



WORK SESSION MINUTES
Carroll County Board of Commissioners
August 22, 2019 – 9:00 A.M
Clem Community Center

Michelle Morgan, Chairman	P	George Chambers, Vice-Chairman, D-6	P
Montrell McClendon, D-1	P	Stacey Blackmon, County Attorney	P
Clint Chance, D-2	P	Avery Jackson, Assoc. County Attorney	P
Tommy Lee, D-3	P	Susan Mabry, County Clerk	P
Steve Fuller, D-4	P	Kristy McAdams, Deputy Clerk	P
Ernie Reynolds, D-5	P	Alecia Searcy, Finance Director	P

Present = P A = Absent

WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER – August 22, 2019

Chairman Michelle Morgan welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. She explained that the meeting would be more of an informational/educational meeting than a regular work session.

MILLAGE RATE

Finance Director, Alecia Searcy reviewed the report of the County's 2019 Property Tax Digest and 5 Year History of Levy. She discussed the proposed millage rate rollback and the impact it will have on the budget.

Associate County Attorney, Avery Jackson discussed the upcoming meeting on Thursday, August 29, 2019 to set the millage rate. Mr. Jackson also explained the floating homestead exemption and how that affects the tax payer's bill. There was a discussion on how to get the floating homestead exemption information out to the public. Commissioner Clint Chance agreed to do some educational/informational videos on social media to communicate with the tax payer's the impact the homestead exemption actually has on the amount of tax they pay.

CARROLL COUNTY ENABLING LEGISLATION (CHARTER) REVIEW

David Mecklin, who was serving as County Attorney at the time the County's new Enabling Legislation was written, presented an overview of the legislation. He reviewed the different forms of government under which Carroll County has operated since 1885. He also gave a detailed history (1984 to 1989) of the suit filed by the Carrollton Branch of the NAACP which resulted in the seven-member Board of Commissioners form of government under which the County now operates.

Mr. Mecklin reviewed the legislation which was written similar to Dekalb County's legislation giving extensive powers to the Chairman. It was intended to provide for a strong Chairman form of government. He pointed out that Section 12 gives the Chairman exclusive power over employees and employee matters.

SPLOST

County Attorney, Stacey Blackmon discussed the timeline for the upcoming SPLOST referendum. The consensus of the group was to place the SPLOST renewal on the November 2020 election ballot. Mrs. Blackmon recommended that the County go ahead and schedule a meeting with all the mayors to start the process of negotiating SPLOST distribution amounts.

The group discussed upcoming 2013 SPLOST expenditures including a new CAD system for E-911 Communications, patrol vehicles for the Sheriff's Office, a tug for the West Georgia Regional Airport, and Farm Land Conservation program.

BOARD COMMUNICATION

Chairman Michelle Morgan encouraged the Board to reach out to staff prior to meetings for additional information or explanation of agenda items if needed. Chairman Morgan also requested that all items for the agenda be submitted in a timely manner to avoid making changes to the agenda once it is posted for public review. Chairman Morgan stated her commitment to open communications between the Chairman's office and the Board. Her plans are to send periodic email updates on County activities. Commissioner Chance thanked Chairman Morgan for initiating better, general communication practices. In addition, he also asked that unforeseen, time sensitive issues that unfold which may affect specific districts such as a prisoner escape, be passed along.

CONSENT AGENDAS

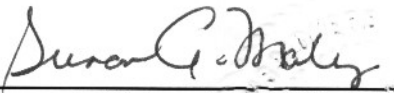
County Attorney, Stacey Blackmon explained what a consent agenda was and the process of initiating one for meetings. Chairman Morgan informed the Board that she plans to implement consent agendas for upcoming commission meetings to help make the meetings run more efficiently. Associate County Attorney, Avery Jackson discussed reasons the Board does not review and discuss zoning items during work sessions. - Commissioner Chance stated he would like to see staff present general information regarding zoning issues at work sessions that are of staff relevance only, since these agenda items typically involve a lot of subject matter. Legal Counsel stated that these have not generally been discussed due to the fact that zonings require public hearings at the regular voting meeting. Commissioner Chance stated that the City of Villa Rica has previously entertained general zoning discussions between staff and Council only during work sessions to better understand the dynamics of the agenda item that was being presented for consideration, ahead of voting meetings. Legal Counsel stated they would check into the matter and report back.

OTHER ITEMS

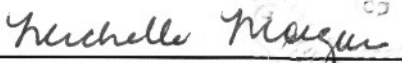
Chairman Michelle Morgan discussed the upcoming board appointments for the September 3, 2019 Board of Commissioners Meeting and the importance of selecting the appropriate candidates for each board.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Michelle Morgan adjourned the meeting at 1:45 p.m.



Susan A. Mabry, County Clerk



Michelle Morgan, Chairman