

DOUGHERTY COUNTY COMMISSION

DRAFT

WORK SESSION MINUTES

February 25, 2019

The Dougherty County Commission met in Room 120 of the Albany-Dougherty Government Center on February 25, 2019. Chairman Christopher Cohilas presided. Commissioners present were Victor Edwards, Gloria Gaines, Russell Gray, Lamar Hudgins, Clinton Johnson, and Anthony Jones. Also present were County Administrator Michael McCoy, County Attorney Spencer Lee, County Clerk Jawahn Ware, and representatives of the media.

The Chairman recognized EDC President Justin Strickland with the Albany-Dougherty Economic Development Commission, present to update the Commission with the Quarterly Report. Mr. Strickland presented the Commission with an award for the Georgia Economic Development Association Deal of the Year. He discussed the need for more truck drivers to help keep the cost low for manufactures like P & G and promoted the Albany Transportation Academy at Albany Technical College where students can obtain their CDL license within 8 weeks. He added that the Albany-Dougherty Economic Development Commission will move to quarterly meetings starting April 24, 2019. Commissioner Edwards requested that Mr. Strickland come back with plans for targeted areas in the County. A lengthy discussion ensued. The Chairman shared that he would create a “Chairman’s Economic Summit” to have reports and partners present information but shared that he expects all of the Commission to participate once established.

The Chairman asked the Commission to review the minutes of the 2019 Commission Retreat, January 28 Regular Meeting, February 4 Regular Meeting, February 11 Work Session and February 14 Special Called Meeting.

The Chairman called for discussion of a recommendation to contract with PiperJaffray (Atlanta, GA) to serve as the County’s financial advisor. The service will be funded from the General Fund. County Administrator Michael McCoy and PiperJaffray Managing Director, Edmund Wall addressed. Accounting Supervisor Kimberly Woods was present. Mr. McCoy stated that having a financial advisor was a part of his vision to help the County move in a different direction. He proposed a one-year contract with two, one-year renewals. The first year is projected to be \$10,000 based on an hourly rate of \$250. Next year, a line item will be budgeted and current expenses would be paid out of vacancies in the administration budget. Mr. McCoy shared that the services will be on an as needed basis and some years the cost may be zero if the service is not used. Mr. McCoy then clarified that legally he could hire PiperJaffray as long as the payment did not exceed his threshold of \$20,000 but he wanted to be transparent and involve the Commission. Mr. Wall shared that part of his scope of service is to work with the Economic Development Commission and reminded the Commission that the millage rate adopted was anticipated to last 3 years without economic development.

The Chairman called for discussion of a recommendation to accept the change order with Peed Bros. Inc. (Butler, GA) to repair erosion and install a stormwater diversion tarp on the newly constructed cell. This is an emergency repair due to the heavy rains received this winter. Funding is available in the Solid Waste Capital Outlay. The Commission approved the proposal

for cell construction in the September 18, 2017 Regular Meeting. County Administrator Michael McCoy and Solid Waste Director Scott Addison addressed. Action on this item was scheduled to follow in the Special Called Meeting. Mr. McCoy stated that there was \$94,000 in available funding and fixing this urgent repair would prevent the leachate from entering into the sand layer. The cost of the repair is expected to be \$80,699.

The Chairman called for discussion of a recommendation to accept the Intergovernmental Use of Premises Agreement between the Albany-Dougherty Payroll Development Authority and Dougherty County for use of property owned by the Authority for six months to store storm debris material collected by the County. County Administrator Michael McCoy addressed. Public Works Director Larry Cook was present. Action on this item was scheduled to follow in the Special Called Meeting. Mr. McCoy shared that the services would be used to proceed with debris management and storage only if needed. Mr. Cook clarified that this agreement should not impact the existing businesses but requested the use of the land in case needed in the future.

The Chairman called for discussion of a recommendation to accept the required resolutions updating the authorized personnel for the Georgia Fund accounts. County Administrator Michael McCoy addressed. Action on this item was scheduled to follow in the Special Called Meeting.

The Chairman called for discussion of a recommendation of a proposed board appointment. County Clerk Jawahn Ware shared that the Dougherty County Development Authority had one appointment to fill an unexpired four-year term ending December 31, 2021. Incumbent Joel Callins resigned. There was one existing applicant Dontravious M. Simmons. She mentioned that the practice is to present any previous applicants that applied for the respective position if there was a vacancy within six months. Discussion ensued and the Commission, via consensus, opted to not fill the board vacancy until a report on the Development Authority from County Attorney Spencer Lee is received.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m.

CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

COUNTY CLERK