



BALDWIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING

February 7, 2023
1601 N Columbia St, Suite 220
11:00 A.M.

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Emily Davis
Kendrick Butts
Henry Craig
Sammy Hall

MEMBERS ABSENT

John Westmoreland

OTHERS PRESENT

Bandon Palmer
Carlos Tobar
Dawn Hudson
Cindy Cunningham

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Emily Davis called the Regular Meeting to order at 11 a.m.

INVOCATION

Commissioner Sammy Hall delivered the Invocation

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Henry Craig led the pledge.

PRESENTATIONS

Allied Arts

Dr. Carla Walter, Executive Director of Allied Arts, presented information about Allied Arts to include the vision and goals; governing Board and staff; and upcoming events.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Henry Craig made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 17, 2023 Joint Meeting with the City of Milledgeville and the January 17, 2023 Regular Meeting as submitted. Commissioner Sammy Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

AMENDMENT TO AGENDA

Commissioner Henry Craig made a motion to amend the Agenda to consider a Resolution Opposing Truck Size and Weight Increases. Commissioner Sammy Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Resolution Opposing Truck Size and Weight Increases

Commissioner Craig read the Resolution stating that Baldwin County is in opposition to any increase in truck size and any increase in truck weight limits.

co | A of the Resolution is herewith attached and made an official part of the minutes at pages

ADMINISTRATIVE 1 FISCAL MATTERS

Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan

Ms. Tiffany Dobbins from the Middle Georgia Regional Commission addressed the Board regarding the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan update. She stated the Plan has to be updated every five years, and the Regional Commission is assisting the County in this process. She reported stakeholder meetings have been held to discuss goals and objectives of the Plan and how Baldwin County can prepare for any disasters that might occur.

Ms. Dobbins stated that once the Plan has been finalized it will be brought back to the Board for their approval.

Resolution for Re-Imposition of Sales Tax

Assistant County Manager Dawn Hudson presented a Resolution to re-impose a special one percent sales and use tax, subject to referendum approval, and to specify the purposes for which the proceeds of the tax are to be used and may be expended; to authorize the Election Superintendent to call an election to approve the re-imposition of such tax and to approve the form of ballot to be used in such election.

Commissioner Henry Craig made a motion to approve the Resolution for the Re-imposition of Sales Tax as presented. Commissioner Kendrick Butts seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Grants

Assistant County Manager Dawn Hudson presented two WIOA grants for the Board's consideration a Dislocated Worker Program grant in the amount of \$70,000 for the period December 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 and also a Dislocated Worker Program grant award in the amount of \$75,000 for the period January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.

Commissioner Kendrick Butts made a motion to approve both WIOA grant awards as presented. Commissioner Sammy Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Chair Emily Davis presented a statue to former County Attorney David McRee for his twelve years of dedicated service to Baldwin County Commissioners serving as legal counsel. Mr. McRee stated it had been an honor and a pleasure serving the Board, staff and citizens over the past twelve years.

NEW BUSINESS

Chair Emily Davis introduced Attorney Brandon Palmer of Smith, Welch, Webb and White who will serve as Baldwin County Attorney. Mr. Palmer expressed his appreciation to the Board for the opportunity to serve as County Attorney.

COUNTY MANAGERS REPORT

County Manager Carlos reported surveying for the 2023 Community Development Block Grant and the Street Scape Project has begun. He also reported that Georgia Power crews are working on power poles in residential areas throughout the County.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Ms. Loria Boone addressed the Board regarding the increase in food service fees that were implemented by the Department of Public Health and adopted by the Board of Commissioners. She discussed how much her food truck fees had increased and requested assistance from the Board in looking into how the increase has affected small establishments such as hers.

Commissioners stated they will look into this matter and recommended that Ms. Boone contact Mr. Duke at the Health Department and also to attend the upcoming Board of Health meeting to present her concerns.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Henry Craig made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session at 11 a.m. to discuss litigation and personnel. Commissioner Kendrick Butts seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

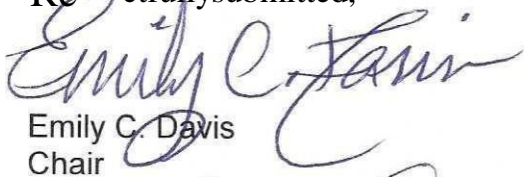
REOPEN REGULAR MEETING

Commissioner Henry Craig made a motion to reopen the Regular Meeting at 11:45 a.m. Commissioner Kendrick Butts seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Kendrick Butts made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 11:45 a.m. Commissioner Sammy Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Re: ~~ethically submitted,~~


Emily C. Davis
Chair


Cynthia K. Cunningham
County Clerk

Cynthia K. Cunningham

RESOLUTION OPPOSING TRUCK SIZE OR WEIGHT INCREASES

WHEREAS, The Baldwin County Board of Commisisoners is concerned with the welfare of residents, pedestrians and motorists and the cost, quality, and reliability of our city's and county's infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, heavier truck loads would further endanger motorists; the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) concluded that trucks over the 80,000-pound standard had higher crash rates in the states they tested, between 44% and 300% increase in crash incidence; and

WHEREAS, allowing heavier or longer trucks on the National Highway System would threaten the safety of the traveling public because heavier and longer trucks would be more difficult to control, increase wear and tear on truck safety systems such as brakes, steering and tires, and increase crash severity; and

WHEREAS, of the 15,034 bridges in Georgia, there are 3,795 bridges that are in fair/poor condition which is over 25 percent of bridges statewide, according to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA); and

WHEREAS, Baldwin County can only repave approximately five miles of roads per year because road bases have to be reconstructed to handle the existing heavy truck weights; and


WHEREAS, Baldwin County is experiencing difficulty maintaining public works budgets that are rising with inflation, often with limited capacity to raise revenue through fees and taxes; and

WHEREAS, government highway cost allocation studies show that increases in truck size and weight would exacerbate the existing underpayment of heavy trucks and increase their subsidization by municipalities and counties, amounting to an unfunded mandate;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, this 7 day of February, 2023 that Baldwin County opposes any increases in truck size or weight at the federal or state levels and encourages our elected delegations to oppose related legislation.


Emily C. Davis, Chair

2/7/2023
Date


Cynthia K. Cunningham, County Clerk



A RESOLUTION TO REIMPOSE A SPECIAL ONE PERCENT SALES AND USE TAX, SUBJECT TO REFERENDUM APPROVAL; TO SPECIFY THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH THE PROCEEDS OF THE SALES AND USE TAX ARE TO BE USED AND MAY BE EXPENDED; TO SPECIFY THE ESTIMATED COST OF THE PROJECTS WHICH WILL BE FUNDED FROM THE PROCEEDS OF THE SALE AND USE TAX;

TO SPECIFY THE MAXIMUM PERIOD OF TIME THE SALES AND USE TAX WILL BE REIMPOSED; TO AUTHORIZE THE ELECTION SUPERINTENDENT TO CALL AN ELECTION OF THE VOTERS OF BALDWIN COUNTY TO APPROVE THE REIMPOSITION OF SUCH SALES AND USE TAX; TO APPROVE THE FORM OF BALLOT TO BE USED IN SUCH ELECTION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, Pan 1 of Article 3 of Chapter 8 of Title 48 of the Official code of Georgia Annotated, (the "Act") authorizes the imposition of a county one percent sales and use tax (the

"SPLOST") for the purpose, inter alia of financing certain capital outlay projects which include those set forth herein; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Baldwin County, Georgia ("the Board of Commissioners") has determined that it is in the best interest of the citizens of Baldwin County, Georgia, (the "County") that a one percent SPLOST be reimposed in a special district within the County to raise approximately \$55,000,000.00 for the purpose of funding capital outlay projects (the "Projects"); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners delivered a written notice (the "Notice") to the mayor in each municipality located within the County regarding the continuation of the SPLOST; and

WHEREAS, the Notice contained the date, time, place, and purpose of a meeting at which designated representatives of the County and the City of Milledgeville ("the Municipality") met and discussed the possible projects for inclusion in the referendum, including municipally owned and operated projects; and

WHEREAS, the Notice was delivered or mailed at least 10 days prior to the date of the meeting, and the meeting was held at least 30 days prior to the issuance of a call for the referendum; and

WHEREAS, the County has entered into an intergovernmental agreement with the Municipality that is a party to the Agreement; and

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:

Section 1. There is hereby reimposed within the special district of Baldwin County ("Special District") a special sales and use tax at the rate of one percent, upon the termination of the special one percent sales and use tax presently in effect, pursuant to Part I of Article 3 of Chapter 8 of Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, subject to approval by a majority of the qualified voters residing within the territorial limits of Baldwin County voting in the referendum called in Section 2 hereof, for a maximum period of time of 24 calendar quarters, for the purposes of providing funds to pay a portion of the costs of the capital outlay projects listed on the attached Exhibit "A."

Section 2. There is hereby authorized to be called and there is hereby called an election to be held in all the precincts in Baldwin County, on the 21st day of March, 2023, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified voters of Baldwin County the question of whether or not a special one percent sales and use tax should be reimposed within the Special District, upon the termination of the special one percent sales and use tax presently in effect, for a maximum period of time of 24 calendar quarters, for the purposes of providing funds to pay a portion of the costs of the capital outlay projects listed on the attached Exhibit "A."

Section 3. The ballot to be used in the election shall have written or printed thereon the question to be determined by the voters, to-wit:

"Shall a special 1 percent sales and use tax be reimposed in the special district of Baldwin County, upon the termination of the special 1 percent sales and use tax presently in effect, for a period of time not to exceed 24 calendar quarters and for raising of an estimated \$55,000,000 for the following purposes of Baldwin County, Georgia (the "County"), and The Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Milledgeville (the "City"): (a) County-wide capital outlay projects: (1) public safety facilities and equipment and county-wide communication system, (2) parks and recreational facilities, equipment and improvements, (3) economic development projects including airport improvements, Development Authority of Milledgeville and Baldwin County industrial park improvements, greenway park improvements, Central State Redevelopment Authority improvements and Antebellum Capitol Museum improvements; (b) capital outlay projects to be owned or operated or both by the County or one or more local authorities within the special district of Baldwin County pursuant to intergovernmental contracts with the County (the "County Projects"); (I) fire protection and public safety

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facilities and equipment, (2) public building facilities, equipment and improvements and related equipment, (3) public works infrastructure to include the expansion, renovation, upgrading and extension of water, sewer, storm drainage, and flood control facilities, road, street, sidewalk, and bridge improvements; (c) capital outlay projects to be owned and operated or both by the City: (1) various items of equipment and other property for public works projects, including the construction and resurfacing of public streets and roadways within the corporate limits of the City; (2) acquisition of capital improvements, various items of equipment and other property for municipal buildings and other City owned facilities; (3) acquisition of capital improvements various items of equipment and other property in furtherance of public safety, to include the City of Milledgeville Police and Fire Departments; and (4) acquisition of capital improvements and various items of equipment for the City's water distribution system and water treatment plant and the City's waste treatment collection system and waste treatment plant?"

The ballot shall have printed thereon the word "YES" and the word "NO" in order that each voter may vote in either the affirmative or the negative as to the question propounded. The polls in each of the precincts within Baldwin County shall be opened at 7:00 a.m. and closed at 7:00 p.m. on the day fixed for the election, and the election shall be held at the regular and established places for holding elections in Baldwin County. The election shall be held in accordance and in conformity with the Constitution and statutes of the United States of America and of the State of Georgia.

Section 4. The County Clerk is hereby ordered and directed forthwith to furnish the Superintendent of Elections of Baldwin County with a duly certified copy of this resolution in order that the Superintendent of Elections may take such action in the premises as provided by law.

Section 5. The Board of Elections of Baldwin County is hereby authorized and requested to publish a notice of the election as required by law in the newspaper in which Sheriffs advertisements for the County are published once a week for four weeks immediately preceding the date of the election.

Section 6. The proper officers and agents of the County are hereby authorized to take any and all further actions as may be required in connection with the imposition of SPLOST.

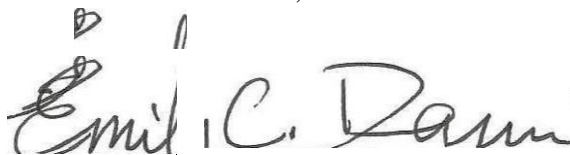
Section 7. In case any one or more of the provisions of this resolution shall for any reason be held to be illegal or invalid, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect any other provision of this resolution, but this resolution shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provision had not been contained herein.

Section 8. Any and all resolutions in conflict with this resolution this day passed be and they are hereby repealed.

Section 9. The Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.


SO RESOLVED, this day of February, 2023.

BALDWIN COUNTY, GEORGIA


Honorable y C. Davis

Chair, Baldwin County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:


Cynthia K. Cunningham
Baldwin County Clerk

DATE ADOPTED 2/7/23

[SEAL]



Exhibit A
Project List

(a) County-wide capital outlay projects (the "Joint County-wide Projects") estimated to be approximately \$21,790,000:

- (I) public safety facilities and equipment and county-wide communication system;
- (2) parks and recreational facilities, equipment and improvements; and
- (3) economic development projects including airport improvements, Development Authority of Milledgeville and Baldwin County industrial park improvements, greenway park improvements, Central State Redevelopment Authority improvements, and Antebellum Capitol Museum improvements.

(b) Capital outlay projects to be owned or operated or both by the County and one or more local authorities within the Special District of Baldwin County pursuant to intergovernmental contracts with the County (the "County Projects") estimated to be approximately \$18,710,000:

- (1) fire protection and public safety facilities and equipment;
- (2) public building facilities, equipment and improvements and related equipment; and
- (3) public works infrastructure to include the expansion, renovation, upgrading and extension of water, sewer, storm drainage, and flood control facilities, road, street, sidewalk, and bridge improvements.

(c) Capital outlay projects to be owned or operated or both by the City (the "City Projects") estimated to be approximately \$ 14,500,000:

- (1) various items of equipment and other property for public works projects, including the construction and resurfacing of public streets and roadways within the corporate limits of the City;
- (2) acquisition of capital improvements, various items of equipment and other property for municipal buildings and other City owned facilities;
- (3) acquisition of capital improvements various items of equipment and other property in furtherance of public safety, to include the City of Milledgeville Police and Fire Departments; and
- (4) acquisition of capital improvements and various items of equipment for the City's water distribution system and water treatment plant and the City's waste treatment collection system and waste treatment plant.