

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CANDLER COUNTY, GEORGIA  
AGENDA  
REGULAR MEETING  
5:00 P.M.  
January 21, 2025

1. Call to Order
2. Invocation and *Pledge of Allegiance*
3. Approval of Agenda
- 3A. Consideration of a resolution to declare a state of emergency in Candler County, Georgia effective January 21, 2025
- 3B. Consideration of a motion to table all agenda items, except item 6B, until Monday, February 3, 2025
4. Approval of Minutes –
  - a. December 13, 2024 Called Meeting
5. Citizens wishing to address the Commission – *Citizens will be allowed to address the commission individually for a period of up to 5 minutes.*
6. Application for Commission approval
  - a. ZONING – **Candler-2024-1 SR Metter:** Silicon Ranch, Metter, LLC, has requested a Zoning Change from Agricultural (AG-3) to Light Industrial (LI). The application includes a Conditional Use Permit Application for an Industrial Solar Collection Facility as requested by Section 402 of the Candler County Zoning Ordinance and the Candler Solar Panel Ordinance. The property is located in District 2, Parcels 039-002 and 030-020. The Solar Collection Facility plans to use approximately 1,028 acres.
  - b. TEMPORARY SPECIAL EVENT ALCOHOL PERMIT – **Jay Bowen Foundation:** Application for a permit for the Jay Bowen Foundation Dinner & Auction, Pine Needle Plantation, Saturday, February 8, 2025 and, a waiver of the sixty (60) day application requirement under Section 2.A (1) of the Candler County Alcoholic Beverage Ordinance
7. Old Business
  - a. Consideration of proposals for installation of field lights damaged during Hurricane Helene at the recreation department and a request for SPLOST funding
  - b. Consideration of a proposal from Davis Heating & Air for replacement of the HVAC system in the old weight room facility at the recreation department, and a request for SPLOST funding
8. New Business
  - a. Consideration of a request from the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) for a memorandum of agreement from the Board of Commissioners for a LOCBR Tier II bridge project (0019184) located on Fortner Rd, 1.5 mi. south of Metter, GA, with an initial financial commitment of \$75,000
  - b. Consideration of a request from GDOT for a memorandum of agreement from the Board of Commissioners for a LOCBR Tier I bridge project (0019185) located on Olliftown Rd, 9.6 mi north of Metter, GA, with an initial financial commitment of \$50,000

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- c. Consideration of Authorization for Work No. 53 under agreement dated April 15, 2013 to authorize EMC Engineering to perform a engineering services related to the 2025 Candler County L98MIG project (Rosemary Ch. Rd & Dutch Ford Rd) at a proposed cost of \$31,000 to be paid from TIA discretionary funds
  - d. Consideration of a Master Services Agreement between Chloeta and Candler County for provision of planning services for the Hazard Mitigation Plan for a “not to exceed” cost of \$27,383.98 to be paid from general funds and reimbursed under a GEMA hazard mitigation grant
  - e. Consideration of a proposal from Municode (Civicplus) for republication, supplementation and online code hosting of the Candler County Code of Ordinance for a one-time cost of \$12,040 and an annual cost of \$3,375 to be paid from general funds
  - f. Consideration of proposed erosion control improvements for the Candler County Landfill as recommended by HHNT at an estimated cost of \$162,773.60, determination of an action plan, and selection of a potential funding source
  - g. Consideration of an amendment/change to the Candler County Signs Ordinance
  - h. Consideration of a proposal from Neal’s plumbing for replacement of floor drains and flooring at a cost of \$3,900 per bathroom
  - i. Consideration of recommendations for corrective action to safety hazards on Candler County Right-of-way Encroachment – Salem Church Road; and, the extension of a 48” pipe 24 feet to allow for a slope to be built to resolve future drainage issues.
  - j. Consideration of a TIA Local Agreement with Georgia Department of Transportation and Candler County – Lake Church Road - PI-0018463
9. Report from County Administrator
- a. Financial Report – December 31, 2024
10. Report from Attorney
11. Report from Chairman
12. Reports from Commissioners
13. Executive Session
14. Adjournment

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The Board of Commissioners of Candler County met for the regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, January 21, 2025 meeting, at 5:00 p.m., in the Commissioners' boardroom at 1075 East Hiawatha Street, Suite A, Metter, Georgia. Chairman Brad Jones presided with Vice-Chairman Blake Hendrix, Commissioners David Morales, Jonathan Williamson and Tre' Ross in attendance. County Administrator Bryan Aasheim attended remotely. Also attending were County Clerk Kellie Lank and Assistant County Attorney, Cindy Delgado. The Metter Advertiser was notified of the meeting, but had no representative present.

Guests attending this meeting included: Candler County EMA Director, Captain Justin Wells; and City of Metter Councilwoman, Victoria Gaitten.

**1. Call to Order 5:00**

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

**2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

Vice-Chairman Hendrix delivered the invocation and Chairman Jones led the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Chairman Jones requested the agenda be considered for approval with the addition of the following items:

**3. A. Consideration of a resolution to declare a state of emergency in Candler County, Georgia effective January 21, 2025**

and,

**3. B. Consideration of a motion to table all agenda items, except item 6B, until Monday, February 3, 2025**

Commissioner Morales made a motion to approve the agenda as requested. Commissioner Williamson provided a second. The motion carried 5-0.

**A. Consideration of a resolution to declare a state of emergency in Candler County, Georgia effective January 21, 2025**

Chairman Jones presented a resolution to declare a state of emergency in Candler County effective January 21, 2025 in preparations of extreme winter weather. The resolution includes suspension of the purchasing policy during the duration of the state of emergency. After no discussion, Chairman Jones called for a motion.

Vice-Chairman Hendrix made a motion to adopt a resolution to declare a state of emergency in Candler County, Georgia effective January 21, 2025; and, suspend the purchasing policy while under the state of emergency conditions. Commissioner Ross provided a second. The motion carried 5-0. (Exhibit A)

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**b. Consideration of a motion to table all agenda items, except item 6B, until Monday, February 3, 2025**

Chairman Jones presented the item for discussion prior to requesting a motion to table all agenda items, except item 6. B., until the next Commissioners meeting to be held on Monday, February 3, 2025.

With no discussion needed, Vice-Chairman Hendrix made a motion to table all agenda items, except item 6B, until Monday, February 3, 2025. Commissioner Williamson provided a second. The motion carried 5-0.

**4. Approval of Minutes – Tabled**

**a. December 13, 2024 Called Meeting**

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

**6. Application for Commission approval**

**a. ZONING – Candler-2024-1 SR Metter: Silicon Ranch, Metter, LLC, has requested a Zoning Change from Agricultural (AG-3) to Light Industrial (LI). The application includes a Conditional Use Permit Application for an Industrial Solar Collection Facility as requested by Section 402 of the Candler County Zoning Ordinance and the Candler Solar Panel Ordinance. The property is located in District 2, Parcels 039-002 and 030-020. The Solar Collection Facility plans to use approximately 1,028 acres.**  
 - Tabled.

**b. TEMPORARY SPECIAL EVENT ALCOHOL PERMIT – Jay Bowen Foundation: Application for a permit for the Jay Bowen Foundation Dinner & Auction, Pine Needle Plantation, Saturday, February 8, 2025 and, a waiver of the sixty (60) day application requirement under Section 2.A (1) of the Candler County Alcoholic Beverage Ordinance**

Chairman Jones presented the item for discussion and consideration. A discussion was held regarding the need to waive the 60-day application considering the venue had double-booked and forced the Jay Bowen Foundation to find an alternate location.

Vice-Chairman Hendrix made a motion to approve the TEMPORARY SPECIAL EVENT ALCOHOL PERMIT – Jay Bowen Foundation: Application for a permit for the Jay Bowen Foundation Dinner & Auction, Pine Needle Plantation, Saturday, February 8, 2025 and, a waiver of the sixty (60) day application requirement under Section 2.A (1) of the Candler County Alcoholic Beverage Ordinance. Commissioner Ross provided a second. The motion carried 5-0.

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**7. Old Business – All items tabled.**

- a. Consideration of proposals for installation of field lights damaged during Hurricane Helene at the recreation department and a request for SPLOST funding**
- b. Consideration of a proposal from Davis Heating & Air for replacement of the HVAC system in the old weight room facility at the recreation department, and a request for SPLOST funding**

**8. New Business – All items tabled.**

- a. Consideration of a request from the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) for a memorandum of agreement from the Board of Commissioners for a LOCBR Tier II bridge project (0019184) located on Fortner Rd, 1.5 mi. south of Metter, GA, with an initial financial commitment of \$75,000**
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**9. Report from County Administrator -**

- a. Financial Report – December 31, 2024 tabled
- b. Administrator Aasheim requested the Commissioners authorize the hiring hire Gloria Page, a part-time advanced EMT, to begin in the rotation schedule at Candler County EMS. Administrator Aasheim will bring this back before the Commissioners to ratify at the February 3, 2025 meeting. The consensus of the Board was to authorize the hiring of Gloria Page.

**10. Report from Attorney –**

Ms. Delgado had nothing to report at this meeting.

**11. Report from Chairman-**

Chairman Jones requested an update from EMA Director Wells. Director Wells stated very minimal power outages in the state currently with blizzard conditions are currently in New Orleans, Louisiana moving towards Georgia with expecting 1 to 6 inches in our area. Chairman Jones stated there is snow fall confirmed in Milledgeville east, but no snow in Atlanta at this time.

**12. Reports from Commissioners-**

**Commissioner David Morales (District 1)** Commissioner Morales had nothing to report.

**Commissioner Jonathan Williamson (District 2)** Commissioner Williamson requested everyone stay safe.

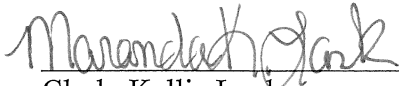
**Commissioner Tre' Ross (District 3)** Commissioner Ross had nothing to report.

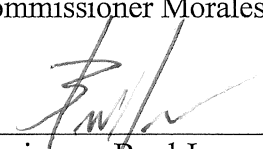
**Vice-Chairman Blake Hendrix (District 4)** Vice-Chairman Hendrix had nothing to report.

**13. Executive Session-no call for Executive Session**

**14. Adjournment**

Commissioner Ross made a motion to adjourn at 5:08 p.m. Commissioner Morales provided a second. The motion carried 5-0.

  
Clerk, Kellie Lank  
Attest

  
Chairman, Brad Jones



STATE OF GEORGIA  
CANDLER COUNTY

WHEREAS, Candler County, Georgia will experience an event of critical significance as a result of Winter Weather;

WHEREAS, the Governor has declared a state of emergency for Candler County, Georgia;

WHEREAS, in the judgment of the Chairman of the Candler County Board of Commissioners, with advice from the Director of Emergency Management Agency for Candler County, Georgia, there exists emergency circumstances that require extraordinary actions for the protection of the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Candler County, including individuals with household pets and service animals; and

WHEREAS, based on said debriefing, it appears necessary and proper for certain measures to be taken to protect, prevent or minimize injury to people and damage to property resulting from this event, certain actions are required.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested by local and state law;

IT IS HEREBY DECLARED that a local state of emergency exists and shall continue until the conditions requiring this declaration are abated.

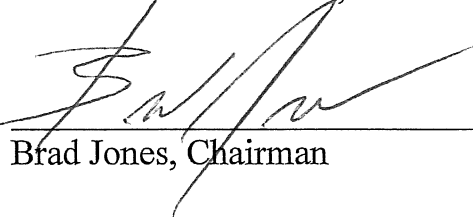
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that the County Administrator is authorized to suspend the county's purchasing policies, requirements, and restrictions as needed to provide for the health and safety of the citizens of Candler County.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, that the Candler County Emergency Management Agency activate the Emergency Operations Plan.

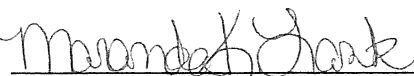
This 21<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2025.



CANDLER COUNTY, GEORGIA

  
Brad Jones, Chairman

Attest:

  
Kellie Lank, County Clerk