

MINUTES

DECATUR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

COMMISSIONERS' BOARDROOM

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2023

PRESENT: CHAIRMAN PETE STEPHENS, VICE CHAIRMAN DENNIS BRINSON, COMMISSIONERS, RUSTY DAVIS, BOBBY BARBER, JR, STEVE BROCK AND GEORGE ANDERSON, 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

Chairman Stephens requested to amend the agenda and add executive session to the agenda as item 1a. Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the agenda, with the amendment. 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

Vice Chairman Brinson made a motion to approve the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting held November 28, 2023, as presented. Commissioner Brock seconded the motion, a vote was taken and unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - PERSONNEL

Vice Chairman Brinson made a motion to enter into Executive Session. Commissioner Brock seconded the motion, a vote was taken and unanimously approved.

After the executive session, the Commissioners assembled back in the board room. Commissioner Davis made the motion to enter back in to Regular Session. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, a vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Chairman Stephens stated personnel was discussed in executive session with no action taken.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider Approval of Qualifying Fees. Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas who stated a copy of the proposed qualifying fees were included in their packets. County Administrator Thomas stated next year is an election year and to be legally compliant the Board needs to approve the qualifying fees and recommends approval by the Board. Commissioner Brock made a motion to approve the qualifying fees, a copy of which is attached. Vice Chairman Brinson seconded the motion, a vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Consider Appointments. Chairman Stephens stated that a list of the proposed appointments was in the packets provided to each commissioner and each individual identified in the proposal, as listed below, has agreed to accept the appointment and serve in the capacity as a member of the stated agency. Commissioner Barber made the motion to approve the appointments. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion, a vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Bainbridge-Decatur County Planning Commission Board (Three-Year Term)

Mr. Jeff Rich has agreed to serve another three-year term which expires December 31, 2026.

Dr. Frank Flowers has agreed to serve another one-year term which expires December 31, 2024.

Bainbridge/Decatur County Industrial Development Authority Board (Four-Year Term)

Mr. Glenn Heard represents Post 3 and has agreed to serve another four-year term which expires December 31, 2027.

Southwest Georgia Regional Commission Board (One-Year Term)

Mr. Steve Brock representing the County has agreed to serve another one-year term which expires December 31, 2024.

Ms. Stephanie Daniels represents the City/County Public Joint Appointment and has agreed to serve another one-year term which expires December 31, 2024.

Mr. Billy Poppell represents the Public Sector and has agreed to serve another one-year term which expires December 31, 2024.

Board of Health (Six-Year Term)

Mr. James Earp has agreed to serve another six-year term which expires December 31, 2029.

Ms. Sherry Hutchins will be replacing Dr. Winston Price and has agreed to serve a six-year term which expires December 31, 2029.

Joint Development Authority (Decatur and Seminole County) (Three-Year Term)

Mr. Rob Cohen has agreed to serve another three-year term which expires December 1, 2026.

Consider Application for Alcoholic Beverage License – Kaushik Patel – A & A Convenience Store – 1761 Faceville Highway. Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas who stated Kaushik Patel owner of A & A Convenience Store has met all the requirements for obtaining an alcohol license and recommends approval to the Board. Commissioner Barber made the motion to approve the license. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion, a vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Consider Application for Alcoholic Beverage License – Dwijesh Patel – Quick Buys #51 – 167 Whigham Dairy Road. Chairman Stephens recognized County Administrator Thomas who stated Dwijesh Patel owner of Quick Buys #51 has met all the requirements for obtaining an alcohol license and recommends approval to the Board. Commissioner Barber made the motion to approve the license. Commissioner Brock seconded the motion, a vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Consider Cancellation of December 26, 2023 Meeting. Commissioner Anderson made the motion to cancel the meeting. Vice Chairman Brinson seconded the motion, a vote was taken and unanimously approved.

COMMISSIONERS/ADMINISTRATOR'S REMARKS

The Commissioners thanked everyone for coming.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting, on motion by Commissioner Brock 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
of the
DECATUR COUNTY COMMISSION

Re: Qualifying Fees; County Offices

WHEREAS, Georgia law specifies that the governing authority of the county shall set the qualifying fee for elected county offices no later than February 1 of any year in which a general primary, nonpartisan election, or general election is to be held; and

WHEREAS, general primary, nonpartisan and general elections are by state law set to be held during the calendar year 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 21-2-131, the qualifying fees are hereby set and published for the following elective county offices of Decatur County:

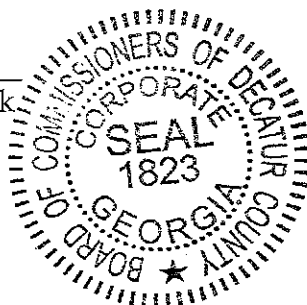
County Commissioner	\$	216.00
Board of Education	\$	54.00
Coroner	\$	108.00
Chief Magistrate	\$	1,935.37
Probate Judge	\$	1,897.42
Sheriff	\$	2,318.83
Clerk of Court	\$	1,897.42
Tax Commissioner	\$	1,897.42
State Court Judge	\$	1,623.40
State Court Solicitor General	\$	1,498.84

This 12th day of December, 2023.

Attest:

Decatur County Commission:

Michelle West
Michelle West, County Clerk



Pete Stephens
Pete Stephens, Chairman

AFFIDAVIT OF CHAIRMAN OR PRESIDING OFFICER

Pete Stephens, Chairman of the Decatur County Board of Commissioners, being duly sworn, states under oath that the following is true and accurate to the best of his/her knowledge and belief:

1.

The Decatur County Board of Commissioners met in a duly advertised meeting on December 12, 2023.

2.

During such meeting, the Board voted to go into closed session.

3.

The executive session was called to order at 9:10 a.m./p.m.

4.

The subject matter of the closed portion of the meeting was devoted to the following matter(s) within the exceptions provided in the open meetings law:

- Consultation with the county attorney or other legal counsel to discuss pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the county or any officer or employee or in which the county or any officer or employee may be directly involved as provided in O.C.G.A. 50-14-2(1);
- Discussion of tax matters made confidential by state law as provided by O.C.G.A. 50-14-2(2) and (insert the citation to the legal authority making the tax matter confidential) _____;
- Discussion of the future purchase, disposal of or lease of real estate as provided by O.C.G.A. 50-14-3(4);
- Discussion of deliberation on the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a county officer or employee as provided in O.C.G.A. 50-14-3(6);
- Other _____ as provided in _____.

This 12th day of December, 2023.

Pete Stephens

Pete Stephens, Chairman
Decatur County Board of Commissioners

Sworn to and subscribed
Before me this 12th day of
December, 2023.

Notary Public Michelle B. West

My commission expires:

