

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

February 20, 2017

Present: Dan McCranie, Chairman

William T. Howell, Jr., Vice-Chairman and District 1 Commissioner

Terry Niblett, District 2 Commissioner

Brian Watkins, District 3 Commissioner

Karen Cheek, District 4 Commissioner

Also Present: Bobby Peacock, County Manager

Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Silas Harrington, Legal Counsel

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, February 20, 2017, in Suite 101 of the Dodge County Courthouse Annex. Chairman Dan McCranie called the meeting to order and led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag. Commissioner Cheek gave the devotional and Commissioner Watkins prayed.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

Sharon Cobb Flanagan reported that the Dodge County Farmers Market was open Saturday and even with the rain vendors sold out of produce. She also reported that the seven (7) green signs had been funded and the market would be an official Peaches to Beaches vendor site. She said there will be a food demonstration on carrots at the market on March 11th.

Charles Williams presented the final lease payment on the spec building to the county manager.

Approval of Minutes

A. February 6, 2017 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections or deletions to the minutes of the regular meeting held on February 6, 2017. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve seconded by Commissioner Watkins. All voted in favor of approval.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked the board to look over the Accounts Payable checklist for questions or comments. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the payments seconded by Commissioner Cheek. The vote was unanimous to approve.

B. Approve Solid Waste Plan

County Manager Peacock asked the board to pass a resolution to approve the joint solid waste plan for Dodge County, Chauncey, Chester, Eastman, Milan and Rhine through the Altamaha Regional Commission which he said was an extension of the previous plan. After discussion and questions from the audience, Commissioner Niblett made a motion to table the matter for further review of the plan. Commissioner Howell seconded the motion and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

C. Name Road

Commissioner Niblett expressed concern that if the county named the road it might lead to further implications about issues with the road and motioned that the matter be tabled. The second to his motion came from Commissioner Howell and the vote was unanimous to table.

D. Gresston Fire Department

Commissioner Howell reminded the board that a few weeks back the Gresston Fire Department had presented a request for ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) from SPLOST funds but was denied because they only had \$5,300.00 available. He said that since that time they had raised two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) and were now requesting eight thousand dollars (\$8,000.00) to finish work on the station so the trucks could be secured. Howell made a motion to allow the request and Commissioner Niblett seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Niblett said he had attended the Dodge County Livestock show earlier in the day and there were some good cattle and hogs shown.

Chairman McCranie thanked the board for their support during the recent death of his father in law.

County Manager Report

The county manager had nothing to report and there were no questions for him.

Public Comments

Kelly Belflower of the Roddy community told the board that the standing fire chief of the Roddy Fire Department had been arrested and charged with taking several thousand dollars from the fire

department and using it for his personal expenses. He asked that the board audit the fire departments and examine the bylaws of the organizations. He said in this particular case the fire chief's wife was the treasurer and the funds disbursed were solely at their discretion. He said the new fire chief for Roddy was Kevin Cranford and the books were being kept separate and checks written by a bookkeeper at no charge. Chairman McCranie said the attorney was working on the matter and the board thanked him for making them aware of the situation.

Belflower also asked about the situation with Hobbs Road and said parts of it were impassable. Legal counsel Silas Harrington said there were no updates from EPD or EPA on the road. He also asked that the speeding on the Roddy Highway be checked. He said that many log trucks use the road and the section of the road that ran into Bleckley County had a speed limit of forty-five (45) miles per hour.

Adjourn

Commissioner Howell made a motion that the meeting adjourn with Commissioner Watkins making the second. The vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting.