

County Meeting  
May 18, 2017  
Minutes  
Union County Courthouse

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Paris at 6:00 pm. The invocation was given by Patrick Malone and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bill Royse. The minutes from the April 20, 2017 County Meeting were approved as read.

Commissioner Paris accepted a Lease Agreement between Union County and the State Properties Commission for use by the Department of Juvenile Justice for 185 square feet of office space located at 76B Hunt Martin Street in the amount of \$1.00 annually. The term of this agreement will be from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018. This is office space in the Old Nursing Home.

The Commissioner accepted a Lease Agreement between Union County and the State Properties Commission for use by the Office of the Governor Division of Georgia Emergency Management Agency for 200 square feet of office space located at 46 Hughes Street, Suite A, Blairsville in the amount of \$1.00 annually. The term of this agreement will be from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018. This is office space located in the Building Inspection Office across from the Civic Center.

The Commissioner went ahead and did numbers 4, 5, and 6 on the Agenda. He approved the following three Business Licenses issued to:

MLFD, LLC located at 58 Hawk Drive

Premier Mountain Rentals located at 670 Arrowood Landing

Cabins at Critter Crossing located at 27 Critter Crossing

This is the only type of Business License issued in Union County for the purpose of collecting the Hotel/Motel Tax.

Commissioner Paris accepted an Option Agreement between Union County and The Estate of Leon Davenport, Sydney C. Vandiver, Laurie Shelnut and Kenneth C. Chambers for a 90-day option to purchase the property located in Land Lot 269, 9<sup>th</sup> District, 1<sup>st</sup> Section of Union County. The cost of this Option Agreement is \$500.00.

The option price for 13.080 acres is \$678,500 which equates to \$51,873/ per acre. They were originally asking in the \$1.2 million-dollar range. The County had the Property appraised at \$590,000 or \$45,100 per acre. The Commissioner asked the county attorney how much they could pay above the appraised price and he recommended no more than 15% over appraisal. Commissioner Paris presented this offer to the Davenport Family and while it took a while, they finally all agreed to this price. The Commissioner said this is a major property purchase for the future of Union County recreation. The family is very excited that the county will be able to acquire the property and the Commissioner gave a special thanks to the Davenport Family for working with the County and accepting a price that they could have certainly increased with time. Commissioner Paris said he is so pleased and thankful to have made this agreement. The County's Recreation programs are growing by leaps and bounds. This will give them an opportunity to expand in the future and being adjacent to the Farmers Market makes it even more special. The County anticipates closing on the property within the next 45 days if not sooner. The Commissioner went on to say that there were of few options of what could be done with the new property that is being purchased. One option is ball fields and a soccer/football field. Nothing is set in stone at this time and the County will be considering different options.

Commissioner Paris took a moment to thank Joshua's Warriors for inviting him to speak at their Saturday breakfast. It was an honor and very nice to meet some new people and visit with some old friends.

Some projects the County is already working on this year are the Hunter England House, which is about 70% complete, the markers in the Blairsville Cemetery are up and the City of Blairsville will be installing a fence, and a new irrigation system for the Golf Course is in the beginning phases. Hidden Harbor, the new subdivision on 19/129 North donated a couple of acres to the county and the County bought one. The Commissioner said this land will be used for a Volunteer Fire Station, and a possible ambulance or convenience center. Commissioner Paris said that at the next meeting he will try to give everyone an update on roads that have been paved recently with LMIG money that the county receives from GDOT each year.

Commissioner Paris also took a moment to say that himself, Larry Garrett, and Cary Cox had the honor of attending the burial of Leon Davenport in Arlington National Cemetery in Washington D.C. He said it was an amazing service and he was proud to get to witness this great honor. He was very thankful the family had asked him to attend and that he was able to.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:45.

Respectfully submitted by:

  
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Jennifer Queen, County Clerk

Approved this 15<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2017

  
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Lamar Paris, Commissioner