

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

January 6, 2020

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 for their first meeting of the new year on Monday, January 6, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. in Suite 101 of the Dodge County Courthouse Annex. Chairman McCranie called the meeting to order and asked to amend the agenda to include an addition under New Business for 2018 Audit. Commissioner Watkins made the motion to make the change and Commissioner Niblett made the second. All voted yes and the change was made. Next Chairman McCranie led in the pledge of allegiance to the flag followed by a devotional from Commissioner Cheek who also prayed.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

Charles Williams of the Dodge County Eastman Development Authority wished the board a happy new year and new decade.

Approval of Minutes

A. December 16, 2019 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie called for any additions, corrections, or deletions to the minutes of the regular meeting held on December 16, 2019. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Commissioner Howell. All voted yes and the motion passed.

B. December 30, 2019 Called Meeting

Chairman McCranie called for any additions, corrections, or deletions to the minutes of the called meeting held on December 30, 2019. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Commissioner Niblett. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

A. 2018 Audit

Certified Public Account Frank Erwin addressed the board concerning findings with the 2018 audit for Dodge County listed on the last two (2) pages of the audit. The first was segregation of duties and he said this is always listed due to the small staff in county offices. The second was there were a few instances where no documentation for disbursements could be produced. He asked if there were any questions and thanked the board. Copies of the audit had been made available to the board for review and Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the audit for fiscal year 2018. Commissioner Cheek made the second and all voted to approve the audit.

B. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked if there were any questions or comments concerning the check listing of payments presented for action. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the payments and Commissioner Watkins made the second. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

C. Elect Vice-Chairman

Chairman McCranie asked for nominations for Vice-Chairman from the board. Commissioner Niblett nominated Commissioner Howell. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to close nominations seconded by Commissioner Niblett. The vote was unanimous to elect Howell.

D. Appoint County Attorney

Chairman McCranie asked the board's pleasure concerning the appointment of the county attorney. Commissioner Howell nominated the firm of Smith & Harrington. Commissioner Cheek seconded the nomination. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to close nominations and Commissioner Niblett seconded the motion. All voted in favor of the motion and the firm was appointed.

E. Appoint County Manager

Commissioner Watkins nominated Spencer Barron of Data Management and Research Services LLC for the county manager position and Commissioner Howell made the second. Next Howell made a motion to close nominations seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The vote was taken and the appointment was made.

F. Appoint County Clerk

Commissioner Niblett nominated Gail Rogers for county clerk seconded by Commissioner Cheek. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to close nominations seconded by Commissioner Howell. Rogers was appointed clerk.

G. Appoint County Auditor

Commissioner Watkins nominated Frank Erwin, CPA to be the county auditor seconded by Commissioner Niblett. Commissioner Howell made a motion to close nominations with Commissioner Watkins making the second. Erwin was also appointed by acclamation.

H. Approval to Solicit 2020 Operating Line of Credit

County Manager reported there was cash on hand for operating at present and asked for a decision from the board to solicit bids for the current year operating line of credit. Commissioner Howell made a motion to table the matter until the first meeting in March. Commissioner Niblett made the second and all voted in the affirmative to table the matter.

I. Approve 2020 Holiday Schedule

The county manager submitted a list of proposed holidays for Dodge County employees for the next year, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. He said the number of proposed holidays for the year was eleven (11) and one less than those observed in 2019 by the county. A motion to approve as presented was made by Commissioner Watkins and seconded by Commissioner Niblett. The vote was taken and the motion passed.

J. Timber Ordinance

The county manager reported an incident that occurred when Dodge County Road Supervisor Richard Harrell instructed a logging company to stop operating because of damage being caused by them to a county road. He said the current ordinance calls for a five hundred dollar (\$500) fine and the logging company was not deterred by the fine threat. He asked the board to look at the ordinance and consider amending to impose an increased fine and possibly a jail penalty such as the current ordinance in neighboring Laurens County. There was also discussion about taking pictures of road conditions before logging commences and after. Commissioner Niblett said the ordinance should be deferred to the county attorney for re-write. Commissioner Howell agreed and suggested the bond limit be raised greater than five thousand dollars (\$5,000).

K. Establish Code Enforcement Officer Position

County Manager Barron asked for the creation of a code enforcement officer position to assist with enforcing the timber and littering ordinances as well as EPD violations and animal control. Commissioner Cheek made a motion to establish the code enforcement officer position with Commissioner Niblett making the second. All voted yes and the motion passed.

L. Commissioner Meeting Location Change

County Manager Barron asked for a change of the commissioner chambers meeting address for the January 21st meeting. He said a temporary audio system would be in place at the Pearl Bates Annex location for a check of acoustics, monitors, and other functional aspects for the meeting. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to change the meeting address of the Commission

Chambers to the Pearl Bates Avenue location. Commissioner Niblett seconded the motion and all voted in the affirmative for the change.

Commission Reports

There were no reports from the board.

County Manager Report

The county manager said the final numbers for the year show a savings of ninety-two thousand dollars (\$92,000) in sanitation costs primarily in landfill charges to Houston and Telfair County. Commissioner Howell commented that some residents had chosen to privatize the service with Evans Disposal with his customer base having a significant increase during the past year. Barron said the Sheriff's budget was eighty-five thousand dollars (\$85,000) over last year with health insurance for the department employees attributable to eighty-four thousand dollars (\$84,000) of the increase.

Public Comments

Cynthia King, a resident of James Troup Road, asked why dumpsters were moved and the reply was to save money. She said there were older residents who had resorted to burning trash and it was inconvenient to everyone in the area to take trash to Chauncey and other locations. She also asked for help with the road saying the bus was going in the ditch and that gravel would improve road conditions.

Executive Session

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to go into executive session with Commissioner Howell making the second. 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 all voted yes.

Adjourn

With no further business to be addressed Commissioner Howell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. 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

January 21, 2020

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 on Tuesday, January 21, 2020, at the Dodge County Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex convening at 6:00 p.m. Chairman McCranie called the meeting to order and led the pledge to the American flag. Commissioner Cheek gave the devotional and prayed.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

A. Dodge County Recreation Department Director Randy Spivey

1. Recreation Advisory Board Appointments

Spivey referred to a letter from himself and circulated to the commissioners recommending the reappointment of Mr. Cliff Gooch and Mr. Wynnon Pittman to serve on the advisory board. He said both were an asset to the board and willing to continue to serve. Commissioner Howell nominated Gooch and Pittman for reappointment. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to close nominations and Commissioner Niblett seconded the motion. Gooch and Pittman were reappointed by unanimous vote.

2. SPLOST Request

Next Spivey requested SPLOST funds for the recreation department in the amount of nine hundred fifty dollars and thirty-six cents (\$950.36). He said funds were needed to purchase four (4) tables and forty (40) chairs for the Alcoa building at the recreation complex. The county manager verified that the SPLOST funds were available to the department. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the request seconded by Commissioner Watkins. All voted yes and the motion passed.

B. Allen Mills

Mills told the board he was recently retired from the Department of Natural Resources with thirty (30) years service and hired to patrol for unlawful dumping and littering. He said he is

licensed to file charges once evidence is collected from illegal dumping sites. Commissioner Watkins thanked Mills for his efforts on behalf of Dodge County and welcomed him aboard.

C. Charles Williams – Eastman Dodge County Development Authority

Williams informed the board that Dodge County would be celebrating its sesquicentennial year during 2020 and had secured a performance by the 4-H Clovers & Company which boasts two Dodge County teens as performers. The event will be held at the Magnolia Theatre and the board was encouraged to support the event with a donation and ticket purchases.

Approval of Minutes

A. January 6, 2020 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections, or deletions to the minutes of the regular meeting held on January 6, 2020. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Commissioner Howell. All voted in favor of approval.

Old Business

A. Timber Ordinance

County Manager Spencer Barron reported attempts to revamp the local timber ordinance in 2005 and 2010 were unsuccessful and asked the board to appoint a committee comprised of timber owners and representatives, commissioners, tax collector, and the code enforcement officer. Commissioner Niblett made a motion for the chairman and county manager to research the matter and make recommendations for a committee to be appointed. Commissioner Watkins made the second to his motion and the motion passed.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the accounts payable check list of payments seconded by Commissioner Niblett. The vote was taken and the motion passed.

B. 2020 CDBG Grant Writing, Administration and Resolution

The county manager asked the board to approve the Regional Commission as the grant writer and administrator of the 2020 Community Development Block Grant application as well as a resolution approving the application to the Department of Community Affairs. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the regional commission as grant writer and administrator and the required resolution. Commissioner Niblett made the second and all voted yes to the motion.

C. Butch Kirkley – CB&T CDARS Approval

Butch Kirkley, President of the Citizens Bank, presented a request for a deposit placement agreement since all public funds must be secured by FDIC or bonds held by the financial institution. He said the CDARS program allows banks to swap funds with other FDIC insured

banks through an insured cash sweep process. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to give approval for Citizens Bank to utilize CDARS for bank accounts owned by Dodge County. A second was made by Commissioner Niblett and all voted yes to the motion.

D. RFP for Courthouse

County Manager Barron asked for approval to release for publication a Request For Proposal to select an architect or engineering firm for specialized study on the closed courthouse building. Commissioner Cheek asked if there would be a cost to the board for the proposals and Barron replied there would be no cost but applicants would submit their credentials with a portfolio for consideration. He said he planned to access the Georgia Procurement Registry and the local newspaper to cast a wide net to solicit interested firms. Commissioner Niblett said it was obvious the county manager had spent a lot of time and work on the proposal and made a motion to proceed with publication of the request for proposal seconded by Commissioner Howell. The vote was taken and the motion passed.

E. Lighting Bids for Carter Martin Public Safety Building

The county manager asked to table this matter until more information could be gathered. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to table seconded by Commissioner Niblett. All voted in favor of the motion.

F. Regional Commission Appointment

Commissioner Howell made a motion to appoint Spencer Barron to the board seconded by Commissioner Cheek. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to close nominations seconded by Commissioner Niblett. Barron was named the appointee to the board.

Commissioner Reports

There were no reports from the board.

County Manager Report

County Manager Barron told the board in addition to listing the RFP on the Georgia Procurement Registry he could run ads for vehicles needed by county departments rather than making calls to dealerships for pricing. He asked the board to consider and allow advertising for vehicles. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to grant approval for the request with the second from Commissioner Howell. All voted yes and the motion passed.

Public Comments

Jason Warren addressed the board about conditions on the WPA dirt road, a major road from Eastman to the south end of the county. He said when rain occurs emergency vehicles can't travel the clay hills on the road and requested consideration for paving the road.

David Weeks also asked for help with the road especially the distance from Donaldson Crossing to the Jay Bird Road. Commissioner Watkins said the road was previously approved for paving but they could not get right of way from all the property owners and the funding was stopped. He asked if all the property owners on the road were in agreement and said the county would explore all options.

Susan Coffee gave a report on the Heart of Georgia Regional Commission meeting on aging held in McRae. She said the agency would make a push to encourage participation for the upcoming census and also gave statistics for Dodge County and the other counties in the region with regard to aging services.

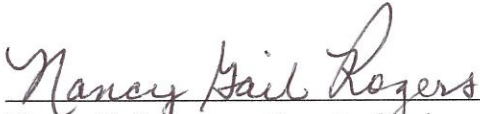
Eva Underwood asked about the dumpsters being moved from her area and put behind local businesses. She complained about conditions on Jim Maloy Road noting she had used her personal truck and tractor to pull the Fed X, UPS and emergency vehicles from ditches. She said she was told in 2003 it was the next road to be paved.

Charles Williams announced the governor will be in Eastman on Thursday, January 30th along with Senator Perdue to attend A Chamber Affair at the Terry Coleman Center.

Adjourn

With no other business to come before the board, 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

February 3, 2020

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 held their regular meeting at the Dodge County Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex on Monday, February 3, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. Chairman McCranie called the meeting to order and led the pledge to the American flag. Commissioner Cheek gave the devotional and prayed.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

A. Henry Whitfield – Middle Georgia State University

Whitfield thanked the board for the opportunity to give an update for all campuses of Middle Georgia State University. He said the dedication and ground breaking was recently held on the Macon campus for a new enrollment center that would serve all five campuses. He said there was record enrollment of 7,566 students in 2020 compared with 7,206 in 2019. He said there was exciting growth at the School of Aviation as well as a new graduate program allowing students to receive their doctoral degrees online. He invited the board members to spend the day at the state capitol next week for Georgia Aerospace Day.

B. Sharon Cobb Flanagan – Dodge County Farmers Market

Flanagan told the board the annual report for the market was available. She said she had been advised by the director of the UGA state botanical garden of grant funds awarded locally. She also said that Dodge County High School clubs would participate in the Litter Free Dodge tire collection projects to be held in March.

Approval of Minutes

A. January 21, 2020 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, deletions, or corrections to the minutes of the regular meeting held on January 21, 2020. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Commissioner Howell. All voted in favor of the motion.

Old Business

A. Timber Ordinance

County Manager Spencer Barron said the following were recommended to serve on the Timber Ordinance Committee:

- Wade Hall –Committee Chairman – Stuckey Timberland
- Brian Watkins – Dodge County Board of Commissioners
- Dan McCranie – Chairman Dodge County Board of Commissioners
- Rob Stanley – Dodge County Tax Collector
- Allen Mills – Dodge County Code Enforcement Officer
- Clint Williams – Local Businessman & Timber Producer

B. Clay Kirkley

Kirkley asked the board to consider making Capstone their broker stating that the present plan was to stay with ACCG until all options could be considered. He said they were working to integrate with the local hospital to offer services to Dodge County employees through their health plan.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked the board to look over the check listing of payments for any questions or comments. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve with Commissioner Watkins making the second and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

B. CDBG Public Hearing Time and Date

The county manager said the public hearing on the proposed Community Development Block Grant project would be held at 6:00 p.m. on February 17, 2020. The hearing will be held in conjunction with the Dodge County Board of Commissioners regular meeting and the Regional Commission will have representatives to answer questions from the public.

Commissioner Reports

There were no reports from the board.

County Manager Report

County Manager Barron told the board the EMS was working to get out of the red and the average billed call for the month of January was \$462.77. He also reported the unemployment rate for Dodge County is at 4.7% compared with Evans County at 2.8% with the lowest in our region and Telfair County having the highest at 9.2%.

Public Comments

James Bennington who owns property surrounding the Chester manned collection site told the board an arrest had been made and reports filed for dumpster diving and scattering debris on his property as well as damage to his trail camera. He asked that the board implement better security at the site or shut it down.

Sharon Cobb Flanagan said a grant had been awarded by the EMC for the botanical gardens.

Jason Warren told the board there was one hundred percent (100%) participation for the WPA dirt road to be paved from Highway 165 to Jaybird. He said the 2.2 miles was the worst with clay hills hindering emergency vehicles as well as school buses on the road.

County Manager Spencer Barron told Warren and other residents of the road he has contacted county engineer, Lance Woods, to look at the road conditions and make recommendations.

Executive Session

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

Commissioner Howell made a motion to end the executive session with the second to by Commissioner Cheek. The vote was taken and the motion passed.

Adjourn

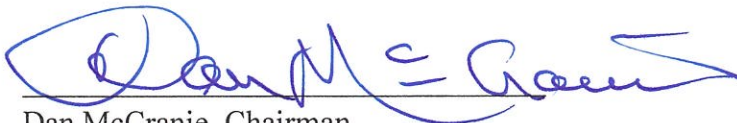
Commissioner Howell made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Watkins made the second. The vote was unanimous to adjourn.

Signed:



Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:



Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

February 17, 2020

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

Chairman McCranie called the regular meeting of the Dodge County Board of Commissioners to order on Monday, February 3, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Dodge County Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex. After the pledge to the American flag, a devotional was given by Commissioner Cheek and Commissioner Watkins prayed.

Chairman McCranie introduced Kayla Johnson, grant writer of the Heart of Georgia Altamaha Regional Commission, who conducted the public hearing for the Community Development Block Grant application.

Public Hearing Community Development Block Grant Application Public Discussion of 2020 Community Development Block Grant

Purpose of Community Development Block Grant

“The Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) provides funding to assist a wide range of eligible activities, including housing improvement projects, public facilities such as water and sewer lines, buildings such as local health centers or head start centers, and economic development projects.”

Requirements for CDBG projects

- Benefit primarily Low-Moderate income persons
- Section 3 Requirements/ Davis Bacon Wage Rates

- will ensure that any companies that receive contracts for work will comply with Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968
- Efforts will be made to hire low income residents in the County by posting employment opportunity notices in the Board of Commissioners office and any other steps that DCA may require.

- The county will ensure compliance with all E-Verify regulations.

-Fair Housing Requirements

- will ensure compliance of any AFFH requirements of the Fair Housing Act that apply to the CDBG Program. The County will engage in fair housing planning by conducting an analysis to identify impediments to fair housing choice within its jurisdiction, taking appropriate actions to overcome the effects of identified impediments, and maintaining records to document the analysis and the actions taken.

-Language Access Plan

- will take timely and reasonable steps to provide Limited English Proficient (LEP) persons through provision of Meaningful Access to programs and activities funded by the federal government and awarded by DCA. Access to these programs and services will not be impeded as a result of an individual's inability to speak, read, write or understand English. The County will ensure compliance with all requirements of Title VI.

Are there any know Conflicts of Interest?

NO CONFLICTS WERE STATED

Acquisition/Uniform Relocation Act

-All Work is with County/Development authority owned property or within existing right-of-way.

Acquisition is anticipated

-Any identified acquisition will comply with the Uniform Relocation Act.

Description of Project Activities

2020 CDBG FOR STORM DRAINAGE AND STREET IMPROVEMENTS FOR LIBERTY STREET, CONGO LANE, AND PART OF WASHINGTON AVENUE.

Public Comment

NO COMMENTS

County Manager Spencer Barron asked Johnson to explain the cash match for the grant. Johnson said the total estimate for the project was \$950,000.00 and the grant request total would be \$750,000.00. The cash match was \$153,565.09 but with In-Kind services the cash match was reduced to \$139,065.09. The county manager asked the board to approve

the cash match funds totaling \$139,065.09 to be paid from the 2013 SPLOST. A motion was made by Commissioner Cheek to approve the request conditional on grant approval. Commissioner Watkins made the second and the motion passed. This ended the public hearing portion of the meeting.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

Sharon Cobb Flanagan of the Dodge County Farmers Market reported that Jenny Crew Sanders of the Botanical Garden of Georgia was in Eastman on Friday, February 14th to see progress on the local garden and said it was a good start. There were over thirty (30) attendees for the program and luncheon.

Approval of Minutes

A. February 3, 2020 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections, or deletions to the minutes of the regular meeting held on February 3, 2020. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Commissioner Howell. All voted yes and the minutes were approved.

Old Business

A. WPA Road

County Manager Spencer Barron reported he had received an estimate from the Lance Woods, County Engineer, for paving 2.3 miles on the WPA Road from Highway 165 to Jaybird Springs Road. He said the estimated cost was \$1.2 million. Commissioner Niblett asked when the earliest funding date might be. Barron replied the 2021 LMIG application would be the earliest since the 2020 LMIG had been submitted with an approved road list. He said the entire LMIG budget for year 2021 would not fully cover costs for paving the road. Commissioner Watkins asked if TSPLOST funds might be available and Barron replied there would some discretionary money from the TSPLOST if it passes when voted on this year. Watkins also asked if a future CDBG application could be used for the road and the response was it would be conditional on population density and demographics.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked for questions or comments regarding the check listing of payments for approval. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the payments seconded by Commissioner Niblett. The vote was unanimous to approve.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Cheek stated she attended the Valentine's Day festivities at the Botanical Garden and said the visitors were very eager to help and impressed with the garden.

County Manager Report

The county manager had nothing to report.

Public Comments

Sharon Cobb Flanagan told the board that Dodge County High School club advisors have expressed interest in participating in the pick up efforts for the free tire disposal to be held in March. She said more information would be forthcoming.

Jason Warren thanked the board for their information on paving the WPA road and said he appreciated their help.

Diane Fountain passed out graphic pictures to the board of her son and nephew who were victims of a dog attack on the WP Lowery Road on February 6th. She said there was no ordinance in place and the boys were undergoing rabies shots even though the dogs were picked up and tested negative for rabies. She asked the board to improve animal control measures and ordinance to prevent future incidents. Chairman McCranie said the county had tried animal control once before and it proved too expensive. Commissioner Cheek said the future ordinance should include fines. Fountain suggested an increase in millage rate with the next tax digest to fund cost associated with animal control.

Executive Session

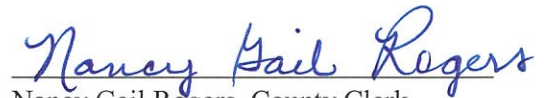
Commissioner Howell made a motion to move into executive session to discuss personnel and legal matters. Commissioner Niblett made the second to his motion and all voted in the affirmative.

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to end the executive session and return to the regular meeting seconded by Commissioner Niblett. The vote was taken and the motion passed.

Adjourn

Commissioner Howell made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Commissioner Niblett making the second. The vote was unanimous to end the meeting.

Signed:


Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:


Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

March 2, 2020

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

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting at the Dodge County Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex on Monday, March 2, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. Chairman McCranie called the meeting to order and led the pledge to the American flag. Commissioner Cheek gave the devotional and prayed.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

A. Bonnie Monk – U. S. Census Recruiter

Ms. Monk passed information to the board regarding the upcoming census and said her work started mid-December with Dodge, Pulaski, and Bleckley counties. She said there was a need for twenty (20) applicants in Dodge County to have enough personnel to count everyone. She said the pay range for employees was \$15 to \$17 per house plus \$.58 per mile and training cost.

B. Randy Spivey – Dodge County Recreation Department

Spivey requested \$7,500 from SPLOST funds designated for recreation to reimburse the department for a vehicle purchase. After confirmation the SPLOST funds were available from the county manager, Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the request. The second was made by Commissioner Watkins and the vote was unanimous for approval.

C. Sharon Cobb Flanagan reminded the board of the upcoming tire abatement program starting March 18th and continuing through March 31st. She said clubs from Dodge County High School will be involved in the collection process and no tire rims or trash will be taken with the tires.

Approval of Minutes

A. February 17, 2020 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections, or deletions to the minutes of the regular meeting held on February 17, 2020. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Commissioner Cheek. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Old Business

A. Approval of Solicitation of Tax Anticipation Note Line of Credit

County Manager Spencer Barron asked if the board wanted to solicit bids for the tax anticipation note line of credit. Commissioner Howell asked to revisit the matter in one month.

B. Carter Martin Public Safety Building Lighting

County Manager Barron told the board new lighting was needed for the drill hall at the National Guard Armory and a bid had been received for sixteen (16) LED lights from Chauncey Electric in the amount of \$4,280.00. Commissioner Cheek asked if the bid was for sixteen total or per section and Barron replied it was sixteen total. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the bid amount of \$4,280.00. Commissioner Watkins made the second and the motion passed.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked for any questions or comments regarding the check listing of Accounts Payable payments. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the payments and Commissioner Watkins made the second. All voted in the affirmative and the payments were approved.

Commissioner Reports

There were no reports from the board.

County Manager Report

The county manager had nothing to report.

Public Comments

Suzanna Taylor told the board she had resided at 1908 Plainfield Road, Chester since March 2011. She said she had registered the official address with E-911 and acquired the necessary permits for the home. She said she was never told she needed a pipe installed and in nine years had no problems. She said with recent rains and drainage problems on the road, the county road supervisor and county manager had visited her and told her it was necessary for ditches to be dug in front of her driveway and a pipe installed with the cost of the pipe to be paid by the property owner. She said that she did not ask for the pipe to be installed and felt it was unfair to lay the cost of the pipe on the county citizens. Commissioner Cheek asked the county attorney what the

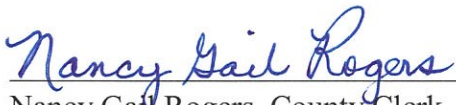
law says about this situation. The county attorney replied that the question was "Is it negligence or environmental and was the situation worsened by the maintenance done by county workers or the recent rains?" Commissioner Cheek said she thought the county should pay for the pipe if it would fix the ditch properly. Chairman McCranie said the board should look at the situation individually. Commissioner Cheek made a motion to pay for the pipe and repair the damage. County Attorney Harrington asked her to amend the motion to include to correct a flaw in the roadway. Commissioner Cheek amended her motion to read that the county would pay for the pipe and repair damage to correct a flaw in the roadway. Commissioner Howell made the second to her motion with the amendment. Chairman McCranie called for a vote and the motion passed.

John Battle asked about qualifying dates for local elections run in the local papers and Cindy Eckles replied the qualifying dates run were March 2 – March 5 at 12 noon.

Adjourn


Chairman McCranie asked if there was a need for an executive session for personnel and Commissioner Howell answered no due to continuing interviews. Commissioner Howell then made a motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by Commissioner Watkins. All voted to adjourn the meeting.

Signed:



Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:



Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

Called Meeting

March 6, 2020

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 held a special called meeting at the Dodge County Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex on Friday, March 2, 2020, at 2:00 p.m. Chairman McCranie called the meeting to order and led the pledge to the American flag. Commissioner Niblett prayed.

Executive Session

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to move into executive session to discuss legal and personnel matters. Commissioner Watkins made the second and all voted yes.

At the conclusion of the executive session Commissioner Niblett made a motion to end the session and return to the regular meeting. Commissioner Howell made the second and all voted in favor of the motion.

Business

A. Road Emergencies

The county manager said the recent flooding had caused emergency road conditions in several areas of the county. He said that all closed roads had been marked and noted with E-911. He commended Richard Harrell and the road department employees for their handling of the crisis.

B. SPLOST Balance Update

Barron gave account balances for the general fund, Transportation SPLOST, and 2013 SPLOST balance for Transportation, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

C. Equipment Purchase

Barron asked the board for approval to purchase a Hyundai loader at \$107,500 and gave comparisons for comparable equipment. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve the purchase seconded by Commissioner Howell. All voted affirmative and the motion passed.

Next a request for the purchase of a 2019 John Deere closed cab backhoe loader slightly used with 40 hours at \$160,000.00 was considered. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the purchase with the second made by Commissioner Niblett. All voted yes and the purchase was approved.

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

March 16, 2020

Present: Dan McCranie, Chairman
William Howell, Jr., Vice-Chairman & District 1 Commissioner
Terry 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 held their regular meeting at the Dodge County Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex on Monday, March 16, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. Chairman McCranie called the meeting to order and led the pledge to the American flag followed by prayer from Commissioner Howell.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

Lee Kirkland - Milan Volunteer Fire Department

Kirkland requested SPLOST funds totaling \$15,234.00 for matching grant funds to purchase a new fire truck through an AFG grant and to apply for a Georgia Fireworks Grant. After receiving verification from the county manager that the SPLOST funds were available, Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the request. Commissioner Howell made the second and the motion passed. Commissioner Watkins abstained from the vote.

Approval of Minutes

A. March 2, 2020 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections or deletions to the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 2, 2020. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Commissioner Watkins. All voted yes to approve the minutes.

B. March 6, 2020 Called Meeting

Chairman McCranie then asked if there were any additions, corrections or deletions to the minutes of the called meeting held on Friday, March 6, 2020. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve seconded by Commissioner Howell. The vote was taken and the motion passed.

Old Business

Chairman McCranie asked the board to look at the proposals and qualifications of the ten (10) firms who answered the Request For Qualifications on the Dodge County Courthouse and rank them before the April 6th meeting of the board. He said the ranking would help with interview decisions.

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 Howell made a motion to approve the payments seconded by Commissioner Niblett. All voted in the affirmative and the motion passed.

B. Dodge County Joint Comprehensive Plan Public Hearing

Announcement was made that the public hearing for the Dodge County Joint Comprehensive Plan Amendment would be held on Wednesday, March at 5:30 p.m. at the Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex located at 643 Pearl Bates Avenue, Eastman, Georgia.

C. Dodge County Joint Comprehensive Plan Resolution

The resolution was tabled until the first meeting in April.

Commissioner Reports

There were no reports from the board.

County Manager Report

The county manager had nothing to report.

Public Comments

Sharon Cobb Flanagan said the Dodge County Farmers Market had applied for a mini innovation grant and had been encouraged to keep the market open since there were no large crowds and a food source many depend on. She also said the Tire Abatement Program would begin as planned this Wednesday with no Dodge County High School student involvement as all club events have been cancelled.

Executive Session

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

At the conclusion of the executive session, Commissioner Howell made a motion to end the session and return to the regular meeting. Commissioner Watkins made the second and all voted in favor of the motion.

Adjourn

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

Signed:


Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:


Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

The emergency called meeting held on Sunday, March 12, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. was called by County Manager Spencer Barron who subsequently called the board members, elected officials, department heads, county attorney, county clerk, local press and hospital representatives.

There was no agenda prepared for the emergency meeting with the only topic of discussion being the global pandemic and its effects on Dodge County.

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

Emergency Called Meeting

Sunday, March 22, 2020 at 1:30 p.m.

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 (joined meeting via phone call)

Also Present: John Harrington, County Attorney
Spencer Barron, County Manager
Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk
Rhett Walker, Clerk of Court
Al McCranie, Probate Judge
Lynn Sheffield, Sheriff
Jackie Smith, Deputy Tax Commissioner
Jeff Creech, EMS Director
Stanley Stephens, EMA Director
Tommy Giddens, EMA
Lee Kirkland, Fire Coordinator
Mark Sheffield, Sheriff Security
Cindy Eckles, Editor Dodge County News
Kristeena Roberson, Dodge County Hospital

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners held an emergency called meeting to address the local health crisis from the COVID-19 pandemic. The meeting was held at the Pearl Bates Dodge County Courthouse Annex with local department heads as well as local media and health and emergency representatives with precautions taken for social distancing during the meeting. Chairman McCranie called the meeting to order and asked County Manager Spencer Barron to address those present.

Barron said the purpose of the meeting was to decide if the county wanted to declare a local state of emergency as an attempt to thwart the domino affect caused by the spread of the coronavirus. He asked for the public officials and department heads to give their opinions. Jeff Creech, Dodge County EMS director told the board there was no confirmed positives in Dodge County but some residents at a local nursing home had exposure from a health care worker who tested positive and some were being tested with no confirmed positive yet. Kristeena Roberson of the Dodge County

Hospital said no testing was being done at the hospital but patients were instructed to contact their Primary Care Physician who would send them to the Laurens County Health Department for testing.

Clerk of Court Rhett Walker said that most Clerk of Court offices were reporting they were open for business but closed to the public. He said most services of his office were offered online. Probate Judge Al McCranie said that his office was able to perform most services over the phone with those calls having the capability to be forwarded to a cell phone. He said his office was geared up for the public to be restricted with most counties offering no marriage licenses. He said he would work by appointments to process commitments and guardianships. Mark Sheffield said that all doors in the Pearl Bates Annex could be locked and set for entry only with a key fob.

Stanley Stephens, EMA Director, said his function was to interface with law enforcement and emergency personnel for support.

Sheriff Lynn Sheffield reported visitation at the jail had been suspended and they were allowing inmates a free phone call and text daily. He said officers were told to be cautious and limit contact because there was not sufficient protective gear to operate.

County Attorney Harrington said he had contacted CB&T for information on direct payments to employees and to make the necessary steps to allow the Tax Commissioner to take payments online. He said the biggest hindrance for the Tax Commissioner was how to verify insurance when selling tags. He said the board had legal authority to suspend tax penalties and interest starting from the time of emergency and to suspend tax sales.

County Manager Barron confirmed that approval from the superintendent had been given to use the Dodge County High School gymnasium as a place of quarantine pending approval and vote from the Board of Education. Kristeena Roberson reported the hospital had set up tents out in front of the hospital.

Commissioner Watkins asked if a motion was needed to allow for direct deposit of employee checks. Commissioner Howell suggested using ACH payments to avoid fees. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to waive the bid process and declare a county wide emergency. The second to his motion was made by Commissioner Howell. All voted yes including Commissioner Cheek who was present via phone call.

Commissioner Watkins made the following motion seconded by Commissioner Howell detailing the state of emergency to include these specifications from board discussion:

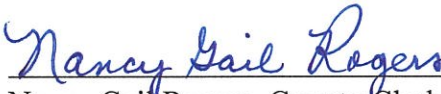
1. Declare a state of emergency for a public health emergency in Dodge County, Georgia.

2. The state of emergency shall begin on Sunday, March 22, 2020, and continue for four (4) weeks or until Monday, April 20, 2020.
3. During this four (4) week period the board will waive all tax and tag penalties along with interest incurred from March 22, 2020 through April 20, 2020. All tax sales will be suspended during the four weeks.
4. There will be limited access to all government buildings for essential services and all buildings will post a sign at the front door with phone numbers and contacts for each department. Appointments must be scheduled for those services that cannot be processed online or by telephone.
5. The board asks gatherings be limited to ten (10) people per CDC guidelines. Provision will be made to conduct open board meetings via Facebook or other live stream venues with a phone line open to take questions.
6. The board imposes a voluntary curfew from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. and asks citizens to eliminate all non-essential travel.
7. The bid process for emergency purchases will be suspended during the state of emergency.
8. The state of emergency will mandate no public dining with restaurants allowed to serve carryout, curbside, or drive thru only.

The motion was restated with Commissioners Watkins and Howell agreeing to all points added. The vote was taken and all voted yes including Commissioner Cheek via phone and the motion passed.

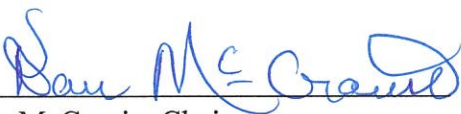
Commissioner Howell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Niblett made the second and all voted in favor of adjournment.

Signed:



Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:



Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

Joint Called Meeting & Teleconference

Wednesday, March 25, 2020

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners held a joint teleconference with officials of the City of Eastman as well as county and city department heads and legal representation. Those present were:

Dodge County

Dan McCranie
William Howell-Phone
Terry Niblett - Phone
Brian Watkins
Karen Cheek - Phone
John Harrington - Phone
Spencer Barron
Nancy Gail Rogers
Sheriff Lynn Sheffield
Mark Sheffield
Stanley Stephens
Tommy Giddens

City of Eastman

Buddy Pittman
Raymond Mullis
Ronnie Woodard
Sebrina Williams
Prince Dawson
Rita Llop
Jason Cobb
April Sheffield
Chief Becky Sheffield
Billy Cooper
Jesse Bearden
Cindy Eckles

The meeting began at 4:00 p.m. with roll call of participants listed above. County Manager Spencer Barron said that testing is 8-9 days out and with a confirmed case at Dodge County Hospital asked for discussion on proposed changes and adjustments to the Joint Emergency Declaration and Ordinance of March 23, 2020. Discussion centered around changing the voluntary curfew to a mandatory curfew from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. and input from law enforcement as to how to enforce the change. It was suggested that violators would be given warnings but citations would be issued after multiple violations. In addition to the fines of up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) for offenders, jail time of thirty (30) to sixty (60) days was suggested to be left at the officer's discretion. Sheriff Lynn Sheffield and Police Chief Becky Sheffield both agreed to these changes.

County Attorney John Harrington said that all essential employees could be given a statement on company letterhead for proof of employment since local industries at the airport were working under the Defense Protection Act.

City Manager Jason Cobb said the most flack would probably come from local gyms and salons but it was necessary to eliminate physical contact for the health and safety of our citizens. It was noted that child day care centers were allowed to stay open to care for children of medical personnel. School buses and personnel would continue to deliver free meals as well as drivers for Meals on Wheels.

Commissioner Niblett commented that he had reservations as to making the curfew mandatory county wide but after polling the board and the city council the decision was it should be mandatory county wide.

Next a roll call vote was taken on the changes to the emergency order with Commissioners McCranie, Watkins, Cheek, Howell and Niblett all voting yes. City Council members Pittman, Woodard, Mullis, Williams and Dawson all voted yes making the vote for the city council and the county commission unanimous to approve.

City Manager Jason Cobb thanked the board and council for their willingness to make hard decisions.

Chairman McCranie adjourned the meeting and teleconference.

A signed copy of the order is attached and made a part of these minutes.

Signed:



Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk

Approved:



Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

April 6, 2020

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

Also Present: John Harrington, County Attorney
Spencer Barron, County Manager
Nancy Gail Rogers, County Clerk
Kim Smith, Dodge County Employee

Absent: Karen Cheek, District 4 Commissioner

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting at the Dodge County Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex on Monday, April 6, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. Informal seating allowed those present to comply with safe distancing. Chairman McCranie called the meeting to order and led the pledge to the American flag and Commissioner Niblett prayed.

Elected Official/ Department Heads

A. Jeff Cheek - EMS Request

EMS Director Jeff Cheek was not present and County Manager Spencer Barron told the board that the matter Cheek wanted to address had been resolved over the weekend. He said the EMS may need to relocate from the Dodge County Hospital but did not think the Carter Martin Public Safety Building was adequate at the present time for their needs.

Approval of Minutes

A. March 16, 2020 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections or deletions to the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 16, 2020. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve as presented and Commissioner Niblett made the second. All voted yes and the motion passed.

B. March 22, 2020 Called Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections or deletions to the minutes of the called meeting held on March 22, 2020. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the minutes and Commissioner Howell made the second. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

C. March 25, 2020 Joint Called Meeting with City of Eastman

Chairman McCranie asked for any additions, corrections or deletions to the minutes of the joint meeting held with the City of Eastman on March 25, 2020. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Niblett seconded his motion and all voted to approve the minutes.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

There was no Accounts Payable checklist submitted for approval.

B. Ga DOT Drug and Alcohol Update

A request was made to approve the annual Drug and Alcohol Update as required by the Georgia Department of Transportation for operating the Transit 5311 program. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the update and Commissioner Howell made the second. All voted yes and the motion passed.

Commissioner Reports

Chairman McCranie asked if the board wanted to proceed with the solicitation of bids for the Tax Anticipation Note line of credit. Commissioner Howell made a motion to solicit bids from the three local banks and Commissioner Niblett made the second. All voted yes and the motion passed.

County Manager Report

County Manager Spencer Barron presented a contract to offer online payments for services and goods provided by the county. He said it was a standard contract with a three percent (3.0%) add on to the various payments with payment through Pay Pal and included customer notification of the charge. Commissioner Niblett said he had read and approved the contract. Commissioner Howell said it was fine and Commissioner Watkins said he had no problem with the contract.

Public Comments

Cindy Eckles said she had received numerous calls because there was no answer at the Magistrate office. It was noted that the Clerk of Court and Probate Judge had forwarded their phones to cell phones.

County Attorney John Harrington noted that the Emergency Declaration issued by the Governor would expire on April 13th. Commissioners Watkins and Howell agreed that the Joint Resolution

between Dodge County and the City of Eastman would not expire until April 20th the date of the next board meeting.

Adjourn

Commissioner Howell made a motion to adjourn the meeting 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

April 20, 2020

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
Kimberly Smith

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting at the Dodge County Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, April 20, 2020. Chairman McCranie called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to amend the agenda by moving the executive session before old business. Commissioner Howell made the motion seconded by Commissioner Watkins. All voted yes and the order of the agenda was amended. Chairman McCranie led the pledge to the American flag and Commissioner Watkins prayed.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

Sheriff Lynn Sheffield was recognized as present.

Approval of Minutes

A. April 6, 2020 Regular Meeting

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on April 6, 2020 with Commissioner Watkins making the second. All voted in the affirmative.

Executive Session

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel and legal matters. Commissioner Niblett made the second, vote was taken and the motion passed.

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

Old Business

There was no old business.

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 and Commissioner Howell seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to approve the payments.

B. LMIG Contract Approval

The county manager asked the board to review proposed bids from East Coast Asphalt, LLC of Douglas and Everett Dykes Grassing Co., Inc. for the 2020 Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant (LMIG) contract. The bid from East Coast Asphalt LLC was for \$1,246,705.54 and the bid from Everett Dykes Grassing Co., Inc. was for \$1,222,774.92. Both proposals agreed that the work would be completed by September 30, 2020. Commissioner Howell made a motion to accept the low bid from Everett Dykes Grassing Co., Inc. in the amount of \$1,222,774.92. The second to his motion was made by Commissioner Niblett and the motion passed.

C. Insurance Broker Selection

Commissioner Cheek made a motion to engage Capstone Benefits Consulting as the broker for employee health benefits. Commissioner Niblett made the second, the vote was taken and the motion passed.

D. Dumpster Fees

The county manager asked the board to consider an increase in dumpster fees. The board asked for a further analysis on the fee schedule and comparison with some private companies in the area.

E. DFACS Appointment

Chairman McCranie referred to a letter from the Dodge County Board of Family and Children Services concerning the term expiration of Mrs. Robin Peacock. The letter stated Mrs. Peacock has been an excellent board member with good attendance and a willingness to continue to serve. Commissioner Cheek nominated Robin Peacock to be reappointed for another term expiring on June 30, 2025. Commissioner Howell seconded the nomination. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to close nominations seconded by Commissioner Niblett. Mrs. Peacock was reappointed by acclamation.

Commissioner Reports

There were no reports from the board.

County Manager Report

County Manager Spencer Barron offered his resignation to accept the position of City Manager of the City of Eastman. Commissioner Watkins told Barron that the board appreciates all he had done for the county and wished him well. Barron said he would start May 1st with the city.

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to appoint Gail Rogers Interim County Manager effective May 1, 2020. Commissioner Niblett seconded his motion and the motion passed. Next a motion was made by Commissioner Watkins to appoint Kim Smith Parkerson County Clerk effective May 1st with authority to change signatures at the local banks. The second was made by Commissioners Niblett and Howell.

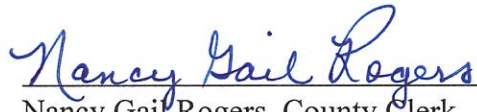
Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Adjourn

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to adjourn the meeting 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
May 4, 2020

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: Nancy Gail Rogers, Interim County Manager
Kim Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

Note: County Attorney was available by teleconference, if needed. (No consultation was necessary during the meeting.)

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting at the Dodge County Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex at 6:00 p.m. on Monday May 4, 2020. Chairman McCranie called the meeting to order and led the pledge to the American flag. Commissioner Cheek read a devotional from Psalm 46, and Chairman McCranie prayed.

Elected Officials/Department Heads

None were present.

Approval of Minutes

A. April 20, 2020 Regular Meeting

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on April 20, 2020, with Commissioner Watkins making the second. All voted in favor with none opposed.

Old Business

A. Dumpster Fees

After reviewing an expense and revenue report of commercial dumpster fees, along with a cost comparison analysis from local providers, the recommendation was made to increase the Eastman YDC monthly fee to \$2040 (60 dumps x \$34) from its previous contracted price of \$751.80. The interim county manager was asked to present the other proposed fee increases at the next meeting. No motion was made.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked for any questions or comments regarding the Accounts Payable check listing report. Commissioner Watkins asked for clarification regarding the location of the Dixie Dumpsters on check number 31911, which are at the landfill. After no further discussion,

Commissioner Howell made the motion to approve the payments, and Commissioner Watkins seconded. The vote was unanimous.

Commissioner Reports

Chairman McCranie asked for any commissioner's reports or comments. Commissioner Howell reported Dykes had graded up Golf Course Rd and the concrete was in place and looked good.

County Manager Report

There were no county manager reports.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Executive Session

Commissioner Howell made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel and legal matters. Commissioner Niblett seconded and all voted in affirmative.

At the end of executive session, Commissioner Howell made the motion to return to the regular meeting. Commissioner Niblett made the second, and all voted in affirmative.

No motions were made in executive session.

Adjourn

Commissioner William Howell made the motion to adjourn, and Commissioner Watkins seconded. All voted in favor.

Signed:



Kim Smith Parkerson, County Clerk

Approved:



Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes
Dodge County Board of Commissioners
May 18, 2020

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
Nancy Gail Rogers, Interim County Manager
Kim Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting at the Dodge County Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex at 6:00 p.m. on Monday May 18, 2020. Chairman McCranie called the meeting to order and led the pledge to the American flag. Commissioner Cheek read a devotional which she entitled "The Gift of Peace" from Luke 2. Afterward, Commissioner Cheek led the invocation.

Elected Officials/Department Heads

Sheriff Lynn Sheffield was recognized as present.

Approval of Minutes

A. May 04, 2020 Regular Meeting

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 04, 2020 meeting with Commissioner Watkins making the second. All voted in favor with none opposed.

Old Business

No old business was presented.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked for any questions or comments regarding the Accounts Payable report. None were presented. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable report as presented. Commissioner Cheek seconded. All voted in favor with none opposed.

No other new business was presented.

Commissioner Reports

Chairman McCranie asked for any commissioner's reports or comments. Commissioner Niblett reported Senator Carden Summers toured the Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex, along with members of the Development Authority and Chamber of Commerce. The group was complimentary of the building layout and facilities. Commissioner Niblett thanked

Commissioners Howell and Watkins for being instrumental in helping with the set-up of the annex building.

County Manager Report

Interim Manager Rogers reported Johnnie Smith's paving company has repaired some county roads, and Richard Harrell had approved the work. Rogers thanked Commissioner Howell for recommending the paving company.

Public Comments

Cindy Eckles inquired if the dumpster rates had been decided. Chairman McCranie responded that administration had sent a report recommending new rates. Commissioner Niblett said he felt comfortable with the new rates as presented and made a motion to approve. Commissioner Cheek seconded. All approved the new rates as presented.

Executive Session

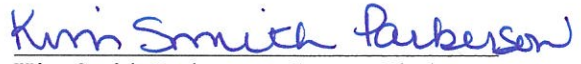
No executive session was held.

Adjourn

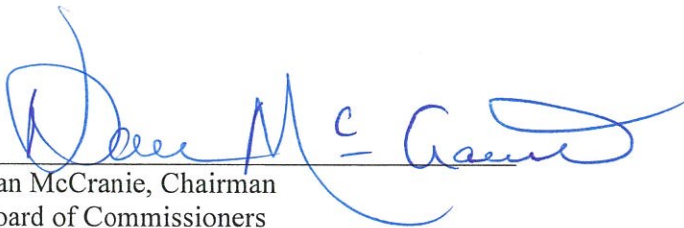
Commissioner William Howell made the motion to adjourn, and Commissioner Watkins seconded. All voted in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

Signed:


Kim Smith Parkerson, County Clerk

Approved:


Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes
Dodge County Board of Commissioners
June 01, 2020

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
Nancy Gail Rogers, Interim County Manager
Kim Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting at the Dodge County Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, June 1, 2020. Chairman McCranie called the meeting to order and immediately asked for a motion to amend the agenda to add an executive session to discuss personnel and legal issues. Commissioner Watkins made a motion and Commissioner Niblett seconded. All voted in favor. Chairman McCranie verbally added the "Executive Session" after "Public Comments" on the agenda. He next led the pledge to the American flag.

Commissioner Cheek gave the devotion and invocation, which she entitled a "Prayer of Repentance," from Psalm 51 and 2 Chronicles 7:14.

Elected Officials/Department Heads

Sheriff Lynn Sheffield was acknowledged as the only elected official present and commended for his attendance by Chairman McCranie.

Approval of Minutes

A. May 18, 2020 Regular Meeting

No comments, additions, or corrections were offered regarding the May 18, 2020 minutes.

Commissioner Howell made a motion to accept the minutes as presented.

Commissioner Niblett seconded.

All voted in favor with no objections or discussion.

Old Business

No old business was presented.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked for any questions or comments regarding the Accounts Payable report. None were presented.

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable report as presented. Commissioner Cheek seconded. All voted in favor with none opposed and no discussion.

B. E-911 Antenna Repairs

Chairman McCranie asked for Interim Manager Rogers' recommendation regarding the two bids submitted for E-911 Antenna Repairs - Georgia Two-Way for \$5,212.99 and Williams Communications for \$22,459.00. Rogers indicated Ronnie Sheffield, E911 Director, had recommended using Georgia Two-Way for repairs that had been necessary for a while. Commissioner Howell made a motion to accept Georgia Two-Way's bid. Commissioner Niblett seconded. All voted in favor with none opposed and no further discussion.

C. Engineering Proposal – Wood Environmental & Infrastructure Solutions, Inc.

At the request of previous County Manager Spence Barron, EMA Director Stanley Stephens had consulted with FEMA/GEMA for compensation from March's storm damage. The request had been denied and sent to the GA DOT's local grants department. Interim Manager Rogers consulted with Mike Thomas, from Wood Environmental, to assist in finding additional funding due to his vast knowledge and experience gained from working with GA DOT. Mr. Thomas, as a standard procedure, sent a contract to offer his services on an as-needed basis, which was the contract in review.

County Attorney Mr. Harrington recommended several minor revisions to the contract which he felt could easily be addressed by phone with Wood Environmental. No motions were made.

Commissioner Reports

No commissioner reports were given.

County Manager Report

No county manager report was given.

Public Comments

No public comments.

Executive Session

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to go into executive session. Commissioner Howell seconded. All voted in favor.

Commissioner Howell made a motion to end the executive session and Commissioner Watkins seconded. All voted in favor.

Adjourn

With no further business to address, Commissioner William Howell made the motion to adjourn, and Commissioner Niblett seconded. All voted in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

Signed:


Kim Smith Parkerson, County Clerk

Approved:


Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes
Dodge County Board of Commissioners
June 15, 2020

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

Also Present: John Harrington, County Attorney
Nancy Gail Rogers, Interim County Manager
Kim Smith Parkerson, County Clerk

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

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting at the Dodge County Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, June 15, 2020. Chairman McCranie led the pledge to the American flag followed by prayer from Commissioner Niblett.

Elected Officials/Department Heads

None were present.

Approval of Minutes

A. June 01, 2020 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked if there were any additions, corrections, or deletions regarding the June 01 minutes. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to accept the minutes as presented.

Commissioner Watkins seconded.

All voted in favor with no objections or discussion.

Old Business

No old business was presented.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked for any questions regarding the Accounts Payable report totaling \$130,286.04. None were presented.

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable report as presented.

Commissioner Watkins seconded.

All voted in favor with none opposed and no discussion.

B. Capstone – Health Insurance Proposal

Leonard Blount, of Capstone, addressed the Board and made a recommendation for the employee's contribution to be compliant with ACA guidelines.

Commissioner Watkins asked if the change of percentage could be applied only on the lowest cost plan. Mr. Blount answered in the affirmative.

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to accept the proposal and apply the employee's lower percentage for affordability only on the least expensive plan.

Commissioner Watkins seconded.

All voted in favor with no objections and no further discussion.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Watkins reported for the committee which met to discuss the line of credit bids. The committee's recommendation was to accept Colony's bid.

Commissioner Niblett seconded the Committee's motion as given by Commissioner Watkins.

All voted in favor with no objections and no further discussion.

County Manager Report

No county manager report was given.

Public Comments

Leonard Blount confirmed the county was ready to proceed with open enrollment and was assured by the Board.

Adjourn

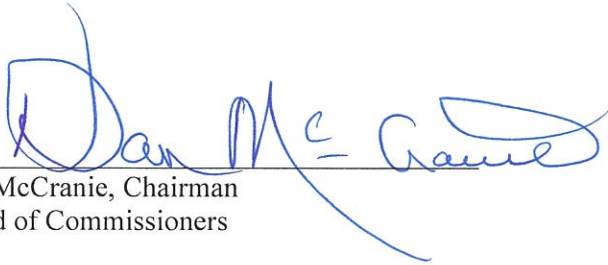
With no further business to address, Commissioner Watkins made the motion to adjourn, and Commissioner Niblett seconded. All voted in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

Signed:


Kim Smith Parkerson, County Clerk

Approved:


Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes
Dodge County Board of Commissioners
July 06, 2020

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, by teleconference

Also Present: John Harrington, County Attorney
Nancy Gail Rogers, Interim County Manager
Kim Smith Parkerson, County Clerk

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting at the Dodge County Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, July 06, 2020. Chairman McCranie led the pledge to the American flag followed by a prayer from Commissioner Watkins.

Elected Officials/Department Heads
Sheriff Lynn Sheffield was present.

Approval of Minutes

A. June 15, 2020 Regular Meeting

Chairman McCranie asked if there were any additions, corrections, or deletions regarding the June 15 minutes. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Commissioner Watkins seconded. All voted in favor with no objections or discussion.

Old Business

No old business was presented.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked for any questions regarding the Accounts Payable report totaling \$473,029.70. None were presented. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable report as presented. Commissioner Niblett seconded. All voted in favor with none opposed and no discussion.

B. Ocmulgee Regional Library Board Reappointment

The Chairman called reference to a letter from the Library Board of Trustees requesting reappointment of Dr. Melinda Dennis to the library board for a second term. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve. Commissioner Howell seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

C. Safety Coordinator Resolution

Chairman McCranie called for consideration of the Safety Coordinator Resolution. Commissioner Howell moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Watkins, the motion passed unanimously.

D. Lori/Dwayne Chaney – Studstill Road Right-of-Way

The Chaney's were unable to be present and requested to be on the Agenda for July 20, 2020.

E. Michael Holiday, Black Lives Matter – Flags and Memorial

Michael Holiday requested the War Memorial and Confederate flag be removed from county property at 5016 Courthouse Circle and placed on private property. He stated it was offensive to some and submitted a signed petition to the County Attorney.

Mabel Moore also addressed the board and requested the Confederate flag and monument be removed from the Courthouse Circle property.

F. John Battle Sr., Dodge County Branch NAACP, Flags and Oath of the Board

John Battle Sr. requested the Confederate flag be removed from the courthouse property and placed on private property.

Chairman McCranie asked County Attorney Harrington to address aforementioned requests. Attorney Harrington referenced O.C.G.A. § 50-3-1 (2019) which only allows the removal of state monuments in special circumstances, none of which were applicable to the current requests. Thereby, he ascertained the board had no legal authority to move on the matter at hand.

Another citizen requested the Confederate flag be removed since it wasn't placed at the same time as the monument, noting that Decatur had removed its flag and monument. Chairman McCranie responded the attorney had advised the flag was part of the monument, but the board would research what could be done.

Matt Oxley addressed the board in support of removing the flag and monument from county property.

Commissioner Reports

None reported.

County Manager Report

No county manager report was given.

Public Comments

John Battle II addressed the board in support of the Confederate flag and monument being removed.

Executive Session

Chairman McCranie asked for a motion to proceed with executive session to discuss legal matters and personnel. On motion by Commissioner Niblett and a second by Commissioner Howell, the board voted unanimously to go into executive session at 6:36 p.m.

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to end executive session at 7:33 p.m. with a second from Commissioner Howell. The vote was unanimous.

Adjourn

Commissioner Howell made a motion to adjourn, and Commissioner Watkins seconded. The vote passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Signed:



Kim Smith Parkerson, County Clerk

Approved:



Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes
Dodge County Board of Commissioners
SPECIAL CALLED BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, July 07, 2020 at 3:30 p.m.

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
Nancy Gail Rogers, Interim County Manager
Kim Smith Parkerson, County Clerk

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners held a called meeting on Tuesday, July 07, 2020, at 3:30 p.m. to discuss the county grounds security policy and public gatherings ordinance. The nature of this special called meeting was due to a surveillance camera placed at the courthouse (5016 Courthouse Circle) by an unknown source. The legal organ was notified at 11:54 a.m., as well as the Dodge County Board of Commissioners Facebook page.

Chairman McCranie led the pledge to the American flag followed by an invocation and prayer from Commissioner Cheek.

Business:

A. Review of Dodge County Grounds Security Policy

Chairman McCranie asked the County Attorney to review the Dodge County Grounds Security Policy. The County Attorney Harrington stated a camera had been placed at the 5016 Courthouse Circle property without the Board of Commissioners' consent or authorization hence the reason for the special called meeting. He then suggested a motion be made to discuss the issue. Commissioner Watkins made a motion and Commissioner Howell seconded. Upon discussion, Harrington noted there wasn't an official security ordinance for the property but any implemented must comply with the Public Gatherings Ordinance. Sheriff Sheffield suggested a set time be established to eliminate confusion.

Commissioner Cheek asked if the same hours in place for the Tax Commissioner's building annex would be appropriate. If implemented, Attorney Harrington noted the existing Public Gatherings Ordinance could be attained for community activities outside of the normal operating hours. Commissioner Niblett stated he was against having set hours.

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to research putting a security camera system at the War Memorial Park area as soon as possible and report by the next meeting or at a called meeting. Commissioner Cheek seconded the motion. Commissioner Watkins then suggested setting a

\$2,500 limit and getting it installed as soon as possible. Commissioner Cheek seconded the amended motion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Review of the Public Gatherings, Demonstrations, and Picketing Ordinance and application

Attorney Harrington recommended the following amendments to the ordinance:

- On page 1, section (a), paragraph *Official County Building*:
 - Add *Pearl Bates Annex* and *Courthouse Circle Annex*, and strike *the jail*
- On page 1, section (b), second line:
 - After "an official county building" add *and grounds*
- On page 2:
 - Add number (7) *No picketing, demonstrating or public gatherings shall be allowed while polls are open.*

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the changes as submitted with Commissioner Watkins making a second. All voted in favor.

Adjourn

Commissioner Howell made a motion to adjourn, and Commissioner Cheek seconded. The vote passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 4:49 p.m.

Signed:


Kim Smith Parkerson, County Clerk

Approved:


Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes
Dodge County Board of Commissioners
SPECIAL CALLED BOARD MEETING
Thursday, July 09, 2020 at 1:30 p.m.

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: John Harrington, County Attorney
Nancy Gail Rogers, Interim County Manager
Kim Smith Parkerson, County Clerk

Absent: Brian Watkins, District 3 Commissioner

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners held a special called meeting on Thursday, July 09, 2020, at 1:30 p.m. to discuss filing an appeal with the Georgia Department of Revenue. The legal organ was notified at 10:45 a.m., as well as the Dodge County BOC Facebook page. The nature of the special called meeting was due to a pending deadline for filing appeals.

Chairman McCranie called the meeting to order and led the pledge to the American flag followed by a devotion and prayer from Commissioner Cheek.

Business:

A. Approval to File an Appeal with the Georgia Department of Revenue

Commissioner Niblett stated he'd learned at a meeting with BOE Superintendent Dr. Susan Long, Chief Tax Appraiser Dale Jones, and two of her associates that an appeal could be submitted to the state in regard to the Dodge County tax assessments. The deadline for the appeal was Saturday, July 11.

Attorney John Harrington stated a factoring by the State of Georgia had resulted in a great number of properties in Dodge County being assessed at a 20 – 30 percent increase. Harrington stressed that the local tax assessor's office hadn't set the increase, but rather the State of Georgia. An appeal could be filed but wouldn't guarantee reassessment.

Dale Jones, Chief Appraiser, added that the appeal would be for the Department of Audits and Accounts 2019 Sales Ratio Study and needed to be filed with Lee Thomas, Director of the Sales Ratio Division of the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts. Commissioner Niblett stated if the appeal wasn't granted, there would be no expense to the county, but if the appeal was granted, there would be a 10% compensation fee.

Commissioner Howell made a motion to go forward with the appeal to the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts for the 2019 Sales Ratio Study. Commissioner Niblett seconded the motion, and all voted unanimously.


Adjourn

Commissioner Howell made a motion to adjourn, and Commissioner Niblett seconded. The vote passed unanimously, and the special called meeting adjourned at 1:48 p.m.

Signed:


Kim Smith Parkerson, County Clerk

Approved:


Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes
Dodge County Board of Commissioners
July 20, 2020

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
Nancy Gail Rogers, Interim County Manager
Kim Smith Parkerson, County Clerk

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting at the Dodge County Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, July 20, 2020. Chairman McCranie led the pledge to the American flag followed by a devotional and prayer from Commissioner Cheek.

Elected Officials/Department Heads

Superior Court Clerk Rhett Walker was present and addressed the Board requesting to continue the historical project for real estate records, which initially began in 2018. In addition to preserving the records, the process makes them electronically available for easier accessibility. After Manager Rogers affirmed the funds were available, Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the continuation of the project with \$20,600 due at signing and the balance due in January 2021. Attorney Harrington interrupted the motion to suggest the contract be reviewed for clarification regarding the length of the terms. Commissioner Niblett amended his motion to include allowing the Attorney's discretion regarding the terms. Commissioner Watkins seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

A. July 6, 2020 Regular Meeting

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Commissioner Watkins seconded. All voted in favor with no objections or discussion.

B. July 07, 2020 – Special Called Meeting

Commissioner Howell made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Commissioner Watkins seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

C. July 09, 2020 – Special Called Meeting

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Commissioner Cheek seconded, and all voted in favor.

Old Business

No old business was presented.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked for any questions regarding the Accounts Payable report totaling \$96,980.27. None were presented. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable report as presented. Commissioner Niblett seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

B. SPLOST Request for New Mower

On behalf of the recreation department, Manager Rogers requested SPLOST funds for a mower from Eastman Equipment Company totaling \$8,299.00. Commissioner Niblett asked if any other bids had been taken or considered. Manager Rogers reported Eastman Equipment's bid was the only one submitted to the Board but she could contact the Recreation Department for any others. No motions were made.

C. Lori/Dwayne Chaney – Studstill Road Right-of-Way

Lori Chaney addressed the Board regarding the right-of-way on Studstill Road where it passes between the Chaney property. After having the land surveyed and fence posts placed accordingly, Mrs. Chaney said the county road department came out and dug right up to the posts. Her concern is the posts are going to wash away in the ditch when it rains. She also added there was a culvert issue due to a 40-foot pipe being placed over an existing one which now extends inside their fence. She said they'd keep the culvert clear where it extends inside the fence. Her last request was that the road department stay 30 inches off the fence.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Niblett inquired about the use of Facebook Live, which had been utilized at some of the prior meetings but not in the current one. Chairman McCranie responded that plans were in place to improve the livestreaming technology and hopefully could begin again next month.

Chairman McCranie reported the Roddy road was being resurfaced, starting at the Chester Hwy and heading toward Roddy, and looked good.

County Manager Report

Manager Rogers stated new dumpsite hours would begin Monday, July 27 and would be Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Manager Rogers stated the county had received a grant from GDOT in the amount of \$52,100 for storm damage which occurred during the first quarter of 2020. The local maintenance and improvement grant normally requires a 10% match but they were allowing money already spent to be applied.

Also, Manager Rogers reported the county website was being updated by the current provider, egg media. The new website will allow the county to post updates; whereas, the current website required a call to customer support for all alterations.

Commissioner Niblett thanked Manager Rogers for being instrumental in acquiring the LMIG grant for storm damage.

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to open the County Manager resumes and applications. Commissioner Watkins seconded and all voted unanimously.

Public Comments

Development Authority Project Manager George Smith requested the county begin mowing the Hemphill Property (Spec Building) and behind the Terry Coleman Building and Chamber. The city previously mowed the locations but due to staff shortages, couldn't continue. Road Department Supervisor Richard Harrell was present and agreed to the request.

Keith Attaway addressed the Board regarding the Studstill Road right-of-way.

Executive Session


Chairman McCranie asked for a motion to proceed with executive session to discuss personnel. On motion by Commissioner Niblett and a second by Commissioner Cheek, the board voted unanimously to go into executive session at 6:51 p.m.

Commissioner Howell made a motion to end executive session at 7:23 p.m. with a second from Commissioner Niblett. The vote was unanimous.

Adjourn

Commissioner Howell made a motion to adjourn, and Commissioner Watkins seconded. The vote passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Signed:


Kim Smith Parkerson, County Clerk

Approved:


Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes
Dodge County Board of Commissioners
August 3, 2020

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
Nancy Gail Rogers, Interim County Manager
Kim Smith Parkerson, County Clerk
Shannon Weston, EMS Director

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting at the Dodge County Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, August 03, 2020. Chairman McCranie led the pledge to the American flag followed by a devotional from Commissioner Cheek. Commissioner Howell provided the invocation.

Elected Officials/Department Heads

Manager Gail Rogers announced Shannon Weston as the new EMS Director. Weston thanked everyone for the opportunity to work with the county and reported already picking up some new transports as a way to increase revenues.

Approval of Minutes

A. July 20, 2020 Regular Meeting

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the July 20 minutes as presented. Commissioner Watkins seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

No old business was presented.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked for any questions regarding the Accounts Payable report totaling \$108,297.34. None were presented. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable report as presented. Commissioner Cheek seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Dodge County Region 5 EMS Council Appointments

On behalf of Dr. Thomas Craft, District 5-1 Health Director, Manager Rogers addressed the Board for appointment to the Region 5 Emergency Medical Services Council with recommendations for EMS Director Shannon Weston and EMS employee Clint Nelson.

Commissioner Howell made a motion to accept both nominations. Commissioner Watkins seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Reports

None submitted.

County Manager Report

Nothing submitted.

Public Comments

No public comments were submitted.

Executive Session

Chairman McCranie asked for a motion to proceed with an executive session to discuss legal issues and personnel. On motion by Commissioner Watkins and a second by Commissioner Cheek, the board voted unanimously to go into executive session at 6:07 p.m.

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to end the executive session at 6:41 p.m. with a second from Commissioner Cheek. The vote was unanimous.

Follow-Up to Executive Session and Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner Watkins to amend the county sick leave policy to begin sick leave after an employee's 60-day probationary period with an accrual rate of eight (8) hours per month. Commissioner Niblett seconded the motion and all voted in the affirmative. The motion passed.

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to adjourn the board meeting at 6:43 p.m., and Commissioner Niblett seconded. The vote passed unanimously.

Signed:


Kim Smith Parkerson, County Clerk

Approved:


Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes
Dodge County Board of Commissioners
August 17, 2020

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: Nancy Gail Rogers, Interim County Manager
Kim Smith Parkerson, County Clerk
Shannon Weston, EMS Director

Absent: John Harrington, County Attorney (available by teleconference, if necessary)

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting at the Dodge County Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, August 17, 2020. Chairman McCranie led the pledge to the American flag followed by a devotional from Commissioner Cheek. Commissioner Watkins provided the invocation.

Elected Officials/Department Heads

Director Shannon Weston reported the EMS Department had several transports to Athens and Atlanta due to Covid, and everyone was stepping up to the challenge.

Approval of Minutes

A. August 03, 2020

Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Watkins seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

No old business was presented.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie addressed the board regarding any questions related to the Accounts Payable Report totaling \$129,449.47. None were presented, and Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the accounts payable. Commissioner Cheek seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Approve TPO Agreement for the Transit 5311 Program

Manager Rogers explained the transit agreement was up for renewal with a salary increase to \$12.24 for the drivers in 2021. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the TPO Agreement. Commissioner Cheek seconded and all voted in the affirmative.

C. Labor Day Holiday Meeting Change to Tuesday, September 8, 2020

Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the meeting date as Tuesday, September 8 with Commissioner Niblett seconding. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Reports

None submitted.

County Manager Report

Manager Rogers reported documentation was being garnered as supporting evidence for the CARES Act Relief Funds Phase 1, as the deadline for submission was September 1. Also, department directors had been compelled to submit supporting documentation in regard to their respective departments.

Public Comments

No public comments were submitted.

Executive Session

Chairman McCranie asked for a motion to proceed with an executive session to discuss legal matters and personnel. On motion by Commissioner Watkins and a second by Commissioner Niblett, the board voted unanimously to go into executive session at 6:12 p.m.

Commissioner Howell made a motion to end the executive session at 6:46 p.m. with a second from Commissioner Niblett. The vote was unanimous.

Adjournment

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to adjourn the board meeting at 6:47 p.m., and Commissioner Niblett seconded. The vote passed unanimously.

Signed:


Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

Approved:



Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes
Dodge County Board of Commissioners
CALLED BOARD MEETING
Friday, August 21, 2020 at 4:00 PM

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
Nancy Gail Rogers, Interim County Manager
Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

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

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners held a special called meeting on Friday August 21, 2020, at 4:00 p.m. Chairman McCranie called the meeting to order and led the pledge to the American flag followed by an invocation from Commissioner Cheek.

Business:

A. Development Authority Request for SPLOST Funds

Executive Director of the Dodge County Development Authority Charles Williams requested \$256,000 of SPLOST funds for economic development at the Middle Georgia Aviation College. Manager Rogers confirmed the Development Authority had \$256,000 available in SPLOST funding.

Commissioner Cheek made a motion to release SPLOST funds in the amount of \$256,000 to the Development Authority for economic development. Commissioner Niblett seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

B. Approval for Vehicle Purchase from SPLOST Funds

Manager Rogers asked for a formal motion and approval for two county vehicle purchases for \$32,560.00 each. Previous Manager Spence Barron had already received approval for the purchases, but a formal motion hadn't been made for the minutes.

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve the county vehicle purchases from SPLOST funds with Commission Niblett making a second. All voted in favor.

Adjourn

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to adjourn, and Commissioner Niblett seconded. The vote passed unanimously, and the special called meeting adjourned at 4:24 p.m.

Signed:


Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

Approved:


Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes
Dodge County Board of Commissioners
Tuesday, September 8, 2020

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
Nancy Gail Rogers, Interim County Manager
Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk
Shannon Weston, EMS Director
Allen Mills, Code Enforcement Officer

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting at the Dodge County Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 8, 2020.

Before beginning the meeting, Chairman McCranie asked for a motion to amend the agenda to include an Executive Session for Legal and Personnel issues after Public Comments. On motion by Commissioner Niblett and a second by Commissioner Watkins, the Board voted unanimously to amend the Agenda.

Chairman McCranie led the pledge to the American flag followed by a devotional and invocation from Commissioner Cheek.

Elected Officials/Department Heads

Code Enforcement Officer Mills reported the following:

- There hadn't been an increase in dumping violations since the beginning of Covid. He reported on average he handles three complaints a week.
- The nominal fee at the landfill had not impacted illegal dumping within the county.
- He then reported the advantages and disadvantages of the manned and unmanned sites. The advantage of the manned is being able to monitor what's being dumped. The disadvantage of the manned is no access when sites aren't open. There's also the extra payroll expense.
- The disadvantage of the unmanned sites is illegal dumping of non-household garbage. But there's no payroll expense at these four locations. And they're available to the public 24 hours a day.
- Mills reported he'd written only four or five tickets since Covid.

Commissioner Cheek asked would Mills recommend having attendants at the Mitchell and Rhine stations. Mills promised to review the situation and report back to the Board.

Commissioner Watkins asked if the county ordinances in place were sufficient for writing tickets. Attorney Harrington indicated they were.

EMS Director Shannon Weston reported the following:

- EMS responded to 283 calls in July. For August, the calls had increased to 324, with 37 out-of-town transports, as far as Atlanta and Athens.
- Since the OB Department was closing at the hospital, Weston was concerned OB transports would increase.
- Cash-for-call increased to \$529.64 for August. It had been in the three hundreds the month prior.

Manager Rogers confirmed EMS deposits had increased as reported by Weston.

Approval of Minutes

A. August 17, 2020 – Regular Board Meeting

Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Niblett seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

B. August 21, 2020 – Called Board Meeting

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and Commissioner Watkins seconded. All voted unanimously.

Old Business

No old business was presented.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie addressed the board regarding any questions related to the Accounts Payable Report totaling \$97,238.84. None were presented, and Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the accounts payable. Commissioner Niblett seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Approve to Purchase Equipment for Superior Courtroom Video Streaming

Manager Rogers presented a quote from Judge Sarah Wall for video streaming in the Superior Courtroom. The quote was procured from the District Court Administrator and totaled \$8,589.55. The equipment would be used to limit the number of visitors in the courtroom and allow for livestreaming for a grand jury. Attorney Harrington affirmed the District Court recommendation would trump the normal three-bids process. On motion by Commissioner Cheek and a second by Commissioner Watkins, the Board voted unanimously to approve the purchase.

As afterthought to the aforementioned motion, Commissioner Watkins asked if SPLOST funds could be used for the video-streaming equipment. Attorney Harrington answered in the affirmative. Commissioner Cheek reopened the motion, with Commissioner Watkins in

agreement. The motion was restated for SPLOST funds to be used to purchase equipment for the Superior Courtroom video streaming in the amount of \$8589.55. All voted unanimously.

C. 2020 Millage Rate

Manager Rogers presented the 2020 Property Tax Digest and Five Year History which computed the rollback rate at 12.2240. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to use the rollback rate of 12.2240. Commissioner Howell seconded, and all voted in favor.

Commissioner Reports

None submitted.

County Manager Report

Manager Rogers updated the Board on the CARES Act funds received. Initially on August 3, the county received a 30% advance totaling \$203,072.38. Documentation was submitted by August 20, and the 70% balance totaling \$473,8335.55 was awarded on September 2.

Public Comments

No public comments were submitted.

Executive Session

Chairman McCranie asked for a motion to proceed with an executive session to discuss legal matters and personnel. On motion by Commissioner Watkins and a second by Commissioner Cheek, the Board voted unanimously to go into executive session at 6:26 p.m.

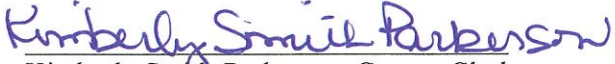
Commissioner Niblett made a motion to end the executive session at 7:06 p.m. with a second from Commissioner Howell. The vote was unanimous.

After the Executive Session, Attorney Harrington presented a Resolution to add the sheriff position to the Defined Benefit Plan for Dodge County employees. The plan had never been formally revised to include the position of sheriff; however, the position of sheriff had been allowed to contribute since 2001. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to accept the Resolution as amended to include the position of sheriff in the County's Defined Benefit Plan. Commissioner Howell seconded the motion, and all voted unanimously.

Adjournment

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to adjourn at 7:10 p.m., and Commissioner Watkins seconded. The vote passed unanimously.

Signed:


Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

Approved:


Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes

Dodge County Board of Commissioners

September 21, 2020

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
Nancy Gail Rogers, Interim County Manager

Absent: William T. Howell, Jr., Vice-Chairman & District 1 Commissioner
Kim Smith Parkerson, County Clerk

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting at the Dodge County Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex on Monday, September 21, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. Chairman McCranie called the meeting to order and asked for the agenda to be amended to omit Rhett Walker under Elected Officials and to add Old Business C. Commissioner Terry Niblett – County Manager Position. Commissioner Niblett made the motion and Commissioner Watkins made the second. All voted yes and the agenda was amended. Next Chairman McCranie led the pledge of allegiance to the American flag followed by Commissioner Cheek who gave the devotional and prayer.

Elected Officials/ Department Heads

A. Superior Clerk of Court Rhett Walker – Kofile Technologies – Postponed to next meeting.

B. EMS Director Shannon Weston – Parking Lot, EMA Building

The EMS Director reported that his staff was well and calls and transports were increasing. He invited the board to stop at the EMA Building to see the hard work by his employees to keep it neat, clean and organized. He said moral was up among his employees and Road Supervisor Richard Harrell had added large gravel to the parking lot but the ambulance continued to bog. He asked for an area one hundred feet by one hundred feet (100'X100') to be paved saying it would make it easier to wash the trucks. He referred to three (3) bids received from the following:

- Tony Smith Paving -Add crushed rock, pack, 3”hot mix asphalt \$26,800
- Johnnie Smith Paving-Remove grass, level, 2” crush-run rock, 2 “ hot asphalt \$22,000
- Mid-State Paving – Prep, grade, 4” crush-run, 3” asphalt compacted to 2.5” \$21,000

Commissioner Watkins questioned whether two inches (2”) plus two inches (2”) would be enough and asked if there were any bids to build up the base. Commissioner Cheek asked if any suggested adding a clay base. Weston replied that Richard said he could haul in base before the paving. Commissioner Watkins suggested that Richard detail how he would prepare the base

area and that no decision be made until hearing from him. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to table until the next meeting, Commissioner Niblett made the second and the motion passed.

Approval of Minutes

A. September 8, 2020

Chairman McCranie asked if there were any corrections, deletions or additions to the minutes of the regular meeting held on September 8, 2020. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Commissioner Niblett. All voted in favor of approval.

Old Business

A. Called Meeting to Set Millage Rate

Interim County Manager Gail Rogers informed the board of the time and date to set the millage rate for 2020. She said the Board of Education has advertised to set their millage rate at 14, which is above the rollback rate of 12.224 and will require the three public meetings. After their third meeting on October 1st at 6:30 p.m., they will set their millage. The Board of Commissioners will hold a called meeting at 7:00 p.m. to set the county millage after the Board of Education has finalized their millage rate.

B. Video Live Stream Update

Rogers told the board County Clerk Kim Smith Parkerson had compiled information on the methods and legalities of live streaming meetings. She asked them to review the information and postpone discussion on the matter until the next meeting when the clerk would be present to answer questions on the subject. She explained that the clerk was absent due to the death of her grandmother and the need to be with her family.

C. County Manager Update

Commissioner Terry Niblett made a motion to hire Conner Bearden as Dodge County Manager with a start date of September 28th. Commissioner Watkins made the second and the vote was taken with Niblett and Watkins voting in the affirmative and Commissioner Cheek voting nay.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie asked the board to review the check listing of Accounts Payable payments. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the payments with Commissioner Watkins making the second. All voted yes and the motion passed.

Commissioner Reports

There were no reports from the board.

County Manager Report

Rogers told the board that Tax Collector Rob Stanley had informed her that a tax sale is scheduled for Tuesday, November 3rd, which is also Election Day. Advertisements are scheduled to run four weeks in October.

She also informed the board that flu shots will be given to county employees on September 29th. She said the Dodge County Health Department is providing this service again this year and will schedule stops at all locations as a convenience to employees.

Public Comments

Mitchell Coffee told the board that in a small parking lot concrete would be cheaper and hold up better with large trucks. The county attorney asked how thick and Coffee estimated it would be two-thirds (2/3) the cost of asphalt and the highway department could be contacted to set specs on the thickness based on the use of the area. Commissioner Watkins agreed that concrete worked better in his business in areas where large trucks were moving around.

Adjourn

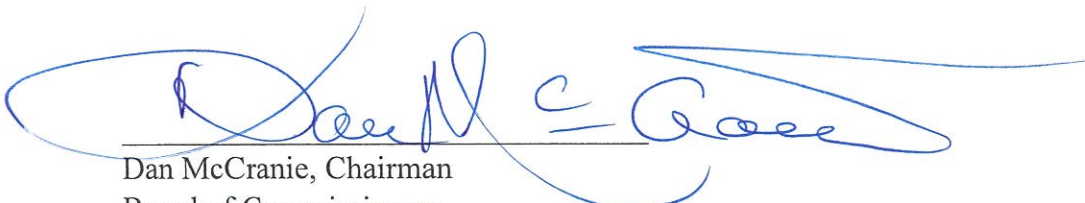
With no other business to be addressed, Commissioner Watkins made a motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by Commissioner Niblett. The vote was unanimous to adjourn.

Signed:



Nancy Gail Rogers
Interim County Manager

Approved:



Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes
Dodge County Board of Commissioners
CALLED BOARD MEETING
Thursday, October 1, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

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: Conner Bearden, County Manager
Nancy Gail Rogers, Interim County Manager
Kim Smith Parkerson, County Clerk

Absent: John Harrington, County Attorney

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners held a special called meeting on Thursday, October 1, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.

Chairman McCranie called the meeting to order and led the pledge to the American flag followed by a devotion from Commissioner Cheek. An invocation was given by Commissioner Niblett.

Business:

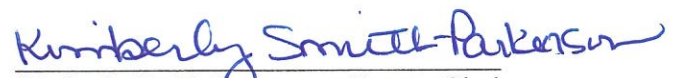
A. Motion to Set Millage Rate

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to set the millage rate at 12.224 with Commissioner Watkins making the second. The motion passed unanimously.


Adjourn

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to adjourn, and Commissioner Howell seconded. The motion passed unanimously, and the special called meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Signed:


Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

Approved:


Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

**Regular Board Meeting
Dodge County Board of Commissioners Office
643 Pearl Bates Ave
Monday, October 5, 2020 at 6:00 PM
Agenda**

This meeting was canceled due to commissioners being exposed to COVID during the called meeting on Thursday, October 1, 2020.

Minutes
Dodge County Board of Commissioners
October 19, 2020

Present: Dan McCranie, Chairman
Terry L. Niblett, District 2 Commissioner
Brian Watkins, District 3 Commissioner
Karen Cheek, District 4 Commissioner (via Zoom conference)

Also Present: John Harrington, County Attorney
Conner Bearden, County Manager
Nancy Gail Rogers, Interim County Manager
Kim Smith Parkerson, County Clerk

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

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting at the Dodge County Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, October 19, 2020. Chairman McCranie led the pledge to the American flag followed by a devotion and prayer from Commissioner Cheek.

Elected Officials/Department Heads

A. **Randy Spivey** – Football and soccer are underway at the Recreation Department. 145 are enrolled in soccer, and 77 are enrolled in football.

The 2020-2021 Land and Water Conservation Fund grant (LWCF) is a matching grant available to recreation departments for rehabilitating outdoor recreation facilities. The money should be available in October 2021, so the recreation department SPLOST funds will be accumulated for the matching funds. Spivey needs the funds to renovate the concession facilities, which haven't been updated since 1995. He's requesting approximately \$25,000 to \$30,000 from the grant with a match from the 2021 SPLOST funds.

A motion was made by Commissioner Watkins to proceed with the LWCF grant for the recreation department by resolution dated October 19, 2020. Commissioner Niblett seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

B. **Shannon Weston** – The EMS Department had 304 transports in September and averaged \$592.60 per call. (This time last year, the average was only \$297.86 per call.) Weston had three bids for concreting the parking pad at the EMA Building. (The driveway will only need crush and run, which the road department can provide at \$1,977.00).

- a. CB's Pools and Concrete, Cochran - \$21,100
- b. Johnson Concrete Finishing, Eastman - \$16,680
- c. Roberson Concrete, Eastman - \$22,895

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve Johnson Concrete for concreting the pad at the EMA Building for \$16,680. Commissioner Watkins seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Weston reported the ambulances had 11,197 miles in September.

Approval of Minutes

A. September 21, 2020 - Regular Board Meeting

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the September 21 Minutes as presented. Commissioner Watkins seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

B. October 1, 2020 – Called Board Meeting

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the October 1 Minutes as presented. Commissioner Watkins seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

No old business was presented.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Chairman McCranie addressed the board regarding the Accounts Payable report totaling \$80,723.32. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable report as presented. Commissioner Niblett seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Hospital Board Appointment

Dr. James Tison asked to be immediately relieved of Board responsibility. The Hospital Board requested to replace with Dr. Donald Selph in order to keep a physician on the Board per state recommendation. Mr. Mitchell Coffee and Mrs. Mimi Dennis also need to be reappointed.

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve Dr. Donald Selph as a replacement for Dr. James Tison. Commissioner Watkins made the second, and all voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to table the two reappointments on Coffee and Dennis, with Commissioner Niblett seconding since they hadn't been discussed in a prior meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Updated EMS Consulting Contract

County Attorney Harrington made notice the contract price had increased, as well as the price for mail-outs at 75 cents for each. Several other increases were brought to the attention of the Board by Attorney Harrington. The EMS Director was not aware of any increases and could not offer any information.

Attorney Harrington could not recommend renewing the current contract without negotiating the increases. All agreed. Also, Director Weston was asked to research other billing companies through his networking contact.

No motion was passed on this matter at the current time.

Commissioner Reports

- A. Commissioner Niblett reported the airport had been having an ongoing problem with safety issues in the runway. Some areas need to be crack-sealed and others need a new base and surface. GDOT and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has offered a grant up to 1.2 million dollars to help improve the runway but needs a 5% match of \$60,000. Commissioner Niblett suggested splitting that cost between the county and the city - \$30,000 each. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the \$30,000 from the county from the TSPLOST funds with the city participating at the same level. Commissioner Watkins seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The final number has not been approved, but they are in the second stage of grant approval.
- B. Mike Grenade of the Dodge County Baptist Association completed an application for a Permit for Picketing/Demonstration to use the courthouse to pray for the Nov. 3rd election on Nov. 2nd from 6-8 pm. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve, with Commissioner Watkins seconding. The motion passed unanimously.

County Manager Report

- A. Manager Bearden submitted prior manager Spence Barron's resignation on the DFCS, Regional Commission, and GA Workforce Development boards. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to appoint Manager Bearden to all of the Boards as county representative. Commissioner Niblett voted in favor, and the motion passed unanimously.
- B. The Governor has decided to retain the \$1.5 billion of the CARES Funds to retain at the state level for the unemployment trust fund to keep unemployment tax from increasing.
- C. Judge Wall requested more hand sanitizing stations, Plexiglas barriers around the witness and clerk's box. Also, there needs to be an exit from the courtroom, and she asked for a sidewalk to be at that exit leading to the parking lot. She asked all of these changes before court on Nov. 30th. She also requested masks, and they were provided from the EMA Director.

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve changes as recommended not totaling more than \$800 for grand jury use at the Pearl Bates Annex location. Commissioner Niblett made a second. The motion passed.

Public Comments


No public comments were submitted.

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to adjourn the board meeting at 6:42 p.m., and Commissioner Niblett seconded. The vote passed unanimously.

Signed:


Kimberly Smith-Parkerson
Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

Approved:


Dan McCranie
Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

Minutes
Dodge County Board of Commissioners
November 2, 2020

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

Also Present: John Harrington, County Attorney
Conner Bearden, County Manager
Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting at the Dodge County Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, November 2, 2020. Chairman McCranie led the pledge to the American flag followed by a devotion entitled, *Comfort from God*, and prayer from Commissioner Cheek via Zoom.

Elected Officials/Department Heads

A. Shannon Weston

- **EMS Update** – Weston was not able to attend.

B. Frank Erwin, County Auditor

- **Preliminary Audit Report**

Erwin discussed the independent preliminary audit report for 2019 for the county which had been completed. Assets on page five were listed right over 19 million. No motions were made at this time as the report was a preliminary one.

Approval of Minutes

A. October 19, 2020 - Regular Board Meeting

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Watkins seconded. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

Old Business

A. EMS Consulting Contract Update

- Manager Bearden had spoken with Rob Sanchez, CEO of ELEVOS, and confirmed his readiness to speak with Attorney Harrington regarding any contract revisions. Harrington added there was no time sensitivity as the current contract had an automatic renewal clause.

B. Consulting Engineer for LMIG

c. Manager Bearden stated he'd reviewed some of Ocmulgee Engineering's reports and noticed some duplication of charges, which led him to consult other engineering firms. Wood Environmental has 3 retired DOT individuals within its group and is of interest. Also, Hofstadter & Associates would be sending a contract within the week. (They were involved with the CDBG

grant.) Also, typically LMIG has a December 31 deadline, but this year, with COVID, there has been an extension to February.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable report totaling \$145,275.15. Commissioner Watkins seconded. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

B. Resolution to Adopt a Street Light Policy

On Liberty Street, the residents asked for a couple of additional street lights. Manager Bearden spoke with EMC contact Brad Dowdy who felt LED lights would triple the output and solve the issue. Also, Bearden presented a new policy regarding street lights and a resolution. Attorney Harrington suggested editing the policy to exclude townships and/or places that maintain their own lights.

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to table pending research. Commissioner Watkins seconded. The motion passed with all voting unanimously.

C. Bank Signature Authorization

Erwin's audit indicated Bobby Peacock was still on some of the county bank accounts. Manager Bearden had written a resolution to remove past employees and add the current manager but without any specificity in the verbiage. Attorney Harrington disproved the resolution for its vagueness and recommended one he had on file. Bearden agreed. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to update the Bank Signature Authorizations with Commissioner Niblett making a second. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

D. Fuel Dispenser Estimate

Manager Bearden reported EMS Director Weston had asked for low-sulfur diesel to be provided at the Road Department for the EMS. A tank is already there, but there would need to be the addition of a pump. The majority of the cost would be in the fuel dispenser. There would be almost 70 cents per gallon saved in fuel costs. Commissioner Howell expressed concern for monitoring the fuel, but Bearden stated no other vehicle in the road department uses low-sulfur diesel. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to proceed with the fuel dispenser but requested the drivers keep a logbook to monitor the dispensing of fuel. If anything suspicious is noticed, a pin-pad would need to be installed or the EMS would have to revert to their prior method. Commissioner Niblett seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

E. Preliminary Audit Report

The County Auditor discussed the preliminary report earlier in the meeting, but no motions were made.

Commissioner Reports

- A. Commissioner Niblett stated on record the hospital board reappointments had been inadvertently left off the agenda and would be discussed at the next meeting.
- B. Chairman McCranie reported the ACCG District 9 Meeting would be Friday, November 13, and would be online for any to attend.

County Manager Report

- A. Manager Bearden reported the person who was breaking in at the Chester dumpsters had been issued a citation by Allen Mills. The individual could not be taken to jail due to a Covid outbreak there.
- B. The Workforce Board would not accept Manager Bearden as a replacement for Spence Barron because the replacement must be a business owner. However, Manager Bearden did get seated on the Regional Commission in Barron's place.

Public Comments

No public comments were submitted.

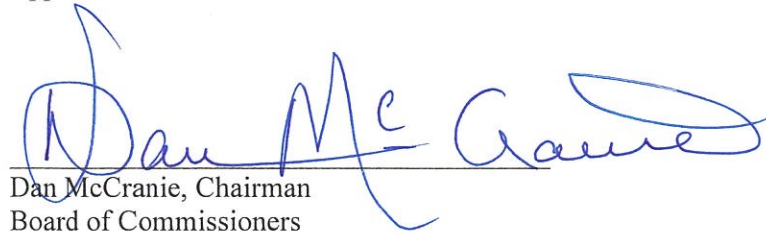
Adjournment

Commissioner Howell made a motion to adjourn the board meeting at 6:28 p.m., and Commissioner Watkins seconded. The vote passed unanimously.

Signed:


Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

Approved:


Dan McCranie, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

**Minutes
Dodge County Board of Commissioners
November 16, 2020**

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

Also Present: John Harrington, County Attorney
Conner Bearden, County Manager
Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting at the Dodge County Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, November 16, 2020. Chairman McCranie led the pledge to the American flag followed by a devotion entitled, *Record of God's Faithfulness*, and prayer from Commissioner Cheek via video conference.

Chairman McCranie proposed a revision to the agenda at the request of Attorney Harrington to include an Executive Session for legal matters and personnel after public comments. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve the revision. Commissioner Niblett seconded; all voted favorably, and the motion passed.

Elected Officials/Department Heads

Shannon Weston -

- **EMS Update** – Weston reported having an EMT class for citizens provided by a trauma grant. In October, the department, as a whole, responded to 371 calls and drove approximately 16,000 miles.

Approval of Minutes

November 2, 2020 - Regular Board Meeting

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Watkins seconded. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

Old Business

A. Street Light Policy and Resolution

- Manager Bearden reported updating the proposed policy according to Attorney Harrington's recommendations to exclude townships and/or places that maintain streetlights. Commissioner Cheek made a motion to approve. No second was forthcoming. Motion failed.

B. Consulting Engineer for LMIG

- Manager Bearden asked for approval to proceed with Wood Environmental (Engineer Mike Thomas) for striping of county roads and repair of potholes. Commissioner

Niblett made a motion to approve with Commissioner Watkins seconding. The motion passed with all voting unanimously.

C. EMS Consulting Contract

- Manager Bearden presented the board with another contract to review for EMS billing from EMS Pro.

D. Hospital Board Appointments

- Commissioner Niblett made a motion to re-appoint Mitchell Coffee and Mimi Dennis to the Dodge County Hospital Board. Commissioner Watkins seconded and all voted unanimously. Motion passed.

E. Bank Signature Authorization

- Manager Bearden affirmed authorization to remove Gail Rogers and Bobby Peacock from county banking accounts. Attorney Harrington offered to email a template for use by the county clerk and/or manager.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

- Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable report totaling \$20,308.85. Commissioner Niblett seconded. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

B. Codification

- Manager Bearden discussed information for review from Municode, a company which provides codification of ordinances and offers digital format. The total cost of \$9950 can be paid in two fiscal year budget cycles. No motions were made at the present time.

C. Resolution for 5311 (Dodge Transit) Grant

- Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve the resolution to reapply for the transit grant. Commissioner Niblett seconded, and all voted unanimously. Motion passed.

D. County Vehicle Custodial Duties

- Manager Bearden proposed purchasing a 2013 Chevrolet Silverado with 128,383 miles from Goodman Auto Sales for \$12,995 from SPLOST funds. Bearden had also researched GOV Deals and Iron Planet for vehicles, but Goodman's had the best price. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the purchase and Commissioner Watkins seconded. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

E. Approval to Repair Courtroom HVAC

- According to the air study conducted, the cost to relocate vents in the Grand Jury courtroom and for the ionization system totaled \$4,242. With those changes, the standards recommended by the air study would be met, thereby allowing court to resume. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve HVAC repairs as presented. Commissioner Niblett second, and all voted in favor. Motion passed.

F. Resolution to Move Grand Jury

- Attorney Harrington discussed a resolution to move the Dodge County Superior Court to the Terry Coleman Center in order to comply with health and safety guidelines prescribed by State healthcare experts and the Georgia Court Reopening Guide.

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve the temporary relocation. Commissioner Howell seconded; all voted in favor, and the motion passed.

Commissioner Reports

None were presented.

County Manager Report

- Manager Bearden reported updates from a quarterly (zoom) meeting with ACCG:
 - a. Georgia ranks #1 place to do business in the United States.
 - b. The online sales tax collection has boosted revenue for local governments.
 - c. Georgia Amendment 1, Dedicating Tax and Fee Revenue Amendment, on the ballot for Nov. 3 passed by 80%.
 - d. ACCG is advocating court video conferencing after covid to reduce transport costs.
 - e. House Bill 897 will change how the county is notified regarding timber harvesting. Updates will be maintained on a statewide timber harvesting notification webpage housed by the Georgia Forestry Commission.
 - f. The state is considering changing the alcohol licensing to an online portal managed by the Department of Revenue. (Not out until early 2021.)

Public Comments

No public comments were submitted.

Executive Session

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to move to Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel. Commissioner Howell seconded the motion, and all voted in the favor. The motion passed. Executive session began at 6:26 p.m.

Commissioner Howell made a motion to end Executive Session at 7:06 p.m. with Commissioner Watkins making the second. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

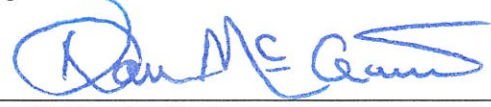
Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, Commissioner Howell made a motion to adjourn the board meeting, and Commissioner Watkins seconded. The vote passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Signed:


Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

Approved:


Dan McCranie, Chairman

**Minutes
Dodge County Board of Commissioners
December 7, 2020**

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

Also Present: John Harrington, County Attorney
Conner Bearden, County Manager
Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting at the Dodge County Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, December 7, 2020. Chairman McCranie led the pledge to the American flag followed by a devotion from Psalm 29:11 and prayer from Commissioner Cheek.

Elected Officials/Department Heads

Shannon Weston - EMS Update

Weston reported 11,500 miles and 318 calls for the month of November. Average cash per transport was \$589 as calculated from the billing company's report. Manager Bearden reported a 68% collection rate. Two ambulances went down. Weston provided the County Manager with three bids for a new ambulance.

Approval of Minutes

November 16, 2020 - Regular Board Meeting

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Howell seconded. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

Old Business

A. EMS Consulting Contract

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the new contract with EMS Pro pending the letter of cancellation with Elevos, the current billing company. Commissioner Howell seconded and all voted in favor. Motion passed.

B. Codification with Municode

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to proceed with Municode for codification of the county ordinances with word docs, as advised by Manager Bearden. Chairman McCranie seconded the motion, and all voted in favor. The motion passed.

C. County Vehicle for Custodial Purposes

Manager Bearden reported the Chevrolet approved at the prior meeting had already been sold before the county could acquire it. Therefore, he presented four more bids with similar vehicles.

Commissioner Watkins made the motion to approve the 2010 F150 for \$11,995. Commissioner Howell seconded and all voted in favor. The motion passed.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable report totaling \$293,719.79. Commissioner Howell seconded. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

B. Dodge County Transit Request for Reimbursement

Transit requested reimbursement for \$4,277.21 to cover FY 19-20 expenses. Manager Bearden reported the county budget showed transit would have a \$13,748 surplus for the year. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to table until indirect fees totaling \$9,173.63 on the transit budget report could be explained. Commissioner Howell seconded and all vote unanimously. Motion was tabled.

C. Resolution to Apply for FY 2021 Community Development Block Grant

Manager Bearden reported the FY 21 CDBG grant was to finish Liberty and Washington Streets. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve the FY 21 CDBG with Commissioner Niblett seconding. All voted unanimously. Motion passed.

Commissioner Reports

None were presented.

County Manager Report

- The proposed FY '21 Budget was presented by Manager Bearden. He noted the Road Department had an increase for LMIG, where the auditor had requested LMIGs monies be put in the general fund. He also noted truing up salaries for each department.
- Manager Bearden presented the 3rd Quarter Financials. Revenues were lower than expenditures as no taxes were coming in. Next quarters financials should flip-flop.
- Manager Bearden discussed a google invite for attending meetings remotely.
- New rumble strips - thermoplastic strips with a permanent adhesive - had been ordered for Highway 26 which can be installed by the road department.

Public Comments

Kelly Belflower reported the following concerns:

- A poor job was done of patching roads on the Roddy Highway.
- The shoulders are much higher than the road, making the rain puddle on the road.
- Limbs are in the road on 257 north to the county line blocking the right-of-ways.
- Hobbs Road needs some attention. It's impassable in areas.
- Also, speed limit signs are needed on Roddy Road.

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, Commissioner Howell made a motion to adjourn the board meeting, and Commissioner Watkins seconded. The vote passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Signed:



Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

Approved:



Dan McCranie, Chairman

Minutes
Dodge County Board of Commissioners
December 21, 2020

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

Also Present: John Harrington, County Attorney
Conner Bearden, County Manager
Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

Absent: Karen Cheek, District 4 Commissioner

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting at the Dodge County Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, November 16, 2020. Chairman McCranie led the pledge to the American flag followed by an invocation from Commissioner Niblett.

Elected Officials/Department Heads

A. Recognition of Service

County Manager Bearden presented Sheriff Lynn Sheffield with a plaque honoring him for his 40 years of service with Dodge County. Also, Commissioner Howell was presented with a plaque for his 16 years of service to the Board of Commissioners.

B. Shannon Weston - EMS Update

Director Shannon Weston reported the EMS had averaged \$557 per call. He also noted the ambulances were traveling longer distances due to local hospitals being on diversion. November's EMS deposits were up to \$134,773.12 from \$70,359.15 last month.

Approval of Minutes

December 07, 2020 - Regular Board Meeting

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Howell seconded. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

Old Business

A. Dodge County Transit Request for Reimbursement - \$4,277.21

Manager Bearden reported the transit budget surplus at the last meeting was now a shortcoming of approximately \$1,800 at November's end. Also, transit had issued a letter explaining the indirect costs. The Federal Government sets the indirect cost amounts, and transit charges the same 26.1% to all their clients. No motion was made on this matter.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable - \$118,115.94

Manager Bearden advised the last A/P report had included approximately \$11,000 in vehicle repair; whereas, the current report reflected \$5,768. Also, EMS Consulting fees were \$7634 due to the reimbursement increase for November. Commissioner Howell made a motion to approve the accounts payable with Commissioner Niblett seconding. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

B. Board of Tax Assessors Re-appointment – Cindy Eckles

Commissioner Niblett motioned to table the re-appointment till January. Commissioner Howell seconded and all voted in favor. The motion passed.

C. Purchase of Ambulance

Manager Bearden presented three bids, as follows:

- Emergency Vehicle Sales - \$156,275.00
- ETR, LLC - \$143,835.00
- Custom Trucks and Body Works, Inc. - \$137,474

All quotes included vehicles with gasoline engines. Instead of remounting, Manager Bearden recommended adding to the fleet. The 2013 SPLOST account has the money to pay for the ambulance. Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the Custom Trucks bid, and Commissioner Howell seconded. All voted in favor, and the motion passed unanimously.

D. Purchase of Machinery for Road Department

Commissioner Niblett motioned to table this item with Commissioner Howell seconding. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

Commissioner Reports

Ochise Landing

Attorney Harrington updated the Board regarding a Georgia Department of Natural Resources grant for the Ochise Landing. At Commissioner Watkins' request (who was listening via teleconference), Attorney Harrington made a motion to purchase approximately half an acre from the adjoining landowner for \$1,500 in calendar year 2020 to qualify for the grant from the GA DNR. Commissioner Niblett seconded, and all voted unanimously. The motion passed.

County Manager Report

A. Gratuity Clause

Manager Bearden brought the Board's attention to the Gratuity Clause and acknowledged the County currently funded two entities.

B. Virtual Attendance

Manager Bearden updated the Board regarding Google Meet, which was his recommendation for virtual attendance. He discussed the pros and cons of the Google platform and would develop a policy.

C. Rumble Strips

A sample of the new rumble strips was given to the Board to review.

Public Comments

- John Battle addressed the Board requesting \$2,500 over a three-year period for the Peabody Concerned Citizens Building on Martin Luther King Drive for renovations.

- Sharon Cobb Flanagan, on behalf of the Farmers' Market Board, requested support for the Farmers' Market in the amount of \$1,500 to help with expenses.

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, Commissioner Howell made a motion to adjourn the board meeting, and Commissioner Niblett seconded. The vote passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

Signed:



Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

Approved:



Dan McCranie, Chairman

Minutes
Dodge County Board of Commissioners
CALLED BOARD MEETING
Monday, December 28, 2020
6:00 PM

Present: 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 (via video conference)

Also Present: Conner Bearden, County Manager
Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

Absent: Dan McCranie, Chairman
John Harrington, County Attorney

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners held a called meeting on December 28, 2020, at 6:00 p.m. to approve the FY 2021 County Budget.

Vice-Chairman Howell called the meeting to order and led the pledge to the American flag. Commissioner Cheek gave the invocation, entitled "The Good News," from John 1:1-9 and prayed.

Commissioner Howell asked for a motion to amend the Agenda to include the appointment to the Tax Assessors Board. The amendment was due to the appointment of Cindy Eckles ending on December 31, 2020, thereby creating a lapse on the board if not handled before the next meeting on January 4. Commissioner Watkins made a motion with Commissioner Niblett seconding. The motion passed unanimously.

Business:

A. Approve FY 2021 County Budget

Manager Bearden noted the following line items:

- Line 648 – Historical Society \$3,500
- Line 692 – Faithful Hearts Animal Shelter \$5,000
- Line 698 – Council on Aging (Senior Citizens Center) \$10,000
- Line 690 – Contingency Fund \$55,000
- Line 674 – Development Authority \$50,000

In accordance with the three-year plan of self-sustainability for the Development Authority, Conner recommended reducing the Development budget to \$32,160. Also, to comply with the Gratuity Clause, he recommended defunding the Historical Society, Faithful Hearts, and the

Council on Aging and moving those funds to Contingency, thereby increasing Contingency to \$91,340.

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to reduce the Development Authority budget to \$32,160 and move the excess to Contingency. Commissioner Niblett made a second, and all voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to stop funding non-governmental agencies as detailed on page 1 and to move \$18,500 to Contingency in order to comply with the Gratuity Clause. Commissioner Niblett seconded. However, Commissioner Cheek voiced an objection to defunding Faithful Hearts. Commissioner Watkins advised the plan wasn't to defund Faithful Hearts but to either have a service agreement with them or let the Development Authority make the decision. Commissioner Cheek agreed. The motion passed.

With total revenue and expenditures on the FY 21 Budget staying the same at \$10,976,015.96 and only swapping of funds in the detailed line items, Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the FY 21 County Budget, and Commissioner Watkins seconded. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

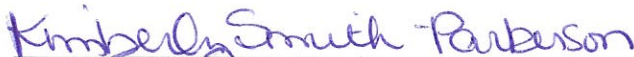
B. Amended Item – Appointment to the Board of Assessors

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to re-appoint Cindy Eckles to the Board of Assessors. Commissioner Watkins seconded; all voted in favor. Motion passed.

Adjourn

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to adjourn, and Commissioner Niblett seconded. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

Signed:


Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

Approved:



Chairman

Board of Commissioners