



You Are Why We Are Here

**FRANKLIN COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
WORK SESSION MINUTES  
June 26, 2018  
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

**Item 1:** **Call Meeting to Order** – Chairman Bridges thanked everyone for attending the public hearing for the budget. He then called the work session to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Item 2:** **Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance** – Dr. Macomson led the invocation and pledge of allegiance to the American flag.

**Item 3:** **Items for discussion:**

**A. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**B. FY2019 budget**

Mrs. Thomas said the FY2019 budget was created with the comments from the public and the needs of the County and with the intent of no millage increase to only absorb the natural increase of property taxes. The general fund revenue will yield \$13,531,955 with general expenditures of \$13,143,107 and transfers out of \$386,965 for a budget surplus of \$1,883. Mrs. Thomas said the proposed budget includes a 3% increase for salaries and budget increases previously presented. She said the legal level of control for budgets is at the department level. Mrs. Thomas asked the Commission Board to approve the FY19 budget to begin on July 1.

Chairman Bridges asked for motion to move forward with the budget. Commissioner Wester made the motion to approve the request from Mrs. Thomas for the FY19 budget to begin July 1. Chairman Bridges asked for a second. Dr. Macomson seconded the motion. Commissioner Wester thanked everyone for the good job on the budget to keep from going to the citizens of the County for another tax increase. He



*You Are Why We Are Here*

*said he received numerous phone calls from citizens asking for the Commissioners to not raise taxes. Commissioner Jacques said he received numerous phone calls with citizens telling him a tax increase was not an option. He said he appreciated the work everyone had done on this budget to not have a tax increase. Commissioner Jacques said the budget cycle has been made more difficult by adverse legislation and policies implemented by the State of Georgia with redirection of funds and mandates.*

*Commissioner Franklin said he also received calls from citizens not wanting a tax increase and he did his best to reassure them there was not a planned increase. Chairman Bridges thanked Mrs. Thomas for the time and work put into the budget. Dr. Macomson said this is tough because there is a limited amount of money that has to be spread around for each department. He said he wants the Sheriff and each department to have what is needed. Dr. Macomson expressed his thanks to Sheriff Thomas for working with the Commissioners and everyone else for working together on this budget. Chairman Bridges asked the Commission Board to raise their right hand if they were in favor of approving the FY19 budget resolution. 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.*

**Jacobs Engineering agreement** – *Mrs. Thomas said this agreement was presented along with the budget. The landfill is closed, the County only has a convenience center and monitoring of the closed landfill is required. These services are provided by Jacobs Engineering with a slight increase of about \$2,000 for the coming year. Mrs. Thomas asked for the Commission Board to approve the Jacobs agreement and give her authorization to sign it and move forward. Chairman Bridges asked for a motion to accept the Jacobs agreement. Commissioner Jacques made the motion following review of the document to continue groundwater monitoring at the landfill site. 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 Commissioner Wester, Commissioner Jacques, Chairman Bridges, Dr. Macomson and Commissioner Franklin.*

**Public Defender agreement** – *Mrs. Thomas said each year the public defender provides the agreement to the County Attorney for review. There is a requested increase to be split among all of the counties in the Circuit. Mrs. Thomas asked the Commission Board to approve the budget and resolution for the public defender for FY19. Chairman Bridges asked for a motion to approve. Commissioner Wester made the motion to approve. Chairman Bridges asked for a second. Dr. Macomson 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, Dr. Macomson, Commissioner Wester, Commissioner Jacques and Chairman Bridges.*



You Are Why We Are Here

### **C. Foxy Lane**

*Roger Krick came forward to speak about Foxy Lane. He said he is a one-year resident of Foxy Lane and he is speaking on behalf of himself and five other residents asking the County to make Foxy Lane a public road instead of a private road. Chairman Bridges said he understood someone from Foxy Lane is already talking with the County Engineer John Phillips. Mr. Krick said yes. Chairman Bridges said to follow the procedures and guidelines and see how it goes. Mr. Krick turned in the easements to Mrs. Thomas with 100% of the property owners' signatures. Mrs. Thomas said this road has been looked at and a final report will be given by Mr. Phillips.*

*Charles Bridges said he also lives on Foxy Lane and he has no reservations about the road being improved. He said the road does not physically encroach on his property although he is adjacent to it. Mr. Bridges stated any improvement would make water runoff onto his property and he would like to see the proposal from the County before he would be in agreement. Chairman Bridges said this is good to know these kinds of things up front and he asked Mr. Bridges to make sure and communicate with the County Engineer John Phillips. Mr. Bridges stated John Phillips has five plans and is aware of what he is talking about but he will contact Mr. Phillips to make sure they are on file.*

*Commissioner Franklin questioned if there is somewhere on this road for a motor grader to turn around. Mrs. Thomas said that would have to be part of the recommendation. She said somebody at the end of the road might have to give additional easements. Mr. Krick said that has already been signed off on and is with the easements given to Mrs. Thomas tonight.*

### **D. Board openings**

*Chairman Bridges told the Commissioners there are openings on the Department of Family and Children Services and the Library Board and applications have been provided to the Commissioners for review. Dr. Macomson questioned if the Library Board made a recommendation. Mrs. Evans stated both boards recommended the incumbent. Chairman Bridges said this would be voted on at the July regular meeting.*

### **E. Manager's Report**

*Chairman Bridges asked Mrs. Thomas to give her manager's report. Mrs. Thomas said after review of the June preliminary reports there are a few modifications needed in the FY18 budget. The modifications are for revenue that was received but not budgeted or items throughout the year that were not budgeted for. Mrs. Thomas said it is technically illegal for any department to go over budget so it is only fair when additional revenue is received to post to their budget.*

*Mrs. Thomas said the first budget modification is for the Sheriff with reimbursement from the Board of Education for greater than budgeted for the school resource officers. This amount needs to be added to the salary budget. The second modification is for insurance reimbursement for vehicles involved in accidents. This expense was incurred by the Sheriff therefore \$40,000 needs to go toward the Sheriff's*



You Are Why We Are Here

vehicle repair budget.

*Earlier this year a tag reader was purchased by the Board of Commissioners for the GSP which will be paid for with excess sales tax. Mrs. Thomas said a GEMA/FEMA generator grant was applied for by the EMA Director. The generators have been paid for and will be reimbursed by this grant. An additional GEMA grant was received for debris cleanup for grinding.*

*Two LMIG grants that were received need to be recorded. Mrs. Thomas said she did not put LMIG in either last year or this year's budget. The request is to true up the revenue received. Maintenance contracts for the Superior Court also need to be modified. Modifications are needed for the District Attorney for the move to the old Chamber building. Mrs. Thomas said the utilities have to be covered but the County is very appreciative to the Chamber for allowing the District Attorney to use the building.*

*Mrs. Thomas told the Commissioners her request is to revise the budget expenses by \$816,182.94. She said all of these items are revenue neutral meaning there was revenue to offset the expense. Mrs. Thomas asked the Commissioners to approve this tonight. Chairman Bridges asked for a motion to accept the modifications presented by Mrs. Thomas. Commissioner Jacques made the motion. 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 Commissioner Franklin, Dr. Macomson, Commissioner Wester, Commissioner Jacques and Chairman Bridges.*

*Mrs. Thomas said she had one more item for the Commissioners to consider which is the use of the Jail fund money. Monies collected for the county jail fund shall be expended by the governing authority (Board of Commissioners) solely and exclusively for constructing, operating and staffing county jails or contracting for such facilities in other counties. Mrs. Thomas said looking at the inmate medical expense, meals, jail and prisoner housing there is a net total of \$501,000. In the FY18 budget \$200,000 was approved and budgeted to come out of the Jail Fund. Mrs. Thomas stated because of the cost overruns and the expense incurred she is asking the Board of Commissioners to give permission to use an additional \$200,000 to fund these expenses. The transfer of these funds needs to take place before the end of the fiscal year on June 30. Chairman Bridges asked for a motion to allow Mrs. Thomas to transfer \$200,000 from the Jail Fund to cover these expenses. Commissioner Wester made the motion. 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 Wester, Commissioner Jacques, Chairman Bridges, Dr. Macomson and Commissioner Franklin.*

*The last item updated by Mrs. Thomas was the SPLOST III account. The funds in this account were previously authorized by the Commissioners to allow Mrs. Thomas to spend those funds on the jail. Mrs. Thomas said \$64,928 was used for a security*



*You Are Why We Are Here*

*upgrade, \$10,890 for the kitchen and \$94,000 for general building expenses. Of the \$98,000 in the SPLOST III account, \$85,262 has been spent on updates to the jail. The remainder of this account will be spent on repairs or necessary items for the jail.*

*Mrs. Thomas thanked the Commissioners for approving the budget at the work session. The approved budgets will be given to the departments.*

***F. Announcements***

*There were no announcements.*

*Chairman Bridges asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Jacques made the motion to adjourn. Chairman Bridges asked for a second. Commissioner Wester 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, Dr. Macomson, Chairman Bridges, Commissioner Jacques and Commissioner Wester. The meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.*

*Signed on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2018*

---

*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*