

**MINUTES  
MERIWETHER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**February 9, 2022**

**This meeting was held by Zoom due to COVID-19 for the Public with Board Members and County Staff attending in Person**

Commissioners Present: Chairman Beth Neely-Hadley, Commissioner Shirley Hines, Commissioner Rosla Plant and Commissioner Alfred "Buster" McCoy  
Commissioners Absent: Vice Chairman Bryan Threadgill  
Staff Present: County Administrator Michelle Irizarry, Director of Special Projects Theron Gay, County Clerk Beverly Thomas, Finance Director Bill Gregory, and County Attorney Nathan Lee

**I. CALL TO ORDER** – Chairman Beth Neely-Hadley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**II. INVOCATION** –Chairman Beth Neely-Hadley

**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - All

**IV. ADOPT AGENDA**

Motion was made Rosla Plant and seconded by Alfred McCoy to adopt the Agenda and change under New Business 1. To read: Discussion regarding requests. All were in favor.

**V. REPORT FROM FINANCE DIRECTOR**

Finance Director, Bill Gregory reported \$3.06M in the General Fund. Expenses are around \$1M+ per month and no funds have been provided to the County from the Property Tax collections. The second report is the quarterly Budget Analysis showing all areas where they should be at 75% for this time of year. The numbers look good for the overall personnel cost.

**IV. CITIZEN COMMENT**

None

**VII. MINUTES**

Motion was made by Alfred McCoy and seconded by Rosla Plant to approve the Minutes of the January 25, 2022, Meeting. All were in favor.

**VIII. PUBLIC HEARING**

None

**IX. APPOINTMENTS**

1. Motion was made by Alfred McCoy and seconded by Rosla Plant to table the appointment to the CAFI Board. All were in favor.

2. Motion was made by Chairman Neely-Hadley and seconded by Alfred McCoy to table the appointment to the Water and Sewerage Authority, District 5. All were in favor.

**X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**XI. NEW BUSINESS**

1. County Administrator Irizarry stated the County had received two different requests from Ms. Diamond for a text Amendment to the County Ordinance. The first request was received on January 24, 2022 and was amended on February 2, 2022. The second request was received February 7, 2022, which

was after the Agenda had been posted. Administrator Irizarry reviewed the requested text amendment change that was provided by Ms. Diamond on February 7, 2022. The request was for a text amendment to Section 32-20, (number of dogs and cats per residential lot) to add kennel, commercial a special exception to animal limitations. The current text of Section 32-20 was attached as Exhibit "C". That was an addition from the original. The Applicant requests a text amendment to Section 3.1 (Definitions) to include a new provision to add a definition of a Kennel, Commercial. The current text of Section 3.1 was attached as Exhibit "A." An applicant requests a text amendment to section 7.3 (Table of Uses) to add "Kennel Commercial" as a Special Exception use in AR, RR and LDR zoning districts. The current table of use by zoning districts set forth in section 7.3 was attached in Exhibit B.

Exhibit A, B, and C are the proposed text amendments from Ms. Diamond.

Theron Gay, Special Projects Director, stated Chapter 32 has a limit for residential which shows 5 in one section and 3 if you have a smaller lot. We already have a listing for Kennels dogs and cats. It is an allowable use in A-1, RR, and Special use in LDR then there is Neighborhood Commercial and Industrial as an allowable use. Mr. Gay stated he thinks Ms. Diamond's request is for more than 3-5 dogs depending on the lot. Ms. Diamond previously came before the Board, and she already has a provision to have more dogs that what is allowed in the Ordinance. Ms. Diamond was given consideration when she previously came before the Board and was allowed ten dogs. Mr. Gay reviewed the classification of Commercial Kennel. The Board recently allowed a Commercial Kennel in a residential old building area, but the property was already zoned commercial. In the Industrial Zoning you can have a much larger kennel that you would have in a residential area. Mr. Gay feels our existing Ordinance allows Ms. Diamond the ability to do what she is asking.

Ms. Diamond provided handouts to Board Members. Ms. Diamond feels there is a misconception that a Commercial Kennel is a Boarding facility and Ms. Diamond disagrees with that. Breeders could be considered a Commercial Kennel. Ms. Diamond stated her current special permit is for 10 dogs and two litters per year as a cap, which triggers a requirement to be registered with the Georgia State of Agriculture. With that Ms. Diamond had to be licensed with the Georgia Department of Agriculture which makes her have to be in more compliance. Ms. Diamond stated LDR was non-commercial, but she still has to have a business license. On the business license she has to include her State Tax ID number to make sure she is registered with the State Department of Revenue to pay. If she does not there will be misdemeanor charges and the consequences of fines without having the business license and State ID number. Ms. Diamond stated she has to be licensed with the Georgia Department of Agriculture. If Ms. Diamond is not in compliance, she will be fined and consequences. It is mandatory to have liability insurance. The facility is subjected to up to inspections three times per year by Animal Control and by the State. Ms. Diamond stated she has to have all the paperwork as a business, which she considers as a Commercial Kennel, but she is limited on the number of dogs she can have. This limits her income for the business. The income is from the litters of puppies.

Ms. Diamond stated there is inconsistent enforcement and she provided paperwork to the Board regarding this. The spreadsheet provided was information received from the inspection report of Robin Flory, State Representative for the Georgia Department of Agriculture. Ms. Diamond stated she had researched to find during the last 12 years only six people had come forward to get zoning changes or special permits for kennels. Ms. Diamond feels most people are not coming forward. Ms. Diamond provided the number of dogs allowed by the breeder, the size of the properties, and how many dogs these breeders have on record. To have more dogs the owners must get a waiver, a fee of \$100 and you must make application to the Animal Control Board and that is not happening. Ms. Diamond stated that she had e-mailed these supporting documents to each Commissioner. Ms. Diamond reviewed the outcome of the inspections from each Breeder on the report she presented to Board Members. The minimum requirement to be licensed with the Georgia Department of Agriculture is two or more litters per year. If you are not licensed, you can be issued a stop order. Ms. Diamond stated she experienced this in 2019. The only reason you need to be licensed with the USDA is if you have four or more breeding females and have a sight unseen sale. Ms. Diamond gave examples of sight unseen breeders and sales along with information on a local breeder that should have a waiver even though she has over 100-acres.

Ms. Diamond stated she had a special permit for 10 dogs and 2 litters. She had 20 and was issued a stop order because she had not renewed her license with the State when she moved to Meriwether County in March of 2019. Ms. Diamond stated she was shut down for three months and had to reduce the number of dogs to 10 within 30-days. Ms. Diamond stated she had to give away all of her breeding females which essentially decimated her business. Ms. Diamond pointed out the inconsistencies of enforcement with the current Kennels in Meriwether County.

Ms. Diamond feels there needs to be a separate definition of Commercial Kennels. Ms. Diamond then referred to and explained the paperwork she presented on dog limit laws and stated they were hard to enforce. Ms. Diamond stated a professional breeder, such as the one with up to 60-dogs can be a viable business. Ms. Diamond's puppies sell for \$1,500 each with competitor breeders charging up to \$3,500. Ms. Diamond stated she lost a significant amount of money in 2019 after being shut down for 3-months. She had 3-litters, which was a violation of her permit and until the stop order was lifted everything she did had to be given away for free.

Ms. Diamond then pointed out her application that was in the package provided to the Board. The proposed wording of the text change requested is verbatim from the Georgia Department of Agriculture regulations. Ms. Diamond read the definition of a Kennel and stated a Kennel or Commercial Kennel is not clearly defined in the Ordinance. Ms. Diamond continued to review the package she provided including Section 7-3 and Section 32-20. It was pointed out how the County's definition of an adult dog differs from the State's definition of an adult dog.

Ms. Diamond stated any kennel for which Meriwether County has issued either a waiver pursuant to Section 32-21 or a special use permit before the date of adoption maybe designated as a Kennel, Commercial upon compliance with the requirements of this section without further application of hearing. Ms. Diamond referred to the five pet dealers in Meriwether County that were listed on the Department of Agriculture Website and the three that are licensed with the Department of Agriculture. All are considered breeders from the States point of view, and all would be grandfathered in considering they would meet all the stipulations that Ms. Diamond reviewed to qualify as a Commercial Kennel.

Ms. Diamond proposed this because the enforcement is inconsistent, and the restrictions make it very difficult to stay in business. She feels there is a misconception that a Kennel is only a boarding facility and State regulations say Breeders can be a Commercial Kennel too. To define a Commercial Kennel and also to add stipulations to be approved as a special exception. Ms. Diamond stated she thought this would be helpful and it was at no expense to the County. Ms. Diamond stated we are a business and are not just putting dogs in the backyard and breeding. Ms. Diamond stated they were restricted on running their business from an income level.

Chairman Neely-Hadley referenced the report showing all the different breeders and asked if Ms. Diamond if she meant our Animal Control or the State was not enforcing. Ms. Diamond stated after reading the reports from the State it did not appear that any enforcement was done by the County. Ms. Diamond stated on her October 1<sup>st</sup> inspection, Ms. Robin Flory came for what was supposed to be a pre-inspection to transfer Ms. Diamond's license from Atlanta to Meriwether. Ms. Diamond had not done that and was shut down. The County then issued a citation for no business license and for violating her special permit because of having too many dogs. Ms. Diamond did not see this being consistent with the other individuals. Ms. Diamond then referred to the first breeder, who did not have a special permit according to the notes, and the treatment was not equal. Ms. Diamond did not see anything wrong with the individual who had 40-60 animals because that she is a business owner. Because of how the Ordinance is written she should have a waiver because technically she is only allowed to have 5 dogs. Ms. Diamond stated the Amendment she presented would address this. Breeder #5 is in violation of her special permit she received in March of last year. She had 10 dogs as of June 15, 2021, and nothing has been done. Ms. Diamond stated she was not trying to point fingers, but enforcement is inconsistent, and breeders should be considered Commercial Kennels as the State says they are. Ms. Diamond spent thousands of dollars converting a storage container into and indoor/outdoor kennel because the Georgia Department of Agriculture has an indoor temperature requirement which she has to follow because she is licensed. Ms. Diamond stated she spoke with the 5<sup>th</sup> Breeder, who got her license last year, and feels she has a similar

approach. Her puppies are sold for between \$2,000-\$3,000 each and that breeder moved here from Montana with her husband. She has 23 acres and asked for permission for 10 dogs. There were issues with the HOA.

Ms. Diamond stated she can't make money with two litters a year and her food bill is about \$500 per month. Ms. Diamond felt instead of focusing on how many dogs they have, if they are a Commercial Kennel, the focus should be on how the County is handling it in regard to nuisance calls, the health of the dogs, and if the location is sanitary. The person with 46-60 dogs has a first class set up. Ms. Diamond did not feel they need to be restricted on the number of dogs that they have.

Chairman Neely-Hadley asked if there was a reason the Inspection Reports provided to the Board were from 2019 and wondered if there would be a difference in the animal count since that time. Ms. Diamond stated she looked at all the 2021 reports and did not include them in the package for the sake of time. Ms. Diamond stated that owner had 45 dogs in 2021 and at the date of the inspection she had 7 litters. It was determined breeders one and two were no longer in business. Breeder #3 is current and had 46 pomeranians and seven litters. Ms. Diamond was not sure if breeder #5 was breeding but thinks on her last report, she had 9-10 dogs. One dog had been rehomed.

Commissioner Hines asked if Robin Flory was the State Representative for the Department of Agriculture for Meriwether County. It was confirmed she was the Inspector and had also been the State Inspector for our area in 2007. Commissioner Hines asked for clarification. Once the State Inspection comes in is it added on their site. Ms. Diamond stated you can do an open records request for any of the inspection reports. Commissioner Hines asked Animal Control Director, George Richmond, how the results from the State inspection come back to the County. Mr. Richmond stated they do not come directly to the shelter unless a request is made to the State. Ms. Diamond stated that is included in the amendment as a requirement and puts the responsibility on the Breeder/Kennel to send their report to the County.

Commissioner Hines stated the County approved an establishment in Alvaton at the old Elementary School 12-18 months ago for training. Chairman Neely-Hadley stated they will be training dogs and not breeding dogs. Commissioner Plant stated it was a rescue. Mr. Richmond stated they are not in business at that location yet and are still in Pike County. It may be July before they move to that location. They are trainers, rescuers, and they also adopt. Commissioner Hines stated based on the information Ms. Diamond gave the Board regarding the State definition of a Commercial Kennel, that doesn't require that you are breeding, then what is the difference in allowing that to exist in the County vs. what Ms. Diamond is asking for in the text amendment. Attorney Lee stated his understanding is Ms. Irizarry, Ms. Diamond and her Attorney met several meetings back and the understanding was she was seeking a Commercial Kennel designation that was not defined in our Ordinance. Our Ordinance has a Kennel designation, and it is defined and is allowed in several of our zoning districts. It was Attorney Lee's understanding that Ms. Diamond is saying the County does not have a classification for a Commercial Kennel like the type she runs. She has asked for a classification for a Commercial Kennel. Ms. Diamond felt that was correct. Attorney Lee stated it sounded like the County does not have a classification in our Zoning Ordinance that fits the Classification of what Ms. Diamond wants to do. Ms. Diamond stated she was to put in an application just to expand her own permit. The way the current Ordinance is written, LDR, which is her zoning classification, is non-commercial which is another problem. Ms. Diamond stated if she has to do all those things as a Commercial Business and has to have a special permit like a non-commercial business, that would be contradictory. Ms. Diamond stated she had three meetings with County officials last year. Following the meetings, the takeaway seemed to be a text amendment would be appropriate. It was sent over in the middle of December for review, and Ms. Diamond put in an official application last month. Attorney Lee stated what they had discussed with her Lawyer, was the only way the Zoning Ordinance can be changed at all, is by the Board following the process of advertisement and a Public Hearing. It was discussed to bring this before the Board before they go through the rezoning process and that Ms. Diamond would bring this before the Board to gauge interest and determine if there needed to be any changes. This was Attorney Lee's take away from that meeting. Theron Gay stated if we were going to classify this as a Commercial Kennel, the Board will still want to have some restrictions. If you are going to go with a Commercial Kennel, you may need to have some restrictions of where that is allowed

in the zoning districts. Mr. Gay explained what our current zoning would allow and stated before the County spends the time and effort to review the current Zoning Ordinance and make changes, we would need to know the pleasure of the Board. Even though Ms. Diamond has presented an amendment change, the County would have to make changes that would be needed with all due respect, enforcement is not happening. Ms. Diamond stated in the same meeting as the Cook's in March of last year, WPB properties had 12 acres and got approval for 50 dogs a day as a boarding facility. It was confirmed that was a rescue that has not opened yet. Chairman Neely-Hadley stated that property is in a Commercial District. George Richmond explained the State does not have verbiage of a Hobby Breeder. You have a pet dealers license, or you don't. Chairman Neely-Hadley stated she sees from the paperwork provided where there may have been some issues with enforcement, but the County has someone else in charge now. Most of this occurred before George Richmond was Director, with the exception of Ms. Diamond and breeder #5. Mr. Richmond explained the situation that happened with Mr. Godfrey. Commissioner Neely-Hadley asked Mr. Richmond his take on this matter. Mr. Richmond stated from the aspect as Animal Control Director, a uniform decision that is based on the number of acres per kennel, or breeder numbers, or make it all one standard. It would be easier for the shelter, especially with a reporting system where a licensed breeder reports to the Animal Shelter after inspections of their current numbers. He had concerns of the locations. Mr. Richmond feels the focus should be on whether you have a 100 acres with no neighbors to complain or a 1-3-acre, lot that may be within the City limits. The largest kennel that is licensed, per the State, is located on Commercial property. There is currently a licensed Kennel Breeder with 14 runs who is noted as residential (K-9 Lodge - That's My Doodle). They have 26-acres, and the zoning is Low Land Residential. They have a license for 20, have 14 runs and have a pet dealers license on that property. No one else is residential except for in the City Limits of Manchester. The County does not have jurisdiction over the City of Manchester. The Board did not recall approving the license for the Kennel with the 14 runs in a residential area. There was further discussion of that property and of their farm being about 100 acres where sheep were raised at one time.

Commissioner McCoy asked Ms. Diamond who issued the stop order. Ms. Diamond stated it was Robin Flory with the State. Ms. Diamond was also issued a citation that day for not having a County Business License and for violating her special permit. Commissioner Neely-Hadley stated her only concern was this was in a residential area, and we could check on the other one that was brought up at the meeting. It is different when you have larger acreage vs. having a small amount of acreage. Ms. Diamond stated she had not seen the paperwork on the nuisance calls and wondered what happens when Animal Control is called out and there are a lot of dogs. Mr. Richmond stated if the owner is over the limit of dogs that are allowed they are given a citation. There is also an Ordinance for Public Nuisance.

Commissioner Hines asked Ms. Diamond if the text amendment would give more clarity on what you could do as a breeder. It is clear there are people in the County that are breeding dogs and not going by the rules and there is no enforcement. Commissioner Hines asked how a Commercial Kennel differed from someone who was not a Commercial Kennel. Ms. Diamond wants to clarify that Commercial Kennels are not only Kennels but also breeders as well even if there is only one acre. Ms. Diamond stated some people think breeding negative, but it is not. Chairman Neely-Hadley stated her biggest concern was the amount of acreage and where it was located. Mr. Gay stated the other Kennel that was discussed shows a 12-acre parcel but there is another 86 acres that goes with that property. There was discussion of what zoning and acreage was permitted for the Kennel. Ms. Diamond stated there were no complaints in the 2021 reports and the reports from Ms. Flory were glowing. If you manage it like a business, Ms. Diamond did not see where there would be a problem. There are only 5 breeders registered. Theron Gay stated if the Board was interested we would need to define which zoning district a Commercial Kennel would be allowed, what restrictions may be in terms of numbers based on the zoning, look at it on a case-by-case basis, and enter some additional criteria. Mr. Gay stated he was sure Ms. Diamond would run her facility well but there will be people who will not. Attorney Lee stated if there were no restrictions/limitations, and the County then adopts a Commercial Kennel designation that was to comply with the Department of Agriculture, and it is allowed in this Zoning classification and there is no limit on the number of dogs. If someone comes in and asks for the Commercial Kennel and we do not have

restrictions and give it to them, then they are grandfathered. Restrictions need to be added at the front end and tweak as necessary. If you accept it like this with no restrictions and there are problems, you are stuck with that Kennel.

Commissioner Hines stated there are a lot of unique businesses out there and we want to make sure the businesses are functioning in order to stay in business and be productive, but we also want to have Ordinances to attract people who want to do this business. We don't want it so restrictive or vague, but we do want to make sure there is consistency. Attorney Lee stated if someone is doing business without the appropriate zoning they can be stopped. If it is an allowed use and we grant that use to someone we typically can't take that back.

Mr. Gay stated Ms. Diamond came before the Board and was granted 10 dogs and two-litters per year. Mr. Gay thinks she could file for another consideration of those conditions of the agreement. The Board can change that without having any of this in place. There is an avenue now if she wanted to pursue this until the Ordinance is developed. Chairman Neely-Hadley asked how long it would take to change the verbiage in the Ordinance. Attorney Lee stated the Board would just need to relay what they want.

Commissioner Hines wanted to see what surrounding Counties have in place. Administrator Irizarry will reach out to surrounding Counties to see what they have in place for like situations. That could assist us with what we decide on our text amendment. Mr. Gay stated if Ms. Irizarry would gather the data, he would be happy to try and transition it into an amendment with input from Attorney Lee. Mr. Gay stated it would probably be the first meeting in April before we could have a draft ready. Attorney Lee stated Ms. Diamond can apply for an amended condition in the meantime. Commissioner Hines thanked Ms. Diamond for bringing this before the Board.

2. Commissioner McCoy stated they are getting ready for the RV expansion. During the last 6-years the Lake Meriwether Advisory Board has tried to bring the Park up to standards. There is complete wiring now around the Pavilion which is good for Peaches in the Pines and other vendors. Lake Meriwether makes money for the County. Tent camping has been improved, there is a walking trail, and there is gate for security. There are 8 of the 30-amp camping spaces. Plans are being made to expand the camping sites by adding 6 sites for a total of 14 camp sites. There will not be a sewer hookup but there are plans for a dump station. Broadband is available and site rentals could increase from the current \$20 per night to \$30 once we have the new hook ups.

Bill Cawthorne stated we are ready to move forward with the site expansion. There was discussion of the drain field and sewer issues. The drain field area is being relocated along with the water main. Each Campsite will have 30/50-amp power and water. We will be adding a dump station. Commissioner Hines asked what the total budget would be for this project. Commissioner Alfred McCoy stated it will depend on how much we can do ourselves. Bill Cawthorne stated a total amount is not complete due to working on the electrical estimate. Currently, we are at \$17K for timbers, water line replacement and sanitary systems. Theron Gay stated we have included the dam area in the LMIG and at some time we need to look at resurfacing and striping the parking area. Bill Cawthorne stated the County will use millings at the sites and drive thru since it will not be paved. Commissioner Hines stated she understands the revenue we receive and the work the County will do but feels we need a breakdown of what it will cost before we start the project. Commissioner Hines stated she was not against the project but wanted to have an idea of the cost and funding. Administrator Irizarry stated the Finance Director said there is \$10K for Special Projects and \$10K for Capital Improvements. SPLOST or ARP could also cover the cost. The County could allow a not to exceed amount. Chairman Neely-Hadley stated it may be best to wait until we have the amount then decide on the funding source. Mr. Cawthorne stated he still needs to price the picnic tables, fire rings and electrical. They hope to add the lift station behind the bath station and have everything ready for Peaches in the Pines in June. This will come back to the Board once we have the cost.

## **XII. REPORT FROM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

Administrator Irizarry reported Public Works has been busy this week working on issues from the rain last week. Photos of the roads were passed around for Board members to see. The culverts on River Cove Road near Cove Road had considerable damage. The three culverts were clogged with debris and water eroded the road when it washed over. Chairman Neely-Hadley stated she had sent in a workorder for JW Dunn Road. Repairs were made and it was reopened the next day. Thanks were expressed to Public Works for their hard work.

Theron Gay, Special Projects Director, provided the Board a map of Oakland Road. Midway through Oakland Road, where the old Railroad trussell comes through, the slab to the bridge has been out for six years. GDOT has kept this on their Bridge report for inspections. A call was received yesterday from GDOT asking if the County wanted this Bridge removed from their list or if the County wants them to continue the inspections. Mr. Gay stated he could get the Board an estimate for repair, a picture of the road, and how long it has been out. There have been no issues with this bridge being out for six years. Everyone has access to their road and there have been no complaints over the years.

We received out stream buffer variance on the new boat ramp at the river. It has been approved by EPD. There was a five-year window on the construction by DNR.

There was storm water runoff in the Courthouse Basement due to the rain. Meetings will be held tomorrow with a contractor to take a look at the issue and provide options.

There have been approximately 50+ calls regarding Building and Zoning requests. Mr. Gay has made 5 site visits, there is application for a cell tower, gun shop, plat approvals, a church in the works, someone who wants to open a distillery, met with a house builder and there are 48 new lots in Chambliss Village. This year we will probably break all records for building new homes in Meriwether County.

Mr. Gay spoke with the State on the Recreation Grant for the Park in Greenville. They have received the last of the cultural studies they needed. We should know around mid-year if we get the grant. We have already been pre-approved, and Mr. Gay feels it will just be a matter of timing.

Mr. Gay attended the Water & Sewerage Meeting, Election Board Meeting, Board of Assessors Meeting, and the Lake Meriwether Advisory Board Meeting.

## **XIII. REPORT FROM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Hines – sits on the West Georgia United Way Board and will make sure all Board members get a copy of the package showing how United Way has serviced Meriwether County. In 2020 the United Way assisted over 528 people from Meriwether County. The American Red Cross serviced 267 residents of Meriwether County. Active Life, a facility in LaGrange, is used by some of the citizens of Meriwether County. The Chattahoochee Council Boy Scouts service 48 people through that program. The Children's Advocacy Council in Troup services 66 children in Meriwether County. This are some of the agencies that United Way partner with that service Meriwether. Commissioner Hines would like to have United Way come in later this year and do a presentation and see how we can be more involved. Commissioner Hines wanted to follow up on the new Infrastructure Bill and how the State will allocate funds to the County. The Governor announced funding would be in place for Broadband. We need to stay on top of this.

Commissioner Plant – stated she didn't know much more than what was announced from the Governor's Office. We did partner with Diverse Power and multiple other agencies. Southern Rivers also received funds from the State for Broadband.

Commissioner Plant thanked Theron Gay for coming to the Courthouse to look at the storm water damage. Thanks were expressed to Public Works and their hard work especially during the storms.

Commissioner McCoy – Agreed with the comments made regarding Public Works. An announcement was made regarding the dates and times of upcoming events through the Manchester-Meriwether County



Recreation Department. We have started preparation for Peaches in the Pines on June 11, 2022, at Lake Meriwether and the first meeting will be held at noon today at the Chamber of Commerce.

Vice Chairman Threadgill- Absent

Chairman Neely-Hadley- announced tickets were still available for the Tina Turner tribute at the Presidents Theater in Manchester.

The Warm Springs Spring Fling will be held on Saturday, April 9, 2022. Everyone is invited to attend. Several of the downtown properties have sold and there are new businesses that are open. The Old Bulloch House property has sold and will become an event center. There are plans for the train cars that were purchased.

Chairman Neely-Hadley asked everyone to remember Carolyn McKinley in their prayers due to the recent loss of her husband.

**XIV. REPORT FROM COUNTY ATTORNEY**

County Attorney Nathan Lee stated there was need for Executive Session for Taxes, Real Estate and Litigation.

**XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion was made by Alfred McCoy and seconded by Rosla Plant to go into Executive Session at 10:37 a.m. to discuss Taxes, Real Estate and Litigation. All were in favor.

Motion was made by Rosla Plant and seconded by Alfred McCoy to go out of Executive Session at 11:10 a.m. All were in favor.

Motion was made by Alfred McCoy and seconded by Shirley Hines to go back into Regular Session at 11:11 a.m. All were in favor.

No action was taken in Executive Session.

**XVI. FUTURE MEETINGS & NOTICES**

Chairman Neely-Hadley announced Future Meetings and Notices prior to Executive Session.

**XVII. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made by Rosla Plant and seconded by Shirley Hines to adjourn at 11:12 a.m. All were in favor.

Approved by: *Majority vote of the Board of Commissioners*

Attest: *Beaulia A. Thomas, County Clerk*

Date: *February 22, 2022*