

LAURENS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

August 15, 2023 @ 12:00 P.M.

The Laurens County Board of Commissioners held their regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, August 15, 2023, at 12:00 p.m. Present were, Chairman Jeff Davis, Commissioners Kevin Tanner, Brenda Chain, Jimmy Rogers, Trae Kemp, County Administrator Bryan Rogers and County Attorney Billy Kight. Commissioner Jimmy Rogers gave the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first item was the approval of the minutes of the August 1, 2023, regular meeting. Commissioner Brenda Chain made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes. Commissioner Trae Kemp seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The next item was the discussion/approval of the Board of Assessor's request to appeal the 2022 Sales Ratio Study for Laurens County which was conducted by the Department of Audits. Based on the Department of Audit's study, Laurens County's sales ratio is 34.01%. Mr. Tom Williamson, Chief Assessor, informed the Commissioners that their consultant, GMASS, which conducted the partial re-valuation in 2021, strongly disagrees with the State's audit. According to their study, the sales ratio should be around 38% which puts us in compliance. Mr. Williamson recommended to the Board that the County appeal. After much discussion, Commissioner Trae Kemp made a motion to appeal the 2022 sales ratio study and authorize the County Administrator to sign the appeal on its behalf. Commissioner Kevin Tanner seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The next item was the discussion/ approval of the SPLOST intergovernmental agreement with the City of Dublin. Mr. Rogers explained that in order for the upcoming SPLOST to run for six years, the County must enter into an agreement with the City of Dublin since they represent over half the municipal population of the County. The agreement specifies the percentage of SPLOST, as well as, the distribution of any excess proceeds of the SPLOST. Commissioner Trae Kemp made the motion to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Dublin. Commissioner Chain seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The next item was the discussion/approval of the Resolution calling for the SPLOST election. Mr. Rogers explained that the resolution specified the ballot language along with the election date which would be November 7th. Commissioner Kevin Tanner made the motion to approve the SPLOST Resolution. Commissioner Jimmy Rogers seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The next item was the discussion/approval of the paving of various projects. Mr. Rogers informed the Commissioners that he sought three bids for paving the different parking lots but that Scruggs and Padgett declined to bid. He further stated that Sikes Brothers, who specialize in curb and gutter subdivision projects and parking lots gave the following bid for each project.

New Administrative Parking Lot	\$34,419
Blackshear Ferry Parking Lot	\$29,369
Southern Pines Parking Lots (2)	\$191,816
Saxony Forrest Subdivision	\$107,065

Commissioner Jimmy Rogers made a motion to approve the bids for the projects. Commissioner Chain seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Vonda Morton stated the pledge to the State Flag.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.