

County Meeting
June 20, 2024 6:00pm
Minutes
Union County Courthouse

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Paris at 6:01pm. The Commissioner welcomed everyone to the meeting. The invocation was then given by Director of the Union County Development Authority, Mitch Griggs, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jeff Edge. The minutes from the May 16, 2024 County Meeting were approved as presented, and attendees were provided copies.

The first item on the agenda was a presentation by Jeff Edge on the services Avita Community Partners provides to the community. Commissioner Paris asked Mr. Edge to come up and his comments are summarized as follows: Mr. Edge said Avita is a not-for-profit organization that serves Union and twelve other counties out of five offices. The Blairsville office serves Towns and Union Counties. Avita serves adults with intellectual developmental disabilities both in their Day Program and their Residential Program. In the Day Program individuals can come to the office at 8:30 in the morning and work on self-improvement, life skills and self-advocacy along with many other things. They can go out with the group or as individuals with staff members to eat in restaurants, go shopping, bowling, and other activities. Mr. Edge is the Residential Director for their Residential Program, and he works with the individuals who live in host homes. Avita selects, maintains and monitors these host home providers to provide a home for individuals with disabilities. Host homes provide individuals with care in the evenings when they are not in the Avita Day Program. The host homes provide a family environment and allow these individuals to live their best life. Avita needs home providers in Union County. Mr. Edge stated there are many benefits to being a host home provider. There are single people, retired couples and young couples who provide these homes. One of the benefits is the satisfaction of knowing you are helping someone other than yourself and you are helping someone who needs your help and appreciates it. The second benefit is that it is a pretty good salary for this area. Host homes can have up to two people in the home, but most of the homes here host only one individual. Hosts are independent contractors for Avita and make a certain amount per month. This salary is for training, supervision, and providing your home. Mr. Edge stated that if any attendees knew of someone interested in the Day Program to have them contact Amber Byers at 828-557-5090. He then said if anyone was interested in becoming a host home to contact him at 470-660-7065. Avita is always happy to have volunteers come and participate in activities or assist with a group activity.

Commissioner Paris came back to the podium and thanked Avita for all they do for the community.

Commissioner Paris accepted an agreement between Union County and the Georgia Department of Transportation for grant funding in the amount of \$158,250.00 for the period of July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 for the FY2025 operation of the Union County Transportation System. Funding in the amount of \$79,125 will be provided by GDOT and Union County will contribute a match of \$79,125. This funding is for Union County's 5311 Transit System operation.

The Commissioner accepted an agreement between Union County and Geo-Hydro Engineers, Inc. for subsurface exploration and engineering reports for the bridge replacement on Old Bald Mountain Road in the amount of \$7,500. The effective date of this agreement is May 24, 2024. This company will collect bored samples from the area where the bridge will be built and provide standard penetrations resistances, detailed soil descriptions, and groundwater conditions. They will then provide an engineering report presenting the results of the exploration along with evaluations and recommendations concerning site preparation, general foundation recommendations, groundwater elevations and their effect on the proposed construction and remedial measures necessary to manage soft or loose soils if they are encountered. This project includes replacing the existing bridge along Old Bald Mountain Road crossing Stink Creek. The replacement of this bridge will not require any detours or closure of roads. All locations to the east and the west of the bridge can be accessed by alternate routes.

Commissioner Paris accepted an agreement between Union County and Carter Engineering Consultants, Inc. for a site development plan and topographic survey for the property located at 296 Shoe Factory Road, commonly known as the Old Shoe Factory, in the amount of \$10,000. The effective date of this agreement is May 28, 2024. The work to be completed by Carter Engineering Consultants, Inc. includes a LiDAR Topographic Survey and a Site Development Plan, which will include a demolition plan, grading plan, and erosion and sediment control plans.

The Commissioner accepted an agreement between Union County and Hibernia Enterprises, Inc. to remove and dispose of asbestos containing materials from the Old Shoe Factory located at 296 Shoe Factory Road in the amount of \$4,220.00. The effective date of this agreement is May 23, 2024. This agreement will include the complete removal and proper disposal of asbestos containing floor tile and mastic exposed and under carpet.

Attendees were provided a copy of the list of Business Licenses issued in Union County from May 12, 2024 to June 16, 2024 for the purpose of operating a Short-term Rental in Union County. The Commissioner approved all Business Licenses contained on the list provided and the list will be made a part of the minutes.

Commissioner Paris accepted a Commitment Letter between Union County and Legacy Link for the required local share during FY-2025 in the amount of \$16,000.00. These funds are used by the Area Agency on Aging as match to draw down the federal and state monies for administration, coordination, information and referral, employment and training of older workers and volunteer programs at the Union County Senior Center.

The Commissioner accepted a grant agreement from the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency awarding Union County \$28,430 to update the Union County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. Union County will be responsible for 6% of the cost or \$1,731.55 and 90% of the cost will be covered by Federal Funds and 4% being covered by State Funds. This award duration is from April 4, 2024 to May 2, 2026. Fire Chief David Dyer was not present to speak regarding this grant award due to being on a search and rescue of a gentleman who was lost in Cooper's Creek. The gentleman was fishing in Cooper's Creek with a cane and wearing flip flops. He did not meet up with his party where he was supposed to last

night and they have been searching for him ever since. Commissioner Paris asked everyone to keep this gentleman and his family in their prayers.

Commissioner Paris adopted Resolution R-2024-11 to amend the FY2023 Budget from \$25,458,054 to \$28,477,518 as per State and Federal reporting requirements. This is something the County does every year that is required by accounting standards.

In accordance with O.C.G.A. 32-7-2(b)(1) Union County Government issued first notice to abandon 0.55 acres of Ivy Log Road in Union County, commonly referred to as Old Ivy Log Road. This road has not been utilized as a county road and has not been maintained by Union County since Ivy Log Road was rerouted in or around 1979. A plat will be recorded as part of the minutes.

In accordance with O.C.G.A. 32-7-2(b)(1) Union County Government issued first notice to abandon 0.27 acres of what used to be Lows Mill Road. This road has not been utilized as a county road and has not been maintained by Union County in an estimated 15 years. A plat will be recorded as part of the minutes.

Commissioner Paris accepted a contract between Freeman Gas and Union County for propane services in the amount of \$1.189 per gallon from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025.

The next four items on the agenda were all Accountability Court Grants and the Commissioner approved all four grants. The grant period for each is July 1, 2024 (Commissioner Paris misspoke by saying January) to June 30, 2025.

Grant No. J25-8-022 - Adult Felony Drug Courts South in the amount of \$355,296.

Grant No. J25-8-023 - Adult Felony Drug Courts North in the amount of \$246,194.

Grant No. J25-8-066 - Mental Health Court in the amount of \$209,535.

Grant No. J25-8-117 - Family Drug Court in the amount of \$208,059.

Commissioner Paris accepted a Lease Agreement between Union County and the State Properties Commission for the Department of Driver Services for the address of 37 Chase Drive, Blairsville, Georgia, 30512 containing 1,440 square feet of office space. This lease has an effective date of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 in the amount of \$1.00 annually. The Commissioner advised that this lease was just now being approved even though the term was almost up. This was due to delays in Union County and the Department of Drivers Services coming to an agreement on some of the terms of the lease.

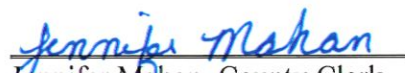
The Commissioner then accepted a lease amendment between Union County and the State Properties Commission for the Department of Driver Services for the address of 37 Chase Drive, Blairsville, Georgia, 30512 containing 1,440 square feet of office space. This lease amendment has an effective date of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 in the amount of \$1.00 annually. This is an extension of the last lease that was just approved in the previous agenda item.

Commissioner Paris provided attendees with an update on a few of the projects Union County Government has been working on. Fisher Field Bridge, off of Highway 180, was completed and open on Tuesday of this week. The Road Department did some adjacent paving. There is still a

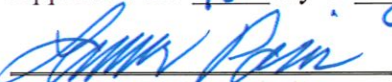
couple of things that need to be completed for a couple of property owners who gave the County right of way to complete the bridge replacement project. This will make the property owners' yards whole again. The Gun Range Ribbon Cutting is on June 27, 2024, and the official opening day will be June 28, 2024. Commissioner Paris said he is really excited this will be opening. The Recreation Programs are going wide open, and several teams have been going to state and district. They have competed and won some of those as well. Staff goes from one ball game to another and between different sports: baseball, softball, volleyball and pickleball. The Commissioner reminded everyone that the millage rate for Union County is the 2nd lowest in the State of Georgia out of 159 counties. This is something that all county departments and county employees work hard to keep the millage rate one of the lowest in the State. It is still not free, but by working hard the county keeps the rate as low as possible. Union County does not have any debt and has not for a few years. At the same time between SPLOST, property taxes and other taxes the County is maintained, and the infrastructure is in good shape.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:


Jennifer Mahan, County Clerk

Approved this 18th day of July, 2024


Lamar Paris, Commissioner



**New Union County Short-term Rental Licensees Issues
May 13, 2024 – June 16, 2024**

**AGUILAR CARLOS ENRIQUE CUCALON/ MARIA
TERESA BETTAGLIO & ANA RAQUEL CUCALON**

589 Copperhead Pkwy
Blairsville, FL 30512

Double Creek Cabin, LLC

24 Wood Hill Dr
Blairsville, GA 30512

GORMAN BRYAN & MELISSA NORTHROP TRUST

292 Brannon Ridge
Young Harris, GA 30582

MCCOMBS DON A & PAULA T

12 Garr Bear
Blairsville, GA 30512

Ty O'Toole

220 Grizzle creek rd
suches, GA 30527

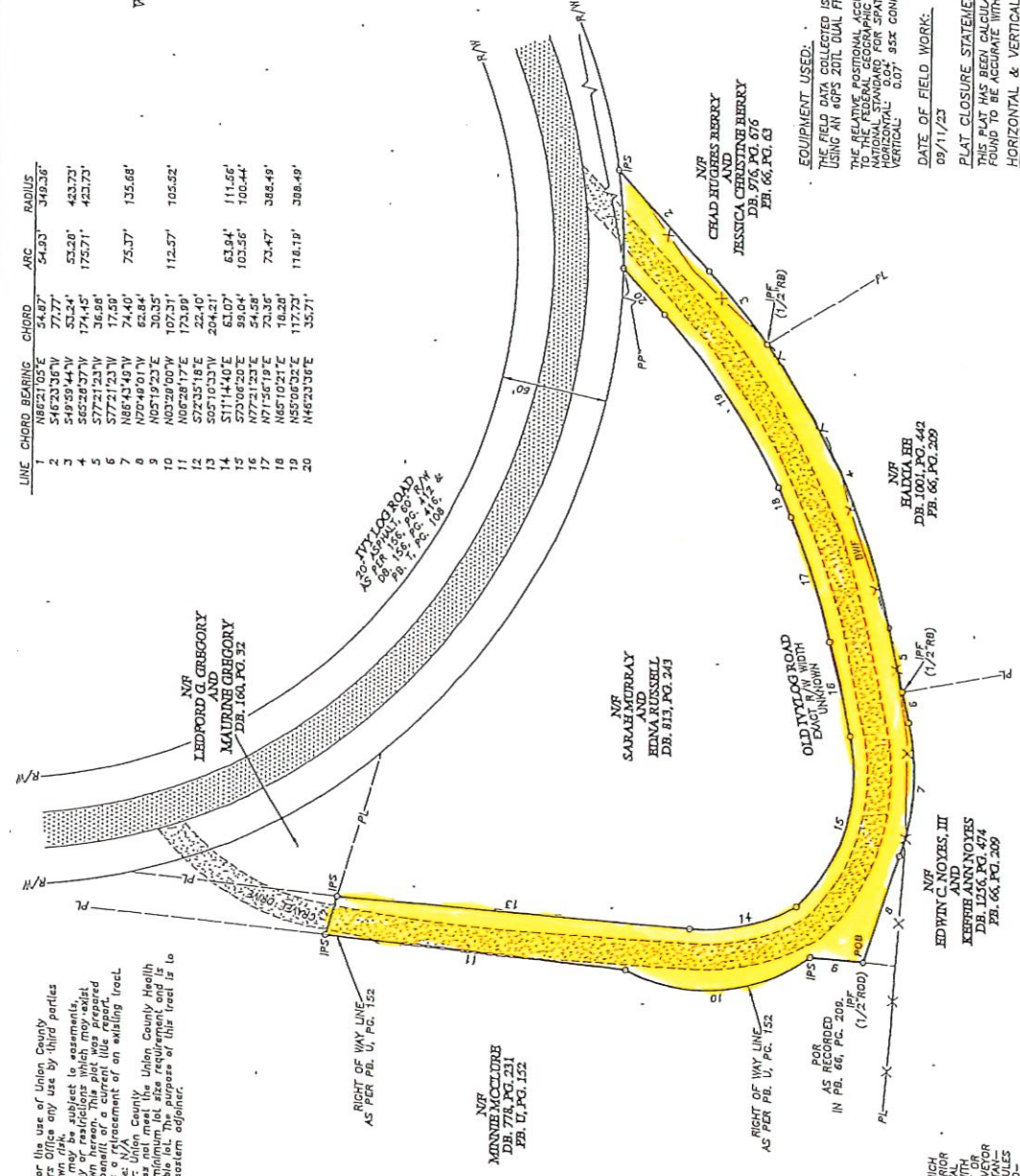
B2003000262
 BK:74 PG:104-164
 FILED IN OFFICE
 CLERK OF COURT
 10/05/2023 07:07 AM
 JUDY ODOM, CLERK
 SUPERIOR COURT
 UNION COUNTY, GA

THIS BLOCK RECORDED FOR THE CLERK
 OF SUPERIOR COURT.

- NOTES:
1. This plot is for the use of Union County Commissioners Office only use by third parties.
 2. This property may be subject to easements, rights of way or restrictions which may exist without the benefit of a current survey.
 3. This survey is a placement of an existing tract.
 4. Current owners are Union County Department, minimum lot size requirement, and is to add to the eastern adjoiner.

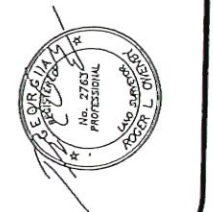
- LEGEND
- BLVF - BARBER WIRE FENCE
 - CL - CENTER LINE
 - CMR - CORRUGATED METAL PIPE
 - EX - EXHAUST
 - FL - FINE HYDRANT
 - IP - IRON PIN FOUND
 - LL - LAND LOT SET (1/2" RB)
 - LL - LAND LOT CORNER
 - LLC - LAND LOT CORNER
 - LL - LAND LOT LINE
 - LL - NEW WOODEN POST FOUND
 - OP - OPEN TOP PIPE
 - PP - POWER POLE
 - POB - POINT OF BEGINNING
 - POC - POINT OF COMMENCEMENT
 - PL - PROPERTY INTEREST
 - PL - PLAT BOOK, PAGE
 - PL - RIGHT OF WAY
 - RCF - ROCK CORNER FOUND
 - TE - TELEPHONE BOX
 - WM - WATER METER
 - WV - WATER VALVE

LINE	CHORD BEARING	CHORD	ARC	RADIUS
1	N86°21'05"E	54.87'	54.83'	349.36'
2	S46°23'06"W	77.77'	53.20'	423.73'
3	S49°58'44"W	53.24'	175.71'	423.73'
4	S62°28'57"W	174.45'	75.37'	135.68'
5	S77°21'23"W	36.98'	112.57'	105.52'
6	S77°21'23"W	17.58'	63.94'	111.65'
7	N86°43'49"W	74.40'	103.56'	100.44'
8	N29°49'01"W	62.84'	73.47'	368.49'
9	N05°19'23"E	30.35'	118.19'	368.49'
10	N03°28'00"W	107.31'	118.19'	368.49'
11	N03°28'00"W	123.98'	118.19'	368.49'
12	S73°35'18"E	224.01'	118.19'	368.49'
13	S05°10'33"W	204.21'	118.19'	368.49'
14	S11°44'40"E	63.07'	63.94'	111.65'
15	S72°08'20"E	99.04'	103.56'	100.44'
16	N77°21'23"E	54.58'	73.47'	368.49'
17	N71°56'19"E	73.35'	73.47'	368.49'
18	N52°10'21"E	16.28'	118.19'	368.49'
19	N52°06'32"E	117.75'	118.19'	368.49'
20	N46°23'06"E	35.71'	118.19'	368.49'



TOTAL AREA: 0.55 ACRES

PLAT OF SURVEY FOR:
 UNION COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OFFICE
 LOCATED IN
 LAND LOT 118,
 9th DISTRICT, 1st SECTION,
 UNION COUNTY, GEORGIA



ROGER L. OMENY CA. RLS #27633
 DATE 9-22-23

NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION	REVISIONS

CLEVELAND & COX
 LAND SURVEYING, LLC.
 P.O. BOX 474, BLAINSVILLE, GA 30111
 842 HUNTER HIGHWAY, BLAINSVILLE, GA 30112
 OFFICE (706) 745-7474

DRAWN BY: GFC
 DATE: 09/19/23
 PRO: B205077.222

SCALE: 1"=50' 0" 25' 50' 100'

SHEET 1 OF 1
 JOB# B205077.222.00

EQUIPMENT USED:
 THE FIELD DATA COLLECTED IS BASED UPON GPS OBSERVATION USING AN 40PS 2011 DUAL FREQUENCY GEODEIC GNSS RECEIVER. THE RELATIVE POSITIONAL ACCURACY AS CALCULATED ACCORDING TO THE FEDERAL GEOGRAPHIC DATA COMMITTEE PART 2: HORIZONTAL: 0.07 95% CONFIDENCE LEVEL
 VERTICAL: 0.07 95% CONFIDENCE LEVEL

DATE OF FIELD WORK:
 09/11/23

PLAT CLOSURE STATEMENT:
 THIS PLAT HAS BEEN CALCULATED FOR CLOSURE AND IS FOUND TO BE ACCURATE WITHIN ONE FOOT IN 150,000 FT. HORIZONTAL & VERTICAL DATUM.

HORIZONTAL: NORTH AMERICAN DATUM OF 1983(2011)
 VERTICAL: NORTH AMERICAN VERTICAL DATUM OF 1988
 ORTHOMETRIC HEIGHTS WERE COMPUTED USING GEOID 12A
 DISTANCES SHOWN ARE HORIZONTAL UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. THE DATUMS FOR THIS SURVEY WAS ESTABLISHED UTILIZING GLOBAL NAVIGATION SATELLITE SYSTEM (GNSS).

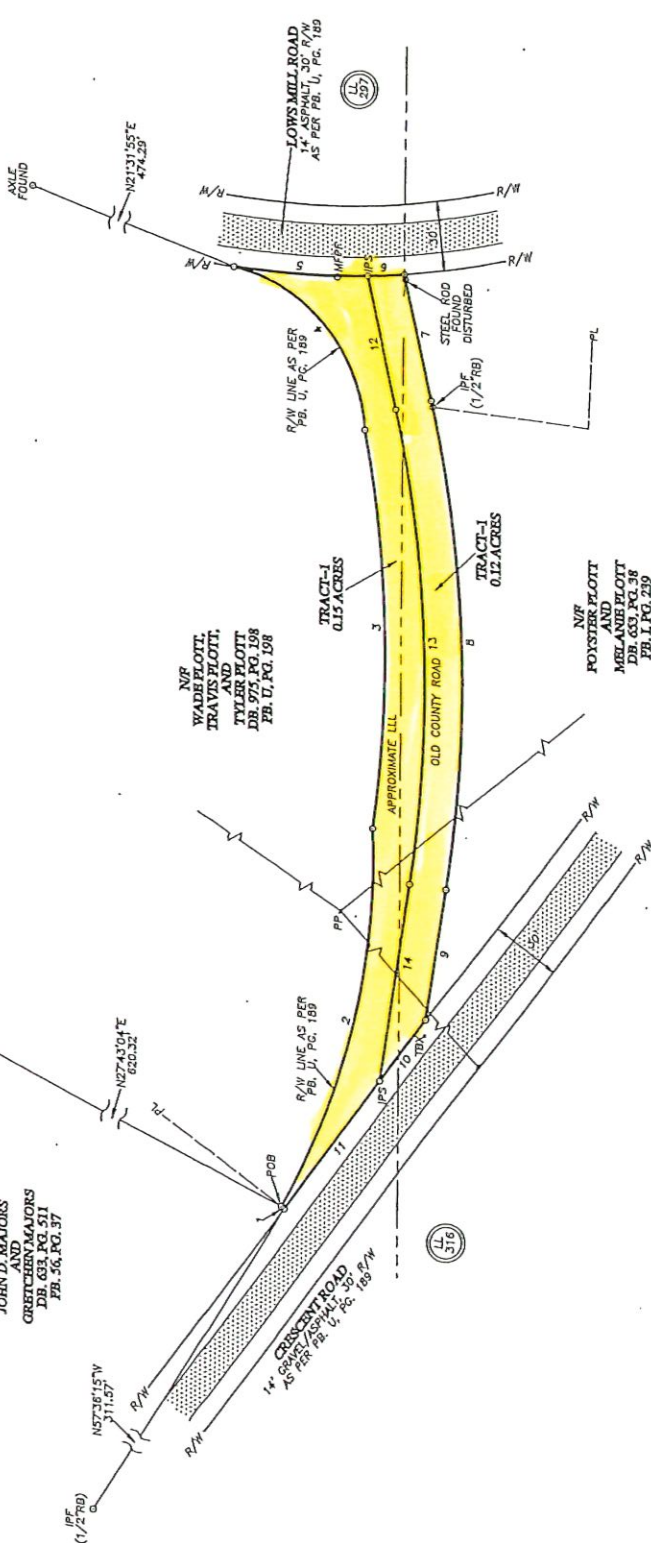
P2024000143
 BK:74 PG:383-383
 FILED IN OFFICE
 CLERK OF COURT
 06/18/2024 06:51 AM
 JUDY ODOM, CLERK
 SUPERIOR COURT
 UNION COUNTY, GA

Judy Odom
 CLERK OF COURT
 THIS BLOCK RESERVED FOR THE CLERK
 OF SUPERIOR COURT.

- NOTES:
 1. This plat is for the use of Union County.
 2. It is at their own risk, only use by third parties.
 3. Right of way may be subject to easements, and not shown hereon. This plat was prepared without the benefit of a current title report.
 4. Source of title: DB, 82, PG. 378
 5. Current owner: H.O. Platt

- LEGEND
 --- BARBED WIRE FENCE
 --- CENTER LINE
 --- CORRUGATED METAL PIPE
 --- EASEMENT PAGE
 --- FIRE HYDRANT
 --- IRON PIN FOUND
 --- LAND LOT SET (1/2" RB)
 --- LIGHT POLE
 --- LAND LOT CORNER
 --- METAL FENCE POST FOUND
 --- OPEN TOP PIPE
 --- POWER POLE
 --- POINT OF BEGINNING
 --- POINT OF COMMENCEMENT
 --- PROPERTY LINE
 --- PLAT BOOK, PAGE
 --- RIGHT OF WAY
 --- ROCK CORNER FOUND
 --- SERVICE POLE
 --- WATER METER
 --- WATER VALVE

LINE	CHORD BEARING	CHORD	APC	RADIUS
1	N38°48'22"E	1.58		
2	S76°23'12"E	166.89	169.18'	296.48'
3	N88°26'38"E	171.22	172.04'	506.17'
4	S50°02'29"E	91.57	97.97'	77.49'
5	S03°42'52"W	59.55	59.02'	358.92'
6	S77°10'36"W	55.21	16.23'	358.92'
7	S07°52'25"W	210.11	211.33'	505.88'
8	N81°25'47"W	56.53		
9	N52°25'09"W	32.95		
10	N52°35'02"W	68.99		
11	S77°10'36"W	58.88		
12	S87°52'25"W	204.17	205.37'	550.00'
13	N81°25'47"W	85.34		
14				




EQUIPMENT USED:
 THE FIELD DATA COLLECTED IS BASED UPON GPS OBSERVATION, CONNECTED TO THE GPS GROUND STATION NETWORK.
 THE RELATIVE POSITIONAL ACCURACY, AS CALCULATED ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL STANDARD FOR SPATIAL DATA ACCURACY (NSRS 06), IS:
 HORIZONTAL: 0.04' 95% CONFIDENCE LEVEL
 VERTICAL: 0.07'
 DATE OF FIELD WORK: 05/15/24

PLAT CLOSURE STATEMENT:
 THIS PLAT HAS BEEN CALCULATED FOR CLOSURE AND IS FOUND TO BE ACCURATE WITHIN ONE FOOT IN 163,947 FT. HORIZONTAL & VERTICAL DATUM:
 HORIZONTAL: NORTH AMERICAN DATUM OF 1983 (2011) GEORGIA STATE PLANNING COMMISSION
 VERTICAL: NORTH AMERICAN VERTICAL DATUM OF 1988
 UNIT OF MEASUREMENT: FEET
 DISTANCES SHOWN ARE HORIZONTAL AT GROUND LEVEL
 CLASSED FOR THIS SURVEY WAS ESTABLISHED UTILIZING POSITIVE MEASUREMENTS TO THE VERTICAL REFERENCE STATION NETWORK (VRS) PROVIDED BY GPS SOLUTIONS.

UNION COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OFFICE
 PLAT OF SURVEY FOR:
 LOCATED IN
 LAND LOTS 297 & 319,
 9th DISTRICT, 1st SECTION,
 UNION COUNTY, GEORGIA

NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION
REVISIONS		


CLEVELAND & COX
 LAND SURVEYING, LLC
 P.O. BOX 474, BLAIRSVILLE, GA 30514
 842 MURPHY HIGHWAY, BLAIRSVILLE, GA 30512
 OFFICE (706) 743-7474
 LSF915
 SHEET 1 OF 1
 SCALE: 1"=40'
 GRAPHIC SCALE: 0 20 40 60'
 DRAWN BY: GFC
 DATE: 05/30/24
 PROJ: B212114.006
 JOB# B21604.002.00

SURVEYORS CERTIFICATION
 THE PROPERTY HEREON LIES COMPLETELY WITHIN A JURISDICTION WHICH DOES NOT REVEY OR APPROVE ANY PLAT OR THIS TYPE OF PLAT PRIOR TO THE DATE OF RECORDATION. THE SURVEYOR HAS REVIEWED THE LOCAL REGULATIONS OR REQUIREMENTS OR SUITABILITY FOR ANY USE OR CERTIFICATE THAT THIS PLAT COMPLES WITH THE MINIMUM TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR PROPERTY SURVEYS IN GEORGIA AS SET FORTH IN THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS AS SET FORTH IN O.C.G.A. SECTION 15-6-67.
R. L. O'NEARY
 ROGER L. O'NEARY GA. RLS #2763
 No. 2763
 PROFESSIONAL
 ROGER L. O'NEARY