

**Board Meeting Minutes
Dodge County Board of Commissioners
Monday, April 17, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.**



Commissioners Present:

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

Also Present:

John P. Harrington, County Attorney
Ron Daniels, Assistant County Attorney
Conner Bearden, County Manager
Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

Absent:

Chairman Dan McCranie

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting at the Dodge County Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex Monday, April 17, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. with Vice-Chair Karen Cheek presiding. She called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Afterward, Vice-Chair Cheek gave a devotion from Isaiah 63:7 and Psalm 116 entitled *Remembering to Praise* and led a prayer.

Elected Officials/Department Heads

EMS Director Michael Johnson reported March 2023 revenues of \$110,392.73.

Approval of Minutes

A. Minutes – April 03, 2023 Regular Meeting

Commissioner Belflower made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes with no amendments. Commissioner Watkins seconded. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

Old Business

A. Dodge-Wilcox E911 and Sheriff's Office – Radio Contract

A motion was made by Commissioner Watkins and seconded by Commissioner Belflower to approve the radio contract with Loudoun Communications Inc. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

B. Jaybird-Helena Dirt Road Patching

A motion was made by Commissioner Belflower and seconded by Commissioner Watkins to approve the proposal from Graham and Studstill to repair the Jaybird-Helena Dirt Road in the amount of \$68,000 with funds from TSPLOST. All voted agreeably, and the motion passed.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

A motion was made by Commissioner Flanagan and seconded by Commissioners Watkins and Belflower to approve the accounts payable report totaling \$152,783.04. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

B. Farmer's Market Board Appointees

County Manager Bearden notified the board of upcoming appointment(s) on the Farmer's Market Board and stated in accordance with policy, this meeting serves as first notice.



C. 2019 SPLOST Request – Public Safety Building Air Conditioning

Manager Bearden presented two bids for replacing the air conditioning unit at the Carter Martin Public Safety Building, as follows:

- Massingill Expert Services - \$10,330.00
- Barlow Air - \$14,068.56

A motion was made by Commissioner Watkins and seconded by Commissioner Flanagan to accept the low bid from Massingill. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

D. ABM MOU

Commissioner Flanagan made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Watkins, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding from ABM Building Solutions for a no-cost preliminary assessment of the Dodge County Courthouse to reduce the overall expenses of operations and services. All voted favorably, and the motion passed.

E. City of Eastman Property Annexation

A motion was made by Commissioner Belflower and seconded by Commissioner Flanagan to accept the City of Eastman's request for annexation of approximately 7.35 acres located on Airport Road (Parcel 060 024A). All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

F. Joint Development Authority of Bleckley and Dodge County Board Appointment

Manager Bearden presented the board with a resignation from Kennon Graham from the JDA of Bleckley and Dodge County. This meeting serves as first notice of an opening on the board.

Commissioner Reports

- Commissioner Belflower gave an update from the Airport Authority meeting.
- Commissioner Flanagan reported on the GTA meeting, which 33 or so attended.

County Manager Report: Conner Bearden

- Manager Bearden reported several upcoming events, including the downtown art walk, ACCG conference in Savannah, and Mondi's 35th anniversary celebration.

Public Comments

- Susan Coffee reported broadband issues which extend to city limit residents, too.
- Ron Daniels thanked the county for allowing use of the EMA building for a lawyers' meeting.
- EMS Director Michael Johnson reported 14 graduated from paramedic school.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Commissioner Watkins and seconded by Commissioner Belflower to enter an executive session to discuss legal and personnel issues at 6:56 p.m. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Watkins and seconded by Commissioner Belflower to return to regular session at 7:29 p.m. The vote was unanimous, and the motion passed.

Upon reconvening, Commissioner Belflower made a motion for a policy change to increase the county manager's spending limit from \$2,500 to \$10,000. Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.



Adjournment

With no further business to address, a motion was made by Commissioner Watkins and seconded by Commissioner Flanagan to adjourn at 7:31 p.m. All voted in favor, and the meeting adjourned.

Attested:

Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

Approved:

Dan McCranie, Chairman