

**CAMDEN COUNTY, GEORGIA  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
AUGUST 18, 2020, 6:00 PM**

**Present via Teleconference : Chairman James H. Starline; Vice-Chairman Gary Blount; Commissioner Lannie Brant; Commissioner Ben L. Casey; Commissioner Chuck Clark; County Administrator Steve Howard; Deputy County Administrator Shawn Boatright; County Attorney John S. Myers and County Clerk Kathryn A. Bishop.**

Chairman Starline called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioner Lannie Brant delivered the invocation.

**Agenda Amendments:**

No agenda amendments were offered.

**Motion to Adopt the Agenda:**

Vice-chairman Blount made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Brant to adopt the agenda as presented.

**The motion carried unanimously .**

**Approval of the Minutes**

- August 4, 2020 Public Hearing and Regular Meeting minutes

Vice-Chairman Blount made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Brant to approve the August 4, 2020 Public Hearing and Regular Meeting minutes.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**Presentations**

- Proclamation recognizing the month of September as Camden County Suicide Prevention Awareness Month and September 10<sup>th</sup> as Camden County Suicide Prevention Awareness Day.

County Clerk Katie Bishop read the Proclamation recognizing the month of September as Camden County Suicide Prevention Awareness Month and September 10<sup>th</sup> as Camden County Suicide Prevention Awareness Day.

- Proclamation recognizing October 17, 2020 as Camden County Domestic Violence Awareness Day

County Clerk Katie Bishop read the Proclamation recognizing October 17, 2020 as Camden County Domestic Violence Awareness Day.

- Census 2020 update presented by Community Engagement & Strategic Planning Manager Claire Feazel

Community Engagement & Strategic Planning Manager Claire Feazel presented a Census 2020 update.

## **Public Comments**

No comments from the Public were offered during this time.

Vice-chairman Blount made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Casey to adjourn the regular meeting and convene a public hearing at 6:12 PM.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

Chairman Starline convened the Public Hearing at 6:12 PM.

## **Public Hearing**

- To receive comments from the public regarding the intent to repeal Chapter 22 Civil Emergencies and adopt, pass and enforce an ordinance to amend Chapter 22 to be known as Emergency Management of the Official Code of Camden County, Georgia.

**No comments were offered either in favor or in opposition of this item.**

Vice-chairman Blount made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Casey to adjourn the public hearing and reconvene the Regular Meeting at 6:16 PM.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

Chairman Starline reconvened the Regular Meeting at 6:16 PM.

## **Regular Agenda**

1. Consideration of bid award for banking contract.

Vice-Chairman Blount made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Brant to approve the contract award for Camden County Banking Services to Southeastern Bank.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

2. Consideration of Teleworking Policy.

Commissioner Brant made a motion, seconded by Vice-chairman Blount to adopt the Camden County Teleworking Policy.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

3. Approval of purchase of flats boat for the Camden County Sheriff's Office Marine Patrol

Commissioner Brant made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Casey to approve the purchase of a flats boat for the Camden County Sheriff's Office Marine Patrol.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

4. Consideration of approval of the Equitable Sharing Agreement and Certification.

Commissioner Brant made a motion, seconded by Vice-chairman Blount to approve the Camden County Sheriff's Office Equitable Sharing Agreement and Certification.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

5. Approval of grant application for Georgia Public Library Service Major Repair and Renovation Program

Vice-Chairman Blount made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Brant to approve the grant application for Georgia Public Library Service Major Repair and Renovation Program.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

6. Second reading and Adoption of the intent to repeal Chapter 22 Civil Emergencies and adopt, pass and enforce an ordinance to amend Chapter 22 to be known as Emergency Management of the Official Code of Camden County, Georgia.

Commissioner Brant made a motion, seconded by Vice-chairman Blount to waive the second reading and adopt the repeal Chapter 22 Civil Emergencies and adopt, pass and enforce an ordinance to amend Chapter 22 to be known as Emergency Management of the Official Code of Camden County, Georgia.

**The motion carried unanimously.**

## **Reports**

- **Calendar - August & September**

County Clerk Katie Bishop stated there were no changes to the calendar at this time.

- **County Administrator Comments**

County Administrator Steve Howard encouraged everyone to remind others of the importance of completing your census.

## **Additional Public Comments**

Tom Canning, St. Marys

Mr. Canning stated that as hard as the BoER and Registrar are working, during this pandemic and the need for social distancing, there remains a need for County-wide increased support (funding, labor, communications) in preparation for and during this 2020 election cycle: October 12, 2020 Advanced In Person (Early) Voting begins for the November General Election and Special Election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-385. With record breaking voter turnout expected, our County needs cross-department and City coordination to manage estimated Early Voting in person 9,000; in person Elect Day 4,000; and Absentee Ballots 12,000. The County needs Absentee Ballot Drop Boxes at strategic locations at or before the start of Early Voting plus protocols and preparations to adequately manage and respond to new SOS resources and requirements; such as online Absentee Ballot request app.

Therefore, I am urging the County Commission to insure that the Elections staff has the resources necessary to insure and manage a safe, secure and adequate voting environment for the November election. I urge you to be pro-active rather than re-active to requests from the Elections Board. Time is of the essence with no time to ponder action.

## **Adjournment:**

Vice-Chairman Blount made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Casey to adjourn the August 18, 2020 regular meeting. The vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 6:31 PM.

**The motion carried unanimously.**