



**PLANNING RETREAT MINUTES
Carroll County Board of Commissioners
March 29-30, 2022**

Michelle Morgan, Chairman	P	Stacey Blackmon, County Attorney	P
Montrell McClendon, D-1	P	Avery Jackson, County Attorney	P
Clint Chance, D-2	P	Dianne Roberts, Dep. County Clerk	P
Tommy Lee, D-3	P	Alecia Searcy, Finance Director	P
Steve Fuller, D-4	P	Theron Gay, Facilitator	P – arrived noon 3/29
Ernie Reynolds, D-5	P	Ashley Hulseley, Comm. Director	P
George Chambers, D-6	P		

Present = P A = Absent

WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER (Day 1)

Chairman, Michelle Morgan, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Commissioner Chambers led the invocation. Commissioner McClendon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

RETIREMENT AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Human Resources Director Anne Lee and advisor Earl Garvin with Pension Financial Services presented a review of the County's Employee Retirement Plans. A Retirement Plan Committee, single Investment Manager and a Plan Advisor position were proposed. Additional information, including a sample RFP, was requested. There was consensus to combine the platforms for the two (2) current plans for cost savings and operational efficiency.

INSURANCE

Marsh & McLennan Agency representatives Swede Sullivan, Jared Holley and Christi Runyan presented a claims summary for the past year and the risk areas/targets were reviewed and discussed. The Wellness Program, which includes Healthcheck360, was also reviewed. The County plan is very competitive for recruitment and maintaining employees. Marsh & McLennan representatives Newton Jennings and Michael Govar discussed the County Property & Casualty insurance, which includes Risk Management resources.

ARPA NORTH CARROLL COUNTY WATER PROJECT

Chairman Morgan emphasized the need for all unincorporated Carroll County citizens to have access to water. She proposed transferring monies for the sewer project, which is now tabled, to expand the scope of the water project in North Carroll County. Carroll County Water Authority has already made an investment in this project. Theron Gay will have further discussion with Matt Windom, Executive Director of the Water Authority, before the agreement can be finalized.

LOST (Local Option Sales Tax)

Facilitator Theron Gay presented a 2022 Schedule for LOST negotiations. He reviewed all criteria, and it was recommended that we begin preliminary meetings with cities.

CONTRACTS

Facilitator Theron Gay discussed the schedule regarding the RFP for the Design Services for the new County Administration Facility.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Community Development Director Ben Skipper reviewed the ordinance for conditional use permits for event facilities in Agricultural districts, which were intended to allow occasional events in existing barns rather than commercial facilities.

OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS

- County Attorney Avery Jackson discussed on-going training for Animal Control Ordinances. A specific issue regarding livestock getting loose on roads was discussed, and there was consensus to explore adopting an ordinance and contracting with an independent company to handle, which is a solution used in other counties. Mr. Jackson will work with Animal Control, Codes, and the Sheriff's Office on this project.
- Finance Director Alecia Searcy discussed upgrading the County computer software platform from MS2010 to Office365 primarily to update our cyber security. The consensus was to amend the budget and move forward by June 1.
- Chairman Morgan informed the BOC that the agenda for the April 12, 2022 meeting will be amended to include approving new positions funded through the Judicial ARPA grant to address the backlog of serious felony cases.
- County Attorney Stacey Blackmon reviewed the timing for appointments for the Development Authority of Carroll County members to have four year staggered terms. Each District Commissioner would nominate a DACC member from their district six (6) months after the Commissioner is elected. There was consensus to proceed with this plan.
- District 2 Commissioner Clint Chance discussed possible impacts the proposed Villa Rica TAD will have on Carroll County. All Commissioners were encouraged to meet with Villa Rica officials to address their individual concerns and questions.

ADJOURNMENT (Day 1)

There being no further discussion Chairman Morgan adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER (Day 2)

Chairman Michelle Morgan welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

BUDGET AMENDMENT

Finance Director Alecia Searcy presented the proposed Budget Amendment that was published on March 29, 2022. Members requested additional information from West Georgia Regional Airport. Ms. Searcy noted that health care costs are anticipated to increase in next year's budget. Ms. Searcy discussed negotiations regarding the proposed increase from GFL solid waste expenses, and Chairman Morgan noted that Solid Waste Manager Jacqueline Dost is looking at options to address increased costs for next year's budget. Commissioner Chance discussed a possible litter campaign including security cameras. Facilitator Theron Gay is discussing the contract with West Georgia Ambulance due to his knowledge about these services.

COMMISSIONER TOPICS

District 2 Commissioner Clint Chance discussed Employee Wellness and suggested distributing a complimentary county park pass to all employees, which are currently provided at a 50% discount. Comm. Chance also mentioned a possible fueling station in North Carroll County, which will be discussed further with Public Works Director Charles Pope.

District 4 Commissioner Steve Fuller stressed the need to preserve agriculture and promote farmland conservation efforts. Comm. Fuller suggested a program for farms to raise food for schools, and will follow up after more research is done on his part.

District 5 Commissioner Ernie Reynolds brought forth a constituent's concerns regarding the Consent Agenda process. The process was discussed and Commissioner Reynolds will follow up with an explanation to the constituent. Comm. Reynolds discussed the possible expansion of County parks using grants, and will explore funding sources. He mentioned building pickleball courts for tournament use, which are popular and might generate visitors to our County. He will discuss possible sites for pickleball courts further with Recreation Dept. Director Thad Ferguson. Another topic of discussion was the County's experience and adequacy in federal and state grant research and writing. Theron Gay mentioned Allen Smith grant writers and offered to explore further. Comm. Reynolds discussed the challenges in today's employment market to recruit fire fighters in general and for the Jones Mill Fire Station.

ADJOURNMENT (Day 2)

There being no further discussion Chairman Morgan adjourned the meeting at 12:05 p.m.

Dianne Roberts, Deputy County Clerk

Michelle Morgan, Chairman