



"You Are Why We Are Here"

**FRANKLIN COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 2, 2017
6:00 P.M.**

BOC: Commission Chairman Thomas Bridges
District 1 Commissioner Robert Franklin
District 2 Commissioner Dr. Jason Macomson
District 3 Commissioner Jeff Jacques
District 4 Commissioner Eddie Wester

Media: Shane Scoggins, Franklin County Citizen

Staff: County Manager Beth Thomas
County Clerk Elaine Evans
County Attorney Bubba Samuels

Chairman Bridges called the regular board meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone. He expressed his appreciation for their attendance.

Item 2: Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance – Commissioner Jacques led the invocation and pledge of allegiance to the American flag.

Item 3: Approval of Minutes:

September 18, 2017 Public Hearing
September 18, 2017 Regular Board Meeting
September 26, 2017 Work Session

Chairman Bridges said each Commissioner has had an opportunity to review the meeting minutes. He asked for a motion to accept all of the September minutes. Commissioner Jacques made the motion to accept the September minutes. Chairman Bridges asked for a second. Commissioner Franklin seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Chairman Bridges asked for a show of hands. The motion passed by five (5) **YES** votes to zero (0) **NO** votes. The YES votes were Dr. Macomson, Commissioner Jacques, Commissioner Franklin, Commissioner Wester and Chairman Bridges.

Item 4: Items for discussion:

A. **Public Comment** – Chairman Bridges asked if anyone would like to speak in public comment, if so, to please come forward and state their name.



"You Are Why We Are Here"

Ray Hanley came forward to speak against the building inspection program as he did at the previous meeting. He said he has looked at the State regulations and this is not needed in Franklin County.

Jim McBath spoke against the building inspection program. He said he is concerned about giving the government more authority. Anytime you give the government authority over your life, you are giving up your personal freedoms. Mr. McBath stated that getting a building inspector would be a step in the direction of giving up personal freedoms.

B. Hazard Mitigation Plan – Mrs. Thomas said the Hazard Mitigation Plan is almost 200 pages long and each Commissioner has had an opportunity to review it. She said this is a required update that has to be done in order to receive GEMA or FEMA funds when needed. This update was a joint effort between the County, the cities, volunteer firefighters and others during the past six months. Mrs. Thomas requested the Commissioners approve the draft Hazard Mitigation Plan. After the approval the update will be submitted to GEMA and they will give feedback on changes or other requirements. Three public meetings will be held for comments. The meeting dates will be October 5 at 10 a.m., October 10 at 4 p.m. and October 19 at 5:30 p.m. to give all citizens an opportunity for input. After the comments from the public and the feedback from GEMA the document will be submitted to FEMA.

Chairman Bridges asked for a motion to approve from the recommendation from Mrs. Thomas. Commissioner Wester made the motion to move forward with the Hazard Mitigation Plan based on the recommendation from Mrs. Thomas. Chairman Bridges asked for a second. Commissioner Jacques seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Chairman Bridges asked for a show of hands. The motion passed by five (5) **YES** votes to zero (0) **NO** votes. The YES votes were Commissioner Franklin, Commissioner Wester, Commissioner Jacques, Chairman Bridges and Dr. Macomson.

C. Engineering Service – task order – Mrs. Thomas said it was previously announced that the County Engineer John Phillips has resigned to go to a private engineering firm, Peoples and Quigley. Because of this the County has had to see how engineering will be handled in the future as it something that touches all the operations of the County. The recommendation from Mrs. Thomas is to outsource the engineering on a contract basis. The County already has an agreement with Peoples and Quigley Engineering that was approved in 2011 that proposes to render engineering service including study design, assistance with building construction contract, administration and additional services. The task order will provide on-call standby engineering service to augment County staff as needed. Mrs. Thomas recommended the Commissioners approve the task order to ensure the continuance of engineering services for the County.

Chairman Bridges asked for a motion to accept the recommendation from Mrs. Thomas for engineering services. Dr. Macomson made the motion to accept. Chairman Bridges asked for a second. Commissioner Jacques seconded the motion. There was no



"You Are Why We Are Here"

discussion. Chairman Bridges asked for a show of hands. The motion passed by five (5) YES votes to zero (0) NO votes. The YES votes were Dr. Macomson, Commissioner Jacques, Commissioner Franklin, Commissioner Wester and Chairman Bridges.

D. Clerk Certification Presentation – *Chairman Bridges said County Clerk Elaine Evans has completed her requirements for Georgia County Clerk Certification. The certificate program is jointly sponsored by the Georgia Municipal Clerk Association, Financial Officers Association, Georgia County Clerk Association, Carl Vinson Institute of Government at UGA, Association County Commissioners of Georgia along with the Georgia Municipal Association. Chairman Bridges said this is a significant accomplishment and shows a commitment to Franklin County by Mrs. Evans to be a professional in the clerk position. He asked all the Commissioners to come forward and present Mrs. Evans her certificate. Shane Scoggins of the Franklin County Citizen Leader took a photograph of the presentation to Mrs. Evans from the Commission Board.*

E. Announcements –

Mrs. Thomas *announced the employee health fair will be held on October 17 as part of the initiative to encourage healthy lifestyles. The County's insurance pays for this program. An appreciation luncheon was held this past Friday for employees and volunteer firefighters for their work during the recent storm. It was well attended and appreciated by those in attendance.*

Commissioner Wester *expressed thanks for fire departments, EMS, Sheriff's Office, Hart EMC, Georgia Power and others that worked during Hurricane Irma in keeping the County safe. These people did an outstanding job and they need to be commended. Commissioner Jacques was in agreement and expressed thanks to everyone who helped during the storm.*

Commissioner Franklin *thanked the Road and Water departments for their repairs on Prospect Road. He said they worked hard and it is much appreciated.*

Chairman Bridges *said the work session for October will be moved up a week to October 24 instead of October 31 because of Halloween. The ACCG legislation conference will be held next week and Chairman Bridges asked the Commissioners to give him their concerns to be shared at the conference.*

Commissioner Franklin *said the Commissioners are given a list of roads each month that have been worked. He said if the public looked this over they would realize how much the Road Department employees do, from signs being repaired to tree limbs cut and removed.*

Mrs. Thomas *reminded everyone that Governor Deal will be in Franklin County on October 4 for both the Industrial Building Authority as well as the education system. She said Franklin County will be highlighted on this day.*



"You Are Why We Are Here"

Chairman Bridges said the Governor, Lt Governor, the heads of security and others will be here. He thanked Shane Scoggins for his articles showcasing the personnel from Franklin County that are part of the State security.

There was no further discussion. Chairman Bridges asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Jacques made the motion to adjourn. Chairman Bridges asked for a second. Commissioner Franklin seconded the motion. Chairman Bridges asked for a show of hands. The motion passed by five (5) **YES** votes to zero (0) **NO** votes. The YES votes were Commissioner Franklin, Commissioner Wester, Commissioner Jacques, Dr. Macomson and Chairman Bridges. The meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Signed on the _____ day of _____, 2017

Chairman J. Thomas Bridges

Robert L. Franklin, District 1 Commissioner

Dr. Jason Macomson, District 2 Commissioner

Jeff Jacques, District 3 Commissioner

Eddie Wester, District 4 Commissioner

Elaine H. Evans, County Clerk