

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES  
REGULAR SESSION  
Tuesday, May 10, 2022

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT**

Chairman Bill Slaughter  
Vice Chairman Scott Orenstein  
Commissioner Joyce Evans  
Commissioner Mark Wisenbaker  
Commissioner Clay Griner

Commissioner Demarcus Marshall was not in attendance.

Chairman Slaughter called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**INVOCATION**

Commissioner Griner

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

Commissioner Griner

**MINUTES**

The minutes were presented for the work session of April 25, 2022 and the regular session of April 26, 2022. No changes to the minutes were submitted. Commissioner Wisenbaker made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Commissioner Evans second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

**APPOINTMENTS**

**Valdosta-Lowndes County Airport Authority**, County Manager, Paige Dukes, presented the appointment. Mrs. Dukes stated the seat currently held by Steve Everett will be expiring May 21, 2022, adding Mr. Massimo Pistelli and Mr. Dan Kerrigan have both expressed a desire to be appointed. Commissioner Griner nominated Mr. Massimo Pistelli. Commissioner Wisenbaker nominated Mr. Dan Kerrigan. Commissioners Evans and Wisenbaker voted for Mr. Dan Kerrigan. Mr. Kerrigan was appointed by majority vote.

**Lowndes County Public Facilities Authority**, Chairman Bill Slaughter presented the appointment. Chairman Slaughter stated the terms of Mr. Michael Walker and Mr. J.D. Rice will expire May 31, 2022. Chairman Slaughter stated Mr. Walker and Mr. Rice have expressed a desire to continue to serve. Chairman Slaughter further stated each appointment will be for a three-year term beginning June 1, 2022 and ending May 31, 2025. Commissioner Griner nominated Mr. Michael Walker and Mr. J.D. Rice for reappointment. There being no other nominations, Mr. Walker and Mr. Rice were appointed by acclamation.

**Southern Georgia Area Agency on Aging**, Chairman Bill Slaughter presented the appointment. Chairman Slaughter stated Commissioner Joyce Evans has served on this board, adding her current term will expire June 30, 2022. Commissioner Griner nominated Commissioner Joyce Evans. Commissioner Evans nominated Commissioner Mark Wisenbaker. Commissioners Wisenbaker and Griner voted to reappoint Commissioner Joyce Evans. Commissioner Joyce Evans was reappointed by majority vote. Chairman Slaughter thanked Commissioner Evans for her willingness to continue to serve.

## **FOR CONSIDERATION**

**Beer, Wine and Liquor License - Mehulkumar Patel of Fast Break Liquor, LLC, DBA Fast Break Liquors - 4593 North Valdosta Road, Suite B, Valdosta, GA**, Finance Director, Stephanie Black, presented the item. Ms. Black stated the request is for a new establishment, adding all requirements have been met. Commissioner Evans made a motion to approve the license, Commissioner Wisenbaker second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

**Adopt Resolution Accepting Infrastructure for Grove Pointe Phase V Section 2**, Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated engineering staff has completed the final inspection of the project, adding the work is substantially complete. Commissioner Griner made a motion to approve the resolution, Commissioner Evans second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

## **REPORTS - County Manager**

County Manager, Paige Dukes, stated the mowing crews have been working on the north end of the county and Mrs. Dukes asked Public Works Director, Robin Cumbus, to give an update. Mrs. Dukes stated a request was received from a citizen and there may be an abortion rights protest held in the parking lot of the Lowndes County Judicial-Administrative Complex on Saturday, May 14th from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., with the request being referred to Sheriff Paulk. Additionally, Mrs. Dukes mentioned the second round of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding is on its way, in the amount of 11.2 million dollars. Lastly, Mrs. Dukes asked the Community Development Director, Rachel Thrasher, to give an update to the commission regarding the park area on the Griner property, as the commission watched a video of the rendering. Mrs. Dukes mentioned during the budget meetings, she had made a request to the Sheriff to provide office space for the Coroner and the Sheriff does have space for the Coroner, so the Coroner's Office will temporarily be located in the Sheriff's Office. The house the Coroner's Office currently uses for office space will be torn down.

Commissioner Orenstein arrived at 5:42 p.m. due to being out of town at a conference in Atlanta.

County Manager, Paige Dukes, requested an executive session for the purpose of privileged attorney-client communication regarding potential or pending litigation. At 5:44 p.m. Commissioner Wisenbaker made a motion to enter into executive session for the purpose of privileged attorney-client communication regarding potential or pending litigation, Vice Chairman Orenstein second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

**Citizens Wishing To Be Heard** - There were no citizens wishing to be heard.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 6:33 p.m. Chairman Slaughter reconvened the regular session with no additional information being discussed. Commissioner Griner made a motion to adjourn the regular session meeting, Vice Chairman Orenstein second. Chairman Slaughter adjourned the meeting.