



**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

T. PAGE THARP GOVERNMENTAL BUILDING  
102 STARKSVILLE AVENUE NORTH, LEESBURG, GEORGIA 31763

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2022 AT 11:00AM  
T. PAGE THARP BUILDING  
OPAL CANNON AUDITORIUM  
WWW.LEE.GA.US

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

**COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

Billy Mathis, Chairman	District 3
John Wheaton, Vice-Chairman	District 1
Luke Singletary, Commissioner	District 2
Chris Guarnieri, Commissioner	District 4
George Walls, Commissioner	District 5

**COUNTY STAFF**

Christi Dockery, County Manager  
Kaitlyn Good, County Clerk  
Jimmy Skipper, County Attorney

The Lee County Board of Commissioners met for a Special Called Meeting on Thursday, December 22, 2022 at 11:00am. The meeting was held in the Opal Cannon Auditorium of the Lee County T. Page Tharp Governmental Building in Leesburg, Georgia. Those present were Chairman Billy Mathis, Vice-Chairman John Wheaton, Commissioner Luke Singletary, Commissioner Rick Muggridge, Commissioner George Walls, County Manager Christi Dockery, County Attorney Jimmy Skipper, Finance Director Heather Jones, and County Clerk Kaitlyn Good. Chairman Mathis called the meeting to order at 11:00am.

**INVOCATION**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**CALL TO ORDER**

(A) **Consideration to adopt a Resolution to Appoint the Initial Members to the Hospital Authority of Lee County.**

Commissioner Singletary made the **MOTION** to adopt a Resolution to Appoint the Initial Members to the Hospital Authority of Lee County, members including Bruce Houston, M.D., Jennifer Heyer, Dana Hager, Randy Carr, and Rick Muggridge. Commissioner Wheaton seconded the **MOTION**. The **MOTION** was unanimous with Commissioner Guarnieri and Commissioner Walls voting yea.

The authority is as follows:

<u>Appointee</u>	<u>Length of Initial Term</u>
Bruce Houston, M.D.	3 year term
Jennifer Heyer	3 year term
Dana Hager	2 year term
Randy Carr	2 year term
Rick Muggridge	1 year term

Upon the expiration of the initial terms as set out above, all future appointees to the Board of the Hospital Authority shall serve staggered terms of three (3) years.

(B) **Consideration to approve payment for the County's portion of the cost of the sidewalk project on Firetower Road.**

In March 2021, the Board of Commissioners approved the cost of the sidewalk design on Firetower Road within the unincorporated area of the County. The City of Leesburg was able to receive additional funding assistance, reducing the County's estimated construction cost to \$13,500.00.

Commissioner Wheaton made the **MOTION** to approve a payment of \$13,500.00 for the County's portion of the cost of the sidewalk project on Firetower Road, to come from TSPLOST funds. Commissioner Walls seconded the **MOTION**. The **MOTION** was unanimous with Commissioner Singletary and Commissioner Guarnieri voting yea.

(C) **Consideration to purchase two (2) ambulance chassis. HANDOUT**

Fire Chief David Forrester and Chairman Mathis summarized the need for more ambulance chassis, specifically citing a motor vehicle accident having occurred recently in which one of our ambulances was totaled. Chief Forrester stated there is minor damage to the box that can be repaired, but the chassis is a complete loss. There is a reserve unit that is now running in place of that ambulance. Grady currently has two (2) chassis available that we could purchase. We can remove the box from the totaled chassis and have it placed on the chassis purchased from Grady and then move the box from a current reserve unit, a 2009, to the newer chassis from Grady. The other two reserve units are 2017. Staff is waiting to hear back about the price of the chassis from Grady, but Chief Forrester stated it should be less than \$130,000.00. It takes approximately two years to obtain a new ambulance. Chairman Mathis asked Chief Forrester to begin looking and bring back a quote to purchase a new ambulance (payment is not due until delivery).

Commissioner Walls made the **MOTION** to purchase two (2) ambulance chassis using funds to be received from insurance and SPLOST funds. Commissioner Wheaton seconded the **MOTION**. The **MOTION** was unanimous with Commissioner Singletary and Commissioner Guarnieri voting yea.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

(A) **Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.**

Commissioner Singletary made the **MOTION** to adjourn to Executive Session. Commissioner Walls seconded the **MOTION**. The **MOTION** was unanimous with Commissioner Wheaton and Commissioner Guarnieri voting yea. Time: 11:06am

Commissioner Wheaton made the **MOTION** to adjourn from Executive Session. Commissioner Walls seconded the **MOTION**. The **MOTION** was unanimous with Commissioner Singletary and Commissioner Guarnieri voting yea. Time: 11:26am

Commissioner Wheaton made the **MOTION** to provide a "retention payment" of \$600 to full-time and \$300 part-time employees (net pay). Commissioner Walls seconded the **MOTION**. The **MOTION** was unanimous with Commissioner Singletary and Commissioner Guarnieri voting yea.

### **PUBLIC FORUM**

*Citizens will be allowed to address the Board of Commissioners regarding any issues or complaints. Individuals should sign up prior to the start of the meeting.*

No citizens took part in the Public Forum.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

(A) The next regularly scheduled County Commission meeting is **Wednesday, January 11, 2023 at 6:00pm.**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:26am.

Facebook video link: <https://www.facebook.com/leecountyga/videos/5658795174157128>

*Lee County is a thriving vibrant community celebrated for its value of tradition encompassing a safe family oriented community, schools of excellence, and life long opportunities for prosperity and happiness without sacrificing the rural agricultural tapestry.*

Persons with special needs relating to handicapped accessibility or foreign language interpretation should contact the ADA Coordinator at (229) 759-6000 or through the Georgia Relay Service (800) 255-0056 (TDD) or (800) 355-0135 (voice). This person can be contacted at the T. Page Tharp Building in Leesburg, Georgia between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays, and will assist citizens with special needs given proper notice of seven (7) working days.

The meeting rooms and buildings are handicap accessible.