

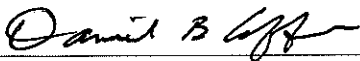
Board of Assessors
Monthly Meeting Minutes
April 8, 2025

*Valuing People
and Property*

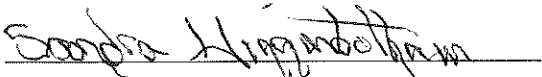
1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Coffee at 2:00 pm at the Tax Assessors Office. A quorum was present including the following: Sandra N. Higginbotham, Bryan Watson, and Lauren A. Harbin, Secretary.
2. Mr. Watson motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Vice-Chair Higginbotham offered the second. There was no discussion. The motion passed 2-0-0.
3. A. Mr. Watson motioned to approve the March 18, 2025 minutes as presented. Vice-Chair Higginbotham seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed 2-0-0.
4. Old Business - None
5. New Business
 - A. A budget update as received from the Board of Commissioners office through February 2025 was presented for review. Mrs. Harbin indicated that the charge for \$850 under the tech support heading was allocated to the wrong department, and the Commissioners office stated that would be corrected in the next report.
 - B. Homestead Applications:
 - i. Homestead exemption applications for 2025 were presented to the Board for approval. Mr. Watson made a motion to approve the homesteads as recommended. Vice-Chair Higginbotham seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. A spreadsheet containing the homesteads will be made a portion of these minutes.
 - ii. Homestead exemption applications for 2026 were presented to the Board for approval. Mr. Watson made a motion to approve the homesteads as recommended. Vice-Chair Higginbotham seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. A spreadsheet containing the homesteads will be made a portion of these minutes.
 - C. Conservation use applications and releases for 2025 were presented to the Board for approval. Mr. Watson made a motion to approve as presented. Vice-Chair Higginbotham second the motion. The motion passed 2-0-0. A listing of the approved applications will be made a portion of these minutes.
 - D. Forest Land Protection applications and releases for 2025 were presented to the Board for approval. Mr. Watson made a motion to approve as presented. Vice-Chair Higginbotham seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0-0. A listing of the approved applications will be made a portion of these minutes.
 - E. Freeport Applications were presented for approval at the 20% rate as resolved by the Board of Commissioners.
 - i. A freeport application was presented for Martin Marietta. Mr. Watson made a motion to approve the homesteads as recommended. Vice-Chair Higginbotham seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- ii. A Freeport application was presented for Junction City Mining. Mr. Watson made a motion to approve the homesteads as recommended. Vice-Chair Higginbotham seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
 - iii. A Freeport application was presented for Robinson Paving. Mr. Watson made a motion to approve the homesteads as recommended. Vice-Chair Higginbotham seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- F. Internal Ratio Studies were presented by Mrs. Harbin. The residential study looked good. The agricultural study had not yet had the timber values deducted. Mrs. Harbin indicated that she believes once the timber is extracted from the sales that those ratios will improve significantly.
- G. Mrs. Harbin presented the Error and Releases to the Board. Mr. Watson made a motion to approve. Vice-Chair Higginbotham seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0-0.
- H. In the Chief Appraiser update Mrs. Harbin discussed HB 92 which cleaned up HB581 and what that will mean for the Tax Assessors office, and Talbot County in general. A copy of HB 92 will be made a portion of these minutes.
- I. In members matters Mr. Watson inquired on the sale of Timberlands II property to the State of Georgia. Mrs. Harbin stated that as of today they had only transferred around 2,000 acres. Mr. Watson requested that she update the Board as more of the property transferred as he believes it when the land transfer is complete it will bring the State of Georgia's holdings in Talbot County above the 20,000 acre threshold. Chairman Coffee invited Mrs. Harbin and the other Board members to attend the Chamber of Commerce meeting on May 13, 2025 stating that Representative Buckner would be there to discuss the legislative session for 2025.
- J. The next scheduled monthly meeting is May 13, 2025, at 2:00pm.
- K. A motion was made by Mr. Watson to adjourn the meeting at 2:43 pm. Vice-Chair Higginbotham seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed 2-0-0. Board members stayed to complete signing of documents until 3:15pm

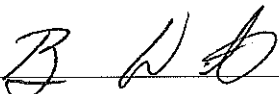
Submitted by Lauren A. Harbin, Secretary



Daniel B. Coffee, Chairman



Sandra N. Higginbotham, Vice-Chair



Bryan Watson, Member