

Monroe County Board of Commissioners

Minutes of the January 4, 2022

Regular Commissioners Meeting

6:00 P.M. Meeting

Present:

Greg Tapley, Chairman

Lamarcus Davis, Vice Chairman

Eddie Rowland, District 2

John Ambrose, District 3

George Emami, District 4

Staff:

Jim Hedges, County Manager

Natalie Sundeen, County Attorney

Janet Abbott, County Clerk

Richard Dumas, Public Information Officer

Welcome

Chairman Tapley welcomed everyone in attendance.

Prayer

Commissioner Davis led the invocation.

Pledge

Chairman Tapley led the Pledge.

Roll Call

County Clerk Janet Abbott called roll.

Call to Order

Chairman Tapley called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Citizen Service Awards

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| • District 1, Lamarcus Davis | Men Making a Difference |
| • District 2, Eddie Rowland | Bentley Cox |
| • District 3, John Ambrose | Steve Reece |
| • District 4, George Emami | Harvey Ellis |
| • Chairman, Greg Tapley | F.A.T. Ministry |

New Business

Approve Agenda

Chairman Tapley presented the agenda for approval with the removal of item F and the addition of Commissioner Comments.

Commissioner Ambrose motioned to approve the agenda with said changes.

Commissioner Davis seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0.

Approve Minutes-BOC Meeting-December 21, 2021

Commissioner Ambrose motioned to approve the minutes of the December 21, 2021, Regular meeting with the usual 30 days for changes.

Commissioner Emami seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0.

County Clerk Appointment

County Manager Jim Hedges presented the County Clerk Appointment. Mr. Hedges stated it is his recommendation that Janet Abbott be reappointed as the Monroe County Clerk.

Commissioner Ambrose motioned to reappoint Janet Abbott as County Clerk.

Commissioner Davis seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0.

Road Superintendent Appointment

Mr. Hedges stated it is his recommendation that Junior Watts be reappointed as the Monroe County Road Superintendent.

Commissioner Ambrose motioned to reappoint Junior Watts as Road Superintendent.

Chairman Tapley seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0.

Board of DFCS for Monroe County Appointments

There are six appointees to the Board of DFCS for Monroe County. Appointment to this Board is for a five-year term and the terms of Ms. Mary Haygood expired on January 21, 2021, and the term of Mr. Herbert Gantt expired on June 30, 2021.

Commissioner Davis motioned to reappoint Ms. Mary Haygood and Mr. Herbert Gantt.

Commissioner Ambrose seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0.

Construction Board of Adjustments and Appeals

This item was removed from the agenda.

Central Georgia Joint Development Authority Appointments

The Central Georgia Joint Development Authority is comprised of four appointees, each serve a four-year term.

Kerri Swearingen's term expires on December 31, 2021.

Commissioner Davis motioned to reappoint Kerri Swearingen.

Commissioner Ambrose seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0.

Monroe County Board of Health

The Board of Health is comprised of seven members which are city, county, and Board of Education appointees which serve a six-year term. Two county appointees, Ms. Lillian Davis and Hugh Cromer's terms expire December 31, 2021. Ms. Davis has expressed an interest in being reappointed for another term.

Commissioner Ambrose motioned to reappoint Ms. Lillian Davis and Mr. Hugh Cromer.

Commissioner Emami seconded the motion for discussion.

Commissioner Rowland stated Lori Starr had expressed an interest in serving on the Board and he would like to see someone new in the position.

Commissioner Ambrose rescinded his motion.

Commissioner Rowland motioned to appoint Lori Starr to the Board of Health and to reappoint Hugh Cromer.

Commissioner Emami stated he also had a citizen that had expressed an interest in serving on the board, Dr. Norman Hetzler.

Commissioner Rowland's motion died for lack of a second.

The Board further discussed the nominations.

Commissioner Ambrose motioned to appoint Dr. Norman Letzler to the Board of Health.

Commissioner Emami seconded the motion and the motion failed 2-3 with Commissioner Ambrose and Commissioner Emami in favor and Chairman Tapley, Commissioner Davis and Commissioner Rowland opposed.

Following a further discussion by the Board, Commissioner Emami motioned to appoint Lori Starr to the Board of Health.

Commissioner Rowland seconded the motion and the motion carried 4-0 with Commissioner Ambrose opposed.

Commissioner Emami motioned to appoint Dr. Norman Hetzler to the Board of Health.

Commissioner Ambrose seconded the motion and the motion failed 2-3 with Commissioner Emami and Commissioner Ambrose in favor and Chairman Tapley, Commissioner Davis and Commissioner Rowland opposed.

Commissioner Emami motioned to reappoint Lillian Davis to the Board of Health.

Commissioner Rowland seconded the motion and the motion carried 4-1 with Commissioner Ambrose opposed.

Monroe County Hospital Authority Appointment

The By-Laws for Monroe County Hospital Authority provides for a minimum of five appointees, and a maximum of nine appointees. There are currently seven appointees to the Hospital Authority. The terms for Kerri Swearingen and Dr. Craig Caldwell are set to expire.

Following a Board discussion, Commissioner Davis motioned to reappoint Kerri Swearingen to the Hospital Authority.

Commissioner Rowland seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Ambrose motioned to appoint Casey Fleckenstein to the Hospital Authority.

Commissioner Rowland seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0.

Planning & Zoning Appointments

Appointments to the Planning & Zoning Board are on a one-year term. This Board is appointed by each Commissioner. Current appointments are as follows:

- Jim Rollins-Chairman appointee (agrees to reappointment)
- David Hunter-District 1 appointee
- Chuck Benson-District 2 appointee
- Richard Ezelle-District 3 appointee (agrees to reappointment)
- Michael Brewster-District 4 appointee (to be replaced with Chad Tyler)

Commissioner Ambrose motioned to approve all the reappointments and to appoint Chad Tyler as Commissioner Emami's appointment.

Commissioner Davis seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0.

Recreation Department Board of Appointments

Appointments to the Recreation Board are a one-year term. This Board is appointed by each Commissioner. Current appointments are as follows:

- Ron Shipman-District 2 appointee
- Marecha Gaines-District 1 appointee
- Kenneth Mantle-Chairman appointee
- Adam Ham-District 3 appointee (agrees to reappointment)
- Melissa Mixon-District 4 appointee
- GE ER motion to approve all 5-0

Commissioner Emami motioned to approve to reappoint all Board members.

Commissioner Rowland seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0.

Board of Elections & Registration Appointment

There are five appointees to the Monroe County Board of Elections & Registration that serve four-year terms. Our records indicate that Mary Chambliss and Jimmy Zellner's term ended on June 30, 2021.

Commissioner Ambrose motioned to reappoint Mary Chambliss and Jimmy Zellner to the Board of Elections. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0.

River Edge Community Service Board Appointment

Pursuant to OCGA 37-2-6, River Edge Behavioral Health is governed by a board of dedicated community residents appointed by their respective County Commissioners. Monroe County has two appointees, Dr. Priscilla Doster, and Roz McMillan. Appointees are for three-years. No action is required at this time.

Two Rivers RC&D Appointment

Article IV of the Two Rivers RC&D Constitution and By-laws establishes a framework for membership which includes two county commission representatives from each of the fourteen sponsoring counties and two representatives from each of the four sponsoring soil and water conservation districts. These members serve on a voluntary basis and are appointed by their respective organizations each year. Monroe County is represented by Chairman Greg Tapley and Road Superintendent Junior Watts. These appointments are made annually. Commissioner Ambrose motioned to reappoint Chairman Greg Tapley and Road Superintendent Junior Watts to the Two Rivers RC&D Board.

Commissioner Davis seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0.

Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

Commissioners' Comments

Commissioner Ambrose stated he would like to pursue making golf carts legal on county roads.

Commissioner Rowland stated he was still waiting on clarification on what is accepted at the recycle centers and stated there needed to be a level of consistency with the recycle center attendants.

Commissioner Davis stated he would like to personally thank the Board and the community for their support of the toy drive at Christmas.

Commissioner Emami stated he would like to reopen the conversation regarding RV Parks. He stated he would like for this to be on the next agenda.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Executive Session (Legal)

Commissioner Ambrose motioned to enter executive session at 7:25 P.M. for legal.

Commissioner Davis seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0.

Commissioner Rowland motioned to come out of executive session at 7:37 P.M.

Commissioner Davis seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0.

Action from Executive Session

There was no action from executive session.

Adjourn

Commissioner Rowland motioned to adjourn at 7:38 P.M.

Chairman Davis seconded the motion and the motion carried 5-0.

Respectively Submitted by:

County Clerk, Janet Abbott