

**Board Meeting Minutes
Dodge County Board of Commissioners
Monday, September 19, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.**



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
Ron Daniels, Assistant 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 Monday, September 19, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. with Chairman McCranie presiding. He called the meeting to order and revised the agenda by adding “Legal” to the Executive Session and “Rachel Fishler” to Elected Officials/Department Heads.

Chairman McCranie led the Pledge of Allegiance. Afterward, Commissioner Cheek gave a devotion from Matthew 11 entitled *Good News*. Then, she led a prayer.

Elected Officials/Department Head

A. Rachel Fishler – Georgia Heart Hospital Program

Rachel Fishler from Dodge County Hospital reported on the Georgia Heart Hospital Program which allows Georgian taxpayers to receive state income credit for 100% of contributions to Dodge County Hospital.

B. Conner Bearden – Transit Update

Manager Bearden reported 312 rides for Transit in August with revenues of \$642. In July, the last month with Middle Georgia Community Action Agency, we had only 165 rides and \$330 in revenues. The county took transit’s management in-house in August.

C. Michael Johnson – EMS Update

EMS Director Michael Johnson reported 28 students enrolled in the EMT class. Also, August revenues were \$112,654.74.

D. Jamey Wilkinson – Fire Update

Fire Chief Jamey Wilkinson reported a donated fire truck and hose appliances from Shiloh Volunteer Fire Department outside of Toccoa, Georgia. Also, Firefighter 1 class had seven graduates with a new class beginning on Saturday. A bus extrication class will take place over the weekend.

Approval of Minutes

A. Minutes – September 06, 2022 Regular Meeting

Commissioner Flanagan made a motion not to approve the minutes due to an action after the County Manager report which she stated was out of order. Motion died for lack of a second.



A motion was made by Commissioner Niblett and seconded by Commissioner Watkins to approve the regular meeting minutes as published. Commissioners Niblett, Watkins, and Cheek voted yes. Commissioner Flanagan voted no. Motion passed with a majority vote.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Commissioner Niblett and seconded by Commissioner Watkins to enter executive session at 6:25 p.m.

A motion was made by Commissioner Flanagan and seconded by Commissioner Watkins to go back to regular session at 6:54 p.m.

Old Business

A. Transportation Projects Management System

A motion was made by Commissioner Niblett and seconded by Commissioner Flanagan to approve the purchase of iWorQ to manage road maintenance projects with a cloud-based software.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

A motion was made by Commissioner Watkins and seconded by Commissioner Niblett and Flanagan to approve the accounts payable report totaling \$277,631.32. With all voting in favor, the motion passed.

B. ACCG County Consulting Services – Michael O’Quinn

Michael O’Quinn, a former county attorney, spoke to the board about free consulting services offered by ACCG.

C. SPLOST Request – Road Department

Manager Bearden presented the board with information about a side brush mower (boom mower) offered by Atmax Equipment Company. No motions were made as Manager Bearden stated he was still researching options.

D. 5311 Grant Resolution (Transit)

A motion was made by Commissioner Watkins and seconded by Commissioner Niblett to approve a resolution which authorizes filing an application with GDOT for a grant that helps fund the transit program. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

E. Dodge County Fire Department Ordinance

A motion was made by Commissioner Flanagan and seconded by Commissioner Cheek to approve the Dodge County Fire Department Ordinance which establishes and implements a program to charge mitigation rates for fire department services. All voted favorably and the motion passed.

F. Pearl Bates Annex Gutter

Manager Bearden presented the bids to replace the Pearl Bates Annex gutters, as follows:



- Patriot Roofing – \$11,294.48
- GeCon Construction - \$12,738.28
- Roof Services - \$9,750.00
- MLW All Phase - \$19,158.00
- Moore’s Roofing Company - \$10,800.00

A motion was made by Commissioner Niblett and seconded by Commissioner Flanagan to accept the bid of \$10,800.00 from Moore’s Roofing Company to replace the gutters at the Pearl Bates Annex. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

G. Bids for Courthouse Abatement

Manager Bearden presented bids for hazardous mitigation at the Dodge County Courthouse, as follows:

- McKnight Construction - \$375,000.00
- Pyramid Remedial Systems - \$269,950.00

Also, Phase I Selected Demolition bids:

- Pyramid Remedial Systems - \$34,500.00
- Graham & Studstill - \$42,000.00

Manager Bearden reported the mitigation should begin in late October and be completed by March.

A motion was made by Commissioner Niblett and seconded by Commissioner Watkins to accept the low bids from Pyramid on both projects. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Flanagan presented the board members with proposed items to be voted on during the ACCG Legislative Leadership Conference. She also introduced a proposed policy to prevent a potential conflict of interest when county funds are requested by an organization or authority.

County Manager Report: Conner Bearden

Manager Bearden reported the following:

- The recreation department has provided a five-year strategic plan.
- The Masonic Lodge cleaned the recreation department restrooms.
- The 2023 5311 Transit Grant has been approved with an increase of \$30,000 for the new year.
- The GMC building will be the new location for the district attorney’s office.

Public Comments

None presented.

Adjournment

With no further business to address, Commissioner Watkins made a motion to adjourn at 7:37 p.m. Commissioner Niblett seconded; all voted in favor, and the meeting adjourned.



Attested:

Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

Approved:

Dan McCranie, Chairman