

**Upson County Board of Commissioners
April 28, 2015 Meeting Minutes**

Call to Order

Chairman Blackston calls the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. All Commissioners are in attendance. County Manager Jim Wheelless and County Attorney Heath English are also in attendance. The Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Blackston.

Minutes

Chairman Blackston apologized to everyone because the Proclamation for the Vietnam Veterans stated Jimmy Daughtery instead it should have stated Edward Daughtery. He asked that the Proclamation be corrected.

A motion is made by Comm. Ellington, with a second from Comm. Wilder, to adopt the April 14, 2015 regular meeting minutes after the correction is made. The motion carries.

Commissioner Wilder – Yes Commissioner Hudson – Yes Chairman Blackston – Yes
Commissioner Ellington – Yes
Commissioner Spraggins – Yes

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

New Business

- a. Mr. Robert Haney gave a presentation about combining the election precincts. He stated that this could save the county \$16,000-\$20,000 during an even numbered election year and \$3,800-\$4,700 during an odd numbered election year. Currently the county has 9 precincts this would be reduced to 3 precincts. Mr. Haney explained that now anyone can request a mail-in ballot or they can do advance voting during the 21 days prior to the election. He added that the Board of Elections has voted to move forward with the idea pending the support from the Board of Commissioners. The precincts would be combined as follow:

Atwater, Redbone, The Rock, and Reeves – Voting location Atwater

Registered Voter Numbers

Precinct 1

Reeves 1,632

Atwater 1,189

Redbone 3,826

The Rock 351

Total 6998

Voting location – Atwater

Town and Lincoln Park – Voting location Civic Center

Registered Voter Numbers

Precinct 2

Town 6775

Lincoln Park 659

Total 7434

Voting location – Town

The Jug, Salem, and Yatesville – Voting location The Jug

Registered Voter Numbers

Precinct 3

Yatesville 801

The Jug 395

Salem 360

Total 1556

Voting location – The Jug

- b. County Manager Jim Wheelless made a recommendation to appoint Robert Haney to the Archives Advisory Board. He stated that this is a permanent position and he will be replacing Paul Rogers.

A motion is made by Comm. Spraggins, with a second from Comm. Wilder, to appoint Robert Haney to the Archives Advisory Board. The motion carries.

Commissioner Hudson – Yes Chairman Blackston – Yes
Commissioner Ellington – Yes Commissioner Wilder – Yes
Commissioner Spraggins – Yes

- c. The board discussed Dr. Oluwaseun Titilayo “Suzanne” Cole application for the Board of Health. Comm. Hudson asked if the applicant had to be an Upson County resident. It was explained that after speaking with Kristie about the appointment she indicated that the person does not have to be a county resident.

A motion is made by Comm. Hudson, with a second from Comm. Spraggins, to appoint Dr. Cole to the Board of Health. The motion carries.

Chairman Blackston – Yes Commissioner Ellington – Yes
Commissioner Wilder – Yes Commissioner Spraggins – Yes
Commissioner Hudson – Yes

- d. Mr. Wheelless explained that it has been brought to the board a couple of time about the setback distance for chicken houses, or if it the chicken house was blown down could it be built back in the same footprint. Several times it has had to come before the board of Commissioners for zoning change.

A motion was made by Comm. Spraggins with a second from Comm. Wilder to approve the Resolution changing the setback distance on Poultry Houses from 200 ft. to 100 ft. from the property line.

Commissioner Ellington – Yes Commissioner Wilder – Yes
Commissioner Spraggins – Yes Commissioner Hudson – Yes
Chairman Blackston – Abstain



UPSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
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Jim Wheelless- County Manager
The English Law Group, County Attorney

Rusty Blackston - Chairman
Lorenzo Wilder – District 1
Steve Hudson – District 2
Ralph Ellington – District 3
Frank Spraggins – District 4

RESOLUTION

TO AMEND ARTICLE 5, SECTION 504 B. 16 OF APPENDIX A (ZONING) OF THE CODE OF UPSON COUNTY

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Upson County, Georgia is desirous of amending Article 5, Section 504 B. 16 of Appendix A of the Code of Upson County, Georgia by striking said provision in its entirety and substituting in lieu thereof the following:

“Chicken houses, providing that all structures and facilities must be set back a distance of 100 feet from all property lines.”

BE IT SO RESOLVED, THIS ____ DAY OF APRIL, 2015.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF UPSON COUNTY

RUSTY BLACKSTON, CHAIRMAN

RALPH ELLINGTON, DISTRICT 3

LORENZO WILDER, DISTRICT 1

FRANK SPRAGGINS, DISTRICT 4

STEVE HUDSON, DISTRICT 2

ATTEST: _____
JESSICA JONES
COUNTY CLERK

County Manager, Commissioners and County Attorney Comments

County Manager Jim Wheelless stated that a letter had been sent to the D.O.T. about safety road action. He is hopeful the county can receive a grant to help with making the roads safer. He stated that the columns had been replaced in front of the Archives. He added that they had received sealed bids for carpet installation at the Archives from Michaels of Dalton Carpet \$12,221.52 and Middle Georgia Carpet \$13,821.40 with the lowest bid going to Michaels of Dalton Carpet.

Commissioner Spraggins had no comments.

Commissioner Hudson stated that the county was accepting applications for 3 Gate Attendants at Sprewell Bluff.

Commissioner Wilder stated that the lighting had been installed at the basketball court in Salem.

Commissioner Ellington had no comments.

County Attorney Paschal English had no comments.

Chairman Blackston had no comments.

Adjournment

Comm. Spraggins made a motion to adjourn at 6:40 pm, with a second by Comm. Ellington to adjourn the meeting

Chairman Rusty Blackston

Commissioner Steve Hudson

Commissioner Frank Spraggins

Commissioner Lorenzo Wilder

Commissioner Ralph Ellington

Jim Wheelless, County Manager