



**Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Dodge County Board of Commissioners
Monday, October 04, 2021**

Commissioners Present:

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

Also Present:

John P. Harrington, County Attorney
Conner Bearden, County Manager

Absent:

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, October 4, 2021**. Chairman McCranie called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Next, Commissioner Cheek gave a devotion entitled *A Wise Man's Legacy* from Deuteronomy 11:18-23. Afterward, she gave the invocation.

Elected Officials/Department Head

A. Jamey Wilkinson – Fire Coordinator Update

Fire Coordinator Wilkinson gave report regarding a state compliance audit. Each station passed; however, two stations had personnel out of compliance, which should be remedied within three weeks.

B. Bob Braswell – EMS Update

Interim Director Braswell reported 324 calls in September. Fourteen students enrolled and attended the cadaver lab. Also, the new ambulance should be ready as soon as the front brush guard is installed.

C. EMS Director Introduction – Michael Johnson

County Manager Bearden introduced new EMS Director Michael Johnson, whose first day is scheduled Monday, October 18.

Approval of Minutes

September 20, 2021 – Regular Meeting

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on September 20, 2021, with no additions, corrections, or deletions. Commissioner Flanagan seconded. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

Old Business

A. 2021 LMIG Safety Action Plan

County Manager Bearden, at the suggestion of the engineering group, requested the Board award the SAP bid, although the work won't be done until 2022 due to a shortage of glass beads. Midstate Striping's bid was \$146,756. Peek's bid was \$166,365. Manager Bearden's recommendation was the low bid. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve Peek's bid of \$166,365. Commissioner Niblett seconded the motion, and all voted agreeably. The motion passed.

B. Courthouse Renovation Project – Phase I

Manager Bearden reported Spriggs Group would begin the pre-design services, which includes laser scanning with drones and aerial videography. Also, Commissioner Niblett updated the Board regarding the HVAC system abatement. The rooftop units should remain in place to prevent roof leaks, and the HVAC ductwork will be inspected during the hazardous materials mitigation. Commissioner Niblett made

a motion to proceed as described. Commissioner Flanagan seconded. All voted unanimously, and the motion passed.



New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

Commissioner Cheek made note on page two of the check list that the Heart of Georgia Regional Airport check should have been the Dodge County Health Department. The mistake was due to a clerical error but had since been corrected. Also, Commissioner Cheek said she had a contention with the Heart of Georgia Altamaha Regional Commission, who was paid a quarterly contribution of \$3,309.75, due to their lack of success in helping the county acquire a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for the past couple of cycles.

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable list totaling \$274,980.74 with Commissioner Niblett making the second. All voted in agreement, and the motion passed.

Chairman McCranie requested someone from the Regional Commission appear at an upcoming meeting to address Commissioner Cheek's concerns.

B. Region 5 EMS Council Appointments

Manager Bearden requested to nominate upcoming EMS Director Michael Johnson for the Central Georgia Region 5 EMS Council. (Previous EMS Director Weston's resignation led to a vacancy on the council.) Commissioner Niblett made a motion to nominate Michael Johnson for the 2020-2023 term. Commissioner Cheek seconded the motion. All voted yes, and the motion passed.

C. Mobile Home Decal Resolution

Manager Bearden presented a resolution from the Tax Commissioner's Office which elects not to require mobile home decals. Commissioner Watkins asked to table the resolution until further information could be obtained. Commissioner Niblett seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

D. Service Delivery Strategy Draft

Manager Bearden reported the SDS draft was available on the Commissioners' Google drive. The strategy originally needed to be approved by October 31, but with only a couple of approvals thus far, Manager Bearden requested an extension through February 2022. Commissioner Watkins made a motion for the Regional Commission to proceed with an extension on the Service Delivery Strategy. Commissioner Cheek seconded the motion. All voted favorably, and the motion passed.

E. Sandy Adams – 2020 Ad Valorem Tax Notice

Sandy Adams addressed the Board regarding an ad valorem notice from 2020. She requested the Board waive the late fees since she never received the bill in 2020. County Attorney Harrington acquired copies of both the 2020 and 2021 notices and said he would contact the Tax Assessor's Office for clarification due to a discrepancy on the ad valorem notice. He would update by the next Board meeting.

F. Oconee Drug Task Force Request for Vehicles

Manager Bearden reported being contacted by Chrysler Financial on behalf of the Oconee Drug Task Force for the lease of two Dodge Chargers. Since the Oconee Drug Task Force was a subsidiary of the County, they didn't qualify for the lease outright, but would need the County to act on their behalf.

Attorney Harrington didn't recommend going into a lease agreement with an entity that's not answerable to the Board. Next, Attorney Harrington inquired about ODTF forfeiture payments to the County. Manager

Bearden wasn't aware of any revenues in the past year. Chairman McCranie asked Bearden to research the matter.



Commissioner Reports

None presented.

County Manager Report: Conner Bearden

- Mass Causality Training is scheduled October 5 at 10:00 a.m. at the Terry Coleman Center.
- A draft of the 2020 financial audit has been completed by County Auditor Frank Erwin. Manager Bearden and Frank have reviewed the audit and are awaiting final signatures.
- A public hearing is scheduled Thursday, October 14 at 3:30 p.m. to close out the 2014 CDBG. The Regional Commission will preside over the meeting.
- Bid opening for the 2021 TSPLOST will be October 7, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. in the BOC boardroom.
- The County Manager will be conducting work sessions with the department heads for next year's budget if any of the Commissioners would like to attend.
- The draft maps for redistricting have been made available.

Public Comments

None presented.

Executive Session

Commissioner Niblett made a motion to enter Executive Session at 6:49 p.m. Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

Commissioner Cheek made a motion to return to regular session at 7:59 p.m. Commissioner Niblett seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

Adjournment

With no further business to address, Commissioner Watkins made a motion to adjourn at 8:00 p.m. Commissioner Cheek seconded; all voted in favor, and the meeting was adjourned.

Attested:

Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

Approved:

Dan McCranie, Chairman