

## MINUTES

The Spalding County Board of Commissioners held their Regular Meeting in Room 108 in the Courthouse Annex, Monday, January 4, 2016, beginning at 6:00 p.m. with Chairperson Rita Johnson presiding. Commissioners Bart Miller, Raymond Ray, Gwen Flowers-Taylor and Donald Hawbaker were present. Also present were County Manager William P. Wilson Jr., County Attorney, Jim Fortune and Executive Secretary, Kathy Gibson to record the minutes.

- I. **OPENING (CALL TO ORDER)** by Chairperson Rita Johnson.
- II. **INVOCATION** led by Commissioner Donald Hawbaker.
- III. **PLEDGE TO FLAG** led by Commissioner Bart Miller.
- IV. **APPOINTMENTS**

***Chairperson Johnson then turned the meeting over to James Fortune, County Attorney to call for the election of the Chairman and Vice Chairman for 2016.***

1. Election of Chairman of the Spalding County Board of Commissioners for Calendar Year 2016.

Jim Fortune, County Attorney, then opened the floor for nominations for Chairman of the Spalding County Board of Commissioners.

***Motion/Second by Miller/Hawbaker to nominate Rita Johnson for the position of Chairman of the Spalding County Board of Commissioners for Calendar Year 2016.***

***Motion by Flowers-Taylor/Ray to close nominations for Chairman of the Spalding County Board of Commissioners. Motion carried unanimously.***

***Motion to elect Rita Johnson as Chairman of the Spalding County Board of Commissioners for Calendar Year 2016 carried 4-0-1 as Commissioner Johnson abstained from voting on her election.***

2. Election of Vice-Chairman of the Spalding County Board of Commissioners for Calendar Year 2016.

Mr. Fortune then opened the floor for nominations for Vice-Chairman of the Spalding County Board of Commissioners.

***Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Johnson to nominate Bart Miller for the position of Vice-Chairman of the Spalding County Board of Commissioners for Calendar Year 2016.***

***Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Ray to close the nominations for Vice Chairman. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

***Motion to elect Bart Miller as Vice Chairman of the Spalding County Board of Commissioners for Calendar Year 2016 carried 4-0-1 as Commissioner Miller abstained from voting on his election.***

***Chairperson Johnson then assumed the position as Chairman to preside over the remainder of the meeting. She thanked the Board for reappointing her as Chairman for 2016.***

3. Appointment of County Manager for Calendar Year 2016.

***Motion/Second by Ray/Hawbaker to appoint William P. Wilson, Jr. as County Manager for Calendar Year 2016. Motion carried unanimously by all***

4. Appointment of County Clerk for Calendar Year 2016.

***Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Miller to appoint William P. Wilson, Jr. as County Clerk for Calendar Year 2016. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

5. Appointment of Ex-Officio County Clerk for Calendar Year 2016.

***Motion/Second by Ray/Miller to appoint Kathy Gibson as Ex-Officio County Clerk for Calendar Year 2016. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

6. Appointment of County Attorney for Calendar Year 2016.

***Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Miller to reappoint James R. Fortune, Jr. as County Attorney for Calendar Year 2016. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

7. Consider appointment of County Human Resources Attorney for Calendar Year 2016.

***Motion/Second by Miller/Ray to reappoint John Lowery as County Human Resource Attorney for Calendar Year 2016.***

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor asked how often the County uses the Human Resource Attorney.

William Wilson, County Manager, advised that we use Mr. Lowery for Personnel Appeals and in 2014 we used him for the rewrite of the Personnel Ordinance.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor then asked how long Mr. Lowery had served as the Human Resource Attorney.

Mr. Wilson advised that he has serve the county in this capacity for 20+ years.

***Motion carried unanimously by all.***

8. Consider appointment of County Zoning Attorney for Calendar Year 2016.

***Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Flowers-Taylor to appoint Newton M. Galloway as County Zoning Attorney for Calendar Year 2016. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

## V. PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

1. Recognition of Alexa Robinson, Watershed Program Assistant at the UGA Extension Office.

Mr. Wilson advised that Wade Hutcheson, County Extension Agent for Spalding County, would introduce Alexa Robinson and tell everyone what a Watershed Program Assistant is, and why she is the 2015 Directors Award recipient for the City of Griffin.

Mr. Hutcheson stated that Alexa's position as Watershed Program

Assistant is one that is jointly funded by the City of Griffin Stormwater Department and Spalding County. The Watershed Program Assistant provides watershed education. Alexa was recently recognized by the City of Griffin, Public Works Director, Dr. Brant Keller, with the Directors Award for her tireless efforts in several areas:

- Alexa spearheaded the Watershed Field Days, which is two days of hands on educational activities for middle school students. There were two middle schools that participated this year and over the two days of events there were over 250 students that were involved in eight educational stations on each day.
- Alexa is a certified Adopt a Stream trainer who conducted 11 Adopt a Stream workshops consisting of 122 participants.
- Alexa currently coordinates the monitoring of seven streams in Spalding County.

Mr. Hutcheson stated that not only does Alexa do watershed education, but she also coaches our 4H Wildlife Judging team. Mr. Hutcheson stated that they are very proud of the recognition that she received.

Mr. Hutcheson then advised that this position is a part time position and they would like to move Alexa to full time status. Currently the funding from Spalding County is approximately \$5,000 annually and the City of Griffin is approximately \$20-21,000 annually. He stated that with the programs that she has developed and the potential that is there to develop future programs with the schools to become STEM certified. We are hoping to get Alexa's status to full time.

2. Consider Proclamation designating February 14, 2016 as Rotary Has Heart Day in Spalding County, Georgia.

Mr. Wilson advised that Representatives from the Rotary Club of Griffin and Griffin Daybreak Rotary Club were in attendance: President of the Daybreak Rotary Club, Ms. Terry Colling; the President of the Rotary Club of Griffin, Mr. Allen Edwards and the Assistant District Governor, Stephanie Windham. He also advised that Commissioner Raymond Ray is District Governor Elect and will serve as District Governor for District 6900 which includes 69 clubs in 2016-2017. He then asked Commissioner Ray to read the Proclamation and deliver it to the three individuals in attendance for the Rotary Clubs of Griffin.

## **Proclamation**

### **ROTARY HAS HEART**

**WHEREAS:** Rotary International, founded February 23, 1905 in Chicago, Illinois USA, is the world's first and one of the largest non-profit service organizations; and

**WHEREAS:** There are over 1.2 million Rotary club members comprised of professional, business, and community leaders in over 34,823 clubs in 206 countries and geographic areas; an

**WHEREAS:** The Rotary motto “Service Above Self” inspires members to provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards, and promote good will and peace in the world; and

**WHEREAS:** Local clubs are encouraged to participate in a Community Service Project centered around Rotary International’s six areas of service (basic education and literacy, economic and community development, disease prevention and treatment, peace and conflict prevention/resolution, water and sanitation, maternal and child health); and

**WHEREAS:** Rotary is committed to adopting projects to help do good in the world; the Griffin Rotary Club and the Griffin Daybreak Rotary Club are two of approximately 1600 clubs throughout eight states and the District of Columbia in the United States and 20 countries of the Caribbean with more than 67,500 members sponsoring a project in the first quarter of the year 2016, finding Valentine’s Day 2016 directly in the middle of this time, to satisfy a need in its community thus “Doing Good In the World”; and,

**NOW, THEREFORE**

**BE IT RESOLVED** I, Rita Johnson, Chairperson of the Spalding County Board of Commissioners, Griffin, Georgia, do hereby proclaim February 14 2016 as Rotary Has Heart Day in Spalding County, and encourage all citizens to join me and Rotary International, the Griffin Rotary Club and the Griffin Daybreak Rotary Club in making sure this project is given proper recognition.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the County to be affixed this, the 4<sup>th</sup> day of January, in the year of our Lord, two thousand sixteen.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rita Johnson, Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_  
William P. Wilson, Jr., County Clerk

**VI. PRESENTATIONS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

1. Consider approval of financial statements for the five months ended November 30, 2015.

Commissioner Ray asked when the County would start receiving SPLOST collections.

Jinna Garrison, Director of Administrative Services, advised that collection of SPLOST will start on April 1<sup>st</sup> and the county should start receiving these funds in May 2016.

***Motion/Second by Ray/Miller to approve the financial statements for the five month period ending November 30, 2015. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

**VII. CITIZEN COMMENT**

Speakers must sign up prior to the meeting and provide their names, addresses and topic in which they will speak on. Speakers must direct all comments to the Board only. Speakers will be allotted three (3) minutes to speak on their chosen topics and relate to matters pertinent to the jurisdiction of the Board of the Commissioners. No questions will be asked by any of the commissioners during citizen comments. Outbursts from the audience will not be tolerated. Common courtesy and civility are expected at all times during the meeting.

**Billy Wright, 1714 Pineview Road, Griffin, GA**

Mr. Wright stated that he came before the Board at the meeting last month to discuss the road conditions on Pineview Road. Since that time the conditions have deteriorated significantly. Due to the recent rains most of the drainpipes on the road are filled with mud. He asks that the ditches on this road be cleaned out and that the trash on this road be picked up.

**Joe Bailey, 4079 Newnan Road, Griffin, GA**

Mr. Bailey wanted to return to the issue of Garbage Pick Up in the County that was addressed last year. With the passage of the SPLOST, he wanted to know if there will be money allocated in the next Budget to make improvements to the Recycling Centers or to replace equipment at the Recycling Centers. He asked to be updated on of the status of equipment replacement for these facilities.

**Jewell Walker Harps, 103 McEthel Drive, Griffin, GA**

Ms. Walker-Harps was present representing the Griffin Branch of the NAACP and requested that the Board of Commissioners consider revising the application process to remove the question regarding criminal records on applications. She asks that the County match what the State and Federal government has done in this area and remove this constraint from the employment application process for Spalding County.

**VIII. MINUTES**

1. Consider approval of the December 7, 2015 Spalding County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting minutes.

***Motion/Second by Miller/Ray to approve the December 7, 2015 Spalding County Board of Commissioner Regular Meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

**IX. CONSENTAGENDA- None.**

**X. OLD BUSINESS - None.**

**XI. NEW BUSINESS-**

1. Consider approval of resolution setting qualifying fees for publication for each County office to be filled in the upcoming General Primary and General Election as provided in O.C.G.A. Section 21-2-131 (a)(1) & (a)(2): County Commissioners (Districts 1, 3, and 4); Sheriff, Clerk of Court, Tax Commissioner, Coroner, State Court Judge, Chief Magistrate, Probate Judge and Board of Education (Districts 2 and 4).

**RESOLUTION NO. 2016-R01  
A RESOLUTION OF THE SPALDING COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SETTING THE  
QUALIFYING FEES FOR ELECTED COUNTY OFFICES FOR 2016**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners is the Governing Authority for Spalding County, Georgia; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners is required by O.C.G.A. 21-2-131, to set and publish qualifying fees for county offices not later than February 1 of any year in which a general primary, nonpartisan election, or general election is to be held; and

**WHEREAS**, the qualifying fee is required to be 3% of the base salary (excluding supplements, cost of living adjustment and longevity increases) for the offices shown below except for Coroner;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board hereby approves the qualifying fees for elected offices for 2016 as follows:

COUNTY OFFICE	TOTAL GROSS SALARY FOR 2015	3% QUALIFYING FEE
County Commissioner	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 360.00
Sheriff	75,674.90	2,270.25
Clerk of Court	63,164.60	1,894.94
Tax Commissioner	63,164.60	1,894.94
Coroner	27,434.61	823.04
State Court Judge	140,627.67	4,218.83
Chief Magistrate	63,164.60	1,894.94
Probate Judge	63,164.60	1,894.94
Member, Board of Education	8,356.00	250.68

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, these qualifying fees shall be published in the legal organ of the county as required by law.

This 4<sup>th</sup> Day of January, 2016

**SPALDING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
William P. Wilson, Jr., County Clerk

***Motion/Second by Ray/Flowers-Taylor to approve a resolution setting the qualifying fees for publication for each county office to be filled in the upcoming General Primary and General Election as provided in O.C.G.A. Section 21-2-131 (a)(1) & (a)(2): County Commissioners (Districts 1, 3, and 4); Sheriff, Clerk of Court, Tax Commissioner, Coroner, State Court Judge, Chief***

**Magistrate, Probate Judge and Board of Education (Districts 2 and 4). Motion carried unanimously by all.**

2. Consider approval of contract with Ernie Alfred Deen, Deen's LLC for Personal Property Tax.

Mr. Wilson advised that at the December Meeting the Board approve a contract to perform Personal Property Tax Appraisal, unfortunately the person that we contracted with is unable to perform these duties due to health issues. We obtained a contract from Deen's LLC for personal property tax appraisal services. This quote has been reviewed by the County Attorney as to form. Mr. Deen has years of experience and this is to replace the contract approved by the Board at the last meeting.

Commissioner Hawbaker asked what difference is there in the amount quoted for the two contracts.

Don Long, Chief Appraiser, advised that the contract from Deen's LLC is actually \$500 less than the original contract. This individual will not be on site as much as the original contract. Mr. Deen is the Personal Property appraiser for Lee County and he taught and he has taught the Personal Property class for the Department of Revenue. He further advised that if anyone in the State has a question regarding Personal Property Tax, they will call Lee County. He feels that Mr. Deen will do a good job for the County.

Mr. Wilson advised that historically this function has been done in house; however, due to retirements and individuals leaving the Tax Assessors Office, we do not have anyone in house that can perform these duties this year. We have an open position and will be hiring someone to perform this function; however, due to the time constraints, we cannot hire and have someone trained by the time the Personal Property Tax need to be filed. The plan is to hire someone for this position and have them trained and ready to go for next year.

**Motion/Second by Ray/Hawbaker to approve a contract with Ernie Alfred Deen, Deen's LLC for Personal Property Tax. Motion carried unanimously by all.**

3. Consider approval of resolution authorizing the use of Purchasing Cards for various County Departments.

Mr. Wilson advised that in 2015 the Board had a presentation from the Department of Administrative Services and from Bank of America on Purchasing Cards and the available rebates from the use of these cards. This resolution authorizes staff to start small with this process. The intent is to start the process with one department to see how they work, see how we will use them and explore how the billing is done. With the plan to expand it to all of the departments. The Purchasing Card will pay a 1% rebate at the end of the year of use of the P-Cards.

The goal of implementing the P-Cards is to reduce the number of accounts that the County has with individual stores such as Lowes, Home Depot, O'Riley's and other accounts and consolidate them into one bill. There will be a limit to the amount an individual will be allowed to spend on a P-Card.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor advised that this was discussed at

length last year and she can't understand why it is being implemented one Department at a time and not implemented county wide.

Mr. Wilson advised that the plan is for everyone to be online with the P-Cards by July 1, 2016. We are starting small to make sure that the master billing received by Spalding County will have the expenditures assigned to the appropriate department and charged to the appropriate line item for budgeting purposes.

**A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH THE COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES WHO WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ASSIGNING PROCUREMENT CARDS**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the following officers and/or employees:

<u>Title</u>	<u>Name</u>
William P. Wilson, Jr.	County Manager
Jinna L. Garrison	Administrative Services Director
Eric Mosley	Assistant County Manager

on behalf of and in the name of Spalding County (the "Designees"), any two (2) of them be and they hereby are authorized for and on behalf of and in the name of Spalding County Government for such time, at such interest rates, and on such other terms and conditions as are deemed expedient by the Designees to negotiate and procure credit from Bank of America, N.A. ("Bank of America") on VISA Purchasing card(s), to designate the officer(s) or employee(s) to receive Purchasing card(s), and to execute the application and provide any other documents or information required by Bank of America as a requirement of issuing such Purchasing card(s). The authority herein given and the designation of officer(s) or employee(s) shall remain irrevocable as far as Bank of America is concerned until Bank of America is notified in writing of the revocation of such authority and shall have acknowledged in writing receipt of such notification.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that such Purchasing cards, the debt created by their use and any security interest pertaining to that debt, issued to designated officer(s) or employee(s) of the Organization shall represent legal and binding obligations of the Organization; and that Bank of America is hereby authorized and directed to pay the proceeds of any such credit without the necessity to look to the use of the credit or of the account, whether such account is opened or maintained by the Designees, or others as designated by the Designees, in their individual capacities or not, and whether funds from the use of such accounts are deposited to the individual credit of, or used for the individual credit of, or used for the individual purposes of, the Designees, or others designated by the Designees, or not.

I Hereby Further Certify that the seal affixed hereto is the Seal of Spalding County; that the individuals named above are employees of the respective offices of the County set forth opposite their respective names; and that the signatures set opposite their respective titles are the genuine, original signatures of each respectively:

**(Please supply genuine signatures hereunder)**

<u>Title</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Specimen Signature</u>
County Manager	William P. Wilson, Jr.	_____
Administrative Services Director	Jinna L. Garrison	_____

Assistant County Eric Mosley  
Manager

---

I have here unto affixed my name as Chairperson of the Spalding County Board of Commissioners and have caused the Seal of Spalding County to be affixed this 4<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2016.

---

Rita C. Johnson, Chairperson |  
Spalding County Board of Commissioners

---

Kathy E. Gibson  
Ex-Officio County Clerk

***Motion/Second by Ray/Flowers-Taylor to approve a resolution authorizing the use of Purchasing Cards for various County Departments. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

4. Commissioner Ray requests a discussion on creation of a policy Prohibiting VAPE Smoking at Spalding County Parks and on Spalding County Grounds.

Commissioner Ray stated that as a member of the Spalding County Board of Health, this issue was brought up back in November. He stated that approximately two years ago, the Spalding County Board of Commissioners restricted smoking in Spalding County Parks in order to receive a certification or recognition from the Department of Health for the State of Georgia.

At that point in time, VAPE smoking was not an issue as it was considered a healthy alternative to tobacco smoking; however, recent studies indicate that this may not be the case and the Department of Health has asked that we include restriction of VAPE smoking in addition to restriction of cigarette smoking in our parks in order to maintain the certification that we have for a "Smoke Free" park.

Mr. Wilson advised that the County expanded the cigarette smoking restriction to include all county buildings, facilities and locations. This originally started as just parks but has not expanded to cover all county buildings, grounds and property owned by Spalding County. He stated that if the Board approves this that we would like to include restriction of VAPing at all county facilities, not just parks.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that it is crazy for us to add VAPing to this list if we are still going to allow people to use chewable tobacco. "Tobacco is tobacco it causes the same health problems whether it is smoked or chewed." If we want to promote healthy living in our employees and in our facilities then we need to prohibit the use of any tobacco product.

Mr. Wilson stated that staff is looking for direction from the Board. Currently we do not prohibit all tobacco, we only prohibit smoking.

Chairperson Johnson asked if this is a matter that could be discussed at the upcoming Retreat.

Mr. Wilson advised that he could add it to the Retreat Agenda.

***Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Ray to table this matter for further discussion at the Board of Commissioners Retreat in February. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

5. Consider request from Commissioner Hawbaker to allocate funding for replacement of the Hill Street Bridge over Cabin Creek from the 2015 SPLOST transportation funds, and restore the state funding to the Jordan Hill Bridge project that the Board requested be moved to the Cabin Creek Bridge earlier this year.

Commissioner Hawbaker requested that this item be removed from this agenda and added to the January 11<sup>th</sup>, Special Call Meeting Agenda when we will be discussing SPLOST related projects.

***Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Ray to remove this item from this Agenda and add it to the January 11<sup>th</sup> Agenda for discussion when considering SPLOST related projects. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

6. Consider appointments to the Board of Appeals and Adjustments Unsafe Building Abatement Code: To succeed Doug Krepps for a four year term ending December 31, 2019.

***Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Miller to approve the reappointment of Doug Krepps to the Board of Appeals and Adjustments Unsafe Building Abatement Code for a four year term ending December 31, 2019. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

7. Consider appointment to the Butts, Henry, Lamar & Spalding County Development Authority:
  - (a) To succeed Chuck Copeland for a three year term ending December 31, 2018.
  - (b) To Succeed Alton Knight for a three year term ending December 31, 2018.

Mr. Wilson requested that this item be tabled these appointments are dependent upon the Griffin-Spalding Development Authority electing Officers at their next meeting. Historically, representation on the Butts, Henry, Lamar & Spalding County Development Authority has been the Chairman and Treasurer of the Development Authority.

***Motion/Second by Ray/Miller to table this appointment to the first meeting in February. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

8. Consider appointments to the Griffin-Spalding Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.
  - (a) Chairman or designee to succeed Chairperson Rita Johnson for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.

***Chairperson Johnson stated that she would like to continue to represent Spalding County on this Board.***

- (b) To succeed County Manager William P. Wilson, Jr. for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.

***Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Ray to reappoint William P. Wilson, Jr. for a one year term ending December 31, 2016. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

9. Consider appointment to the West Central Georgia Workforce Investment Board to succeed Chairperson Rita Johnson for a term to expire 12/31/2016.

Mr. Wilson advised that only the Chairman of the County Commission can serve on the West Central Georgia Workforce Investment Board.

***Chairperson Johnson will continue to represent Spalding County on this Board.***

10. Consider appointments to the Two Rivers R C & D Council.

- (a) Chairman or designee to succeed Commissioner Donald Hawbaker for a one year term to expire 12/31/2016.

***Chairperson Johnson reappointed Commissioner Donald Hawbaker as her designee to the Two Rivers R C & D Council for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.***

- (b) Alternate member to succeed William P. Wilson, Jr. for a one year term to expire 12/31/2016.

Mr. Wilson advised that Eric Mosley, Assistant County Manager, would like to serve as the alternate member on this Council if the Board approves.

***Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Ray to appoint Eric Mosley for a one year term ending December 31, 2016. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

11. Consider appointment to the Three Rivers Regional Commission Workforce Board.

Mr. Wilson advised that we found out today that according to the Workforce Board the Chairman and the Mayor jointly agree on the individual for this appointment and the appointment is then made by the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners. He requested that this appointment be tabled until the Mayor for the City of Griffin is determined at their next meeting, then the Mayor and Chairman can meet to determine who should be appointed to this Board. This appointment will end June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016 as the group is being restructured.

***Motion/Second by Ray/Flowers-Taylor to table the appointment.***

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor then asked what exactly this group does.

Mr. Wilson advised that Robert Hiatt has offered to come and explain to us what they do, I will schedule him for the February 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

12. Consider appointments to the Spalding County Water & Sewerage Facilities Authority.

- (a) Chairman or designee to succeed Commissioner Gwen Flowers-Taylor for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that due to the change in her work schedule she has not been able to attend that Board meetings and asks that another commissioner be appointed to the Board.

Chairperson Johnson asked if any of the other Commissioners would be willing to serve on this Authority.

Commissioner Miller stated that he would be willing to serve.

***Chairperson Johnson appointed Commissioner Miller as her designee to succeed Commissioner Gwen Flowers-Taylor on the Spalding County Water & Sewerage Facilities Authority for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.***

- (b) To succeed Doug Krepps for a six year term ending December 31, 2021.

***Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Miller to reappoint Doug Krepps for a six year term ending December 31, 2021. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

- (c) To succeed Jim Skinner for a six year term ending December 31, 2021.

***Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Miller to reappoint Jim Skinner for a six year term ending December 31, 2021. Motion carried unanimously by all***

13. Consider appointments to the Council of the Three Rivers Regional Commission.

- (a) Chairman or designee to succeed Commissioner Raymond Ray for a one year term ending 12/31/2016.

***Chairperson Johnson appointed Commissioner Raymond Ray as her designee for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.***

- (b) To succeed Charles Jones for a one year term to expire 12/31/2016.

This is an appointment that on even years the County makes the appointment and on odd years the City makes this appointment. Mr. Jones has served for two terms and wishes to continue.

***Motion/Second by Flowers/-Taylor/Ray to reappoint Charles Jones for a one year term ending December 31, 2016. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

14. Consider appointments to the Spalding County Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission.

- (a) Chairman or designee to succeed Commissioner Gwen Flowers-Taylor for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.

**Chairperson Johnson reappointed Commissioner Gwen Flowers-Taylor as her designee to the Spalding County Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.**

Mr. Wilson advised that the remaining appointments were District designations and do not require a vote.

- (b) To succeed Sheryl Brown, District 1 for a two year term ending December 31, 2017.

**Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that she would reappoint Sheryl Brown to represent District 1 for a two year term ending December 31, 2017.**

- (c) To succeed David Dodd from District 2 for a two year term ending December 31, 2017.

**Commissioner Ray advised that he would reappoint David Dodd to represent District 2 for a two year term ending December 31, 2017.**

- (d) To succeed Larry Fears from District 1 for a two year term ending December 31, 2017.

**Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that she would appoint Tyrone Ward to succeed Larry Fears to represent District 1 for a two year term ending December 31, 2017.**

- (e) To succeed Zachery Holmes from District 3 for a two year term ending December 31, 2017.

**Chairperson Johnson advised that she would reappoint Zachery Holmes to represent District 3 for a two year term ending December 31, 2017.**

- (f) To succeed Beth Horne from District 3 for a two year term ending December 31, 2017.

**Chairperson Johnson advised that she would reappoint Beth Horne to represent District 3 for a two year term ending December 31, 2017.**

- (g) To succeed Dan McLean from District 2 for a two year term ending December 31, 2017.

**Commissioner Ray advised that he would reappoint Dan McLean to represent District 2 for a two year term ending December 31, 2017.**

- (h) To succeed Ronnie Perdue from District 4 for a two year term ending December 31, 2017.

**Commissioner Miller advised that he would reappoint Ronnie Perdue to represent District 4 for a two year term ending December 31, 2017.**

- (l) To succeed Tony Rakestraw from District 4 for a two year term ending December 31, 2017.

**Commissioner Miller advised that he would appoint David Oatman to represent District 4 for a two year term ending December 31, 2017.**

- (j) To succeed Cass Robinson from District 5 for a two year term ending December 31, 2017.

**Commissioner Hawbaker advised that he would appoint Joseph Kurey to represent District 5 for a two year term ending December 31, 2017.**

- (k) To succeed Ernest Wimbush from District 5 for a two year term ending December 31, 2017.

**Commissioner Hawbaker advised that he would reappoint Ernest Wimbush to represent District 5 for a two year term ending December 31, 2017.**

- 15. Consider appointments to the Spalding County Personnel Appeals Board.

- (a) To succeed Ronnie Lowe for a three year term ending December 31, 2018.

**Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Ray to reappoint Ronnie Lowe for a three year term ending December 31, 2018. Motion carried unanimously by all.**

- 16. Consider appointment to the Spalding County Department of Family and Children Services Board to succeed Portia Lacy for a five year term ending December 31, 2020.

**Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Miller to reappoint Portia Lacy for a five year term ending December 31, 2020. Motion carried unanimously by all.**

- 17. Consider appointment to the Spalding County Library Board of Trustees:

- (a) To succeed Lee Beckham for a four year term to expire 12/31/2019.

Mr. Wilson advised that Ms. Beckham has served on this Board for over 20 years and advises that she does not want to serve another term.

**Motion/Second by Ray/Flowers-Taylor to appoint Curtis Peek for a four year term ending December 31, 2019. Motion carried unanimously by all.**

- (b) To succeed Virginia Church for a four year term to expire 12/31/2019.

**Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Ray to reappoint Virginia Church for a four year term ending December 31, 2019. Motion carried unanimously by all.**

- (c) To succeed Linda Minty for a four year term to expire 12/31/2019.

Commissioner Hawbaker stated that Ms. Minty resigned from this Board in November of 2015.

***Motion/Second by Ray/Miller to appoint Virginia Goodman for a four year term ending December 31, 2019. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

- (d) To succeed Nancy Morris for a four year term to expire 12/31/2019.

***Motion/Second by Ray/Miller to reappoint Nancy Morris for a four year term ending December 31, 2019. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

- (e) To succeed Cheryl Walker for a four year term to expire 12/31/2019.

***Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Ray to reappoint Cheryl Walker for a four year term ending December 31, 2019.***

Mr. Wilson advised that Ms. Walker did not wish to serve on this Board for another term.

***Motion/Second by Ray/Miller to resend the appointment of Cheryl Walker. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that she would like for this position to be tabled and reposted to see if there are any other applicants that will provide diversity to this Board.

***Motion/Second by Ray/Flowers-Taylor to table the appointment until the February 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.***

18. Consider the appointments to the Spalding County Collaborative Authority for Families & Children.

- (a) To succeed Bart Miller for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.

***Motion/Second by Ray/Flowers-Taylor to reappoint Bart Miller for a one year term ending December 31, 2016. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

- (b) To succeed Jewel Walker-Harps for a two year term ending December 31, 2016.

***Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Ray to reappoint Jewel Walker-Harps for a two year term ending December 31, 2017. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

- (c) To succeed Irma Lewis (Law Enforcement Representative) for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.

***Motion/Second by Ray/Flowers-Taylor to reappoint Irma Lewis for a one year term ending December 31, 2016. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

19. Consider appointment to the Spalding County Board of Health:
- (a) Chairman or designee to succeed Commissioner Raymond Ray for a one year term to expire December 31, 2016.

***Chairperson Johnson reappointed Commissioner Raymond as her designee to the Spalding County Board of Health for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.***

- (b) To succeed Johnie McDaniel for a six year term ending 12/31/2021.

***Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Ray to appoint Johnie McDaniel for a six year term ending December 31, 2021. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

20. Consider appointments to the Griffin-Spalding County Animal Care & Control Advisory Board.

- (a) To succeed Brent Foster as the Animal Shelter Supervisor appointment for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.

***Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Ray to appoint Brent Foster for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.***

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that she needed to have some clarification on this Advisory Board. She stated that when this Board was started we said that we would ask each Commissioner to appoint a representative from their district to sit on the Board. We had a hard time getting someone to serve on this Board. She stated that she noticed that these are listed as Post appointments and she asks for clarification as many of the people on the list were not appointed by the commissioner representing their district. She asked for clarification as to if this is a Post appointment, because that means that you have to post someone from your district.

Mr. Wilson advised that these are Post appointments, but the individual does not have to live in that District to be appointed by the Commissioner for that District. Each District gets to appoint one representative to this Board, there is not restriction that the individual appointed must be in the Commissioner's District.

***Motion carried unanimously by all.***

- (b) To succeed Karri Gebler (Post #2) for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.

***Commissioner Ray reappointed Karri Gebler to represent Post #2 on the Animal Care and Control Advisory Committee for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.***

- (c) To succeed Vickie Hennessey (Post #4) for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.

***Commissioner Flowers-Taylor reappointed Vickie Hennessey to represent Post #1 on the Animal Care***

**and Control Advisory Committee for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.**

**Commissioner Flowers-Taylor rescinded her appointment for Vickie Hennessey as she resides in District 4 and Commissioner Miller expressed his desire for Ms. Hennessey to represent his district.**

**Commissioner Miller reappointed Vickie Hennessey to represent Post #4 on the Animal Care and Control Advisory Committee for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.**

- (d) To succeed Gayle Hawbaker (Post #3) for a one year term ending December 31, 2016

**Chairperson Johnson stated that she understands that Ms. Hawbaker is no longer interested in serving on this Board and she has talked with her Veterinarian and is waiting to hear back from that office to see if she would like to serve on the Board. She asks that her appointment be tabled until the February 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.**

- (e) To succeed David Melton (Post #1) for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.

**Commissioner Flowers-Taylor appointed Wade Hutcheson to represent Post #1 on the Animal Care and Control Advisory Committee for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.**

- (f) To succeed Daryl Williams (Post #5) for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.

**Commissioner Hawbaker reappointed Daryl Williams to represent Post #5 on the Animal Care and Control Advisory Committee for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.**

21. Consider appointment to the Region Six DBHDD (Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities) Planning Board:

- (a) To succeed Geraldine Jackson for a three year term ending December 31, 2018.

**Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Ray to reappoint Geraldine Jackson for a three year term ending December 31, 2018. Motion carried unanimously by all.**

- (b) To succeed Marilyn Roberts for a three year term ending December 31, 2018.

Mr. Wilson advised that we have not heard back from Ms. Roberts regarding this appointment and we currently do not have anyone in the book who has signed up for consideration of this appointment.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that she feels we need to re-advertise for this post as it is a position that require the appointed individual to travel out of town to attend the meeting. There is no per diem paid; however, mileage is reimbursed by the State for the travel.

Mr. Wilson stated that these meetings are held in Columbus at 1:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of every other month.

***Motion/Second by Ray/Flowers-Taylor to table this appointment until an appropriate candidate can be located. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

22. Consider appointments to the Griffin-Spalding County Development Authority.

- (a) To succeed Chairperson Rita Johnson as the Chairman's appointment for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.

***Chairperson Johnson stated that she would like to remain on this Authority for another term to end December 31, 2016.***

- (b) To succeed Walter Cliff Futral for a three year term ending December 31, 2018.

Mr. Wilson advised that there are two nomination forms that are signed and interested in serving on this Authority. Chipper Gardner was nominated by Commissioner Hawbaker on November 24, 2015; Walter Cliff Futral was nominated by Commissioner Flowers-Taylor on December 3, 2015.

Mr. Fortune advised that the voted would need to proceed according to the date that the nomination form was signed and placed in the book for consideration.

***Motion/Second by Hawbaker/Ray to appoint Chipper Gardner for a three year term ending December 31, 2018. Motion failed 2-3 (Flowers-Taylor/Miller/Johnson)***

***Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Miller to reappoint Walter Cliff Futral for a three year term ending December 31, 2018. 3-2 (Hawbaker/Ray).***

23. Consider appointments to the Griffin-Spalding County Hospital Authority.

- (a) Chairman or designee to succeed Commissioner Raymond Ray for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.

***Chairperson Johnson reappointed Commissioner Raymond Ray as her designee to the Griffin-Spalding Hospital Authority for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.***

- (b) To succeed Cynthia Tidwell for a four year term ending December 31, 2019.

Mr. Wilson advised that there have been three nomination forms placed in the book for this appointment: Katherine Lindgren who was nominated by Commissioner Hawbaker on November 16, 2015; Cynthia Tidwell who was nominated by Commissioner Ray on November 25, 2015; and, Larry Hodges who was nominated by Commissioner Miller on December 29, 2015.

Commissioner Johnson asked for a brief background on each candidate prior to casting a vote for the individuals.

Mr. Wilson advised that:

Katherine Lindgren is a retired Dean of the College of Nursing from the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga. She supplied a six page curriculum vata. She has a BS from Troy State University, an MS Degree from Georgia State University and a PHD from the Medical College of Georgia. She currently a registered nurse in the State of Tennessee, inactive in the States of Florida and Georgia he advised that Ms. Lindgrine has many certifications. She is also the Certified Trustee for the Tennessee Hospital Association.

Cynthia Tidwell is the Director of the Spalding County Health Department and has worked at the Health Department for ±30 years.

Larry Hodges is a retired Hospital Administrator, Emory Healthcare, Southern Regional Medical Center, Medical Center of Macon and the Griffin-Spalding County Hospital Human Resource Director from 1979-1984. Graduated from Georgia State and West Georgia College.

Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that Cynthia Tidwell is totally a team player and I can see where she would “jump right in” and try to fill that position. She is our Health Department nurse, she does all of the flu shots for the County and administers all of the other health programs. She stated that she admires her for service to this community, but she feels that this may be an opportunity to give her a break and let someone else take over this appointment. Commissioner Flowers-Taylor stated that this lady goes above and beyond in her dedication to this County.

Commissioner Hawbaker added that his nomination is in no way a reflection on the job that Ms. Tidwell has done during her time on this Authority.

Commissioner Miller stated that Mr. Hodges had read about the appointments and he called him and expressed his interest in service on this committee. His further stated that his nomination of Mr. Hodges was in no way a reflection of dissatisfaction with the job that has been done by Ms. Tidwell.

Commissioner Ray stated that he had spoken to Ms. Tidwell and she indicated that she would be interested in serving on this Authority. She is very knowledgeable of the health trends within this community and she is respected statewide within the health department system. Ms. Tidwell serves on many other organizations as well.

***Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Hawbaker to appoint Katherine Lindgren to the Griffin-Spalding Hospital Authority for a four year term***

**ending December 31, 2019. Motion carried 3-2 (Ray/Miller).**

24. Consider appointment to the Griffin Downtown Council-Main Street Advisory Board.

- (a) Chairman or designee to succeed Chairperson Rita Johnson for a one year term to expire December 31, 2016.

**Chairperson Johnson indicated that she would like to remain as the Spalding County representative on this Board.**

25. Consider appointments to the Griffin-Spalding County Area Transportation Committee.

- (a) To succeed Commissioner Bart Miller for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.

**Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Ray to reappoint Commissioner Bart Miller for a one year term ending December 31, 2016. Motion carried unanimously by all.**

- (b) To succeed Fire Chief Kenny West for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.

**Motion/Second by Ray/Flowers-Taylor to reappoint Fire Chief Kenny West for a one year term ending December 31, 2016. Motion carried unanimously by all.**

- (c) Chairman or designee to succeed Commissioner Donald Hawbaker for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.

**Chairperson Johnson reappointed Commissioner Donald Hawbaker as her designee to the Griffin-Spalding Area Transportation Committee for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.**

- (d) To succeed Eddie Freeman for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.

**Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Ray to reappoint Eddie Freeman for a one year term ending December 31, 2016. Motion carried unanimously by all.**

- (e) To succeed Todd Harris for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.

**Motion/Second by Ray/Flowers-Taylor to reappoint Todd Harris for a one year term ending December 31, 2016. Motion carried unanimously by all.**

- (f) To succeed Chad Jacobs for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.

**Motion/Second by Flowers-Taylor/Ray to reappoint Chad Jacobs for a one year term ending December 31, 2016. Motion carried unanimously by all.**

- (g) To succeed William P. Wilson, Jr. for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.

***Motion/Second by Ray/Flowers-Taylor to reappoint William P. Wilson, Jr. for a one year term ending December 31, 2016. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

- (h) To succeed Sheriff Wendell Beam for a one year term ending December 31, 2016.

***Motion/Second by Ray/Flowers-Taylor to reappoint Sheriff Wendell Beam for a one year term ending December 31, 2016. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

## **XII. REPORT OF COUNTY MANAGER**

- Martin Luther King Celebration, January 18, 2015. He advised that Chairman Johnson is the only Commissioner who has notified us that she will be participating in the Celebration, we need for everyone on the Board to let Kathy Gibson know so we can get that information to the Committee.
- Remind everyone that the second meeting in January has been cancelled due to the MLK Holiday
- Archway Retreat is scheduled for February 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016 in Carrollton, GA. We have made reservations for everyone.
- The Board of Commissioners Retreat is February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016, at the Spalding County Senior Center.
- The County's In-Rem hearing is scheduled for January 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.
- Special Called Meeting on the 2015 SPLOST is scheduled for next Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. He advised that he anticipates the meeting lasting through lunch, so he will be asking the CI to provide lunch.

## **XIII. REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Commissioner Donald Hawbaker** stated that he was pleased with what was done at Christmas for the employees in appreciation for their service. The function itself, the location at the Carver Road Fire Station, and the gift cards that were donated. All of the responses to the event received from Wendy Law indicated that this was received very well by the employees.

**Commissioner Flowers-Taylor** stated that she had several things to say:

Mr. Wright who came tonight to talk about Pineview Road. Part of this road is in her district and part of it is in Chairman Johnson's district. She stated that she does understand because the road is a "raggedy road." She stated that she didn't know when we would be talking with the Transportation Planner, B. J. Martin, but when the initial Comprehensive Planning was done, paving of that road was part of the connectivity that would give traffic relief to North Hill Street, Jordan Hill Road and Old Atlanta Highway. She stated that she realizes that is more than a mile of road that needs to be paved, but she hopes that we can start looking at

paving this road. She further stated that she believes this is one of the roads where we have already obtained all of the right-of-ways to the properties on this road because it is in bad shape.

She was surprised by the comments made by Ms. Walker-Harps, but she does agree with some of the points she made. We do live in a society where if you show up for a job and you have ever committed a felony as soon as that is seen on your application the application is tossed in the trash can. She stated that she believes that the City no longer has this requirement on their application.

She stated that she feels Ms. Walker Harps is correct in her assertion that it hinders the process if the act is a non-violent act to hinder these applicants from consideration simply because they have made a mistake. This prevents them from having access to good jobs, insurance and health care for the families. She would like to see the County look at our policy and determine if our policy hurts or harms.

In response to the gentleman who appeared this evening to talk about the garbage pick-up. It is approaching budget time and this issue always comes up; however, the answer to his question is probably not going to be the answer that he is looking for or that he wants because at the end of the day this is still a service to the community.

She stated that she did not get to attend the event for the employees, but she did receive a thank-you note. She added that she thought this expression of appreciation was awesome. She stated that this is a way for the Board to show appreciation to the employees without having to dig into the "County's Coffers" to provide a function like this for the employees. She stated that this simple gesture of showing appreciation means so much more and I am very proud to have been a part of this effort even though I was not able to be there.

With regard to the Archway Retreat, she stated that she has not seen the survey notes from the Young Professionals. She understands there was a survey conducted with the young people in this community and she would like to see the results of that survey prior to the Retreat we can get a sense of the purpose of that survey and we can comment on the results.

Mr. Wilson advised that the Employee Appreciation Day was the "brain child" of Wendy Law and T.J. Imberger.

**Commissioner Raymond Ray** wanted to congratulate the employees who came up with the idea of the Appreciation Day and thank the members of the Board Members for coming up with \$600 in gift cards to be given out to the employees at that function. He wanted to say hats off to Parks & Rec., Wendy and Eric for their hard work that entire day, they were there from approximately 7:00 a.m. that morning until after midnight that night.

He advised that he will be out of town on MLK Day so he will not be able to participate in the Celebration planned for that date.

**Commissioner Bart Miller** wanted to thank Public Works, they have had their hands full over the past few weeks with the weather being so bad. We have had over 15 inches of rain in the area they have had to contend with problems involving bridges, ditches, potholes and other related problems. They have had a lot of work to do over the last three weeks and he appreciates what they have done.

He stated that he gave everyone a letter from a resident on Rover Road, they have had people out there on four wheelers tearing up the ditches. Public Works has been out there on three different occasions and the Sheriff's Department has been out there. The residents have requested a 25 mile per hour speed limit for that road as it is a very crooked road and Pike County has already implemented a 25 MPH speed limit for this road. He is requesting that the process be started to implement the change in the speed limit as requested by these citizens.

Commissioner Miller stated that he wanted to thank the 180 employees out of 500 employees who showed up for this function. He hopes that in the future there will be more participation.

Chairperson Rita Johnson wanted to thank the Board for coming together in 2015 to accomplish a lot of wonderful things. She feels that the group worked well together and she is grateful that we could come together and get it done for the residents of Spalding County. Thank you for the many things we have been able to accomplish in 2015 and she is looking forward to 2016.

She also stated that Griffin was highlighted in a Georgia Public Broadcasting was included in the list of "Great Things in Small Towns." This broadcast featured a lot of things regarding the county so if we could get our hands on a copy of this broadcast.

**XIV. CLOSED SESSION**

**XV. ADJOURNMENT**

***Motion/Second by Miller/Ray to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. Motion carried unanimously by all.***

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Rita Johnson, Chairperson

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
William P. Wilson, Jr., Clerk