

**MINUTES**

**DECATUR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**COMMISSIONERS' BOARD ROOM**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2022**

PRESENT: CHAIRMAN PETE STEPHENS, VICE CHAIRMAN DENNIS BRINSON, COMMISSIONERS, RUSTY DAVIS, BOBBY BARBER, JR, 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 9:00 a.m. After the call to order, County Attorney Kirbo gave the invocation and all those assembled pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

There were no Special Presentations.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Chairman Stephens recognized Oliver Sellers who voiced his concerns on the Garbage Services agreement.

Chairman Stephens recognized Doug Griffin who voiced his concerns on the Garbage Services agreement.

Chairman Stephens recognized Debbie Elkins who voiced her concerns on the Garbage Services agreement.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting held February 22, 2022, as presented. Commissioner Brock seconded the motion, a vote was taken and unanimously approved.

**OLD BUSINESS**

There was no Old Business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Proposed Animal Control Ordinance – Steve O'Neil.** Chairman Stephens recognized Community Development Director Steve O'Neil who stated each Commissioner has a copy of the proposed animal control ordinance. Mr. O'Neil stated the proposed ordinance is the existing City of Bainbridge ordinance and the existing Decatur County ordinance combined into one which makes the process easier for the officers when you have only one ordinance. Mr. O'Neil stated the proposed ordinance includes a modification of the fee schedule to adopt the City of Bainbridge's fee schedule due to Decatur County's fee schedule being very low. Another modification to the proposed ordinance for both the City of Bainbridge and Decatur County is the incorporation of the Georgia Responsible Dog Ownership Laws that became effective in 2012, which neither existing ordinance included. Mr. O'Neil stated this is the first draft of the proposed

ordinance and asked that the Commissioners review the proposed ordinance for adoption at the public hearing scheduled for April 12, 2022.

**Consider Approval of Resolution.** Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas who stated the resolution declaring the day of March 13, 2022 to be Pastor John Henry Wooden Day is included in their packets which County Attorney Kirbo drafted and recommends approval to the Board. Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the resolution. Commissioner Brock seconded the motion, a vote was taken and unanimously approved.

**COMMISSIONERS/ADMINISTRATOR'S REMARKS**

The Commissioners thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, the meeting, on motion by Commissioner Barber, was duly adjourned. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, a vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Approved: *Pete Stephens*  
Chairman, Pete Stephens

Attest: *Michelle B. West*  
County Clerk, Michelle B. West



**Resolution**  
**Board of Commissioners**  
**Decatur County, Georgia**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF DECATUR COUNTY, GEORGIA HONORING PASTOR JOHN HENRY WOODEN ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AS MINISTER OF THE ST. PAUL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH.**

WHEREAS, Pastor John H. Wooden, a friend of man, a devoted husband and father, a faithful leader of a congregational flock and a servant of God, has elected to retire from the pastoral ministry after serving 35 years in that capacity; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Wooden has served, fed and led the family of God who have worshipped at St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church in Decatur County, Georgia continuously since being called to do so more than three decades ago; and

WHEREAS, the service of Pastor Wooden to the citizens of Decatur County, Georgia has not been limited to his time as a Pastor but has included many years of service, by both act and deed, as an educator of young people in the Decatur County School System including service as a janitor, a teacher, a principal and as an assistant superintendent; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Wooden has lived a life dedicated to the service of others and to the betterment of Bainbridge, Decatur County and the State of Georgia; and

WHEREAS, the walk of Pastor Wooden through the journey of life has not been a walk made alone as he has been joined, step by step, with his dedicated and supporting wife and helpmate Deborah and his beloved daughters Chelsea and La'Shannon; and

WHEREAS, one thought at a time, one act at a time, one stance at a time and one event at a time Pastor Wooden has positively impacted and improved the life of all citizens of Decatur County, Georgia and, no doubt, the life of countless others beyond the boundaries of Decatur County, Georgia; and,

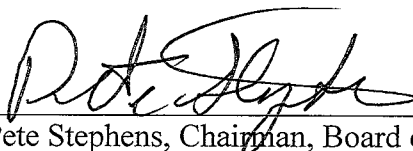
WHEREAS, this community and this Board of Commissioners are forever grateful for the friendship, leadership and service of Pastor John H. Wooden;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Decatur County, Georgia declare the day of March 13, 2022 to be Pastor John Henry Wooden Day as a day of celebration for, and reflection upon, the accomplishments of this outstanding Servant of God and Man.

FURTHER, the Board of Commissioners of Decatur County, Georgia do hereby, on behalf of the citizens of Decatur County, Georgia extend to Pastor Wooden a special thank-you for a job well done and offer to him and his wife Deborah our best wishes for many years of happiness in the future.

Introduced, read, and adopted at a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Decatur County, Georgia.

SO RESOLVED this 8<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pete Stephens", written over a horizontal line.

Pete Stephens, Chairman, Board of Commissioners