

## **Minutes**

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

**March 4, 2019**

**Present:** Dan McCranie, Chairman  
William T. Howell, Vice-Chairman & District 1 Commissioner  
Terry L. Niblett, District 2 Commissioner  
Brian Watkins, District 3 Commissioner  
Karen Cheek, District 4 Commissioner

**Also Present:** John Harrington, County Attorney  
Spencer Barron, 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, March 4, 2019, in Suite 101 of the Dodge County Courthouse Annex. Chairman McCranie called the meeting to order and led in the pledge to the American flag. Commissioner Cheek gave the devotional and prayed.

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

Raymond Mullis of the Eastman City Council asked the board to contribute three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00) for the July 4<sup>th</sup> fireworks. Chairman McCranie thanked him for coming.

Sharon Cobb Flanagan asked the board to save the date for the third anniversary celebration of the Dodge County Farmers Market on Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. She also reported for Litter Free Dodge that several citizens were picking up trash and debris along their roadsides and inquiries had been made to the Adopt-A-Highway program to find there were no policies or procedures in place for the program at present.

George Smith of the Dodge County Eastman Development Authority said he would like to applaud County Manager Spencer Barron and the board for their efforts and invite them to a “Raise the Flag” ceremony to be held on March 22<sup>nd</sup> at the CSS Complex.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

A. February 18, 2019 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections or deletions to the minutes of the regular meeting held on February 18, 2019. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Commissioner Niblett. All voted yes and the motion passed.

## B. February 22, 2019 Called Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections or deletions to the minutes of the called meeting held on February 22, 2019. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

### **Old Business**

There was no old business.

### **New Business**

#### A. Approval of Accounts Payable

The chairman asked the board to review the check list of Accounts Payable payments for any questions or comments. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the payments with the second from Commissioner Watkins. All voted in the affirmative.

### **Commissioner Reports**

There were no reports from the board.

### **County Manager Report**

County Manager Spencer Barron announced that Tax Commissioner employees would be relocated to sell tags from the Courthouse Annex starting tomorrow. He also thanked Robert Graham who has a Facebook site for Dodge County History for sending pictures of the courthouse and other sites in Dodge County. He said Graham furnished the pictures at his own expense and encouraged those present to view after the meeting.

### **Public Comments**

Cindy Eckles of the Dodge County News inquired about the courthouse maintenance and who is responsible for maintaining the facility. Chairman McCranie replied that the courthouse was remodeled twenty plus years ago and many issues were taken care of during the remodel. He said the attic had a pigeon problem since it was built. Commissioner Howell said he was not aware of problems with the courthouse until recent developments. He said he and Commissioner Watkins met with the judges earlier in the year and there were no problems observed. Commissioner Watkins concurred that he had climbed into a high spot and found it to be sealed and no observance of any problems were noted. Commissioner Cheek said she was unaware of any problems. The county manager said he would bring any reports concerning courthouse conditions to the board in the future.

Susan Coffee commented that the grand jury is required to inspect the county buildings and facilities and make presentments and recommendations.

### **Executive Session**

Commissioner Howell made a motion to move into executive session with the second from Commissioner Cheek. All voted yes and the motion passed.

Commissioner Cheek made a motion to end the executive session and return to the regular meeting. Commissioner Niblett made the second and all voted yes.

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to hold a public hearing on Wednesday, March 6, 2019, to declare an emergency under OCGA 36/91/20 to approve plans and declare criteria for courthouse operations. Commissioner Niblett made the second and the motion was approved.

### **Adjourn**

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