

County Meeting  
November 26, 2018  
Minutes  
Union County Courthouse

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Paris at 6:00 pm. The invocation was given by David Dyer and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Lamar Paris. The minutes from the October 18, 2018 County Meeting were approved as presented.

The Commissioner introduced Jim Lassiter to receive the Proclamation that was first on the Agenda. Mr. Lassiter's wife, Sally, was unable to attend the meeting.

Commissioner Paris then proclaimed November 26, 2018 as Jim and Sally Lassiter Day in Union County. Jim and Sally Lassiter dedicated themselves to careers of serving others while raising three children in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. Jim Lassiter served as a firefighter for 30 years, rising to the rank of Battalion Chief and District Commander for the Ft. Lauderdale Fire and Rescue Department. Jim Lassiter served as a firefighter for 30 years, rising to the rank of Battalion Chief and District Commander for the Ft. Lauderdale Fire and Rescue Department. Jim Lassiter has a family history of Firefighters and Public Safety Personnel with ten immediate family members being firefighters and one being a police officer. After retirement, Jim and Sally managed various resorts finally coming to Blairsville in 1996 to manage Choestoe Falls RV Park and they decided to make Blairsville their permanent home in 2004 where they continued serving the community that they made their own. Jim and Sally Lassiter both have a family tradition of bravery, sacrifice and service to their community proven by their dedicated service and volunteerism which have strengthened our community. The Commissioner then presented Jim Lassiter with the Proclamation.

Commissioner Paris then proclaimed November 4, 2018 as Georgia Retired Educators Day. More than 121,000 retired educators have devoted their time, energies and talents to public education. Retired educators have touched and influenced the lives of generations of young people and motivated and inspired them to use their innate talents and abilities to the fullest and to become responsible and contributing citizens. Retired educators possess valuable knowledge and they continue to be a major source of insight and direction for our state and our nation. We have always had an active retired educators' group in our county and appreciate all they have done in the past caring for our students, and all they continue to do helping with our future.

The Commissioner re-appointed Linda Beaver to the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Region 1 Field Office Advisory Council for a three-year term to end on September 1, 2021. Linda has become very active in the mental health treatment community starting **NAMI**, the **National Alliance on Mental Illness**, which is the nation's largest nonprofit, grassroots mental health education, advocacy and support organization dedicated to family support here in Union County. Commissioner Paris said he appreciated Linda's willingness to serve and he is sure she will continue to make an excellent member of this committee.

Commissioner Paris approved Resolution R-2018-12 to close the SPLOST III Bank Account that Union County has with United Community Bank. This account was opened by Resolution on November 20, 2008, and the account is no longer being used and no longer needed.

Commissioner Paris approved Resolution R-2018-13 to set the Fee Schedule that pertains to the sale of alcoholic beverages in Union County. No License Fees were actually changed. This was a reorganizing of the layout of the Fee Schedule to make it easier to understand and make things clearer to those who are applying for an Alcohol License. This was a request of the Alcohol Board.

The Commissioner approved Resolution R-2018-14 naming Jill C. Gooch as the Deputy County Clerk for Union County. The Deputy County Clerk has all the same responsibilities as the County Clerk to better distribute tasks and work efficiency within the Commissioner's Office.

Commissioner Paris approved Resolution R-2018-15 to cover members of a Volunteer Search and Rescue Team under Union County's Workers Compensation Insurance Policy. The purpose of this volunteer team will be to assist in trail rescues and lost person rescues. These volunteers will alleviate pressure that is put on volunteer firefighters and paid firefighters in the event of a search and rescue. They do not have to go through the firefighter training but will go through search and rescue training, as well as first aid training.

The Commissioner approved Resolution R-2018-16 to transfer surplus property from Union County Government to the Union County Development Authority for the purpose of selling to an individual or business. This property is commonly known as the 4-H Shotgun Range Property and is located in Land Lots 294 and 295, 9<sup>th</sup> District, 1<sup>st</sup> Section and contains 9.502 acres. This property has been determined to be unusable by Union County Government for the purpose that it was intended, and Union County would like for it to be sold in order to replenish their general fund.

Commissioner Paris approved a Memorandum of Understanding between Union County and the Great Promise Partnership, Inc. for the hiring of two students through the Union County School System. These students have shown exceptional characteristics and a drive to learn through experience to better prepare them for the work force after High School. Both students come to work for Union County for half of the day and are compensated for their time. One student is helping with clerical tasks in Alcohol Enforcement and the other student is helping the Road Department in vehicle maintenance.

The following refers to numbers 8-10 on the Agenda. The Commissioner approved a Notice of Award of Contract, Contract, and Notice to Proceed to Winkler & Winkler, Inc. to construct the Union County Pavilion at Meeks Park in the amount of \$251,845.00. The Notice to Proceed allows work to commence on January 2, 2019 and be fully complete on or before May 2, 2019. The pavilions at Meeks Park are all constantly in use and over booked. This will not only be a very attractive addition to Meeks Park, but also benefit the public.

Commissioner Paris accepted an agreement between Union County and Bellsouth Telecommunications, LLC doing business as AT&T Georgia for 911 Dispatch Telephone Console Systems. This is a 60-month lease in the amount of \$201,108 that went into effect on October 15, 2018. This was paid for with SPLOST Funds and included all new equipment, installation, training, and maintenance for five years.

The Commissioner accepted an Accountability Court Grant for Family Drug Treatment in the amount of \$37,625.00. This grant is awarded through the Accountability Courts State of Georgia Grant Program for the period of October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019.

Commissioner Paris accepted Mountain Top View into the County Maintained Road System. All the homeowner signed over right of way to the county and have paid the required amount to bring the road up to county specifications. It is located off Gumlog Road and Ivy Log Creek Road.

The Commissioner approved the 2019 Schedule of County Meetings. Everyone in attendance was provided with a copy of the 2019 schedule.

Commissioner Paris approved the following two Business Licenses:

Appalachian Vistas, LLC located at 341 Chestnut Cove Road  
Log Cabin Rentals Blue Ridge, LLC located at 78 Wilderness Way

The Commissioner reminded everyone in attendance that this is the only type of Business License issued in Union County for the purpose of collecting the Hotel/Motel Tax.

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

Respectfully submitted by:

  
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Jennifer Mahan, County Clerk

Approved this 20<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2018

  
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Lamar Paris, Commissioner