

The Brooks County Board of Commissioners met for a Special Called Meeting/Work Session Monday, January 27, 2024, at 4:15 p.m., at the Brooks County Administrative 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, Mrs. Myra Exum; Mr. Willie Cody; and Mr. Lee Larko. Others present were Mr. Buddy Johnson, County Administrator; Ms. Patricia Williams, County Clerk; Ms. Kim Daniels, Human Resources, Ms. Janice Jarvis, Finance Director; and Mr. Jason Kemp, County Attorney, and various residents.

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING/WORK SESSION

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Prayer/Pledge – Chairman Folsom asked Commissioner Cody, to lead all in attendance prayer and pledge of allegiance.

II. CONSENT AGENDA – One Motion for Approval on all Items

A. Approval of Resolution No. 25-R-02 – Declare State of Emergency

1) **CA003-2025** – Resolution No. 25-R-02

2) **CA004-2025** – Approve Extension of State of Emergency

On a motion by Mr. Larko, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 25-R-02 to declare a state of emergency due to Brooks County being impacted by snow, ice, and winter mix precipitation and to institute a curfew to protect its citizens on Tuesday, January 21, 2025 through Wednesday, January 22, 2025 and the extension of the state of emergency to Thursday, January 24, 2025 and reopen on Friday, January 24, 2025. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cody.

III. TOPICS FOR MOTION/DISCUSSION

- **Flashing Lights @ Intersection of Country Club Road and Johnson Short Road – Brandie DeLoach** – Ms. DeLoach requested to appear to address concerns related to the intersection of Country Club Road @ Johnson Short Road due to the negligence of another driver running a stop sign on Johnson Short Road, causing the death of her dad. She does not want to see this happen to another innocent person again. Ms. DeLoach suggested placing flashing yellow lights @ the intersection of Country Club Road and flashing red lights @ intersection of Johnson Short Road and placing rumble strips on Johnson Short Road. She was advised that the Engineer would need to look at it because rumble strips/speed bumps and flashing red lights may not be acceptable. Administrator Johnson stated he will call the Engineer to see what can be done.
- **Opioid Funds** – Mr. Maxwell discussed the need to establish assistance/education for the community regarding medical screening, substance use/opioid misuse screening, counseling, mental health screening using a client-based participant model. He further stated that something needs to be done to let the community

know. Chairman inquired what they can do as a Board. County Attorney, Mr. Kemp, stated that an eligible use of the opioid funds need to be presented and credentials verified. The Board needs to evaluate on the back end, assess where the County is and decide the best use of the funds. Sheriff Mike Dewey commented that his Officers need the Narcan. Mrs. Exum commented that we need to know the cost that would be associated with the implementation of services.

IV. FORMAL ACTION REQUESTS – Commissioners Discussion with Action – NONE

V. WORK SESSION & NEW BUSINESS

- Regular Meeting Agenda Review – February 3, 2025 – The Board reviewed/discussed the agenda for the upcoming meeting.

➤ Administrator Johnson

- Administrator Johnson informed the Board of the availability of office space in the Development Authority Building they are not using and has been offered back to the county; and requested to move the Finance Department to that office where they would have privacy and less interruptions. Administrator Johnson advised that he is requiring a minimum lease for two years with a six-month notice. Brooks County has renovated the building and there will not be any cost associated other than the utilities and insurance.

➤ Commissioners Matters

- District 1 –
- District 2
- District 3
- District 4 – Update on debris pickup; provided a map showing the areas that have been cleared.
- District 5

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting was closed to go into executive session at 5:08 pm on a motion by Mrs. Exum, Mr. Larko seconded.

Litigation Updates – County Attorney provided updates on pending real estate and litigation. No action was taken by the Board.

Executive Session adjourned and returned to the special called meeting, on a motion by Mr. Maxwell, Mr. Larko seconded.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned the meeting at 5:18pm, on the motion by Mr. Larko, seconded by Mrs. Exum.

Mr. Patrick Folsom, Chairman

Mr. James (Buddy) Johnson, County Administrator

Ms. Patricia A. Williams, County Clerk