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, July 20, 2021 in the Commissioners Meeting Chambers at the Effingham County Administrative Complex located at 601 North 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 – Planning & Zoning Manager, Mrs. Wanda McDuffie – EMS Director, Mrs. Vicki Dunn – Human Resources Director, Mrs. Christy Carpenter – Finance Director, Mrs. Alison Bruton – Purchasing Agent and Mrs. Sarah Mausolf – HR Office & Event Coordinator

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION
Ms. Melissa Reagan, Richard and Susie Thurmond

PARTICIPATION VIA TELECONFERENCE
Ms. Jacqueline Skay

I- Roll Call
Wesley Corbitt, Chairman
Forrest Floyd
Roger Burdette, Vice Chair
Jamie Deloach
Reginald Loper
Phil Kieffer

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

III – INVOCATION
Commissioner Deloach provided the invocation.

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

V – AGENDA APPROVAL
County Clerk explained staff is requesting to remove Old Business Item 1 and 2 and to postpone New Business Item 12 to the August 17, 2021 commission meeting.
VI- MINUTES
Commissioner Kieffer made a motion to approve the July 20, 2021 regular meeting minutes and the July 26, 2021 special call meeting minutes. Commissioner Floyd seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

VII- PUBLIC COMMENTS
Chairman Corbitt confirmed 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 documents from this meeting are located in the Clerk's office and on the Board of Commissioner's website.

IX – CONSENT AGENDA
Commissioner Loper made a motion to approve the following Consent Agenda items: (1)Consideration to approve a Lease Agreement between Effingham County Board of Commissioners and the Effingham County Board of Education (2)Consideration to approve to accept a Georgia Emergency Communications Authority (GECA) 911 Training Grant (3)Consideration to approve to renew the Cooperative Agreement with the Georgia Forestry Commission (4)Consideration to approve to renew the License Agreement with Verizon Wireless for site #133762 in Springfield (5)Consideration to approve fire releases as approved by the Fire Chief and submitted by Administrative Staff (6)Consideration to approve Sanitation Releases as approved by the Tax Commissioner and Fire Chief and submitted by Administrative Staff (7)Consideration to approve to execute a Memorandum of agreement with the United Way of the Costal Empire for the purpose of establishing a Disaster Relief Fund. Commissioner Deloach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

X – OLD BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A CONTRACT WITH GREENROCK SUSTAINABLE WASTE SOLUTIONS FOR SOIL REMEDIATION AT THE ATLAS SITE (01)
This item was removed/withdrawn at agenda approval.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A CONTRACT WITH THOMAS & HUTTON ENGINEERING FOR DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION SERVICES FOR WATER AND SEWER LINE EXTENSION ALONG OLD AUGUSTA ROAD (02)
This item was removed/withdrawn at agenda approval.

XI – NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENTS WITH THE CITIES OF SPRINGFIELD, GUYTON AND RINCON REGARDING THE RE-
IMPOSITION OF THE COUNTYWIDE SPECIAL PURPOSE LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX (SPLOST) (01)

County Manager, Callanan explained that the current SPLOST expires June 2022 which lasted 5 years. A SPLOST will be renewed for 6 years including an IGA. The SPLOST will also include 20% of collections allocated for Countywide projects and the remaining 80% will be distributed based on population of the 3 cities.

Commissioner Deloach made a motion to approve the IGAs with the Cities of Rincon, Guyton and Springfield regarding the reimposition of the countywide SPLOST. Vice Chair Burdette seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVED A TAX REFUND REQUEST SUBMITTED BY JACQUELINE SKAY RELATED TO A PROPERTY LOCATED AT 105 KUWE TRAIL, GUYTON MAP # 277A PARCEL# 43 (02)

Chief Tax Appraiser Groover explained a factual error was made by the Assessor’s office calculating 2 additional acres since 2006 to Mrs. Skay’s property. A refund has been issued for past three-year period (2018-2020) and corrected for the 2021 year. Georgia law only authorizes the Office of the Assessor to issue a refund for up to a three-year period. Mrs. Skay is requesting approval of a refund for the remaining years dating back to 2006. Staff recommends not approving an additional refund.

Mrs. Skay spoke via telephone in support of her request to receive a refund. The Commissioners, County Attorney and Staff discussed the matter. County Attorney Newberry requested to postpone the item to allow for time to investigate the record.

Vice Chair Burdette made a motion to postponed tax refund request to August 17, 2021. Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVED AN ASSEMBLAGE PERMIT FOR MELISSA REAGAN OF MADRAC FARMS TO HOLD A PUMPKIN PATCH, ENTERTAINMENT AND VENDORS OVER FIVE (5) WEEKENDS IN OCTOBER, FROM 10AM-7PM LOCATED AT 580 RALPH RAHN ROAD, RINCON MAP# 441 PARCEL# 24 (03)

Planning and Zoning Manager Concannon explained that for several years Ms. Reagan has been requesting and receiving assemblage permits to hold her pumpkin patch event through October.

There is an easement serving this property, which has caused some dispute on rather the correct easement has been used. Last year the owner of the land where the easement is located created a new access. There will be discussion on rather the legal easement will be used.

Sherri Murphy, landowner of easement stated that since last year, Madrac Farms has not made any repairs to the easement. She also stated the assemblage permit is for the 17 acres not the 5 acres that is also being utilized.

In response to Ms. Murphy, the Commissioners, County Manager Callanan, and County Attorney Newberry agreed that the application does not give an option to add
Commissioner Loper made a motion to approve request for an Assemblage Permit for a pumpkin patch event at 580 Ralph Rahn Road, Rincon, beginning October 2, 2021 through October 31, 2021, from 10 am to 7pm, on weekends only. Commissioner Deloach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A FINAL PLAT REVISION FOR LOTS 23 & 25 LOCATED IN COUNTRY ACRES SUBDIVISION (4)
Planning and Zoning Manager, Concannon explained the request relates to a property line movement between siblings. The property line is being adjusted to make lot 25 smaller and lot 23 larger.

Commissioner Deloach made a motion to approve the final plat revision for Country Acres, lots 23 & 25. Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE AND PUBLISH JOB DESCRIPTIONS FOR NEW POSITIONS APPROVED IN THE 2021-2022 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET (5)
Human Resources Director Dunn explained that there are two new positions added this year, Deputy County Clerk and Facilities Planner. The Assistant County Manager position was authorized at the November 17, 2020 meeting and added to the budget last year as a replacement for the County Engineer. The Deputy Fire Chief is just a name change and all duties will remain the same. The Project Coordinator will be replacing the executive assistant assigned to the County Clerk and County Administrator. Funding was removed from the sanitation department and placed in the administrative department. The position of Customer Service Specialist is a replacement for receptionist with added job duties.

Commissioner Floyd made a motion to approve the job descriptions and authorize publication and distribution for new positions. Vice Chair Burdette seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE ADDITIONAL POSITIVE PAY BANKING SERVICES FOR ALL BRANCH BANKING & TRUST (NOW TRUIST) ACCOUNTS (6)
Finance Director Carpenter explained Positive Pay was added to the General Fund account in 2018. She stated that we would like to add Positive Pay to several other accounts that have a lot of activity going through them. We also earn credits to help pay for the Positive Pay fees. The total maximum cost should not exceed $3,780 per month.

Vice Chair Burdette expressed he often negotiates with banks on banking services. A Request for Proposal (RFP) for other banks should be considered as an alternative with BB&T (now Truist) return with an RFP of their own. We have 32 accounts totaling 34 million dollars, this move could save us $100,000 a year. Giving smaller banks a chance to work with us could help reduce some of the fees and increase our
Commissioner Deloach made a motion to approve Positive Pay banking services for up to ten accounts as approved by the Finance Director and County Manager. Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A PARTIAL DISTRIBUTION OF TSPLOST BOND FUNDING TO THE CITIES OF SPRINGFIELD (7)
Finance Director, Carpenter explained TSPLOST bonds were issued in April of 2021 in the amount of $35 Million. Once the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) is approved we will distribute 25% funding allocated to Springfield and Guyton. Springfield’s 25% disbursement will be $572,535.03 and Guyton’s 25% disbursement will be $338,655.91.

Commissioner Loper made a motion to approve to disburse funds to Springfield and Guyton. Commissioner Deloach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION# 021-038 FOR BECKY SHEA’S SERVICE WITH THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (8)
County Clerk, Johnson explained a request for a Resolution for Becky Shea was made by the Chamber Director, Andy Cripps to publicly express appreciation to Ms. Shea for serving as Office Manager and Membership Coordinator for over 8 years. The proposed resolution was read aloud.

Commissioner Kieffer made a motion to approve Resolution (021-038) for Becky Shea’s service with the Effingham County Chamber of Commerce. Vice Chair Burdette seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE TO RATIFY THE PURCHASE OF A REPLACEMENT GENERATOR FROM CUMMINS IN THE AMOUNT OF $23,182.27 FOR THE NORTH COMMUNICATIONS TOWER LOCATED 3576 HWY 21 NORTH, SPRINGFIELD (9)
Purchasing Agent, Bruton explained the generator on-site at the North Tower is no longer operational due to a lightning strike. Facilities Maintenance Director stated that county staff should be able to replace the generator with the assistance of a crane at rental cost of $500. There is $28,000 included in the Fiscal Year 2022 budget for the purchase of a new generator.

Chairman Corbitt directed staff to determine the date of the lightning strike on the generator and submit to ACCG insurance company for claim purposes.

Commissioner Floyd made a motion to approve ratification for approval of the generator purchase from Cummins for $23,182.27 for the North Tower. Vice Chair Burdette seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR THE JUVENILE COURT IN THE OGEECHEE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 (10)
Purchasing Agent Bruton explained Effingham County is fiscal agent for the Juvenile Court. The amount due to be reimbursed by the county updated budget request is $103,924.11. Effingham County shares this updated total of $38,046.62 based on population distribution.

Commissioner Loper made a motion to approve to renew the Intergovernmental Agreement for the Juvenile Court in the Ogeechee Judicial Circuit for FY22 with approval of the Amendment to account for budget request increases. Commissioner Deloach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH SAVANNAH TECHNICAL COLLEGE IN THE AMOUNT OF $3,150.00 TO FACILITATE A REVIEW AND UPDATE OF THE STANDARDS OF PRACTICE USED FOR PERMIT PROCESSING AND REVIEW RELATED TO THE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT (11)
Asst. County Manager Larson explained Development Services takes on a variety amount of permits. The Technical College will facilitate that discussion and learn the process to be able to chart them out both narratively and graphically. This process will take no longer than 3 weeks. Final documents will be a published standard operation procedure for permitting. The process will be more efficient and less confusing for the public.

Final documents will be placed on our website if an applicant would like to know the process of receiving a building permit, business license, etc. They will be able to see the documents and flow charts as needed. The Commissioners advised Staff to submit the operation procedures to the Board for final approval.

Vice Chair Burdette made a motion to approve the MOA with Savannah Technical College for $3,150.00. Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION# 021-039 FOR A CALL FOR REFERENDUM REGARDING THE REIMPOSITION OF THE COUNTYWIDE SPECIAL PURPOSE LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX (SPLOST) (12)
County Manager Callanan explained this item is postponed because we are waiting for a full project list from Guyton and Rincon. The City of Springfield has completed their list. This item was postponed to the August 17, 2021 commission meeting at the agenda approval.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE COUNTYWIDE PROJECT LIST AND THE UNINCORPORATED PROJECT LISTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REIMPOSITION OF THE COUNTYWIDE SPECIAL PURPOSE LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX (SPLOST) (13)
County Manager Callanan explained municipalities have requested that we be more descriptive. The dollar amount did not change, it was just broken up into more descriptive categories and particular project names. The Countywide list is funded by 20% of total collections estimated to be $16 million. The unincorporated list is funded by it pro rata shares and estimated to be $47,622,400.

Commissioner Deloach made a motion to approve the Countywide and unincorporated project lists regarding the reimposition of the countywide SPLOST. Commissioner Loper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

XII– REPORTS FROM ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF & COMMISSIONERS

Tim Callanan– SPLOST Special Called Meeting

Stephanie Johnson– IDA Drop in Reception, Thursday, August 19, 2021 12:00 noon – 7:00 pm

Reginald Loper– Hodgeville Rd. Roundabout. Received a call from resident with concerns. Chairman Corbitt explained an engineering report will be developed.

Forrest Floyd– Blue Jay/ HWY. 17– timeline of construction. Staff to get information from GDOT.

XIII – EXECUTIVE SESSION

No executive session was held at this meeting.

XIV– EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

Commissioner Kieffer made a motion to approve the July 26, 2021 Special Called meeting. Commissioner Deloach seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

XV – ADJOURNMENT

At 6:17 pm, there being no further business, Vice Chair Burdette made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Kieffer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Wesley M. Corbitt, Chairman

Stephanie D. Johnson, County Clerk