

## **Minutes**

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

**August 20, 2012**

**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, August 20, 2012, in Suite 101 of the Dodge County Courthouse Annex.

Chairman Dan McCranie called the meeting to order. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a devotional and prayer by Commissioner Karen Cheek.

#### **Elected Officials & Department Heads:**

Recreation Director Bodie Gray was recognized.

#### **Approval of Minutes:**

William Howell made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 6, 2012, regular meeting as presented. Terry Niblett seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous and the minutes were approved.

#### **Old Business:**

##### **A. Workforce Investment Board Appointment**

Commissioner Brian Watkins asked William Howell, Jr. if he was willing to continue to serve on the WIA Board. Commissioner Howell responded that he was. Commissioner Karen Cheek made a motion to appoint William Howell, Jr. with a second by Commissioner Brian Watkins. Vote was unanimous and motion carried.

#### B. Council on Aging Appointment

Chairman McCranie remarked that the vacancy was due to the resignation of the current appointee. Terry Niblett made a motion to table the appointment until the next meeting. William Howell seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous and motion carried.

#### C. MPI Fiber Networks Contract Feasibility Study

County Attorney John Harrington told the commissioners that Terry Drury of MPI had requested additional papers stating that the study was a non-solicited proposal. Mr. Harrington is preparing the papers for Chairman McCranie to sign and Mr. Drury will be in Eastman to pick them up on Thursday.

#### D. Update on grinder for new jail

County Manager Bobby Peacock stated that he had talked with Mark Studstill before the meeting and there was nothing new to report on the grinder situation.

### **New Business:**

#### A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Commissioner Karen Cheek asked if the postage meter was leased and if the payments to AT&T for phone service could be charged to the various departments. Bobby Peacock replied that the meter was leased and the phone charges are allocated to the various departments but only one check is issued. She also said the expense for office supplies was fragmented and could there be one central supply for office supplies. Mr. Peacock stated that the County Officials were considered separate entities and each official purchases their own supplies.

#### B. Audit Report

The county attorney had presented his letter to the commissioners prior to the meeting concerning questions from Frank Erwin about pending litigation. Terry Niblett made a motion to table the matter since there had not been sufficient time for review. Karen Cheek seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous and motion carried.

#### C. Firefighter's Association

Brian Watkins made a motion to restore \$5,460 to the 2012 budget for the Rural Firefighter's Association. He stated it was an oversight not carried over from the 2011 budget and the expenses were for power bills and other necessary expenses. Terry Niblett seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous and motion carried.

#### D. Annexation Request – City of Eastman

A request from Kennon Wayne Graham to annex 0.76 acre at Soperton Highway and Bedsole Road into the City of Eastman was presented. Brian Watkins made a motion to approve the request after conferring with County Attorney Harrington and Tony Winborn of the Dodge County Sheriff's Office. William Howell seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous and the annexation request was approved.

#### E. Date of next meeting – Labor Day Holiday

Chairman McCranie informed the board members that the next scheduled meeting was on the Labor Day Holiday, September 3, 2012. Terry Niblett made a motion to move the meeting to Tuesday, September 4, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Brian Watkins, vote was unanimous and motion carried.

#### **County Manager's Report:**

Bobby Peacock stated he had nothing to report. Karen Cheek asked about the PA System bids. Mr. Peacock said he had one bid and was waiting on another.

#### **Public Comments:**

Calvin Yawn stated that there were two vacancies on the Council on Aging board and that if Dodge County was not represented at the meetings there would be no one to bring the information about programs being offered back to the county. He said the counties with representatives at the meetings usually get the benefits.

Diana Glass asked for an update on the River Landing. John Harrington stated that the county was continuing with work to cover pipes and correct the problems at the landing. He said he is waiting on a plat to complete the settlement.

Faye Jessup asked for a report on the Regional TSPLOST meeting held in Vidalia. Chairman McCranie responded that Dodge County was represented well at the meeting with all commissioners and the county manager in attendance. Brian Watkins reiterated that all money collected within the Heart of Georgia Region stays in the region.

#### **Adjourn:**

William Howell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Terry Niblett seconded the motion, vote was unanimous, and meeting was adjourned.

