

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



**Also Present:**

Ron Daniels, Assistant County Attorney  
Conner Bearden, County Manager  
Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

**Absent:**

John P. Harrington, County Attorney

**Commissioners Present:**

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

The Dodge County Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting at the Dodge County Pearl Bates Courthouse Annex Monday, July 17, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. with Chairman McCranie presiding. He called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Next, Commissioner Cheek gave a devotion, entitled *What's My Purpose* from 2 Timothy 1:5-8, and led a prayer.

**Elected Officials/Department Heads**

**A. County Manager Bearden – Certificates of Appreciation**

Manager Bearden presented certificates of appreciation to Katie Shipley & Domino's Store 3577 and Dogwood Gardens for community support and generosity during the fire at Chic-King on July 6.

**B. Dodge County Republican Party – Rex Blankenship**

Mr. Blankenship invited the commissioners to a fish fry on August 26 in Perry, GA, with Austin Scott and Brian Kemp.

**C. Fire Chief Jamey Wilkinson**

Fire Chief Jamey Wilkinson reported the June 2023 call report statistics totaling 73 calls.

**D. EMS Director Michael Johnson**

EMS Director Michael Johnson reported 334 calls in June with a cash amount of \$104,370.30.

**Approval of Minutes**

**A. Minutes – June 03, 2023 Regular Meeting**

Commissioner Flanagan 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 County Hospital Appointees**

Mr. Cecil Barden's appointment nominations:

- Commissioner Watkins nominated Cecil Barden.
- Commissioner Belflower nominated Jerry Bland.
- Commissioner Flanagan nominated Jeffrey Underwood.

A motion was made by Commissioner Watkins and seconded by Commissioner Cheek to close nominations. All voted in favor, and the nominations were closed.

Dr. Dan Harrell's appointment nominations:

- Commissioner Cheek nominated Dr. Dan Harrell.
- Commissioner Belflower nominated Jerry Bland.
- Commissioner Flanagan nominated Jeffrey Underwood.

A motion was made by Commissioner Watkins and seconded by Commissioner Belflower to close nominations. All voted in favor, and the nominations were closed.

Mr. Reggie Sheffield's appointment nominations:

- Commissioner Watkins nominated Reggie Sheffield.
- Commissioner Belflower nominated Jerry Bland.
- Commissioner Flanagan nominated Jeffrey Underwood.

A motion was made by Commissioner Watkins and seconded by Commissioner Flanagan to close nominations. All voted in favor, and the nominations were closed.

### **B. Aging Advisory Committee Appointments**

Gail Smith Carr's seat nomination:

- Commissioner Cheek nominated Gail Smith Carr.

A motion was made by Commissioner Flanagan and seconded by Commissioner Belflower to close nominations. All voted in favor, and nominations were closed.

Chairman McCranie stated Gail Smith Carr was appointed by acclamation.

Mr. Ken Hall's seat nomination:

- Commissioner Belflower nominated Cindy Conner Bearden.
- Commissioner Flanagan nominated Tammy Manus.

A motion was made by Commissioner Belflower and seconded by Commissioner Cheek to close nominations. All voted in favor, and the nominations were closed.

Chairman McCranie asked for a show of hands for appointing Cindy Conner Bearden. Commissioners Watkins and Belflower raised their hands.

Chairman McCranie asked for a show of hands for the appointment of Tammy Manus. Commissioners Flanagan and Cheek raised their hands.

Chairman McCranie stated he would break the tie with Cindy Conner Bearden.

### **C. Gresston Dump Site**

Manager Bearden stated that the cameras would provide time, date, and location, which was a question asked by Attorney Harrington at the prior meeting.

Commissioner Belflower made a motion to approve expenses for a fully operational building at the Gresston dumpsite, including the building, wiring and air conditioning. Commissioner Flanagan seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

#### **D. Mulching Bid**

Manager Bearden notified the board that the bid was a quote by the job, not by the hour. In addition, the mulching would be completed once per quarter.

#### **E. Speed Hump Policy**

Commissioner Watkins suggested an addition to the policy to include a bullet point that speed humps must be requested and are installed after a request.

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve the speed hump policy with the addition. Commissioner Flanagan seconded. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

#### **F. Tiny Home Resolution**

Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve the Tiny House Resolution. Commissioners Flanagan and Belflower seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

#### **New Business**

##### **A. Approval of Accounts Payable**

A motion was made by Commissioner Watkins and seconded by Commissioner Cheek to approve the accounts payable report totaling \$337,767.64. All voted in favor and the motion passed.

##### **B. Road Engineer Work Order Approval**

A motion was made by Commissioner Belflower and seconded by Commissioner Watkins to approve the road engineer work order request for up to \$53,500.00. All voted in favor, and the motion passed.

##### **C. Farmer's Market Board**

Manager Bearden notified the board of a resignation by board member Cindy Greene. He stated he would advertise the open appointment and present at the next meeting.

##### **D. Ocmulgee Regional Library Board Appointment**

Manager Bearden gave notice of an expired position on the Ocmulgee Regional Library Board. He stated he would advertise the open appointment and present at the next meeting.

##### **E. Open Records Request Policy**

Attorney Ron Daniels presented an open records request policy for approval by the board. Commissioner Belflower made a motion to approve the policy. Commissioner Cheek seconded. All voted in favor, and the policy was approved.

#### **Commissioner Reports**

Commissioner Belflower stated the airport authority didn't have a meeting.

Commissioner Flanagan attended the development authority meeting, but she had nothing to report.

#### **County Manager Report: Conner Bearden**

Manager Bearden updated, as follows:

- Recreation Board meeting - July 18 at 5:30 p.m.
- Courthouse Committee meeting – July 19 at 1:00 p.m.



**Public Comments**

John Battle thanked the board for the new road sign.

**Adjournment**

With no further business to address, a motion was made by Commissioner Watkins and seconded by Commissioner Belflower to adjourn at 6:54 p.m. All voted in favor, and the meeting adjourned.

Attested:

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Kimberly Smith-Parkerson, County Clerk

Approved:

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Dan McCranie, Chairman