

County Meeting  
January 18, 2018  
Minutes  
Union County Courthouse

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Paris at 6:00 pm. The invocation was given by Jack McKechnie and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Lamar Paris. The minutes from the December 21, 2017 County Meeting were approved as read.

The Commissioner let everyone know that the meeting would be short because he had a meal to attend at 6:30. He also thanked everyone for coming to the meeting since it was so cold outside.

Commissioner Paris approved Resolution R-2018-01 to set the Qualifying Fees for the 2018 Election as required by O.C.G.A. 21-2-131. The only local election this year is for three seats on the School Board. These qualifying fees are being set at \$108.00 per seat.

The Commissioner approved Resolution R-2018-02 to amend the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia 401(a) Defined Contribution Plan for Union County Employees. The details of these plan changes were discussed in detail at the July 18, 2017 County Meeting. Everything has just been finalized and the plan should go into effect on February 1, 2018. This plan basically increases the county retirement match for employees who contribute part of their pay for a future retirement benefit.

Commissioner Paris accepted a Shared Well Water and Easement Agreement between Union County and Rachel L. Hancock, Worley E. Scogin by Rebecca J. Scogin, and Rebecca J. Scogin for access to a well located on Union County property. There will be no cost to either party. The well in the agreement is located on Union County property at Fire Station #12 in Choestoe off of Highway 180. This well has been a shared well with adjacent properties for many years. This agreement makes the sharing of the well official.

The Commissioner approved the Business License for Cathy Brackett Rental, a cabin rental, located at 584 Nottely Dam Road. This is the only type of Business License issued in Union County for the purpose of collecting the Hotel/Motel Tax.

Commissioner Paris stated the only information that has been of interest to the public in the last few days has been the weather. As difficult as this is and has been, it could have been so much worse. The County is thankful that during this period of extreme cold weather, they have not had a single structure fire, other than two chimney fires. There was several traffic accidents, but had no serious injuries. There was a call from a hiker on the Appalachian Trail in Suches who called at 3am wanting the county to walk in and get him. He was considered not to be in a life-threatening situation and was suggested that he either start walking out and emergency personnel would meet him half way or he could wait until the morning. He chose to build a fire and walk out the next morning.

The Commissioner also gave special thanks to all Public Safety officials for the outstanding job they do for the public. The Georgia Department of Transportation and the Union County Road Department did an excellent job on the roads as best as could be done in this situation. Also, the


Sheriff's Office, Blairsville Police Department, the EMC, and Union General Ambulance Service did their usual exceptional jobs. People do not stop getting sick and having medical emergencies during storms and bad weather. The Commissioner also mentioned there had been a lot of sickness in the county and hopefully it won't get any worse.

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

Respectfully submitted by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer Queen, County Clerk

Approved this 15<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2018

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lamar Paris, Commissioner