

Gilmer County Board of Assessors
Meeting Minutes
APRIL 23, 2020
Gilmer County Courthouse
1 Broad Street, Suite 104, Ellijay, Georgia

Members attending: Gary Engel, Bill Logan, Tom Porter, Gerald Davis, John Williamson.

Staff attending: Theresa Gooch, Chief Appraiser, Donna Walker, Secretary

David Clark: County Attorney

1. CALL TO ORDER: Gary Engel called the meeting to order at 3:00 P.M.
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 19, 2020: Upon motion of Tom Porter, second by Gary Engel, to accept the minutes as presented. Vote: Yes- Engel/Logan/Porter/Davis/Williamson.
3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Ms. Gooch stated item 5a has been corrected to change the word February to March. She also added item 11. 3039 043 – Qualified Timber Property Application 2020. Upon motion of Tom Porter, second by Gary Engel, to approve the agenda as amended. Vote: Yes- Engel/Logan/Porter/Davis/Williamson.
4. OLD BUSINESS:
 - a. Superior Court Appeal – 3082J 016 – to be discussed in Executive Session.
 - b. HB 1383 Update – Ms. Gooch stated there is no update. David Clark stated he has heard from the Attorney General's Office and they are still working on it but with COVID 19 crisis they don't have a response yet. Upon motion of Tom Porter, second by Bill Logan to not change anything for 2020. Vote: Yes- Engel/Logan/Porter/Davis/Williamson.
5. NEW BUSINESS:
 - a. Expenditure Report March 2020- should be at 25%. The office is at 23% and the Board is at 16%.
 - b. DOAA 2019 Internal Preliminary Study – Ms. Gooch stated the internal preliminary figures show we are in compliance but our values are low. She stated we will have to closely follow the market to see if the COVID 19 pandemic has any effect on sales values for 2020.
 - c. Office Timeline/Notices – The office plans to reopen to the public on May 1st but continue with social distancing measures with the public. The staff has been able to take care of the public even with the office closed. The staff did not get all the reviews complete due to precautions of going out in public to taxpayer's homes. The staff is conducting desk audits and the changefinder data should be available soon. Ms. Gooch stated the assessment notice date should remain the same.
6. CONSERVATION USE:
 - a. 3127 012 – Release per Age – Upon motion of Bill Logan, second by Gerald Davis to approve the release as presented. Vote: Yes- Engel/Logan/Porter/Davis/Williamson.

- b. 3065 001A – Release w/ Penalty – Penalty amount \$3158.19. Upon motion of Bill Logan, second by Gerald Davis to approve the release as presented. Vote: Yes- Engel/Logan/Porter/Davis/Williamson.
 - c. 3031 012 – Release per Death - Upon motion of Bill Logan, second by Gerald Davis to approve the release as presented. Vote: Yes- Engel/Logan/Porter/Davis/Williamson.
 - d. 3047 025 - Release per Death - Upon motion of Bill Logan, second by Gerald Davis to approve the release as presented. Vote: Yes- Engel/Logan/Porter/Davis/Williamson.
 - e. 3055 030 - Release per Death - Upon motion of Bill Logan, second by Gerald Davis to approve the release as presented. Vote: Yes- Engel/Logan/Porter/Davis/Williamson.
 - f. 3070 009 - Release per Death - Upon motion of Bill Logan, second by Gerald Davis to approve the release as presented. Vote: Yes- Engel/Logan/Porter/Davis/Williamson.
 - g. 3091A 007 - Release per Death - Upon motion of Bill Logan, second by Gerald Davis to approve the release as presented. Vote: Yes- Engel/Logan/Porter/Davis/Williamson.
 - h. 3129 017 - Release per Death - Upon motion of Bill Logan, second by Gerald Davis to approve the release as presented. Vote: Yes- Engel/Logan/Porter/Davis/Williamson.
 - i. 3137 030B - Release per Death - Upon motion of Bill Logan, second by Gerald Davis to approve the release as presented. Vote: Yes- Engel/Logan/Porter/Davis/Williamson.
 - j. 3149 046 - Release per Death - Upon motion of Bill Logan, second by Gerald Davis to approve the release as presented. Vote: Yes- Engel/Logan/Porter/Davis/Williamson.
 - k. New/Renew/Continuation/Release/Change of Use – Upon motion of Tom Porter, second by Bill Logan to approve the list as presented. Vote: Yes- Engel/Logan/Porter/Davis/Williamson.
 - l. 3086 027A – Possible Breach Remedy – Upon motion of Bill Logan, second by Gerald Davis to approve the remedy as presented. Vote: Yes- Engel/Logan/Porter/Davis/Williamson
7. HOMESTEAD EXEMPTIONS: Upon motion of Bill Logan, second by Gerald Davis to approve the list as presented. Vote: Yes- Engel/Logan/Porter/Davis/Williamson.
 8. REAL PROPERTY CHANGES: E&R's – Upon motion of Bill Logan, second by John Williamson, to approve the list as presented. Vote: Yes- Engel/Logan/Porter/Davis/Williamson.
 9. MANUFACTURED HOME CHANGES: E&R's – Upon motion of Bill Logan, second by Gerald Davis, to approve the list as presented. Vote: Yes- Engel/Logan/Porter/Davis/Williamson.
 10. PERSONAL PROPERTY CHANGES:
 - a. None.
 - b. Vehicle Appeals – Upon motion of Bill Logan, second by Gerald Davis, to approve the list as presented. Vote: Yes- Engel/Logan/Porter/Davis/Williamson.
 11. 3039 043 – Qualified Timber Property Application 2020 – Ms. Gooch stated this is a new program. The Department of Revenue approved the application and will set the value for the property. The Board of Assessors can appeal the qualification process but not the values. We will not know the value until July. The application approval is only for one year and has to be applied for every year. Upon motion of Tom Porter, second by Gary Engel to accept the qualified application as approved by the Department of Revenue. Vote: Yes- Engel/Logan/Porter/Davis/Williamson.
 12. CHIEF APPRAISER'S COMMENTS: Ms. Gooch stated the staff will continue looking at sales data. Notices are on target but she will let the Board know if more time is needed.

13. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS: Mr. Engel stated Bill Logan was sworn in today for another 6-year term. He wanted to thank the staff for how they are handling everything that is going on.

14. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

15. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Upon motion of Tom Porter, second by Bill Logan to suspend the regular meeting at 3:37 P.M. and go into Executive Session. Vote: Yes- Engel/Logan/Porter/Davis/Williamson.

Upon motion of Tom Porter, second by Gary Engel to reopen the regular meeting at 4:25 P.M. with the motion to authorize Ms. Gooch to negotiate with the terms as discussed in Executive Session. Vote: Yes- Engel/Logan/Porter/Davis/Williamson

16. ADJOURNMENT: Upon motion of Gary Engel, second by Bill Logan, to adjourn the meeting at 4:26 P.M. Vote: Yes- Engel/Logan/Porter/Davis/Williamson.

Minutes accepted on the 21st day of May, 2020



Gary R. Engel, Chairman



Donna Walker, Secretary

