

## **Minutes**

### **Dodge County Board of Commissioners**

**June 17, 2013**

**Present:** Dan McCranie, Chairman  
William T. Howell, Jr., Vice-Chairman, Comm. Dist. 1  
Terry Niblett, Comm. Dist. 2  
Brian Watkins, Comm. Dist. 3  
Karen Cheek, Comm. Dist. 4

**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, June 17, 2013, in Suite 101 of the Dodge County Courthouse Annex.

Chairman Dan McCranie called the meeting to order. After the pledge of allegiance, Commissioner Karen Cheek gave the devotional. Commissioner Brian Watkins gave the prayer.

#### **Elected Officials/ Department Heads**

Fire Chief Lee Kirkland of the Dodge County Firefighters Association informed the board that they had received approval on June 7<sup>th</sup> for a grant of \$107,520 requiring a five percent (5%) match. He was asking the county to provide the matching funds so they would be able to upgrade the radio system with the grant funds and not use the county funds previously approved by the board. Commissioner Terry Niblett made a motion to approve the request for the five percent match. Commissioner William Howell seconded the motion. Commissioners Howell, Niblett and Cheek voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Brian Watkins abstained from the vote because the fire chief is his brother-in-law.

County Attorney John Harrington gave a report from Sheriff Lynn Sheffield, who was delayed by court proceedings at the courthouse. He said leaks in the new jail had persisted with recent rains and the construction company was sending a sealing specialist tomorrow to resolve the problem with the roof. He said as of today, Synergistics had provided no figures to him for the new software.

## **Approval of Minutes**

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, deletions, or corrections to the minutes of the regular meeting held on June 3, 2013. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the minutes as presented seconded by Commissioner Howell. The vote was unanimous to approve the minutes.

## **Old Business:**

### A. Jail Update

This item presented under Elected Officials/ Department Heads by County Attorney.

### B. Sheriff Department Software

This item presented under Elected Officials/ Department Heads by County Attorney.

### C. Appointments

Chairman McCranie informed the board that an incorrect procedure was used to appoint Hospital Authority board members at the last meeting and made a motion to rescind the appointments made at the June 3, 2013, regular meeting. Commissioner Howell seconded the motion. During discussion County Attorney Harrington explained to the board that in 1993 local legislation was introduced by Don McCranie and Terry Coleman that called for three names to be submitted to the hospital board for acceptance. If any of the three was not accepted, then three more could be submitted. If the second three were not approved, the county could appoint one (1) member to the board. He said as a technical matter, appointments had not been done right since 1993. He said the board could submit three names to start the procedure or go forward with appointments. He said he also represents the hospital board and they have not met since the appointments were made. Cindy Mullis of the Dodge County News asked for a clarification of the law and Attorney Harrington replied there were to be three names per position submitted. Commissioner Cheek asked when the hospital board went from seven to nine members. Hospital Administrator Kevin Bierschenk replied in 2001. Commissioner Cheek then asked if there was legal recourse for the improper appointments and what the term limits were for the hospital authority. She said the new appointee from the Board of Commissioners to the Hospital Authority was a person of integrity and she would not serve unless she was properly appointed and accepted by the hospital authority. Chairman McCranie called for a vote and all voted in favor of the motion.

Chairman McCranie said he had received names of several volunteers to serve on the Ocmulgee River Water Trail Partnership. They were Jimmy Joines, Brian Mullis, Glenn Maddox and Donnie Screws. Commissioner Terry Niblett nominated Joines and Mullis to serve as members and Maddox and Screws to serve as alternates. Commissioner Cheek seconded the nominations.

Commissioner Howell made a motion to close nominations seconded by Terry Niblett. The vote was unanimous to approve the appointees. County Manager Peacock added that there would be a meeting at Town's Bluff in Uvalda on Tuesday, June 18, 2013 and the new appointees were encouraged to attend.

#### D. SPLOST Referendum

Chairman McCranie stated the first open meeting of the SPLOST Referendum renewal was held on Thursday, June 13 at 6:00 p.m. Local cities and towns were well represented and a second open meeting would be held on Tuesday, July 2 at 6 p.m.

#### E. Woodmen of the World Insurance – Wayne Cartwright

Wayne Cartwright was recognized as being present and spoke briefly about the new products being offered by Woodmen of the World. No recommendation or motion was made.

### **New Business:**

#### A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Commissioner Cheek asked questions about check numbers 12698, 12691, 12682, 12733, and 12778 and commented on check number 12750 in the amount of \$17,745 to Bleckley County LEC to house inmates. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the account payables. Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to approve the accounts payable list.

#### B. Judy Madden/ Rebecca McWilliam-Resource Team Visit

Chairman McCranie announced Madden and McWilliam were unable to attend and would reschedule at the next meeting.

### **Commissioner Reports**

Nothing presented by Commissioners.

### **County Manager Report**

The county manager reported that during a recent thunderstorm lightning struck the scales at the landfill. He had received the following bids:

- B&D           \$3,774 plus labor
- S&S           \$3,205 includes labor

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to accept the low bid. Commissioner Howell seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to accept the low bid.

## **Adjourn**

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to adjourn seconded by Commissioner Howell. All voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.