

**GATES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 17, 2014**

The Gates County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session at 7:00 p.m. Monday, March 17, 2014 in the Main Court Room, 202 Court Street, Gatesville. Commissioners Owens, Jernigan, Hofler, and Felton were present. Also present was Interim County Manager, Kenneth Windley.

Vice Chair Owens led in prayer and the pledge of allegiance.

Vice Chair Owens called the meeting to order.

Vice Chair Owens explained to citizens that Chairman Jordan would not be in attendance for the meeting and before the Board could get started with the meeting an interim clerk to the board needed to be appointed.

Commissioner Jernigan made a motion to appoint Melissa Coe as interim clerk to the board. Commissioner Hofler seconded the motion, motion passed without opposition.

**Approval of Minutes**

Minutes are approved during the 1<sup>st</sup> monthly meeting; none are available at this time.

**Approval of Agenda**

Commissioner Hofler made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner Jernigan seconded the motion, motion carried unanimously.

**Delegations – Unannounced**

Chuck Brothers, Drum Hill Road, stated that he attended a Gates County Housing Committee meeting that was held last Sunday at a church in the community. Mr. Brothers explained that the committee was working to educate the community on the work that is being done and the needs that the committee has. Mr. Brothers noticed that there is a tremendous amount of funds and volunteer efforts that are given to the committee but there is not support from the County. Mr. Brothers feels that the county should be providing some type of matching contribution to the committee. Considering the County has approved a bid for the historic courthouse for \$93,000 the county has the funds to provide some support. The Committee has grants that are going to be running out and will be in need of more contributions. Mr. Brothers stated that while the county is in the middle of budget preparations it would be a great time for the Commissioners to look at allocating funds to the committee.

Commissioner Jernigan stated that Mr. Brothers was not informed of the whole story and may not be aware of some of the grant money and assistance provided by the county. A grant was received for \$100,000 that is being put toward the committee and the salary of Mr. Couch. The county has also allocated and put other monies toward the project. Commissioner Jernigan explained that it is great project and that Mr. Couch has done a fantastic job at securing funds and donations and making sure that the work is completed appropriately. It is a great project that needs to continue and the County may need to consider budgeting more funds in the upcoming budget.

**Delegations – Announced**

None

**Administrative Reports**

Administrative reports are presented during the 1<sup>st</sup> monthly meeting; none are available at this time

**Public Hearings**

None

**Old Business**

Vice Chair Owens explained the setup of the Planning Board and the importance of having members from various parts of the county. Commissioner Owens noted that multiple individuals have applied and been considered for the various Boards and that some Boards will have positions still available.

Commissioner Felton made a motion to appoint Sherwood Eason to the Planning Board. Commissioner Hofler seconded the motion, motion was approved unanimously.

The Board discussed the requirements of the Gates Partners for Health position. Commissioner Jernigan will be completing his term and can not serve again, another commissioner will need to be appointed.

Commissioner Felton made a motion to nominate Commissioner Owens to serve on the Gates Partners for Health Board. Commissioner Hofler seconded the motion, motion passed without opposition.

The Board discussed the appointments for the Board of Adjustment and a current member that is eligible to be appointed from an alternate to a full member.

Mr. Brothers stated that there may be a Planning Board member that would be interested in serving on the Board of Adjustment once their term has been expired. Vice Chair Owens responded and said that the Board would welcome that Planning Board member to complete an application for appointment.

Commissioner Jernigan made a motion to appoint Mr. Joseph Perry to the Board of Adjustment as a full time member. Commissioner Hofler seconded the motion, motion passed without opposition.

Commissioner Hofler made a motion to appoint Ms. Pam Harvey to the Northeast Workforce Development Commission. Commissioner Felton seconded the motion, motion approved without opposition.

Vice Chair Owens stated that at the last meeting it was discussed that the County may be interested in looking at a new auditor but after further research it has been determined that there is not enough time to conduct an adequate search. It is best that the search for a new auditor take place this coming fall.

Commissioner Jernigan made a motion to approve the Martin & Starnes contract and to conduct a search for the following year. Commissioner Hofler seconded the motion, motion passed without opposition.

### **New Business**

Vice Chair Owens explained that the current inclement weather policy states that 3 days are allowed for inclement weather leave. The addition of the 4<sup>th</sup> day would be just for this year and would not be a revision to the policy.

Commissioner Hofler made a motion to approve a 4<sup>th</sup> day to the inclement weather policy for this year. Commissioner Jernigan seconded the motion, motion passed without opposition.

### **Citizen Comments**

None

### **Commissioner Comments**

Commissioner Felton thanked everyone for attending and for showing support for the County. Commissioner Felton stated that he appreciates citizens filling out applications for appointments and hopes to see more applications for appointments in the next week.

Commissioner Hofler thanked everyone for attending and for applying for appointments. We need people like your selves to apply and have an interest in the County.

Commissioner Jernigan thanked everyone for attending and wished citizens a safe trip home.

Commissioner Owens thanked everyone for attending and participating in tonight's meeting.

**Closed Session**

None

**Adjournment**

Commissioner Felton made a motion adjourn. Commissioner Hofler seconded the motion, motion passed without opposition.

  
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Henry L. Jordan, Chairman

  
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Melissa A. Coe, Clerk

GATES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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