

Candler County Board of Commissioners
Tuesday, September 5, 2023
5:00 p.m.

The following is a summary of the subjects acted on during the Tuesday, September 5, 2023 meeting (Summary of an open meeting in compliance with O.C.G.A. §50-14-1 (2)).

Chairman Glyn Thrift presided with Vice-Chairman Brad Jones, Commissioners David Robinson and Blake Hendrix in attendance. Also attending were County Administrator Bryan Aasheim, County Clerk Kellie Lank, Attorney Cindy Delgado represented County Attorney Kendall Gross. The Metter Advertiser was notified of the meeting, Jerri Goodman attended. Commissioner Gregory Thomas did not attend this meeting.

Guests attending this meeting included: Candler County Public Works Superintendent, Jerry Lanier; Candler County Landfill Supervisor, Robert Hendrix; City of Metter Fire Chief, Jason Douglas; Candler County EMS Director, Joseph Reynolds; Candler County Ag Extension Office, Susannah Lanier accompanied, 4H Member, Lila Ulmer along with her mother, Crystal Ulmer; Nancy Robinson and Araceli Nuci-Estrade.

1. Call to Order

Chairman Thrift called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. Invocation and *Pledge of Allegiance* –

Chairman Thrift called on Candler County 4-H member, Lila Ulmer, to deliver the invocation and lead the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

3. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Aasheim requested the agenda be approved as presented.

Commissioner Robinson made a motion to approve the agenda as requested. Vice-Chairman Jones provided a second. The motion carried 4-0.

4. Department Reports

a. Roads & Bridges – Jerry Lanier

Superintendent Lanier stated the Roads Department updated the Board on the progress of road repairs from Hurricane Idalia.

- Motorgraders are all functioning except one.
- Bass Road had a beaver problem
- Dead tree on Hwy 46 East, west of the Forestry Station

b. Solid Waste – Robert Hendrix

Supervisor Hendrix

- reported 6.8” of rain from the storm forcing the leachate ponds level up.
- Leachate water is being hauled.
- The garbage collection continues to run throughout the road repairs. The driver is communicating with Mr. Lanier when he comes to a road he can not maneuver.

c. EMS – Joseph Reynolds

Director Reynolds presented the August 2023 transport and financial report (Exhibit A)

- Calls subsided throughout the storm
- No issues with the ambulances

Administrator Aasheim reported there were no responses to the 2023 Ambulance RFP. He then requested direction from the Board to either readvertise or reach out the prior respondents and extend the RFP due date 30 days.

d. Recreation – Mike Robins

Coach Mike Robins was not present at this meeting due to Fall sports kicking off. However, Administrator Aasheim reported currently there are about 280 children registered. He also informed the Board that an insurance claim has been filed regarding damages to the recreation department property from Hurricane Idalia.

5. Citizens wishing to address the Commission – *Citizens will be allowed to address the commission individually for a period of up to 5 minutes.*

a. Araceli, Nuci-Estrade; Parcel #056B-014; 947 Cartright Rd – Request for a second extension on a Mobile Home installation permit

Administrator Aasheim provided information from the Tax Assessor's office regarding a mobile home installation extension granted to Araceli Nuci-Estrade to locate a newly purchased mobile home on her property. Ms. Estrade approached the Board and explained there are more delays with the mobile home manufacturer forcing her to ask for a second extension. The expected delivered date is September 21, 2023. Vice-Chairman Jones asked if Ms. Estrade would need 30 or 60 days. Ms. Estrade requested the Board consider granting a 60-day extension.

Commissioner Hendrix made a motion to grant Araceli Nuci-Estrade a second extension on a mobile home installation permit for Parcel #056B-014 located at 947 Cartright Rd in Candler County. Commissioner Robinson provided a second. The motion carried 4-0.

b. Robinson, David; Parcel #012-082-008; 1786 White Way Cir – Request for a second extension on a Mobile Home installation permit

Commissioner Robinson recused himself from the board table to present his request to the other Commissioners

Administrator Aasheim opened the floor to Mr. Robinson to request a second extension on a mobile home installation permit. Mr. Robinson explained he is working through the title process for a mobile home he has placed on Parcel#012-082-008 in Candler County. Vice-Chairman Jones asked if Mr. Robinson would need 30 or 60 days. Mr. Robinson requested the Board consider a 60-day extension.

Commissioner Hendrix made a motion to grant David Robinson a second extension on a mobile home installation permit for Parcel #012-082-008 located at 1786 White Way Cir in Candler County. Vice-Chairman Jones provided a second. The motion carried 3-0. Mr. Robinson thanked the Board for the extension and rejoined the other commissioners at the board table. Commissioner Robinson did not participate in the vote pertaining to this motion.

6. Application for Commission approval, permit or variance –

There were no citizens present requesting to address the Commission.

7. Approval of Minutes – August 21, 2023 Public Hearing, August 21, 2023 2nd Regular Meeting and August 29, 2023 Emergency Called Meeting

Commissioner Robinson made a motion to table the August 21, 2023 Public Hearing and August 21, 2023 2nd Regular Meeting minutes due to there not being a quorum of Commissioner present that attended this meeting. Vice-Chairman Jones provided a second. The motion carried 4-0.

Vice- Chairman Jones made a motion to approve the August 29, 2023 Emergency Called Meeting minutes. Commissioner Robinson provided a second. The motion carried 3-1, with Commissioner Hendrix abstaining considering he was not present at the called meeting.

8. Old Business

There was no Old Business to address during this meeting.

9. New Business

- a. Consideration of a proposed MOA with the Georgia Department of Transportation for the LOCBR bridge replacement projects for 043-5002-0 (Tier II, Fortner Rd) and 043-5012-0 (Tier I, Ollifftown Rd) and request for county participation in funding for Rights-of-Way (ROW) acquisition in the amount of \$125,000**

Administrator Aasheim presented a memorandum of agreement with Georgia Department of Transportation for the replacement of two (2) bridges under the LOCBR program at a cost to the county of \$125,000.00. The Fortner Road Tier II Bridge 043-5002-0 project contribution amount is \$75,000.00, and the Ollifftown Road Tier I Bridge 043-5012-0 project contribution amount is \$50,000.00. Administrator Aasheim stated this is an agreement to participate with GDOT, not a request to submit payment at this time. (Exhibit B)

- b. Consideration of a called meeting on September 25, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. for the purpose of ratifying the millage rate levy for the Candler County Board of Commissioners and the Candler County Board of Education for 2023**

Administrator Aasheim requested the Board to consider calling a called meeting on September 25, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. for the purpose of ratifying the millage rate levy for the Candler County Board of Commissioners and the Candler County Board of Education for 2023.

Commissioner Hendrix made a motion to hold a called meeting on September 25, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. for the purpose of ratifying the millage rate levy for the Candler County Board of Commissioners and the Candler County Board of Education for 2023. Chairman Thrift provided a second. The motion carried 4-0.

- c. Consideration of an agreement with ESSE for annual service and fuel testing on the three (3) county backup generators located at the Sheriff's Office, EMS and the radio tower at a cost of \$3,075

Administrator Aasheim presented a proposal from ESSE for semi-annual maintenance and testing for county generators that are located at the Sheriff's Office EMS and the communication tower. Vice-Chairman Jones requested the other members of the Board grant him consent to refer a vendor to Administrator Aasheim who deals in refurbished generators. The other Commissioners agreed. Administrator Aasheim requested the Board consider approval of the ESSE agreement.

Commissioner Hendrix made a motion to enter into the agreement with ESSE for annual service and fuel testing on the three (3) county backup generators located at the Sheriff's Office, EMS and the radio tower at a cost of \$3,075. Chairman Thrift provided a second. The motion carried 4-0. (Exhibit C)

- d. Consideration of a request for authorization to open two (2) additional investment accounts, (CC Jail Construction Investment, General Fund Investment) with Synovus Investments, Inc.

Administrator Aasheim requested authorization to open two (2) additional investment accounts with Synovus Investments, Inc. for the Candler County Jail Construction Investment and General Fund Investment to separate the three classes of special revenue funds. The three revenue categories will be designated as the Landfill Closure, General Fund and CC Jail Construction. The separate accounts will aid us in segregating and managing funds.

Vice-Chairman Jones made a motion to authorize Administrator Aasheim to open two (2) additional investment accounts, (CC Jail Construction Investment, General Fund Investment) with Synovus Investments, Inc. Commissioner Hendrix provided a second. The motion carried 4-0.

10. Report from Chairman

Chairman Thrift informed the Board there will be a celebration dinner hosted by the Candler County Industrial Development Authority at the Metter Depot on September 6, 2023 at 5:30 to announce Project Cushion as well as welcome the new business to the community.

11. Report from County Administrator

Administrator Aasheim delivered the August 2023 Financial Report (Exhibit C)

- The General Operating account balance is \$1,653,307.21 with the General Contingency account at \$28,299.53.
- Landfill Closure Funds total balance is \$1,927,973.79.
- ARPA balance is \$797,523.53 will continue to dissolve the funds through FY24 as the allocated to projects are completed.
- The Shared Services District account balance is \$991,065.70 with \$300,000.00 allocated for the Lytle Street paving in a joint venture with the Industrial Development Authority. However, the Insurance Premium Tax funds will be deposited in October which will help sustain the account throughout the remainder of the calendar year.

- SPLOST returns for August 2023 were \$162,265.72 with the distributions being back to the local entity percentages.
- The Pareto Health Insurance accounts total \$1,088,957.60.
- Updated on the new Jail Project. Vice-Chairman Jones requested a Q&A meeting on this project.

Updates-

- Set a called meeting for approving the Candler County Zoning map
- Several calls on issues with requests to have multiple mobile homes on one parcel
- Interest in a George Kemp Memorial at the Candler County Recreation Department

12. Report from Attorney

Attorney Delgado had nothing to report, but did requested signatures on the bond validation and the deed for Airport Road to quit-claim to the City of Metter.

13. Reports from the Commissioners

Commissioner Thomas representing Commission District 1, was not present at this meeting.

Vice-Chairman Jones representing Commission District 2, had nothing to report.

Commissioner Robinson representing Commission District 3, had nothing to report.

Commissioner Hendrix representing Commissioner District 4, requested the Commissioners consider purchasing a pipe cleaner. He reported the City of Metter had agreed to purchase a ladder truck. Chief Douglas entered the meeting and he and Commissioner Hendrix spoke of the truck purchase.


****Vice-Chairman Jones excused himself from the meeting at 6:23 p.m.****

14. Executive Session –

The Commissioners did not enter into executive session during this meeting.

15. Adjournment

Commissioner Robinson moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:24 p.m. Chairman Thrift provided a second to the motion. The motion carried 3-0.



Kellie Lank, County Clerk