

County Meeting
June 18, 2020 6:00pm
Minutes
Union County Courthouse

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Lamar Paris at 6:00 pm.

The invocation was given by Patrick Malone and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bill Walker. The minutes from the May 21, 2020 County Meeting and the May 28, 2020 Called Meeting were approved as presented.

Commissioner Paris accepted an Agreement between Union County and CHA Consulting, Inc. to provide a Conceptual Site Plan and Feasibility Study for the Union County Jail. This Agreement went into effect on June 12, 2020 and the cost is \$2,500. The Commissioner stated this simply involves planning for the possibility of a jail upgrade or new jail in the distant future. The County feels that they need to be looking for property now and if a potential site is found it must be evaluated. Hopefully this project is still in the very distant future.

The Commissioner accepted a Memorandum of Agreement between U.S. Army Garrison, Fort Benning, GA and Dawson, Fannin, Gilmer, Hall, Lumpkin, Union, and White Counties. This agreement creates a systematic approach to expedite local and regional mutual aid assistance, share information, and rapidly share and sustain emergency aid and resources between the U.S. Army Fort Benning, local governmental bodies, and regional emergency responders when capabilities are exceeded by emergent situations.

Commissioner Paris accepted a Contract between Union County and Freeman Gas for propane services in the amount of \$0.89 per gallon from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. Commissioner Paris thanked the Union County Purchasing Agent, Pam Hawkins, for always negotiating a great price.

The Commissioner accepted a Contract between Union County and Teague Nall and Perkins, Inc. (TNP) to provide consulting services on an as needed basis and billed monthly. This engineering company is locally managed by Wayne Fowler, and they are consulting with the Road Department on a watershed drainage project.

Commissioner Paris accepted an Agreement between Union County and Al Garnto Fine Art Studio to design, construct, and erect a floral themed metal sculpture in full color to be located at the new pavilion in Meeks Park. The total cost of the decorative sculpture will not exceed \$3,500.

The Commissioner accepted an Agreement between Union County and Engineering Management, Inc. for professional services to design a wastewater pump station in Meeks Park for a new restroom facility. The cost of this agreement is \$16,200 and went into effect on June 8, 2020. This new restroom facility will be partially funded by TVA.

Commissioner Paris accepted an Addendum Agreement between Union County and AT&T Georgia for adding additional rate elements to the existing E911 Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) equipment and software. The cost of the Addendum to the Agreement was \$1,500 and went into effect on September 30, 2019. This will enhance the existing E-911 system.

The Commissioner approved the award of the Employee Safety Grant in the amount of \$4,000 from the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG) – Group Self-Insurance Workers’ Compensation Fund to Union County. This grant will be used to purchase additional safety equipment for the Union County Fire Department. The safety equipment will include; firefighting gloves, firefighting boots, firefighting hoods, and helmets.

Commissioner Paris approved Resolution R-2020-14 to extend the Emergency Moratorium on Applications for Multi-Family Unit Developments that was originally enacted on August 6, 2019. This Emergency Moratorium will be extended for up to 190-days from April 2, 2020. The county is still in the process of re-writing the guidelines for multi-family housing units.

The Commissioner approved the following two Business Licenses:

28 Lake Vista, LLC – 28 Lake Vista Drive
Big Sky Pines – 265 Robert Hull Lane

The Commissioner then stated these are hectic times with regard to COVID-19 issues and working toward opening up recreation facilities, along with other county facilities. He said everything is now open to an extent except for the swimming pool and splash pad. The County is closely monitoring the COVID-19 numbers within Union County and the State. They continue to increase, but at a relatively moderate rate. The number of those hospitalized due to COVID-19 remain in the very low category of less than five. The public access of the Union County Courthouse is still an issue. The County is working with judges and staff to ensure safety as visitors to the Courthouse increase. Until the Commissioner, Judges, and staff are totally confident that the COVID-19 numbers are stable, or falling, they are going to take all the precautions necessary to ensure the safety of employees and visitors to the Courthouse.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jennifer Mahan, County Clerk

Approved this ____ day of _____, _____

Lamar Paris, Commissioner

DRAFT