Minutes

Board of Commissioners
January 2, 2015
4:00 P.M.

The Board of Commissioners of Fayette County, Georgia, met in Official Session on January 2, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. in the Public Meeting Room of the Fayette County Administrative Complex, 140 Stonewall Avenue, Fayetteville, Georgia.

Commissioners Present:	Steve Brown David Barlow Pota Coston Randy Ognio
Commissioner Absent:	Charles Oddo
Staff Present:	Steve Rapson, County Administrator Floyd L. Jones, County Clerk Tameca P. White, Chief Deputy Clerk Dennis Davenport, County Attorney

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Call to Order

Chairman Brown called the Friday, January 2, 2015 Board of Commissioners meeting to order at 3:58 p.m.

Recognize Elected Officials in the Audience

Chairman Brown asked all the elected officials who were present to stand. The audience then applauded the elected officials.

Recognize Commissioner-Elect Coston's Honored Guests

Chairman Brown recognized Commissioner-Elect Coston's Honored Guests. Those named included:

Pastor Walter and Beverly McDonald– Tallahassee, Florida
Walter McDonald III– Tallahassee, Florida
James and Gloria McDonald– Detroit, Michigan
Dr. Dion Nicole Barton– Chicago, Illinois
Harvey Maurice– Bloomfield, Connecticut
Sybil Smith– St. Louis, Missouri
Kay Jernigan– Wilmington, Delaware
Patty Smith– Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Betty Steward– Forsyth, Florida
James Rogers– Cincinnati, Ohio
Linda Joiner– Cincinnati, Ohio

Request show of hands for those dining after the meeting (5:30 p.m. at Broadway Diner.)

Chairman Brown asked the audience for a show of hands if they planned to attend dinner after the meeting at Broadway Diner. Approximately 50 people indicated they would attend dinner after the meeting.

Invocation by Commissioner-Elect Coston's Father, Pastor Walter McDonald of Providence Baptist Church, Tallahassee, Florida

Pastor Walter McDonald of Providence Baptist Church offered the Invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Ms. Bella Brown, First Grader at Rising Star Montessori

Ms. Bella Bower led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1) Introduction of Superior Court Judge Fletcher Sams.
Administration of *Loyalty Oath, State of Georgia*

Superior Court Judge Fletcher Sams administered the *Loyalty Oath, State of Georgia* for Commissioner-Elect Pota Coston.

2) Introduction of Chief Superior Court Judge Christopher Edwards
Administration of *Official Oath of County Commissioner, State of Georgia*

Chief Superior Court Judge Christopher Edwards administered the *Official Oath of County Commissioner*, State of Georgia for Commissioner-Elect Pota Coston.

3) Remarks from Commissioner Pota Coston.

The following is a transcript of Commissioner Coston's remarks:

Thank you Chairman Brown.

Thank you Honorable Chris Edwards, Chief Judge and the Honorable Fletcher Sams, Superior Court Judge for swearing me in today. Thank you so much.

I first want to thank God for this glorious day and the opportunity. As well as my church family at Elizabeth Baptist Church for their prayers and support.

I want to thank my husband Bernie and son, Bernard, for all their love and support. I couldn't have done it without you. My father and stepfather for all their prayers and I know my mom is up in heaven smiling. Thanks to my brother for his love and encouragement.

I want to thank the citizens in District Five for your enormous vote of confidence and support, and the many supporters from Fayette County as a whole. I would be remiss if I did not thank those around the state and out of state who supported me. To my countless volunteers and supporters who gave of their time and resources, THANK YOU. This includes my campaign manager, Erica Pines, and my Treasurer, Nona Houston, who did a fantastic job. There are too many people to call by name who helped me. I am so grateful and appreciative for your support.

Let me thank all the clergy who prayed with me, civic organizations, Fayette County Democratic Committee, Fayette Democratic Women, the NAACP, Fayette Chamber of Commerce, all the Home Owner Associations, the Georgia Association of Educators, the Atlanta North Georgia Labor Council, the New Power PAC, Realtors Political Action Committee and all the sororities and fraternities.

I look forward to working with my fellow Commissioners and the staff. I want to commend Allen McCarty for his years of service to the county. In addition, I want to thank all elected officials including State Senator Valencia Seay, Representatives Virgil Fludd and Ronnie Mabra for their leadership, support, and encouragement.

I look forward to serving my district and the citizens of Fayette County. It is my desire for all citizens to have an exceptional quality of life, where we can raise our children in world class schools, obtain gainful employment, increase our home values, grow our economy, protect our environment, and have a safe county.

We must provide more opportunities for our senior citizens and the return of our youth as the next generation for the sustainability of Fayette County.

I will be a bridge builder to work collaboratively with my fellow commissioners, other elected officials and the people of this county and state to make this the best place to live, work, and play.

I am honored and thankful to be your Commissioner and together, we will grow our economy and enhance the quality of life for all citizens.

Working together, we will move Fayette County forward.

God bless Fayette County and God Bless America! Thank you.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Brown adjourned the January 2, 2015 Board of Commissioners meeting at 4:17 p.m. The Board did not vote or provide direction during this meeting.

Photographs with Commissioner Coston will immediately follow after adjournment. (Photos will first be taken with Commissioner Coston's family and Judges Sams and Edwards, followed by the Board of Commissioners, then all others who so desire.)

Commissioner Coston took pictures with many of those in attendance until approximately 5:00 p.m., after which a dinner was held at Broadway Diner.

Floyd L. Jones, County Clerk

Steve Brown, Chairman

The foregoing minutes were duly approved at an official meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Fayette County, Georgia, held on the 22nd day of January 2015.

Floyd L. Jones, County Clerk