

HEARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
July 27, 2021 - 6:30 P.M.

The Heard County Board of Commissioners held a Commissioners Meeting on July 27, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. in the Commission Chamber of the Heard County Administration Building. In attendance at the meeting were Chairman Lee Boone, District 1 Commissioner Larry Hooks, District 2 Commissioner James Perry, District 3 Commissioner Gwen Caldwell, District 4 Commissioner Larry Hammond, District 5 Commissioner David Walls, and County Attorney Jerry Ann Conner.

Agenda Item # 2 - Welcome, Invocation, and Pledge to the American Flag - Chairman Boone called the meeting to order, gave the invocation and welcomed everyone present.

Agenda Item # 3 – Public Hearings – Special Use Application – Tillman Infrastructure

LLC – Chairman Boone explained that at the last meeting, one party was absent because they were given the wrong date. The parties were informed that this public hearing was being reheard after a veto by the Chairman of the decision made on June 22, 2021. Chairman Boone explained that the public hearing would be heard like the previous public hearing had never taken place. Chairman Boone explained the rules of the public hearing and allowed the applicant to speak first. Mr. Rotenstreich, with Baker Donelson, representing AT&T, stated that he was the one that had been given the wrong date and asked for the veto. Mr. Rotenstreich, spoke about why the county should allow a new tower and the upgrades it would allow for cell service and other services for the citizens of Heard County. Mr. Totten, with The Gilroy Firm, representing SBA, spoke next and spoke about why the county should not allow a new tower to be built. On motion (Hammonds) and second (Perry), the Board voted to close the Public Hearing.

Application to Rezone – 470 Willis Dick Road – Chairman Boone explained Ms. Barbara Lantzy wished to rezone 3.27 acres from Rural Development to Single Family Residential in

order to split the land to sale the home. The Planning Commission recommends to approve the application. Having no one to speak for or against the rezone, on motion (Perry) and second (Hooks), the Board voted to close the public hearing.

Agenda Item # 5 – Approval of Minutes – Approval of work session minutes and regular meeting minutes from June 22, 2021. On motion (Hammond) and second (Perry), the Board unanimously voted to approve all the minutes as written.

Agenda Item # 6 – Amendments – Commissioner Walls requested and addition under old business add item “c”- Advisory Board for the Arena and item “d”- American Rescue Plan, and an amendment needed to be made to add item addition under new business add item “d”- Discussion/Decision- Willis Dick Road. On motion (Walls) and second (Perry), the Board unanimously approved these amendments.

Agenda Item # 7 – New Business – a. Decision – Tillman Infrastructure –Chairman Boone asked Commissioner Perry to start this discussion since the proposed tower was in his district. Commissioner Perry stated our whole county would love to have 5G and First Net would be a great service to have. Commissioner Perry also stated that the ordinance does not give a reason to deny this request. County Attorney Conner asked Commissioner Perry if he wanted any amendments on this approval, and Commissioner Perry asked the Board to approve this request with the amendments of permits being pulled within 18 months and allowing a spot on the tower for County Emergency Services at no charge. On motion (Perry) and (Hooks), the Board unanimously voted to approve this request.

b. Discussion – Financial Report – Chairman Boone stated that this item had been placed on the agenda because some commissioners had made request for financial information. Ms. Felicia Adams, Heard County Finance Director, informed the Board that this financial report was

preaudit. Chairman Boone also stated that the new American Rescue Plan money came with guidelines from the Federal Government and then from ACCG on what this money could be spent on.

c. Discussion/Decision – Glover Road Park Bids – Chairman Boone asked Ms. Kathy Knowles to come to the podium to discuss the Glover Road Park bids and projects. Ms. Knowles discussed that Mr. Kevin Hamby, Hamby Management, Ms. Felicia Adams, Finance Director, and herself, Director of the Heard County Development Authority opened bids and discovered an investigative section need to be completed. Ms. Knowles asked that the Board hold off on awarding the bid until the next meeting on August 24, 2021. On motion (Caldwell) and second (Hammond) the Board unanimously agreed to table this decision.

d. Discussion/Decision – Broadband- Ms. Kathy Knowles was asked to stay at the podium and discuss the Broadband project and resolution to delegate authority to the County’s Development Authority to participate in the NTIA Broadband Infrastructure program and/or the Georgia OPB Program and make a match contribution towards the grants (see attached). Ms. Knowles explained how the current broadband will cross the western portion of Heard County. Ms. Knowles also explained the Development Authority is working to get a grant that will allow them access to funds. These funds would be used to work with Coweta-Fayette EMC and Sync Global that would help them cover sections of Eastern Heard County. Commissioner Walls asked if both projects would be active at the same time. Ms. Knowles said they would not interfere with each other and could be done at the same time. On motion (Hooks) and second (Hammond), the Board unanimously voted to allow the Chairman to sign this resolution on behalf of the county.

e. Discussion/Decision – 470 Willis Dick Road – Chairman Boone explained that the applicant wished to split the current property to sell a portion to the tenant that currently lives in the other home. On motion (Caldwell) and second (Hammond), the Board unanimously voted to approve this rezone as requested.

Agenda Item # 8 – Old Business – a. Arena Guidelines – Chairman Boone stated that since the start of the arena, guidelines have evolved and there are a lot more events and the guidelines need a formal update. Commissioner Hammond read the guidelines and did not see anything that needed to be changed. Chairman Boone stated that the motion needed a date when they are enacted. Commissioner Hammond made the motion to accept the guidelines/contract as written with the effective date for January 1, 2021. Commissioner Perry made the second and the Board unanimously approved this request.

b. Discussion/Decision – Declare Heard County Items Surplus – Chairman Boone passed out list of surplus items to the Board and asked the Board to approve them to be sold at public auction on July 31, 2021. On motion (Hooks) and second (Caldwell), the Board unanimously approved this request.

c. Discussion– American Rescue Plan – Commissioner Walls ask to discuss funds coming to the county from the American Rescue Plan. He asked that there be a work session before money is spent and more education was needed about what the funds could be spent on.

Agenda Item # 9 – Public Comment – Sammy Noles of 6959 Ridgeway Road spoke about a message that had been sent to him.

Randy Chesnutt of 281 Eley Road spoke about the Cattlemen’s Association and the new Arena Guidelines/Contract.

Kim Pike of 364 Cassel Road spoke about the decision to create an Arena Board.

Agenda Item # 8 – Executive Session – None

There being no further business, on motion (Caldwell) and second (Hooks), the Board voted unanimously to adjourn.

Adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Hope Cole

County Clerk

Rae Boone

Chairman

Date 08-24-2021



VETO

As Chairman of the Heard County, GA Board of Commissioners, and pursuant to the 1991 Ga. Laws 479, codified in the Heard County Code of Ordinances, Article I, Section 10(b), I hereby **VETO** the decision of the Heard County Board of Commissioners pertaining to the Special Use Application filed by Tillman Infrastructure, LLC for the location of a wireless telecommunications facility near Glenloch Road, Franklin, GA. This matter is designated as items IV(a) and VIII(a) on the June 22, 2021 Agenda of the Heard County Commissioners Meeting, a copy of which is attached. Such **VETO** is exercised within ten (10) days of the vote on the Special Use Application. This item is hereby placed on the Agenda for reconsideration by the Board of Commissioners at the next regular meeting.

Signature: Lee Boone

Name: Lee Boone

Title: Chairman of the Heard County, GA Board of Commissioners

Date: June 30, 2021