

**KABCAMDEN COUNTY, GEORGIA
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
APRIL 12, 2022, 6:00 PM**

A Special Called Meeting of the Camden County Board of County Commissioners was held at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 12, 2022, in the Board of County Commissioners' Meeting Chambers of the Government Services Building, Woodbine, Georgia.

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

Commissioner Brant delivered the invocation.

Chairman Blount led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Chairman Gary Blount; Vice-Chairman Ben L. Casey; Commissioner Lannie E. Brant; Commissioner Chuck Clark; County; and County Clerk Kathryn A. Bishop

Attended virtually via WebEx: Commissioner Trevor Readdick

Adoption of Special Called Agenda

Commissioner Brant made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Clark to adopt the Special called Agenda as presented.

The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments

Ben Goff, Harriett's Bluff

Mr. Goff stated his comments are regarding the Executive Session item concerning the discussion of Real Estate. He read the language from the recent vote to repeal the Option Agreement with Union Carbide. He stated that on Monday the County Administrator spoke to a group in Savannah on the Spaceport project. He read a quote from the County Administrator in a recent news article. He further stated that no one has come forward and been identified as the writer of the ballot question. He stated that he will solve the question that the County Administrator raises is that he wrote it, along with 4,000 other people. He went on to read the definition of a connotation. He said there are few people that don't understand the connotation "Let's go Brandon". He asked the Board to understand the connotation "Return the Aluminum Pic Tables".

Nita Dasher, speaking on behalf of Jackie Eichhorn

Ms. Dasher read a statement on behalf of Jackie Eichhorn who could not attend the meeting this evening. Commissioners are you now completing the Union Carbide purchase option though the citizens of Camden County demonstrated the Special Referendum March 8th that we do not want to purchase the property and you may not legally do so until August when the Georgia Supreme Court rules on the results of the Special Referendum vote. How much taxpayer monies have you spent on lawyers to-date to overthrow our votes? Who are the investors in the Organic Capital Investment, LLC that recently closed on the purchase of the adjacent Bayer property? Are any of you, your agents or your relatives benefit from the Bayer purchase and do you have an ethical or legal obligation to disclose that information if that is the case? The misuse of the Camden County's emergency police powers intended to cover emergencies such as hurricanes or terror attack to force America citizens from their homes on a routine basis for rocket launches to subsidize private rocket launch companies at taxpayer and citizen expense. Yesterday in Savannah County Administrator Steve Howard and a reporter had this exchange. Reporter: Those opposing the Spaceport say they worry how much it will impact the environment. Howard's presentation countered that argument pointing out Cape Canaveral as an example as a spaceport that coexists with its surrounding environment. Cape Canaveral launches safely by launching rockets directly over the Atlantic Ocean as does Wallops Island Spaceport in Virginia. Spaceport Camden cannot. Has he and not yet you noticed a critical difference, a protected publicly owned island the size of Manhattan with private citizens, a National seashore and wilderness blocking possible launch trajectory and in harm's way. Mr. Howard's statement was absurd and insults our intelligence.

Special Called Agenda

Executive Session

Commissioner Brant made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Clark to adjourn the regular meeting and convene an Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Real Estate at 6:09 PM.

The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Blount convened the Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Real Estate 6:09 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 12th day of April, 2022, with the following Commissioners being present, Chairman Gary Blount; Vice-Chairman Ben Casey; Commissioner Chuck Clark and Commissioner Lannie Brant, the Board of Commissioners entered into closed session for the purpose of discussing Real Estate. 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:

Commissioner Trevor Readdick attended via conference phone.

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

(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 12th day of April, 2022.

(2) The subject matter of the closed portion of the meeting which was closed for the purposes of discussing Real Estate, and was devoted to matters within those exceptions and as provided by law.

(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 12th day of April, 2022

Chairperson/Presiding Officer

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 12th day of April, 2022.

Notary Public

Commissioner Brant made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Clark to adjourn the Executive Session and reconvene the Regular Meeting at 7:15 PM.

The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Blount reconvened the Regular Meeting at 7:15 PM.

Commissioner Brant made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Clark to move to place Union Carbide Corporation (UCC) on notice of County's intent to exercise its rights pursuant to the Option Contract as amended to date.

The motion carried unanimously.

Additional Public Comments

Jannie Everett, Woodbine

Ms. Everett stated that she was curious what the closed session was about and she did not understand the vote. She explained that she was here tonight to ask the Board to support Thiokol Memorial Project. She stated that they are now running a online petition to have the thirty (30) people killed at the plant recognized with a Congressional Gold Medal and the establishment of the Thiokol Memorial National Park. She explained that what they are proposing is it would be established along the interstate 95. She stated that they are asking for the Board's support in that measure and also things are coming up where they would like the State of Georgia to recognize the thirty (30) people killed as "Distinguished Georgia Citizens" post humorously and to have a day declared in the State of Georgia for the patriots and heroes. She stated that this is long overdue and that it has been 51 years. She stated that they would like the Board's support in these measures, work with us in the community. She stated that

she thinks it's time that we make that human capital like our people did back then, they worked together, they lived together and they were able to accomplish a lot of things, the impact of their loss changed them forever, and their service saved lives. She thanked the Board for the work that Steve Howard and the ARPA Manager gave us in getting funds to continue our work down in Kingsland, and we did ask to be included in the County budget. She stated that they have been working together behind the scenes to make sure this project continues and she thanked the Board for their help.

Ben Goff, Harriett's Bluff

Mr. Goff asked the County Clerk to read back the motion previously made.

Mrs. Bishop read the following: Motion to move to place UCC on notice of County's intent to exercise its rights pursuant to the Option Contract as amended to date.

Mr. Goff stated that there were some comments made earlier, followed by some other folks, but his real question is if Mr. Howard is going to travel the State to explain the referendum or the Spaceport, that he would like to see him in a forum here in this County. He stated that we pay his salary as the County but yet to my knowledge he has never conducted any sort of forum here for the public in the County, but yet he is in Savannah, he as in Orlando last week, and I don't know where he is now.

Rick Manning, Bullhead Bluff

Mr. Manning asked when they are going to end this crazy dream of yawls. Yawl didn't do any kind of research, you didn't run the project right to begin with, eleven million dollars and you still got to work before you could even get a launch permit. You still got all kind of stuff to litigate, but yet you still pouring money out. He asked did none of yawl realize that has been looked at before by private companies. He stated that back in 2005 – 2006 Carbide was in negotiations with a company for a Spaceport. He asked what kind of research have yawl done, he said it was not economically feasible. He stated that he was the plant manager when that happened but yawl should know about that yawl have lived here all your life. He explained that we don't need to pour our money down it because it ain't going to happen. He stated that the Board killed the project from day 1 by giving the consultants money. He stated that is the wrong thing to do and he has run more multi-million dollar projects than everyone up there combined and if you don't think he hadn't that the board can go and look. He stated that he has run environmental projects, power and generator projects and he knows how to run projects and manipulate governments. He stated that the Board has been played worse than Charlie Daniel's fiddle

Adjournment

Commissioner Brant made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chairman Casey to adjourn the April 12, 2022 Special Called Meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.



BY: _____
GARY A. BLOUNT, CHAIRMAN
CAMDEN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST: _____
KATHRYN BISHOP, COUNTY CLERK