The Board of Commissioners of Effingham County, Georgia, Mr. Wesley Corbitt, Mr. Forrest Floyd, Mr. Roger Burdette, Mr. Jamie Deloach, Reginald Loper and Phil Kieffer met in regular session at 5:00 pm on Tuesday, January 18, 2022 in the Commissioners Meeting Chambers at the Effingham County Administrative Complex located at 804 South Laurel Street Springfield, Georgia 31329.

STAFF PARTICIPATION
Mr. Tim Callanan – County Administrator, Mr. Edward Newberry – County Attorney, Ms. Stephanie Johnson – County Clerk, Mr. Eric Larson – Assistant County Manager, Mr. Clint Hodges – Fire Chief & EMA Director, Mr. Chris Reed – IT Director, Mrs. Teresa Concannon – County Planner, Ms. Jennifer Keyes – Real Property Appraiser III, Ms. Tasheena Shiggs – Deputy County Clerk, Mrs. Alison Bruton – Purchasing Agent, and Mrs. Vicki Dunn – HR Director

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION
Mr. Tony Chiariello, Mr. Ben Johnson, Mr. Brett Bennett, Mr. Rex Inman, Mr. Matt Dunn, Mr. D'Ve Williams, Mr. J.C. Helmy, Ms. Leslie Dunn, Mr. Toss Allen, Mr. Paul Awanshi, Mr. Alec Metzger, Mr. Joe Marchese, Mr. Matt Byrd, and Mr. Jack Garvin.

PARTICIPATION VIA TELECONFERENCE
None announced.

I- CALL TO ORDER
Wesley Corbitt, Chairman
Forrest Floyd
Roger Burdette, Vice Chair
Jamie Deloach
Reginald Loper
Phil Kieffer

II- ROLL CALL
Chairman Corbitt called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

III – INVOCATION
Commissioner Burdette provided the invocation.

IV- PLEDGE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG
The pledge was sounded in unison.

V – AGENDA APPROVAL
Commissioner Kieffer made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.
Commissioner Burdette seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

VI – MINUTES
Vice Chair Deloach made a motion to approve the January 4, 2022 Board of Commissioners meeting minutes as presented. Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously

VII– PUBLIC COMMENTS
Chairman Corbitt stated comments shall pertain to agenda items only, you must speak clearly into the microphone and state your full name for the record.

VIII– CORRESPONDENCE
Chairman Corbitt stated comments shall pertain to agenda items only, you must speak clearly into the microphone and state your full name for the record.

IX – PRESENTATION
RECOGNITION OF VICKI DUNN FOR 5 YEARS OF SERVICE AS DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES (1)

Human Resources Director Dunn made offered thankful expressions to County Clerk Johnson, County Manager Callanan and the Board of Commissioners.

County Clerk Johnson presented Human Resources Director Dunn with a plaque in recognition of her service excellence and dedication as Director of Human Resources. A photo was taken of the recipient and the Commissioners.

X – CONSENT AGENDA
Commissioner Loper made a motion to approve the following Consent Agenda items: (1) Consideration to approve the ACCG Defined Contribution Authorized Distribution forms. (2) Consideration to approve an update of the ACCG Schedule F authorization to make changes to the Defined Contribution Plans. (3) Consideration to approve an update of the ACCG Retirement Services Secure Web Access. (4) Consideration to approve renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding with Effingham County United Methodist Campground for use as a critical workforce shelter and/or post event shelter. (Critical Workforce Shelter Initiative). Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

XI – OLD BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE SECOND READING OF AN APPLICATION BY MARCHESE CONSTRUCTION, LLC AS AGENT FOR TOSHIYUKI HIRATA FOR A VARIANCE LOCATED AT GA HIGHWAY 21 TO REDUCE THE MINIMUM NUMBER OF PARKING SPOTS REQUIRED FOR A COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, ZONED B-3. MAP# 465N PARCEL # 2 (1)

Commissioner Burdette made a motion to approve the 2nd Reading. Commissioner
XII- NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A TAX REFUND REQUEST BY REX INMAN SR. FOR A PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2761 NOEL C. CONAWAY ROAD MAP# 418 PARCEL# 28A (1):

Property Appraiser Keyes explained the Tax Assessors office reviewed Mr. Inman’s home but the problem was found after the appeal time which means the office was unable to consider the petition for the 2022 tax year. When there is a home with windows above the second-floor or windows over the garage, it usually means there is an addition above the top floor and a bonus room. Assessment notices were mailed in May and there is a 45-day period to appeal. No appeal was made on the property during that time so the taxes were added.

Mr. Inman spoke with the Tax Assessors office and the error was found. The square footage was changed and the development of the home was changed to a one-story home with no attic, which mean he cannot finish the second-floor and the bonus room was changed to “unfinished.” All of these changes will take effect for the 2023 tax year. Mr. Inman will receive an assessment notice with the new value in May and he will have 45 days to appeal that value if he chooses.

The Board discussed not having a recommendation for a tax refund and directed staff to provide said information.

Commissioner Burdette made a motion to deny the refund. The motion died for lack of a second. Commissioner Kieffer made a motion to postpone the Tax Refund Request to February 15, 2022 meeting. Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE EXTENSION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH USI BROKERAGE/CONSULTING FOR TWO (2) ADDITIONAL YEARS (2):

Human Resources Director Dunn explained Staff is requesting approval to renew the Brokerage/Consulting agreement with USI Insurance Agency for an additional two one year periods. The contract currently expires December 31, 2022. This item is being presented to the Board in advance in case a Request For Proposal (RFP) is needed for another agency. This time frame will allow time to prepare the RFP, gather all of the information, and make a selection. Staff recommends approval with USI for an additional two years. The contract would then expire December 31, 2024. There would be no increase in cost if the contract is extended for an additional two-year period per USI.

Commissioner Loper made a motion to approve the renewal of the Brokerage/Consulting Agreement with USI Insurance Agency for two one year periods to begin effective January 1, 2023 and ending December 31, 2024. Vice Chair Deloach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
MINUTES OF THE January 18, 2022 BOC MEETING CONTINUED

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION# 022-004 TO AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 BUDGET (3)

County Manager Callanan explained this request is to make an adjustment for recent approvals made by the Board in regards to some capital projects and new positions.

Vice Chair Deloach made a motion to approve Resolution# 022-004 to amend the fiscal year 2021-2022 budget. Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE TO ACCEPT A HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM AWARD FROM GEMA/FEMA TO UPDATE THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY JOINT HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN (4)

Fire Chief Hodges explained Effingham County is required by both FEMA and GEMA to have an up-to-date Hazard Mitigation Plan, which is to be updated every five years. This is relative to municipalities as well as the County. Due to the complexities, the agency is providing the funding to have a Plan Writer to arrange updates and host all of the meetings. The grant is for $26,000 with a local match of $6,500, which will be a labor match.

Vice Chair Deloach made a motion to approve the HMPG funding. Commissioner Floyd seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A QUOTE FROM SEALMASTER FOR THE PURCHASE OF AN AGGREGATE CHIP SPREADER AND SPRAY BAR FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT (5)

Purchasing Agent Bruton explained the aggregate chip spreader the County currently own is no longer operational. An RFQ was advertised in December to request quotes for the new machine and additional attachments but no submittals were received. The current chip spreader was purchased from SealMaster and they were contacted about not bidding. SealMaster provided a quote which was in a packet given to the Board.

Vice Chair Deloach made a motion to approve Quote from SealMaster for the purchase of an Aggregate Chip Spreader in the amount of $30,103.73. Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE CHANGE ORDER #1 FOR MARSH CONSTRUCTION FOR CIVIL/SITE WORK OF FIRE STATION #15 LOCATED ON HODGEVILLE ROAD (6)

Purchasing Agent Bruton explained construction has requested a time extension due to delays resulting from adverse weather conditions, circumstances due to COVID-19, and scheduling conflicts with Savannah Construction and Preservation. This extension will extend that date from December 30, 2021 through July 15, 2022.
Commissioner Burdette made a motion to approve Change Order 1 for Marsh Construction allowing a time extension of 198 days for the Civil/Site Work of Fire Station #15 on Hodgeville Road. Vice Chair Deloach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE CHANGE ORDER# 1 FOR SAVANNAH CONSTRUCTION AND PRESERVATION, LLC PERTAINING TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF FIRE STATION #15 LOCATED ON HODOGVEILLE ROAD (7)

Purchasing Agent Bruton explained this Change Order will align with the Marsh Construction Change Order for the time extension.

Commissioner Burdette made a motion to approve Change Order 1 for Savannah Construction and Preservation, LLC allowing for a time extension of 198 days for the construction of Fire station #15 on Hodgeville Road. Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A WARRANTY DEED TO ACCEPT THE INFRASTRUCTURE AND FINAL PLAT FOR RAIN DANCE SUBDIVISION PHASE 2 LOCATED OFF OF EBEZNER ROAD, CONSISTING OF 40 LOTS MAP# 445 PARCEL# 26 IN THE FOURTH DISTRICT (8)

Planning and Zoning Manager Concannon explained the Board approved Rain Dance Phase 1 last year. Rain Dance is located on Ebenezer Road which is in unincorporated Effingham County but is served by Springfield water and sewer. There is an infrastructure agreement and a warranty deed. To be stated for the record, The City of Springfield will consider the acceptance of the infrastructure in Rain Dance and approval of their utilities agreement on January 20, 2022. EOM Operations has inspected and recommends approval of the project. Development Service staff has reviewed the final plat and checklist. The County Engineer has reviewed the bond recommendation and approved for $34,544.20, which is 10% of the total cost of drainage and paving in Phase 2. An infrastructure bond was also submitted to the City of Springfield. The County Attorney has reviewed and approved the warranty deed, infrastructure agreement, and utility easement agreement.

Commissioner Loper made a motion to approve the final plat and infrastructure agreement for Rain Dance phase 2, and accept the roads and stormwater infrastructure identified in the warranty deed. Vice Chair Deloach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A WARRANTY DEED TO ACCEPT THE INFRASTRUCTURE AND A FINAL PLAT FOR EMERALD PLANTATION, PHASE 3 LOCATED OFF OF BLUEJAY ROAD, CONSISTING OF 16 LOTS MAP#350 PARCEL# 16 IN THE SECOND DISTRICT (9)

Planning and Zoning Manager Concannon explained this is the third and final Phase
of Emerald Plantation. Emerald Plantation is served by county water and individual septic systems. The documents request the Board accepts the right-of-way and public utilities located within the right-of-way relating to water and stormwater for structure. Staff has approved the final plat and checklist. EOM Operations and the County Engineer has inspected the right-of-way and public utilities. The County Engineer has approved the bond recommendation for $20,054 which is 10% of the cost of water distribution of storm drainage, infrastructure, and paving in Phase 3. The County Attorney has reviewed and approved the warranty deed.

Commissioner Burdette made a motion to approve the final plat for Emerald Plantation phase 3, and accept the roads, water, and stormwater infrastructure identified in the warranty deed. Commissioner Floyd seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A WARRANTY DEED TO ACCEPT THE INFRASTRUCTURE AND FINAL PLAT FOR BUCKINGHAM PLANTATION PHASE 2B. LOCATED OFF OF NOEL C. CONAWAY ROAD CONSISTING OF 51 LOTS MAP# 375 PARCEL# 51 IN THE SECOND DISTRICT (10)

Planning and Zoning Manager Concannon explained Phase 2B consists of 51 lots. EOM Operations has inspected the right-of-way and public utilities located within the right-of-way in Phase 2B and recommends approval. Staff has reviewed the final plat and checklist. The County Engineer has reviewed the bond recommendation and approved it for $85,564.67 which is 10% of the total cost of water, sewer, storm drainage, infrastructure, and paving in Phase 2B. The County Attorney has reviewed and approved the warranty deed.

Commissioner Burdette made a motion to approve the final plat for Buckingham Plantation, Phase 2B, and accept the roads, water, sewer, and stormwater infrastructure identified in the warranty deed. Commissioner Floyd seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A REVISED FINAL PLAT FOR GOSHEN HILLS FARMS LOCATED OFF OF GOSHEN ROAD MAP# 451C PARCEL# 79-81 IN THE SECOND DISTRICT (11)

Planning and Zoning Manager explained the Board approved a rezoning of 4 1/2 acres which are three lots the owners originally were going to reconfigure. They chose to leave one of the lots as is and reconfigured the two other lots. The request is for approval of the final plat from the Board. The owners have rotated the property line 90 degrees so the lots will face Center Drive rather than Exley Loop.

Commissioner Kieffer made a motion to approve the revised Goshen Hills Farms major subdivision final plat. Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A TASK ORDER TO PROVIDE CONSULTANT SERVICES TO COLLECT DATA ON TIDE CYCLES ALONG THE Ogeechee RUN AND
MINUTES OF THE January 18, 2022 BOC MEETING CONTINUED

LITTLE Ogeechee River to Assist GA-EPD with the Waste Load Allocation (WLA) Determination of the Ogeechee Run (12)

Asst. County Manager Larson explained there was a conversation about pursuing a service water discharge permit with the Environmental Protection Division (EPD). A letter was received from EPD with a request to consider a discharge on the Ogeechee Run but due to insufficient data on water quality, they could not approve at this time. Based on the conversation with EPD, what is needed is a dissolved oxygen study.

This Task Order is an addition to the Task Order already approved to Alliance Consulting Engineers, for the master planning to conduct a tide study of the Ogeechee Run. The reason for this is so we can get the data and decision from EPD sooner than later. EPD stated it would take several years for them to perform the study themselves so we are assisting in getting it done. Once the tide study is complete, the next phase will be the dissolved oxygen study and that can be determined by the end of the year.

Vice Chair Deloach made a motion to approve the task order for Alliance Consulting Engineers to provide tide study services to assist GA-EPD with the Waste Load Allocation of Ogeechee Run. Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE RATIFICATION OF CHANGE ORDER# 3 FOR APAC-ATLANTIC INC. RELATED TO RESURFACING FOR THE BLUE JAY/McCALL INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS (13)

County Manager Callanan explained this is a part of the realignment of Blue Jay and McCall intersection. As the project comes to an end, it was noticed that the sections in between Blue Jay, Blandford, and the new intersection were not included in the milling and repaving portion of the contract. The contractor was asked to come up with a quote while the equipment was still there. The request is for this item be approved for ratification for the additional work.

Commissioner Loper made a motion to approve Ratification of Approval of the Change Order #3 for APAC-Atlantic, Inc. for the Blue Jay/McCall Road Intersection Improvements in the amount of $48,020.00. Vice Chair Deloach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION# 022-005 DECLARING THE SPECIAL PURPOSE LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX (SPLOST) 2021 ELECTION RESULTS (14)

County Manager Callanan explained this is a step that is taken with regards to the elections and declaring the results. This will allow us to begin the process of issuing the bonds that were approved as a result of SPLOST. Today, we were informed this process is needed for the E-Commerce referendum as well. That is expected to be on February’s agenda.
Commissioner Kieffer made a motion to approve the Resolution declaring the SPLOST election. Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION# 022-006 RELATED TO REDISTRICTING FOR THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND THE BOARD OF EDUCATION BASED ON THE 2020 UNITED STATES CENSUS (15)

County Manager Callanan explained this has to do with the introduction of local legislation regarding the redistricting of both the Board of Commissioners and the School Board district lines. A proposal was presented to the Legislative Office of Reapportionment and they responded with some minor adjustments. Since those adjustments are considered their product, it does not require technical certification. If the Board approves, this will go to the legislature for approval.

Resident Jack Garvin commented on the strain on the Elections Office.

Commissioner Kieffer made a motion to approve the Resolution declaring the SPLOST election. Vice Chair Deloach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

XIII– REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS & ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Tim Callanan
COVID-19 Update
• There is a new variant spike
• Quarantine protocols are still in place which is causing a shortage of staff
• This will affect our labor contract with the prison
• N95 masks were distributed and are available for all County employees

Stephanie Johnson
EOM Monthly Report
• December 2021 report

County Properties Surplus
• There are about 30 properties listed for surplus to review

Commissioner Floyd
Zeigler Roads Stop Signs
• About thirty days remaining before the signs are in
• Public Works is aware of the urgency of these signs

Commissioner Burdette
Effingham Parkway Truck Traffic – Benton Boulevard
• A meeting with the City Manager is planned for tomorrow night

Stop Signs on Parkway in Goshen
• There is a meeting this week with Atlas

Chairman Corbitt
Forest Haven
• Looking into a roundabout for traffic flow
Because of the distance between Forest Haven and Hwy 30 and Forest Haven and Goshen, it does not affect requirements for restricted access roads

Traffic plan did not include Forest Haven as a cross route

Vice Chair Deloach
Effingham Herald Interview
- Front page article, running for a third term announcement
- Transportation issues are mentioned
- Recreation projects for Sandhill and CEM

Commissioner Loper
County Line Welcome Sign
- GDOT book of requirements for sign in right-of-way
- Looking into sign designs

Commissioner Kieffer
Truck and Trailer Drop-off on Old Augusta
- Additional signage was added

XIV – EXECUTIVE SESSION
At 6:07 pm, Vice Chair Deloach made a motion to enter into executive session. Commissioner Burdette seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

At 7:23 pm, Commissioner Kieffer made a motion to reconvene. Commissioner Burdette seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

XV – ADJOURNMENT
At 7:23 pm, there being no further business, Commissioner Loper made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Burdette seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Wesley Corbitt, Chairman
Stephanie D. Johnson, County Clerk