

**Regular Meeting Minutes
Dodge County Board of Commissioners
March 01, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.**

Present: Dan McCranie, Chairman
Sharon Cobb Flanagan, District 1 Commissioner
Terry L. Niblett, Vice-Chairman, District 2 Commissioner
Brian Watkins, District 3 Commissioner
Karen Cheek, District 4 Commissioner

Also Present: John P. 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, March 01, 2021**. Chairman McCranie led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by prayer and a devotion from Commissioner Cheek entitled “What Jesus Continues to Do.”

Elected Officials/Department Heads

A. Director Shannon Weston – EMS Update

EMS Director Weston was not able to be present.

B. Conner Bearden/Richard Harrell – Road Department Update

County Manager Bearden and Road Department Superintendent Richard Harrell presented service award certificates to Mr. James Roby for 50 years of service and Mr. Ben Gordon for 45 years of service with the county road department.

C. Gresston Rural Fire Department SPLOST Request

On behalf of Gresston Fire Department, Bob Braswell made a request for the balance of allocated 2013 SPLOST funds in the amount of \$17,166.29 to purchase a fire service pumper. The following bids were presented for selection with Braswell’s recommendation being Barnette’s Auto:

1. Barnette’s Auto Parts, Inc – 1993 International E One for \$19,500
2. Firetec - 1994 International Pierce for \$21,900
3. Firetec – 1996 Freightliner Smeal FL 80 for \$31,500
4. Firetec – 1997 Freightliner KME FL-80 for \$35,000
5. Brindlee Mountain – 1996 E-One Freightliner Pumper Tanker for \$30,000

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to disperse 2013 SPLOST funds in the amount of \$17,166.29 to go toward the 1993 International E One for \$19,500 from Barnette’s Auto Parts. Commissioner Niblett seconded the motion, and all voted in favor. The motion passed.

Approval of Minutes

A. February 15, 2021 – Regular Meeting

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

B. February 22, 2021 Comprehensive Plan Meeting with Stakeholders

Commissioner Niblett made the motion to approve the minutes as presented with Commissioner Watkins making a second. All voted in favor, and the motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

A. Morgue Improvements

After reviewing the information below, Commissioner Niblett made a motion to accept the bid from H&H for the county morgue improvements, including a carport cover and 6' sidewalk. Commissioner Flanagan seconded the motion, and all voted in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

- Lowe's - \$2,299.99 carport only
- Home Depot - \$2036.99 carport only
- Johnson's Concrete - \$900.00 6' sidewalk only
- H&H Construction - \$3,753 carport and sidewalk, installation included

New Business

A. Approval of Account Payable - \$79,592.71

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable list totaling \$79,592.71 with Commissioner Watkins seconding. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

B. Middle Georgia Community Action Agency Contract Amendment

Manager Bearden explained the requested contract amendment would allow Middle GA Community Action Agency to seek reimbursement on the basis of cost and not hourly rate. Per Carla Yawn, the contract would allow MGCAA to seek further reimbursement from the state for the duration of the CARES Act contract until the end of June 2021. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to pass the contract amendment, and Commissioner Niblett seconded. All voted in favor. The motion passed.

C. Jail Sewer Shredder

Manager Bearden presented a bid from Cornerstone H2O for \$28,646.14 plus \$2,900 for installation and one from Ranger Mechanical for \$37,385 for replacing the grinder at the county jail. The current motor in the grinder burned up and was an obsolete model. The proposed vendors are the only two in Georgia that manufacture the needed equipment.

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to accept the bid and installation from Cornerstone for a total cost of \$31,546.14. Commissioner Cheek seconded the motion and all voted in favor of Cornerstone's bid. The motion passed.

D. Botanical Gardens Maintenance

Commissioner Cheek made a motion to approve adding the botanical gardens lawn maintenance for \$85 per month to the current courthouse grounds contract from Dixie Lawn &

Landscaping. Commissioner Niblett seconded. All voted in favor with the exception of Commissioner Flanagan who recused. The motion passed.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Flanagan updated the Board regarding the tire abatement which has gone through the first phase of approval. The EPD grant is for approximately \$50,000 for a tire collection event planned for the end of May.

County Manager Report: Conner Bearden

A. Transit 5311 Grant Award - \$188, 238.00

As reported by Manager Bearden, the 2022 Transit 5311 Grant has been awarded in the amount of \$188, 238.00.

B. Quarterly Vendor Report

Manager Bearden presented a financial report by vendor for the months of January and February and asked to report quarterly in the future.

C. Meeting Schedule Updates

Manager Bearden updated the commissioners regarding the following meetings:

- Regional Commission Meeting at the Chamber of Commerce on March 4 at 10:30 a.m.
- Ordinance Committee Meeting at the Pearl Bates Annex on March 10 at 2:00 p.m.
- Courthouse Committee Meeting at the Pearl Bates Annex on March 19 at 3:00 p.m.

Public Comments

- Susan Coffee updated the Board regarding GiveInKind.com, which is a way for individuals to donate lunches and snacks to the Covid vaccine volunteers.
- Glenn Pittman from the Chester Fire Department made a request of SPLOST funds to purchase an eDraulics Jaws device and Ram Charger at a total cost of \$19,340.00. He presented a bid from Municipal Emergency Services but was not able to provide any other bids due to no other provider in the Southeast. Manager Bearden reported Chester had \$26,090.34 in 2013 SPLOST funds.

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the SPLOST funds as requested for the purchase of the eDraulics Jaws and Ram Charger. Commissioner Cheek seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

- Manager Bearden reported the jail was at 90% capacity with 140 inmates.

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, Commissioner Watkins made a motion to adjourn, and Commissioner Niblett seconded. The vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 6:41 p.m.

Attested:

Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

Approved:

Dan McCranie, Chairman