

**Board Meeting Minutes
Dodge County Board of Commissioners
Monday, June 19, 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
Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting at the Dodge County Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex Monday, June 19, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. with Chairman McCranie presiding. He called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to amend the agenda to include an executive session after the prayer to discuss legal matters. Commissioner Watkins made the motion. Commissioner Flanagan seconded. All voted favorably to have an executive session.

Next, Chairman McCranie led the Pledge of Allegiance and prayed.

Commissioner Flanagan made a motion to go into executive session at 6:02 p.m. Commissioners Watkins and Belflower seconded. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

Commissioner Belflower made a motion to return to regular session at 6:35 p.m. Commissioner Watkins seconded, and all voted in favor.

Commissioner Cheek recognized the Juneteenth holiday. Next, she gave a devotion entitled "The End" from 1 John 3:2. Then, she led a prayer.

Elected Officials/Department Heads

None present.

Approval of Minutes

A. Minutes – June 05, 2023 Regular Meeting

Commissioner Belflower 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. Heart of Georgia Altamaha RC – Aging Advisory Committee Appointments

Manager Bearden presented board applications from Cindy Conner Bearden and Tammy Manus for the Aging Advisory appointments. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to table the appointment until more information could be obtained regarding current board members, who had not submitted applications. Commissioner Flanagan seconded the motion to table. All voted in agreement.

B. Gresston Dump Site

Manager Bearden presented three quotes for surveillance cameras at the Gresston Dumpster Site, as follows:

- HMS - \$8,575.00 with \$750 yearly maintenance fee, totaling \$9,325.00.



- Southeastern Web Building - \$1,650 (This system will not capture car tags.)
- Oxley Performance Computers - \$5,850.48 with \$1,200 yearly maintenance fee, totaling \$7,050.48.

Attorney Harrington informed the board there are state regulations for issuing citations based on surveillance camera footage, and he would need to research the specifics. Commissioner Belflower made a motion to table the Gresston Dumpster surveillance cameras until more information could be obtained about state regulations. Commissioner Flanagan seconded the motion to table. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

C. Dodge County Hospital Appointees

No motion was made on this matter due to no applications being available for the appointments. County Manager Bearden stated he would contact Hospital CEO LaDon Toole and inform him of the application process for current and new board members.

D. Mt. Ararat Fire Station Update

Manager Bearden stated the Mt. Ararat Fire Station bid packet was on Georgia Procurement website with a July 31 deadline.

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 \$491,634.15. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

B. Zion Hill Road Work

County Manager Bearden presented a proposal from Graham and Studstill for patching Zion Hill Church Road for \$28,000. A motion was made by Commissioner Belflower and seconded by Commissioner Cheek to approve the proposal and proceed with the Zion Hill Church Road repair. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

Public Hearing

A. Road Name Change – Old Dodge High Road

John Battle thanked the commissioners for moving forward with the road name change as petitioned. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to change the name of Old Dodge High Road to Barden-Battle Road. Commissioners Flanagan and Belflower seconded. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

Commissioner Reports

- Commissioner Flanagan reported attending the Georgia Broadband Map Briefing via Zoom. She learned Georgia is in the top 10 unserved states in regard to broadband.
- Commissioner Flanagan reported attending the WIOA board meeting.
- Commissioner Flanagan distributed a proposed enhancement to the board appointment process for the Dodge County-Eastman Development Authority Board.



- Chairman McCranie discussed recreation grants which were available to certain census blocks areas, but Dodge County wasn't in the required census block area. He stated he was researching more on the requirements.

County Manager Report: Conner Bearden

Manager Bearden updated, as follows:

- Tire abatement project was extended due to inclement weather.
- RWD Grant – Second round of reporting is due June 30.
- TAVT rate will change to 7% beginning July 1.

Public Comments

John Battle invited the commissioners to next year's Juneteenth celebration.

Adjournment

With no further business to address, a motion was made by Commissioner Watkins and seconded by Commissioner Belflower to adjourn at 7:26 p.m. All voted in favor, and the meeting adjourned.

Attested:

Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

Approved:

Dan McCranie, Chairman