

GRADY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING MINUTES

June 4, 2019 Regular Meeting

The Grady County Board of Commissioners met on June 4, 2019 at 9:00 am for the regular scheduled meeting. Chair LaFaye Copeland, Vice-Chair Keith Moye, Commissioners June Knight, Ray Prince, Commissioner Phillip Drew, County Administrator Buddy Johnson, County Clerk John White, Finance Director Holly Murkerson, and Executive Assistant Mary Griffin were present.

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 AM by Chair Copeland. Mrs. Copeland opened the meeting with prayer and the pledge of allegiance.

The Public Hearing for the Raymond Woods Variance request was held.

Mr. Woods started the hearing stating that he is requesting a variance for 10/4/19, 10/5/19, and 10/6/19 for hours of operation and noise limits. He stated this is an educational event for motor cross athletes.

Michelle Dean, 192 Pope Store Rd, wants to know how you will point out Grady County lodging and businesses to participants.

Kerry Bishop, 209 Evergreen Lane, stated he lives next to the track and this is not beneficial to the county and wants the event to go somewhere else.

Belinda Johnson, 131 Evergreen Lane, wanted to know what type of infrastructure would be brought in as far as lights. If this is a big success would this be an annual event, bi-annual, or quarterly event.

Charlene Bishop, 209 Evergreen Lane, stated in the beginning they wanted this for their one son to practice. She stated that is not the case today and it is very hard to believe this is a one-time event.

Austin Liggett, 562 Bold Springs Rd, stated traffic on Bold Springs Rd will be horrible. She stated it has been bad with the bridge closure. She also stated the noise will be bad for 3 whole days. Mrs. Liggett is also worried about people parking in their yard to attend the event.

Charles Harrell, Deer Lake Community, no one has expressed concern about the people who live in the neighborhood. What if this event were held at the airport? Would you feel the same then?

Peter Wright, Stevens Rd, stated he lives around two tracks in the south part of the county, and it is a humiliation. He feels the county has been generous with the ordinance and the variance should be denied.

Betty Godwin, 369 Pine Park Rd, stated that there must be an undue hardship to approve a variance and this is completely inappropriate. Bike riding is causing an issue in the county. The area was billed as a place for retirement. She has an issue with how the city and county handled the 2017 request.

The public hearing was closed at 9:53 am.

The agenda for the meeting was approved on a motion by Mrs. Knight and second by Mr. Drew. The motion was approved.

Mrs. Copeland asked for public comments. Mrs. Murkerson was called on to serve as timekeeper.

Peter Wright, 304 Stephens Rd

Mr. Wright was wondering how the lake is doing and the leaking gate.

Charles Renaud, 1325 5th St NW, stated that we do not plan and just react to the issues. The board needs to take the next step and start planning for growth.

PRESENTATIONS

Michelle Dean and Dana Willis on the Arts and Historic Preservation.

Mrs. Dean and Mrs. Willis spoke on seeking support for the arts for the young people of Grady County and how it helps the community to thrive. They would like to see the Commissioners support the arts by attending the dance show on June 14 and 15, 2019 here in Cairo, GA. In order to help communication about the arts Mr. Johnson suggested the two ladies get with the Arts Council in Miller County and start something similar here in Grady County.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Calendar of Events was reviewed.

The Grady County Lake Authority will hold a meeting on Wednesday, June 5, 2019 at 10:00.

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion from Mrs. Knight, second by Mr. Prince to approve the minutes from the May 21, 2019 regular meeting, and exempt plats for Linda Ward, Vanna Faircloth Clements, and Samuel and Brittany Tenorio. The motion also approved the Beer/Alcohol licenses for 2019:

Quick Buys #2

One Convenient Stop #2

One Convenient Stop #3

One Convenient Stop # 5

Steve's Country Store

Dollar General

Thomas Mercantile

Country Meat Market

Fast Fuel 118

Approved Department Heads:

Roads/Solid Waste – Stanley Elkins

Shop- Chris Dix

EMS- Rodney Gordon

Building & Grounds/Code Enforcement – Brian Harrison

Recreation – Becky Bracewell

Animal Control – Shawn Mobley

Volunteer Fire Department/ EMA Director – Richard Phillips

Finance Director – Holly Murkerson

HR Director/County Clerk – John White.

The motion was approved.

FORMAL ACTIONS

- A. Motion by Mr. Prince, second by Mr. Drew to approve the Georgia Indigent Defense Service Agreement for 2019-2020 provided there is no increase from last year as stated. The motion was approved.

NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Johnson stated that performance evaluations for all county employees have started.

Chief Phillips was asked by Mrs. Copeland to provide an update about the ISO ratings. Chief Phillips stated the audit has been completed and they are awaiting the results. He stated the water shuttle survey will be completed in the fall. He stated they are still looking for 4 more locations for fire stations. Our current ISO is 6/9 and Chief Phillips is hoping that will improve.

Mrs. Knight asked Mr. Mobley if he could put dogs that they pick up on social media to help find the owners. She also asked about animals that are penned without food or water and he stated they can investigate and act.

REPORTS

- A. Code Enforcement
- B. Buildings and Grounds

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Moye and second by Mr. Prince. The motion was approved.

LAFAYE COPELAND, CHAIR

KEITH MOYE, VICE-CHAIR

ATTEST:

RAY PRINCE, COMMISSIONER

JOHN WHITE, COUNTY CLERK

JUNE KNIGHT, COMMISSIONER

PHILLIP DREW, COMMISSIONER