

**Houston County Commissioners**  
**August 2, 2022**  
**Perry, Georgia**

The Houston County Board of Commissioners met for Regular Session at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday August 2, 2022, at the Houston County Courthouse in Perry, Georgia, with Chairman Stalnaker presiding and Commissioners Byrd, Robinson, Walker and Talton present. Also present were Attorney Tom Hall, Director of Administration Robbie Dunbar, Director of Operations Brian Jones, Director of Personnel Ken Carter, Director of Purchasing Mark Baker, Chief Building Inspector Tim Andrews, Community Planner Jake Cox, Dan and Jessica Perdue, Representative Shaw Blackmon, Senator Larry Walker III, Larry Walker, Jr., Sheri Eberlan, ACCG Executive Director Dave Willis, and ACCG Deputy Legislative Director Todd Edwards.

Commissioner Robinson led the audience in the Invocation.

Brig. Gen. Jon Eberlan, U.S. Air Force, led the pledge to the flag and gave a description of the work at activities that take place at Robins Air Force Base. Brig. Gen. Eberlan grew up in Jasper, Texas and joined the United States Air Force in 1990. His first duty station was Shaw AFB, in Sumter, SC and later stationed overseas in Saudi Arabia. In 1998 he applied for and was accepted into Officer Candidate School and later that year was commissioned as a 2Lt. He and his wife Sheri have been married for 26 years. Brig. Gen. Eberlan has a bachelor's degree and 3 master's degrees.

Chairman Stalnaker presented items of appreciation to Brig. Gen. Eberlan, and each Commissioner expressed their thanks and appreciation to him for his service and welcomed he and his wife to Houston County.

Dave Willis, Executive Director of ACCG presented Georgia-oriented gift items to Brig. Gen. Eberlan on behalf of ACCG and thanked him for his service.

Todd Edwards, Deputy Legislative Director for ACCG, presented to Senator Larry Walker, III a framed picture of the Houston County Courthouse in appreciation for his action and involvement on several key pieces of legislation passed during the 2022 Georgia General Assembly.

Senator Walker III thanked his parents, ACCG representatives and others in the audience.

Chairman Stalnaker recognized Representative Shaw Blackmon who made congratulatory remarks to Senator Walker, III and thanked Brig. Gen. Eberlan for his service to our country.

Dave Willis, Executive Director of ACCG, presented to former Commissioner Dan Perdue his diploma as a Certified County Commissioner after taking courses through the University of Georgia for this certification. Mr. Perdue recognized his wife Jessica Perdue.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. Talton and carried unanimously by all to approve the minutes from the July 19, 2022 meeting.

Chairman Stalnaker requesting there be an added agenda item #10 regarding a contract with the City of Warner Robins to share in the cost of the new HVAC system for the Animal Control facility and to authorize Chairman Stalnaker to sign an agreement for dual use between the City of Warner Robins and Houston County of the new Animal Control facility.

Chairman Stalnaker advised all those present that the application #2623 Re-Zoning was withdrawn by the applicant and would be presented at a later date so no action would be taken for Agenda Item #1.

Chief Building Inspector Tim Andrews presented Special Exception applications #2625 through #2630.

County Attorney Tom Hall made a blanket statement for the benefit of all applicants for Special Exceptions for home occupations that even if the Board of Commissioners approves an application, neighborhood covenants may still impose certain restrictions upon or against home occupation businesses. These restrictive covenants are superior to any action taken by the Board of Commissioners. The actions taken by the Board will not change any provision within the covenant that prohibits any commercial or business activity.

Chairman Stalnaker closed the regular portion of the meeting and opened a Public Hearing.

Special Exception #2625 applicant was present with no opposition.  
Special Exception #2625 applicant was not present due to application being tabled.  
Special Exception #2627 applicant was present with no opposition.  
Special Exception #2628 applicant was present with no opposition.  
Special Exception #2629 applicant was present with no opposition.  
Special Exception #2630 applicant was present with no opposition.

Chairman Stalnaker closed the Public Hearing and reopened the regular portion of the meeting.

Motion by Mr. Talton, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve the presented applications to include any and all stipulations as noted on the Zoning & Appeals recommendation and Section 95 Requirements staff report:

#2625 – Noe Hernandez & Jasmine Calderon	Framing & Roofing
#2627 – Marcus Wilder	Pest Control
#2628 – Dewayne Cuffie	Live Theater Production
#2629 – Matthew Masee	Home Healthcare
#2630 – Ryan & Alicia Graham	Restaurant Equipment Repair

Motion by Mr. Talton, second by Mr. Byrd to table and send back to Zoning & Appeals for further consideration Application #2626, Whitney Bledsoe's application for an Airstrip as recommended by Planning and Zoning.

Mr. Andrews advised all applicants on the next step in the process which would be obtaining their business licenses through the Commissioner's office.

Mr. Walker presented a request to fill the vacant Computer Network Technician in the MIS Department.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve hiring Richard McKee for the vacant Computer Network Technician position in the MIS Department at a Grade 15-C effective August 3, 2022.

Mr. Walker presented a request for approval of a bid on one new Chevy Tahoe for use in the Commissioner's Office.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. Talton and carried unanimously by all to approve the award of one new 2023 Chevrolet Tahoe for use in the Commissioner's Office from Hamby Automotive of Perry in the amount of \$57,300. Approved in the FY23 budget with HOST Fee revenue funding this vehicle purchase.

Ms. Robinson presented a request to purchase a custom-built armored vehicle for use by the Sheriff's SRT team.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. Byrd and carried unanimously by all to approve the award of one new 2023 Lenco BearCat G3 for use by the Sheriff's SRT team at a unit cost of \$261,034 from Lenco Armored Vehicles of Pittsfield, MA. This vehicle will be funded by the following with \$100,000 DA Forfeiture Funds, \$100,000 Sheriff's Drug Funds, and \$61,034 from the 2018 SPLOST.

Ms. Robinson presented a request for approval of a change order on the Jail HVAC Upgrade project.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to approve Change Order #3 with JM Clayton Co. on the Jail HVAC Upgrades project decreasing the contract price of \$3,220,043 by \$12,635 for an amended contract price of \$3,207,408.

Mr. Byrd presented a request for approval of a 20-foot underground right of way easement from the service at Bear Branch Road running back to the site of the remote well for the Bear Branch Road Water Treatment Plant.

Motion by Mr. Byrd, second by Mr. Talton and carried unanimously by all to approve Chairman Stalnaker signing the underground right of way easement with Flint Electric Membership Corporation as depicted on Exhibit A and as described on Exhibit B for the underground power line servicing the Bear Branch Road remote well.

Mr. Byrd presented the FY2022 year-end budget adjustments.

Chairman Stalnaker advised that this is not the final adjustment that there could possibly be one more in thirty to sixty days.

Motion by Mr. Byrd, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve the following FY2022 year-end budget adjustments:

**General Fund (100):**

**Increase Expenditures:**

Elections	1400-51.1200 Temporary Employees	\$ 61,600
	1400-51.1300 Overtime	\$ 16,300
	1400-51.2200 Social Security	\$ 5,600
Law	1530-52.1200 Professional Services	\$ 518,300
MIS	1535-51.1300 Overtime	\$ 6,700
Audit	1561-52.1200 Professional Services	\$ 4,600
District Attorney	2200-52.1200 Professional Services	\$ 206,927
State Court	2300-51.1200 Temporary Employees	\$ 3,050
	2300-51.2200 Social Security	\$ 150
	300-52.2200 Repairs/Maintenance	\$ 10,000
EMS Ambulance	3600-53.1270 Gasoline	\$ 74,200
Coroner	3700-51.1200 Temporary Employees	\$ 19,350
Engineering	4100-52.1200 Professional Services	\$ 101,800
Highways & Streets – State	4205-52.2200 Repairs/Maintenance	\$ 1,120,700
Vital Statistics	5120-52.3900 Other	\$ 450
Agricultural Resources	7130-51.1200 Temporary Employees	\$ 3,100
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,152,827</b>

**Decrease Expenditures:**

Jail Operations	3326-51.1100 Regular Employees	\$ 1,371,700
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**Increase Revenues:**

District Attorney - Forfeiture Funds	\$ 206,927
100-0000-34.2600 EMS Ambulance	\$ 74,200
100-0000-33.4311 State Hwy (LMIG)	\$ 500,000

**Fire Fund (270):**

**Increase Expenditures:**

Fire	3500-53.1230 Electricity	\$ 5,700
	3500-55.1100 General	\$ 3,000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 8,700</b>

**Increase Revenues:**

270-0000-31.1192 Fire Tax	\$ 8,700
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**SPLOST Fund (320):**

Houston County Commissioners Meeting Continued from Page 106

**Increase Expenditures:**

Executive	1300-53.1600 Small Equipment	\$ 1,800
	1300-54.2500 Other Equipment	\$ 8,800
Solicitor State Court	2320-53.1600 Small Equipment	\$ 1,800
Probate Court	2450-53.1600 Small Equipment	\$ 1,600
Juvenile Court	2600-53.1600 Small Equipment	\$ 1,900
Sheriff	3300-54.2200 Vehicles	\$ 241,900
Intergovernmental SPLOST	4960-57.1001 Centerville	\$ 146,000
	4960-57.1002 Perry	\$ 283,000
	4960-57.1003 Warner Robins	<u>\$1,351,700</u>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,038,500</b>

**Decrease Expenditures:**

Highways & Streets	4200-54.1400 Infrastructure	<b>\$2,038,500</b>
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**Water Fund (505):**

**Increase Expenditures:**

Water	4400-52.1200 Professional Services	\$ 45,600
	4400-52.2200 Repairs/Maintenance	\$ 156,000
	4400-52.3200 Communications	\$ 2,800
	4400-52.3500 Travel	\$ 3,200
	4400-52.3600 Dues & Fees	\$ 5,400
	4400-52.3700 Education & Training	\$ 1,300
	4400-53.1100 General Supplies	\$ 493,000
	4400-53.1230 Electricity	\$ 51,000
	4400-53.1270 Gasoline	\$ 31,000
	4400-53.1600 Small Equipment	\$ 8,500
	4400-55.1100 General	<u>\$ 52,000</u>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 849,800</b>

**Increase Revenues:**

505-34.4214 Kathleen (Water Sales)	\$ 99,800
505-34.4216 Sandy Run (Water Sales)	\$ 500,000
505-34.4218 Houston Lake (Water Sales)	<u>\$ 250,000</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 849,800</b>

**Solid Waste Fund (540):**

**Increase Expenditures:**

Disposal	4530-52.1200 Professional Services	\$ 52,500
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Houston County Commissioners Meeting Continued from Page 107

4530-52.2110 Disposal (garbage p/u)	\$ 311,700
4530-52.2200 Repairs/Maintenance	\$ 125,200
4530-52.2320 Rental Equipment	\$ 500
4530-52.3100 Ins (Oth Than Empl Bene)	\$ 1,300
4530-52.3500 Travel	\$ 200
4530-53.1100 General Supplies	\$ 158,600
4530-53.1210 Water/Sewerage	\$ 1,400
4530-53.1270 Gasoline	\$ 119,100
4530-55.1100 General	<u>\$ 9,200</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 779,700</b>

**Increase Revenues:**

34.4150 L/F Fees \$ 779,700

**Internal Service Fund (600):**

**Increase Expenditures:**

**Risk Management (Health) 1555-52.1200 Professional Services \$1,401,100**

**Increase Revenues:**

**600-13.3601 Retained Earnings (Health) \$1,401,100**

Motion by Mr. Talton, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve the payment of the bills in the total amount of \$4,119,716.94.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Walker and carried unanimously by all to approve Chairman Stalnaker signing an amendment of the Intergovernmental Agreement for Joint Use of Animal Control Facilities between Houston County and the City of Warner Robins.

Chairman Stalnaker stated that Mayor Patrick made comments about the cooperation between the Houston County Commissioners and the Warner Robins City Council on this and other projects at the City Council Meeting the previous evening saying she was very kind in her comments toward Houston County.

Chairman Stalnaker closed the regular portion of the meeting and opened Public Comments.

Daniel Moralez of 111 Ironwood Drive in Bonaire spoke about immigration issues and the bonding out of jail of illegal aliens here in America illegally. He spoke of his wife who is an English as a second language teacher and the number of illegals they encounter.

Houston County Commissioners Meeting Continued from Page 108

Chairman Stalnaker advised that the Board of Commissioners was the wrong entity to address this issue to and recommended he contact the Sheriff's Department, meet with the GBI and address concerns to those at the federal government level.

County Attorney Tom Hall advised that the court system grants bail, and the judges have this authority.

Meg Mehserle of 1002 Main St. in Perry spoke about the need to have protected elections so that voting equipment and votes could not be tampered with or changed.

Chairman Stalnaker advised that he would be meeting with her later in the month of August to address her concerns but advised that Houston County would comply with state law and will not change from following state law. He stated he wanted to be clear as a County we would not budge.

Ms. Mehserle offered a prayer and then quoted statistics and referenced court case *Rose versus Raffensperger*.

Chairman Stalnaker advised Ms. Mehserle to contact state lawmakers as they are the ones who write and pass voting laws for all Georgia citizens and the Georgia Secretary of State's Office. He further stated that Houston County would not be segregated from the state that as a county; we would follow the state laws on voting.

Chairman Stalnaker asked each Commissioner their thoughts on the subject Meg Mehserle was speaking on.

Mr. Byrd mentioned that we have a common interest in having and holding accurate elections.

Mr. Talton agreed with Commissioner Byrd and Chairman Stalnaker's statements.

Ms. Robinson agreed that honest elections are essential.

Mr. Walker agreed that honest elections are essential as well on the federal, state and local level. He advised discussing this matter with state officials as this was a State of Georgia issue.

Chairman Stalnaker closed the Public Comments portion of the meeting and opened the floor for Commissioner Comments.

Mr. Byrd said it was a privilege to host the General and honor those who serve. He also mentioned public safety officials and educators as well.

Mr. Talton thanked all who attended the Commissioners meeting today.

Ms. Robinson also thanked all who attended the Commissioners meeting today and who are interested in local government.

Houston County Commissioners Meeting Continued from Page 109

Mr. Walker also thanked those who attended and stated that interested citizens are one of the many things that make Houston County so great.

Chairman Stalnaker recognized newly appointed Director of Administration Robbie Dunbar and recognized newly appointed Director of Operations Brian Jones, who is taking over this role from Mr. Dunbar.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned.

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Robbie Dunbar  
Director of Administration

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Chairman

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Commissioner

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Commissioner

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Commissioner

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Commissioner