

**Minutes of Called Meeting  
Elbert County Board of Commissioners  
Wednesday, August 18, 2021**

Chairman Lee Vaughn called the meeting to order. Present were Chairman Vaughn, Vice Chairman Kenneth Ashworth, Commissioner Chris Alexander, Commissioner Casey Freeman, Jr., Commissioner Freddie Jones, County Administrator Bob Thomas, County Attorney Bill Daughtry, County Clerk Tamara Butler and CFO Phil Pitts. Commissioner Horace Harper was absent.

After the Pledge to the United States flag the invocation was given by Commissioner Jones.

**Adoption of the Agenda.** Commissioner Freeman made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Alexander seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of proposed roads for paving under the state LMIG program. Mr. Thomas stated the list of roads that need paving has been turned in and Mr. Todd McDuffie with KCI Technologies will be here next week to review them and discuss cost.

**Discussion and approval of partnering with a broadband provider to submit a grant under the State of Georgia fiscal Recovery Fund Grant Program. This is a matching grant to provide broadband service in unserved areas of the county.** Chairman Vaughn stated it is his desire to utilize part of the CARES Act funding for broadband service in the county. He reached out to the City of Elberton and AT&T to get proposals; he and Mr. Thomas met with a representative of AT&T that gave a proposal of about \$35 million; with the county putting in \$1.3 million and AT&T putting in \$5 million, with the balance to come from the state grant fund. He also talked with the City of Elberton. Their proposal will take us to covering approximately 92% of the county at a cost to the county of about \$359,000. The balance will come from state grant funds.

Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve the proposal with the City of Elberton. Commissioner Alexander seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Executive Session.** Commissioner Jones made a motion to enter executive session for discussion of personnel and real estate. Commissioner Alexander seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Upon returning Commissioner Alexander made a motion to enter general session. Commissioner Freeman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Vaughn stated no action was taken.

**Adjournment.** Commissioner Alexander made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Freeman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.