

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

January 7, 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 sessions at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, January 7, 2019, 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. The devotional was given by Commissioner Cheek and Chairman McCranie prayed.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

Jeff Cheek, EMS Director was recognized as present.

Charles Williams of the Dodge County Eastman Development Authority was recognized and wished the board a Happy New Year.

Approval of Minutes

A. December 17, 2018 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections, or deletions to the minutes of the regular meeting held on December 17, 2018. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the minutes and Commissioner Howell made the second. All voted to approve the minutes.

B. December 31, 2018 Called Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any changes to the minutes of the called meeting held on December 31, 2018. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the minutes followed by a second to his motion from Commissioner Niblett. The vote was taken and the motion passed.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked the board to look over the accounts payable checklist for any questions or comments. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the payments. Commissioner Watkins made the second and the motion passed.

B. Elect Vice-Chairman

Chairman McCranie asked for nominations for vice-chairman of the board. Commissioner Niblett nominated William Howell. Commissioner Watkins moved to close nominations with the second from Commissioner Cheek. The vote was unanimous to elect Commissioner Howell.

C. Appoint County Attorney

Chairman McCranie asked for nominations for county attorney. Commissioner Watkins nominated John Harrington. Commissioner Howell made a motion to close the nominations seconded by Commissioner Niblett. All voted in the affirmative to appoint Harrington.

D. Appoint County Clerk

Next the chairman asked for nominations for county clerk. Commissioner Howell nominated Gail Rogers. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to close nominations seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The vote was taken and the motion passed.

E. Appoint County Auditor

Chairman McCranie asked the board for nominations for county auditor. Commissioner Watkins nominated Frank Erwin, CPA. Commissioner Howell made a motion to close nominated and the second was made by Commissioner Niblett. The vote was unanimous to appoint Erwin.

F. Approval to Solicit 2019 Operating Line of Credit Bids

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to give approval to the county manager to solicit bids for the operating line of credit for year 2019 from the three local banks. Commissioner Niblett made the second and all voted to approve the motion.

G. Board of Assessors Appointment

Chairman McCranie referred to a letter from chief appraiser, Dale Jones, stating that Chairman Madison Kirkley's term had expired December 31, 2018. Commissioner Niblett asked if the appointment could wait until the next meeting and Cindy Eckles, who is also a member of the assessors board said the appointment was needed because the board would meet later in the week. County Attorney Harrington said that Kirkley could serve until he was reappointed or replaced by a new appointee. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to table until the next meeting and Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion passed.

H. Regional Commission Regional Council Third Member Appointment

Chairman McCranie referred to a letter from Brett Manning asking for a third member appointee to the Regional Commission Regional Council and asked for the pleasure of the board. A motion was made by Commissioner Howell to appoint Spencer Barron to the council and Commissioner Niblett made the second. The vote was unanimous to appoint Barron to the council.

I. Approve 2019 Holiday Schedule

The proposed holiday schedule for 2019 was reviewed by the board and after questions about the Good Friday and Independence Day holidays, Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the list. Commissioners Watkins and Cheek seconded the motion and all voted in the affirmative.

J. Change Meeting Date – January 21, 2019 Meeting

After approval of the 2019 holiday schedule, Chairman McCranie announced the Martin Luther King holiday conflicted with the next meeting date for the Board of Commissioners. A motion was made by Commissioner Niblett to move the meeting date to Tuesday, January 22, 2019. Commissioner Howell seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous to make the change.

Commissioner Reports

There were no reports from the board.

County Manager Report

Spencer Barron thanked the board for the opportunity to serve as county manager and thanked those who had offered encouragement in his new endeavor. He said he had been inundated with calls about the county dirt roads and that all four (4) motor graders worked today and there were nine (9) road department employees working and giving preference to school bus routes.

He said the EMS had answered 284 calls for assistance in December with 141 of those being emergency and the remainder non emergency and transports.

Public Comments

Charles Williams invited all of the Board of Commissioners to join him for the Development Authority meeting tomorrow at 5 p.m.

Adjourn

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Howell made the second and all voted to adjourn.

Signed:

Nancy Gail Rogers
Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:

Dan McCranie
Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

January 22, 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 Tuesday, January 22, 2019, 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. The devotional and prayer was given by Commissioner Cheek.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

Sharon Cobb Flanagan of the Dodge County Farmers Market gave copies of the annual report to all board members. She also informed the board that an Eggs & Issues Breakfast would be held in Eastman on Wednesday, February 6th at 7:30 a.m. with the field representative from Austin Scott's office attending.

Charles Williams of the Dodge County Eastman Development Authority reminded the board of the annual Chamber of Commerce banquet to be held on Thursday night at 6:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

A. January 7, 2019 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections, or deletions to the minutes of the regular meeting held on January 7, 2019. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the minutes and Commissioner Niblett seconded the motion. All voted in favor of approval.

Old Business

A. Board of Assessors Appointment

Chairman McCranie asked if there were any nominations for the appointment to the Board of Assessors. Commissioner Niblett nominated Madison Kirkley. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to close nominations seconded by Commissioner Howell. Kirkley was reappointed by acclamation.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked the board to look over the list of payments for any questions or comments. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the payments and Commissioner Cheek seconded his motion. All voted to approve the payments.

B. Open Line of Credit Bids

Chairman McCranie opened the bids from the three local banks for the tax anticipation note line of credit in the amount of two million seven hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$2,750,000.00). The following bids were read:

- Bank of Eastman – Interest rate of 4.5%
- Citizens Bank – Interest rate of 3.99%
- Colony Bank – Interest rate of 3.76%

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to accept the low bid from Colony Bank. Commissioner Watkins made the second and all voted in the affirmative.

C. Aging Advisory Committee Appointment

Chairman McCranie referred to the information submitted to the board with the requirements and recommendations for appointees to the Aging Advisory Committee. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to appoint Prentis Thomas, Jr. to continue serving on the committee. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to close nominations seconded by Commissioner Howell and Thomas was appointed. The second appointment was tabled until the next board meeting to seek interest from the public.

Commissioner Reports

There were no reports from the board.

County Manager Report

The county manager briefed the board on the next SPLOST initiative and informed the board that AREMAC had donated a Dell computer to the Board of Commissioners and expressed his thanks to them.

Public Comments

Sharon Cobb Flanagan said the work on the KAB project was continuing.

Executive Session

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to go into executive session and allow Dodge County Eastman Development Authority members Charles Williams and Butch Kirkley to attend. Commissioner Niblett seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Return to Regular Meeting

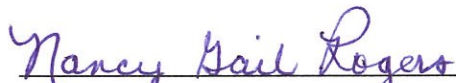
Commissioner Niblett made a motion to end the executive session and return to the regular meeting. Commissioner Cheek seconded his motion and all voted yes.

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to convey property to the Development Authority for building with the details to be worked out by County Attorney John Harrington. The second was made by Commissioner Niblett, vote was taken and the motion passed.

Adjourn

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

Signed:



Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:



Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

February 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

Also Present: John Harrington, County Attorney
Spencer Barron, 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, February 4, 2019, in Suite 101 of the Dodge County Courthouse Annex. Chairman McCranie asked for the agenda to be amended to allow for the scheduled executive session to be moved to the beginning of the meeting. Commissioner Howell made a motion to amend the agenda and move into executive session. Commissioner Niblett made the second and all voted in favor of the change. The chairman and board members, county attorney, county manager and county clerk left for the executive session in the county manager's office.

At the conclusion of the executive session, Commissioner Howell made a motion to end the session and return to the regular meeting. Commissioner Niblett made the second and the motion passed. The chairman led in the pledge of allegiance to the American flag and Commissioner Watkins prayed.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

Sharon Cobb Flanagan announced that Slayton Carter of Austin Scott's office would attend the Eggs & Issues breakfast on Wednesday morning at 7:30 a.m. The event was being hosted at the Eastman First United Methodist Church to support the local farming community.

Charles Williams of the Dodge County Eastman Development Authority told the board that two hundred forty (240) attended the Chamber banquet held recently. He also said an appreciation breakfast was held for local first responders this morning at the Chamber of Commerce with very good attendance. Commissioner Watkins commended those who sponsored the event saying he thought it was a good idea.

Approval of Minutes

A. January 22, 2019 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections, or deletions to the minutes of the regular meeting held on January 22, 2019 and prepared for the board in printed form. The motion to approve the minutes was made by Commissioner Niblett and seconded by Commissioner Watkins. All voted in favor of approval.

Old Business

A. Aging Advisory Committee Appointment

Chairman McCranie asked if there were any nominations for the appointment to the Aging Advisory Committee. Commissioner Watkins said no one had expressed interest in serving and asked that the matter be tabled until the next meeting. Commissioner Niblett made the second and the motion passed.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked the board's pleasure concerning the approval of payments for the Account Payables. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the payments with the second by Commissioner Niblett. The vote was unanimous to approve the payments.

Commissioner Reports

Chairman McCranie reminded the board that a reception honoring Kevin Bierschenk will be held at Dodge County Hospital on Thursday, February 7th from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. and to use the Same Day Surgery entrance.

County Manager Report

County Manager Barron told the board that the Dodge-Wilcox 911 is one of the most important and best value departments in the county government. He reported during January they received 4,644 calls for service and routed 738 to the Sheriff's Office, 978 to the Eastman Police Department, 137 to the Eastman Fire Department, 1,047 to Wilcox County Law Enforcement and 37 to the Wilcox Fire Departments. He also said there were some electrical problems as well as HVAC problems at the courthouse and no court was scheduled for now. There were no questions for the county manager.

Public Comments

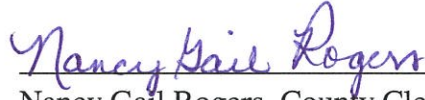
Sharon Cobb Flanagan commented on the condition of Golf Course Road in Dodge County.

Susan Coffee commented on the facilities at the local airport. Commissioner Niblett, also a member of the Airport Authority, said he would relay her comments to the authority and added that the thermostats at the airport are controlled by the university.

Adjourn


With no further business to be addressed, Commissioner Howell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioners Niblett and Watkins seconded his motion and the vote was unanimous to adjourn.

Signed:



Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:



Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

Called Board Meeting

February 6, 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 called board meeting at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 6, 2019, in Suite 101 of the Dodge County Courthouse Annex. The chairman called the meeting to order and led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag. After Commissioner Cheek prayed, Commissioner Howell made a motion to go into executive session to discuss legal matters and land acquisition and allow Kristee Pramuk to attend the session at the request of the county attorney. Commissioner Niblett made the second and all voted in the affirmative.

At the close of the executive session, Commissioner Cheek made a motion to return to the called board meeting. Commissioner Niblett made the second and the motion passed.

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to ask the Chief Judge of the Oconee Judicial Circuit to declare a judicial emergency due to conditions present at the Dodge County Courthouse as of the close of business today and until such time as testing could be completed. Commissioner Niblett made the second and all voted yes to the motion.

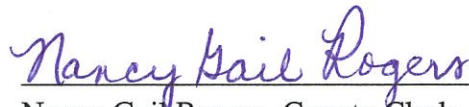
Commissioner Watkins also made a motion to authorize the county manager to approve expenses up to twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) for testing and relocation of the county offices located in the courthouse. Commissioner Howell made the second and the motion passed.

The county attorney was directed to prepare a press release on the closure. Rhett Walker, Clerk of Superior Court, asked the board if a time frame had been established and Commissioner Watkins said they should know more by early Monday and the county manager was authorized to let everyone know. With Judges Wall, Johnson, and Kaufold present, Commissioner Howell

asked if there were any judicial funds to help with the relocation of the offices. Judge Wall answered that the District Court Administrator was inquiring with the state and will cooperate and assist.

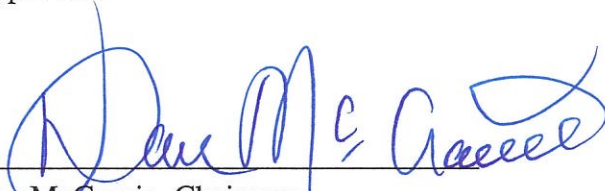
Commissioner Watkins made a motion to adjourn seconded by Commissioner Howell. The vote was unanimous to adjourn.

Signed:



Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:



Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

Called Board Meeting

February 11, 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

A called board meeting of the Dodge County Board of Commissioners was held on Monday, February 11, 2019, at 1:30 p.m. in Suite 101 of the Dodge County Courthouse Annex. The meeting was called to order by the chairman who also led in the pledge of allegiance to the American flag. Commissioner Watkins prayed. Also in attendance at the meeting were county officials housed in the local courthouse along with Judges Wall, Johnson and Kaufold and the local press.

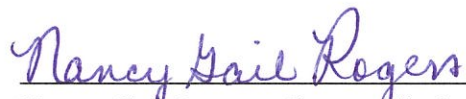
County Manager Spencer Barron said he wanted to address the comments and concerns of the public in an open meeting. He said he had talked with four (4) abatement companies with estimates of one million dollars plus for the clean up at the courthouse. He said he would meet with a representative of Service Master MPHI later this week. He said the quote received from the Certified Industrial Specialist after their onsite evaluation was twenty-seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$27,500.00) to test. He said they could be back onsite to test Tuesday or Wednesday with results of the DNA testing on Thursday or Friday. He asked for questions or concerns from those present. Rhett Walker, Clerk of Superior Court, said his office was in the process of set up at the chamber office and had encountered internet problems and at what point could they return to work on the first floor of the courthouse. Chairman McCranie said the board would keep the officials and the public informed of any updates. Walker also asked if there had been a decision to clean up the courthouse and Commissioner Watkins answered the only decision was to test. Barron said the testing would determine if there was contamination and the degree of it. Judge Wall asked if the testing would include mold and Barron answered the risk with mold was not as serious as the pigeon fungi. There was discussion as to whether the basement could be sealed once the contents were in storage. Commissioner Cheek asked if the quoted fee included the basement and the reply was yes. Cindy Eckles asked if the courthouse

would remain closed and Barron replied yes to the public with department heads of the various offices making their own decision about vacancy. County Attorney Harrington said there was a possibility the historical documents could be treated with a gas for decontamination. He said the order was issued to protect the public and the employees were not at a greater risk than previously. He said employees had asked about medical testing and he suggested they wait for more specific information because doctors could reduce the scope of testing. He said the board had given preliminary authority for twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) and that amount would need to be raised. There was more discussion about security, phone lines, and wireless internet at the chamber building. Judge Wall asked if the board planned to hold another meeting with results on Thursday or Friday. Barron deferred to legal counsel and Harrington said the board would get the information to them.

Commissioner Howell made a motion to increase the authorized amount by ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) for testing and relocation making a total of thirty five thousand dollars (\$35,000.00) and Commissioner Cheek seconded his motion. The vote was unanimous to approve the increase. Discussion continued between the judges and officials with regard to jurisdictions and Judge Wall asked if the courthouse annex could be identified with an official designation as the juvenile courtroom for non-jury motions as there were no major security issues. The county manager gave permission as requested.

Commissioner Howell made a motion to adjourn the called meeting. Commissioner Watkins made the second and the motion passed.

Signed:



Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:



Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

February 18, 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, February 18, 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 a devotional and prayed.

Executive Session

Commissioner Howell made a motion to go into executive session to discuss legal matters and property acquisition. Commissioner Niblett made the second and all voted yes to the motion.

At the end of the executive session, Commissioner Watkins made a motion to return to the regular meeting with Commissioner Niblett making the second. All voted in the affirmative.

The county attorney read a motion to adopt the resolution to designate the courtroom of the Courthouse Annex and the courtroom within the Dodge County Law Enforcement Center as locations for non-jury matters during the interim period the courtroom within the Dodge County Courthouse remains unavailable. The motion to make the resolution official was made by Commissioner Howell and seconded by Commissioner Niblett. The vote was taken and the motion passed. Judge Wall stated she will amend the Declaration of Judicial Emergency with the Supreme Court of Georgia and when effective will forward to the local newspaper the amended order.

A second motion to have the county attorney draw up a temporary lease with the Dodge County Eastman Development Authority for control of the former AT&T building with approval of the court system for potential court services with security as well as housing county offices was made by Commissioner Watkins and seconded by Commissioner Howell. The vote was taken and the motion passed. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to suspend the bid process for

items over two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) for time sensitive purchases up to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) to make repairs and get the building up and running. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Watkins and all voted in the affirmative.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

There were no elected officials or department heads present who wished to address the board.

Approval of Minutes

A. February 4, 2019 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections, or deletions to the minutes of the regular meeting held on February 4, 2019. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the minutes and Commissioner Howell made the second. All voted yes and the motion passed.

B. February 6, 2019 Called Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked if there were any additions, corrections or deletions to the minutes of the called meeting held on Wednesday, February 6, 2019. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve as presented, Commissioner Niblett made the second and the motion passed.

C. February 11, 2019 Called Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked if there were any additions, corrections or deletions to the minutes of the called meeting held on Monday, February 11, 2019. Commissioner Niblett made the motion to approve the minutes and Commissioner Howell made the second. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Old Business

A. Aging Advisory Committee Appointment

Commissioner Cheek nominated Susan Coffee to serve on the Aging Advisory Committee and Commissioner Niblett seconded her nomination. Commissioner Howell made a motion to close the nominations seconded by Commissioner Watkins. Mrs. Coffee was appointed by unanimous consent.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked the board to review the Accounts Payable listing for any questions or comments. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the payments and Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion. The motion passed.

B. Road Department Equipment Purchase

County Manager Barron presented a request from Road Supervisor Richard Harrell to purchase a used backhoe with SPLOST funds from two options: 1) Caterpillar \$72,000.00 and 2) John Deere at \$55,000.00. Commissioner Howell made a motion to purchase the John Deere for \$55,000.00. Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

C. EMA Generator – Stanley Stephens

The county manager also presented information from EMA director Stanley Stephens for a joint FEMA/GEMA grant application to purchase a generator for the public safety building. The cost of the generator would be approximately one hundred twenty six thousand dollars (\$126,000.00) and the grant would require a fifteen per cent (15%) match making Dodge County's share \$18,245.00. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to table the matter and Commissioner Niblett made the second. All voted yes and the matter was tabled.

Commissioner Reports

There were no reports from the board.

County Manager Report

County Manager Spencer Barron reported that the county had been put on notice that the city had proposed to annex property at the corner of Congo Lane and Griffin Avenue into the city limits. He said he had also been informed that the National Day of Prayer was May 2, 2019 and plans were being made for observances in Dodge County. He also said that Sharon Cobb Flanagan had asked that the hydrangeas bordering the courthouse be donated to the Dodge County Farmers Market so they could be thinned and put in containers to be sold at the farmer's market.

Public Comments

Debbie Mercer, President of the Eastman Garden Club told the board that her club had partnered with Litter Free Dodge and provided monies for signs placed in the county. She wanted to express the desire of the club to work with the Commissioners on the trash and litter problem.

Connie Jones asked for attention to the pot holes near the dumpsters on Airport Road and asked for extended hours at the dump transfer station that was only open on Saturday until noon.

Jackie Strickland asked the board to change their thinking and priorities when seeking solutions concerning the roads and trash problems. She said since recycling had stopped that she had more trash than ever.

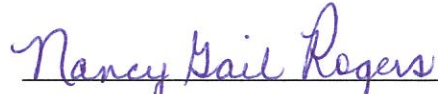
Cindy Eckles of the Dodge County News asked about locations to publish for the offices in the courthouse that were relocating.

Judge Kaufold said that his phone number was rolling over to his new office in Cochran.

Adjourn

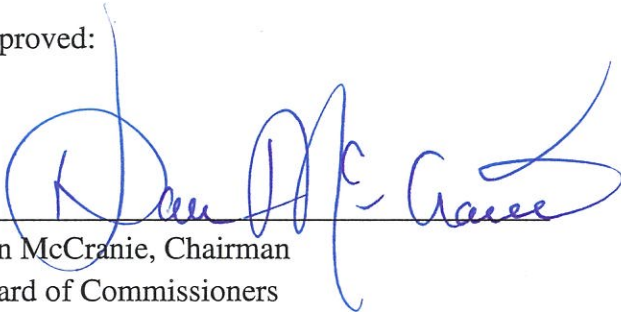
Commissioner Howell made a motion to adjourn the meeting as there was no other business.
Commissioner Watkins made the second and the vote was unanimous to adjourn.

Signed:



Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:



Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

Called Meeting

February 22, 2019

Present: Dan McCranie, Chairman
William T. Howell, Jr., Vice-Chairman & District 1 Commissioner
Terry 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
Judge Sarah Wall
Judge Howard Kaufold
Tim Vaughn, District Attorney
Sheriff Lynn Sheffield
Mark Sheffield, Contractor

Dodge County Eastman Development Authority

Butch Kirkley, President
Charles Williams
Terry Coleman
John Jessup
Jon Butler
Buddy Pittman
Brian Watkins

A called joint meeting of the Dodge County Board of Commissioners and the Dodge County Eastman Development Authority was held at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, February 22, 2019 at the former AT&T building on Pearl Bates Avenue in Eastman. Judge Sarah Wall, Judge Howard Kaufold and District Attorney Tim Vaughn of the Oconee Judicial Circuit were also present along with Sheriff Lynn Sheffield and Mark Studstill of Graham and Studstill Contractors. Chairman McCranie called the meeting to order and Commissioner Cheek prayed and Chairman Butch Kirkley called the Dodge County Eastman Development Authority meeting to order.

Executive Session

Commissioner Watkins made a motion for the Board of Commissioners to go into executive session. Commissioner Niblett made the second and all commissioners voted yes. Next Chairman Kirkley asked for a motion for the development authority to go into executive session concurrent with the commissioners. Buddy Pittman made a motion for the development authority to go into executive session and Brian Watkins made the second. All voted in favor of the motion.

Following the conclusion of the executive session Commissioner Howell made a motion to return to the joint meeting. Commissioner Watkins made the second and all commissioners voted yes. Buddy Pittman made a motion to end the executive session for the development authority and Jon Butler made the second. All members of the development authority voted yes.

Business

A. Government Services Relocation

John Jessup made a motion to agree to sell or lease the former AT&T building to Dodge County either with a long term lease with reversionary clause or sell for a nominal fee. Buddy Pittman made the second in unison with Terry Coleman. All members of the development authority voted yes and the motion passed.

Commissioner Howell made a motion that Dodge County accept the offer of purchase at a nominal fee of the former AT&T building from the Dodge County Eastman Development Authority. Commissioner Niblett made the second and the motion passed by unanimous vote. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to authorize County Manager Spencer Barron to begin meetings with Mark Studstill of Graham & Studstill General Contractor, Incorporated to draw plans to renovate the building for county use. Commissioner Cheek made the second and the motion passed.

Adjourn

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

Signed:

Nancy Gail Rogers

Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:

Dan McCranie

Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

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 4th 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 4th. 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 22nd 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.

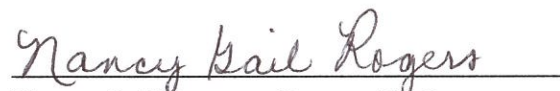
Commissioner Cheek made a motion to end the executive session and return to the regular meeting. Commissioner Niblett made the second and all voted yes.

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.

Signed:



Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:



Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

Called Board Meeting with Public Hearing

March 6, 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

Chairman Dan McCranie presided over the called board meeting on March 6, 2019, by calling the meeting to order and asking those present to turn off their cell phones for the duration of the meeting. Chairman McCranie led in the Pledge of Allegiance and Commissioner Cheek prayed.

Public Hearing to Determine Temporary Courthouse Needs

County Manager Spencer Barron read a prepared statement summarizing events leading to the closing of the Dodge County Courthouse by Declaration of Judicial Emergency by Sarah F. Wall, Chief Judge of the Oconee Judicial Circuit. A copy of the statement is attached and made a part of these minutes. He gave an update on the relocation of the county offices as well as the decisions needed to proceed with repairs to the AT&T Building for a temporary courthouse.

Judge Sarah Wall explained the process for declaring the judicial emergency for thirty (30) days and filing with the Supreme Court of Georgia. She said the cessation of court proceedings in Dodge County had caused the jail to be back logged with criminal court cancelled and a missed Grand Jury for February. She said some bond hearings, revocations, pleas, and bench trials could be held at the small court room at the jail as well as the courthouse annex. Judge Wall said an extension for another thirty (30) days would be filed and the Chief Justice will come down for a meeting. She and the other judges had looked at the Terry Coleman Center, the Chamber of Commerce building and the AT&T building for possible courthouse locations and felt the AT&T building was the best solution at this time. Judge Howard Kaufold said he had nothing to add to the comments from Judge Wall and Juvenile Court Judge Stephanie Burton said she echoed the comments from Judge Wall.

County Attorney Harrington said the law mandates the continuity of government services and the critical issue was that five county offices were operating from a large room with no walls and little security. He said if the bid process on public works was followed it would be from thirty to ninety days before work could begin. He said under OCGA 36/91/22E the board could declare an emergency to waive the bid process.

Probate Judge Al McCranie told the board that his office was open and working under crude accommodations but moving forward and he agreed with Judge Wall.

Public Hearing Comments

Edward Cole said that he came to the meeting to learn more about the situation and as a taxpayer he thought the best solution was to rebuild or replace because the existing courthouse was not built to accommodate the technology necessary to conduct business today and he wanted no one to be sick from working in that environment.

Sharon Cobb Flanagan said that her interest was for the Dodge County Farmers Market and the beautification project started at the present courthouse grounds. She asked if there was a waiver of the bid process would there be a contractual commitment for the building renovations. The county attorney replied that statutory law required a contract as well as a budget and the process would be open and subject to review.

Faye Jessup asked if it was feasible for some of the existing court cases to be held in surrounding towns. Judge Wall replied no that the law does not provide to move out of county pursuant to a change of venue.

Discussion continued between the board and judges concerning the bid process and needed repairs as well as preserving the present courthouse. Cindy Eckles of the Dodge County News asked about the need for the Grand Jury to meet and when that would be possible. Judge Wall replied it was undecided but it had been drawn for the first term. Chairman McCranie announced the board would move into the business of the called meeting.

Business

A. Renovation to 643 Pearl Bates Road, Eastman, Georgia

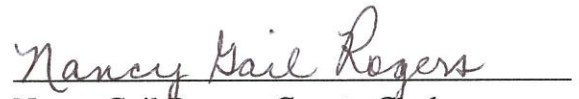
A motion was made by Commissioner Watkins that an emergency declaration resolution be approved to avoid the normal bid process in order to start the bidding process and establish a contract to begin work on the building located at 643 Pearl Bates Road, Eastman, Georgia to be used as a courthouse for Dodge County as soon as possible. Commissioner Niblett made the second and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Commissioner Howell asked the chairman to appoint a committee to work with County Manager Spencer Barron to move the contract process forward. Chairman McCranie said he would gauge interest among the board following the meeting and make the appointment.

Adjourn

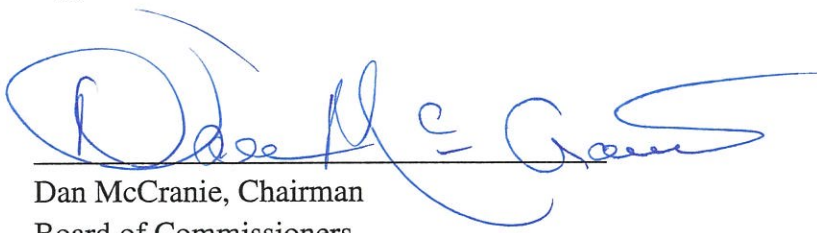
Commissioner Howell made a motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by Commissioner Watkins. All voted in favor of adjournment.

Signed:



Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:



Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

March 18, 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 18, 2019, 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. The devotional and prayer was given by Commissioner Cheek.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

A. Jeff Creech – Dodge County EMS Director

EMS Director Jeff Creech introduced Stryker representative, Laura Person, who had brought equipment to demonstrate for the board. Board members, along with the county manager and clerk went to the parking lot for the demonstration of the stretcher and Lifepak monitor and defibrillator. She also gave packet handouts on the equipment to the board including payment options and payment plans. County Manager Spencer Barron requested a committee to be appointed to work with him to evaluate the equipment. Commissioners Cheek and Niblett were appointed to the committee.

B. Charles Williams – Dodge County Eastman Development Authority

Williams informed the board on upcoming events of interest including a program sponsored by Georgia Farm Bureau for farmers on the assistance available from Hurricane Michael to be held Thursday, March 21st at 5:30 p.m. at the Terry Coleman Conference Center. He also said a flag raising ceremony would be held at the CSS Center at 11 a.m. on the same day and encouraged the board to attend.

Approval of Minutes

A. March 4, 2019 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections, or deletions to the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 4, 2019. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the minutes with Commissioner Watkins making the second. The vote was unanimous to approve.

B. March 6, 2019 Called Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections, or deletions to the minutes of the called meeting and public hearing held on March 6, 2019. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve and Commissioner Niblett made the second. All voted in favor of approval.

Old Business

A. July 4th Fireworks Request

Commissioner Check made a motion to approve the request from the City of Eastman for funding of the July 4th fireworks show at three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00). Commissioner Niblett seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous to approve the motion.

B. Senior Citizens Center Representative Appointment

Chairman McCranie asked if there were any nominations to appoint a representative to the Senior Citizens Center to replace Bobby Peacock. Commissioner Watkins asked that the matter be tabled to seek someone interested in serving.

C. City of Rhine Request

The county manager referred to a letter from the City of Rhine asking that the old city hall be deeded to the Pondtown Committee. Elections were previously held at the building. The county attorney suggested that the county convey property to only other governmental units not a committee in order to stipulate that the property come back to the county. The county attorney was instructed to research the transfer and put on the agenda at the next meeting.

County Manager Report

County Manager Barron reported there was good progress on the former AT&T building with the carpet removed and base plated for walls down. There were no questions from the board.

Public Comments

Sharon Cobb Flanagan commented that Golf Course Road was deteriorating badly and worsening daily.

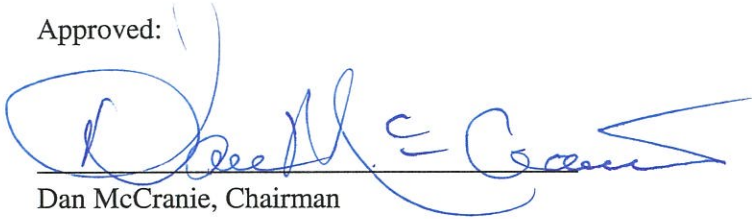
Adjourn

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

Signed:

Nancy Gail Rogers
Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dan McCranie", written over a horizontal line.

Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

April 1, 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: Spencer Barron, County Manager
Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Absent: John Harrington, County Attorney

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, April 1, 2019, 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 include an executive session for personnel and property acquisition. Commissioner Howell made the motion as requested and Commissioner Niblett made the second. All voted in favor of the motion and the agenda was amended. Chairman McCranie led the pledge of allegiance to the American flag and a devotional and prayer was given by Commissioner Cheek.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

There were no elected officials or department heads present who wished to speak.

Approval of Minutes

A. March 18, 2019 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections, or deletions to the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 18, 2019. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the minutes and Commissioner Watkins made the second. All voted in the affirmative.

Old Business

A. Senior Citizens Center Representative Appointment

Chairman McCranie asked if there were any nominations for the appointment or if the matter needed to be tabled for additional time to search for a nominee. There were no nominees and the matter was tabled for the present.

B. City of Rhine Request

County Manager Spencer Barron told the board that the Mayor of Rhine had agreed for the property to be transferred to the City of Rhine instead of the Pondtown Committee. The county attorney had suggested the county execute a quit claim deed to the City of Rhine. He said the building was a former voting precinct and a title search showed no transfer of ownership. Commissioner Watkins said that he saw no benefit to keep the building and made a motion to execute the quit claim deed in favor of the City of Rhine. Commissioner Cheek made the second and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked for any questions or comments concerning the checklist of accounts payable payments. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the payments and the second was made by Commissioner Niblett. All voted yes and the motion passed.

B. TSPLOST Resolution

The county manager asked the board to pass a resolution to be part of the Heart of Georgia Altamaha Service Delivery Region and propose a one cent sales tax to fund transportation infrastructure improvements in the region. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the resolution and Commissioner Watkins made the second. The vote was taken and the resolution was approved.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Cheek reported for the EMS committee consisting of the county manager and Commissioner Niblett and herself. She had done research on the stretchers and monitors demonstrated at the last meeting. She gave packets of the information with the different options to all the board members and asked them to look at it because there was a real need for the equipment.

County Manager Report

County Manager Spencer Barron said he would reserve his comments until after the executive session.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Executive Session

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to go into executive session and Commissioner Watkins made the second. All voted in favor of the motion.

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

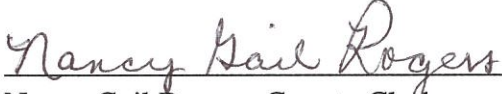
Commissioner Howell made a motion to release SPLOST funds to the Development Authority in the amount of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) for economic development subject to the funds being available. Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion and all voted yes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Niblett to authorize the county manager to negotiate with Mark Studstill on the final contract to renovate the property on Pearl Bates Road into a permanent courthouse with occupancy hopefully in May. Commissioner Cheek seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous to approve.

Adjourn

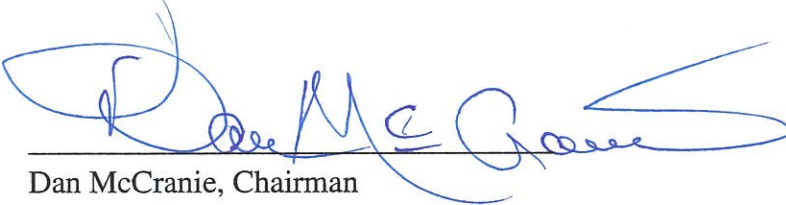
Commissioner Howell made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion. All voted in favor of adjournment.

Signed:



Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:



Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

April 15, 2019

Present: Dan McCranie, Chairman
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

Absent: William T. Howell, Vice-Chairman & District 1 Commissioner

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, April 15, 2019, 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. The devotional and prayer was given by Commissioner Cheek.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

Sharon Cobb Flanagan – Dodge County Farmers Market

Sharon Cobb Flanagan reminded the board that the Dodge County Farmers Market would celebrate their third anniversary on Saturday, May 4th with a caramel cake contest and other activities.

Approval of Minutes

A. April 1, 2019 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections or deletions to the minutes of the regular meeting held on April 1, 2019. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the minutes with Commissioner Watkins making the second. The vote was unanimous to approve.

Old Business

A. Senior Citizens Center Representative Appointment

There were no nominees and the appointment was tabled for now.

B. EMS Equipment

Commissioner Cheek reported for the committee to study the EMS request for equipment. She said the committee recommends the purchase of three (3) new Power Pro stretchers and three (3)

Life Pak monitors at a negotiated savings of \$20,307 to be paid in three (3) annual payments. Commissioner Watkins said the purchase of the ambulance for \$22,000 with 87,000 actual miles was to add another ambulance for a spare and it would need to be equipped with a mount system to accommodate the new stretchers. Commissioner Watkins made the second and all voted in favor of the purchase.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked the board to review the accounts payable checklist for any questions or comments. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the payments, Commissioner Cheek made the second and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

B. Roddy Fire Department

Fire Chief Kevin Cranford of Roddy Fire Department asked the board for SPLOST funds to purchase a 2004 Ford F450 Rescue Truck for \$12,500.00. He said they had used the same truck for fifteen (15) or more years. Commissioner Niblett asked if the SPLOST funds were available and the county manager replied yes. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the request and Commissioner Cheek made the second. The vote was taken and the motion passed.

C. Sanitation

County Manager Spencer Barron said that he and Richard Harrell met with the Litter Free Dodge Committee last week and he thanked Harrell for being present for the discussion tonight. He said there were eighteen (18) dumpster sites in the county with the sites at Dubois and Ben Giddens Road being the worst for illegal dumping and scattered debris. He proposed to shut down the sites at Dubois and Ben Giddens Road and open the transfer station at the Dodge County Landfill with extended hours from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays and possibly on Sunday afternoon from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. He said the change should be run in the local newspaper and put on the county website as well as the Litter Free Dodge facebook page for a period of two weeks before the actual closing of the sites. He said an addition two to three part-time employees could be hired at ten dollars (\$10.00) per hour to man the transfer station. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to hire three (3) part time employees and to close the Ben Giddens Road and Dubois sites and extend the hours at the transfer station from 7a.m. to 7p.m. weekdays and Sunday from 1p.m. to 5p.m. and to run in the local paper and start in two (2) weeks. Commissioner Cheek seconded the motion and all voted yes.

Commissioner Reports

Chairman McCranie and Commissioner Niblett said construction work at the temporary courthouse was progressing with both of them having visited there the past week.

County Manager Report

County Manager Spencer Barron thanked the commissioners for making decisions and trying to do the best for the more than twenty thousand (20,000) people of Dodge County.

Public Comments

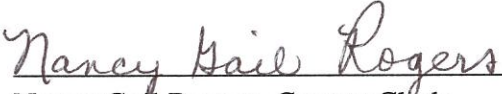
Sharon Cobb Flanagan of the Litter Free Dodge Committee said the committee is pursuing a tire abatement program with state funding.

EMS Director Jeff Creech thanked the board for approving the EMS equipment purchase and said it would be a game changer for the department. Chairman McCranie thanked EMS Director Jeff Creech for bringing the newly acquired ambulance to the meeting for the board to see.

Adjourn

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by Commissioner Niblett. All voted to adjourn.

Signed:



Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:



Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

May 6, 2019

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

Also Present: John Harrington, County Attorney
Spencer Barron, County Manager
Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Absent: Terry L. Niblett, District 2 Commissioner
Karen Cheek, District 4 Commissioner

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, May 6, 2019, in Suite 101 of the Dodge County Courthouse Annex. Chairman McCranie called the meeting to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and prayer. The county attorney noted a quorum was present.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

A. Travis Niblett – Dodge County Recreation Department

Travis Niblett of the Dodge County Recreation Department passed out bids obtained to install batting cages in the gymnasium at the complex using SPLOST funds. He said that the request was to purchase from Tommy Barber Sports for \$15,650.00. After confirmation that SPLOST funds were available Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the purchase and the second was made by Commissioner Watkins. All voted to approve the purchase.

B. Sharon Cobb Flanagan – Dodge County Farmers Market

Sharon Cobb Flanagan of the Dodge County Farmers Market thanked the board for their support and reported the recent three year celebration was a big success with more than four hundred fifty (450) attending and twenty-one (21) vendors enjoying live band music, a petting zoo and eleven (11) entrants in the caramel cake contest.

Approval of Minutes

A. April 15, 2019 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections or deletions to the minutes of the regular meeting held on April 15, 2019. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve followed by the second from Commissioner Watkins. The vote was unanimous to approve.

Old Business

A. Senior Citizens Center Representative Appointment

The county manager said that Commissioner Niblett had a lead on a nominee for the vacancy and asked that in his absence the matter be tabled until the next meeting.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked the board to take a minute to look over the list for any questions. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the payments seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The motion passed.

B. DFACS Board Appointment

Chairman McCranie referred to a letter received from the Dodge County Department of Family and Children Services advising that the term of Michael McClinton will expire on June 30, 2019, and stating he has been an excellent board member and he was will to be reappointed for another term expiring June 30, 2024. Commissioner Howell made a motion to reappoint McClinton for another term and Commissioner Watkins seconded his motion. All voted in the affirmation and McClinton was reappointed.

C. Employee Health Insurance Committee

Chairman McCranie was asked to appoint a committee to explore options for the employee health insurance renewal. Commissioners Howell and Cheek were appointed to the committee along with the county manager.

D. Update – Dodge County Government Center

County Manager Spencer Barron said that work was progressing on the new county government building with a goal to be in by June 1st to June 15th. Internet service is being negotiated with AT&T.

E. Signage for Dodge County Government Center

Several options for signage at the new government center were shown.

Commissioner Reports

There were no reports from the board.

County Manager Report

County Manager Spencer Barron said the main topic continued to be moving the dumpster locations at Dubois and Ben Giddens Road. He said a public notice would run in the local paper and post on the county facebook page detailing the present dumpster locations and hours of operation at the landfill.

Public Comments

Sharon Cobb Flanagan stated four (4) more no littering signs had been purchased and there were request for more signs.

Juliette Roberson of 709 Abbeville Highway requested a sign for "No Thru Traffic" be installed on the road by her home off Highway 87 to deter speeders on the road.

Executive Session

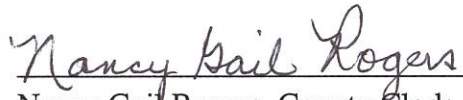
Commissioner Watkins made a motion to go into executive session to discuss legal matters and property acquisition. Commissioner Howell made the second and all voted yes.

At the conclusion of the executive session Commissioner Watkins made a motion to return to the regular meeting. Commissioner Howell seconded his motion and the motion passed.

Adjourn

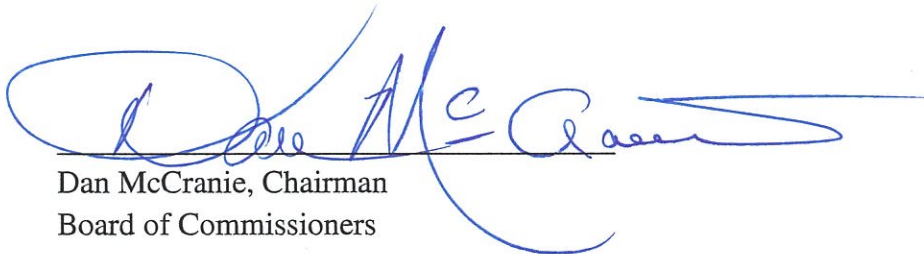
With no further business to come before the board, Commissioner Watkins motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Howell seconded the motion which was approved by unanimous vote.

Signed:



Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:



Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

May 20, 2019

Present: Dan McCranie, Chairman
William T. Howell, Vice-Chairman & District 1 Commissioner
Terry 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, May 20, 2019, in Suite 101 of the Dodge County Courthouse Annex. Chairman McCranie called the meeting to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Cheek gave the devotional and prayer.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

A. SPLOST

County Manager Spencer Barron said the city officials and local mayors had been invited to the meeting to start the negotiations on the SPLOST renewal. He said each had been give a checklist with dates for the timeline including the referendum and call for election. He said a second meeting would be needed to finalize requests and review projects. It was decided that a second meeting would be held on Tuesday, June 4th at 6:00 p.m. at the Courthouse annex meeting room. Each entity should bring a list of projects and requests to the work session. Barron said the 2013 SPLOST had been projected to generate thirteen million dollars (\$13,000,000.00) in revenue and to date had actually generated eight point one million dollars (\$8,100,000.00). Commissioner Watkins made a motion to hold the work session on the aforementioned date and Commissioner Howell made the second. All voted yes to the motion. A list of those attending for this part of the meeting is attached and made a part of these minutes.

B. Travis Niblett – Dodge County Recreation Department

Mr. Niblett said he did not wish to address the board at this time.

Approval of Minutes

A. May 6, 2019 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, deletions or corrections to the minutes of the meeting held on May 6, 2019. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the minutes as presented with the second from Commissioner Watkins. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Old Business

A. Senior Citizens Center Representative Appointment

Chairman McCranie asked were there any nominees for the appointment and Commissioner Niblett replied there was nothing new to report.

New Business

A. Crossroad Volunteer Fire Department

Chief Tommy Barrentine of the Crossroads Volunteer Fire Department said his department had been blessed with eight (8) new volunteers who would be starting their training class and needed new gear and communications equipment including pagers. He said the total cost needed was thirteen thousand three hundred fifty two dollars and thirty cents (\$13,352.30). The chairman asked if the funds were available from SPLOST and the reply was yes. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the request and Commissioner Watkins made the second. The vote was taken and the motion passed.

B. 2019 LMIG Bid

The county manager said the advertisement for bids for the 2019 LMIG projects had resulted in only one bid from Everett Dykes Grassing Company for eight hundred thirty seven thousand one hundred forty-seven dollars and ten cents (\$837,147.10). He said the bid was twenty two thousand dollars (\$22,000.00) under the estimate of eight hundred fifty nine thousand three hundred sixty four dollars and thirty-five cents (\$859,364.35). Commissioner Howell made a motion to table the approval until the type of resurfacing for the bid was verified by the engineer. Commissioner Niblett seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

C. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked the board to look over the list of payments for any questions or comments. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the payments seconded by Commissioner Niblett and the motion passed.

Commissioner Reports

There were no reports from the board.

County Manager Report

County Manager Spencer Barron reported that he and Chairman McCranie had attended the T-SPLOST regional meeting where projects for the region were designated and resolutions drawn up.

Next he submitted bids for a four wheel drive tractor for the road department asking the board to consider three options:

- New John Deere tractor \$31,500.00
- New Massey Ferguson tractor \$31,500.00
- Used John Deere 75 HP \$25,900.00

Commissioner Cheek asked if T-SPLOST funds were available for the purchase and the reply was yes. Commissioner Howell made a motion to purchase the used John Deere 75 HP tractor and Commissioner Watkins made the second. All voted yes to the purchase.

County Attorney Harrington said he wanted to clear the confusion regarding the discussion concerning alcohol consumption at the Dodge County Recreation Department which is property owned by Dodge County. He said the need for a statute or law through a local ordinance stating no alcohol consumption pointing to the safety for children and others at the complex should be given consideration. He also asked the board to amend the agenda to allow for an executive session to discuss legal matters prompted by a phone call he received late in the day.

Public Comments

Sharon Cobb Flanagan commented that the local farmers market had a good Saturday. She stated the Ben Giddens/ Dubois dumpster location was open to the north side of the county with one location at Chester, the airport, and the landfill. She asked the board to give consideration to opening another location.

Attorney Rita Llop asked for the checklist for the SPLOST referendum.

Cindy Eckles of the Dodge County News asked about progress on the new county building. The county manager replied that carpet was being installed this week and all improvements looked good.

Executive Session

Commissioner Howell made a motion to amend the agenda and move into executive session to discuss legal matters. Commissioner Cheek made the second and all voted yes to the motion.

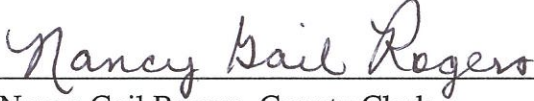
Commissioner Watkins made a motion to end the executive session and return to the regular meeting. Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Commissioner Watkins to accept the LMIG bid as is subject to change orders with the option to upgrade to asphalt. Commissioner Niblett made the second and all voted in the affirmative.

Adjourn

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

Signed:



Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:



Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

June 3, 2019

Present: Dan McCranie, Chairman
William T. Howell, Vice-Chairman & District 1 Commissioner
Terry 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, June 3, 2019, in Suite 101 of the Dodge County Courthouse Annex. Chairman McCranie called the meeting to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Cheek gave the devotional and prayed.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

Sharon Cobb Flanagan reported that attendance at the Dodge County Farmers Market was good with seventeen vendors with good produce.

Approval of Minutes

A. May 20, 2019 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections or deletions to the minutes of the regular meeting held on May 20, 2019. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the minutes with Commissioner Watkins making the second. All voted to approve.

Old Business

A. Dodge County Recreation Department Alcohol Ordinance

Chairman McCranie referred to a letter received from the recreation department requesting action by the board to put in place a no alcohol ordinance for the local recreation facilities. The county attorney asked for direction from the board to draft the ordinance adapting it to state law and the limits set by the driving laws of the State of Georgia. Commissioner Howell made a motion to adopt the ordinance to prohibit alcohol consumption for activities at the recreation complex as well as those who rent the facility. Commissioner Cheek seconded the motion and Commissioner Watkins asked to clarify that the ordinance would be specific to existing laws and fine schedules and would be enforced by the Probate Court. The vote was taken and the motion passed.

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked for any questions or comments concerning the Accounts Payable checklist. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve. Commissioner Watkins made the second and the vote was unanimous to approve.

B. Appointment to Dodge County Recreation Department Advisory Board

Chairman McCranie asked for nominations for the appointment to the Recreation Advisory Board. Commissioner Howell nominated Bodie Gray. Commissioner Watkins nominated Cody Sheffield. Commissioner Howell made a motion to close the nominations and Commissioner Watkins made the second. Chairman McCranie called for a vote with Commissioner Howell being the sole vote for Bodie Gray. Commissioners Watkins and Cheek voted for Cody Sheffield and Commissioner Niblett abstained. Chairman McCranie announced that Cody Sheffield was the appointee.

C. Authorization to Change Signatures on Bank Accounts

County Manager Barron said that the board had granted authority as a check signer at the Citizens Bank and needed to grant authority to add the county manager and county clerk to accounts at the Bank of Eastman and to remove Bobby Peacock as a signer on those accounts. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to authorize the changes and Commissioner Watkins made the second. All voted in favor of the motion.

Commissioner Reports

There were no reports from the board.

County Manager Report

The county manager submitted a request from Public Works Director Richard Harrell to purchase a trailer with two bids submitted at \$4,834 and \$3,100 from available SPLOST funds. Commissioner Howell made a motion to accept the low bid of \$3,100. Commissioner Niblett made the second and all voted in the affirmative.

The county manager also reported that good progress was being made at the former AT&T building with the Grand Jury set to convene there Tuesday week.

Public Comments

Juliette Roberson of 709 Abbeville Highway asked about the signs requested for her road and County Manager Barron said the signs had been ordered and will be put up when delivered.

Cindy Eckles of the Dodge County News asked about the schedule move for the building on Pearl Bates Avenue and Barron answered that the court would move to the building for the grand jury to meet in June. He stated that the county officials would move after the court was in place

with the Tax Commissioner, Tax Assessor, and the Registrar being located in the Courthouse Annex.

Jesse Bearden commented that he was personally against eminent domain acquisition of the acreage on Ben Giddens road and asked that the county negotiate with Rayonier to purchase the acreage.

Executive Session

The county attorney asked that the motion for the executive session be amended to include discussion of legal matters as well as property acquisition and Commissioner Howell moved to make the change. Commissioner Watkins seconded his motion and the change was made. Commissioner Howell made a motion to move into executive session with the second from Commissioner Niblett. The motion passed.

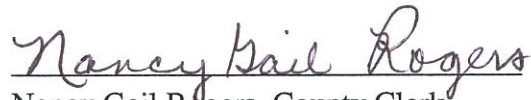
At the conclusion of the executive session Commissioner Cheek made a motion to return to the regular meeting. Commissioner Watkins made the second and all voted yes.

Commissioner Cheek made a motion to approve payment of \$121,910.64 which represents fifty percent (50%) of the cost to pave Dodge Avenue from the railroad tracks to the transfer station with the city sharing in the repaving cost at one half or fifty percent (50%). Commissioner Niblett seconded her motion. Commissioner Watkins stated that the county legally owned one half (1/2) of the road and the city owned one half (1/2) and the amount would represent a fifty fifty split of the cost with the county's portion coming from TSPLOST. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

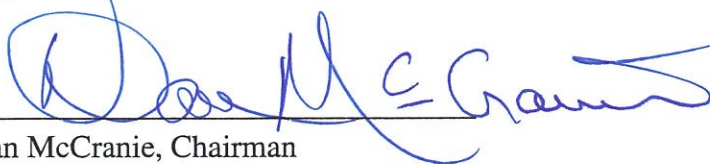
Adjourn

Commissioner Howell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Niblett made the second and all voted yes.

Signed:


Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:


Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

June 17, 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, June 17, 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 followed by a prayer from Chairman McCranie.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

There were no elected officials or department heads present who wished to speak.

Approval of Minutes

A. June 3, 2019 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections or deletions to the minutes of the meeting held on June 3, 2019. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve seconded by Commissioner Niblett. The motion passed.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked the board to review the list of Accounts Payable payments for any questions or comments. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the payments with the second coming from Commissioner Cheek. The vote was unanimous to approve.

B. Approval of Employee Health Insurance Plan

Commissioner Cheek spoke for the Health Insurance Committee and recommended the best course of action was to renew within the ACCG pool. She said the premium increase was

28.19% over last year. She made a motion to renew with Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield through the ACCG pool offering the same three (3) plan options as last year and to reimburse employees who meet the deductible of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) per employee. Commissioner Howell who also served on the health insurance committee made the second. The vote was taken and the motion passed by unanimous consent.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Cheek said she would like to give a shout out to Richard Harrell and his department for improvements on roads in her district. She said the addition of rock to 4/10 mile on Free Gift Church Road had helped with drainage and thanked him for his help.

County Manager Report

The county manager told the board that a successful grand jury had been held in the new government center building formerly known as the AT&T building. He said an official grand opening of the facility would be scheduled and announced to the public. Chairman McCranie commented that the outside painting of the new vault complimented the building and improved the appearance.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Executive Session

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to move into executive session with the second from Commissioner Niblett. All voted in the affirmative.

At the end of the executive session, Commissioner Watkins made a motion to return to the regular meeting. Commissioner Cheek made the second and the motion passed.

Adjourn

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

Signed:

Nancy Gail Rogers
Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:

Dan McCranie
Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

July 1, 2019

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

Also Present: John Harrington, County Attorney
Spencer Barron, County Manager
Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Absent: Brian Watkins, District 3 Commissioner

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, July 1, 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 prayer.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

There were no elected officials or department heads present who wished to address the board.

Approval of Minutes

A. June 17, 2019 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections or deletions to the minutes of the regular meeting held on June 17, 2019. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the minutes and Commissioner Niblett made the second. All voted in favor of the motion.

Old Business

A. SPLOST Resolution

County Manager Barron asked the board to consider authorizing the county attorney, Mr. Harrington to draft a resolution for the upcoming 2019 SPLOST referendum and include the following:

- Dodge County Hospital 15.0%
- Recreation Department 1.1%
- Rural Fire 4.0%
- Development Authority 3.0%
- City of Eastman 21.0%

- City of Chauncey 1.5%
- City of Chester 1.5%
- City of Milan 1.5%
- City of Rhine 1.5%
- County Roads, Buildings, etc. 49.9%

Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the request and Commissioner Cheek made the second. The motion passed.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked the board if there were any questions or comments concerning the checklist of Accounts Payable payments. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the payments and Commissioner Howell made the second. All voted in the affirmative and the payments were approved.

B. Library Board Appointment

Chairman McCranie asked for nominees to fill the vacancy on the library board .Commissioner Cheek nominated Maria Williams. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to close nominations seconded by Commissioner Howell. Williams was appointed by acclamation.

C. Approval of Transit TPO Proposal

Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the proposal from Middle Georgia Community Action Agency for the third party operator of the county transit program. Commissioner Niblett made the second and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Commissioner Reports

There were no reports from the board.

County Manager Report

County Manager Barron asked the board to approve the Transit 5311 program TPO cost to Middle Georgia Community Action Agency at an increase cost of \$11,000.00. The motion to approve was made by Commissioner Howell and seconded by Commissioner Niblett. All voted yes and the motion passed.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Adjourn

With no other business to be addressed by the board, Commissioner Howell made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Niblett made the second and all voted in favor of adjournment.

Signed:

Nancy Gail Rogers
Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:

Dan McCranie
Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

July 15, 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: Spencer Barron, County Manager
Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Absent: John Harrington, County Attorney

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, July 15, 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 Watkins prayed.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

Rhett Walker, Clerk of Court

Clerk of Court Rhett Walker addressed the board regarding the records still stored in his courthouse office and the courthouse basement and said he had priced a filing system to hold the documents at a cost ranging from \$35,000 to \$37,000. He said he had talked with File Solve of Charlotte, North Carolina who had given a price of \$17,000 to load, inventory and index the criminal and civil files and then store at their facility at a cost of twenty-five cents per box per month. He said the estimated storage cost would be eighty dollars (\$80) per month with copies available within two (2) days at a cost of \$1.50 per copy delivered by courier or overnight shipping. He distributed the contract information to the board and added that the District Attorney was also planning to use this company for his records and the cost was the most reasonable he had found. He said he would need a decision by their next meeting in August.

Charles Williams, Dodge County Eastman Development Authority

Williams reported for the Development Authority that their audit was completed on time with no issues. He said they were current and registered with the Department of Community Affairs.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman McCranie asked the board to review the minutes of the July 1st meeting for any additions, deletions, or corrections. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the minutes and Commissioner Howell made the second. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked for any questions on comments regarding the Accounts Payable checklist submitted for approval. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve and the second was made by Commissioner Niblett. The motion passed.

Commissioner Reports

There were no reports from the board.

County Manager Report

County Manager Barron reported that the transition to the former AT&T building had gone smoothly with no interruption in essential services. He said work was underway to install a handicap walkway and handicap accessible entrance to the doorway of the Registrar office.

Public Comments

Residents of Lenny Drive in Eastman told the board that a family with pit bulldogs on their street threatened the safety of adults and especially children in their neighborhood. They reported that the law had been called to intervene and the officers were scared to get out of their vehicles. The board agreed to review the ordinances in order to address the situation.

Charles Williams announced Space Camp would be held July 26th through August 1st at the flight school. He said it was an inspiring and education experience for children.

Executive Session

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

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

Adjourn

Commissioner Howell made a motion to adjourn the meeting followed by a second from Commissioner Niblett. The vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting.

Signed:

Nancy Gail Rogers
Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:

Dan McCranie
Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

August 5, 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, August 5, 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

A. Rhett Walker – Clerk of Court Records Retention

The county manager spoke to the board in the absence of Walker and said a decision would be needed on the request from the previous meeting.

B. Magistrate – New Software Program

The county manager told the board that the Magistrate's computers had been hacked with a Ransom ware virus and new software would need to be purchased. He said a representative of the office would need to make the request.

Sharon Cobb Flanagan of the Dodge County Farmers Market said work was underway on the Botanical Gardens and there had been a steady flow of customers for the market with good sales.

Approval of Minutes

A. July 15, 2019 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections, or deletions to the minutes of the regular meeting held on July 15, 2019. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the minutes with Commissioner Niblett making the second. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked if there were any questions or comments concerning the checklist of Accounts Payable payments. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the payments seconded by Commissioner Watkins. All voted in the affirmative.

B. Sanitation Closure

The county manager reported he had met with the Sanitation Committee and Richard Harrell with the recommendation to close the following dumpster locations:

1. Parkerson Church Road at Golf Cart World
2. S.C. Cadwell Road
3. Suomi
4. Wahl to Wahl
5. James Troup Road

County Manager Barron said expenses showed a savings of eighteen thousand dollars (\$18,000.00) over last year since closing dump site locations in the northern part of the county and expected more savings of expense and time traveling to multiple sites with these closures. Commissioner Howell made a motion to accept the recommendation of the committee. The second was made by Commissioner Niblett, vote was taken and the motion passed with Commissioners Howell, Niblett and Cheek voting yes and Commissioner Watkins voting no.

C. Road Department Mower Purchase

Barron presented a request from Richard Harrell to purchase a zero turn mower and had obtained the following bids:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| • Gravely residential mower | \$5,900 |
| • Gravely commercial mower | \$7,995 |
| • Bobcat | \$7,699 |

He said Harrell had asked they consider the Gravely because he was familiar with them and could work on them. Commissioner Niblett asked if the funds were available and Barron replied yes. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to purchase the zero turn Gravely and Commissioner Watkins made the second. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

D. Metal Detector Request

The county manager told the board he had been approached and asked the policy on using metal detectors on county property. The county attorney said his concerns would be digging on county

property by third parties and it could require setting up a permitting process. All agreed to deny the request.

E. Gresston Fire Department Request

Bob Braswell, Chief of the Gresston Fire Department, requested SPLOST funds for extraction tools. He said in the past three (3) months the department had performed six (6) extractions and the bid proposal submitted was quite adequate for their needs. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the request with Commissioner Niblett making the second. All voted in favor of the request.

F. Millage Rate

The county manager said the county was looking at a deficit of \$267,000 due to increases in health, property and workers compensation insurance. He said there was no savings or reserves to absorb the shortfall. He said an alternative might be to reorganize the Road Department with SPLOST funds. He said a one (1) mill increase would generate revenue of \$382,000 and would require advertising in the legal organ with three public hearings to be scheduled. After discussion of the options, Commissioner Cheek made a motion to consider raising one (1) mill and start the process through advertisement. Commissioner Watkins made the second and the motion passed.

Commissioner Reports

There were no reports from the board.

County Manager Report

County Manager Barron said he had reviewed the most current dog ordinance and obtained a copy of the City of Eastman ordinance for comparison. He said there was no animal control officer and the Sheriff had received eighty (80) calls involving dogs in the last six months and one hundred fifty-one (151) last year.

Commissioner Watkins asked if action was needed on storage of records for the Clerk of Court and Barron answered that the quote expires this week. Commissioner Howell said he thought the proposal for storage was the most economical solution. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve the request from Clerk of Court Rhett Walker and accept the bid and proposal. The second was made by Commissioner Niblett and all voted in the affirmative to approve.

Public Comments

Brandon Thomas asked questions concerning the revenue projections from the proposed millage rate increase and the deficit concerns.

Danny Howell asked about his rights to protect his home and family from dangerous dogs in his neighborhood.

Norm Simmons asked questions concerning the ownership of the property at the former Dubois dumpster location.

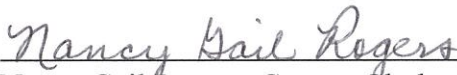
Ronnie Parker cited more instances where the neighboring dogs threatened his grandchildren.

Sharon Cobb Flanagan asked if the game warden could be called for the threatening dogs.

Adjourn

Commissioner Howell made a motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by Commissioner Watkins. All voted in favor of adjournment.

Signed:



Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:



Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

August 19, 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, August 19, 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 Commissioner Howell prayed.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

A. Henry Whitfield – Middle Georgia State University

Whitfield thanked the board for allowing him to give a current report and overview of accomplishments with the university. He also thanked the board for their kind and gracious support and invited all to attend the accreditation celebration on Thursday, September 5th.

B. Sharon Cobb Flanagan – Dodge County Farmers Market

Sharon Cobb Flanagan gave statistics for the local market saying that vendors were averaging eleven plus with shoppers using their EBT dollars for matching benefits. She passed out fliers to the board including a map of the markets in Georgia and showing the market in Eastman.

Approval of Minutes

A. August 5, 2019 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections, or deletions to the minutes of the meeting held on August 5, 2019. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the minutes and Commissioner Howell made the second. All voted to approve the minutes.

Old Business

The chairman announced the final public hearing on the proposed millage rate increase would be held on Thursday, August 22nd at 6:00 p.m. He said the local Board of Education will meet on August 29th to set their millage and Georgia law required their millage to be set prior to the

county millage rate. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to set a called meeting for the board on Friday, August 30th at 1:00 p.m. to set the millage rate. Commissioner Watkins made the second and the motion passed. Tax Appraiser Dale Jones said the digest was due on Tuesday following Labor Day in Atlanta.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

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

B. Transit 5311 Title VI Adoption

Commissioner Howell made a motion to adopt the Transit 5311 Title VI plan drafted and approved by the Georgia Department of Transportation and required by them to receive grant funds. Commissioner Niblett made the second and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

C. September Meeting Date Change Labor Day Holiday

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to change the date of the first meeting in September from Monday, September 2nd to Tuesday, September 3rd due to the Labor Day holiday for employees. Commissioner Howell seconded his motion and all voted in favor of the change.

Commissioner Reports

There were no reports from the board.

County Manager Report

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

Public Comments

Residents of Lennie Lane told the board that a news crew from Macon had been called and the reporter was attacked while doing the news story. He said Representative Pruett had been called and told them there was a local humane society. The county attorney told them there was no local humane society only a private animal shelter that will not take vicious dogs. Chairman McCranie said the county had tried animal control and could not afford the cost.

Executive Session

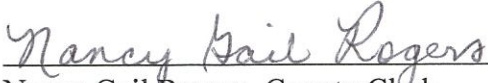
Commissioner Howell made a motion to go into executive session and Commissioner Watkins made the second. All voted in favor of the motion.

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

Adjourn

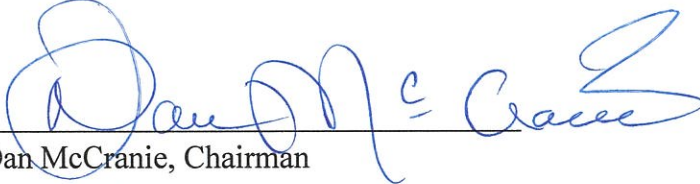
Chairman McCranie asked the board for any motions after the close of the executive session and Commissioner Howell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Watkins made the second and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Signed:



Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:



Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

August 30, 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 special called meeting at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, August 30, 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 Niblett prayed.

Executive Session

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to go into executive session at the request of the county attorney to discuss legal matters. Commissioner Niblett made the second and all voted in favor of the session.

At the conclusion of the discussion in executive session Commissioner Howell made a motion to end the session and return to the regular meeting. Commissioner Watkins made the second and the motion passed.

Business

A. Request for Digest Extension et al

County Attorney John Harrington stated the Tax Commissioner has asked for an extension for the digest due to not receiving timely information from the school board.

B. Set 2019 Millage Rate

Commissioner Cheek made a motion to raise the county millage rate by one (1) mill increase making the new rate 12.536. Commissioner Niblett made the second and all voted yes.

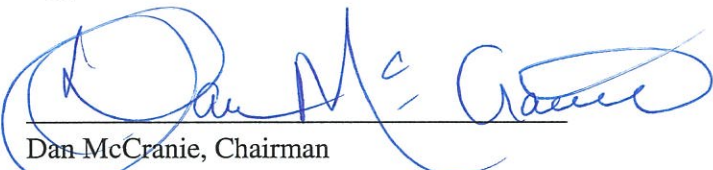
Adjourn

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

Signed:

Nancy Gail Rogers
Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:


Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

September 3, 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 Tuesday, September 3, 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 Commissioner Watkins prayed.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

Charles Williams – Dodge County Eastman Development Authority

Williams invited the board to attend the Barbeque & Blue Jeans event on September 12th sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce to be held at the Terry Coleman Center. He also asked the board for their participation with the Music on Main event scheduled for October 5th in downtown Eastman to showcase local musical talent.

Approval of Minutes

A. August 19, 2019 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections or deletions to the minutes of the regular meeting held on August 19, 2019. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the minutes with the second coming from Commissioners Howell and Watkins. All voted yes to the motion.

B. August 30, 2019 Called Meeting

Chairman McCranie again asked if there were any additions, corrections or deletions to the minutes of the called meeting held on August 30, 2019. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the minutes with Commissioner Niblett making the second. The vote was taken and the minutes were approved.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

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

B. Clay Kirkley- Insurance Proposal

Kirkley told the board that he was affiliated with Capstone Benefit Solutions of Statesboro and thanked them for the opportunity to speak with them and make a request to be a broker for the county. He said in the current health insurance environment there was a need for a broker and consultant. He gave the board a hand out and said advantages with Capstone as broker would be to improve health care for employees while saving money. He introduced Leonard Blount of Capstone Benefit Solutions who said the focus would be to create a community health program and said his company already provided coverage for the City of Eastman and another private employer locally. He said he had attended meetings with the local hospital administration to work out a plan for Dodge Select Healthcare to help Dodge County Hospital. He said if chosen as broker his company would analyze historical claims data to reach out for alternative plans from the big five providers and also to include a wellness plan for employees. After discussion and questions from the board, Chairman McCranie thanked them for coming and bringing the information.

Commissioner Reports

There were no reports from the Commissioners.

County Manager Report

County Manager Spencer Barron presented a request from Richard Harrell, Road Department Supervisor, to replace a 1972 motor grader. He said price quotes received were from \$271,000 to \$317,000 for a new grader and \$155,000 to \$185,000 for used with some of them being out of state. He said he had located a used John Deere for \$140,000 and had been testing it for three weeks. Mr. Tomberlin from the John Deere dealership in Macon was present for questions on the 2014 model with sloper. When asked he said there was no warranty on the used equipment. Commissioner Cheek asked if the bid process had been followed and the county manager replied yes. Chairman McCranie asked if TSPLOST funds were available for the purchase and the reply was yes. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to purchase the 2014 John Deere motor grader at \$140,000 with TSPLOST funds. Commissioner Watkins made the second and all voted yes.

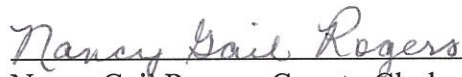
Public Comments

Mrs. Henrietta Daniels told the board she lived off Orphan Cemetery Road on Sparrow Drive and asked that the road be scraped saying it had last been scraped two to three years ago. The county manager said the master list for 911 shows Sparrow Drive to be a private road but the road may have been scraped and maintained as long as a child on the road was going to school and the road was being traveled by the school bus. Commissioner Cheek asked the process to change the road from private to public and Mr. Harrington was asked to look into the matter. Commissioner Watkins asked that it be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

Adjourn

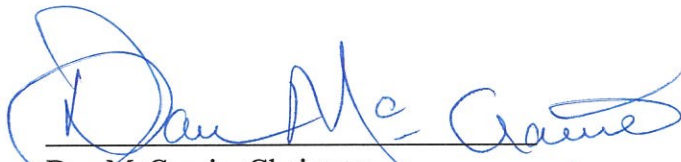
Commissioner Howell made a motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The vote was unanimous to adjourn.

Signed:



Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:



Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

September 16, 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, September 16, 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

Charles Williams – Dodge County Eastman Development Authority
Williams thanked the board for their support of the Chamber of Commerce Barbecue & Blue Jeans event. He reminded them that October 5th Music on Main would be featuring Rebecca Howell, Maple's Crown and to look for banners around town.

Approval of Minutes

A. September 3, 2019 Regular Meeting
Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections or deletions to the minutes of the regular meeting held on September 3, 2019. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve seconded by Commissioners Watkins and Howell. All voted to approve the minutes.

Old Business

A. Senior Citizens Board Appointment
Chairman McCranie asked for nominations and the county manager said that Mrs. Gladys Peacock, director of the local center has recommended Mrs. Vonceil Faircloth to be appointed. Commissioner Watkins asked that it be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

B. Sparrow Drive Request

County Manager Barron asked for the board's decision to open Sparrow Drive as a public road. Commissioner Watkins asked if Road Department Supervisor Richard Harrell had looked and

the reply was yes and he said it was a private road and not a through road. Commissioner Cheek asked if the road has been scraped previously and the reply was yes but it stopped about four years ago. Mrs. Daniels who lives on the road said the school bus did pick up a child on the road but not presently.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked the board to review the checklist of Accounts Payable payments for questions or comments. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the payments with Commissioner Howell making the second. The vote was unanimous to approve the payments.

B. Mike Pearson – Pearson & Company

Pearson thanked the board for the invitation and said his company had provided the health insurance coverage through ACCG for well over ten years. He said there were very few choices in the market primarily Blue Cross Blue Shield, Humana, Cigna, Aetna, and United Healthcare. He said the ACCG pool protects groups during bad years and once a group leaves the ACCG pool there is a two (2) year waiting period to rejoin. He gave handouts to the board and was questioned about changes to the plans after July 1st that were not reflected on plan summary information given to Dodge County employees during their open enrollment period. Pearson said his company forwarded information to Dodge County and the website had not been updated. He said his company should have caught it before forwarding the information.

Commissioner Reports

There were no reports from the board.

County Manager Report

The county manager told the board he was meeting with an engineering group to assess needs to apply for CDBG grant funds for the coming year. He said he was also working with the Road Supervisor on the LMIG resurfacing list for 2020.

Commissioner Watkins asked if renovations were complete on the new courthouse and Barron said a sign and chairs for the third court room were still lacking. Plans for a ribbon cutting and open house were discussed for October.

Commissioner Watkins made a motion that the special exemption on the bid process for purchases relating to the relocation of the courthouse and government offices be declared finished and the normal bid process to resume. Commissioner Niblett made the second to his motion and all voted yes.

Public Comments

Henrietta Daniels asked if the Sparrow Drive request would be on the next agenda.

Sharon Cobb-Flanagan for Litter Free Dodge announced a ribbon cutting at the Botanical Gardens adjacent to the Dodge County Farmers Market would be held on September 30th at 4:00 p.m. She said a representative from Keep Georgia Beautiful and Keep America Beautiful would be present and invited the board members as well.

Cindy Eckles of the Dodge County News said the Aviation School meeting was the same as the next scheduled board meeting with the program starting at 5:00 p.m. and lasting until 6:30 p.m.

Executive Session

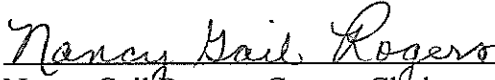
Commissioner Watkins made a motion to go into executive session for Land Acquisition and Legal Matters. Commissioner Howell made the second and all voted in the affirmative.

At the conclusion of the regular meeting, Commissioner Cheek made a motion to return to the regular meeting. Commissioner Watkins seconded his motion, vote was taken and motion passed.

Adjourn

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Commissioner Niblett making the second. All voted yes and the meeting was adjourned.

Signed:


Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:

Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

Called Joint Meeting with

Dodge County Eastman Development Authority

September 23, 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: Spencer Barron, County Manager
Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners met in a special called meeting on Monday, September 23, 2019, at the Chamber of Commerce building. Chairman Dan McCranie called the meeting to order and said it would be a joint meeting with members of the Dodge County Eastman Development Authority with an executive session to discuss property acquisition and legal matters. Butch Kirkley, chairman of the local development authority called his meeting to order with the following members in attendance:

- John Jessup
- Buddy Pittman
- Dennis Giddens
- Jon Butler
- Charles Williams
- Brian Watkins

Commissioner Howell made a motion for the Board of Commissioners to go into executive session with Commissioner Watkins making the second. All voted yes and motion passed.

John Jessup made a motion for the Development Authority to go into executive session and Dennis Giddens seconded his motion which passed by unanimous vote. Chairman Kirkley invited Ronnie Woodard of the Airport Authority to participate in the executive session.

At the conclusion of the executive session Commissioner Howell made a motion to return to the called meeting and Commissioner Niblett made the second. All voted to resume the meeting.

Dennis Giddens made a motion for the development authority to end their executive session and return to the called meeting. Buddy Pittman seconded his motion and the motion passed.

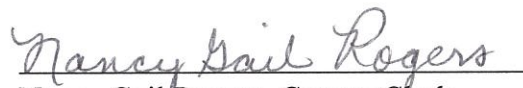
Dodge County Eastman Development Authority member John Jessup made a motion to allow for negotiation of the five acre property adjacent to the aviation school by the authority and to approve up to two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) as a purchase offer. Dennis Giddens made the second and the motion passed.

Next Giddens made a motion to request a drawdown of SPLOST funds for economic development in the amount of one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$125,000). Jon Butler made the second and the motion passed.

Commissioner Howell made a motion to grant the request of SPLOST funds in the amount of one hundred twenty-five thousand (\$125,000) and Commissioner Niblett made the second. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Commissioner Cheek made a motion to adjourn the called meeting with the second coming from Commissioner Niblett. All voted in the affirmative to end the meeting.

Signed:



Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:



Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

Called Board Meeting

October 3, 2019

Present: Dan McCranie, Chairman
Terry L. Niblett, District 2 Commissioner
Brian Watkins, District 3 Commissioner

Also Present: Spencer Barron, County Manager
Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk
Kay Graham, Tax Commissioner

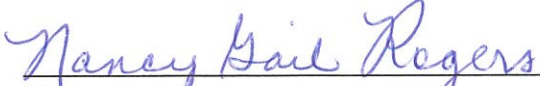
Absent: William T. Howell, Vice-Chairman & District 1 Commissioner
Karen Cheek, District 4 Commissioner

A called meeting of the Dodge County Board of Commissioners was held at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 3, 2019, in Suite 101 of the Dodge County Courthouse Annex. Chairman McCranie called the meeting to order and stated a quorum was present and the only business to be conducted was to adopt the millage rate for 2019.

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to adopt the millage rate of 12.536 for 2019. Commissioner Watkins made the second and all commissioners voted to approve the adoption of the millage rate.

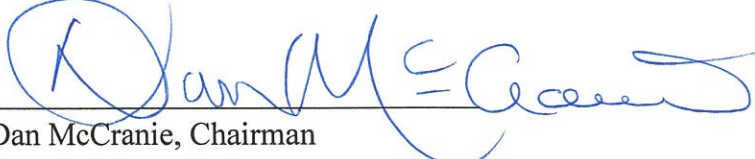
Commissioner Watkins made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Niblett made the second. All voted yes to adjourn.

Signed:



Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:



Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

October 7, 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, October 7, 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

Sharon Cobb Flanagan – Dodge County Farmers Market

Sharon Cobb Flanagan said she wanted the board to be aware of two changes with the market.

1) A manager had been hired for the Saturday market and 2) the market was charging vendor fees. She said a fee structure for the market was established and the fee pays for advertising and marketing. She said a couple of vendors were unhappy and it could affect vendor participation. She said the market manager is Roni Butts and was not a county employee. She said she was seeking plants for the beautification project at the botanical garden which was ongoing.

Approval of Minutes

A. September 16, 2019 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, deletions, or corrections to the minutes of the regular meeting held on September 16, 2019. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the minutes with Commissioner Howell making the second. All voted to approve the minutes.

B. September 23, 2019 Called Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections, or deletions to the minutes of the called meeting held on September 23, 2019. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the minutes and Commissioner Niblett made the second. The vote was taken and the motion passed.

C. October 3, 2019 Called Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any changes to the minutes of the called meeting held on Thursday, October 3, 2019. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Commissioner Niblett. All voted in the affirmative.

Old Business

A. Senior Citizens Board Appointment

Chairman McCranie asked for nominations to fill the vacancy on the Senior Citizens Board. Commissioner Niblett nominated Vonceil Faircloth. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to close nominations and Commissioner Cheek seconded his motion. Vonceil Faircloth was appointed by acclamation.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked the board to look over the accounts payable checklist of payments for any questions or comments. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the payments with Commissioner Cheek making the second. The vote was unanimous to approve the payments.

B. 2020 LMIG

County Manager Spencer Barron said in order to finalize the list of roads for the 2020 LMIG test drills were needed on Oak Grove Church Road and he was in the process of obtaining three (3) bids for the drill test. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve seconded by Commissioner Howell. All voted yes and the motion passed.

C. Hayes Hofstadtler – CDBG Liberty Street Area

Mr. Hofstadtler thanked the board and passed out copies of an overview of aerial photos of the area. He said he rode the area to inspect the streets and drainage. He said the area qualified with seventy percent (70%) being low to mod. He said the project would be a continuation with Phase 2 curb and gutter and called attention to the northeast corridor as a low point. County Manager Barron said that he would recommend that the county proceed with the project. Commissioner Cheek said that she had talked at length with the residents of the area and believed it was the right thing to do since the project had been on hold over ten (10) years. She made a motion to proceed seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The vote was taken and the motion passed.

D. Probate Judge Contract Collections Firm

The county manager referred to printed material from Probate Judge Al McCranie asking approval of a contract allowing the firm to add on a thirty percent (30%) fee for collections. County Attorney Harrington said he would look at the code section to see if it allowed for a change in the fee structure going forward. Commissioner Watkins asked that the matter be tabled until the next meeting allowing the county attorney to research the matter.

E. Becky Bryan – Insurance Presentation

Becky Bryan with AFLAC introduced Todd Hooper who gave an overview and presentation for National Financial Planners to be the broker for benefit and health care for Dodge County employees. He gave handouts to each board member and spoke at length about his company and the services they provide to their clients.

F. ABM Facility Services Proposal

There was no representative present.

Commissioner Reports

There were no reports from the board.

County Manager Report

The county manager had nothing to report.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Executive Session

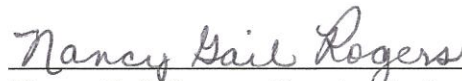
Commissioner Howell made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters, legal matters and property acquisition. Commissioner Niblett made the second and all voted yes.

At the end of the executive session Commissioner Watkins made a motion to return to the regular meeting seconded by Commissioner Cheek. All voted yes and motion passed.

Adjourn

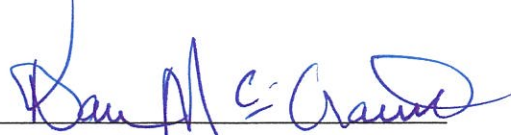
Commissioner Watkins made a motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by Commissioner Niblett. All voted in favor of adjournment.

Signed:



Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:



Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

October 21, 2019

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
Spencer Barron, 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, October 21, 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 Niblett prayed.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

Sharon Cobb Flanagan –Dodge County Farmers Market
Sharon Cobb Flanagan introduced Roni Butts, Market Manager of the Dodge County Farmers Market and said she and her husband are vendors as well as manager. Ms. Butts told the board it was an honor to serve the community in this manner and her goal was to grow the market.

Approval of Minutes

A. October 7, 2019 Regular Meeting
Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections, or deletions to the minutes of the regular meeting held on October 7, 2019. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Commissioner Niblett. All voted yes and the minutes were approved.

Old Business

A. Probate Judge Collections Contract
County Manager Spencer Barron asked that the matter be tabled until the next meeting.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

The chairman asked the board to look over the list of account payable payments for questions or comments. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the payments seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The vote was taken and the motion passed.

B. ABM Facility Services Proposal

The county manager introduced Jason Anderson and Jason Bolder from ABM Facility Services who gave a presentation on their company and the steps they utilize to evaluate facilities for improvement along with client references. After questions from the board the chairman thanked them for the information.

C. E-911 Generator

E-911 Director Ronnie Sheffield informed the board of recent repairs to the E-911 generator and after the third repair was told there was a chance of burning up the UPS system via the faulty generator. He presented the following three (3) quotes:

- Anderson Power Services Ft Valley, Georgia \$31,778.64
- Massingill Expert Services Eastman, Georgia \$36,500.00
- Pow=rcon Eastman, Georgia \$30,980.00

Sheffield said that he preferred diesel and the three quotes offered were for diesel. The county manager reminded the board that at present the county was renting a generator at \$4K per month. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to purchase the generator from the low bid at \$30,980.00 from PowerCon. Commissioner Howell made the second and all voted yes to the purchase.

D. E-911 Roof Repairs

County Manager Barron told the board there were over ten plus leaks at the E-911 building complicated by part of the roof being a flat roof and another part being an A-frame roof and offered repair options from three local contractors. Upon inspection of the repair proposals it was noted that none of the estimates included a completed new roof only partial repairs in various ways that were not comparable. Commissioner Howell suggested a complete metal roof of the entire building and after discussion it was agreed to solicit bids for a metal roof with a called meeting if necessary to review the bids and make a decision since the damage by recent rains made for poor working conditions for the employees of the department.

Commissioner Reports

Chairman McCranie reminded the board of the ACCG district meeting at Little Ocmulgee State Park in McRae on October 29 at 4 p.m. and that all board members were registered to attend.

County Manager Report

County Manager Barron presented the Oak Grove Church Road estimates with the recommendation from Lance Wood of Cornerstone Engineering at \$2,710.00. He said there was a base problem with the road that needed correcting before paving. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to go with the low bid seconded by Commissioner Niblett. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Executive Session

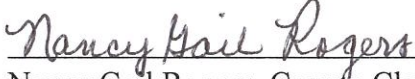
Commissioner Watkins made a motion to go into executive session and the second was made by Commissioner Howell. All voted yes and the motion passed.

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

Adjourn

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to adjourn the meeting followed by the second from Commissioner Watkins. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

Signed:



Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:



Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

November 4, 2019

Present: Dan McCranie, Chairman
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

Absent: William T. Howell, Vice-Chairman & District 1 Commissioner

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, November 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

A. Probate Judge Collections Contract

The county attorney said the probate judge matter would be deferred to the executive session.

B. Charles Williams of the Dodge County-Eastman Development Authority told the board that Forward Dodge had been renewed and had met recently for good food and good discussion and invited them to participate in future meetings. He said a new company was locating in Dodge County that would manufacture small aviation parts and employ approximately fifty persons with startup expected in January.

Approval of Minutes

A. October 21, 2019 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections or deletions to the minutes of the regular meeting held on October 21, 2019. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Commissioner Watkins. All voted yes and the motion passed.

Old Business

A. E-911 Roof Repairs

The county manager presented three bids for installing a metal roof and repairs at the E-911 center including:

- Moore's Roofing \$15,900
- Doctor's Roofing \$12,885
- Dykes Construction \$28,300

Commissioner Niblett asked if the bids were for 26 or 29 gauge metal and Commissioner Watkins asked if they could start immediately. There was also discussion about flat to pitch angle and gutters. Commissioner Niblett made a motion due to the condition of the building to go with the low bid once the like gauge and pitch were determined for comparison. The second was made by Commissioner Watkins and all voted in the affirmative.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked if there were any question or comments concerning the check listing of accounts payable. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the payments and the second was made by Commissioner Watkins. The vote was unanimous for approval.

B. Magistrate Constable Vehicle

County Manager Spencer Barron told the board that the motor was blown in the vehicle driven by the constable. He said the county paid \$7,500 for the 2011 Dodge Charger and the repair estimate was \$5,851.35 for a vehicle with high mileage. Commissioner Watkins asked Barron to assemble estimates to replace the vehicle by the next meeting with Commissioner Niblett agreeing that the motor should not be replaced in an old model.

C. Pearl Bates Annex Drainage

The county manager told the board that a leak in the vault at the Pearl Bates Annex was in day twelve (12) and had become a critical issue. He referred to a printed proposal from Graham and Studstill General Contractors, Inc. with implementation of a concrete flume at a cost of \$5,925.00 and alternate plan installing underground storm piping at a cost of \$8,920.00. He said Jessie Bearden and Mark Studstill had met earlier in the day to develop a remedy for the problem and asked Bearden to give the board their findings. Bearden told the board he had met briefly with Studstill and had tried to survey the property after their meeting for better understanding of the grade of the area. He said he felt the alternative plan with underground piping was best and could be taken in the direction of Pearl Bates Avenue or towards Stuckey Timberland property at the back. Commissioner Niblett made a motion for the building committee consisting of Howell and Watkins to proceed working with Studstill and Bearden to find the best solution and approved a cost of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) for repairs. Commissioner Cheek made the second, vote was taken and the motion passed.

D. Sanitation Convenience Center Hours

County Manager Barron referred to a proposal for a change in the hours of operation for the sanitation convenience centers during daylight savings time. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to change the hours of operation to Monday through Saturday 7 am to 6 pm. The second was made by Commissioner Cheek and all voted in favor of the change. The hours on Sunday would remain 1 pm to 5pm.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Cheek reported that last month she had met with local residents concerning improvements on Liberty Street and Washington Avenue including curbing through a CDBG grant. She said Kayla Johnson of the Heart of Georgia Area Regional Commission said the project met federal requirements and standards for the grant and that it looks good for approval.

County Manager Report

County Manager Spencer Barron asked the board to approve the Authorizing Resolution for the Dodge County 2021 grant application with the Georgia Department of Transportation and told the board copies were available for their inspection. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve the resolution and Commissioner Niblett made the second. All voted yes and the motion passed.

Next Barron presented a request from Janet and Jerry Fennell residents of Chicken Road who live on a private lane for county maintenance of the road. Mr. Fennell addressed the board and expressed thanks for help with the removal of a tree blown down and blocking their road during the previous hurricane. He asked for county assistance on the road of about seventeen to eighteen hundred feet (1700' – 1800') because he was concerned the condition could affect insurance and the ability for first responders to get to one of the two residences on the road. He said there was a pending suit that may or may not have bearing on the matter. The chairman said the matter would be turned over to the county attorney for review.

Public Comments

Jessie Bearden commented on the status of the Shady Oaks/ WPA Road CDBG project and said that water lines were not moved before paving of the road due to contention between the city and county over ownership of the road and water line. He said the road was for public use with ingress and egress and the county accepted the road and water line that contributed to problems due to not being installed deep enough. He asked that the board take ownership and to look for solutions to the issues to complete the project. He also said the payment to the contractor was outstanding and needed to be finalized.

Executive Session

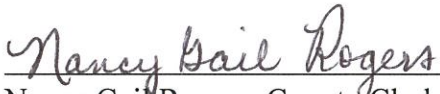
Commissioner Niblett made a motion to go into executive session with Commissioner Watkins making the second. All voted in favor of the motion.

At the conclusion of the executive session, Commissioner Watkins made a motion to return to the regular meeting. Commissioner Cheek made the second and all voted yes.

Adjourn

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Commissioners Cheek and Watkins making the second. The vote was unanimous to adjourn.

Signed:



Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:



Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

November 18, 2019

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

Also Present: Spencer Barron, County Manager
Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Absent: John Harrington, County Attorney

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners met in a regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, November 18, 2019, 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 Revolving Loan Fund under Old Business. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to amend with the addition seconded by Commissioner Niblett. All voted yes and the agenda was updated. Next the chairman led in the pledge to the American flag followed by the devotional and prayer by Commissioner Cheek.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

There were none present who wished to address the board.

Approval of Minutes

A. November 4, 2019 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections, or deletions to the minutes of the regular meeting held on November 4, 2019. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Commissioners Watkins and Cheek. The vote was taken and the minutes approved.

Old Business

A. Revolving Loan Fund

The county manager told the board that the Department of Community Affairs would award up to five (5) points on the CDBG application for the Liberty Street project with the closure of the Revolving Loan Fund and return of the cash fund balance. Commissioner Howell made a motion to close the Revolving Loan Fund and return the balance to DCA in exchange for points added to

the CDBG application for Liberty Street. Commissioner Cheek seconded the motion and all voted yes.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked the board to look over the list of accounts payable payments for questions or comments. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the payments with the second made by Commissioner Niblett. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

B. Set Speed Limit on Congo Lane

County Manager Spencer Barron told the board that with the opening of the Burger King there was increased traffic congestion on the Congo Lane Connector. He had conferred with the Sheriff and local police department and reached a consensus to set the speed limit at thirty-five (35) miles per hour. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to set the speed limit at the requested thirty-five (35) miles per hour. Commissioners Howell and Niblett made the second and all voted in the affirmative.

Commissioner Reports

There were no reports from the board.

County Manager Report

The county manager reported that the county had been awarded \$176,047.42 from FEMA and GEMA for reimbursement for storm damages incurred during Hurricane Michael.

He also submitted a request from the Rhine Volunteer Fire Department for roof repairs at their fire station. The following bids were obtained for the repairs:

- Moore's Roofing Company LLC \$25,965.00
- Michael Jones DBA JMJ Construction \$24,600.00
- Swift Construction Company \$18,500.00

He added that SPLOST funds were available for the roof repairs. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the request and accept the low bid from Swift Construction at \$18,500.00. Commissioner Niblett made the second and the vote was unanimous to approve the request.

Public Comments

Milton Johnson spoke for citizens representing Evergreen Baptist Church concerning road conditions to the church. He said there were several routes to the church but conditions had prevented the group from having church on several occasions.

Sharon Flanagan representing Litter Free Dodge shared information with the board on a Tire Abatement Program with reimbursement from EPD for tires collected. She suggested an amnesty period for the tires to be turned in at three events to be scheduled next year proposing two in the spring and one event in the fall. Commissioner Cheek made a motion to set the 2020 spring events for March 17 – 24 and April 22 – 28. Commissioner Niblett asked to modify the motion to include two trailers for regular tires and one trailer for commercial or tractor tires and he made the second after Commissioner Cheek accepted the modification. All voted yes and the motion passed.

Executive Session

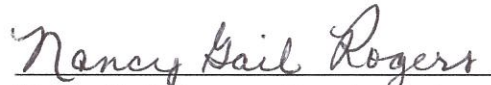
Commissioner Howell made a motion to move into executive session to discuss property acquisition and legal matters. Commissioner Watkins made the second and all voted to approve the motion.

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

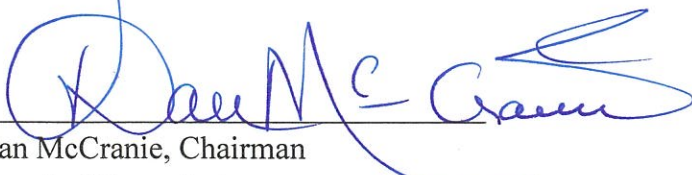
Adjourn

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

Signed:


Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:


Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

December 2, 2019

Present: Dan McCranie, Chairman
William T. Howell, Jr., 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, December 2, 2019, 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 include CDBG under Old Business. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to amend the agenda and make the addition as requested. Commissioner Niblett made the second and all voted in the affirmative. Chairman McCranie led the pledge to the American flag and Commissioner Cheek gave the devotional and prayer.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

There were none present who wished to address the board.

Approval of Minutes

A. November 18, 2019 Regular Meeting

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

Old Business

A. CDBG – County Manager Barron presented information from Kayla Johnson of the HOGARC on the scoring of the engineering consultants for design engineer for the CDBG project. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to name Hofstader & Associates the consultant engineer for the project. Commissioner Niblett made the second and the vote was unanimous to approve the firm.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked for any questions or comments concerning the check listing of Accounts Payable payments. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the payments seconded by Commissioners Watkins and Howell. All voted yes and the motion passed.

B. Pilot Club Request

The county manager told the board the local Pilot Club had requested use of the Courthouse parking lot for a fundraiser in the spring of next year. He said they would be selling tickets and staging fire trucks and other vehicles for a Touch A Truck event. He said he had been assured it would not interfere with the Farmers Market by local club member Nylan Hinson. Sharon Cobb Flanagan commented that the event could be an enhancement to the market. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the request seconded by Commissioner Cheek. All voted in the affirmative.

C. Approval of LMIG Road List 2020

Lance Woods was present to answer questions concerning conditions and treatments for roads submitted on the 2020 LMIG application including Oak Grove Church Road, Golf Course Road, and Pine Lane Road. When asked why Golf Course Road didn't hold from the last application he said there was a base failure and he had completed core testing and determined there was a full depth declamation. After discussion of the various treatment applications and road problems a motion was made by Commissioner Watkins to approve the road list and let the contract with options for surface treatment. Commissioner Howell made the second and the motion passed.

D. Set Budget Hearing Date and Budget Approval Date

County Manager Barron asked the board for a decision on a date for a public meeting for the 2020 budget and a called meeting for budget approval. It was decided to advertise the date for the public hearing for December 16th at 6:00 p.m. with a called meeting to be set for Monday, December 30th at 1:00 p.m. Commissioner Niblett made a motion that the public hearing be set on December 16th at the regular meeting time with a called meeting to be held on December 30th at 1:00 p.m. Commissioner Cheek made the second and all voted in favor of the motion.

E. Magistrate Constable Vehicle

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to table the matter seconded by Commissioner Howell. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

F. Health Department Roof

The county manager submitted the following bids for consideration to replace the roof at the local health department building:

- | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|----------|
| • John Dykes | Metal roof only (29 gauge) | \$22,550 |
| • Moore's Roofing | Shingle roof | \$21,000 |
| • Moore's Roofing | Metal roof | \$28,660 |

- Doctor's Roofing Shingle roof \$29,777
- Doctor's Roofing Metal roof \$33,075

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to draw up a waiver of indemnification for the low bid for a metal roof. Commissioner Niblett made the second, vote was taken and the motion passed.

Commissioner Reports

There were no reports from the board.

County Manager Report

The county manager said he had nothing further to report.

There was discussion about changing the date for the second meeting in January from Monday January 20th to Tuesday January 21st. Commissioner Howell made a motion to change the date of the second meeting in January to Tuesday January 21, 2020. Commissioner Cheek seconded his motion and all voted in favor of the change.

Public Comments

There were questions about Evergreen Church Road and the county manager reported it had been scraped and he had personally checked the road and it was passable. He said he had asked the engineer to identify the shortest route to the church and give a paving estimate on the chosen route.

Executive Session

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to go into executive session to discuss property acquisition and legal matters. Commissioner Howell made the second and all voted yes.

At the conclusion of the executive session, Commissioner Watkins made a motion to return to the regular meeting seconded by Commissioner Niblett. All voted yes and the meeting resumed.

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve the lease prepared by the county attorney granting property for a sanitation convenience center. Commissioner Niblett made the second, vote was taken and the motion passed.

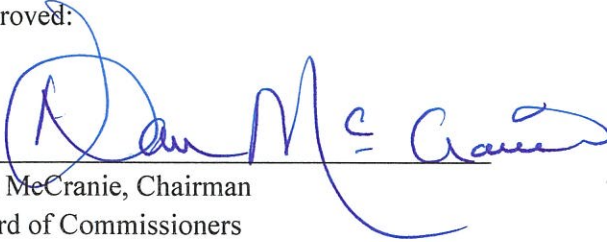
Adjourn

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

Signed:

Nancy Gail Rogers
Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:


Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

December 16, 2019

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

Also Present: John Harrington, County Attorney
Spencer Barron, County Manager
Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Absent: Karen Cheek, District 4 Commissioner

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners met for the public hearing on the 2020 Budget on Monday, December 16, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. in Suite 101 of the Dodge County Courthouse Annex. Chairman McCranie called the meeting to order and asked that the agenda for the regular meeting to follow the hearing be amended to include an executive session for legal and personnel matters. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to make the change to the agenda with the second made by Commissioner Howell. All voted yes and the agenda was amended followed by a prayer from Commissioner Howell.

2020 Budget Presentation & Public Hearing

County Manager Spencer Barron presented a draft version of the 2020 Budget from the budget committee consisting of Commissioners Niblett and Watkins and himself. He cited a twenty-eight percent (28%) increase in spending for county employee health insurance and the use of TSPLOST funds for the final payment to reduce spending for the airport. He said there were reductions of one hundred thirty-seven thousand dollars (\$137,000) to the jail budget and one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to the sheriff's enforcement budget.

Chairman McCranie announced the board would meet on December 30th to vote on the budget in a called meeting. There were questions from Charles Williams concerning the airport debt and Sharon Cobb Flanagan about changes to departments and appropriations for the courthouse. Chief Appraiser Dale Jones asked for a raise for her employees noting that they attend mandatory training to keep their certifications.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

A. Randy Spivey – Recreation Department

Spivey thanked the board for their support of recreation in Dodge County and presented a request for SPLOST dollars for a capital project to install keyless entry to the gym. A motion to grant the request was made by Commissioner Howell and seconded by Commissioner Niblett. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

B. Sharon Cobb Flanagan gave an update on the tire abatement application saying there were potential cuts with the 2020 budget for the abatement program. She also said she had an upcoming scheduled meeting with the executive director of the State of Georgia Botanical Garden to discuss expansion programs in small rural communities.

C. Charles Williams said a new company would be opening in January and wished everyone a blessed Christmas.

Approval of Minutes

A. December 2, 2019 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections, or deletions to the minutes of the meeting held on December 2, 2019. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Commissioner Watkins. All voted yes and the minutes were approved.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

A motion to approve the payments was made by Commissioner Howell and seconded by Commissioner Niblett. The vote was taken and the motion passed.

B. April Giddens – Faithful Hearts Animal Shelter

Ms. Giddens thanked the board for their support the past three to four years. She said the shelter puppy program had helped with stray dogs. She said there had been three hundred ten (310) adoptions with sixty-two (62) of those being adult dogs. She said they had received calls from Milan and Alamo asking for their help to start programs for them. She said they only have space for twenty (20) dogs now and they only accept dogs at this time. She said they utilize Pet Finder, Facebook and other aides to find placement for the dogs.

C. Board of Assessors Appointment

Chairman McCranie referred to a letter from the Board of Assessors requesting that board member George Watson be reappointed to serve another term beginning January 1, 2020 and

expiring December 31, 2022. The letter also stated that Watson had completed all necessary training for the board. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to reappoint Watson to the board. Commissioner Howell made the second and the vote was unanimous to reappoint.

Commissioner Reports

Chairman McCranie noted recent articles in Georgia Trend magazine listing Dodge County Hospital as number fifteen (15) of the top hospitals in Georgia under one hundred (100) beds. Charles Williams added that Dodge County was mentioned in two other articles in that same edition of the magazine.

County Manager Report

The county manager asked the board to approve January 1st as a holiday for county employees with a full list of 2020 holidays to be presented at the first meeting in January. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the holiday and Commissioners Howell and Watkins made the second. All voted yes and the motion passed.

Next the county manager presented bids for a small wooden building to be placed at the Giddens School Convenience Site for sanitation. The bids presented were as follows:

- Yoder's \$1,695
- Marge's Buildings \$2,130
- Cook Portable Warehouse \$2,490

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to purchase the building from Yoder's at the low bid of \$1,695. Commissioner Niblett made the second and all voted in the affirmative for the purchase.

Public Comments

Sharon Cobb Flanagan commented on Litter Free Dodge and the Dodge County Farmers Market.

Executive Session

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

Commissioner Howell made a motion to end the executive session and return to the regular meeting seconded by Commissioners Watkins and Niblett. Vote was taken and motion carried.

Adjourn

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

Signed:

Nancy Gail Rogers

Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:

Dan McCranie

Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

Called Meeting

December 30, 2019

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

Also Present: Spencer Barron, County Manager
Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Absent: Brian Watkins, District 3 Commissioner

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners met for a special called meeting on Monday, December 30, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. 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 flag. Commissioner Cheek prayed.

Chairman McCranie stated the purpose of the called meeting was for approval and adoption of the budget for Dodge County for the next year.

Business

A. Approve and Adopt 2020 Budget

Chairman McCranie asked for any questions or comments on the proposed budget. County Manager Barron said the projections were made on available current year to date revenues and expenses.

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the proposed budget. Commissioner Howell seconded his motion and Commissioners Niblett, Howell and Cheek voted to approve the budget. The motion passed and the 2020 budget was approved.

Adjourn

Commissioner Howell made a motion to adjourn the called meeting. Commissioner Cheek made the second and all voted for adjournment.

Signed:

Nancy Gail Rogers
Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:

Dan McCranie
Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners