

**DAWSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
AND LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE  
JOINT MEETING MINUTES – NOVEMBER 17, 2021  
DAWSON COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER ASSEMBLY ROOM  
25 JUSTICE WAY, DAWSONVILLE, GEORGIA 30534  
9:00 AM**

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**ROLL CALL:** Those present were Commissioner Sharon Fausett, District 1; Commissioner Chris Gaines, District 2; Commissioner Tim Satterfield, District 3; Commissioner Emory Dooley, District 4; County Manager David Headley; County Clerk Kristen Cloud; and interested citizens of Dawson County. District 2 Commissioner Chris Gaines and County Attorney Angela Davis were not present.

Those present from the Long Range Planning Committee were Chair Terri Tragesser, Vice Chair Gary Pichon, Jane Graves, Cal Miller and Hugh Stowers. Jo Brewer was not present.

**INVOCATION:** Chairman Thurmond

**PLEDGE:** Chairman Thurmond

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Chairman Thurmond announced that November 17, 2021, was GIS Day.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion passed 3-0 to approve the agenda as presented. Fausett/Satterfield

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Helen Heinle, Kelly Bridge Road, Dawsonville, Georgia, said she lives in the southwest portion of Dawson County. She said she purchased her 20-acre property in 1990 and that her area of the county includes rural homesteads, small and large farms, etc., “and we want to protect our lifestyle - which we enjoy an agrarian lifestyle.” Heinle added that she came to Dawson County because she was “amazed” at how much rural land and natural resources it has, and “I hope we can maintain a maximum of that,” she noted. She said she considers it important to maintain rural areas and farms and to also incorporate green space in higher-density developments / areas. Heinle reviewed several websites and books that she said she has found useful in her research. She also voiced concerns regarding traffic in Dawson County.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

*Long Range Planning Committee Report on 2021 Committee Activities*

*Discussion of 2022 Long Range Planning Committee Work Schedule*

The Board of Commissioners and Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) discussed the New Business items.

\*\*\* A “Discussion Points” document provided by the LRPC to guide the meeting’s discussion is enclosed with these minutes.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

APPROVE:

ATTEST:

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Billy Thurmond, Chairman

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Kristen Cloud, County Clerk

**DISCUSSION POINTS**  
**November 17, 2021**  
**BOC/LRPC Joint Meeting**

**Transportation Planning:**

**400/53 Design Guidelines - Move forward with 400 and continue to work on the Highway 53**

**Access management to address future planning for large tracks of land bordering 53 - potential DRI's and large scale residential projects**

**Hwy 53 widening as a priority - GDOT project work program and funding (Dawson collaborating with adjacent counties)**

**Funding Dawson's road program will require another run at the T-SPLOST referendum**

**Maintaining an acceptable level of service on 400 to protect the commercial sales tax base**

**Document Review:**

**Continue work on the Comprehensive Plan update**

**On going Land Use Map review and revisions**

**Identify environmental and conservation worthy areas that are special to our residents and look for ways to preserve them.**

**Continue to encourage green way paths for public enjoyment and partner with businesses to develop economic opportunities for public enjoyment**

**DISCUSSION POINTS**  
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**Staffing:**

**Need to maintain adequate growth management staffing levels in Planning & Development and Public Works to review proposed projects and provide adequate oversight as development occurs.**

**Communication:**

**Recommend an annual round top with Pickens, Hall, Lumpkin and Forsyth to share information on transportation road network planning and protection of water quality of shared water resources.**

**Develop a mechanism for the various advisory boards to share information and be kept current for purposes of working toward shared goals.**