



Minutes

I. PUBLIC HEARING:

II. CONSENT AGENDA:

1. January 7, 2025

Commissioner Howell moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Yoder seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

III. AGENDA APPROVAL:

1. January 14, 2025

Commissioner Lewis moved to approve the Agenda with the addition of a Personnel Matter under Executive Session. Commissioner Yoder seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

1. Regular Meeting - December 10, 2024

Commissioner Lewis moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on December 10, 2024, as presented. Commissioner Yoder seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Called Meeting - December 30, 2024

Commissioner Yoder moved to approve the Minutes of the Called Meeting held on December 30, 2024. Commissioner Lewis seconded the motion. The motion carried with Vice-Chairwoman Hill and Commissioner Howell abstaining due to absence.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES:

1. Wayne Lettice - Years of Service - Board of Assessors

A plaque was presented to Wayne Lettice in recognition of his sixteen (16) years of service on the Peach County Board of Assessors.

2. Terry Deese - Years of Service - Sheriff

A plaque was presented to Terry Deese in recognition of his forty-two (42) years of service for the Peach County Sheriff's Office.

3. Kerry Rooks - Years of Service - Coroner

A plaque was presented to Kerry Rooks for his thirty (30) years of service as Coroner.

4. April H. Hodges - County Administrator/County Clerk - Employee Recognition

April H. Hodges, County Administrator/County Clerk, advised that she had received messages regarding the service provided by Peach County EMS and Sheriff's Office. Ms. Hodges recognized Paramedic Alec Garcia and Deputy Kevin Jones.

5. Commissioner Yoder - Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) Training Update

Commissioner Yoder advised that the Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) training focused on enhancing the understanding of how to effectively intervene at various points in the criminal justice system to address individuals with mental health issues or substance use disorders. The training emphasizes the different "intercepts" or stages—ranging from law enforcement encounters to post-release services—and how tailored responses can prevent further involvement in the system or improve outcomes.

VI. APPEARANCES:

1. Dr. Melody Carter - Director of Development - Middle Georgia Community Food Bank

Dr. Melody Carter, Director of Development for Middle Georgia Community Food Bank (MGCFB), provided information on food insecurity in the State of Georgia and stated that the number of food insecure persons in Peach County is 4,220. MGCFB collaborates with local food pantries, mobile food distributions, and SNAP Assistance. Community members can support MGCFB's efforts by volunteering, donating food or funds, or organizing local food drives. For every \$1 donated, MGCFB can supply eight (8) meals to those in need. Commissioner Howell moved to make a one (1) time donation of \$10,000.00 to the Middle Georgia Community Food Bank with a Budget Amendment from Contingency. Vice-Chairwoman Hill seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Howell moved to revisit this matter during the budget session to evaluate further efforts to assist. Vice-Chairwoman Hill seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

VII. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Todd Shepherd - Chief County Marshal - Animal Control Kennel Sponsorship & Dedication Form

Todd Shepherd, Chief County Marshal, presented the revised Peach County Animal Control Kennel Sponsorship & Dedication Form. Kennel sponsorship options include a one-time kennel sponsorship at a minimum of \$500 or a monthly kennel sponsorship at a minimum of \$50 per month. Commissioner Lewis moved to approve the Sponsorship & Dedication Form as presented. Commissioner Yoder seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Anthony Sallette - Elections Supervisor - Full Time Clerk Position

Anthony Sallette, Elections Supervisor, presented a job description for an Administrative Technician position for the Peach County Board of Elections. Commissioner Lewis moved to deny the request due to the anticipated needs within the County. Commissioner Yoder seconded the motion. The motion carried with Vice-Chairwoman Hill and Commissioner Howell opposing.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

1. James F. Banter - County Attorney - Resolution - Homestead Exemption

James F. Banter, County Attorney, presented a Resolution of the Peach County Commission respectfully requesting that the local legislative delegation support the adoption of the necessary legislation during the 2025 session of the Georgia General Assembly to allow for the adoption of a local homestead exemption in Peach County. The Commission finds that the implementation of a local homestead exemption of up to 25% of the fair market value of qualifying homestead property in Peach County will result in significant property tax savings for the citizens of Peach County. Commissioner Lewis moved to approve the Resolution as presented. Vice-Chairwoman Hill seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Vice-Chairwoman Hill moved to enter into Executive Session at 6:53 p.m. Commissioner Howell seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

1. Board Reappointment - Planning & Zoning Board

Commissioner Lewis moved to reappoint Wilburn R. Hilton Jr. to the Planning & Zoning Board for a one (1) year term. Vice-Chairwoman Hill seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

X. ADJOURN:

Vice-Chairwoman Hill moved to adjourn at 7:24 p.m. Commissioner Yoder seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

[MIN_FOOT]