

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

November 4, 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: Bobby Peacock, County Manager
Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Absent: John Harrington, County Attorney

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, November 5, 2013, in Suite 101 of the Dodge County Courthouse Annex.

Chairman Dan McCranie called the meeting to order and announced that the elections for the SPLOST referendum as well as city council elections would be held on Tuesday. He also announced a World Day of Prayer service was being held at the courthouse starting at 6:00p.m. He led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag. Commissioner Karen Cheek gave a devotional based on Psalms 61:1 & 2 and prayed.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

Tax Commissioner Kay Graham asked the board to reconsider the holiday for Veteran's Day on November 11 for county employees. She said there would be a ceremony at the courthouse. She said during the last holiday on Columbus Day that her office only had four customers. Commissioner Cheek asked if she was asking to replace or add the holiday for the current year or next year and she replied for this year. Magistrate Lonnie Parkerson also spoke saying that Veteran's Day was one of the most honored holidays and closing county offices would give honor to our veterans.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman McCranie asked if there were any additions, deletions, or corrections to the minutes presented to the board in printed form. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve as presented seconded by Commissioner Niblett. All voted in favor of the motion.

Old Business

A. HOGRAA Appointment

Commissioner Niblett reported that no applications had been received from the recent ad in the local paper. Commissioner Howell made a motion to table the appointment seconded by Niblett. All voted in favor of the motion to table.

B. Codifying Update

Chairman McCranie noted that the county attorney was not present. County Manager Peacock reported that he had checked on the codifying of records and it was proceeding. Commissioner Watkins asked if he knew the projected timeline and he replied no.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable list seconded by Commissioner Howell. All voted in favor of the motion to approve.

B. Gloria Knowles – Taxes

Mrs. Gloria Knowles read a prepared statement explaining a problem with the Tax Commissioner's office. She said she paid 2012 taxes on parcel 42A-14 known as the Pauline Hargrove property. She said she received a refund check from the Tax Commissioner stating the taxes had been paid. She said she called and told the office that a mistake had been made. She said she held the refund check for several weeks hoping the problem would be corrected but eventually cashed it. She said she did not hear anything else from the Tax Commissioner until she received a certified letter in June 2013 stating she owed taxes, interest and penalty totaling \$221.50. The board asked Tax Commissioner Kay Graham if she would like to respond and she said a clerical error was made by her office but when it was found a letter was mailed to Mrs. Knowles stating the tax was due. Mrs. Knowles said she did not receive the letter from the Tax Commissioner, only the certified letter from Rob Stanley, Tax Collector. Commissioner Howell made a motion to allow Mrs. Knowles to pay the tax owed of \$42.14 and move on. Commissioners Niblett and Watkins seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion.

C. Sheriff Department Firing Range

Chairman McCranie said he had been told by deputies of the Dodge County SO that they were using the firing range at the Telfair State Prison in Helena. He said they were asking use of the firing range at the old Sports Arena location for their department only. He said a burn would need to be put in. Commissioner Cheek asked if the range was close to any residences that the activity might be a nuisance to. The Chairman said there was only one house he was aware of in

the vicinity. Commissioner Watkins made a motion for the department to submit a detail plan in writing with expenses. Commissioner Niblett seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion.

Commissioner Watkins then asked the county manager how the Veteran's Day holiday would affect the budget. County Manager Peacock replied that the EMS, E-911, and Sheriff Department employees who worked on the holiday would receive the pay rate at time and one-half. He said he did not know the actual dollar amount. Commissioner Cheek said holiday consideration should be addressed in budget planning for next year. The Board of Commissioners took no action on this request.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Cheek said the recent flu shot campaign for county employees was a success with forty-five (45) participants. The Health and Wellness grant funds were used for the uninsured employees and she hoped it would become an annual event for employees.

County Manager Report

The county manager reported that the metal had been delivered and was on the ground at the jail. He said he had been told it would be completed within two to three weeks.

Commissioner Niblett asked if any outside prisoners were being housed at the jail and the response was no.

Public Comments

Lee Roy Sparrow, phone number 478-353-6003, made a request to extend the county ordinance to close local clubs at 1:00 a.m. He asked for it to be extended to 2:00 a.m. He said the deputies and police had closed a club at 1:00 a.m. located at 6105 Fred Bohannon Road in the Summer Hill community. Commissioner Cheek asked if the events were held regularly and the proximity to other residents. Chairman McCranie said he would have to check with the county attorney about the ordinances.

Brandon Williams stated the property in question was located where everybody was family. Commissioner Watkins said there must have been complaints for the Sheriff Department to come to the location.

Adjourn

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Howell seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting.