

MINUTES

Butts County Board of Tax Assessors – Regular Session
625 W. 3rd Street, Jackson, GA 30233, Meeting Room A, Admin Bldg.
March 20, 2024 – 10:00AM

A. CALL TO ORDER

PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONES AND ALL OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES.

The Butts County Board of Assessors regular scheduled meeting was held on March 20, 2024 at 10:00AM in Meeting Room A of the Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Leah Preston-Frickey, with Vice Chairperson Ellen Brewer and Board Members Dan Queen, Michael Bateman, and Jimmie Hobgood attending. Others present include Chief Appraiser, Jerry Johnson, Deputy Chief Appraiser, Betsy Bernier and Board Secretary, Leigh Ann Jeffcoat.

B. CITIZENS COMMENT

Speakers must sign up prior to the meeting and provide their names, addresses and the topic they wish to discuss. Speakers must direct their remarks to the Board and not to individual Member or to the audience. Personal disagreements with individual Members or County employees are not a matter of public concern and personal attacks will not be tolerated. The Chairperson has the right to limit your comments in the interest of directing of the County's business in an efficient and respectable manner.

Speakers will be allotted three (3) minutes to speak on their chosen topics as they relate to matters pertinent to the jurisdiction of the Board of Tax Assessors. No questions will be asked by any of the members during citizen comments. Outbursts from the audience will not be tolerated. Common courtesy and civility are expected at all times during the meeting. No speaker will be permitted to speak more than three (3) minutes or more than once, unless the Board votes to suspend this rule.

None present.

C. AGENDA

1. Consider the adoption of the March 20, 2024 agenda.

Motion by Vice Chairperson Brewer to approve the March 20, 2024 agenda as submitted, motion was seconded by Member Bateman and carried unanimously, 5-0.

D. MINUTES

1. Consider the approval of the minutes from the February 21, 2024 regular meeting.

Motion by Member Bateman to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2024 regular meeting, motion was seconded by Vice Chairperson Brewer and carried unanimously, 5-0.

E. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Consider the approval of the release of 2016 Conservation Use Valuation Assessment (CUVA) application.
JAMES TRIMBLE
00280-004-000
2. Consider the approval of 2024 new applications for Conservation Use Value Assessment (CUVA). SEE ATTACHED LIST MARKED EXHIBIT A: 2024 NEW CUVA APPLICATIONS
3. Consider the approval of 2024 renewal applications for Conservation Use Value Assessment (CUVA). SEE ATTACHED LIST MARKED EXHIBIT B: 2024 CUVA RENEWAL APPLICATIONS
4. Consider the approval of 2024 continuation applications for Conservation Use Value Assessment (CUVA). SEE ATTACHED LIST MARKED EXHIBIT C: 2024 CUVA CONTINUATION APPLICATIONS.

Motion by Member Queen to approve the consent agenda as submitted, motion was seconded by Member Bateman and carried unanimously, 5-0.

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider the approval of the appeal waivers. SEE ATTACHED

After review, a motion was made by Vice Chairperson Brewer to approve the appeal waivers; motion was seconded by Member Bateman and carried unanimously, 5-0.

2. Consider the approval of the monthly ACO report. SEE ATTACHED

After review, a motion was made by Member Bateman to approve the ACO report; motion was seconded by Member Queen and carried unanimously, 5-0.

3. Consider the approval of 2024 homestead application for a Disabled Veteran (\$5).

CHRISTOPHER D PILGRIM
00230-019-A00

General discussion of Georgia law O.C.G.A §48-5-48 and further review of information provided by the taxpayer.

Member Queen made a motion to deny the homestead application, motion was seconded by Member Hobgood and carried unanimously, 5-0.

4. Consider the approval to reschedule the April Board of Assessors meeting from April 17, 2024 to April 9, 2024.

General discussion on the Board member's availability.

Motion made by Member Bateman to reschedule the April meeting to April 9, 2024; motion was seconded by Vice Chairperson Brewer and was carried unanimously, 5-0.

G. CHIEF APPRAISER REPORT

- Budget Status

General discussion of the current budget year-to-date balances, projected expenditures and balances remaining for budget year 2024. General review of the 2025 budget.

- Commercial Reappraisal Update

Chief Appraiser Johnson explained that the commercial reappraisal is expected to be completed on time for the 2025 digest year.

- Policy & Procedures

Deputy Chief Appraiser Bernier presented the completed policy manual for the Board to review.

- Appeals Update

Chief Appraiser Johnson gave an update on appeals to the BOE and Superior Court settlement conference.

- Monthly Office Update

Chief Appraiser Johnson gave a brief monthly update of the office. Open, front desk position discussed.

- Citizen's Academy

Chief Appraiser Johnson will be presenting general assessment information on March 28, 2024.

Motion made by Vice Chairperson Brewer to amend the agenda to add a Closed Session, motion was seconded by Member Hobgood and was carried unanimously, 5-0.

H. CLOSED SESSION

1. Chairperson Leah Preston-Frickey requests to conduct a Closed Session for discussion or deliberation on the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal, or periodic evaluation or rating of a county officer or employee as provided in O.C.G.A.50-14-3(6).

Motion by Vice Chairperson Brewer to enter Closed Session at 11:46AM for purposes identified by Agenda Item (H.1), motion was seconded by Member Hobgood and carried unanimously, 5-0.

Motion by Member Bateman to exit Closed Session at 12:37PM, motion seconded by Vice Chairperson Brewer and carried unanimously, 5-0.

No action taken; regular meeting resumed.

I. BOARD COMMENTS

None

J. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, motion by Member Hobgood to adjourn at 12:37PM, motion was seconded by Member Bateman and was carried unanimously, 5-0.