

**HARRIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS,  
PINE MOUNTAIN CITY COUNCIL, HAMILTON CITY COUNCIL,  
WEST POINT CITY COUNCIL, WAVERLY HALL CITY COUNCIL,  
AND SHILOH CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING  
Harris County Library Meeting Room  
7511 GA Highway 116, Hamilton  
July 14, 2022  
5:30 p.m.**

In attendance: Becky Langston, Commissioner (Harris County); Bobby Irions, Commissioner (Harris County); Susan Andrews, Commissioner (Harris County); Randy Dowling, County Manager (Harris County); Russell Britt, County Attorney (Harris County); Andrea Dzioba, County Clerk (Harris County); Michael Harris, Mayor (Waverly Hall); Ed Moon, City Manager (West Point).

**CALL TO ORDER.** Commissioner Andrews called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

**RE-NEGOTIATIONS OF LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX (LOST).** Susan Andrews, Commissioner (Harris County) discussed the proposal from Harris County and reviewed the Lost Negotiation details to justify the County's position of keeping the distribution the same including that cities are currently receiving a greater percentage of LOST than if their percentages were based solely on population; that the County provides many County-wide services that the cities benefit from at no cost to them funded in part by County LOST funds; that the County has a large number (978) of active business licenses that generate LOST funds; that the County assists the cities when needed at no or reduced cost to them funded in part by County LOST funds; that some cities have not posted their budgets and audits on the CVIOG TED website as required by State law annually for public review and transparency; and, based on these facts, the County proposes to keep the distribution of LOST funds the same for the next 10-year period.

Michael Harris, Mayor (Waverly Hall), informed the County officials that he would like to see there be more intergovernmental agreements and that Waverly Hall would like to obtain more assistance in maintaining their recreation areas.

Ed Moon, City Manager (West Point), informed that they also have recreation field maintenance and have recently purchased an additional 40 acres to expand; that the city agreed in 2011 to reduce their LOST percentage to help facilitate the agreement back then; and that they feel that they should receive additional LOST but do not have an exact percentage at this time without having the rest of the cities involved in the conversation.

Russell Britt, County Attorney (Harris County), advised that we have 60 days to come to agreement; that if no agreement can be reached, the parties are required to hold a non-binding arbitration/mediation; and that we will need information from other cities to know what our next steps will be moving forward.

Discussion was held that the County would send out a draft of the minutes from this meeting, a copy of the justification information for the County's proposal, and that another date to meet to continue negotiations should be planned.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:18 p.m.