

**DAWSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
VOTING SESSION MINUTES – MAY 2, 2019  
DAWSON COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER ASSEMBLY ROOM  
25 JUSTICE WAY, DAWSONVILLE, GEORGIA 30534  
6:00 PM**

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**ROLL CALL:** Those present were Chairman Thurmond; Commissioner Fausett, District 1; Commissioner Gaines, District 2; Commissioner Satterfield, District 3; Commissioner Nix, District 4; County Manager Headley; Interim County Attorney Hamilton; County Clerk Cloud; and interested citizens of Dawson County.

Motion passed 4-0 to come out Executive Session. Satterfield/Gaines

**OPENING PRESENTATIONS:**

*National Small Business Week Proclamation-* Chairman Thurmond

Motion passed 4-0 to approve the National Small Business Week Proclamation. Gaines/Nix

*Development Authority of Dawson County (DADC) Update- DADC Chairman Brian Trapnell*  
DADC Chairman Trapnell presented the DADC Update with assistance from Director of Economic Development Betsy McGriff and Chamber of Commerce President Christie Moore.

**INVOCATION:** Chairman Thurmond

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Chairman Thurmond

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion passed 4-0 to approve the Minutes of the Voting Session held on April 18, 2019. Gaines/Nix

Motion passed 4-0 to approve the Minutes of the Work Session held on April 23, 2019. Satterfield/Fausett

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion passed 4-0 to approve the agenda with the following change:

- Addition of No. 5 under New Business:
  - Request to Host Dawson County Employee Night at County Pool

Fausett/Gaines

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Joey Homans- Dawsonville, Georgia, said he was in attendance to comment on the item: Consideration of Request for Increased Funding for Legal Fees in 2019 under New Business. Homans said he encouraged the Board of Commissioners to approve the amount it needed for

legal fees and that he had “great respect and admiration for the law firm of Jarrard & Davis that is performing the legal services” for the county. He said that two years ago, when the board chose to make another appointment other than Homans as its legal counsel “your asserted reason was to save the taxpayers money. With this request the total legal fees would be \$410,000.” Homans said he took the “save taxpayers money” assertion as “an attack on my integrity and my character and indicated, or at least made the statement, that I was gouging or overcharging. The fact that the legal fees now are twice what they were, I submit absolve me of that...” Homans added, “I submit that what you’re paying for legal fees now by very competent legal counsel reflects that there was no overcharging, there was no gouging, and in fact now taxpayers are paying more.”

**ALCOHOL LICENSE:**

*New Alcohol License (Retail Consumption on Premises of Beer, Wine and Distilled Spirits) - Olive Garden Holdings, LLC*

Motion passed 4-0 to approve the New Alcohol License (Retail Consumption on Premises of Beer, Wine and Distilled Spirits) - Olive Garden Holdings, LLC. Satterfield/Gaines

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

*Land Use Resolution Update (1st of 2 hearings. 2nd hearing will be held at 6 p.m. May 16, 2019)*

Planning & Development Director Jameson Kinley said the county’s Land Use Resolution’s current Residential Agriculture (RA) section’s prohibited uses include: “Residential subdivisions where lots are less than five acres in size.” He said a proposed amendment would replace that with: “Residential subdivisions where lots are less than five acres in size Notwithstanding the foregoing, this prohibition shall not prevent a ‘subdivision’ resulting in the creation of exactly two lots from the original lot that is subdivided.”

Kinley said another proposed update to the Land Use Resolution includes the RA section’s Building Requirements portion, which in part currently states: “Minimum lot size: 1.5 acre or as determined by the Dawson County Health Department, whichever is greater. Except in residential subdivisions, when the minimum lot size is five acres.” He said a proposed amendment would replace that with: “Minimum lot size: 1.5 acres or such size as determined to be necessary for the protection of public health, safety and welfare by the Dawson County Health Department, whichever is greater. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the minimum lot size for residential subdivisions shall be five acres unless the subdivision constitutes the subdivision of a single parcel into exactly two parcels.” Kinley said the proposed amendment is based on the actual definition of subdivision, which is defined as all divisions of a tract or parcel of land into two or more divisions.

Kinley said a third proposed update to the Land Use Resolution includes deleting in its entirety subsection 606(F), which is part of Article VI, Section 606 Non-conforming uses. Subsection 606(F) currently states, “For commercial and business purposes, a legal non-conforming status is proven by possession of a valid, legally obtained, Dawson County business license within the past 12 months.”

Chairman Thurmond opened the hearing by asking if there was anyone present who wished to be heard on the Land Use Resolution Update:

The following spoke on the Land Use Resolution Update:

- Bill Looper- Dawsonville, Georgia, said his grandson would like to build a home on his property. He said the land currently is in conservation. He said the “five-acre restriction” seems a “little excessive.” Looper said he would prefer not to break up the land since it is in conservation.

Chairman Thurmond asked if there was anyone else present who wished to speak on the Land Use Resolution Update and, hearing none, closed the hearing.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Consideration of an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Board of Education Regarding the Public Works Complex (Discussed at the April 23, 2019, Work Session)

Motion passed 4-0 to approve the most recent version of an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Board of Education Regarding the Public Works Complex. Satterfield/Fausett

Consideration of RFP #333-19 - Design-Build Services for Fire Services – Station 9 (Tabled from the April 18, 2019, Voting Session)

Motion passed 4-0 to table RFP #333-19 - Design-Build Services for Fire Services – Station 9 until the May 16, 2019, Voting Session. Nix/Satterfield

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Consideration of Request to Retire Sheriff's Office K9 Kimbo and Transfer Ownership to Handler, Lieutenant Jessica Kraft

Motion passed 4-0 to approve the Request to Retire Sheriff's Office K9 Kimbo and Transfer Ownership to Handler, Lieutenant Jessica Kraft. Nix/Gaines

Consideration of a Services Agreement with Dawson County Humane Society for Treatment and Housing of Animals

Motion passed 4-0 to approve a Services Agreement with Dawson County Humane Society for Treatment and Housing of Animals. Fausett/Gaines

Consideration of FY 2019 Legacy Link Contract Addendum No. 3 for Nutrition Program Services

Motion passed 4-0 to approve the FY 2019 Legacy Link Contract Addendum No. 3 for Nutrition Program Services. Satterfield/Fausett

Consideration of Request for Increased Funding for Legal Fees in 2019

Motion passed 4-0 to approve the Request for Increased Funding for Legal Fees in 2019, with funding totaling \$250,000 coming from the General Fund's fund balance. Satterfield/Gaines

Consideration of Request to Host Dawson County Employee Night at County Pool

Motion passed 4-0 to approve the Request to Host Dawson County Employee Night at the County Pool on May 17, 2019. Nix/Gaines

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Motion passed 4-0 to enter into Executive Session to discuss real estate and legal. Fausett/Gaines

Motion passed 4-0 to come out of Executive Session. Fausett/Nix

APPROVE:

ATTEST:

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Billy Thurmond, Chairman

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Kristen Cloud, County Clerk