

**Houston County Commissioners Meeting
December 6, 2022
Perry, Georgia**

The Houston County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday December 6, 2022, at the Perry Courthouse in Perry, Georgia, with Chairman Stalnaker presiding and Commissioners Byrd, Talton, Robinson, and Walker present. Also present were County Attorney Tom Hall, Director of Administration Robbie Dunbar, Director of Operations Brian Jones, Director of Purchasing Mark Baker, Community Planner Jake Cox, Chief Building Inspector Tim Andrews, Perry Mayor Randall Walker, City of Warner Robins Interim City Manager James Dodson, Fire Chief Chris Stoner, City of Centerville City Councilman Ed Armijo, Capt. Clay Chambers, George Slappey, Dan Rhodes, Laura Mathis, Solid Waste Superintendent Terry Dietsch, Chairman-Elect Dan Perdue, Commissioner-Elect Shane Gottwals, Interim Perry Police Chief Alan Everidge, Centerville Police Chief Cedric Duncan, Interim Warner Robins Police Chief Wayne Fisher, Walton and Becky Wood.

Commissioner Byrd led the audience in the Invocation and Pledge to the Flag.

Lt. Col. Kyle Grieves was recognized by the Commissioners for his military service and spoke about his military career beginning in 2005 when he graduated from the University of Kansas ROTC program as a 2nd Lt. He has been on active duty for 12 years. 9 years were spent as a pilot in the AC 130 Gunship and served 8 deployments in Iraq and Afghanistan supporting United States Special Operations Forces. Since May of 2017 he has been in the reserves and part of the 339 Flight Test Squadron at RAFB and has lived here with his family for 5 years serving at RAFB. Lt. Col. Grieves said he and his family have been received very warmly here in Houston County. Each Commissioner thanked Lt. Col. Grieves for his service, sharing his story and experiences and admired the gratitude he expressed for those he works with.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve the minutes from the meeting on November 15, 2022.

Chairman Stalnaker asked for a motion to add Agenda Item #10A to the December 6, 2022 meeting agenda to discuss the improvement of Talton Road from a two-lane rural roadway to a three-lane urban roadway with sidewalks on both sides.

Motion by Mr. Talton, second by Mr. Byrd and approved by all to add Agenda Item #10A to the December 6, 2022 Commission meeting agenda.

Terry Dietsch, Houston County Solid Waste Superintendent, presented an award from the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) to Chairman Stalnaker for the County's landfill chosen as the 2022 Georgia Chapter Award for the best landfill in the State of Georgia. Mr. Dietsch advised this was the third time that the Houston County Landfill has received this award with previous awards given in 2006 and 2012. Chairman Stalnaker accepted the award on behalf of the County Employees who work at the Landfill, the Public Works Department Employees and the Citizens of Houston County who gave the resources needed to have such a great landfill. Chairman Stalnaker also thanked Mr. Dietsch for the excellent job he does managing the landfill.

James Dodson, Interim City Administrator for the City of Warner Robins, presented Chairman Stalnaker with a key to the City of Warner Robins and spoke about his work with Chairman Stalnaker and working with him at the County's Recreation Department when Chairman Stalnaker headed up that Department.

Chairman Stalnaker recognized District Attorney Will Kendall who gave a presentation about a new crime technology initiative in Houston County.

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Mr. Kendall spoke about interviewing several vendors and their products. In conjunction with law enforcement and elected officials, the Flock Camera System was the chosen platform to go with out of the four companies and products considered. He detailed the capabilities of the system which reads the license tags of vehicles to help identify and establish a direction of travel used by a criminal, or those with diminished mental capacities, and gave a real-world scenario where the Flock Camera System has worked to help rescue a kidnap victim. He further said this is not a speed or red-light camera system.

Police Chiefs from all three cities and Captain Clay Chambers from the Houston County Sheriff's Department all spoke about the force multiplier that the camera system will be, how it will help decrease crime in a targeted area and the coordinated way that all law enforcement has teamed up and come together to work towards an agreement on choosing this camera system.

Chairman Stalnaker recognized City of Perry Mayor Randall Walker and Councilman Ed Armijo who commented about the spirit of teamwork and cooperation that had been in place in meetings and systems evaluations. He also mentioned that all involved were in agreement on the need for such a system and were in agreement with using the Flock Camera System.

Each Commissioner thanked the Officers for their work, agreed that this system will assist law enforcement in keeping the citizens of Houston County safer and applauded the spirit of cooperation of all involved through the selection process of this camera system.

Chairman Stalnaker also mentioned that the camera system could be expanded, will be funded by the County for four years and implored the incoming Commissioners and Chairman to keep the system the same across the County.

Motion by Mr. Byrd, second by Mr. Talton and carried unanimously by all to authorize Chairman Stalnaker to sign the Government Agency Agreement with Flock Group Inc. to enter into a service agreement for the initial purchase of equipment and continued term services for four years necessary to implement the placement of safety devices throughout Houston County to assist law enforcement. The approval of Chairman signing this Government Agency Agreement with Flock Group Inc. is contingent on the Cities of Centerville, Perry and Warner Robins signing of the Memorandum of Understanding for Safety Device Placement.

Laura Mathis, with Middle Georgia Regional Commission, and Dan Rhodes with the 21st Century Partnership briefed the Commissioners and Chairman about the Robins Air Force Base Sustainability Plan. This plan, developed by Stantec Consulting in coordination with the Middle Georgia Regional Commission, was developed as a guide for local governments, private sector companies and the military to work in harmony and reduce conflicts with the Base while accommodating new growth and economic development, protecting the public's health and safety and safeguarding the operational missions of the installation.

Motion by Mr. Byrd, second by Mr. Talton and carried unanimously by all to approve the adoption of the Middle Georgia-Robins Air Force Base Sustainability Plan.

Before discussing Agenda Item #3, Chairman Stalnaker advised of an error in the Commissioners Packet where instead of the Zoning and Appeals Recommendation being listed on Item #3 it should have been a recommendation by the Planning and Zoning Board.

Chief Building Inspector Tim Andrews presented rezoning applications #2649 by Tom Tran to Rezone from R-AG to C-2 and #2652 by Michael Clarke to Rezone from R-1 to C-2.

Chairman Stalnaker closed the regular portion of the meeting and opened for comments for or against the rezoning for application #2649. There being no comments Chairman Stalnaker closed the Public Hearing and returned to the regular portion of the meeting.

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Chairman Stalnaker closed the regular portion of the meeting and opened for comments for or against the rezoning for application #2652. There being no comments Chairman Stalnaker closed the Public Hearing and returned to the regular portion of the meeting.

Motion by Mr. Byrd, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve rezoning applications #2649 and #2652 to include any and all stipulations as noted on the Planning and Zoning Board recommendations.

Chairman Stalnaker specifically mentioned that application #2652 would be required to have a 25 foot buffer maintained between two nearby properties.

Chief Building Inspector Tim Andrews presented Special Exception Applications #2648, #2650, and #2651.

Chairman Stalnaker closed the regular portion of the meeting and opened Public Hearing.

The applicant for Special Exception Application #2648 was not present, there was no opposition.

The applicant for Special Exception Application #2650 was not present, there was no opposition.

The applicant for Special Exception Application #2651 was not present, there was no opposition.

There being no comments Chairman Stalnaker closed the Public Hearing and returned to the regular portion of the meeting.

Motion by Mr. Byrd, second by Mr. Talton and carried unanimously by all to approve the following applications to include any and all stipulations as noted on the Zoning & Appeals recommendation and Section 95 Requirements staff report:

Application #2648	Robert Stewart	Consulting
Application #2650	Gary & Maria Somers	Pet Accessories
Application #2367	Seth Paige	Electrical Contractor

Motion by Mr. Byrd, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to approve Chairman Stalnaker entering into an intergovernmental agreement between Houston County Board of Commissioners and Houston County School District, by and through its Houston County Board of Education, to contribute an additional Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000) to the Natatorium Project from Countywide 2018 SPLOST. The Comptroller is authorized to make payment to the Board of Education before December 31, 2022. **(Exhibit 1)**

Chairman Stalnaker advised this agreement solidifies what's been verbally agreed upon already with the Houston County Board of Education.

Commissioner Byrd stated that this is just another example of intergovernmental cooperation in Houston County.

The Public Works Department has received three proposals for the expansion of the landfill Gas Collection & Control System (GCCS). After evaluations by staff and its landfill consultant, Atlantic Coast Consulting, it is recommended to award the bid to Blue Flame Crew, LLC. in the amount of \$621,830.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. Talton and carried unanimously by all to authorize Chairman Stalnaker to sign a contract with Blue Flame Crew, LLC., in the amount of \$621,830 for the expansion of the landfill Gas Collection & Control System. This project will be funded by Solid Waste Capital Funds.

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The Houston County Juvenile Court is requesting to enter into an Independent Contractor Agreement with Olivia Williams to provide for the defense of indigent persons appearing in the Houston County Juvenile Court.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. Byrd and carried unanimously to authorize Chairman Stalnaker entering into an Independent Contractor Agreement with Olivia Williams to provide for the defense of indigent persons appearing in the Houston County Juvenile Court. The term of this contract will be December 6, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

On May 12, 2022, Governor Brian Kemp signed House Bill 911-General Appropriations; State Fiscal Year July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023 into law. House Bill 911 has added a salary increase of \$6,000 per year for all Juvenile Court and Associate Juvenile Court Judges for fiscal year 2023 which goes into effect on July 1, 2022. This increase is State Funded by meeting certain achievements. There are no local funds included in this increase.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to authorize the Comptroller to make the necessary budget line adjustments to the Juvenile Court Judge's salary and make payment through payroll once quarterly checks are received from the State of Georgia.

Chairman Stalnaker reiterated that there is no local funding associated with this salary increase for the Juvenile Court Judge and that it all comes from the State of Georgia.

The Houston County Fire Chief, Chris Stoner, is asking for approval of HMGP Grant. This grant is to gain funding to contract the next required update to the countywide Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan. It will bring the County's match percentage from 25% to 4%.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. Byrd and carried unanimously by all to approve the signing the HMGP Grant paperwork to gain funding to help with the County's matching funds for the next required update to the countywide Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. Byrd and carried unanimously by all to approve Chairman Stalnaker signing the HMGP Grant paperwork to gain funding to help with the County's matching funds for the next required update to the countywide Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan.

The Environmental Protection Division (EPD) is offering up to \$42,637 as reimbursement to local governments for scrap tire amnesty events and the transport of the collected tires to an approved processing/recycling facility. Staff would like the Board to consider entering into the agreement with EPD.

Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. Talton and carried unanimously by all to authorize Chairman Stalnaker signing an agreement with The Environmental Protection Division (EPD) for reimbursement of up to \$42,637 for scrap tire amnesty events and the transport of the collected tires to an approved processing/recycling facility.

Chairman Stalnaker mentioned that this is an example of a County-wide project with all cities participating and proves to be a huge success in getting unwanted tires removed for Houston County residents.

The Engineering Department requests approval to enter into an agreement with R.K. Shah & Associates, Inc. This agreement is to provide engineering services to improve Talton Road from SR 127 to Bear Branch Road. Talton Road is proposed to be improved from a rural two-lane roadway to a three-lane urban roadway with sidewalks on both sides. The fee for this service will be \$368,793.45 and the time for the design will be ten months from the Notice to Proceed.

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Motion by Ms. Robinson, second by Mr. Talton to approve entering into an agreement with R.K. Shah & Associates, Inc. to provide engineering services to improve Talton Road from SR 127 to Bear Branch Road. The fee for this service will be \$368,793.45 and the time to complete the design will be ten months from the Notice to Proceed. The design cost for this project is to be funded by 2018 SPLOST. Upon voting, with Commissioner Byrd abstaining, Commissioners Talton, Robinson and Walker voted yes. Motion approved.

Chairman Stalnaker advised these road improvements are needed for a new school to be built on Talton Road and that he hoped construction could begin as soon as possible on this road improvement due to the increased traffic that the road will have.

In accordance with the November 16, 2021 Agreement between the Board of Commissioners and Perfect's Elko Properties, LLC, by and through Matt Perfect, a Resolution for the abandonment of New Road is being presented to the Board. New Road traverses the property owned by Perfect's Elko Properties, LLC and is a Houston County public road, consisting of a 40' unpaved right-of-way that is situated between the Houston County public roads known as Flournoy Road and Ellis Road located in the unincorporated area of Elko, Houston County.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. Byrd and carried unanimously by all to authorize Chairman Stalnaker and the Board to sign the Resolution abandoning New Road and authorizing the Chairman to sign the deed conveying the property known as New Road which traverses the property of Perfect's Elko Properties, LLC and is situated between the Houston County public roads known as Flournoy Road and Ellis Road located in the unincorporated area of Elko, Houston County described as follows:

All that tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being in Land Lots 162 and 133 of the Thirteenth (13th) Land District of Houston County, Georgia, being known as New Road, a Houston County public road, consisting of a 40' unpaved right-of-way that is situated between the Houston County public roads known as Flournoy Road and Ellis Road. This conveyance is subject to any easements for drainage or utilities presently existing within the above-described property.

Tax Commissioner Mark Kushinka is requesting approval to promote Austen Horne to Grade 15, Step C to fill the upcoming vacant Tax Supervisor position.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve the promotion of Austen Horne to Grade 15 Step C to fill the upcoming vacant Tax Supervisor position. The effective date of this request will be January 1, 2023.

The Board of Elections has requested approval to hire workers for the December 6, 2022 General Runoff Election.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve the hiring of the following poll workers for the upcoming December 6, 2022 General Runoff Election:

		AMOUNT	TOTAL
16	Managers (Precinct)	\$175.00	\$2,800.00
32	Assistant Managers (Precinct)	125.00	4,000.00
83	Clerks	115.00	9,545.00
6	Janitors	15.50	93.00
4	Janitors	25.00	100.00
196	BMD (Ballot Marking Device)	2.00	392.00
3	Election Supply Load Out Help	75.00	225.00
3	Election Night Equipment Return Help	75.00	225.00
3	Election Night Check-In Clerks	75.00	225.00
16	Supply Pick up / Return Supplies	10.00	160.00
16	Cell Phones	10.00	160.00
4	Ballot Scan Clerks	100.00	400.00
2	Election Day Techs	250.00	500.00
	GRAND TOTAL		\$18,825.00

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Chairman Stalnaker said this cost was for today's runoff election. He also mentioned that the cost for Cobb County's runoff election today was approximately \$1.2 million.

The Personnel Department is requesting approval of Amendment #6 to the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia Defined Benefit Plan for Houston County Employees Adoption Agreement. And also, for approval of the Resolution to Amend the Association County Commissioners of Georgia Defined Benefit Plan for Houston County Employees.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. Byrd and carried unanimously by all to authorize Chairman Stalnaker signing of Amendment #6 to the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia Defined Benefit Plan for Houston County Employees Adoption Agreement. And also, for approval of the Resolution to Amend the Association County Commissioners of Georgia Defined Benefit Plan for Houston County Employees.

The Purchasing Department is requesting approval of a bid on seven SUV PPV's in stock for use by various Houston County Departments. Staff recommends the purchase the seven new 2022 Ford Explorer PPV's from Phil Brannen Ford of Perry.

Motion by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. Talton and carried unanimously by all to approve the purchase of the following seven new 2022 Ford Explorer PPV's for use by various Houston County departments from Phil Brannen Ford of Perry:

One (1) 3.3L Engine at a price of \$35,054.00 to be charged to 100-3320-54.2200 and reimbursed by the Board of Education for SRO. The Comptroller is authorized to make the necessary adjustments.

One (1) 3.3L Engine at a price of \$35,054.00 to be charged to 320-3326-54.2200, SPLOST 2018 for the Jail.

Two (2) 3.0L Engine at a price of \$39,700.00 for a total of \$79,400.00 to be charged to 320-3310-54.2200, SPLOST 2018 for HEAT.

Three (3) 3.0L Engine at a price of \$39,700.00 for a total of \$119,100.00 to be charged to 320-3300-54.2200, SPLOST 2018 for Patrol.

The Purchasing Department is requesting approval of a bid for one SUV PPV in stock for use by the Houston County SRO Department. Staff recommends the purchase the new 2022 Ford Explorer PPV's from Brannen Ford Motor Company of Unadilla at a unit price of \$36,500.

Motion by Mr. Talton, second by Mr. Byrd and carried unanimously by all to approve the purchase of a new 2022 Ford Explorer PPV from Brannen Ford Motor Company of Unadilla at a unit price of \$36,500. This purchase is to be charged to 100-3320-54.2200 and reimbursed by the Board of Education for the SRO. The Comptroller is authorized to make the necessary adjustments.

The Purchasing Department is requesting approval of Change Order #007 on the Build Out of the Multi-Purpose Meeting Room at the New Houston County State Courthouse. This will increase the contract by \$517,838.64 bringing the total to \$20,596,537.35.

Motion by Mr. Talton, second by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously by all to approve Change Order #007 on the Build Out of the Multi-Purpose Meeting Room at the New Houston County State Court Building. This will increase the contract by \$517,838.64 bringing the total to \$20,596,537.35.

Commissioner Talton advised that this change to the State Court Building will not delay the building dedication.

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Chairman Stalnaker said the build-out of this room will not impact the move in date either.

Motion by Mr. Talton, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to approve of the City of Perry's appointment of Ms. Ansley Fitzner to the Animal Control Board. Ms. Fitzner will replace Mr. Davis Cosey.

Commissioner Byrd mentioned his thanks to Mr. Cosey for his service on the Animal Control Board and noted his personal love for animals.

The Commissioners have been presented with a request to ratify the signing of the Houston County Phase II Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) Notice of Intent (NOI) renewal documents with the Environmental Protection Division.

Motion by Mr. Talton, second by Ms. Robinson and carried unanimously by all to ratify Chairman Stalnaker's signing of the Houston County Phase II Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) Notice of Intent (NOI) renewal documents with the Environmental Protection Division.

Chairman Stalnaker advised that agenda item #20 was removed by request and no action will be taken on it.

Motion by Mr. Talton, second by Mr. Byrd and carried unanimously by all to approve the payment of the bills totaling \$11,837,602.13.

Chairman Stalnaker closed the regular portion of the meeting and opened Public Comments.

Santina Johnson, an employee in the Probate Court, thanked the Chairman and Commissioners for the approval to put up a Salvation Army Angel Tree outside of the Probate Court to collect gifts for needy children this Christmas. Ms. Johnson advised that both County employees and the public have participated. Chairman Stalnaker thanked Ms. Johnson for spearheading this effort.

There being no further comments Chairman Stalnaker closed Public Comments and reopened the regular portion of the meeting.

Chairman Stalnaker closed the regular portion of the meeting and opened Commissioner's Comments.

Commissioner Byrd commented that the underlying theme of today's meeting and presentations were cooperation: cooperation in regard to public safety with the Flock Camera System and cooperation with the Board of Education with support for the Natatorium project. He expressed his appreciation to the Public Works employees who recently repaired and fixed the road where a major water leak had occurred. Commissioner Byrd also recognized Chairman Stalnaker for having been presented with the Charlie L. Jones Lifetime Achievement Award from the Robins Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Commissioner Talton commented that the meeting had a sense of cooperation and collaboration throughout.

Commissioner Robinson thanked those who attended the meeting and commented on the progress made for the citizens of Houston County at the meeting today.

Commissioner Walker said it was a privilege to serve the residents of Houston County and that in meeting with other County Commissioners from around Georgia he knows how well respected our County's name is around the State.

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Chairman Stalnaker reminded everyone to go and vote today in the runoff if they had not done so already. He then mentioned that the United Way campaign had surpassed its goal of raising \$34,999 by raising \$40,000 and thanked Community Planner Jake Cox for his efforts in running the campaign and the many generous County employees who contributed and participated in the United Way campaign. Chairman Stalnaker reminded those in attendance about the December 14th groundbreaking for the new public safety building at 10:00 am in Bonaire and the December 20th State Court Building Dedication in Perry at 10:30 am. Chairman Stalnaker then recognized the Warner Robins Demons for going back to the state championship game for 5A this Saturday in Atlanta and commented that under the direction of Coach Westbrook that the team is truly remarkable and that he is proud to support and be a Demon.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Walker, second by Mr. Talton and carried unanimously by all, meeting adjourned.

Robbie Dunbar
Director of Administration

Chairman

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT
2018 SPLOST NATATORIUM
RECREATIONAL PROJECT
HOUSTON COUNTY
CONTRIBUTION INCREASE

This Agreement is made and entered into this 29th day of November, 2022 and between HOUSTON COUNTY, Georgia, hereinafter referred to as the "County"; and Houston County School District, by and through its Houston County Board of Education (the "District"), (individually a "Party" or collectively "Parties").

WITNESSETH:

THAT, WHEREAS, on February 16, 2021, the Parties hereto entered into a Memorandum of Agreement for the use and distribution of proceeds from the 2018 SPLOST regarding the construction and use of a natatorium, hereinafter referred to as "Natatorium Project"; and

WHEREAS, the County desires to contribute an additional amount to the Natatorium Project from Countywide 2018 SPLOST project funds for completion of this project.

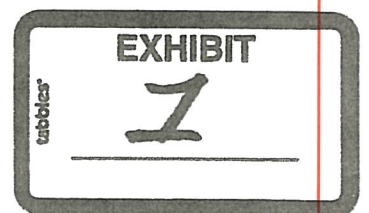
NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual benefits to the Parties hereto it is agreed as follows:

1.

The County will contribute an additional Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000.00) to the Natatorium Project from Countywide 2018 SPLOST.

2.

The District acknowledges the County's contribution of the additional funds to the Natatorium Project with all contributions totaling Sixteen Million Dollars (\$16,000,00.00).



3.

This Agreement shall be construed in accordance with and governed by the laws of the State of Georgia.

4.

This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the respective Parties hereto, their legal representatives, successors, and assigns.

5.

None of the Parties shall assign this Agreement at any time and from time to time without the prior written consent of all Parties.

So AGREED, the day and year first written above.

HOUSTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

HOUSTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION:

By: Tommy Stalaker
Tommy Stalaker, Chairman

By: Fred Wilson
Fred Wilson, Chairman

Attest: Robbie Dunbar
Robbie Dunbar, Director of Administration

Attest: Dr. Mark Scott
Dr. Mark Scott, Superintendent