

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

November 19, 2012

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

Also Present: Bobby Peacock, County Manager
Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk
John Harrington, County Attorney

Absent: Karen Cheek, Comm. Dist. 4

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, November 19, 2012, in Suite 101 of the Dodge County Courthouse Annex.

Chairman Dan McCranie called the meeting to order and led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag. Commissioner Terry Niblett led the group in prayer.

Elected Officials & Department Heads:

None noted as present.

Approval of Minutes:

Commissioner Terry Niblett made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 5, 2012, regular meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner William Howell. The vote was unanimous and the minutes were approved.

Old Business:

A. Recreation Board Appointment

Chairman Dan McCranie made a motion to appoint Jeffrey Underwood to fill the unexpired term of Ron White whose resignation will be effective December 31, 2012. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Terry Niblett. All voted in favor and the motion was approved.

New Business:

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Commissioner William Howell asked about the amount of the fuel bill. County Manager Peacock replied that the amount included fuel for the road department and the landfill and they were currently making four trips a day to haul debris to Houston County. He expects it to take another couple of months to complete the hauling and they have hauled around four thousand tons so far. Commissioner Terry Niblett made a motion to approve the accounts payable list. Commissioner Brian Watkins seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion.

B. Auditor Bids

Commissioner Terry Niblett made a motion to accept bids for the annual audit by advertising in the local paper. The bids should be for three years renewing annually and will be opened at the December 17, 2012 meeting. Commissioner Brian Watkins seconded the motion, vote was unanimous and motion carried.

C. Stuckey Timberland Request

Chairman McCranie told the commissioners he had received a request from Stuckey Timberland for a quit claim deed on a road they had built and deeded to Dodge County. The road was the main access for a tract being developed for a subdivision off the Hawkinsville highway. With the economic slowdown only one lot had been sold and it could be accessed from Log Cabin County Dirt Road. The owners want to block and close the road because of illegal dumping of trash that was and is still occurring. Commissioner Brian Watkins made a motion to deed back the road to Stuckey Timberlands since the expense to build the road was paid by them. Commissioner Terry Niblett seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion carried.

D. ODTF Policy Approvals

The commissioners reviewed two policies submitted for approval by the Oconee Drug Task Force that require approval to apply for and be compliant with any federal grants. The first policy discussed was the Limited English Proficiency policy. After discussion of the policy and comments from the county attorney, Brian Watkins made a motion to approve the policy excluding the last sentence of item two under Procedures referring to providing interpreter services. Terry Niblett seconded the motion, vote was unanimous and motion carried.

The Dodge County Processing Receipts/ Disbursement Policy Item # 6 was corrected to include the Vice- Chairman or Chairman of the Board of Commissioners as well as the County Manager and County Clerk. Commissioner William Howell made a motion to approve the policy with the changes. Commissioner Terry Niblett seconded the motion, vote was unanimous and motion carried.

E. Scrap Metal

County Manager Bobby Peacock reported that all of the junk cars, dump trucks, metal pipe and other miscellaneous scrap metal located at the road department had been grouped and tagged and he proposed that the county take bids to sell all of it. Commissioner Watkins proposed that the motor grader blades and ripper be tagged separately. He suggested that the blades and ripper might be bid together with the D-8 dozer in order to bring a better price. Commissioner Howell made a motion to continue with the bid process to sell the scrap metal. Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion. All voted in favor and motion passed.

F. LMIG

County Manager Bobby Peacock reported that this was formerly known as the LARP Program. He said the county would receive a grant of \$545,000 plus the county would have to match ten percent or approximately \$55,000. He submitted a list of the neediest roads in the county compiled by the Superintendent of the county road department. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to table the matter to allow all commissioners time to review the list. Commissioner Terry Niblett seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

Commissioner Howell added that the advertisement for bids on the scrap metal should read that the county would reserve the right to refuse any and all bids. Commissioner Watkins advised the county manager to get someone from Caterpillar to appraise the D-8 dozer with ripper blades. He stated the long range plan for the D-8 dozer was to be sold after completion of the pit and if it was sold a small dozer could be bought that could be moved with their trailer.

County Manager Report:

The county manager stated he had nothing to present and the chairman asked for any questions or comments from the commissioners. Commissioner Terry Niblett asked for clarification that the ATM to be installed inside the courthouse would be of no cost to the county. The county manager answered there would be no cost to the county to install or maintain the ATM. Likewise the county would not derive any income from the ATM through fees or commissions or any advertising medium. County Attorney John Harrington informed the board members that he was inserting a clause into the contract for the ATM that would allow the commissioners ninety (90) days to terminate the contract after installation if they deemed it necessary.

Commissioner Niblett also asked if the uncollectable loans with the Revolving Loan Fund could be cleaned up before year end. County Attorney Harrington replied that both of the loans in default had filed bankruptcy and a determination from the court would have to be made before any action could be taken by the county. He said that both the Citizens Bank and Trust Company and the Bank of Eastman had filed objections to the bankruptcy and there had been no final review of the cases.

Chairman McCranie asked the commissioners if they would be available to attend a work session on November 29th or 30th with Fiber Optics concerning the feasibility study they have conducted. After discussion it was agreed the work session would be held on Thursday, November 29, 2012, at 1:00 p.m. The chairman said he would check on the availability of the conference room for the meeting and notify the commissioners.

Public Comments:

Billy Steele offered congratulations to Chairman McCranie on his re-election to another term. He asked how much was spent by the county on the Stuckey Timberland road. Chairman McCranie responded that all costs for the road were paid by Stuckey Timberland.

Susan Coffee informed the commissioners of a Guideposts story of how an autistic boy was lost and a similar 911 emergency system discussed at prior meetings was utilized to find him. She said the system would be helpful in the case of lost or missing children as well as Alzheimer's victims in addition to emergency disaster or weather alerts.

Junior Bellflower asked for follow-up on the letter to Representative Jimmy Pruett concerning the sole commissioner referendum. County Attorney Harrington replied that Mr. Pruett would need a new letter drafted for the upcoming legislative session because the last letter was received too late in the session. He offered to send Mr. Bellflower a copy of the letter when sent.

Adjourn:

Commissioner Howell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Niblett seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous and meeting was adjourned.