

County Meeting  
October 21, 2021 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 September 16, 2021 County Meeting were unavailable at the time of the meeting.

Commissioner Paris accepted a Quitclaim Deed from Arthur L. McAfee, James P. McAfee, and Melva Lynn Drake to Union County Government for all that tract or parcel of land lying in Land Lot 242, 9<sup>th</sup> District, 1<sup>st</sup> Section of Union County being Tract 2, containing 0.153 acres recorded in Plat Book 72, Page 424 of Union County Records. This property is related to the extension of the docks at Canal Lake Boat Ramp. Union County owns the land and the boat ramp at the end of Canal Lake Road. A few years ago Georgia DNR installed docks next to the boat ramp for loading and unloading into and out of boats. It was determined that during the winter months the lake was lower here and the dock needed two extensions to still be usable as the lake level decreased. On property records the McAfee Family still owned the land that was under the water where the two dock extensions would be placed. The family was more than happy and willing to deed this 0.153 acres to Union County, thus allowing Georgia DNR to order and install the two dock extensions.

The Commissioner accepted an Affidavit of Appointment for Riccardo B. Rivas to the Union County Board of Elections for the term of September 6, 2021 to December 31, 2022. Mr. Carl Foutz resigned from his appointment and Mr. Rivas will be completing the term. This is one of the appointments made by the Democratic Party.

Commissioner Paris approved an Amendment to the Union County Personnel Policies with the addition of a section related to Parental Leave. Parental leave consists of three weeks of paid time off for the full-time employee that is a parent to a newborn infant, adopted child, or foster child to be used after the birth, adoption, or permanent placement of a minor child within the full-time employee's immediate household. This policy amendment will go into effect on November 1, 2021.

The Commissioner approved a Notice of Award of Contract for the Union County Facilities Additions/Renovations Project to Winkler & Winkler Construction in the amount of \$698,075.00. The date of the Notice of Award is October 1, 2021. This is an approved addition to the Union County Senior Center and another facility in an undisclosed location.

Commissioner Paris approved a Contract between Winkler & Winkler and Union County for the Union County Facilities Additions/Renovations Project in the amount of \$698,075.00. This contract has an effective date of October 1, 2021 and is the same facility listed above. The Senior Center addition is \$422,579, and the other facility is \$275,496.

The Commissioner accepted an Agreement between Cummins, Inc. and Union County for planned maintenance of the generator located at the Union County 911 Center in the amount of \$1,199.72. This contract is effective from November 1, 2021 to October 31, 2026 and covers

two service visits per year, one full maintenance service per year, and one maintenance inspection per year during the agreement period.

Commissioner Paris accepted an Agreement between Mobile Communications America and Union County for planned maintenance of the repeaters used for communications between 911 Dispatch and emergency service personnel. This contract is effective from September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2022 at a cost of \$4,800.00.

The Commissioner approved an Agreement between the North Carolina Department of Transportation and Union County for the paving of 0.34 miles (1,800 feet) of Tate Road. North Carolina DOT agreed to reimburse Union County \$36,084.00 for the cost to pave the portion of Tate Road that is located across the state line in North Carolina. Tate Road is on the north end of Union County and is a long road. The road starts and ends in Union County, but there is a 0.34 mile portion of this road that crosses the line over into North Carolina. Union County was resurfacing all of Tate Road and offered to North Carolina that Union County would pave the portion that was located across the line at a reasonable cost if they would reimburse Union County and they agreed.

Commissioner Paris approved the following Business Licenses. Please remember that Union County only issues Business Licenses for the purpose of collecting the Hotel Motel Tax.

Cabin Fever

182 P.N. Watkins

70 Odnock, LLC

70 Odnock Drive

Byron Herbert Reece Farm Village

8552 Gainesville Highway

Loose Caboose

494 Notla Vista II

Bear Cove Cabin

3525 Owltown Road

Moon Wink Cabin

445 Helton Creek Road

56 Fairview Avenue

56 Fairview Avenue

At Ease on Lake Nottely, LLC

67 Lake Shores Drive

Laurie Brothers requested to be placed on the Agenda to speak regarding TSPLOST, Budget, Vaccines, and Elections. She stated, "I'm excited to be speaking and I'm thankful for this

opportunity to speak. I do want to give all the glory to God. We must never forget that with God, all things are possible, so honor him. I just wanted to read Psalms 145, 3 and 4. It says, 'Great is the Lord and he is greatly to be praised and his greatness is unsearchable. One generation shall praise thy works to another and shall declare thy mighty acts.' Then a word of caution to us from Isaiah 5:20. Is it woe unto them that call evil good and good evil and goes off. So I would like to just quickly ask you um so the board of elections is under your umbrella and two are elected by the democrats and two from the republicans and may I ask you, 'Are you a registered democrat, republican, or other. Lamar Paris stated, "This is not the question and answer section of the meeting just for you to come up and make comments." Please, if somebody wants to ask that after the meeting is over that'll be fine. Election integrity. I'm going to be strong is of the utmost importance. We lose our country, and we don't get rid of our dominion voting machines um there's another issue of equal importance which is intertwined with election integrity and that is COVID-19. The result of it are the deaths and injuries occurring before our eyes caused by the COVID-19 experimental vaccines along with the person in the oval office that is not duly elected through October 8th the vader's website shows 16,766 vaccine deaths a total of 25 799 reported deaths there, but they've distinguished that only 16 were from the covid um adverse events 798,634 on that website, I've learned that the COVID-19 experimental vaccine kills and injures; experimental COVID-19 vaccine has always been the end game of COVID-19. Follow the money; follow the patents; is investigational experimental people not animals but people the spiked protein injures the vascular system causing the body to attack itself continuously. It's an experiment with any type of medical experiment informed consent must take place per the Nuremberg code, but information is being suppressed. People are being lied to. Just check out city hall and had we not had the pandemic, the massive amounts of mail in ballots and many election irregularities that took place across the United States never would have happened. The 2020 election needs to be fixed. I informed the elections board again, which is under I believe the county commissioner's umbrella since he appoints the chairwoman at the October 13th board of elections meeting. Only four citizens were in attendance. Meetings are not posted on the website when I asked why um Ms. Stevens responded that well that was uh in the January newspaper. I requested a forensic audit that was denied. Uh we know dominion machines are connected to the internet. I want to thank voterga.org for filing their lawsuit. Um the current about current machines accumulate votes in QR codes. They're not verifiable or readable by the voter. Georgia law requires an elector verifiable paper ballot in human readable text. That is why judge takenberg in a united states district court ruled that this equipment is in violation of two Georgia laws. Back on 11-Oct 2020 a year ago, yes, that was three weeks prior to the November election, we voted on illegal machines according to a U.S. united states district court. as long as we are using the dominion machines how can we have faith in the electoral process. Moving forward, we still have the machines; early voting has begun for T-Splost and Tuesday's north Georgia news it was reported that there was an issue with the dominion tabulator and the board of elections had to bring the registrar's office a new machine. Sounds fishy to me. I'm already skeptical uh. T-Splost to be very well passed in Union County on these machines. I would like to have a forensic audit of that election too. Wouldn't you - especially if our citizens vote more taxes upon themselves. Um by the way T-Splost has been put on the ballot by our city officials and by the school commissioner and from my knowledge very little citizen discussion. Um, how much will it cost our county to run this election is the only thing we're going to be voting on. The GOP republican meeting um tax collector Lee Knight stated that Georgia is one of the most taxed states. While our taxes are low, we've got E-SPLOST plus T-SPLOST, x, y and z splost, which make us in the higher tax bracket at the end of it all. I must mention um Mike Lindell and his website for free speech, frankspeech.com. I'm going to beat that drum too. I don't know

where we would be without him. Would you like to hear real news uncensored from the judeo-christian worldview? Frankspeech.com is the place. You will love Brandon House from real free weekend. In case you haven't heard, mike has given copy was given a copy of the entire November third election. November one to the fifth. He has spent millions of dollars validating all this information. He's going to present a lawsuit to the supreme court in November right before thanksgiving. He also has a petition that he wants all of us to sign. Uh millions of signatures. So please go to frankspeech.com and sign that petition and then he's going to gather all those signatures and um present them to the supreme court along with the lawsuit. Again, if we don't fix the 2020 election, we won't have a country anymore. We will never have a fair election again. These county commissioner meetings are open meetings and minutes must be recorded. Um, as you can see on your thing, there's we still have minutes from September's meeting. According to Georgia, open meetings over records law edition 77th edition page 35 the regular minutes of a meeting must be promptly recorded. The minutes must be open to public inspection. Once approved, is official by the board of commissioner's local agency or committee but in no case later than immediately following its next regular meeting. I'd like to report that last meeting Mr. Paris said that he couldn't finish his business because of the pandemic. They had weekly meetings - closed door meetings with department heads - and it's so bad that they said they were considering calling in the national guard. The meetings are closed door meetings. The public is not welcome. Hegel explain the Hegelian dialect here's the thesis: We create a crisis, and we come back here. This is normal. They create another crisis. We're okay if we just go here. Let's create another crisis and we and they we're just..." Lamar Paris stated, "and that's sorry ma'am your time has passed." Speaker: "okie dokie thank you okay thank you and I have handouts. Um Sydney Powell has patents on uh an algorithm on the machines and so if you want any handouts I will have this available. Also Dr Brian Ardis has shown treatments um for COVID-19 in the hospitals and there' a lot of information that I like to hand out. Our people don't need to be dying in hospitals. [Applause]

Lamar Paris: Okay next will be Mr. Doyle Lively. You want to speak on T-Splost for five minutes. Lively: So you booby trap me. Paris: (laughter) Yes sir be careful. Lively: I want to thank um Commissioner Paris uh for giving me the time today and Jennifer Mahan for getting me on the agenda. I really appreciate this. I want to express my opposition to T-Splost - to the 1 tax increase with the following information. Timing for the new tax could not be worse. During the past 18 months, the United States, Georgia, and Union County has suffered through a pandemic. Something we have never seen before. The far-reaching effects continue to be digested and realized. Union County citizens pay seven sales tax now. People younger than 50 have never experienced inflation like we are in now. This inflationary period will grow faster and greater for a period of time. We cannot forecast. Since January of this year, prices have been rising every month. Gas in January was two dollars and nine cents in Union County. It was 2.69 in March, and now it's more than three dollars. Mayonnaise, beef, eggs, bread, and milk. All prices have risen. So, at a time when everything you buy has increased, Union County is proposing to raise the tax on food to four percent. That's a 33% increase. We haven't had a four percent tax on food since 1996 when Zell Miller and the legislature took it off took the sales tax off of food. Residents of Union County would be paying eight percent on everything we buy. School supplies, clothing, tires, over-the-counter drugs, supplies for your garden, tractors, electricity, and the dinner out, just to mention a few. A two thousand dollar purchase at seven percent would save you twenty dollars versus eight percent. Opposing T-Splost tax increase is to realize that the people most affected are the youth in our community. The young parents, single parents, and retired. If you have a job and you own property in Union County, every dollar you

earn is reduced by 17.9 percent (could be reduced by 17.9%) Ten percent is the minimum um IRS tax. Six percent is the state tax. The average per capita tax on property owners in Union County is 1.98 percent in the latest census. Union County has a population of 24,632 - a 15% gain since 2010. Fifteen percent of our population is under the age of 18. Thirty four percent of our population is over the age of 65. Many on fixed income and many are solely dependent on social security for their food, shelter, utilities, and needs. The poverty level in Union County is at 12 percent. Why another tax now. Last year Sole Commissioner Paris raised Union County property tax by 17 percent. He wanted 19 but after some pushback, he settled on 17%. Remember this increase came after all property owners had received their 2020 tax estimate and after a 45-day property tax appeal time had expired. During this same period Commissioner Paris announced spending money in the amount of over 1.5 million dollars on two real estate deals. Using the numbers Commissioner Paris has used \$150,000 for resurfacing roads, \$300,000 for new roads, this amount would have resurfaced ten miles of roads and paved five miles of new roads. When T-Splost, when the T-Splost is up for vote, two figures have been mentioned as property tax offsets. In one conversation, Commissioner Paris says 1.5 million dollars would go back for property tax offset. In the same program, approximately 45 days later, he said a million dollars would go back to property tax release - which is it? Remember it can be whatever Commissioner Paris decides it to be. It could be zero. Also, Commissioner Paris has said 30 to 40 percent of all tax will come from outside patrons. What is it? Thirty percent, 40%? Where is this calculation coming from? A couple of years back, I had several times asked within the county for the impact on Lake Nottley had on the Union County economy. No one could help me. I couldn't get an answer at that time. I was working with the TVA on possible grants for Lake Nottley improvements and this information would have been greatly helpful. No one had any input, but now 30 to 40 percent of sales taxes from outside the county. If you know how sales taxes are reported, you know this is very hard to track. Each merchant in each county files a monthly or quarterly report to the state. The report and the sales tax money collected go to the state. The state then sends each county their due portion with the county not knowing what portion is from outside impact. After 20 years of leadership, the road conditions are in so bad shape we need a new tax. No it's time to focus on existing resources - on making our roads safer, and not a new tax. Thank you for your time and vote now [Applause]

Commissioner Paris then asked Joseph Paisley to come up as he had requested to be placed on the Agenda to speak regarding vaccine mandates. Mr. Paisley's comments were as follows. "I'll be brief. Lori was thorough and she managed to cover a lot of the topics that I initially planned to discuss. So I'll reserve some of mine for the Q and A session. I appreciate the chance to chit chat and it's more of a public service announcement. We've all seen the COVID-19 vaccine mandates destroy municipalities around the country. This isn't something that I'm saying is here rather it's not something we want to get to come here. So it's something we need to address as a community and we need to be aware of. Now there are a lot of laws that cover vaccines. I'm not a lawyer, I'm not a doctor though I did practice medicine in my past life when I was in the army. So I do understand some of the medicine stuff they're talking about. I'm pretty good with studies and data. I'm not going to bore you to death with all of that today. I would like to read to you guys a small select passage from the Nuremberg Code and all I'm asking you to do, is to consider it and if this feels like or sounds like something you feel like is being applied to members of our community against their will start researching and start getting involved locally. Okay. The voluntary consent of the human subject is absolutely essential. This means that the person involved should have legal capacity to give consent and should be so situated as to be able to exercise free power of choice without the intervention of any element of force, fraud,

deceit, duress, overreaching or other form of constraint or coercion. As in, if you lose your job. Sorry, I added that part. Should have sufficient knowledge and comprehension of the elements of the subject matter involved and has to enable them to make an understanding and enlightened decision. The mandates are a bad thing. They're not law. I'm not criticizing you if you've taken the vaccine. That's between you and your doctor. I respect them but for those of us who don't want the vaccine and see it as a health risk this is important. The Nuremberg Code is the basis for human rights abuse but we cannot ignore them and all I'm asking you is to consider again. I'll reserve most of my questions for the Q and A session, but please go home and research. Invite some other folks to come out to these meetings. We meet out ahead in the parking lot. We meet after the meetings if you guys would like to chit chat with us, we'd love to get to know you, but the vaccine mandates are here and they're a real problem. We see what's happening in Australia, New Zealand and all across the western nations as a whole. Clearly, they want to bring that here. I'm not going to get into Fouchi and all that stuff. I mean whatever. The bottom line is a lot of our institutions have lost a lot of credibility and it's going to be up to us to get together as a community and do the research and decide for ourselves how we want to handle this. So I'll leave it at that. Again Lori, thank you. You covered most of my topics so like I said I'll reserve the rest of it for the Q & A session. (Applause)

Commissioner Paris then stated that he was going to keep his comments very short. The Commissioner and staff are discussing the possibility with the Building Inspection Office of adding and deciding on impact fees: How they will be set up; What will be done with them; How and at what stage will they kick in. It's pretty complicated the way the building permit fees are set up. They are set up through the State of Georgia, and they're complicated, but that's something that is going to be looked at moving forward. The Commissioner also stated they are looking at increased business license fees for short-term rentals. They are currently at ten dollars forever and the county is looking at raising those to \$100 per year. The Commissioner then adjourned the meeting.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

  
Jennifer Mahan, County Clerk

Approved this 18<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2021

  
Lamar Paris, Commissioner