

**CAMDEN COUNTY, GEORGIA  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
OCTOBER 5, 2021, 6:00 PM**

**Present:** Commissioner Gary Blount; Commissioner Ben L. Casey; Commissioner Lannie Brant; Commissioner Chuck Clark; Commissioner Trevor Readdick; Deputy County Administrator Shawn Boatright and County Clerk Kathryn A. Bishop

**Attended Virtually:** County Administrator Steve Howard and County Attorney John S. Myers

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

Commissioner Lannie Brant delivered the invocation.

Chairman Blount led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Agenda Amendments:**

Vice-Chairman Casey made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Brant to remove the Public Hearing, as well as Item 1 from the agenda.

**So voted:**

**Chairman Blount – Yes**

**Vice-Chairman Casey – Yes**

**Commissioner Brant – Yes**

**Commissioner Clark – No**

**Commissioner Readdick – Abstain**

***The motion passed 3 – 2, Commissioner Clark voted No, Commissioner Readdick abstained from the motion.***

Vice-Chairman Casey made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Brant to add an item to discuss and take action regarding rescinding the letter of withdrawal from funding of the Public Service Authority.

After discussion by the Board, Vice-Chairman Casey rescinded his previous motion, Commissioner Brant rescinded the second to that motion.

**Motion to Adopt the Agenda:**

Commissioner Brant made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Clark to adopt the agenda as amended.

**So voted:**

**Chairman Blount – Yes**

**Vice-Chairman Casey – Yes**

**Commissioner Brant – Yes**

**Commissioner Clark – Yes**

**Commissioner Readdick – Abstain**

***The motion carried 4 – 1, Commissioner Readdick abstained from the motion.***

## **Approval of the Minutes**

- September 21, 2021 Regular Meeting minutes

Commissioner Brant made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Clark to approve the September 21, 2021 Regular Meeting minutes.

***The motion carried unanimously.***

## **Presentations**

- Proclamation recognizing Friday, October 8, 2021 as “Pink Out Friday”

County Clerk Katie Bishop read the Proclamation recognizing Friday, October 8, 2021 as “Pink Out Friday”

- Proclamation recognizing the week of October 3 – 9, 2021, as “Fire Prevention Week”

County Clerk Katie Bishop read the Proclamation recognizing the week of October 3 – 9, 2021, as “Fire Prevention Week” and it was presented to members of Camden County Fire Rescue.

## **Public Comments**

Robert Bauer, Harriett's Bluff

Mr. Bauer asked the Board when they would start bringing up stuff not behind closed doors and stated that Stat Sunshine Laws prohibit this action. He urged the Board to return the picnic tables to the Harriett's Bluff Park. He made further comments in opposition of Spaceport.

## **Public Hearing**

- Request for Special Use approval for a Private Airstrip on 100 acres. Parcel is zoned (A-F) Agricultural Forestry and is located off Charlie Smith Sr. HWY. Tax Map 132 001. Trevor & Crystal Readdick, owner, Trevor Readdick, applicant.

***The Public Hearing was removed during agenda amendments.***

## **Regular Agenda**

1. Consideration of request by Trevor & Crystal Readdick, owner, Trevor Readdick, applicant, for Special Use approval for a Private Airstrip on 100 acres. Parcel is zoned (A-F) Agricultural Forestry and is located off Charlie Smith Sr. HWY. Tax Map 132 001.

***This item was removed during agenda amendments.***

2. Notice of Intent to Award for Architectural Services and completion of the required preliminary architectural report for the upcoming Community Development Block Grant COVID-19 grant application Architectural Contract for the Camden County Health Department.

Commissioner Brant made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Readdick to award contract to McCall Architecture for Architectural Services and completion of the required preliminary architectural report for the upcoming Community Development Block Grant COVID-19 grant application.

***The motion carried unanimously.***

3. Approval of change order and contract extension for Allen Owens Construction for the Two Rivers Gun Range.

Commissioner Brant made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Clark to approve the change order and contract extension for RFP# P20-0240-14 to Allen Owens Construction for the completion and repair of the Rifle Range Berm of Phase II construction for the Camden County Recreational Shooting Complex.

***The motion carried unanimously.***

4. Approval of bid award for Camden County Library roof replacement.

Commissioner Brant made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Clark to approve the proposal bid award to Alpha Commercial Roof for Camden County Library Roof Replacement.

***The motion carried unanimously.***

5. Request to approve a Resolution authorizing the Coastal Regional Commission (CRC) to submit a grant application to the Economic Development Administration (EDA) for the Build Back Better Regional Challenge grant.

Commissioner Clark made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Brant to approve the Resolution authorizing the Coastal Regional Commission (CRC) to submit a grant application to the Economic Development Administration (EDA) for the Build Back Better Regional Challenge grant.

***The motion carried unanimously.***

6. Approval of Programmatic Agreement between the Federal Aviation Administration, Georgia State Historic Preservation Officer, and Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Regarding the Construction and Operation of a Spaceport, Camden County, Georgia

Commissioner Clark made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Brant to approve the Programmatic Agreement between the Federal Aviation Administration, Georgia State Historic Preservation Officer, and Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Regarding the Construction and Operation of a Spaceport, Camden County, Georgia, and Authorize the County Administrator to execute the Programmatic Agreement as an *Invited Signatory* on behalf of the Camden County Board of Commissioners.

**So voted:**

**Chairman Blount – Yes**

**Vice-Chairman Casey – Yes**

**Commissioner Readdick – No**

**Commissioner Brant – Yes**

**Commissioner Clark - Yes**

***The motion carried 4 - 1. Commissioner Readdick voted no.***

## **Reports**

- **Calendar - October & November**

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

- **County Administrator Comments**

No comments were offered during this time.

## **Additional Public Comments**

### **Kassandra Allen, Woodbine**

Ms. Allen expressed her concerns regarding the need for the paving of Colesburg Thompkins Road. She asked what steps need to be taken to get the road paved that her parents have lived on for twenty (20) years. She explained that the road frequently washes out and logging trucks have continued to contribute to the deterioration of the road.

### **Matt Jordan, Woodbine**

Mr. Jordan stated that he had come here this evening to speak in favor of Mr. Readdick's airstrip. He asked why it was tabled if it meets the requirements of the Unified Development Code (UDC) and did the base have something to do with the item being tabled. He suggested to the Board that they consider a Special Use Permit which could be revoked if not in compliance with the UDA.

### **Benn Goff, Harriett's Bluff**

Mr. Goff read the following comment for the record:

**Neighborhood parks** are essential in a community as they provide a place for children to play, parents to bring their little ones, and adults to congregate. Here are just a few of their benefits:

1. Parks encourage physical activity. Kids who spend time outdoors tend to perform better in school and have fewer behavior problems, and the presence of a park can increase aerobic activity across ages by as much as 25 percent.
2. Parks facilitate community connection. For busy adults, making friends can be difficult. Parks offer a safe communal space where neighbors can meet each other and connect in person.
3. Parks are good for the environment. Communities with green spaces, such as parks, have healthier air quality, as each acre of tree cover can remove 80 pounds of pollution from the air.
4. Parks improve property values. Well-maintained neighborhood parks make the area attractive to newcomers and make homes more valuable.

Following are some helpful ways to prevent vandalism,: Report incidents often so patterns emerge quickly and targeted patrols can be scheduled.

- Update any security staff about problem areas on a regular basis.
- Review the positioning of security cameras frequently and post signs about the presence of cameras in areas that are under surveillance.
- Consider a dedicated website or hotline where incidents can be reported anonymously. Be sure to post signs informing the public about the website or hotline at each location.
- If on a tight budget, consider partnering with organizations nearby to plan more security patrols, improve lighting or install additional security cameras.
- Publicize information about the consequences of vandalism on calendars, schedules, the website newsletters and handbooks.

- Night Owl 1080p Wi-Fi Smart Security System with 4 AC Powered 1080p HD Wi-Fi IP Indoor/Outdoor Cameras with Night Vision and 1TB Hard Drive (Expandable up to a Total of 10 Wi-Fi Devices)

\$359.00 WiFi camera systems \$359.00 \* 4 county parks = \$1436

Installation 4 county parks = \$500 \* 4 = \$2000

Wi-Fi door locks \$400 \* 3 = \$1200 per park \* 4 parks = \$4800

Installation of door locks 4 locations 3 locks per location = 12 @ \$75 = \$900

Grand total Initial cost for security cameras, and smart locks \$9136

Internet cost per month 4 locations.....\$156

### "Fire the Public Service Authority"

Public Service founding legislation:

Section 2 Part D

"Participation of any entity shall only occur through contractual agreement"

The December agreement of 2018 does not contain all of the elements of a valid contract!  
(Apparently no other "contract" exists)

Section 3 Part Q

"To create at the discretion of the authority, technical advisory groups or citizen advisory for the purpose of technical or citizen input into authority activities"

The math is rather simplistic, and to me paints a picture that is without color just simply black and white.

Unincorporated tax funds are to be used to subsidize a less than productive organization to the detriment of parks located in the unincorporated areas.

It seems there is more than one reason to withdraw funding from the Camden PSA if you are able to see a fallacy in the statements don't hesitate to share.

Camden County approved budget dollars to Camden Public Service Authority

\$548,000 \* 65% Salaries and benefits = \$356,200 (65% from PSA year end 2020)

\$548,000 - \$356,200 (Salaries and benefits) = \$191,800

11 unincorporated county parks

2 person staff mowing 2 hrs per week \* 11 parks = 44 hrs per week

28 mowing weeks \* 44 hrs per week = 1,232 hrs

22 weeks trash pickup parks \* 22 hrs per week = 616 hrs

Mowing and trash pickup 50 weeks = 1848 staff hours

1,848 staff hours @ loaded labor rate of \$25.00 per hr = \$46,200

\$191,800 - \$46,200 = \$144,800 subsidizing municipality parks and recreation center.

**Mary Beckman, St. Marys**

Ms. Beckman stated that the Programmatic Agreement is closely connected with Camden County not just Cumberland Island because the County is part of the National Gullah Geechee Corridor. She urged the Board to consult with members of the Geechee who were enslaved in places such as Floyd Plantation.

**Jannie Everett, Woodbine**

Ms. Everett invited the Board and Public to sign the petition for the Thiokol thirty (30) fallen patriots who perished to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor. She stated that the petition can be signed only online at <http://thiokolmemorial.org/petition/>.

**Ben Goff, Harriett's Bluff**

Mr. Goff stated four (4) aluminum picnic tables.

**Mary Beckman, St. Marys**

Ms. Beckman stated that also Thiokol is also one community group that would be quite relevant to the Historical Preservation Agreement.

Commissioner Clark made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Brant to adjourn the regular meeting and convene an Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Litigation at 7:12 PM.

***The motion carried unanimously.***

Chairman Blount convened the Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Litigation at 7:12 PM.

**RESOLUTION OF THE CAMDEN COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Camden County Board of Commissioners as follows: At the meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021, with the following Commissioners being present, Chairman Gary Blount; Commissioner Trevor Readdick; Vice-Chairman Ben Casey; Commissioner Chuck Clark and Commissioner Lannie Brant, the Board of Commissioners entered into closed session for the purpose of discussing Litigation. At the close of the discussions on this subject, the Board did agree to reconvene into open session and herewith takes the following action in open session:

Also present were County Attorney John Myers; County Clerk Katie Bishop; Deputy County Administrator Shawn Boatright and County Administrator Steve Howard.

(1) The actions of the Board and the discussion of the same regarding the matter set forth for closed session purposes are hereby ratified.

(2) Each member of this body does hereby confirm to the best of their knowledge, based upon the advice of the County Attorney, who was present during said closed session portion was devoted to matters within the exceptions provided by law and the specific relevant exception is the subject matter as set forth above.

(3) The Chairman of this Board, or the presiding officer, is hereby authorized and directed and pursuant to the Resolution shall execute an affidavit, in full support of the members of this Board, in order to comply with O.C.G.A. § 50-14-4(b).

(4) The affidavit shall be included and filed with the official minutes of the meeting and shall be in a form as required by the statute, which shall be substantially as follows:

**AFFIDAVIT AS REQUIRED UNDER O.C.G.A. § 50-14-4(b)**

Personally appeared before the undersigned attesting officer duly authorized to administer oaths, Gary A. Blount, who, after being duly sworn, deposes and on oath states the following:

(1) I was the chairperson/presiding officer of a meeting of the Camden County Board of Commissioners held on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021.

(2) The subject matter of the closed portion of the meeting which was closed for the purposes of discussing Litigation.

(3) This affidavit is being executed for the purpose of complying with the mandate of O.C.G.A. § 50-14-4-(b) that such an affidavit be executed.

This 5<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson/Presiding Officer

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 5<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

Commissioner Clark made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Casey to reconvene the Regular Meeting at 7:27 PM.

***The motion carried unanimously.***

Chairman Blount reconvened the Regular Meeting at 7:27 PM.

Commissioner Brant made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Clark to allow the County Attorney to withdraw as Counsel to the Camden County Sheriff's Office due to conflict of interest.

***The motion carried unanimously.***

### **Adjournment:**

Commissioner Clark made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Readdick to adjourn the October 5, 2021 regular meeting. The vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 PM.

***The motion carried unanimously.***