

The Brooks County Board of Commissioners met for a Workshop and Special Called Meeting on Friday, August 26, 2022, at 12:00 p.m., at the Brooks County Administration Building, in the Commissioners Meeting Room, located at 610 South Highland Road, Quitman, GA. Commissioners present were: Mr. Patrick Folsom, Chairman; Mr. James Maxwell, Vice Chairman. Mr. Willie Cody; Ms. Myra Exum, and Mr. Lee Larko were not present. Others present were Ms. Jessica McKinney, County Administrator; Ms. Patricia Williams; County Clerk; Ms. Kim Daniels, Human Resources; City of Quitman Representatives: Mayor Zinda McDaniel, Councilman Mark DeVane; Councilman Donald Morgan; Ms. Lola Slydell, City Clerk, Police Chief, Mr. Roy Hart. City of Morven Representatives: Mayor Anita Hill, Mrs. Sandy Rentz, City Clerk, Councilman Allen Nelson. City of Barwick Representatives: Mrs. Meg Hester, Assistant City Clerk; Mayor I. J. McCann. City of Pavo Representatives: Marry Collins, City Clerk; Council Member, Ms. Pat Hall; Council Member Joey Kae Dean.

1. **Call to Order** - Chairman called meeting to order.

2. **WORKSHOP**

A. LOST Renegotiation (Brooks County, Cities of Quitman, Barwick, Morven and Pavo) - During the workshop held August 23, 2022, County Administrator, Mrs. McKinney, provided information for the total LOST collection by year for the 10-year projections, which nearly doubled compared to 10 years prior. The City of Quitman provided a full packet of breakdown/explanation. Conversation ensued to position the City of Quitman's ability to measure point of sale; but the DOR (Department of Revenue) has taken the official position that point of sale is not quantifiably measurable. Conversation continued with the City of Quitman shifting to population, which is a noted measurable criterion, to try and justify their request for a percentage increase.

City of Pavo stated they are pleased with their percentage and will remain at 1.65%; and City of Barwick also stated they are satisfied with their percentage of 0.85%. After discussion, municipalities did not agree to maintain current percentages.

County Administrator presented spreadsheets for proposed numbers for Brooks County. Discussion ensued as to Brooks County using LOST as a rollback for taxes; and City of Quitman uses it as revenue. If Brooks County should lose LOST, it will result in having to raise taxes. Information was also provided to present the supplements provided by Brooks County to other departments/facilities (Health Department, Behavioral Health, DFACS, Recreation, Brooks County Hospital, EMS, etc.). Ms. McKinney stated the services provided to the community based on population on the assumption the City of Quitman does not contribute to same service delivery.

After the municipalities broke out into groups for lengthy discussion; City of Quitman stated they feel they should get more than 20% or 21%; and they need to discuss more. This was the last meeting before the 60-day period would end to reach an agreement; due to municipalities not agreeing on percentages; the next step will be mediation.

3. Adjournment

Chairman adjourned the workshop at 1:22 pm.

Mr. Patrick Folsom, Chairman

Ms. Jessica McKinney, County Administrator

Ms. Patricia A. Williams, County Clerk