

**Minutes of Public Hearing
Elbert County Board of Commissioners
Monday, March 13, 2023**

- 1) **Discussion and approval of a request by Amber Trotter to rezone five (5) acres from A (Agricultural) to R1 (Single Family Residential).** Located on Edna Rd., Elberton, GA. Map: 016, Parcel: 027C. Planning & Zoning recommended approval of this application. There were no public comments.

- 2) **Discussion and approval of a request by Laura Yetzina to rezone from R1 (Single Family Residential) to RR (Rural Residential).** Property located on Winns Mill Rd., Royston, GA (Elbert County) Map: 005, Parcel: 059B. Planning & Zoning recommended approval of this application. There were no public comments.

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Chairman Lee Vaughn called the meeting to order. Present were Commissioner David Hunt, Commissioner Casey Freeman, Commissioner Chris Alexander, Commissioner Mike Scoggins, Commissioner Freddie Jones, Interim County Administrator Allen Hulme, CFO Macie Witcher, County Attorney Bill Daughtry, County Clerk Tamara Butler and media.

After the pledge to the United States flag the invocation was given by Mr. Daughtry.

Adoption of the Agenda. Chairman Vaughn asked for a motion to amend the agenda to add, Discussion and approval of a Resolution to participate in the New Opioid Settlements and an Executive Session for Real Estate and Litigation. Commissioner Freeman made a motion to adopt the agenda as amended. Commissioner Hunt seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Adoption of the Minutes of Called Meeting on February 3, 2023 and the Regular meeting on February 13, 2023. Commissioner Freeman made a motion to adopt the minutes. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Discussion and approval of a request by Amber Trotter to rezone five (5) acres from A (Agricultural) to R1 (Single Family Residential). Located on Edna Rd., Elberton, GA. Map: 016, Parcel: 027C. Planning & Zoning recommended approval of this application. Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve this rezone request. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Discussion and approval of a request by Laura Yetzina to rezone from R1 (Single Family Residential) to RR (Rural Residential). Property located on Winns Mill Rd., Royston, GA.

Map: 005, Parcel: 059B. Planning & Zoning recommended approval of this application. Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve this rezone request. Commissioner Scoggins seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Discussion and approval of a Resolution of the Elbert County Board of Commissioners in support of the responsible use of Agricultural Soil Amendments. Mr. Daughtry stated other counties have also been submitting this to the state, along with state officials, asking for stricter guidelines and enforcement of laws. Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve; seconded by Commissioner Hunt. The motion passed 5-0.

Discussion and approval for committing \$25,000 from the General Fund to purchase abandoned mobile homes at the Elbert County tax sale. Mr. Hulme stated there were 23 mobile homes on the list of abandoned mobile homes. There are three (3) that have had many complaints from surrounding property owners. The three (3) mobile homes have taxes due of around \$2,300. Commissioner Hunt made a motion to commit up to \$25,000 and let Mr. Hulme prioritize the mobile homes in the worst shape, and are easily accessible to get the equipment in to tear down and remove. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-2, with Commissioner Alexander and Commissioner Scoggins voting against.

Discussion and approval of a request by Mr. Jimmy White, of the Jim-Ree Museum for \$2,500 to help sponsor the Juneteenth Celebration on June 17, 2023. Funds to come from the Hotel/Motel tax fund. Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the donation of \$2,500. Commissioner Hunt seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Discussion and approval of a Resolution to participate in the New Opioid Settlements. Mr. Daughtry stated we had received funds from the first settlement that was against the manufacturers of opioid drugs; this new litigation is against certain retailers and distributors. This is a resolution to agree to participate in the settlement. Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve this resolution. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Discussion and approval of bids for resurfacing the following roads:

- 1) Allen Logan Road
- 2) Coldwater Creek Road
- 3) Victory Road
- 4) Academy Drive
- 5) Nickville Road
- 6) Double Bridges Road
- 7) Five Forks Road

Mr. Howell stated three (3) bids were received with Stratton and Sons Construction, being the lowest bid of \$2,263,437. Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve the bid from Stratton and Sons. Commissioner Hunt seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

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Finance Report. Ms. Witcher stated General Fund expenditures were under budget; revenues were higher than this time last year. SPLOST AND TSPLOST are in good shape.

Public Comments. Mr. Jimmy White from the Jim Ree Museum thanked the commissioners for their support.

Executive Session. Commissioner Alexander made a motion to enter Executive Session; seconded by Commissioner Scoggins. The motion passed 5-0.

Upon returning, Commissioner Freeman made a motion to enter General Session; seconded by Commissioner Alexander. The motion passed 5-0.

Chairman Vaughn asked for a motion to transfer two small strips of land that would otherwise landlock the two (2) property owners on Cloverleaf Drive adjacent to the old 4-H building that has been sold. The motion is to transfer ownership of tracts 3a and 3b to the property owners. Commissioner Freeman made a motion to approve this transfer. Commissioner Scoggins seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Adjournment. Commissioner Alexander made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Hunt. The motion passed unanimously.