

AGENDA
(Revised)

**REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING OF
THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY
OF WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA**

Walker County Courthouse Annex III, 201 S Main Street
LaFayette, Georgia 30728

Date: Thursday January 9, 2020

Time: 6:00 PM

Call to Order: Commissioner Whitfield will call the meeting to order

Open of the Regular Meeting

Minutes: Approval of the minutes from the Regular Scheduled Commissioner's Meeting that was held on December 12, 2020

New Business:

- I. Resolution R-01-20 to Set the Qualifying Fees for the 2020 Elections
- II. Resolution R-02-20 to Authorizing the Filing of an Application with the Georgia Department of Transportation and the United States Department of Transportation for Grant for Public Transportation Assistance Under Title 49 U.S.C., Section 5311
- III. Acceptance of Melba Powell's resignation from the Walker County Board of Assessors
- IV. Walker County Department Statistics for December 2019

Adjournment: Commissioner Whitfield will adjourn the meeting

Open Discussion: The business on the Agenda being completed, Commissioner Whitfield will open the floor for general discussion related to Walker County. Speakers are asked to limit their questions and comments to 5 minutes and keep topics related to county business.

The next regular scheduled Commissioner's Meeting will be held on Thursday January 23, 2020 at 6:00 PM.

Walker County Governmental Authority
Office of the Commissioner
101 South Duke Street, P.O. Box 445
LaFayette, GA 30728
706-638-1437

Minutes of the Regular Scheduled Commissioner's
Meeting

December 12, 2019

I. Call to order

Commissioner Whitfield called to order the Regular Scheduled Commissioner's Meeting held at Annex III, 201 S. Main Street, Lafayette, Georgia at 6:00 PM on December 12, 2019.

II. Attendees:

The following persons were present: Commissioner Shannon Whitfield, Economic and Community Development Director Robert Wardlaw, Public Relations Director Joe Legge, Legal and Policy Director David Gottlieb, Landfill Manager Paine Gily, Chief Financial Officer Greg McConnell, County Clerk Rebecca Wooden. Other guests signed in at the meeting as well, please see the attached sign in sheet.

III. Commissioner Whitfield approved and signed the minutes from the Regular Scheduled Meeting on November 26, 2019

IV. New Business:

- I. Commissioner Whitfield asked Landfill Manager Paine Gily to discuss the Agreement for Consulting Services between Walker County Georgia and Atlantic Coast Consulting, Inc. for consulting services regarding Environmental monitoring for Marble Top Road Landfill - Sites 1 & 2. He explained this is for environmental sampling and monitoring for groundwater and methane gas. It is for the remainder of 2019 and 2020 and an ongoing relationship with Atlantic Coast Consulting, Inc. They have done a very good

job for us and we have a good relationship with them. Commissioner Whitfield thanked Paine Gily for the information. He explained that County Legal and Policy Director David Gottlieb has reviewed and made a few changes and these were accepted by the company. Commissioner Whitfield signed the agreement.

- II. Commissioner Whitfield explained that Sheriff Wilson wasn't in attendance and asked Legal & Policy Director David Gottlieb to give a brief overview of this agreement for Kenneth Mathews, M.D., and Brently T. Madaris, NP-C through entity known as Ministry Medicine International, LLC entering into an agreement to provide for medical aid and treatment of persons confined in the Walker County Jail. Mr. Gottlieb explained Walker County is required to provide medical treatment while incarcerated in our jail. There has been an agreement in place for years and this is a continuation of this agreement with Dr. Mathews and a new Practitioner will be assisting him. These agreements and provisions are very similar to what we have had in place in the past and which all parties have agreed upon. Commissioner Whitfield thanked Mr. Gottlieb and explained that he had reviewed the agreement and made some enhancements and beefed up insurance that had been overlooked in the past. This gives us a very solid and working agreement. Commissioner Whitfield signed the agreement.
- III. Commissioner Whitfield read Resolution R-032-19, A Resolution to Appointment a member of the Walker County Planning Commission. He explained that Kristine Bubrig is a wonderful person and will do a fantastic job. We are always looking for great people to step up in our community and it is with great honor that we are able to appoint her to the Walker County Planning Commission Board. Commissioner Whitfield read the letter addressed to Ms. Kristine Bubrig and it will be mailed to her. The letter included her term that begins on January 1, 2020 and expires on December 31, 2023.
- IV. Commissioner Whitfield read Resolution R-033-19, A Resolution to Appoint a Member of the Walker County Board of Tax Assessors. He explained the way this is set up under the statutes this is a six year appointment on this board. Shirley Neal has done a great job and she has agreed to continue her service. There is a great deal of training and certifications that you have to go through. There is a lot of time spent with this board meeting at

least twice a month. We are very grateful for Shirley Neal to continue in this capacity. Commissioner Whitfield read the letter that will be mailed to Shirley Neal that included her term which begins on January 1, 2020 and expires on December 31, 2025.

- V. Commissioner Whitfield explained that there has been a long standing relationship between University of Georgia and the Walker County Extension Office. Wade Hutcheson has been in this position for about a year and a half now and has done an outstanding job. The University System always has to have a Memorandum of Understanding between the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia Cooperative Extension and Walker County Georgia that outlines the relationship that UGA has offered services to all 159 counties in the state of Georgia for over one hundred years. Commissioner Whitfield stated that he wasn't going to read the lengthy MOU but it reaffirms our commitment and explains compensation and pay divided up and addendum A which shows the compensation. This also shows our commitment of payment which is \$36,386 which is included in the budget. This is not an amendment to our budget. Essentially there are no changes just an updated MOU and paperwork. Commissioner Whitfield asked if there were any questions comments or concerns and there were none. Commissioner Whitfield signed the MOU into record.
- VI. Commissioner Whitfield explained that Joe and the team have put together a very nice video and a public service announcement. He read the public service announcement on the Walker County Fire Rescue Holiday Fire Safety PSA and Free Smoke Alarm Program. In addition he would like to add that there was an early morning house fire night before last at about 3:30 in the morning. It was a modular home that caught on fire due to a Christmas tree. Fortunately all six members of the house were able to get out. Four of the six were taken to the hospital. One of the residents has severe injuries. Regina Dorsey and the fire department had gone to this resident and installed three smoke detectors a little over a year ago. This is just a testament of how important this is. Blake Hodge with his leadership and Regina Dorsey to help protect the citizens of this county.
- VII. Commissioner Whitfield reviewed the Walker County Department Statistics for November 2019

V. Adjournment: The Commissioner's Meeting was adjourned at 6:22 PM

VIII. Public Comment

{Audio Recording of Regular Scheduled Commissioner's Meeting and comments are on file in Commissioner's Office – 19-12-12}

IX. Commissioner Comments

{Audio Recording of Regular Scheduled Commissioner's Meeting comments are on file in Commissioner's Office – 19-12-12}



RESOLUTION R-001-20

**A RESOLUTION OF THE SOLE COMMISSIONER OF WALKER COUNTY TO SET
THE QUALIFYING FEES FOR THE 2020 ELECTIONS**

WHEREAS, the Sole Commissioner of Walker County is the governing authority for Walker County, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 21-2-131(a)(1)(A), the governing authority is required to fix and publish the qualifying fee for each county office to be filled in the 2020 General Primary and General Election; and

WHEREAS, except as otherwise provided by O.C.G.A. § 21-2-131(a)(1)(B), such fees shall be three-percent (3%) of the minimum salary of the county offices;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Sole Commissioner of Walker County, Georgia that the qualifying fees for all county offices for the 2020 Primary and General Election shall be as set forth on Exhibit "A" attached hereto.

SO RESOLVED AND ADOPTED this 9th day of January, 2020

ATTEST:

WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA

REBECCA WOODEN, County Clerk

SHANNON K. WHITFIELD, Sole Commissioner

Exhibit A

WALKER COUNTY, GA ELECTION QUALIFYING FEES CALENDAR YEAR 2020			
	<u>Minimum Base Salary</u>	<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Qualifying Fee</u>
Clerk of Court	\$ 63,164.60	3.0%	\$ 1,895.00
Probate Judge	\$ 63,164.60	3.0%	\$ 1,895.00
Sheriff	\$ 75,674.90	3.0%	\$ 2,270.00
Tax Commissioner	\$ 63,164.60	3.0%	\$ 1,895.00
Magistrate Judge	\$ 63,164.60	3.0%	\$ 1,895.00
District Member, Board of Commissioners*	\$ 12,000.00	3.0%	\$ 360.00
	<u>Total Gross Salary</u>	<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Qualifying Fee</u>
Chair, Board of Commissioners*	\$ 119,299.56	3.0%	\$ 3,579.00
Coroner	\$ 28,146.36	3.0%	\$ 844.00
State Court Judge	\$ 150,000.00	3.0%	\$ 4,500.00
State Court Solicitor	\$ 84,000.00	3.0%	\$ 2,520.00
Surveyor	\$ 2,580.00	3.0%	\$ 77.00
Member, Board of Education for Walker County Schools	\$ 1,400.00	3.0%	\$ 42.00

*denotes newly established elected position



RESOLUTION R-002-20

A RESOLUTION OF THE SOLE COMMISSIONER OF WALKER COUNTY TO AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION WITH THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR A GRANT FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE UNDER TITLE 49 U.S.C., SECTION 5311.

WHEREAS, the Sole Commissioner of Walker County is the governing authority for Walker County, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Transit Administration and the Georgia Department of Transportation are authorized to make grants to non-urbanized (rural) areas for mass transportation projects; and

WHEREAS, the contract for financial assistance will impose certain obligations upon Applicant, including the provision of the local share of project costs; and

WHEREAS, it is required by the United States Department of Transportation and the Georgia Department of Transportation in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, that in connection with the filing of an application for assistance under the Federal Transit Act, the applicant gives an assurance that it will comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the United States Department of Transportation requirements thereunder; and

WHEREAS, it is the goal of the Applicant that Minority Business Enterprise (Disadvantaged Business Enterprise and Women's Business Enterprise) be utilized to the fullest extent possible in connection with this project, and that definitive procedures shall be established and administered to ensure that minority business shall have the maximum feasible opportunity to compete for contracts and purchase orders when procuring construction contracts, supplies, equipment contracts, or consultant and other services;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Sole Commissioner of Walker County, Georgia hereinafter referred to as "Applicant"

1. That the designated official, Gregory C. McConnell, Chief Financial Officer, hereinafter referred to as "Official" is authorized to execute and file an application on the behalf of the Applicant, a County government, with the Georgia Department of Transportation to aid in the financing of public transportation assistance pursuant to Section 5311 of the Federal Transit Act.



2. That the Official is authorized to execute and file such application and assurances or any other document required by the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Georgia Department of Transportation effectuating the purpose of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.
3. That the Official is authorized to execute and file all other standard assurances or any other document required by the Georgia Department of Transportation or the U.S. Department of Transportation in connection with the application for public transportation assistance.
4. That the Official is authorized to execute grant contract agreements on behalf of the Applicant with the Georgia Department of Transportation.
5. That the Official is authorized to set forth and execute Minority Business Enterprise, DBE (Disadvantaged Business Enterprise) and WBE (Women Business Enterprise) policies and procedures in connection with the project's procurement needs as applicable.
6. That the applicant while making application to or receiving grants from the Federal Transit Administration will comply with FTA Circular 9040.1G, FTA Certifications and Assurances for Federal Assistance 2021 as listed in this grant application and General Operating Guidelines as illustrated in the *Georgia State Management Plan*.
7. That the applicant has or will have available the required non-federal funds to meet local share requirements for this grant application.

SO RESOLVED AND ADOPTED this 9th day of January, 2020

WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA

SHANNON K. WHITFIELD, Sole Commissioner

Signed, sealed and delivered this 9th day of January, 2020 in the presence of:

WITNESS

PUBLIC NOTARY

SEAL:



CERTIFICATE

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Clerk of Walker County Government certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted at a legally convened meeting held on January 9, 2020.

Name of Certifying/Attesting Officer

Title of Certifying/Attesting Officer





Shannon K. Whitfield
Sole Commissioner
Walker County, GA

January 9, 2020

Ms. Leigh Ann Trainer, Transit Program Manager
Division of Intermodal Georgia Department of Transportation
600 W. Peachtree Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30308

Dear Ms. Trainer:

The WALKER COUNTY (GA) GOVERNMENT is applying for an FTA Section 5311 grant to aid in the operation of the Walker County Transit System for FY2021 in the amount of \$ 842,645.00 as detailed in the table below. The financial assistance requested for this project has been reviewed and approved by the local transportation planning process and is identified in the State Transportation Improvement Program.

	Federal Share	State Share	Local Share	Total
Operating Assistance	\$ 328,720.00		\$ 328,720.00	\$ 657,440.00
Large Capital	\$ 148,164.00	\$ 18,520.50	\$ 18,520.50	\$ 185,205.00
Small Capital	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	
Mobility Management	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	
Total	\$ 476,884.00	\$ 18,520.50	\$ 347,240.50	\$ 842,645.00

Local operating assistance will be provided by Walker County GA General fund; Large Capital Purchases will be provided by Walker County GA, General fund.

The Applicant certifies sufficient financial capacity exists to carry out the proposed projects listed above for a minimum of 90 days in the event of delays in the receipt of federal funds or execution of a contract. The applicant certifies the local match is from an eligible source of funds.

The applicant certifies all of the information contained in this funding application is correct and the applicant has the legal, financial, technical, and managerial capacity to carry out the proposed project and maintain the project property. If you have questions about this request for funding, please contact Greg McConnell at 706.638.1437 or g.mcconnell@walkerga.us

FTA Section 5311 Grant Application - FY 2021

Shannon K. Whitfield
Walker County Sole Commissioner

MELBA T. POWELL
99 Powell Court
Rock Spring, GA 30739

December 12, 2019

Shannon Whitfield
Walker County Commissioner

RE: BOARD OF ASSESORS

Dear Mr. Whitfield:

Please accept this as my notice that I will be retiring from the Board of Assessors effective, January 1, 2020.

Sincerely,



Melba Powell

P.O. Box 445
LaFayette, GA 30728
walkercountyga.gov



Office: 706.638.1437
commissioner@walkerga.us

Shannon K. Whitfield
Sole Commissioner
Walker County, GA

January 9, 2020

Melba Powell
99 Powell Court
Rock Spring, Georgia 30739

Ms. Powell,

I would like to thank you for your service on the Walker County Board of Assessors. We greatly appreciate your dedication and support to the Citizens of Walker County and I wish you the best in your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

Shannon K. Whitfield
Walker County Sole Commissioner

Walker County Departmental Statistics - December 2019



Department	Monthly Totals				YTD Totals		Yearly Totals		Yearly Totals		Yearly Totals	
	November	Cats	Dogs	December	2019	2018	2017	2016	2019	2018	2017	2016
Animal Shelter	Dogs	Cats	Dogs	Cats	Dogs	Cats	Dogs	Cats	Dogs	Cats	Dogs	Cats
Intake	97	32	102	19	1,094	295	1,176	25	1,628	979	1,301	1,004
Outake (Adopted, Rescued, Returned)	80	22	130	31	1,099	279	1,012	47	1,134	444	817	195
Adopted	13	21	7	11	208	152	138	34	217	147	304	94
Rescued	54	0	115	19	766	119	749	13	686	295	513	101
Returned to Owner	12	0	8	1	112	3	125	0	231	2	n/a	n/a
Euthanized	1	1	2	1	31	7	56	2	336	396	436	630
Codes Enforcement	November	December	2019	2018	2017	2016						
In Compliance	759	596	9,309	5,124	4,745	no data						
Violations	11	19	435	857	1,469	221						
Closed Cases	6	1	58	339	480	no data						
Fire Department	November	December	2019	2018	2017	2016						
Calls for Service	527	532	6,091	5,670	4,441	3,492						
Units Handling Calls for Service	721	904	8,815	6,359	4,742	no data						
Smoke Alarms Installed	52	47	781	228	21	no data						
Litter	November	December	2019	2018	2017	2016						
Roadside Trash Pounds	9,820	11,340	143,330	122,912	123,020	no data						
Mountain Cove Farms	November	December	2019	2018	2017	2016						
Total Nights Booked	184	84	1,102	908	525	162						
Planning	November	December	2019	2018	2017	2016						
Single Family New Home Construction	15	6	128	124	135	123						
Public Relations	November	December	2019	2018	2017	2016						
Media Impressions (stories)	17	41	451	509	603	no data						
Facebook Followers Added	117	98	1,880	2,182	4,615	no data						
Facebook Posts	39	36	602	487	594	no data						
WalkerCountyGA.gov visitor views	25,854	32,472	357,989	316,285	399,087	173,745						
Newsletter Subscribers Added	13	62	971	925	1,184	no data						
Public Works	November	December	2019	2018	2017	2016						
Patching/Potholes	243	298	6,148	4,798	no data	no data						
Walker Transit	November	December	2019	2018	2017	2016						
Total Trips	2,114	1,935	26,535	21,551	24,938	no data						