



FLOYD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

August 24, 2021

County Administration Building

Caucus—Suite 204

4:00 pm

Regular Meeting—Suite 206

6:00 pm

PRESENT: COMMISSIONERS: WRIGHT BAGBY, ALLISON WATTERS, LARRY MAXEY, AND CHRIS JACKSON; COUNTY ATTORNEY JAMIE MCCORD, COUNTY CLERK ERIN ELROD, LAUREN CHUMBLER, OLIVIA MORLEY, JOHN BLALOCK, MICHAEL LONG, ART NEWELL, BRICE WOODS, DARRYL BOWIE, SUSIE GASS, CHUCK SHAW, AND MISSY KENDRICK.

PRESENT VIRTUALLY FOR CAUCUS: COMMISSIONER RHONDA WALLACE; COUNTY ATTORNEYS VIRGINIA HARMAN AND CHRISTOPHER JACKSON

CAUCUS

1. Update on Floyd County Prison

CHAIR BAGBY CALLED CAUCUS TO ORDER. WARDEN MICHAEL LONG PRESENTED AN UPDATE TO THE COMMISSION ON THE FLOYD COUNTY PRISON. CHAIR BAGBY CONTINUED WITH THE REVIEW OF THE AGENDA. MR. WOODS AND MR. NEWELL PRESENTED THE PLANNING ITEMS TO THE COMMISSION. MS. HARMAN REVIEWED THE MOU BETWEEN THE CLERK OF COURT AND THE COMMISSION. MR. MCCORD REVIEWED THE CONSENT AGENDA. CHAIR BAGBY AND MR. MCCORD BEGAN REVIEWING THE NEW BUSINESS SECTION OF THE AGENDA. MR. MCCORD UPDATED THE COMMISSION ON HIRING OF AN ELECTIONS CLERK. MS. GASS REVIEWED THE INSURANCE PROPOSAL WITH THE COMMISSION.

I. CALL TO ORDER — CHAIR BAGBY CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER.

II. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO FLAG — CHAIR BAGBY LED THE COMMISSION IN THE INVOCATION AND THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA — COMMISSIONER MAXEY MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HANCOCK. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – Chair Bagby opened the Public Participation portion of the meeting.

1. **TERRI WRIGHT, 5092 FOSTERS MILL ROAD, CAVE SPRING, GEORGIA:** “I am here tonight [inaudible]...um, I’m hoping that, um a lot of people, & I was hoping Virginia would be here, a lot of people were pretty upset with the things she said, I don’t quite agree with what she said, but I was going to

commend her because she did her job, & I saw that, but I also see a storm brewing. And I think that y'all feel it coming. And so I'm hoping that you will take it seriously, some of the things we've requested, um, the job description, for, that was changed, um, I hope that you, when you fill that positions, will all look at any qualified applicant that has the education behind that. Because the things that happened in the runoff will prove that experience will not replace some education. I did not know until recently as a ballot pickup person that I was supposed to have taken an oath, that did not happen. I'm not the only one that did not take an oath. I don't know if you're aware of that. I'm hoping that, I also addressed a few meetings ago, the rule 183? Was violated. I'm hoping that you all will seriously look at the allegations. I know we're going to take it seriously; we'll probably take things a little further. We haven't at this point, because I'll be honest with you, some of us have just not been able. Again, I'm hoping that you will look at those applications, and not rely on the Election Board to tell you who they think is qualified. If there is someone with some education, please look at all of those. Don't take HR's word for it, and again, I had asked that y'all look at who changed that job description, and I would that as a Board, you would take that seriously, and get to the bottom of what happened there. And I appreciate you taking the time and letting me get up here and speak, I'm sorry I wasn't as prepared as I usually am, and again, I don't agree with what Virginia said, but I commend her for doing her job and taking care of our county. Thank you."

2. **ANGELA RUBINO, 1410 KINGSTON HIGHWAY:** "My name is Angela Rubino, I live at 1410 Kingston Highway in Rome, Georgia. I'm going to speak about a few things tonight. I'm going to start with the election scam of 2020 involving the 2600 ballots. I would like to say that I'm not surprised, but unfortunately that is not the case of this organization from the beginning. And having Dominion staff running computers, I wouldn't have expected less. I think the shock of it is finally realizing this has been going on for quite some time. This is an absolute embarrassment and a sham of election integrity. And the start – excuse me, I'm sorry, and the straight disregard of the American people. I left New York three years ago to get away from the crazy liberal commies and touchy Cuomo, not knowing that little Rome has been infiltrated. In all honesty, who can we trust? Our Governor, Secretary of State, local officials, who've all refused a forensic audit. At least Kemp did sign an executive order to ban masks and vaccine mandates. But now Rome hospital wants to enforce personal – personnel to get the deadly shot and to choose between their livelihood and their lives. The school now wanting to force their children to wear masks at Floyd County. They've already succeeded with Rome City Schools for something that has been proven to be ineffective and useless and causes more damage due to the high CO2 levels. What they're doing is child abuse. It takes twelve years to get a FDA approval, but with much political push, and agencies taking money from Bill Gates, the monster, who is not a doctor, who made the Pfizer death shot, who is the same person who speaks religiously about depopulation, has faked – along with unreliable media yesterday – that they got the FDA approval. It is only a, an

extension of emergency use. When does the masquerade end? FDA refuses to meet with doctors with actual medical degrees, and a letter from Ron Johnson, U.S. Senator, stating that two-thousand, I'm sorry, twenty-thousand deaths associated with the COVID-19 shots, reports of over 16,000 permanent disabilities, 51,000 hospitalizations, and 572,000 total adverse events related to the COVID-19 shot. So I ask, who is taking money here in Rome? Because this is all too political. If anyone has actual concern for the well-being of the people, you would tell us to refuse such a deadly shot. It is not a vaccine; it is a man-made poison. I'm here, along with many others, to let you know that we are well aware and the games have to end. Sorry. We do not stand for mandatory vaccines or masks. We are free people. Free people of the world, a beacon around the world; and if we go down, the entire world goes down. We demand an audit, an investigation, into each and every person involved in the hijacking of the 2020 election and that they all be held accountable for their disgusting actions and that is due time, that all darkness comes to light. Thank you."

3. **SONYA SHULER, 1880 FOSTERS BEND ROAD:** — OPTED NOT TO SPEAK.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES — SEEING NO ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS THE MINUTES STAND APPROVE AS SUBMITTED.

1. Adopt minutes of Caucus and Regular Meeting of August 10, 2021.

VI. SPECIAL RECOGNITION

1. **Recognition of Deputy Clay, Animal Control Officer Atkins, and April Rogers** — SHERIFF DAVE ROBERSON PRESENTED THE SITUATION TO THE COMMISSION. P.A.W.S. DIRECTOR JEFF MITCHELL RECOGNIZED THE OFFICERS AND CITIZEN RESPONSIBLE FOR SAVING THE DOG.

Sheriff Dave Roberson: "Last Tuesday, August 17th, a report was received of a puppy located in a dumpster in East Rome. Animal Control Officer Sky Atkins responded. The dumpster was located at a local business and the owner, April Rogers, provided surveillance video of the puppy being tossed into the dumpster. A medic exam of the puppy indicated signs of neglect. Sheriff Deputy Jeremy Clay investigated the potential criminal activity of aggravated cruelty to the animal. Thanks to the video provided from Ms. Rogers and input from our concerned citizens, two people were arrested for this crime. Most importantly, the puppy is now safe. I think many of you, who came in earlier saw him in the hallway, I'll let Jeff Mitchell, if he has anything to say, in reference to this. The puppy looks a lot different than he did last week."

P.A.W.S. Director, Jeff Mitchell: “I just want to thank Ms. Rogers, and Sky Atkins, and Deputy Clay, we’ve got a wonderful teamwork environment between all the departments and agencies and we work well together, and it takes citizens in helping us as well. So I greatly appreciate Ms. Rogers stepping forth and providing us with the video and everything, I just can’t commend these guys enough. The puppy we have with us has now received justice and has gained loving home since being in our care and custody.”

Vice-Chair Watters then addressed those involved, stating: “Many of us saw the horrific video, and it was heart-wrenching, but for you [April Rogers] to take the time to make the call to get something done and then for our PAWS staff and our Sheriff’s Office to come together and make things right for this dog, and to make sure the people who were responsible are held responsible. It’s a feel-good story today, and it certainly does our heart good to see this puppy thriving.”

Chair Bagby: “I think Commissioner Hancock would like to say something, I just want to say to our citizen, that was a wonderful thing you did. We need more of that help in keeping our community safe and thank you so much for doing that. Our employees, we would expect nothing less of you, because we have great employees, but you did a wonderful job on that and thank you so much for what you did.”

Commissioner Hancock: “Thank you April, we appreciate you, you always keep me informed on what’s going on and I appreciate everything that you do. This was really courageous for you to post that video on your own page and take that risk...that was really a courageous thing for you to do and we appreciate it. That dog was, if y’all didn’t see that video, it was grabbed by a leash and tossed into the dumpster like a bag of garbage. The dog was in there for three days before she found the video and saw the guy and went on her own and took that risk to post it. So thank you for doing that, and thank you to Animal Control for following through and the Sheriff and Clay, thank you, and we appreciate the relationship we have with you too. Thank you very much as the Chair of Public Safety Committee, this is the kind of thing we need, the partnerships with Animal Control, and our citizen engagement and it’s really appreciated. Thank you”

2. Recognition and presentation of his service weapon for Captain Mark Blanton. —SHERIFF ROBERSON RECOGNIZED CAPTAIN BLANTON ON HIS RETIREMENT, STATING:

“I would like to recognize Captain Mark Blanton. Last week I know some of you were able to come by for the ceremony we had for him. I’ve known Mark since I started twenty-six years ago, he was there on my first day, and I was lucky to be there on his last day. He’s been with us forty-three years in Public Safety and thirty-eight with the Sheriff’s Office, I just think he put a lot toward public safety and the people in this community. He’s been really helpful for our office, if we

didn't know the answer, we'd go ask Mark. I just want to say thank you for allowing us to come to present him with this retirement weapon and thank him for his service. Forty-three years in public safety is something to be commended. I'm real thankful that I've had a chance to learn something from him in this profession, so thank you."

VII. PROCLAMATION

VIII. FIRST READING

(SECOND READING WILL BE HELD SEPTEMBER 14, 2021 AT 6PM)

1. Adopt an ordinance by the County Commission of Floyd County, Georgia to establish Floyd County as a Broadband Ready Community.

IX. SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARINGS

(FIRST READINGS WERE HELD AUGUST 10, 2021 AT 6PM)

Chair Bagby explained the procedure of the public hearing: each person recognized shall come to the podium and state their name and home address. There is no less than ten minutes provided for all speaking in favor, and no less than ten minutes provided by those speaking in opposition.

1. **File Z21-07-06 requesting rezoning from Agricultural Residential to Heavy Industrial for the property located at 0 Huffaker Road, Rome, Georgia; Floyd County Tax Parcel F120040. The planning staff recommended approval. The planning commission also recommended approval (8-0). — MR. WOODS PRESENTED THE REQUEST TO THE COMMISSION.**

SPEAKING IN FAVOR:

WARD WRIGHT, ON BEHALF OF SOUTHERN CONSULTING

SERVICES: "We have been in business for about forty years, we manage timber, develop commercial, residential, and industrial developments. When we purchased 1100 acres, it was our understanding that all of the parcels were zoned H-I. What we discovered was a split zoning, which is what we'd like to correct here this evening. Part of the largest track of all the parcels that were part of the package is about total acreage 357 acres. The portion that is zoned A-R, it's not clear to us what the intent was originally, why it was never ultimately zoned H-I as we understand it was intended to be. The property is consistent with past use, current use, and the future land use map, as well as surrounding properties in the area, both adjacent to us as well as up and down Huffaker and Technology. We are not in support of the property being used for coal ash. We buy land for long-term or long holds. Our primary business, forty years ago, began as timber management. Because we are going to be in communities for long periods of time, it's real important to us that we be a good member of the community. Coal

ash to us, is not acceptable. Financially, it would destroy us. What we are in support of is utilizing any of the overburden or clays or dirt that is on the site for construction projects, environmental clean-ups, we've got offers to purchase the soil from a brick company, which we see as a positive. I've actually just given the green light to have the site flown again so we can determine exactly how much soil can be removed from the site before it actually hurts the site. We're also in support of conversations that we've had with the Economic Development Authority, again, we buy land for the long holds, so 1100 acres, we're going to be part of this community for a long time. So it's real important to us to understand how we can play a positive role. We've had some great meetings with the Economic Development Authority, where it's exciting to hear and see, some of the potential new employment centers that could potentially come to Rome. We see that as a positive for the community and so utilizing the land as an industrial park, we're certainly in favor of that. Whatever we can do to be helpful in attracting the type of businesses you guys are interested in for your community. I'll also address the timbering that we've done on some of the parcels. Part of timbering is creating jobs. Although in the past we've run our own crews, what we like to do when we come into a community is actually hire locally. So we actually hired Daniel Dunagan's company to come and timber the property, we feel like he's done a great job, we're appreciative of that partnership with him. Some of the property, we had problems with beetles. We had trees laying over like match sticks. It's real important that you get in there and eradicate it and get rid of it. Some of the property was not managed properly, so sadly in a lot of cases we had to clear the site in order to start over. We will work with universities to come up with a plan to replant. That has not moved forward as quickly as I would have liked for it to because I've got to understand how much soil can actually be removed from the site before we cause harm to the site. I'm getting close to accomplishing that, and once I have a clear understanding of what that can be, we can also start to address some of the replanting."

MISSY KENDRICK, 2004 HORSELEG CREEK RD: "Good afternoon, I'm with the Rome-Floyd County Development Authority, and as Ward said we have been working with Ward and Jeff to try and add some inventory to our industrial assets, and so we are asking for your support. We definitely support the rezoning from A-R to Heavy-Industrial to help them develop this property, all of this property, into a class A industrial park for Rome and Floyd County, so thank you very much."

SPEAKING IN OPPOSITION:

TIFFANY HALL, 2015 FOUCHE GAP ROAD: "I think this is, for me at least, this proposal is a little bit of a head scratcher. This is obviously being rural property. It's located on a little two lane road. I think it has a thirty-foot right-of-way. Up until recently, it was mature woods, and part of what I would consider, a gem of our community. I think that our, a lot would have to happen for what Mr. Wright's proposing in terms of a community investment and, you know the road

would have to be dealt with, I don't think that our road there would be able to handle that heavy traffic. I don't think there's sewer out that far, there are plenty of other properties up along Technology parkway that are ready to go for that type of project. It doesn't make sense to me, as a tax-payer, to reinvest in a whole different kind of project out here, farther out where all that's not available right now. We like to think of ourselves, you know, as cycle friendly in that area, and that area is heavy for cyclers, and I just think it would change the whole dynamic of that area. I think that there are other properties in our community that I would rather see us make an investment in, along Shorter Avenue, some other vacant places that I would prefer as to make an investment in some places other than a brand new project. Thanks."

CLINT WILDER, 3585 BIG TEXAS VALLEY ROAD: "Good evening Commissioners, thank you for your time. I'm speaking here tonight on behalf of thirty-eight residents and property owners in the Big Texas Valley Road and Fouche Gap Road community, we are all strongly opposed to the rezoning. I would like to mention the names for the record. There are quite a few people who would have liked to have been here, but for work and other reasons could not, or they could not contact me in time, and I'd be willing to submit signed affidavits stating this as well if needed. Just for the record, myself, Clint and Carrie Wilder, Lee and Dixie Bagley, Clint and Meredith Henderson, Ben McRee, Kay Presley, [inaudible], Jason Pledger, Clayton and Megan Farmer, Brandon and Judy Cordea, Kristen Buffington, Matt Cordle, Lacie Canada, Autumn Clark, Dan McCullom, [inaudible] Buffington, Stacy Pettit, Emmy Paris, Showman's Rides, if I have that name correctly, Judy Cline, Fran Murdock, Kimberly Dale-Young, Christina Dunnagin-Wiggins, Christie Hines-Pledger, Tonya Dutton-Campbell, Danny and Heather Vitello, Christina Green, Jill Buffington, Bill Whitener, Mr. Jay Floyd, Diane Loving, Robert Michael Early, Ginger Barry, Nancy Ballard-Bolt, Chad and Brooke Wright, my neighbors, Diane and Mike Gardner, Sheila Hayes, Morgan Ayers, and Selena Hardin-Hodges. Now I mentioned that there's thirty-four people in the room, I counted that's thirty-eight people on my list right now that are opposed. All these are property owners and residents there. I've been serving on the Development Authority Board for Floyd County for five years now. I've been the Vice-Chairman for the past two years. So I'm very familiar with the industrial development of Floyd County, and I'm very involved as a citizen and so I have some, I'm very, very, concerned and involved in our community. I'm very familiar with Floyd County industrial development. Currently, historically, this area has been a residential, agricultural area. That's why I bought property out there, that's why everybody on this list buys property out there. Right now, if this passes, we don't have anything to gain, and a lot to lose. Right now the biggest issue is truck traffic. I don't know if y'all are familiar with the area, but right now, Big Texas Valley Road is the outer-loop. Trucks cut from Highway 27, right at the coal plant at Evans Store, and cut through our road all hours of the day, in the morning, just to get to Sike Storey Road to Highway 27 so they don't have to go to the loop. That happens now. They're not supposed to be on the loop unless they have a load to deliver, and I see it all the time. SO

what happens is the roads get torn up, there's certain parts of the road where a tractor trailer cannot stay in one lane so they physically are crossing the road. Also, someone mentioned as well, Big Texas Valley Road is a very popular road for cyclist and joggers, so more trucks, more potential for danger there. There's an overall increase in noise, the noise pollution, the Jake Brakes, just the trucks themselves are loud. The dirt on the road, the big dirt clogs, there's also an environmental concern. The wildlife, you know you see animals on the side of the road that are hit and dead. Last more importantly, more importantly, this is a direct threat to our property value. So I would just ask, if this were you, and all of you guys living next door, and someone wanted to put in H-I just down the street, what would that mean to you and what would you think about it? Now, as you know, H-I can mean anything. That's heavy manufacturing. So there's no guarantee, and I've seen it, I've seen a lot of the plans, I've been involved with the Chamber, going to meetings since I moved to Rome ten years ago so, just to let you know that this is a huge issue, I think our residents are underrepresented, and again, give me another day or two, I could have another thirty-eight people that would share my opposition to the zoning. I'd like to save my time for the other folks as well, but again, thank you for your time. I do appreciate it."

MORGAN AYERS, 224 LAVENDER TRAIL: "Ladies and gentleman, appreciate this opportunity, I'm in the opposition in this as well. I've been on the mountain there for about twenty years, and the traffic, as the gentleman just said, I've rescued several tractor-trailers that's tried to go up the mountain that's not been able to do it. We've had quite a few incidents up there that were totally, not too good. But this is a residential type area. I'm a real estate agent, as you all probably well know, and I just worked with a group out of Charlotte, NC that's just bought the Putt-Putt, and that was one of their requirements, you know, is this a good residential area for us to reach out to families, will they have a place to come and bring their children, and so forth. I assured them that it was, and I don't think H-I right in that area is the best means for that property. There's quite a few other places in Rome that are good for H-I, that's not being used. I would like to voice my opposition to that, as well as I know, we've got quite a few others here that feel the same way that I do, and I appreciate your time."

DIANE GARNER, 215 LAVENDER TRAIL: "We built our retirement home there and moved in in 2000. So, we've been there twenty-one years. We're dismayed when we found out that it was being considered, the property, at the foot of the mountain was being considered for H-I. One of the reasons we moved there was for the beauty of the area. We are very concerned with the impact on the wildlife and the environment. Not to mention the lessening of our property values. The taking away of the beauty that we moved up there to enjoy. The view of the mountain was one of the selling features, and continues to be. On the farther side of the mountain, selling feature for lots of there. We're concerned about pollution, and I was told that the delay to this month was the request of the petitioner, for them to meet with the neighbors, and to be a good neighbor, and to talk with us. Sadly, I've never heard anything of a meeting with the petitioner."

Additionally, if you were to look at the property it has been left in a state of disarray. It is quite frankly, ugly. It is, the road has been damaged on Fouche Gap from their tree cutting apparatus that has been moved in and out of there. The edges of the road are very badly torn up, and I just question somehow, what kind of neighbor are we getting? Additionally, if you zone it H-I, the intent can always change. Once you let the horse out of the barn, you can't put it back. So I am voicing my concern, and my husband's concern, and I am very much opposed to the rezoning. Thank you."

REBUTTAL:

WARD WRIGHT: "I think the first thing I would start with is, trucks on the road. At this point, if we were to sell some of our clay to our neighbor who has an open mining pit that's active currently, we would not be putting additional trucks on the road, they would simply shift those trucks over and remove the clay that was stock-piled on our site, with the intention of it being used for bricks. So they would literally take their existing trucks and shift them over and run until they've extracted the stock piles that are on our site, should we work out a deal with them for that. As far as future use that may add trucks to the road, we will abide by all Federal, State, and Local rules and guidelines as it pertains to safety, and it's our understanding that the trucks leaving our site must take a left, going East out of our site, they are not allowed to go right, and we have no issue with that at all. It's also interesting, that as long as we're timber managing and removing some of the solid and the clay, the landscape actually doesn't change. It actually remains the way it is currently. As far as protecting the integrity moving forward, change is always difficult. We are open to an employment center that comes to the area that can be of benefit to the County. As of this date, we don't have a company in mind, we've just said we'd like to be a good member of the community, and if it creates jobs, then that's a positive for the people, then absolutely we'd like to do that. Our site is actually broken up with lots of blue lines creeks that we're going to be protective of. So, we cannot go out there and build six million sq. ft. of industrial space and these big buildings, we can't do that on this site. The buildings that will be utilized for employment centers will have to be utilized well with a design that is environmentally-friendly. Often times what we do in these cases is we design it to where you can't see the employment center from the road. So we can get creative with our designs at the appropriate time when we know who the employment center may be that could ultimately be of great benefit to the community in creating jobs. So we would ask that we remain open to that, and in the meantime we will continue to be good stewards of the environment, and the property. We're looking forward to replanting the timber, for example. I'm trying to think if there were some other issues. Thank you."

CHAIR BAGBY CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING. COMMISSIONER MAXEY MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE WITH THE STIPULATION THAT NO COAL ASH WILL BE DISPOSED OF ON THE PROPERTY.

COMMISSIONER HANCOCK SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

2. **File Z21-08-08 requesting rezoning from Heavy Industrial to Suburban Residential for the property located at 0 Huffaker Road, Rome, Georgia; Floyd County Tax Parcel G12Y015 and G12Y045. The planning staff recommended approval. The planning commission also recommended approval (8-0).** — MR. WOODS PRESENTED THE REQUEST TO THE COMMISSION. CHAIR BAGBY THEN OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING.

SPEAKING IN FAVOR:

WARD WRIGHT: “I’m with Southern Consulting Services. When we purchased the 1100 acres, we first decided to begin by moving towards timber management. Eventually, we got to a point where we started to look at the different parcels and realized we needed some feedback on what might be the best use of some of these parcels for the community. We’re very appreciative to the City of Rome and the County for allowing us time to get feedback and asking different opinions on what some of the sites might be utilized for today, that maybe quite some time ago, originally, the area was different, now it’s grown up. This particular parcel is different, it’s got some residential next to it, so to us, it seemed to make sense that we downzone to a residential community. We’re working with our engineer, Chuck Hardin, who’s here today with a local firm in Rome. We’re a way from knowing exactly what the density is going to be, for example, the size of the homes and how many houses are going to be in there, first we’ve got to be able to determine what land is usable, and then we’ll come up with an appropriate layout that will be reflective of the values that need to be held by the surrounding existing community that’s there already. So we’ve got a little way to go before we come up with exactly what we’re going to wind up putting there. But we felt rezoning this to residential in this location was more appropriate in this location next to existing residential than going the other direction with the industrial.”

THERE BEING NO ONE TO SPEAK FURTHER IN FAVOR OR OPPOSITION, CHAIR BAGBY CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING. COMMISSIONER MAXEY MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE. VICE CHAIR WATERS SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

3. **File SUP21-08-01 requesting a special use permit for miniature warehouses for the property located at 2535 Shorter Avenue, Rome, Georgia; Floyd County Tax Parcel H13X374, H13X371, and H13X373. The planning staff recommended approval. The planning commission also recommended approval (7-0).** — MR. WOODS PRESENTED THE REQUEST TO THE COMMISSION. CHAIR BAGBY OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING AND ASKED THOSE SPEAKING IN FAVOR TO PLEASE COME FORWARD.

SPEAKING IN FAVOR:

DOUG WESTIN, 11300 HIGHWAY 92, WOODSTOCK: “I oversee U-Haul operations here in Rome, Georgia. What we’re trying to do with this site here, we have a corporate store over on Shorter Ave. that we’ve just simply outgrown over the years. So we saw this site become available right down the street, it would be perfect for our expansion so that we are able to continue to provide our products and services that we have to West Rome and Floyd County over the years, since at least the 80’s, if not longer. So what we need to make this work, of course, is a Special Use Permit so that we can also have self-storage along with all the other products and services that we offer, so in a nutshell, that’s what we’re seeking to do.”

SEEING NO OTHERS TO SPEAK IN FAVOR OR OPPOSITION, CHAIR BAGBY CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING. COMMISSIONER MAXEY MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE. VICE CHAIR WATTERS SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

4. **File Z21-08-05 requesting rezoning from Suburban Residential to Heavy Industrial for the property located at 0 Elliot Drive, Rome, Georgia; Floyd County Tax Parcel G12Z001. The planning staff recommended approval north of the rail line. (The planning commission also recommended approval (8-0). — MR. WOODS PRESENTED THE REQUEST TO THE COMMISSION. CHAIR BAGBY THEN OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING AND ASKED THOSE SPEAKING IN FAVOR TO COME FORWARD.**

SPEAKING IN FAVOR:

DANNY PRICE, 2277 MARTHA BERRY HWY, SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF BERRY COLLEGE: “Good evening. Speaking in favor of this rezoning application that was filed. This arose out of conversation with the Development Authority, and Missy Kendrick, if you’re familiar with the parcel it backs up to a rail spur, and it was brought to our attention that this piece, which separates the rail spur from the other H-I parcel, it could not be marketed as one solid H-I parcel for development, particularly with the current focus being on Inland ports and container traffic using rail spur, without this parcel being rezoned, so we agreed that we would pursue this rezoning application so that it could be appropriately marketed, as was pointed out, I think he [Mr. Woods] provided a great summary of it, the only road access for this parcel, I have no idea why it’s listed as 0 Elliot Drive because it does not touch Elliot Drive, there are residential houses to the East, rail parcel to the South, and then Technology Parkway to the North. Which is the only public road access for this piece of parcel. It is the appropriate zoning for it, and as I have had a conversation with one of the residents there, I think it actually provides a better buffer in separation from whatever is there, currently zoned S-R, the only option, if it’s not rezoned, is to then try to do the entire rest of the parcel that sits north S-R, you’re not going to get a road across Norfolk Southern’s rail spur, and so then it becomes orphaned or

unusable, or has to be developed S-R, which then means no minimum lot sizes and basically any development right up to the back of those residential houses, with 200-ft. buffer, and a setback in the buffer's required, it makes sense to rezone this H-I, as Missy and the Development Authority asked us to do."

MISSY KENDRICK: "Good afternoon. As Danny has stated, we have actually been submitting this property for industrial prospects over the years. This is part of the property that Berry had set aside with and for our community for economic development along Technology Parkway, but for some reason this parcel was never rezoned. It is important because we have been marketing and wanting to continue marketing this piece of property, this 165 acres total north of the rail line, as a rail serve site. But, the parcel that we're talking about, or asking your support in rezoning, is where the rail would have to come off in order to serve that site with rail, so that spur needs to come through some H-I property, and in order to market it as 165 acres of rail serve, we need to have the entire parcel zoned for H-I. So we ask for your support on rezoning tonight.

WARD WRIGHT: "Berry College and Danny certainly don't need our support, but when we were looking at rezoning our site from H-I to Residential, we were missing some of the key elements that can be such a great asset for your community when you're trying to generate jobs for the future. I have two sons, and I don't know what this world is going to be like, but I'm hopeful that jobs will be plentiful and opportunities will be amazing for them. So when we look at this, in our humble opinion, our property works nicely for residential where their property, in our humble opinion, sets itself up nicely for a great asset for the community."

SPEAKING IN OPPOSITION:

WALTER THARP, 141 SIMPSON DRIVE: "I own the property, probably 1,000 feet down the railroad track, I've got 4.5 acres. I know why they want to rezone this, and it makes sense for them, but one day they could actually come right there within my house, which I have 1,000 ft. down the track and that 200 ft. buffer, but my neighbors, they all have 200 ft. we can actually hear the factories over there on Possum Trot Trail in the evening when it's quiet. I don't know what they plan on building there, but I had to speak out and just let you know I oppose it, but I appreciate y'all's time and thank you for what you do."

THERE BEING NO ONE FURTHER TO SPEAK IN FAVOR OR
OPPOSITION, CHAIR BAGBY CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING.
COMMISSIONER MAXEY MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE. VICE CHAIR
WATTERS SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

5. **File Z21-08-12 requesting rezoning from Suburban Residential to Multi-Family Residential for the property located at 126 McHenry Drive, Rome, Georgia; Floyd County Tax Parcel I15W210. The planning staff**

recommended denial. THE APPLICATION WAS WITHDRAWN BY THE APPLICANT AT THE PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING.

6. **File Z21-08-01 requesting rezoning from Agricultural Residential to Heavy Industrial for the property located at 0 Calhoun Highway, Rome, Georgia; Floyd County Tax Parcel M11X012. The planning staff recommended approval. The planning commission also recommended approval (7-1). — MR. WOODS PRESENTED THE REQUEST TO THE COMMISSION. CHAIR BAGBY THEN OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING.**

SPEAKING IN FAVOR:

TOM WATTERS, 22 BELLEMONT DRIVE: “Watters LP was approached about an option to the Rome-Floyd County Development Authority for those thirty-plus acres, most of the properties that are contiguous and adjacent to it are zoned H-I and we are seeking H-I zoning. Thank you.”

MISSY KENDRICK: “As Mr. Watters stated, we approached them when our largest rail serve site in Floyd County, which was the 110-acre site on the corner of 53 and 140, once that was put under option for sale to the Ball Corporation, we began looking for our next large rail serve site in Floyd County. So we looked at what we currently had, so we had about sixty some-odd acres already, that was part of our Northwest Regional industrial park, which was part of our Joint Development Authority with Gordon and Floyd County, so we looked around it and started approaching the neighbors to see if they might be willing to add their property to ours so we could market a larger piece, so we contacted the Watters and asked them if they were willing to add their property to ours, and they were, so we are asking that you rezone this property to H-I so that we can, once again, present a 102+ acre rail serve site for industrial prospects. Thank you.”

THERE BEING NO ONE FURTHER TO SPEAK IN FAVOR OR OPPOSITION, CHAIR BAGBY CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING. COMMISSIONER MAXEY MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE REQUEST. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HANCOCK. THE MOTION CARRIED 3-0. VICE CHAIR WATTERS RECUSED HERSELF DUE TO A FINANCIAL INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY.

7. **File Z21-08-06 requesting rezoning from Community Commercial to Agricultural Residential for the property located at 386 Miller Mountain Road, Lindale, Georgia; Floyd County Tax Parcel H19115. The planning staff recommended approval. The planning commission also recommended approval (8-0). — MR. WOODS PRESENTED THE REQUEST TO THE COMMISSION. CHAIR BAGBY THEN OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING, ASKING THOSE SPEAKING IN FAVOR TO COME FORWARD.**

THERE BEING NO ONE TO SPEAK IN FAVOR OR OPPOSITION, CHAIR BAGBY CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING. COMMISSIONER MAXEY MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE. VICE CHAIR WATTERS SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

8. **File Z21-08-09 requesting rezoning from Heavy Industrial to Suburban Residential for the property located at 338 Shannon Road, Rome, Georgia; Floyd County Tax Parcel L11W114. The planning staff recommended approval. The planning commission also recommended approval (8-0).** — MR. WOODS PRESENTED THE REQUEST TO THE COMMISSION. CHAIR BAGBY OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING. THERE BEING NO ONE TO SPEAK IN FAVOR OR OPPOSITION, CHAIR BAGBY CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING. COMMISSIONER MAXEY MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE REQUEST. COMMISSIONER HANCOCK SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0.
9. **File Z21-08-10 requesting rezoning from Heavy Industrial to Suburban Residential for the property located at 347 Shannon Road, Rome, Georgia; Floyd County Tax Parcel L11W115. The planning staff recommended approval. The planning commission also recommended approval (8-0).** — MR. WOODS PRESENTED THE REQUEST TO THE COMMISSION. CHAIR BAGBY OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING, THERE BEING NO ONE TO SPEAK IN FAVOR OR OPPOSITION, CHAIR BAGBY CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING. COMMISSIONER MAXEY MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE. VICE CHAIR WATTERS SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0.
10. **File Z21-08-11 requesting rezoning from Heavy Industrial to Suburban Residential for the property located at 356 Shannon Road, Rome, Georgia; Floyd County Tax Parcel L11W115A. The planning staff recommended approval. The planning commission also recommended approval (8-0).** — MR. WOODS PRESENTED THE REQUEST TO THE COMMISSION FOR APPROVAL. CHAIR BAGBY OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING. THERE BEING NO ONE TO SPEAK IN FAVOR OR OPPOSITION, CHAIR BAGBY CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING. COMMISSIONER MAXEY MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE REQUEST. IT WAS SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR WATTERS. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

X. RESOLUTIONS

XI. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT — NO REPORT

XII. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

- 1. Administrative Services Committee – Commissioners Allison Watters and Scotty Hancock**
 - a. Next Meeting, Thursday, September 16, 2021, at 9:00am.
- 2. Public Safety Committee – Commissioners Scotty Hancock and Rhonda Wallace**
 - a. Next Meeting, Thursday, October 14, 2021, at 9:00am.
- 3. Public Utilities & Transportation Committee – Commissioners Larry Maxey and Wright Bagby**
 - a. Next Meeting, Wednesday, October 20, at 9:00am.
- 4. Elected Officials Committee – Commissioners Rhonda Wallace and Larry Maxey**
 - a. Next Meeting, TBD
- 5. Special Committee Reports**
 - a. Fire Overview Committee—Commissioners Wright Bagby and Scotty Hancock**
 - i. Next Meeting, TBD
 - b. Joint Services Committee—Commissioners Wright Bagby and Allison Watters**
 - i. Next Meeting, Tuesday, October 5, 2021, at 8:00am.
 - c. Rome-Floyd Planning Commission—Commissioner Larry Maxey**
 - i. Next Meeting, Thursday, September 2, at 2:30pm.
 - d. Joint Development Oversight Committee—Commissioners Wright Bagby and Allison Watters**
 - i. Next Meeting, Tuesday, November 2, 2021, at 10:00am.

- e. **Joint Solid Waste Commission—Commissioners Allison Watters and Larry Maxey**
 - i. Next Meeting, Tuesday, September 28, 2021, at 8:30am.
- f. **Transportation Policy Committee—Commissioner Larry Maxey**
 - i. Next Meeting, Wednesday, September 15, 2021, at 10:00am.
- g. **Airport Commission—Commissioners Scotty Hancock and Rhonda Wallace**
 - i. Next meeting, Tuesday, September 21, 2021, at 4:00pm.
- h. **SPLOST Project Overview Committee—Commissioners Scotty Hancock and Rhonda Wallace**
 - i. Next meeting, TBD
- i. **RFPR Advisory Committee—Commissioner Rhonda Wallace**
 - i. Next Meeting, Tuesday, September 21, 2021, at 12:00pm.
- j. **Judicial Committee/(CJIS) –**
- k. **Floyd County Library Board—Commissioner Allison Watters**
 - i. Next Meeting, Thursday, November 18, 2021, at 4:00pm.

XIII. MANAGER’S REPORT — MR. MCCORD PRESENTED THE LITTER DETAIL REPORT FOR THE YEAR. THE COUNTY IS STILL WORKING ONLY WITH PRISON DETAILS DUE TO COVID AND THE LACK OF AVAILABILITY FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES PARTICIPATNS.

XIV. ATTORNEY’S REPORT — NO REPORT

XV. CONSENT AGENDA — MS. ELROD ANNOUNCED THE CONSENT AGENDA WAS IN ORDER. VICE CHAIR WATTERS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HANCOCK. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

- 1. Consider approval of a consent order No. 21CV01161 at 5 Red Fox Drive.
- 2. Consider recommendation from the Airport Manager to approve the Rome Experimental Aircraft Association, Inc., Chapter 709 Lease and Service Agreement Amendments for the Richard B. Russell Regional Airport.

3. Consider recommendation from the Airport Manager to approve the portable T-Hangar lease for Ace Aviation Seminars, LLC at the Richard B. Russell Regional Airport.
4. Consider recommendation from the Airport Manager to change effective date for hangar lease with Tillman & White Aviation, LLC to July 1, 2021.
5. Consider recommendation from HR to approve the 2022 ACCG Safety Discount Program—Property and Liability & GSIWCF.
6. Consider recommendation from IT to approve Equipment Schedule No. L10122 with Ontario Investments, INC.

XVI. OLD BUSINESS

XVII. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Consider the recommendation from Floyd County IT for the move of the Elections Department to the Health Department. This will include the purchase of a switch, firewall, phone system for four (4) lines and one (1) fax machine in the amount of \$12,700.00 from Logical Systems, a \$60.00 charge from COMCAST for installation, and \$310.00 monthly for COMCAST phone and internet services. — MR. MCCORD PRESENTED THE ITEM TO THE COMMISSION FOR APPROVAL. VICE CHAIR WATTERS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MAXEY. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0.**
2. **Consider the recommendation from the Purchasing Department for the purchase of a 6-yard dump truck from Peach State Truck Center LLC in the amount of \$104,060.00 and an additional \$2,030.00 added to the budget for purchase. This was budgeted in the 2017 SPLOST for \$80,000.00. — MR. MCCORD PRESENTED THE ITEM TO THE COMMISSION. HE ADDED THAT THEY DID UPGRADE THE ENGINE AND TRANSMISSION ON THE VEHICLE IN THE BID. COMMISSIONER HANCOCK MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE. IT WAS SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR WATTERS. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0.**
3. **Consider the recommendation from the Purchasing Director to purchase one (1) Pneumatic Roller Caterpillar CAT CW16 in the amount of \$93,250.00 from Yancey Bros. Co. for the Floyd County Public Works Department. — MR. MCCORD PRESENTED THE ITEM TO THE COMMISSION FOR APPROVAL. VICE CHAIR WATTERS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HANCOCK. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0.**

4. **Consider the recommendation from the Purchasing Director to purchase one (1) Ford F-250 for the Floyd County Public Works Department from Peach State Ford in the amount of \$25,360.00.** — MR. MCCORD PRESENTED THE ITEM TO THE COMMISSION FOR APPROVAL. COMMISSIONER HANCOCK MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE. IT WAS SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR WATTERS. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0.
5. **Consider recommendation from Purchasing to approve a one (1) year contract with an option for two (2) additional years with Scott Industries, LLC for the handling and disposal of Electronic Waste generated through recycling events by the Recycling Center** — MR. MCCORD PRESENTED THE ITEM TO THE COMMISSION FOR APPROVAL. VICE CHAIR WATTERS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HANCOCK. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0.
6. **Consider recommendation for Employee Insurance.** — MR. MCCORD PRESENTED THE REQUEST TO THE COMMISSION FOR APPROVAL. STATED UNDER MEDICAL INSURANCE WE ARE MAKING SOME CHANGES WITH A 5% INCREASE TO THE HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN. VICE CHAIR WATTERS MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE. IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HANCOCK. CHAIR BAGBY STATED FOR OUR EMPLOYEES, OUR PARTNER IN THIS, GARNER AND GLOVER ALONG WITH OUR HR DEPARTMENT, THERE ARE MANY POSITIVE THINGS, SUCH AS AN EDUCATION PROGRAM AND A NEW PROGRAM TO MONITOR WELLNESS AND HELP PEOPLE ENGAGE WHERE THEY STAND WITH THEIR HEALTH AND APPRECIATE THE MONTHS OF WORK THAT WAS PUT INTO THIS. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0.
7. **Consider recommendation from Public Safety Division Director to approve a contract with Sommer Robinson as the E-911 Director.** — MR. MCCORD PRESENTED THE REQUEST TO THE COMMISSION FOR APPROVAL. COMMISSIONER HANCOCK MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE. IT WAS SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR WATTERS. THE MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

XVIII. OTHER BUSINESS — THE COMMISSION ENTERED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION DURING CAUCUS TO DISCUSS THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY, POTENTIAL LITIGATION, AND PERSONNEL. NO ACTION WAS TAKEN.

XIX. ADJOURN — STAND ADJOURNED.