

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

September 17, 2018

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
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, September 17, 2018, in Suite 101 of the Dodge County Courthouse Annex. Chairman McCranie called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to amend the agenda to add Item A: English Crossing Road closing under Old Business. Commissioner Watkins made the motion with the second coming from Commissioner Niblett. All voted yes and the agenda was amended. Next Chairman McCranie led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag followed by the devotional and prayer given by Commissioner Cheek.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

Charles Williams of the Dodge County-Eastman Development Authority thanked those who attended the Eastman-Dodge County Chamber of Commerce welcome event last week and added that the chamber is planning the Music on Main event to be held downtown on October 20th and the Farmers Market will be joining them downtown that Saturday. Finally he invited the board to visit and critique the new chamber website at www.eastman-georgia.com.

Approval of Minutes

A. September 4, 2018 Regular Meeting
Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections, or deletions to the minutes of the September 4, 2018, regular meeting. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Commissioner Niblett. The vote was taken and the motion passed.

Old Business

A. English Crossing/ Jay Bird Road Closing
Cecil Veal, spokesman for the community delivered a petition signed by forty (40) persons in the community stating they are opposed to changes of the road name and closing the road. He cited reasons such as the Dodge County school bus and local mail carriers have established routes on

the road and residents on the road do not want it closed. Jim O'Connor, who made the original request, presented a written request to the board and asked the chairman to read it. After his proposal was read, County Attorney John Harrington said that the road closing and road name change were two separate issues and the process for each was different. He said the closing of the road would require advertisement in the legal organ with the place certain for the road to be closed and a hearing would be held. He said there was no prescribed procedure for the road name change. Cecil Veal asked to address the name change issue and said that there were only two or three McMillans buried in the cemetery and felt the name change was not warranted. Rita Edge stated her objections to the name change because deeds, checks, and mail would all have to be changed. Jim O'Connor said the road closure, though a major inconvenience was a safety issue. Chairman McCranie thanked all for their comments.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked the board to look over the list of Accounts Payable payments for any questions or comments. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the payments with Commissioner Howell making the second. All voted in the affirmative.

B. Jennifer LeCates – LRAD

Jennifer LeCates representing LRAD, Long Range Acoustic Device, told the board that her company was offering the mobile app Genesis at zero cost to Dodge County as a Beta project. She said they proposed to start with a group demonstration and the app would work with every agency in the area using pre-set lists and would be pass code specific. Commissioner Niblett asked if the system was already working in any counties and the response was not in the US. She asked the board to give consideration for a group assessment and Commissioner Watkins asked to have the contract reviewed by the county attorney.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Niblett informed the board that the Airport Authority needed a local match to purchase a FAA Localizer. The total match needed was \$55,300 and he asked for the county to furnish one-half of that amount or \$27,650.00. He said the City of Eastman would be asked to furnish the remainder. He made a motion to give \$27,650.00 to the Airport Authority with the condition that the City of Eastman also furnish that amount. Commissioner Cheek made the second, the vote was taken and the motion passed.

County Manager Report

The county manager had nothing to report and there were no questions for him.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Executive Session

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to go into executive session seconded by Commissioner Howell. All voted yes and the motion passed.

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

Chairman McCranie made a motion to advertise two consecutive weeks in the local paper to accept resumes for the position of county manager through September 28, 2018 at 12 noon. Commissioner Howell made the second and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Adjourn

Commissioner Howell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Niblett made the second and the vote was unanimous to adjourn.