

**AGENDA**  
**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. Acceptance of Melba Powell's resignation from the Walker County Board of Assessors
- III. 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 9<sup>th</sup> 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			
	Minimum Base		Qualifying Fee
	Salary	Percentage	
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
	Total Gross		Qualifying Fee
	Salary	Percentage	
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

**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.**

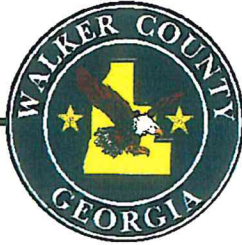
**Sincerely,**



**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
<b>Animal Shelter</b>												
Dogs	97	32	102	19	1,094	295	1,176	25	1,628	979	1,301	1,004
Cats	80	22	130	31	1,099	279	1,012	47	1,134	444	817	195
Intake	13	21	7	11	208	152	138	34	217	147	304	94
Outake (Adopted, Rescued, Returned)	54	0	115	19	766	119	749	13	686	295	513	101
Adopted	12	0	8	1	112	3	125	0	231	2	n/a	n/a
Rescued	1	1	2	1	31	7	56	2	336	396	436	630
Returned to Owner												
Euthanized												
<b>Codes Enforcement</b>												
In Compliance	759		596		9,309		5,124		4,745		no data	2016
Violations	11		19		435		857		1,469		221	
Closed Cases	6		1		58		339		480		no data	
<b>Fire Department</b>												
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	
<b>Litter</b>												
Roadside Trash Pounds	9,820		11,340		143,330		122,912		123,020		no data	
<b>Mountain Cove Farms</b>												
Total Nights Booked	184		84		1,102		908		525		162	
<b>Planning</b>												
Single Family New Home Construction	15		6		2019		2018		2017		2016	
					128		124		135		123	
<b>Public Relations</b>												
Media Impressions (stories)	17		41		2019		2018		2017		2016	
					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	
<b>Public Works</b>												
Patching/Potholes	243		298		2019		2018		2017		2016	
					6,148		4,798		no data		no data	
<b>Walker Transit</b>												
Total Trips	2,114		1,935		2019		2018		2017		2016	
					26,535		21,551		24,938		no data	