

**PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT MEETING
APRIL 5, 2024 1:30 ANNEX BUILDING**

ATTENDANCE: Chairman Justice Michael White; Justice Neil Burge; Justice Rick Ash; Justice Reggie Cullom; Justice Cecil McDonald; Justice Melinda Martin; Justice Harbans Mangat; Justice Molly Jackson; Justice Betty Hepler; Justice Tobye McClanahan; Assessor Brannah Bibbs; Delta Mass Appraisals Andrew Hargett; Treasurer Candace Nichols; Economic Development Clif Chitwood; Collector Susan Short; County Clerk Janice Currie; Public Affairs Tom Henry; Judge John Alan Nelson; NEA Town Courier Revis Blaylock.

1. Meeting was called to order by Justice Michael White. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss solar farms. Meeting was turned over to Assessor Brannah Bibbs.

2. Assessor Brannah Bibbs handed out information on how on land values were assessed. (See attached). Land values for solar farms may change. They would go from agriculture to commercial. There were no set standards and other counties were not appraising the same way. Property taxes were 20% of the assessed value and then multiplied by the millage. School districts received 80%, 15% county and 5% cities. Assessor Brannah Bibbs said she was having trouble setting a solar number and locations. Discussion was held on abatements. Cities benefit from a 35% tax with pilot agreements.

3. Justice Cullom was concerned that abandoned agriculture land may never be farmed again. All businesses were affected by agriculture. Judge Nelson said we should be good stewards of the county and environment.

4. Justice Jackson requested to table the donation to the Johnny Cash Museum until the next meeting. There were no objections.

5. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Cindy George