

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

November 5, 2018

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

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

Absent: Karen Cheek, District 4 Commissioner

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, November 5, 2018, in Suite 101 of the Dodge County Courthouse Annex. Chairman McCranie called the meeting to order and led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag. Chairman McCranie noted that Commissioner Cheek was absent due to having oral surgery and there would be no devotional. Commissioner Niblett prayed.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

Sharon Cobb Flanagan – Dodge County Farmers Market

Ms. Flanagan gave handouts to the board of a summary of statistics for the local market and explained the EBT card/ tokens procedures. She said the market was submitting a financial support request for 2019.

Approval of Minutes

A. October 15, 2018 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, deletions, corrections, to the minutes of the regular meeting held on October 15, 2018. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the minutes with Commissioner Watkins making the second. The vote was unanimous to approve the motion.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked the board to look over the listing of Accounts Payable payments for any questions or comments. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the payments and Commissioner Niblett made the second. All voted in favor of approval.

B. Wendell Lowery – Property Tax Matter

Mr. Lowery said he was referred to the board by the Tax Commissioner, Kay Graham. He said he missed paying some property tax bills that did not get picked up when he paid his taxes last year. He said he was subsequently charged a penalty totaling approximately one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00). Chairman McCranie asked how many parcels were involved and Lowery replied two to three (2-3). Commissioner Watkins asked if he received the tax bills in the mail and he said the tax bills went to his deceased mother's mailbox. He said the property is involved in a family dispute but he was trying to keep the property taxes current. Chairman McCranie asked if he could meet with Mr. Harrington about the specifics of the tax bills and come back in two weeks with the findings. Mr. Lowery agreed to meet with the county attorney at his office and the county attorney said he was not involved in the family dispute case and could meet with the Lowery's about the tax matter.

C. LMIG Project

County Manager Peacock said Dodge County had been awarded eight hundred thirty thousand dollars (\$830,000.00) for 2019 LMIG projects to resurface nine point five (9.5) miles of county roads. He asked the board to refer to the proposed list of roads to be resurfaced. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve the list and Commissioner Niblett made the second. All voted to approve the LMIG project and the road list and a copy is attached to these minutes.

Commissioner Reports

There were no reports from the board.

County Manager Report

County Manager Peacock told the board that all offices in and at the Courthouse would be closed Tuesday, November 6th for the general election except the Board of Commissioner's office. He further stated that during the recent hurricane that the Courthouse closed on Thursday and Friday with the Board of Commissioner's office being open on Friday after the storm. He also said that the Courthouse offices close one-half day before holidays. Commissioner Watkins said that Rhett Walker called him on Thursday night after the storm to say that the Courthouse offices would not be open on Friday due to employees not having electricity and asked who determines when offices are open and closed. Attorney Harrington said the offices are required to stay open eight (8) hours per day by state law. Commissioner Howell asked how to enforce the law and have all the offices on the same page. The county attorney said he would meet with the

Constitutional officers and report back to the board. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to close the Board of Commissioners office on Tuesday, November 6th. Commissioner Howell seconded the motion and the motion passed.

The county manager asked the board to appoint Commissioner Brian Watkins and Commissioner Terry Niblett to the Budget Committee for 2019. Both agreed to serve and were appointed.

Public Comments

Sharon Cobb Flanagan reported for the Litter-Free Dodge committee that they would be putting up the roadside no littering signs and if there were any issues to please let her know.

Susan Coffee told the board that at present the early voting hours were 9a.m. to 12p.m. and 1p.m. to 5 p.m. being closed from 12 to 1 for lunch. She said her brother had driven from Macon to vote at 8:30a.m. and was told that voting did not start until 9a.m. She said that her employees could not vote on their lunch hour because the poll was closed. She said the early voting hours for the general public were not convenient or helpful.

Jack Jones told the board the Jim Young road had not been re-opened and he was asking again that it be opened. Chairman McCranie replied the EPD had not given permission to open it.

Executive Session

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to move into an executive session to discuss legal matters. Commissioner Howell made the second and all voted affirmative.

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to end the executive session and return to the regular meeting. Commissioner Watkins made the second and the motion passed.

Adjourn

With no further business to come before the board, Commissioner Watkins made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Howell made the second and the vote was unanimous to adjourn.