

**HEARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
FEBRUARY 25, 2020 - 6:30 P.M.**

The Heard County Board of Commissioners held a Commissioners Meeting on February 25, 2020 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 3 Commissioner Gwen Caldwell, District 4 Commissioner Larry Hammond, District 5 Commissioner David Walls and County Attorney Jerry Ann Conner. District 2 Commission seat is vacant at this time, due to Mrs. Keri Denney resigning January 29, 2020.

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 – Approval of Minutes – January 28, 2020 – On motion (Hooks) and second (Hammond), the Board unanimously approved the minutes as presented.

Agenda Item # 4 – Amend Agenda – None.

Agenda Item # 5 – New Business – a. Adopt Second Amendment Resolution – Chairman Boone presented a resolution declaring Heard County as a Second Amendment Sanctuary county. He read the resolution into the minutes. On motion (Hammond) and second (Hooks), the Board unanimously approved this resolution.

b. Approve Hazard Mitigation Grant Update Contract with Plans & More, LLP – Ms. Sharon Armstrong, Plans & More, LLP – Chief Steve Wirth stated that 5 years ago the County worked on the hazard mitigation plan that is a required plan in order for Heard County to receive any FEMA and GEMA funds, in the case of a disaster in Heard County. Ms. Sharon Armstrong with Plans & More, LLP stated that Plans & More and the Hazard Mitigation Committee, met today to discuss any changes that need to be made to the plan and would be presenting these changes and the plan back to the Board

after all the public hearing requirements are met, for approval. She stated that the first draft would be presented to FEMA in June, 2020. She asked the Board to approve the Plans & More contract and stated that this contract is going to be paid with FEMA grant monies that Heard County recently received. On motion (Hammond) and second (Walls), the Board unanimously approved this request and gave Chairman Boone permission to sign on behalf of Heard County.

c. Approve 2020 SPLOST 5 Spending Plan – Mr. Kevin Hamby, Heard County SPLOST

Manager – On motion (Hooks) and second (Caldwell), the 2020 SPLOST V spending plan, was unanimously approved.

d. Approve FY 2020 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application Resolution –

On motion (Hooks) and second (Hammond), the Board unanimously approved this resolution to move forward on the CDBG application process.

Agenda Item # 7 – Old Business – a. Discuss Right of Way Spraying – Mr. Darold Wiggins,

Heard County Public Works Director – Darold Wiggins, Public Works Director presented a right of way spraying summary from 2016 to 2019. He also went over the history of the road department relating to personnel, bush hogging and road paving. Commissioner Caldwell stated he was concerned about erosion after the right of way spraying. He stated he would like to see the bush hogging reinstated. Commissioner Hammond stated he had not considered the safety aspect of not bush hogging as Darold explained.

Heard County Resident – Ms. Diane Dawson, 7161 Ridgeway Road, Franklin, GA; Heard

County Resident – Heard County resident, Diane Dawson spoke regarding the right of way spraying. She expressed her concerns about the herbicides being sprayed, the herbicides possibly hurting the bee population and causing erosion on her property. She asked the Board to reconsider the practice of spraying for weed control.

Mr. Sammy Noles, 6959 Ridgeway Road, Franklin, GA; Heard County Resident – Heard County resident, Sammy Noles also spoke regarding the right of way spraying. He also expressed his concern about the right of way spraying not being bid out to other companies. Mr. Noles expressed other concerns with items Chairman Boone has purchased.

Chairman Boone asked the Board if they would like to continue spraying the right of ways or go back to bush hogging. Commissioner Hammond stated he would like to see the statistics on other counties who spray their right of ways. Commissioner Walls agreed. Commissioner Caldwell stated he agreed and there is time to decide before the weather will allow any spraying or bush hogging be done.

Agenda Item #7 – Public Comments – Mr. Fritz Joh a Heard County resident stated he would like to see more bush hogging done than spraying because of the erosion. Mr. Andrew Betts a Heard County resident stated he would like to see more ditching done on the dirt roads in Heard County. Mr. Mike Robinson a Heard County resident concurred with Mr. Betts.

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 8:47 p.m.



County Clerk



Chairman

Date 4/28/2020

