

**DAWSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
VOTING SESSION MINUTES – JANUARY 16, 2020
DAWSON COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER ASSEMBLY ROOM
25 JUSTICE WAY, DAWSONVILLE, GEORGIA 30534
6:00 PM**

ROLL CALL: Those present were Chairman Billy Thurmond; Commissioner Sharon Fausett, District 1; Commissioner Chris Gaines, District 2; Commissioner Tim Satterfield, District 3; County Manager David Headley; Interim County Attorney Angela Davis; County Clerk Kristen Cloud; and interested citizens of Dawson County. District 4 Commissioner Julie Hughes Nix was not present.

Motion passed 3-0 to come out of Executive Session. Satterfield/Gaines

INVOCATION: Chairman Thurmond

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chairman Thurmond

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Chairman Thurmond announced that the January 16, 2020, meeting would be the last Board of Commissioners meeting in January 2020.

Chairman Thurmond announced that county offices would be closed January 20, 2020, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion passed 3-0 to approve the Minutes of the Work Session held on December 19, 2019. Fausett/Gaines

Motion passed 3-0 to approve the Minutes of the Voting Session held on December 19, 2019. Satterfield/Gaines

Motion passed 3-0 to approve the Minutes of the Special Called Joint Meeting held on January 14, 2020. Fausett/Satterfield

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion passed 3-0 to approve the agenda with the following change:

- Addition of No. 3 under New Business:
 - RFP #360-19 - Legal Services for Dawson County Award Recommendation

Fausett/Gaines

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

ZONINGS:

Chairman Thurmond announced that if anyone had contributed more than \$250 to the commissioners or chairman in the past two years and wished to speak they would have to fill out a disclosure form, which would be made available to them. Under normal program, 10 minutes will be given to those who wish to speak in favor of or opposition to with some redirect, time permitting.

ZA 19-23 – Tim Stowers requests to rezone 10.5 acres of property located at Harmony Church Road TMP 119-033 from RA (Residential Agricultural) to RSR (Residential Sub-Rural).

Planning & Development Director Jameson Kinley said the applicant seeks to rezone his parents' property located at the northwest corner of Harmony Church and Price roads for the purpose of dividing the property amongst heirs. He said the property meets the county's Future Land Use Plan. Kinley said the Planning Commission recommended approval of the application.

Applicant Tim Stowers said he is the executor for his parents' estate. He said he is attempting to liquidate the property to all heirs and needs the property's zoning classification changed to RSR in order to do that and "take the burden of debt out of my hands."

Chairman Thurmond opened the hearing by asking if there was anyone present who wished to speak either for or against the application and, hearing none, closed the hearing.

Motion passed 3-0 to approve ZA 19-23. Satterfield/Gaines

ZA 19-24 – Michelle Taber requests to rezone 2.67 acres of property located at Frank Bruce Road TMP 092-071 from RA (Residential Agricultural) to RSR (Residential Sub-Rural).

Planning & Development Director Jameson Kinley said the applicant intends to divide the parcel and build a residence. He said the application meets the county's Future Land Use Plan. Kinley said the Planning Commission recommended approval of the application.

Nick Taber, representing the applicant, said Michelle Taber is his wife. He said they seek to rezone the property at 947 Frank Bruce Road into two separate lots in order to build another home. He said the new home would be a rental home.

Chairman Thurmond opened the hearing by asking if there was anyone present who wished to speak either for or against the application and, hearing none, closed the hearing.

Motion passed 3-0 to approve ZA 19-24. Gaines/Satterfield

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Consideration of 2019 Salary Study (Tabled from the December 19, 2019, Voting Session)

Motion passed 3-0 to approve the 2019 Salary Study; to provide a 2 percent pay increase for all county employees and to fund the salary study at 100 percent of the minimum to bring employees up to the market, effective January 25, 2020 - at a total of \$836,000 - and for the Human Resources department to bring the salary study item before the Board of Commissioners in June 2020 for review. Satterfield/Gaines

Motion passed 3-0 to approve to amend the current budget in the amount of \$836,000 to implement the 2019 Salary Study; funds will be moved from General Fund's fund balance to the Salaries line item. Gaines/Satterfield

Consideration of Revised Dawson County Employee Handbook (Tabled from the December 19, 2019, Voting Session)

Motion passed 3-0 to approve the Revised Dawson County Employee Handbook with revisions to the Social Media policy (Section 16) as presented by the county attorney; the removal of the Paid Family Leave Policy (Section 14.11); the removal of the following portion of the Paid Time Off (PTO) Policy (Section 14.3) – “Employees may receive a one-time pay out of up to 40 PTO hours each calendar year, for any unused PTO”; and for the Human Resources department to bring the removed portion of the PTO policy before the Board of Commissioners in June 2020 for review. Satterfield/Fausett

NEW BUSINESS:

Consideration 2020 Election Qualifying Fees for Local Offices

Motion passed 3-0 to approve the 2020 Election Qualifying Fees for Local Offices via a resolution. Fausett/Gaines

Consideration of Defined Benefit and Defined Contribution Retirement Benefit Upgrades

Motion passed 3-0 to approve the Defined Benefit retirement plan for eligible former and current employees at the rule of 80 with a minimum age of 55 and employees will contribute to that plan at a rate of 3 percent, to raise the Defined Contribution Retirement plan's county contribution from 4 to 5 percent, to implement a three-year vesting period for new employees, and to amend the current budget in the amount \$85,000 to implement the changes; funds will be moved from General Fund's fund balance to the contingency line item. Satterfield/Fausett

RFP #360-19 - Legal Services for Dawson County Award Recommendation

Motion passed 3-0 to approve to accept the proposals submitted and approve a one-year contract with four one-year renewal options to Jarrard & Davis LLP for Legal Services for Dawson County, effective February 1, 2020, through December 31, 2020. Gaines/Satterfield

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

APPROVE:

ATTEST:

Billy Thurmond, Chairman

Kristen Cloud, County Clerk