIN COUNTY, GEORGIA

 Honorable Andrew Strickland, Chairman
 Baldwin County Board of Commissioners
 ATTEST:

 Bo Danuser, County Clerk
 Baldwin County Georgia
 DATE ADOPTED _____
 [SEAL]

Commissioner Butts made a motion to approve Resolution R-2025-24. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION R-2025-25 – Ocmulgee Drug Task Force Grant \$98,815

Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve Resolution R-2025-25. Commissioner Butts seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

The resolution was presented as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-25
 A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE AN APPLICATION BE SUBMITTED TO THE CRIMINAL JUSTIVE
 COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR THE EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE (JAG) GRANT TO
 PROVIDE REVENUE FOR THE OCMULGEE DRUG TASK FORCE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners desire to receive funding from the Criminal Justice Coordinating County Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance (JAG) Grant to be used for the Ocmulgee Drug Task Force; and

WHEREAS, the Grant Subaward Number is AW-BJAG-L24-028-013 and the Award Number is 15PBJA-21-GG-00242-JAGX; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned grant provides \$98,815 for the period of October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Baldwin County, Georgia, and it hereby resolved by authority of the same, as follows:

1. Incorporation of Recitals. The above stated recitals are true and correct and are incorporated as though fully set forth herein.
2. Authorization of Grant Application. The Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the preparation and submission of a Criminal Justice Coordinating Council Edward Byrne Memorial Assistance (JAG) Grant.
3. Authorization of Chairman. The Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Chairman of the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners to sign any documentation or take any other action necessary or reasonably required to carry out, give effect to, and consummate the application and administration of the Grant and to take all action necessary in conformity therewith.
4. Severability. In case any one or more of the provisions of this Resolution shall for any reason be held to be illegal or invalid, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect any other provision of this Resolution, but this Resolution shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provision had not been contained herein.
5. Repeal of Conflicting Resolutions. Any and all resolutions in conflict with this Resolution this day passed be and they are hereby repealed.
6. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

SO RESOLVED, this 4th day of February, 2025.

BALDWIN COUNTY, GEORGIA

Honorable Andrew Strickland, Chairman
Baldwin County Board of Commissioners
ATTEST:

Bo Danuser, County Clerk
Baldwin County Georgia

DATE ADOPTED _____ [SEAL]

RESOLUTION R-2025-26 – Georgia Workforce Grant (WIOA)

Assistant County Manager discussed receiving additional funds from the dislocated worker program in the amount of \$350,000.

The resolution was presented as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-26

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE AN APPLICATION BE SUBMITTED FOR THE GEORGIA WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT (WIOA) GRANT FOR FUNDING THE DISLOCATED WORKER PROGRAM FOR THE OF PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2024 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2025; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners desire to continue to receive funding from the Georgia Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Grant Number 36-23-24-06-011 FAIN 23A55AW000013; and

WHEREAS, the Grant provides funding of \$350,000 for the period of October 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Baldwin County, Georgia, and it hereby resolved by authority of the same, as follows:

1. Incorporation of Recitals. The above stated recitals are true and correct and are incorporated as though fully set forth herein.
2. Authorization of Grant Application. The Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the preparation and submission of a Georgia Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Grant.
3. Authorization of Chairman. The Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Chairman of the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners to sign any documentation or take any other action necessary or reasonably required to carry out, give effect to, and consummate the application and administration of the Grant and to take all action necessary in conformity therewith.
4. Severability. In case any one or more of the provisions of this Resolution shall for any reason be held to be illegal or invalid, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect any other provision of this Resolution, but this Resolution shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provision had not been contained herein.
5. Repeal of Conflicting Resolutions. Any and all resolutions in conflict with this Resolution this day passed be and they are hereby repealed.
6. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

SO RESOLVED, this 4th day of March, 2025.
BALDWIN COUNTY, GEORGIA

Honorable Andrew Strickland, Chairman
Baldwin County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Bo Danuser, County Clerk
Baldwin County Georgia
DATE ADOPTED _____ [SEAL]

Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve Resolution R-2025-26. Commissioner Butts seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

LETTER OF COMMITMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Assistance County Manger Hudson discussed a request from the Development Authority for the county to submit a letter of support and commitment with an application for a DOT grant for the entrance into the Sibley Smith property and the grant match would come from SPLOST funds allocated for economic development.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to approve the letter or support. Commissioner Butts seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Butts announced a community cleanup day the past weekend. He acknowledged the partners and thanked them for what they did.

Commissioners Little and Strickland praised Jeff Yeomans and the Brighter Days Ministries. Mr. Yeomans responded that they needed more unity and love, people had more in common that apart.

There was a discussion about the work Brighter Days Ministries did in the community.

Commissioner Davis reported that 674 Old Monticello Road had been trying to get a new herbie curbie since January; the driver of the trash truck damaged the herbie curbie, he knew it, and did not report it.

Commissioner Davis reported the Meriwether convenience center was turning away people who were dumping cardboard boxes; she stated they needed to do something about this company. They needed to allow people to use the convenience centers.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Butts stated Maurice and Desiree Liggins were sponsoring four children for 4-H camp and were looking for eligible applicants; they were paying for it out of their pocket. Commissioner Butts asked that it be posted on the county website.

4-H Program Assistant for the University of Georgia Baldwin County Extension Hollie Hancock addressed the commission giving information about the 4-H program and the Clover Leaf Summer Camp at Rock Eagle for students in grades 4 – 6. One of their core missions was to make this camp accessible to all students regardless of their financial background; this year they had 4 scholarships. She asked that the commissioners help spread the word about the camp scholarships. The camp dates would be June 23 – 27.

Maurice Liggins stated that he was sponsoring 4 additional camp scholarships; his sponsorships did not have to be participants in the 4-H program. He asked that the county post the information. He

discussed the cost of participation and asked interested students from grades 4 – 6 to contact Ms. Hancock.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

There was no County Manager's Report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Barry Havior of East Walton Street addressed the commissioners discussing transportation for the recreation department track team. He stated that County Manager Tobar had worked out the use of an 11-passenger van, but an 11-passenger van would not accommodate the amount of kids and equipment he would have for the track meets. He asked SPLOST funds be used for the recreation track team travel.

There was a discussion about the transportation needs of the track team.

Gregory Barnes of Sussex Drive addressed the commission expressing his concern and asking the commission to reconsider alternating the county chair seat. He felt everyone should get an opportunity.

Monica Williams Bonner of Summit road addressed the commission regarding the increase in her tax assessment increase of 115%. She was grateful for the commissioners who voted to have a third party to look at the tax assessor's office; people would be taxed out of their home. She stated she emailed the commissioners with more detail about her particular information.

Pamela Peacock addressed the commissioners asking them to support the spay and neuter ordinance. She stated the shelter was full and there were organization that offered low cost spay and neutering. Paws for Georgia offered low cost spay and neutering and helped with rabies vaccines.

Desiree Liggins of district 2 and 4 addressed the commission. She thanked the commission for hearing her concerns on the cats and dogs in Baldwin County and the work they put into the ordinance; there were cats everywhere. She asked what the county was going to do to protect the residents from slum lords. She asked what the county was going to do to clean up empty lots and how the county was going to be proactive to mitigate property damage and possible death from storm damage in established subdivisions. She stated that she was not against pickleball, gated communities, airport, landscaping or Log Cabin Road but felt money should not be spent on these things when they needed vans to take care of children and crumbling roads.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Butts made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss personnel matters and possible litigation. Commissioner Little seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

The Commissioners went into closed session at 7:48 PM.

Commissioner Little made a motion to adjourn the executive session and return to open session at 8:21 PM. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion and the executive session was adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Hall made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 PM. Commissioner Butts seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 PM

Respectfully submitted,



Andrew Strickland, Chairman





Bo Danuser, County Clerk