POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 07, 2025 6:05 PM

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Commissioners Hal Floyd, Michael Gravett, Linda Liles (via phone conference), Gary Martin, John Paschal and Chuck Thaxton.

OTHERS PRESENT:

County Manager Matt Denton, Assistant County Manager Connor Hooper, County Attorney Wayne Gammon III, and County Clerk Jaime Armstrong.

MEDIA PRESENT:

Jeremy Stewart, Polk County Standard Journal, and Kevin Myrick, Polk.Today.

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Hal Floyd called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. **Consider approval of agenda for the Regular Meeting of January 07, 2025.**

   Chairman Floyd called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Martin to approve the agenda for the Regular Meeting of January 07, 2025 with the addition of: Consider a resolution to request the Georgia State Legislature to amend the limits of Polk County Water Authority members from one (1) five-year term to two (2) five-year terms. Second by Commissioner Martin. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. **Consider approval of Minutes for the Regular Meeting and Executive Session of December 03, 2024, and Special Called Meeting and Executive Session of December 17, 2024.**

   Chairman Floyd called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Thaxton to approve the Minutes for the Regular Meeting and Executive Session of December 03, 2024, and Special Called Meeting and Executive Session of December 17, 2024. Second by Commissioner Martin. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Consider appointment of Commission Chairman for 2025.**

   Chairman Floyd turned the meeting over to County Attorney Gammon to address the election of a Commission Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the Polk County Board of Commissioners for 2025.

   County Attorney Gammon requested nominations for Commission Chairman for calendar year 2025. Commissioner Martin made a Motion nominating Commissioner Floyd for Chairman. With no other nominees, County Attorney Gammon closed the nominations. Second by Commissioner Thaxton. Motion passed unanimously.

2. **Consider appointment of Commission Vice-Chairman for 2025.**

   County Attorney Gammon requested nominations for Commission Vice-Chairman for calendar year 2025. Commissioner Floyd made a Motion nominating Commissioner Thaxton

for Vice-Chairman. With no other nominees, County Attorney Gammon closed the nominations. Second by Commissioner Liles. Motion passed unanimously.

3. **V24-10: Consider variance request from Thomas A. Bowen for relief from the minimum front setback requirement for an A-1 zone on property located at 985 Wimberly Hill Road, Cedartown (Parcel # 042-024A). Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval.**

   The applicant was present at the Work Session to answer any questions the Commissioners may have prior to consideration of the requests at their Regular Meeting.

   Chairman Floyd called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Thaxton to approve the variance request from Thomas A. Bowen for relief from the minimum front setback requirement for an A-1 zone on property located at 985 Wimberly Hill Road, Cedartown (Parcel # 042-024A). Second by Commissioner Martin. Motion passed unanimously.

4. **Consider proposed Task Order #26 with Oasis Consulting regarding mowing services for the old Hwy 278 Landfill in the amount of $33,900.00.**

   The proposed Task Order will include mowing the old landfill twice during 2025 and represents an increase of $10,610.00. The increase is partly due to inflation and increased scope of work to insure all pathways are better mowed. This will be funded from the Landfill Fund and does not pass through to GFL.

   Chairman Floyd called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Thaxton to approve the proposed Task Order #26 with Oasis Consulting regarding mowing services for the old Hwy 278 Landfill in the amount of $33,900.00. Second by Commissioner Martin. Motion passed unanimously.

5. **Consider a recommendation from Finance Committee to provide funding assistance to the City of Cedartown in the amount of $10,000.00 for new weather warning siren project to be funded from Capital Fund 340.**

   Chairman Floyd stated the Motion as recommended by the Finance Committee is provide funding assistance to the City of Cedartown in the amount of $10,000.00 for new weather warning siren project to be funded from Capital Fund 340. Motion passed unanimously.

6. **Consider award of bid for the purchase of a new Air/Light Truck for the Fire Department to FES/Safe Industries in the amount of $650,000.00 to be funded through the awarded FY 2023 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG).**

   Polk County was awarded a FY 2023 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) in the amount not to exceed $650,000.00, which includes a 10% match from the County of $59,090.91. As per AFG requirements, the County put out a Request for Bids. Four (4) bids were received from apparatus manufacturers. There were particulars in the bid design that were placed in the specification that increase the stability and safety while operating this type of apparatus. Although bids for county purchases are usually awarded to the lowest bidder, Fire Chief Hanuscin is recommending that the bid be awarded to FES/Safe Industries whose price came in at the full $650,000.00 award amount. After careful review of the bid packages, FES/Safe Industries meets the specifications.

   Chairman Floyd called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Paschal to award the bid for the purchase of a new Air/Light Truck for the Fire Department to FES/Safe Industries in the amount of $650,000.00 to be funded through the awarded FY 2023 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG). Second by Commissioner Thaxton. Motion passed unanimously.

7. **Consider appointment to the Planning and Zoning Commission, District 1, for a 3-year term beginning January 01, 2025 to fill the expiring term of David Sullins.**

   Chairman Floyd called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Thaxton to appoint John Benefield to the Planning and Zoning Commission, District 1, for a 3-year term beginning January 01, 2025 to fill the expiring term of David Sullins. Second by Commissioner Liles. Motion passed unanimously.

8. **Consider appointment to the Planning and Zoning Commission, District 2, for a 3-year term beginning January 01, 2025 to fill the expiring term of Steve Wells.**

   Chairman Floyd called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Thaxton to reappoint Steve Wells to the Planning and Zoning Commission, District 2, for a 3-year term beginning January 01, 2025. Second by Commissioner Gravett. Motion passed unanimously.

9. **Consider appointment to the Planning and Zoning Commission, District 3, for a 3-year term beginning January 01, 2025 to fill the expiring term of David Gilmer.**

   Chairman Floyd called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Thaxton to reappoint David Gilmer to the Planning and Zoning Commission, District 3, for a 3-year term beginning January 01, 2025. Second by Commissioner Liles. Motion passed unanimously.

10. **Consider appointment to the Planning and Zoning Commission, Alternate at Large, for a 3-year term beginning January 01, 2025 to fill the expiring term of Kathy Miller.**

    Kathy Miller did not wish to be reappointed due to scheduling conflicts. Zach Arnold has expressed interest in serving on the Board.

    Chairman Floyd called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Thaxton to appoint Zach Arnold to the Planning and Zoning Commission, Alternate at Large, for a 3-year term beginning January 01, 2025 to fill the expiring term of Kathy Miller. Second by Commissioner Gravett. Motion passed unanimously.

11. **Consider a resolution to request the Georgia State Legislature to amend the limits of Polk County Water Authority members from one (1) five-year term to two (2) five-year terms.**

    Chairman Floyd called for a Motion. Motion was made by Commissioner Thaxton to approve a resolution to request the Georgia State Legislature to amend the limits of Polk County Water Authority members from one (1) five-year term to two (2) five-year terms. Second by Commissioner Liles. Motion passed unanimously.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

1. **November 2024 Finance Report.**

   County Manager Denton reviewed the November 2024 Finance Report as presented at the December 2024 Finance Committee Meeting.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Liles welcomed new Commissioners Gravett and Paschal. She thanked everyone for their prayers since her accident and asked for continued prayers through her recovery.

Commissioner Martin also welcomed new Commissioners Gravett and Paschal.

Commissioner Gravett thanked Commissioners Liles and Martin for their kind words, and thanked the citizens for the opportunity to serve as he does not take this position lightly. He stated he is looking forward to serving with his fellow commissioners.

Commissioner Paschal also thanked the citizens of the county for entrusting him enough to elect him. He is looking forward to the challenges they are going to face and he will do his very best to do what is right for the citizens.

Commissioner Thaxton echoed Commissioner Liles and Martin welcoming Commissioners Gravett and Paschal.

Commissioner Floyd stated he would like to mention a couple of things with the first being Committee Assignments. He has some ideas in mind that he believes will best serve the county and he will speak with each of the Commissioners to share his ideas prior to finalizing the assignments. He also mentioned the Board Retreat scheduled for January 25, 2025 at the Floyd County Library from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

ADJOURN

Chairman Floyd adjourned the meeting.

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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HAL FLOYD, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

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JAIME ARMSTRONG, COUNTY CLERK