

**Board Meeting Minutes
Dodge County Board of Commissioners
Monday, November 21, 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
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, November 21, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. with Chairman McCranie presiding. He called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to approve the agenda, which was given by Commissioner Watkins and seconded by Commissioner Niblett. All voted unanimously in favor. Next, Chairman McCranie led the Pledge of Allegiance. Afterward, Commissioner Cheek gave a devotion, entitled "Faith in Action." Afterward, she prayed.

Elected Officials/Department Head

None present.

Approval of Minutes

A. Minutes – November 07, 2022 Regular Meeting

Commissioner Sharon Cobb Flanagan requested a revision of the minutes under heading *New Business*, line item *G. Proposed Subdivision*, specifically the verbiage below:

Manager Bearden showed minutes from the City of Eastman which indicated North Lakes Drive, Woodlakes Drive, and Pine Lane Drive had been annexed into the city limits in 2002 and 2003.

She indicated specific road names were not included in the excerpts of minutes provided by City Manager Spence Barron and requested road names be struck from the minutes.

Chairman McCranie requested Attorney Harrington review the recording and advise at the next meeting.

B. Minutes – November 21, 2022 Work Session

A motion was made by Commissioner Niblett and seconded by Commissioners Watkins and Flanagan to approve the work session minutes as published. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

Old Business

A. Board Appointments

• **Heart of Georgia Altamaha Regional Commission – 3rd Member Appointment**

A motion was made by Commissioner Watkins and seconded by Commissioner Niblett to nominate County Manager Conner Bearden for the 3rd member appointment on the Heart of Georgia Altamaha Regional Commission Board. A motion was made by Commissioner

Flanagan and seconded by Commissioner Cheek to close nominations.
All voted favorably to close nominations.



County Manager Conner Bearden was appointed by acclamation.

- **Airport Authority Board**

A motion was made by Commissioner Watkins and seconded by Commissioner Niblett to nominate William C. Wahl to serve on the Airport Authority Board. A motion was made by Commissioner Cheek and seconded by Commissioner Watkins to close nominations. All voted in favor to close nominations.

William C. Wahl was appointed by acclamation.

- **Recreation Board**

A motion was made by Commissioner Niblett and seconded by Commissioner Watkins to nominate Bradley Mazza to serve on the Recreation Board.

A motion was made by Commissioner Flanagan to nominate Blake Southerland. No second was made. Motion died.

A motion was made by Commissioner Niblett and seconded by Commissioner Watkins to close nominations. All voted in favor.

Bradley Mazza was appointed by acclamation.

B. Proposed Policy for Board of Commissioners

A motion was made by Commissioner Flanagan and seconded by Commissioner Cheek to approve the policy, as detailed:

BOC Policy for Board Meetings

To prevent/avoid a potential conflict of interest (perceived or otherwise), all requests for funding (e.g., SPLOST, TSPLOST) shall be presented by someone from the requesting organization/authority, other than the county commissioner appointed to that organization/authority by the Dodge County Board of Commissioner, or otherwise.

Commissioners Flanagan and Cheek voted in favor of passing the policy. Commissioners Niblett and Watkins voted in opposition. Chairman McCranie broke the tie by voting in favor of passing the policy. With a majority vote, the policy passed.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

A motion was made by Commissioner Flanagan and seconded by Commissioner Cheek to approve the accounts payable report totaling \$144,627.45. With all voting in favor, the motion passed.

B. Jail Medical Addendum

County Manager Bearden advised the Board that the jail medical provider, Genesys Healthcare Alliance, requested an addendum to the Health Service Agreement with approximately a 10% increase in the contractual base price totaling \$25,668.75 per month beginning January 2023.



The manager reported the Sheriff had no other options for jail medical at the present time, and the budget could be reallocated to cover the expense if the commissioners approved the increase.

A motion was made by Commissioner Niblett and seconded by Commissioner Cheek to approve the addendum to the jail medical service agreement. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

C. Solar Model Ordinance

County Manager Bearden presented a Solar Model Ordinance for the Commissioners to review.

D. 2023 Budgets

Manager Bearden presented the 2023 proposed budgets for the general fund and the fiduciary accounts. He proposed to set the public hearing for the 2023 budget an hour before the next regular meeting at 5:00 p.m. on December 5. Also, he requested December 19 at 5:00 p.m. for another public hearing before the adoption of the budget at the December 19 meeting at 6:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Commissioner Niblett and seconded by Commissioner Flanagan to approve the dates for the public hearings. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

E. Massingill Road Abandonment Petition

Manager Bearden stated Ronnie Strickland requested to abandon a section of Massingill Road totaling 2,407.8 feet. Mr. Strickland stated the portion of road ran through his property, had two blind curves, and hadn't been maintained by the county.

A motion was made by Commissioner Flanagan and seconded by Commissioner Niblett to table the road closure petition for further review. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Flanagan reported the following:

- She attended an ACCG Regional meeting where it was reported the infrastructure bill had monies available for paving rural dirt roads. Also, she reported a Georgia County Internship Program Grant was available.
- The Chips and Science Act would be providing funds for economic development.

Commissioner Niblett reported the airport resurfacing project was in process.

County Manager Report: Conner Bearden

Manager Bearden presented the following:

- The CDBG timeline was in process.
- 2023 ARPA Award Package for the Oconee Circuit was in the packet for the Commissioners to review.

Public Comments

- Nancy Hargrove stated reasons she was not in favor of closing a portion of Massingill Road.
- As a resident of North Lakes, Mike Flanagan stated he disagreed that the city's annexation of roads in that neighborhood was reflected in the paperwork.

- Cindy Eckles stated the EMS Department has food boxes in local businesses until mid-December.



Adjournment

With no further business to address, Commissioner Watkins made a motion to adjourn at 6:46 p.m. with Commissioner Niblett seconding. All voted in favor, and the meeting adjourned.

Attested:

Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

Approved:

Dan McCranie, Chairman