

AGENDA
WALKER COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WALKER COUNTY CIVIC CENTER, 10052 HIGHWAY 27
ROCK SPRING, GEORGIA

The following constitutes the agenda for the work session/special called meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Walker County, Georgia to be held on June 23, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. at the Walker County Civic Center.

WORK SESSION/SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

- **Invocation**
Given by Chairman Shannon Whitfield
- **Pledge**
United States and Georgia Flag
- **Chairman Whitfield will Call to Order the Regular Meeting**
Clerk establishes a Quorum is present
- **Approve Agenda**
- **Discussion on Resolution R-028-21**
for the purpose of enacting a temporary emergency moratorium on the acceptance of applications for zoning approvals, building permits, land disturbance permits, and any other approvals or permits, or processing of or issuance of decisions on any such applications, regarding new large scale commercial agriculture operations or the expansion of existing confined feeding/commercial agriculture operations
- **Commissioner Comments**
- **Adjourn**



RESOLUTION R-028-21

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF WALKER COUNTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENACTING A TEMPORARY EMERGENCY MORATORIUM ON THE ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATIONS FOR ZONING APPROVALS, BUILDING PERMITS, LAND DISTURBANCE PERMITS, AND ANY OTHER APPROVALS OR PERMITS, OR PROCESSING OF OR ISSUANCE OF DECISIONS ON ANY SUCH APPLICATIONS, REGARDING NEW LARGE SCALE COMMERCIAL POULTRY HOUSE OPERATIONS OR THE CONSIDERABLE EXPANSION OF EXISTING CONFINED FEEDING/COMMERCIAL POULTRY HOUSE OPERATIONS

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners (Board) has determined evaluation is necessary to determine the effect of large scale commercial poultry house operations on the natural resources, environment, citizens and neighborhoods of Walker County; and

WHEREAS, the concept of a large scale commercial poultry house operation is not consistent with the family farm operations that have been common in Walker County; and

WHEREAS, waste disposal practices associated with large scale commercial poultry house operations contribute to high nutrient loading on waters of the United States, and current disposal practices severely impact the ability of the State of Georgia to meet the water quality standards in the Coosa River Basin and Tennessee River Basin set by the Environmental Protection Agency; and

WHEREAS, the Board is aware of a number of poultry farms in northwest Georgia that are proposing to buy property with no existing potable water available for the purpose of building large scale commercial poultry house operations; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to reach a balance between the rights of poultry growers to use their land and the rights of neighbors to enjoy their own land without suffering odors, noise, dust and other conditions caused by large scale commercial poultry house operations; and

WHEREAS, the Board needs time to review County Ordinances pertaining to large scale commercial poultry house operations, consider drafted changes, advertise and hold public hearings required by law, and adopt said changes;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Walker County, Georgia hereby enacts a temporary moratorium that is established as follows:

- (1) This moratorium is enacted for temporary and emergency purposes only, and shall be in effect through and including 180 days from its adoption, or until it is repealed, whichever occurs first.
- (2) This moratorium applies to all applications for any permit approval or issuance required for the construction, expansion or operation of new or expanded *Large Scale Commercial Poultry House Operations*. For the purposes of this moratorium, *Large Scale Commercial Poultry House Operation* shall mean any grouping of nine or more structures designed to house or process chickens or turkeys.



(3) Neither the County nor any of its staff or departments shall accept applications for zoning approval, building permits, land disturbance permits, or any other approvals or permits, or process or issue any decisions on any such applications regarding facilities or structures for new or expanded *Large Scale Commercial Poultry House Operations*. For the purposes of this moratorium, *Large Scale Commercial Poultry House Operations* shall mean any grouping of nine or more structures designed to house or process chickens or turkeys.

(4) No action taken by any person or entity during this temporary moratorium shall serve to vest rights to develop or operate any confined feeding/commercial agriculture operation.

(5) Previously approved confined feeding/commercial agriculture operations shall not be prevented by this moratorium from operation under and consistent with prior final approval.

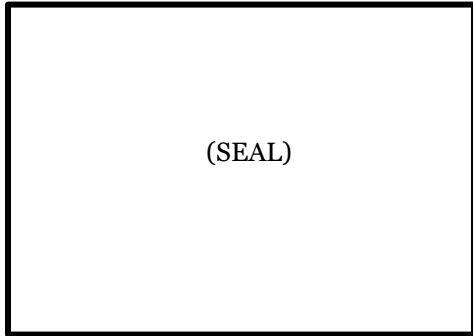
SO RESOLVED AND ADOPTED this 24th day of June, 2021.

ATTEST:

WALKER COUNTY, GEORGIA

REBECCA WOODEN, County Clerk

SHANNON K. WHITFIELD, Chairman



The foregoing Resolution received a motion for passage from Commissioner _____, second by Commissioner _____, and upon the question the vote is _____ ayes, _____ nays to adopt the Resolution.