

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

November 18, 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, November 18, 2013, in Suite 101 of the Dodge County Courthouse Annex.

Chairman Dan McCranie called the meeting to order and called for the agenda to be amended to add an Executive Session to discuss Personnel. Vice-Chairman Howell made a motion to add the Executive Session after the Public Comments portion of the meeting. Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to amend the agenda. Chairman McCranie then led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag. Commissioner Cheek then gave a devotional based on Psalms 107:8 entitled Thank God for Life and concluded with prayer.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

Chairman McCranie recognized Judy Madden of the Eastman-Dodge Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Madden thanked the board for their support.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman McCranie asked if there were any addition, deletions, or corrections to the minutes of the November 4, 2013 regular meeting presented to the board in printed form. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve seconded by Commissioner Howell. All voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

A. HOGRAA Appointment

Commissioner Niblett nominated Neil Spradley to the vacant position on the Heart of Georgia Regional Airport Authority. Commissioner Cheek seconded the nomination. Chairman McCranie asked for any other nominations and hearing none asked for a motion to close the nominations. Commissioner Howell made a motion to close the nominations seconded by Commissioner Watkins. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to appoint Neil Spradley to the Heart of Georgia Regional Airport Authority seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The vote was unanimous in favor of the appointment.

B. Sheriff Department Firing Range

Chairman McCranie said he hoped to have more information to present on the firing range at the next meeting.

Chairman McCranie asked for any other old business and citizen Lee Roy Sparrow brought up the request for the ordinance to extend hours past 1:00 am for clubs in the county. Commissioner Cheek said she had talked with County Attorney John Harrington and the ordinance was passed when James Spradley was Commissioner and stated any business defined as a club for entertainment purposes must close no later than 1:00 am and could not reopen until 11:00 am the next day. Mr. Sparrow asked again about the procedure to get the extension for the extra hour stating he had moved his promotions to McRae and one hundred twenty (120) people went to McRae instead of Dodge County. Mr. Harrington said the board did have the authority to amend the ordinance but there was also a noise ordinance in place and asked about the proximity of the club to homes and residences. He said a draft of their proposal would need to be submitted and he would be glad to meet with him after the meeting.

New Business

A. Airport Sewage Line

Commissioner Niblett stated that Dynamic Paint Solutions was operating with a four inch (4") sewage line which is for residential capacity. With DPS now at seventy (70) employees it is not sufficient and city engineers have recommended a six inch (6") line be installed. He said they had asked for \$2,800 from the county and made a motion that the request be granted.

Commissioner Cheek seconded the motion. Commissioner Howell asked where the money would come from and the county manager replied the contingency fund. Commissioner Cheek asked if the bid process was followed. Commissioner Niblett responded that two bids were received. The county attorney asked if the bids were proper and advertised. Chairman McCranie said the HOGRAA was under the city sewage system. Commissioner Niblett restated his motion to allow up to \$2,800 for discretionary use on the HOGRAA sewage project. Commissioner Cheek seconded the motion. Commissioner Watkins asked if the cost would be a fifty-fifty split

between Dodge County and the City of Eastman and if contingency funds were available. The response was yes.

B. Appointments

1. Board of Assessors – Chairman McCranie informed the board members they had copies of a letter of recommendation from the Tax Assessor concerning the appointment. He asked for any nominations or if they would like to table the appointment. Commissioner Howell made a motion to table seconded by Commissioner Niblett. All voted in favor of the motion.

2. Recreation Department Board – County Manager Peacock informed the board members the appointment was for the position held by Wynnon Pittman who was appointed to replace John Jones with the term expiring December 31, 2013. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to table the appointment seconded by Commissioner Howell. All voted in favor of the motion to table.

Commissioner Reports

There were no reports presented.

County Manager Report

County Manager Bobby Peacock said he had nothing to report. He also stated that the Accounts Payable Clerk had been out two weeks and there was no check list of the payables to present. Commissioner Niblett asked for the balance of the contingency fund. Peacock replied it was \$88,418. The original amount in the contingency fund was \$119,268 less expenditures to date leaving a current balance of \$88,418. Commissioner Cheek asked if the dirt roads Free Gift Church Road or Isham Springs Road had been checked. Peacock said the he and Road Superintendent Buddy Pittman had checked the roads and they were going to try to help but the roads were washboard and it was too dry to scrape them.

Public Comments

Judy Madden of the Eastman-Dodge Chamber of Commerce said that Dodge County was getting inquiries and good visibility and conversations were being generated.

Dodge County Resident Christina Roberson said that she lived on Shady Oaks Drive near the club proposing the extension for closing and the music was too loud for neighbors in the area. She agreed that there needed to be a safe environment for young people but the noise was extremely loud. She said she had called the Sheriff Department at midnight to report the noise and it did not stop until 2 am.

Lee Roy Sparrow responded to Ms. Roberson's comments saying the owner was shopping around for ways to sound proof the building and keep the noise down.

Susan Coffee said there would be a Governor's Task Force Meeting with Mot Smith of the Central Georgia Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association presenting a program on the proper way to handle the search and rescue of a missing senior with dementia and Alzheimer disease. She said the meeting would be held at the Recreation Department on Thursday at 6 pm. She said as a point of information that 75 to 100 officers and first responders had been invited to attend.

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Personnel. Commissioner Howell seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion.

Commissioner Howell made a motion to return to regular session seconded by Commissioner Niblett. All voted in favor of the motion. Chairman McCranie asked if there was any motion from the board.

Adjourn

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