

**Board Meeting Minutes
Dodge County Board of Commissioners
Monday, May 01, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.**



Also Present:

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

Commissioners Present:

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

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting at the Dodge County Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex Monday, May 01, 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 Romans 1:1-7, entitled *What Is Your Calling*, and led a prayer.

Elected Officials/Department Heads

Nothing presented.

Approval of Minutes

A. Minutes – April 17, 2023 Regular Meeting

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

Old Business

A. Farmer’s Market Board Appointees

County Manager Bearden stated one appointment was open, as currently held by Jesse Bearden, whose desire was not to be reappointed. Commissioner Flanagan made a motion to open nominations with Blake Southerland. Commissioner Cheek seconded the nomination. With no other nominations forthcoming, Commissioner Watkins made a motion to close nominations. Commissioner Belflower seconded. All voted in favor, and Blake Southerland was appointed by acclamation.

B. Dodge County Hospital Authority Appointees

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to open nominations with Mitchell Coffee, Mimi Dennis, and Dr. Donald Selph as the Hospital Authority appointees. Commissioner Flanagan seconded the nominations. All voted in favor, and the appointees were nominated.

C. JDA of Bleckley County and Dodge County Board Appointees

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to open nominations with Robert Pruitt. Commissioner Belflower seconded the nomination.

Commissioner Flanagan made a motion to nominate John Reddock. Motion died due to lack of a second.

Chairman McCranie inquired if an application was received by Robert Pruitt. County Manager Bearden indicated he had not received one. Attorney Harrington stated a policy was not in place to require an application.

Commissioner Flanagan made a motion to table the appointment due to the lack of an application from the nominee, and she believed providing an application was the county's policy. She also inquired as to Pruitt's intent to serve on the board due to lack of an application. Commissioner Watkins stated he had confirmation that Pruitt was willing to serve. Motion to table died due to lack of a second.

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to close nominations. Commissioner Belflower seconded. All voted in favor to close nominations. Robert Pruitt was appointed by acclamation.

D. Courthouse Direction

Manager Bearden stated the abatement of the courthouse was complete and all expenditures had been submitted to the EPD. Manager Bearden asked for direction to give the architect. Chairman McCranie inquired if the drain had been unstopped. County Manager Bearden stated the problem had not been resolved. Chairman McCranie said he would get with the county manager and assign a committee to the courthouse.

New Business

A. Approval of Accounts Payable

A motion was made by Commissioner Flanagan and seconded by Commissioner Belflower to approve the accounts payable report totaling \$103,371.94. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

B. City of Eastman Fireworks Request

City Councilman Raymond Mullis requested funds to assist with the annual July 4th celebration. Chairman McCranie tasked County Manager Bearden to present last year's contribution at the next board meeting.

C. FY 2023 1st Quarter Financials

Manager Bearden presented 1st quarter financials detailing total revenues of \$2,322,376.21 and total expenditures of \$3,424,798.65.

D. 1st Quarter Road Report

Manager Bearden presented a report from the road work order system for the first quarter, which indicated 105 works orders with 94% completed.

E. Health Insurance Committee

Manager Bearden requested a committee for reviewing the employees' health insurance renewal packet. Chairman McCranie assigned Commissioners Cheek and Flanagan, who agreed.

Commissioner Reports

- Commissioner Flanagan reported Greg Slaughter was consulting with the Department of Agriculture about the recycling of farm containers and would let her know more.
- Commissioner Flanagan reported GTA was looking for local points of contact for the broadband initiative.



- Commissioner Flanagan asked for an agenda item at the next meeting in regard to whether or not to implement a policy for applying to county boards.
- Commissioner Flanagan reported Golf Course Road had cracks which needed to be addressed.
- Commissioner Belflower reported one of the landowners on Hobbs Road had indicated a desire to close the road and wanted to be contacted regarding the procedures necessary.

County Manager Report: Conner Bearden

- Manager Bearden gave an update from the annual ACCG conference. He also noted paint recycling was planned for May 6 at the old courthouse.

Public Comments

- Martin Kehayes offered to volunteer his time for any courthouse committee meetings.
- Raymond Mullis inquired if the county manager knew when Gator Creek Bridge on Airport Road was up for replacement. The county manager stated the DOT had the bridge on the list for updating, but no other details had been provided.

Adjournment

With no further business to address, a motion was made by Commissioner Flanagan and seconded by Commissioner Watkins to adjourn at 6:50 p.m. All voted in favor, and the meeting adjourned.

Attested:

Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

Approved:

Dan McCranie, Chairman