

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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August 23, 2021

The Jefferson County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday August 23rd, 2021. Present were Commissioners Richard Malm, Lynn Luck, David Christy, County Clerk Linda Buttron and Counselor Josh Ney.

David moved that the minutes of August 16 be approved as presented. Lynn seconded. All voted in favor of the motion.

Treasurer Lisa Buerman met with the Board. Lisa asked the Board to advertise for sale and set the minimum bid for 4 lots. Richard moved that the following lots be advertised for sale and the minimum bid be set at \$300 per lot. Lynn seconded.

All voted in favor of the motion.

Lot 5, Block J-Lake Ridge Estates

Lot 6, Block J-Lake Ridge Estates

Lot 12, Block J-Lake Ridge Estates

Lot 13, Block J-Lake Ridge Estates

Crystal VanHoutan, Health Department Administrator met with the Board. Crystal updated the Board on COVID statistics. Jefferson County's total case count is a 2,022. There have been 88 hospitalizations and 42 deaths. In the last ten days we have had 91 cases. Jefferson County's positivity rate is 12.14%. Crystal reported she has been working with the schools on COVID cases and isolation measures. She wishes to remind the public that it is strongly recommended that all people wear masks when indoors and in close contact with others. The public should follow KDHE guidelines. She also discussed the Hickory Acres Sewer District #5 Project. There will be a bid opening Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. for work on the project. She asked the Board to approve a change order allowing for valve boxes to be cut down to ground level and cement placed around them. This was at the request of the residents in the district. Richard moved that the change order for Project #1606 be approved at a cost of \$4,565. David seconded. All voted in favor of the motion.

The Board announced that due to the spike in COVID cases and in support of Crystal's recommendation the Board of County Commissioners also strongly recommend wearing masks indoors whether vaccinated or unvaccinated as per the KDHE recommendations.

Russ Jobbins, Winchester met with the Board. Surveyor Steve Tufte spoke to the Board regarding Russ Jobbins property and a lot split. In this situation, zoning regulations require a 100' right of way and Steve stated that the road does not have much traffic and asked how it became to be designated as a major collector road. He asked for an exception to the requirement for a 100' right of way. He also asked that the landowners be compensated when additional dedication of right of way easements such as this is required. Richard indicated the Board intended to do away with that requirement. Richard moved that the Board put a moratorium on any part of the zoning regulations that requires dedication of additional right of way when there is less street right of way than is required by the regulations, (Section 3-104 and Section 5-105 regarding street widening and reduction). David seconded. All voted in favor of the motion. Steve also asked about the process of doing an "AG" lot split. He asked that the regulations be modified so that two separate surveys are not required splitting 40 acres out of an 80-acre piece for example. The Board agreed by consensus to draft a text amendment that would create a method to do what Mr. Tufte wants. Russ Jobbins asked how long it would take for the moratorium regarding the right of way easement to take effect. Kelly Woodward said it could be as early as next week based on the Commissioner's action today.

Sheriff Jeff Herrig asked about moving forward with some of the proposed ARPA projects. He would like to move ahead with the smaller project of front and backside plumbing of the existing jail. The Board agreed by consensus to allow him to bring prices back on the plumbing project.

Treasurer Lisa Buerman asked for an executive session. Lynn moved that the Board recess into executive session to discuss matters of attorney client privilege with regard to pending litigation (tax sale) until 1:30 p.m. David seconded. All voted in favor of the motion. The Board recessed at 1:27 p.m. Present during the session were Josh, Lisa, Jeff & the Board. The Board reconvened at 1:30 p.m. and announced that the session would be extended for another five minutes with the same parties present. The Board reconvened again at 1:38 p.m. The chair announced that no binding action was taken during executive session.

Counselor Josh Ney asked for an executive session to discuss matters of attorney client privilege with regard to pending litigation until 1:40 p.m. David seconded. All voted in favor of the motion. The Board recessed at 1:38 p.m. Present during the session were Josh and the Board. The Board reconvened at 1:40 p.m. The chair announced that no binding action was taken during executive session.

Crystal VanHoutan asked for an executive session to discuss matters of non-elected personnel. Richard moved that the Board recess into executive session to discuss matters of non-elected personnel with regard to employee recruitment and retention until 1:50 p.m. Lynn seconded. All voted in favor of the motion. The Board recessed at 1:40 p.m. Present during the session were Crystal and the Board. The Board reconvened at 1:50 p.m. The chair announced that no binding action was taken during executive session.

Richard moved that the Board recess into executive session to discuss matters of non-elected personnel regarding employee recruitment and retention until 2:00 p.m. Lynn seconded. All voted in favor of the motion. The Board recessed at 1:55 p.m. Present during the session were County employee Erin George & the Board. The Board reconvened at 2:00 p.m. The chair announced that no binding action was taken during executive session.

Lynn moved that the Board recess into executive session to discuss matters of non-elected personnel with regard to recruitment and retention until 2:14 p.m. Richard seconded. All voted in favor of the motion. The Board recessed at 2:04 p.m. Present during the session was the Board. The Board reconvened at 2:14 p.m. The chair announced that no binding action was taken during executive session.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.