

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

April 20, 2015

Present: Dan McCranie, Chairman

William T. Howell, Jr., Vice-Chairman, 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 20, 2015, in Suite 101 of the Dodge County Courthouse Annex.

Chairman McCranie called the meeting to order and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag. Commissioner Cheek gave the devotional and prayed.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

A. Senior Superior Court Judge Mullis

Judge Mullis addressed the board regarding the state of repair and functionality of the courthouse. He noted that District Attorney Tim Vaughn was present and concurred with his report. He said the new Probate Judge wants to hold court in the Grand Jury room and the first priority should be blinds, curtains and addressing the plaster peeling off the wall. He said since the Sheriff Office had left there was a need for lighting and security around the courthouse. He said the sidewalk that was dug up for sewer line repairs needed attention. He said there were changes that needed to be made within the courtroom including expanding the jury box to accommodate older and heavier persons. He said Governor Deal was imposing Accountability Courts on many circuits for drug, child support, and mental health cases. He said if approved for the Oconee Judicial Circuit that court would be located in Dodge County and would require a dedicated courtroom. He suggested development of a long range plan to include a possible annex near the courthouse with space for new employees and updated storage and modernization.

Chairman McCranie thanked him for his report and said the board would look into the situation.

Approval of Minutes

A. April 6, 2015 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie called for any additions, corrections or deletions to the minutes of the April 6, 2015 regular meeting presented to the board members in printed form. Commissioner Niblett

made a motion to approve as presented seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The vote was unanimous to approve.

Old Business

A. Library Building Roof

Chairman McCranie asked if there were any updates and Commissioner Niblett said no. Mrs.

Anne Bowen, Library Director, was asked if she had an update and her reply was no.

Commissioner Niblett asked that it be tabled again until the next meeting.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked the board to review the Accounts Payable check list and for any questions. Commissioner Cheek asked about check number 17388 to the Dodge County Sheriff Department for \$1,190.50. County Manager Peacock said it was reimbursement to the department for a repair bill to one of the patrol cars. Commissioner Niblett asked about check number 17384 to BFE Marketing Inc for December 2014 installation and service contract. The county manager said the invoice was received a week or so ago. Commissioner Howell asked if the check to Valley Services Inc. for \$29,593.03 was for multiple months and the reply was yes. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable check list seconded by Commissioner Howell. All voted in favor of approval.

B. Mental Health Contract

Chairman McCranie presented the Mental Health Contract received annually from the Community Service Board of Middle Georgia. The county manager commented that it was the same contract as last year and the same amount to be paid in monthly installments. A motion was made by Commissioner Howell to approve seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The vote was unanimous to approve.

C. Bush Cutter Purchase

County Manager Peacock said there was a need for a second bush cutter and he was searching for a used cutter in the \$30,000 to \$50,000 range. Commissioner Watkins said a cutter with low hours could be found on online auction sites but approval from the board to bid would be needed. Attorney Harrington said since the auction sites were government websites approval could be granted. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve bidding up to \$60,000 for the right cutter. Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Commissioner Reports

There were no reports from the board.

County Manager Reports

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

Public Comments

Carolyn Hilburn of 408 Troy Road addressed the board about problems with trash and stray dogs on the road and the need for signs for children playing and clean up in the area.

Susan Coffee commented on Judge Mullis' request for the courthouse and the curb and gutter situation on Highway 341.

Executive Session

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to enter into Executive Session for Legal Matters and Personnel. Commissioner Niblett seconded the motion and all voted in favor of the motion.

Commissioner Howell made a motion to return to the regular meeting at the conclusion of the Executive Session. Commissioner Niblett seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Adjourn

With no further business or motions to come before the board, Commissioner Howell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Niblett seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous to adjourn.