

**Board Meeting Minutes
Dodge County Board of Commissioners
Monday, March 20, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.**



Commissioners Present:

Chairman Dan McCranie
Sharon Cobb Flanagan, District 1
Kelly Belflower, District 2
Brian Watkins, District 3
Vice-Chair Karen Cheek, District 4

Also Present:

John P. Harrington, County Attorney
Conner Bearden, County Manager
Jamey Wilkinson, Fire Chief

Absent:

Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting at the Dodge County Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex Monday, March 20, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. with Chairman McCranie presiding. He called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Afterward, Commissioner Cheek gave a devotion from verses in Proverbs entitled *Wisdom Welcomes You*. Then, she led a prayer.

Elected Officials/Department Head

A. Fire Chief Jamey Wilkinson

Fire Chief Jamey Wilkinson updated regarding February stats of 54 total calls. Also, a 50/50 grant was awarded from the Georgia Forestry Commission, which will be used to aid in the purchase of a skid unit.

B. EMS Director Michael Johnson

EMS Director was unable to attend.

Approval of Minutes

A. Minutes – March 06, 2023 Regular Meeting

County Manager Bearden communicated the minutes should be amended to reflect there were no votes cast in regard to “New Business: C. Dodge County Eastman Development Authority Invoice.” He advised the minutes should read, “Item was resolved prior to the meeting and no vote cast.”

A motion was made by Commissioner Watkins to approve the minutes as amended. Commissioner Flanagan seconded. All voted in favor, and the minutes were approved with an amendment.

Old Business

A. Solar Ordinance

A motion was made by Commissioner Belflower and seconded by Commissioner Watkins to approve the Solar Ordinance. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

B. Dodge County Courthouse – Kenneth Spriggs

- Request for Additional Funds and Services
- Next Steps Forward

Kenneth Spriggs presented ideas and next phases for the Dodge County Courthouse. He presented an explanation for additional funding, including the necessity for additional air quality testing.



A motion was made by Commissioner Watkins and seconded by Commissioner Flanagan for a five-minute recess. All voted unanimously, and a recess was taken.

After the meeting reconvened, a motion was made by Commissioner Watkins and seconded by Commissioner Flanagan to table the request for additional funding. All voted in favor, and the item was tabled.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

A motion was made by Commissioner Watkins and seconded by Commissioner Belflower to approve the accounts payable report totaling \$247,142.31. With all voting in favor, the motion passed.

B. Behavioral Health Contract Renewal

A motion was made by Commissioner Belflower and seconded by Commissioner Flanagan to approve the Behavioral Health Contract renewal with the Community Service Board of Middle Georgia. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

C. Jay Bird-Helena Dirt Road

Manager Bearden discussed the degraded surface of the Jay Bird-Helena Dirt Road and estimates for full depth reclamation versus deep patching. A motion was made by Commissioner Flanagan and seconded by Commissioner Cheek to obtain bids for the road repair. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

D. Hospital Authority Board Appointees

Commissioner Belflower made a motion to stagger nominations of hospital board members at the next three meetings. Commissioner Flanagan seconded the motion. All voted unanimously, and the motion passed.

Also, Attorney Harrington communicated he would review the code section for hospital boards and provide the board with a copy.

Commissioner Reports

- Commissioner Flanagan reported the Georgia Technology Authority will be at the Chamber of Commerce April 10 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to hear concerns regarding broadband.
- Commissioner Belflower reported the airport runway will be closed for two weeks, beginning March 20 for grooves and striping.

County Manager Report: Conner Bearden

Manager Bearden reported attending a meeting for commissioners at the State Capitol with Commissioner Flanagan. He also updated regarding legislative bills in session. Next, he informed

the board that the road committee will be meeting the second Wednesday of each month, beginning 4/11/23 at 10:30 a.m. in the boardroom.



Commissioner Belflower reported minutes need to be updated on the website and also requested consideration for a building at the manned dumpster site in Gresston. Chairman McCranie requested quotes for installing a camera at the manned site.

Manager Bearden gave a recycling grant update.

Public Comments

Mr. Eugene Brannon addressed the board with information regarding his food truck business, Nabo's BBQ.

Adjournment

With no further business to address, a motion was made by Commissioner Watkins and seconded by Commissioner Cheek to adjourn at 8:14 p.m. All voted in favor, and the meeting adjourned.

Attested:

Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

Approved:

Dan McCranie, Chairman