

**Board of Commissioners of Candler County**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**January 3, 2017**  
**6:00 p.m.**

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The Board of Commissioners of Candler County met for the regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, January 3, 2017, at 6:00 p.m., in the Commissioners' boardroom at 1075 East Hiawatha Street, Suite A, Metter, Georgia. Those attending the meeting were Candler County Chairman Glyn Thrift, Vice-Chairman Donny Wells and Commissioners Brad Jones, David Robertson and Wayne Culbertson; Candler County Administrator, William F. Lindsey; Candler County Clerk, Maranda K. Lank; and Candler County Attorney, Kendall Gross; Candler County Election Board member, Gary Howard; Candler County Coroner Allen Tyler and Deputy Coroner Jamie Anderson; The Metter Advertiser representative, Carvy Snell.

**Call To Order**

Chairman Thrift called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

**Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

Vice-Chairman Wells delivered the invocation followed by Chairman Thrift leading the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

**Approval of the Minutes**

Vice-Chairman Wells made a motion seconded by Commissioner Robinson to accept the minutes with no corrections for meetings dated December 22, 2016. The motion carried unanimously.

**Amendments to the Agenda**

Chairman Thrift requested a motion to amend the agenda to add the following items:

- **Bids for Culvert Pipes**
- **Hiring of a Payroll Clerk**

Vice-Chairman Wells made a motion seconded by Commissioner Jones to amend the agenda adding items as stated by Mr. Lindsey. The motion carried unanimously.

**New Business**

**Adoption of Resolution Honoring Commissioner Henry Meridy**

Mr. Lindsey read the Resolution Honoring Commissioner Henry Meridy.

Vice-Chairman Wells made a motion seconded by Commissioner Robinson to adopt the Resolution Honoring Commissioner Henry Meridy. The motion carried unanimously.

**Third Member Appointment to Heart of Georgia Altamaha Regional Commission Regional Council**

Chairman Thrift made a motion seconded by Commissioner Culbertson to appoint Virgil M. Meridy as the County's third member to the Heart of Georgia Altamaha Regional Commission Regional Council. The motion carried unanimously.

**Consideration of Bids for Replacing Floor at Jack Strickland Building**

This item was tabled. Mr. Lindsey requested that Mr. Gross write the advertisement for bidding this project as the cost may exceed \$10,000.00.

**Public Defender Issues**

Mr. Gross explained a budgeting issue Senator Jack Hill brought to his attention that is within the Public Defender's office. Salaries are budgeted through County funds and supplements for three attorney positions with salaries ranging from \$42,000.00 to \$54,000.00. Mr. Gross continued to mention the Public Defender's Office has only staffed one of those positions despite receiving the money for the remaining two open positions. He concluded the report stating that does not need to continue. To rectify the problem, Mr. Gross suggested inviting Public Defender Payne in to explain her FY2018 Budget proposal.

**SPLOST**

The Board scheduled a called meeting for Tuesday, January 17, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. for departments to propose their SPLOST lists.

**Hospital**

Chairman Thrift requested the Board consider adopting the Resolution to authorize the Board of Commissioners to renew the loan of \$1,500,000.00 for a period not to exceed twelve months on behalf of the County from Queensborough Bank and Trust.

Vice-Chairman Wells made a motion seconded by Commissioner Jones to adopt the Resolution to Renew the \$1,500,000.00 loan with Queensborough Bank and Trust. The motion carried unanimously.

**Bids for Culvert Pipes**

This item was tabled until the called January 17, 2016 called meeting.

**Payroll Clerk**

This item was moved to follow the executive session to discuss personnel.

**Annual Board Appointments**

This item was moved to follow the executive session to discuss personnel.

**County Administrator**  
**County Clerk**  
**County Attorney**  
**EMS Director**

## **Old Business**

### **Revised Mobile Home/Subdivision Ordinance**

This item was tabled.

### **Savannah Communications – Radio Equipment**

Commissioner Jones stated he had purposely delayed progress on the Savannah Communications due to the reason he would like the newly elected Sheriff to be involved in the selection of the equipment along with other emergency response leaders. This item was tabled.

### **Draft Emergency Management Ordinance**

This item was tabled.

### **Pending Local Legislation**

This item was tabled.

## **Financial Report**

Mrs. Lank presented the financial variance report for the month ending December 2016. Revenue in the general fund was down considerably due to tax notices going out late. She went on to say once tax payments began coming in that revenue should slowly begin to increase over expenditures. The majority of all departments year to date expenses are along 50% in line with the proposed budget. She also mentioned that all checking account and certificates of deposit signature cards are ready for signatures. Considering the need for updating the accounts after Commissioner Culbertson's taking office as of January 1, 2017 after his election during the November 2016 general election. Mrs. Lank concluded her financial report by stating the final two certificates of deposits at Metter Bank and Pineland State Bank were cashed out upon their maturity in December, then moved to Queensborough National Bank and Trust as described in the Intergovernmental Agreement with Queensborough and the Candler County Hospital.

## **Report from the Chairman**

Chairman Thrift requested the Board consider holding an employee appreciation dinner.

## **Report from the County Administrator**

Mr. Lindsey began his report by stating the Carl Vinson Institute had completed their interviews with all employees that participated in the survey. He then stated the Institute would like to come later in the month to meet with Sheriff Miles to encourage his allowance of the Sheriff's Department staff be included in the study. Secondly, Mr. Lindsey reported the Vietnam Replica Memorial Wall would like to utilize the area at the Recreation Department. The Wall plans to be in our location in October 2017. Mr. Lindsey then stated he is working on budget packages now, and planned to focus on getting the proposed budget together by the end of March. Finally, Mr. Lindsey presented a list of roads that Mr. Lanier submitted in need of weight limit signage in order for the recently adopted Commercial Truck Traffic Ordinance to be enforced.

## **Report from the Commissioners**

Vice-Chairman Wells mentioned there is a speeding problem on the weekends near Meridy Road around the old wooden bridge.

Commissioner Jones requested an update from Mr. Lindsey about a hospital letter. He then turned to Mr. Gross questioning the legality of a policy that does not pay an employee if the employee fails to turn their timecard in to the payroll clerk by the deadline outlined in the policy. Mr. Gross stated the non-payment within that pay period is legal as long as the payment is made in the next payroll. Commissioner Jones described the comparison of regular lighting versus LED lighting along with the one year warranty versus the five year warranty.

Commissioner Robinson requested an update of the connector road project the Archway Partnership Program. Mr. Snell stated financial restraints are holding up the projects at the moment.

Commissioner Culbertson did not have a report.

### **Other Business**

No other business brought before the Board at this time.

### **Executive Session#1**

Commissioner Jones made a motion at 7:14 p.m. seconded by Vice-Chairman Wells to enter into an Executive Session to discuss personnel only. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Jones made a motion at 8:46 p.m. seconded by Vice-Chairman Wells to adjourn Executive Session and resume with the regular business meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Jones made a motion seconded by Commissioner Robinson to authorize Chairman Thrift to sign the *Closed Meeting Affidavit*. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Action Following Executive Session #1**

#### **Payroll Clerk**

No action on this item after this executive session.

### **2017 Annual Board Appointments**

#### **County Administrator**

Chairman Thrift made a motion to retain William F. Lindsey as Candler County Administrator. The motion died for a lack of a second.

Commissioner Jones made a motion that Mr. Lindsey not be retained. Mr. Lindsey interjected stating, "Or would you rather I submit my resignation?" Mr. Gross then stated that Mr. Lindsey should be given that opportunity. Commissioner Jones then rescinded his motion.

Mr. Lindsey submitted his resignation effective January 3, 2017. The terms of Mr. Lindsey's contract were discussed, and it was agreed that Mr. Lindsey would be paid three months' severance pay with full benefits.

Commissioner Jones made a motion seconded by Commissioner Robinson to accept Mr. Lindsey resignation and the severance conditions thereof. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **County Clerk**

Commissioner Culbertson made a motion seconded by Commissioner Robinson to reappoint Maranda Kellie Lank as Candler County Clerk. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **County Attorney**

Commissioner Robinson made a motion seconded by Vice-Chairman Wells to reappoint J. Kendall Gross as Candler County Attorney. Chairman Thrift, Vice-Chairman Wells and Commissioners Jones and Robinson voted in favor of the motion while Commissioner Culbertson voted against.

#### **EMS Director**

Vice-Chairman Wells made a motion seconded by Commissioner Robinson to reappoint Melburn Kelly, Jr as Candler County EMS Director. Chairman Thrift, Vice-Chairman Wells and Commissioner Robinson voted in favor of the motion while Commissioners Jones and Culbertson voted against.

#### **Executive Session#2**

Commissioner Jones made a motion at 9:23 p.m. seconded by Commissioner Robinson to enter into an Executive Session to discuss personnel and pending litigation. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Jones made a motion at 9:54 p.m. seconded by Vice-Chairman Wells to adjourn Executive Session and resume with the regular business meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Jones made a motion seconded by Vice-Chairman Wells to authorize Chairman Thrift to sign the *Closed Meeting Affidavit*. The motion carried unanimously.


#### **Action Following Executive Session #2**

Vice-Chairman Wells made the motion seconded by Chairman Thrift making Commissioner Jones Vice-Chair of the Board of the Candler County Commissioners. The motion passed unanimously with Commissioner Jones abstaining.

Vice-Chairman Jones excused himself from the meeting due to a conflict of interest. Commissioner Robinson made a motion seconded by Commissioner Culbertson to offer the payroll clerk position to Crystal Carter. The motion carried unanimously. Let the record reflect that Vice-Chairman Jones did not vote on the motion.

**Adjournment**

With no further business to discuss, Commissioner Culbertson made a motion at 10:05 p.m. seconded by Commissioner Robinson to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

  
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Maranda K. Lank, Clerk

  
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Chairman Glyn Thrift

# BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CANDLER COUNTY

Glyn Thrift  
Chairman

Donny Wells  
Vice-Chairman

William F. Lindsey  
County Administrator

Brad Jones  
Commissioner

Wayne Culbertson  
Commissioner

David Robinson  
Commissioner

## CLOSED MEETING AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF GEORGIA  
COUNTY OF CANDLER

### AFFIDAVIT OF CHAIRMAN OR PRESIDING OFFICER

Glyn Thrift, Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of Candler County, being duly sworn, states under oath that the following is true and accurate to the best of his knowledge and belief:

1. The Board of Commissioners of Candler County met in a duly advertised meeting on Tuesday, January 3, 2017.
2. During such meeting, the Board voted to go into closed session.
3. The executive session was called to order at 7:14 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);
- Discussion of the future acquisition of real estate as provided by O.C.G.A. 50-14-3(4);
- Discussion or 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

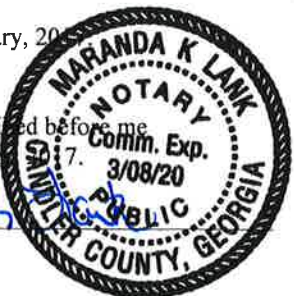
This 3<sup>rd</sup> day of January, 2017

*Glyn Thrift*  
Glyn Thrift, Chairman

Board of Commissioners of Candler County

Sworn to and subscribed before me  
this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of January 2017.

*Maranda K. Link*  
Notary Public



# BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CANDLER COUNTY

Glyn Thrift  
Chairman

William F. Lindsey  
County Administrator

Donny Wells  
Vice-Chairman

Brad Jones  
Commissioner

Wayne Culbertson  
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This 3<sup>rd</sup> day of January, 2017.

  
Glyn Thrift, Chairman  
Board of Commissioners of Candler County

Sworn and subscribed before me  
this \_\_\_\_\_ day of January, 2017.

Notary Public  




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