

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

April 4, 2016

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: John Harrington, County Attorney
Bobby Peacock, County Manager
Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, April 4, 2016, in Suite 101 of the Dodge County Courthouse Annex. Chairman McCranie called the meeting to order and led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag. Commissioner Cheek gave the devotional and prayer.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

Judge Mullis told the board that a matter the judges have interest in was tabled at the last meeting. He said that drug funds are collected and kept in county funds. He said the circuit was on the verge of having to establish a drug court with a proposed skeleton budget and contracted alternative treatment for mental health services with CSB of Dublin (formerly Community Mental Health) who would provide testing and counseling. He said the budget for a full year would be \$175,000 to \$190,000 and the local share approximately one-tenth (1/10) of that. He said the proposed resolution would give the courts equal say so on how the funds are spent.

Henry Whitfield representing Middle Georgia State University asked the board to sponsor the Middle Georgia Air Show as an entertainment sponsor with a financial contribution of \$5,000.

Charles Williams of the Eastman Dodge Chamber of Commerce asked the board to support Middle Georgia State University and the air show. He presented a check for \$4,000 from the Eastman-Dodge County Development Authority representing payment for February and March.

Sharon Flanagan of the Dodge County Farmers Market reported on the success of the opening day for the market with over five hundred (500) people attending and some vendors selling out early. The local FFA club made six trips to the greenhouse to replenish plants that were selling well. She said the FFA club also made picnic tables for the event and they will stay at the

location. She said craft vendors did well and also the meats did well. She asked the board for a motion for sponsorship and said the support would be well appreciated.

Milton Johnson, City of Eastman Councilman, was recognized as present but had no comments.

Approval of Minutes

A. March 21, 2016 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections, or deletions to the minutes of the regular meeting held on April 4, 2016, and presented to each board member in printed form. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve seconded by Commissioner Cheek. All voted in favor of approval.

Old Business

A. MGSU Air Show Sponsorship

Commissioner Cheek made a motion to sponsor the air show with a five thousand dollar (\$5,000) contribution highlighting that it was the twentieth anniversary of the aviation school as well as the fiftieth anniversary of the airport. Commissioner Niblett seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous to sponsor the show.

B. Hosford Road Closing

Commissioner Niblett said the public hearing was to be held at the second meeting in April. John Harrington, County Attorney, concurred and said he had delivered the notice to the newspaper.

C. Drug Fund Resolution

Attorney Harrington cited Georgia statutes allowing expenses to be paid from state funds. Commissioner Howell made a motion to adopt the resolution proposed by Judge Mullis. Commissioner Niblett seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous for passage.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked the board to look over the printed list of checks for Accounts Payable and ask any questions or make comments. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve seconded by Commissioner Howell. All voted in favor of the motion.

B. Lydia Daniels – Proclamation Fourth Annual Bible Reading Marathon

Ms. Daniels passed out the original proclamation to all board members for their signature as well as a copy for each. She asked for participation in the event scheduled for April 29th through May 4th. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve the proclamation with Commissioner Howell making the second. The vote to approve was unanimous.

C. Recreation Department

Travis Niblett asked the board to allow an expenditure of \$8,000 from SPLOST funds for a utility vehicle. He said the vehicle was a Mahindra 750S gas model to be purchased from Jay Rogers at Eastman Equipment Company and retailed for \$14,000. However Rogers would sell vehicle to the Recreation Department at a cost of \$8,000 with the remainder in sponsorships and advertising from the Recreation Department. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the purchase seconded by Commissioner Watkins. Commissioner Cheek asked if bids had been received for the utility vehicle. Travis Niblett replied that he did have several spec sheets on those types of vehicles but no technical bids were taken one the sponsorship proposal was made. He said he could bid the vehicle if necessary. Commissioners Howell, Watkins, and Cheek voted in favor of the motion and it passed. Commissioner Niblett abstained from the vote.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Cheek made a motion to fund the Farmers Market with a sponsorship of \$1,000. Commissioner Niblett seconded her motion and there was a unanimous vote for approval.

County Manager Report

The County Manager had nothing to report and there were no questions for him.

Public Comments

Ruby McKinnon of District 3, Fred Bohannon Road asked the board to assess the condition of that road and give consideration to repairs and paving of the road. Milton Johnson, Eastman Councilman asked how many homeowners lived on the road. Commissioner Cheek said she would check on help through CDBG grant funding.

Sharon Flanagan thanked the board for the motion and sponsorship of the Farmers Market. She said she hoped to see them again at the market on Saturday.

Henry Whitfield thanked the board as well for the sponsorship of the Air Show.

Adjourn

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion, all voted in favor, and the meeting was adjourned.