

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE WILCOX COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD ON DECEMBER 5, 2017 AT 6:30 P.M. IN THE COMMISSIONERS CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE WILCOX COUNTY COURTHOUSE.

Those present for the meeting were as follows:

Lanier Keene	Chairman
Clay Reid	Vice Chairman
Huck Greene	Commissioner
Alfonza Hall	Commissioner
Jowan Johnson	Commissioner
Paula Jones Ball	County Manager/Clerk

Chairman Lanier Keene called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Jowan Johnson gave the invocation.

Everyone said the Pledge of Allegiance.

The prior month's minutes from the November meetings: November 3, 2017 workshop meeting, November 7, 2017 workshop meeting, November 7, 2017 regular monthly meeting, November 9, 2017 workshop meeting and the November 28, 2017 workshop meetings were approved as presented by a motion from Commissioner Jowan Johnson, Commissioner Alfonza Hall seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

There were no guests with public comments.

Department Head reports were as follows:

EMA Director Larry Brown stated he had asked the County Manager to request five mile radius' be marked on the County map suggesting where the best position locations for fire stations would be. He is getting prices on buildings and fire trucks.

The first item of new business was a vacancy on the Regional Commission. This is for a business person and is currently being represented by Commissioner Clay Reid. Commissioner Jowan Johnson made a motion to reappoint Clay Reid. Commissioner Alfonza Hall seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

There were no items of old business.

Commissioner comments were as follows:

Commissioner Lanier Keene stated he understood there was a petition being passed around opposing the EMS station being relocated at the Ag Center. There are a lot of misunderstanding on what the Commission is proposing.

County Manager Paula Ball stated since the Cordele Dispatch is present at the meeting she would like to explain the situation with the Wilcox County EMS station. First of all, the Commissioners have looked at multiple locations and multiple options for the construction of a new EMS facility. The general public is reacting like this is about to take place immediately. The new SPLOST collection would not begin until April 2018 so construction could not begin any earlier than 1 to 1 ½ years from now. No decision has been made. The Commissioners are trying to explore all options to make the best decision possible for the citizens of Wilcox County as well as employees of the Wilcox County EMS.

The Ag Center has six open bays. Each bay is close to 1500 square feet. The option of locating the EMS at the Ag Center would use one bay for living quarters and one bay for parking the ambulances. The possibility of using a third bay for Recreation and Extension equipment has been explored. This area is currently being used for junk storage that is creating insect and rodent problems. That would leave three open bays with the equivalent of 4500 square feet for hog shows, cow shows, etc. The use of the building itself would not be interrupted. The other misnomer being passed around is that the County is trying to take the Ag Center. Wilcox County already owns and has owned the Ag Center since it's construction. The County pays the utility bill, maintenance, liability insurance and any other expenditure related to the Ag Center. The Commissioners are simply trying to make the most of wasted space at the Ag Center "if" that is the option they choose to take. She added she hopes this will clarify the "possibility" of EMS being located at the Ag Center and will eliminate some of the rumormongering.

There being no further business, Commissioner Jowan Johnson made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Huck Greene seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

_____ Lanier Keene, Chairman

_____ Paula Jones Ball, County Manager/Clerk