

County Meeting
December 17, 2019
Minutes
Union County Courthouse

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Lamar Paris at 6:00 pm. The invocation was given by Pam Hawkins and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bill Walker. The minutes from the November 21, 2019 County Meeting were approved as presented.

The meeting started by Commissioner Paris asking Jared Ogden and Steve Weaver from the Sons of the American Revolution to come to the front to conduct the Firefighter and EMS Awards Presentations. Sid Turner, who was on the Agenda, was not able to attend to conduct the award presentation. Richard Jones, Battalion Chief with the Union County Fire Department, received the first award and Cory Parks from Union General EMS received the second award. Cory Parks was also awarded the Murray King Award on behalf of the King Family. The Sons of the American Revolution also presented Commissioner Paris with the Good Citizenship Award.

The Commissioner accepted an Agreement with Correctional Resource Group for the Food Service Contract at the Union County Jail. The new prices will go into effect January 4, 2020 and will reflect a 2% increase per meal. For example, the cost of 40-49 meals is currently \$2.79 per meal and with the 2% increase they will now be \$2.84 per meal.

Commissioner Paris accepted a Security Agreement for Funds Held in Deposit between Union County and Bank OZK for funds placed in the Accountability Court checking account, for which Union County is the Fiscal Agent. This agreement assures that Bank OZK will guarantee and cover 110% of the total amount on deposit in accordance with FDIC regulations should anything happen.

The Commissioner accepted a Custodial Service Agreement between Union County and Bank OZK for funds placed in the Accountability Court checking account, for which Union County is the Fiscal Agent. The same thing applies to this agreement as the previous one. This is just an additional required document for the county to be guaranteed protection by the FDIC in the event something should happen to the bank and our funds.

The Commissioner accepted a Land Purchase and Sale Agreement between Union County and Gooch Trucking Co., Inc. for the purchase of 12.009 acres more or less of Soccer Fields located in the 9th District, 1st Section, Land Lot 172 of Union County in the amount of \$150,000. Commissioner Paris said this purchase had been in process for many months. The company that had the water plant owned the property where the Soccer Fields are located, and Mountain United Soccer Association (MUSA) has been organizing soccer practices, games, and tournaments for kids and adults for many years. Since the Union County Recreation Department does not offer soccer or have space for soccer fields this is a great way for soccer to be available in the county. MUSA will be entering into a 10-year lease with Union County to use this property. With this lease they will be able to apply for grants to update the fields and make other improvements.

The Commissioner accepted the award of the ACCG Employee Safety Grant in the amount of \$5,000 from ACCG – Group Self-Insurance Workers' Compensation Fund. This grant was used to purchase two sets of turnout gear and one fire helmet.

Commissioner Paris accepted the award of the Georgia Hospital Association Ebola Grant in the amount of \$1,700.82. This grant was used to purchase protective eyewear, masks, gloves, and sharps containers for the Union County Fire Department.

All attendees were provided a copy of the 2019 Report on Projects Funded Through Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax. The Commissioner stated this was the most recent status report on the current SPLOST Program. Sales tax numbers are coming in good, and the county is in good shape.

Commissioner Paris approved the following three Business Licenses:

Coosa Home at 88 Grassy Knoll
Bigfoot Bluff at 169 Papas Mountain
John Fontaine Rental at 326 Talon Trace

These are the only type of Business Licenses issued in the County for the purpose of collecting the Hotel/Motel Tax.

The Commissioner reminded everyone about the Food Drive that the County is doing again this year. The donation buckets are located in both the upstairs and downstairs lobby of the Union County Courthouse, the Union County Library, and City Hall. The donations collected go directly to the Union County Food Pantry to help replenish the supplies after the holiday season when they are depleted the most.

Commissioner Paris reminded everyone that the Union County Courthouse and other Union County offices will be closed on Tuesday, December 24th and Wednesday December 25. They will also be closed on Wednesday, January 1st in observance of the New Year. The Commissioner advised attendees they should have received a copy of the 2020 Schedule of County Meetings at the previous meeting, but if they needed another copy they were on the sign in table.

To close out the meeting, the Commissioner stated that 2019 had been a very busy year with the start of the Double Gym and Pickleball Courts, the start and completion of the new pavilion at Meeks Park, the Fire Department's Training Facility, and lots of road paving and patching as usual. The County and Commissioner Paris are looking forward to more projects next year and he wished everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and prosperous New Year.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:22.

Respectfully submitted by:



Jennifer Mahan, County Clerk

Approved this 21st day of January, 2020



Lamar Paris, Commissioner