

## MINUTES

### DECATUR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

#### COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM

TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2021

PRESENT: CHAIRMAN PETE STEPHENS, VICE-CHAIRMAN DENNIS BRINSON, COMMISSIONERS, BOBBY BARBER JR., RUSTY DAVIS, GEORGE ANDERSON AND STEVE BROCK, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR ALAN THOMAS, COUNTY ATTORNEY BRUCE KIRBO, AND COUNTY CLERK MICHELLE WEST.

#### INVOCATION AND THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Stephens called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. After the call to order, Randy Williams gave the invocation and all those assembled pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the agenda, as presented. Vice Chairman Brinson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

#### SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

There were no Special Presentations.

#### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no Public Participation.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Brock made a motion to approve the minutes of the Commissioners' Meeting held March 9, 2021, as presented. Vice Chairman Brinson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

#### OLD BUSINESS

**Consider Extension of Personal Property Tax Returns.** No action was taken.

#### NEW BUSINESS

**Audit Report – FY Ending June 30, 2020.** Chairman Stephens recognized Ben Lee, an auditor of Coastal CPAs to present the audit. Mr. Lee stated covid was the reason for the delay in the audit. Mr. Lee was pleased to report Decatur County has an unmodified opinion, which means the audit is a clean report. The compliance with GAO yellow book standards showed no findings of non-compliance. Decatur County had \$5.3 million of federal funding due to Hurricane Michael. Mr. Lee closed by saying Decatur County Administration and all county employees have done an excellent job maintaining quality services to the Decatur County citizens while managing the Decatur County, Georgia resources in a cost-efficient manner. Additionally, the budget management was outstanding with the positive variances at all department levels. The General Fund had a current year net excess of \$3,880,146 which increased the General Fund Unrestricted Fund balance to \$10,850,932. However, the trend needs to stay on course until the Unrestricted Fund balance is close to \$20 million. A copy of the audit is attached.

**Consider Bid Approval for Excavator – Landfill.** Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas who stated bid requests for an excavator were advertised and provided to various vendors. Two bids were received with Flint Equipment winning the bid for a John Deere 380G LC excavator in the amount of \$318,500, with a guaranteed buy back of \$122,000 and a

delivery date of 50 days. County Administrator Thomas recommends Board approval for the purchase. Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the excavator purchase. Commissioner Brock seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

**Consider Approval of Resolution and Lease Agreement – Designating the Decatur County Memorial Coliseum as a Courthouse Annex.** Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas who stated this request was transmitted from the Clerk of Court, Cecilia Willis by request from Judge Chason due to Covid 19 to have a bigger space to provide jury selections, trials or whatever is necessary for the safe operation of the courts. County Administrator Thomas stated the County Attorney has reviewed the resolution and recommends Board approval. County Administrator Thomas stated the Board of Education has allowed Decatur County to use the coliseum for this purpose and a lease agreement will be forthcoming on a later date. Commissioner Brock made a motion to approve the resolution, a copy of which is attached. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

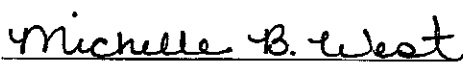
#### COMMISSIONERS/ADMINISTRATOR'S REMARKS

The Commissioners thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and thanked the Decatur County employees for their hard work and dedication.

#### ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting, on motion by Vice Chairman Brinson, was duly adjourned. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. A vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Approved:   
Chairman, Pete Stephens

Attest:   
County Clerk, Michelle B. West

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF DECATUR COUNTY,  
GEORGIA DESIGNATING THE DECATUR COUNTY MEMORIAL COLISEUM  
AS AN ADDITIONAL OR ALTERNATE FACILITY FOR THE HOLDING OF ANY  
SESSION OR SITTING OF THE SUPERIOR OR STATE COURTS OF DECATUR  
COUNTY, GEORGIA; AND OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, the Decatur County Board of Commissioners (the "Board"), as the governing authority of Decatur County, Georgia, exercises the powers, duties, and responsibilities vested in such governing authority through local Act and Georgia law;

WHEREAS, the official Courthouse of Decatur County, Georgia is located at 112 West Water Street, Bainbridge, GA 39817;

WHEREAS, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 15-6-18(c), the Board has determined that the best interest of the public would be served by the furnishing of an alternate or additional facility for the holding of sessions or sittings of the Superior and State Courts of Decatur County, GA;

WHEREAS, the establishment of such an alternate or additional facility will allow the judges of the Superior and State Courts of Decatur County, Georgia to hold sessions of said Courts and conduct all other business of said Courts at the alternate or additional facility, with any actions taken at such facility being fully valid and binding as though taken and performed at the Courthouse of Decatur County, Georgia;

WHEREAS, the local committee of the South Georgia Judicial Circuit tasked with creating a plan for resuming jury trials during the COVID-19 pandemic desires to use an alternate or additional facility within Decatur County, Georgia to ensure the health, safety, and constitutional protections of all participants in the judicial system; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Board to designate the Decatur County Memorial Coliseum, located at 600 South Wheat Avenue, Bainbridge, Georgia 39819, as an alternate or additional facility in order to allow the Superior and State Courts of Decatur County, Georgia to use space therein for any and all business coming before said Courts

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board as follows:

The Decatur County Memorial Coliseum located at 600 South Wheat Avenue, Bainbridge, Georgia 39819, is hereby designated as an alternate or additional facility for all purposes authorized by O.C.G.A. § 15-6-18.

SO RESOLVED, this 23rd day of March, 2021.

**DECATUR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

BY:   
Pete Stephens, Chairman

ATTEST:   
Michelle West, County Clerk