

**MACON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
SPECIAL MEETING  
DECEMBER 7, 2020  
MINUTES**

Chairman Tate called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. as provided for in the Notice of Special Meeting of the Macon County Board of Commissioners, a copy of which is attached (Attachment 1) and is hereby made a part of these minutes. All of the Board Members and County Manager Derek Roland were physically present. Deputy Clerk Mike Decker and Finance Director Lori Carpenter viewed the meeting via computer livestream, and Interim County Attorney Kim Carpenter did not attend due to a scheduling conflict. Also present were members of the news media.

Chairman Tate recognized outgoing Commissioner Karl Gillespie for his service to the county. Commissioner Gillespie told the board members that "each one of you has made a mark on me," adding that he had learned from everyone and will take that knowledge to Raleigh as he begins his term in the General Assembly as state representative. He said he has "high expectations" of Commissioner-Elect Josh Young, and Commissioner Gillespie thanked his wife, Janet, for her support during his time on the board. Chairman Tate and Commissioner Beale presented Commissioner Gillespie with gifts of appreciation from the county.

Macon County Clerk of Superior Court Vic Perry issued the oath of office to returning Commissioner Paul Higdon and then to Mr. Young. Copies of the executed oaths of office are attached (Attachments 2 and 3, respectively) and are hereby made a part of these minutes.

Mr. Roland then called the meeting to order and conducted the election for board chairman. Commissioner Beale stated that it is "my honor and pleasure" to nominate Jim Tate as chairman. Commissioner Shields seconded the motion, and with no discussion, all favored.

Chairman Tate then conducted the election for board vice-chairman. Commissioner Shields nominated Ronnie Beale, and Chairman Tate seconded the motion in what he called "a sense of bipartisanship." With no discussion, the nomination was approved on a 3-2 vote, with Chairman Tate, Commissioner Beale and Commissioner Shields voting in favor, and Commissioner Higdon and Commissioner Young opposing.

Following a brief explanation by Mr. Roland, and upon a motion by Commissioner Higdon, seconded by Commissioner Shields, the board voted unanimously to approve a resolution regarding the "Examination of Official Bonds for Public Officials of Macon County," a copy of which is attached **Attachment 4** and is hereby made a part of these minutes.

Chairman Tate noted, without objection, that the board would continue to hold its regular monthly meeting on the second Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. in the commission boardroom on the third floor of the Macon County Courthouse, located at 5 West Main Street in Franklin, NC. He read the list of meeting dates for 2021, and upon a motion by Commissioner Higdon, seconded by Commissioner Young, the board voted unanimously to affirm the meeting schedule, a copy of which is attached **Attachment 5** and is hereby made a part of these minutes.

With no other business, and upon a motion by Commissioner Beale, seconded by Commissioner Shields, the board voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:19 p.m.

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Derek Roland  
Ex Officio Clerk to the Board

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Jim Tate  
Board Chairman