



## BALDWIN COUNTY REGULAR MEETING

October 19, 2021  
1601 N Columbia St, Suite 220  
6:00 PM

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### MINUTES

#### MEMBERS PRESENT

Henry Craig  
John Westmoreland  
Kendrick Butts  
Emily Davis  
Sammy Hall

#### OTHERS PRESENT

Carlos Tobar  
David McRee  
Dawn Hudson  
Cindy Cunningham  
Jill Adams

#### CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Henry Craig called the October 19, 2021 meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Emily Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 21, 2021 Regular Meeting, September 21, 2021 Executive Session and October 5, 2021 Work Session as submitted. Vice Chairman John Westmoreland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

Commissioner Sammy Hall made a motion to amend the Agenda to discuss financial assistance to the Sinclair Water Authority. Commissioner Emily Davis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Commissioner Kendrick Butts made a motion to move the Agenda Item regarding the Georgia Initiative for Community Housing to the last item on the Agenda because some of the members of the housing team have been delayed getting to the meeting. Commissioner Emily Davis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE/FISCAL MATTERS

##### State Fiscal Recovery Fund Application

County Manager Carlos Tobar presented a letter for the Board's consideration regarding submission of a State Fiscal Recovery Fund application for water and sewer improvements. He reported the total project cost is \$4,575,000 with a request to the State Fiscal Recovery Fund in the amount of \$2,287,500, and the County providing a local match of \$2,287,500 allocated from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to be used for costs associated with project planning, design and construction. Mr. Tobar stated the engineering firm of Carter and Sloope will be preparing the application for submission by October 31, 2021.

Vice Chairman John Westmoreland made a motion to authorize the Chairman to execute the letter committing a County match from ARPA funds in the amount of \$2,287,500 for the State Fiscal Recovery Fund Application for water and sewer improvements as presented. Commissioner Sammy Hall seconded the motion.

Discussion was held regarding the use of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds and the determination of the most effective ways to maximize these funds. Chairman Craig commented regulations stated water, sewer, and broadband were three things for which the money could be used.

Chairman Craig called for the vote on the motion to authorize the execution of the letter committing a County match from ARPA funds in the amount of \$2,287,500 for the water and sewer improvements application through the State Fiscal Recovery Fund. The motion passed by the following vote:

Aye: Westmoreland, Davis, Hall, Craig      Nay: Butts

### Broadband Grant Application

County Manager Tobar stated the broadband application requires the same action as the application previously discussed for water and sewer improvements. Mr. Tobar explained this application will also be submitted to the State Fiscal Recovery Fund. The total estimated cost of the project is \$1,835,833; Baldwin County will request grant funds of \$1,069,698 from Georgia's State Fiscal Recovery Fund. He explained the grant funds requested would be fiftyeight percent (58%) of the project cost with Windstream proposing to provide forty-two percent (42%) or \$766,124 in matching funds. Mr. Tobar reported these applications are very competitive, and the more match that is provided for the project the higher the application will score. He asked whether Commissioners want to partner with Windstream and provide funds to provide a 50/50 match for project. Mr. Tobar requested authorization to provide additional matching funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) in addition to matching funds being provided by Windstream and for authorization for the Chairman to sign the letter to submit the application.

Mr. Tobar reported the County had presentations from a number of vendors. The County would only support an application if the vendor would not compete with EMCs for providing broadband. He stated the Windstream plan meets the goal to serve Baldwin County with broadband.

Commissioner Sammy Hall expressed his concern that other companies are going to provide the service without any county match; he questioned why Windstream can't also do this without county money. Mr. Tobar responded he feels match will be a major force in funding.

Commissioner Sammy Hall made a motion to support the Windstream application for submission to the State Fiscal Recovery Fund without the County providing money for a 50/50 match. Vice Chairman John Westmoreland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### Section 5311 Transit Application for 2023

County Manager Tobar reported many changes have been made to improve the transit program. He reported on the services provided by the program and the number of trips for the last program year.

Mr. Tobar presented budget information for the 2023 application. The total budget is \$328,687.74 of which \$203,469.19 is federal funds leaving a balance of \$125,218.54. The operating budget of \$198,270 is a 50/50 federal / county allocation. The \$129,417.74 capital budget is being requested for the replacement of a van and purchase of an additional van. \$1,000 is also being requested to purchase communications equipment. Of this \$130,417.74 capital budget, the State and County will provide a 50/50 capital match in the amount of \$13,041.76 each. Therefore, the County's portion of the 2023 transit budget is \$112,176.78.

County Manager Tobar presented a Resolution authorizing the filing of the Section 5311 application, authorizing the Chairman to execute related document, and certifying the County will comply with FTA Certifications and Assurances.

Commissioner Emily Davis made a motion to adopt the Resolution as presented.

Commissioner Kendrick Butts seconded the motion and it passed by the following vote:

Aye: Davis, Butts, Westmoreland, Craig

Nay: Hall

A copy

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\_\_\_\_\_ copy and of the Resolution is herewith attached and made an official part of the minutes at \_\_\_\_\_ pages

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION WITH THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR A GRANT FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE UNDER TITLE 49 U.S.C., SECTION 5311.

WHEREAS, the Federal Transit Administration and the Georgia Department of Transportation are authorized to make grants to non-urbanized (rural) areas for mass transportation projects; and

WHEREAS, the contract for financial assistance will impose certain obligations upon Applicant, including the provision of the local share of project costs; and

WHEREAS, it is required by the United States Department of Transportation and the Georgia Department of Transportation in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, that in connection with the filing of an application for assistance under the Federal

Transit Act, the applicant gives an assurance that it will comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights

Act of 1964 and the United States Department of Transportation requirements thereunder; and

WHEREAS, it is the goal of the Applicant that Minority Business Enterprise (Disadvantaged Business Enterprise and Women's Business Enterprise) be utilized to the fullest extent possible in connection with this project, and that definitive procedures shall be established and administered to ensure that minority business shall have the maximum feasible opportunity to compete for contracts and purchase orders when procuring construction contracts, supplies, equipment contracts, or consultant and other services.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY Baldwin County Transit hereinafter \_\_\_\_\_ referred to as the "Applicant",

1. That the Designated Official, Henry R. Craig hereinafter, referred to as the

\_\_\_\_\_ "Official" is authorized to execute and file an application on the behalf of the Applicant, a City/County government, with the Georgia Department of Transportation to aid in the financing of public transportation assistance pursuant to Section 5311 of the Federal Transit Act.

2. That the Official is authorized to execute and file such application and assurances or any other document required by the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Georgia Department of Transportation effectuating the purpose of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
3. That the Official is authorized to execute and file all other standard assurances or any other document required by the Georgia Department of Transportation or the U.S. Department of Transportation in connection with the application for public transportation assistance.
4. That the Official is authorized to execute grant contract agreements on behalf of the Applicant with the Georgia Department of Transportation.

- 5, That the Official is authorized to set forth and execute Minority Business Enterprise, DBE (Disadvantaged Business Enterprise) and WBE (Women Business Enterprise) policies and procedures in connection with the project's procurement needs as applicable.
- 6. That the applicant while making application to or receiving grants from the Federal Transit Administration will comply with FTA Circular 9040.16, FTA Certifications and Assurances for Federal Assistance 2021 as listed in this grant application and General Operating Guidelines as illustrated in the Georgia State Management Plan.
- 7. That the applicant has or will have available the required non-federal funds to meet local share requirements for this grant application.

19 day of October, 2021.

*Henry R. Craig*  
Authorized Official

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this

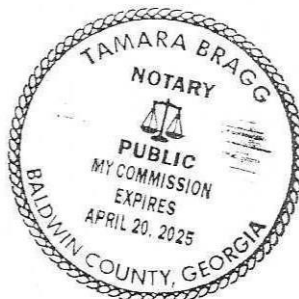
Henry R. Craig, Chairman

Type Name and Title

Signed, sealed and delivered this 19 day of Oct, 2021 in the presence of

*Dawn Hudson*  
Witness

*Tamara R. Bragg*  
Notary Public/Notary Seal



**CERTIFICATE**

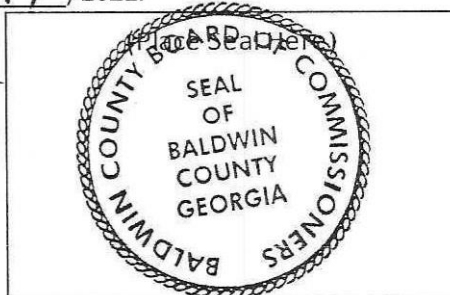
The undersigned duly qualified and acting County Clerk of Baldwin County, Ga (Title of Certifying/Attesting Official) (Applicant's

adopted at a legally convened meeting held on 10/19, 2021.

*Cynthia K. Cunningham*  
Name of Certifying/Attesting Officer

County Clerk, Cindy Cunningham

Title of Certifying/Attesting Officer



Legal Name) certifies that the foregoing is a true and orrect copy of a resolution

Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program Award

Finance Director Jill Adams presented the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) award in the amount of \$21 ,478 for the purchase of software, hardware and storage upgrades for the Sheriffs Department.

Commissioner Emily Davis made a motion to accept the grant as presented. Vice Chairman John Westmoreland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Bulletproof Vest Partnership (PVP) - FY 2021 Award

Assistant County Manager Dawn Hudson reported the County received a grant award under the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program in the amount of \$2,452.50 with a required match of \$2,452.50 for a total of \$4,905 to purchase seven (7) bulletproof vests. Ms. Hudson stated the match is included in the Sheriffs budget.

Commissioner Emily Davis made a motion to accept the grant as presented. Commissioner Kendrick Butts seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### Sinclair Water (SWA)

Commissioner Sammy Hall reported the Sinclair Water Authority is applying for State Fiscal Recovery Fund Rescue funds in the amount of \$600,000 to make improvements. He stated the Water Authority will provide \$200,000 match, and the Authority is requesting \$50,000 each from Baldwin County and Putnam County for the application.

Commissioner Sammy Hall made a motion to provide matching funds, not to exceed \$50,000, to the Sinclair Water Authority. Vice Chairman John Westmoreland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### Report on Georgia Initiative for Community Housing (GICH)

County Manager Tobar introduced the Community Housing Team members Amy Rayborn, Habitat for Humanity; Jon Scott and LaToya Whipple, Overview; Walter Reynolds, CSHLRA; Dean Nelson and Caitlin Mee, Middle Georgia RC; and Cynthia Edwards, President NAACP Local Chapter. Mr. Tobar thanked them for volunteering their time and for their input and hard work in putting together a plan for community housing. He stated an application will be submitted under the Community Home Investment Program (CHIP) to provide housing rehabilitation of senior, owner-occupied, single-family homes and new construction and reconstruction of affordable single-family housing units for sale to income eligible home buyers. He reported there are three (3) potential developers looking to submit proposals for housing projects on parcels owned by the County as well as the Ogden property.

### OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Sammy Hall stated he seriously regretted his affirmative vote on the Mobile Home Ordinance specifically concerning single wide homes. He asked that another Public Hearing be scheduled to revisit this matter.

Commissioner Hall made a motion to have a Public Hearing on the Mobile Home Ordinance and bring this matter back to the Board. Commissioner Emily Davis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Chairman Craig asked that the matter be placed on the Agenda for the second meeting in January.

Vice Chair John Westmoreland stated the hole at the convenience center on Meriwether Road has to be repaired. He stated it continues to get worse.

Commissioner Emily Davis reported the County voted to close a portion of Sanford Road in October 2020 and this has not been completed correctly. She stated this needs to be finished.

### NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to come before the Board

### COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

County Manager Tobar reported the County will be honored for the Georgia Initiative for Community Housing (GICH) and Georgia Broadband Ready County designations on November 9<sup>th</sup> in Perry; the replacement of 6,600 linear feet of defective water pipe to Erin Shores has been completed and tested; grassing and dressing right-of-way is being done; entrance drive at Government Building should be complete by the middle of November; and paving throughout the County should be complete by the end of the Month.

### PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Ms. Diane Lucette addressed the Board requesting the renaming of the Government Building for Oscar Davis, Sr.

Ms. Jessica McQuain addressed the Board regarding her support of the renaming of the Government Building for Oscar Davis. Sr.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Sammy Hall made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Vice Chairman John Westmoreland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted  
Respectfully submitted



Henry R. Craig  
Chairman



Cynthia K. Cunningham  
County Clerk