

DOUGHERTY COUNTY COMMISSION

DRAFT

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

June 03, 2019

The Dougherty County Commission met in Room 100 of the Albany-Dougherty Government Center on June 03, 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, Assistant County Administrator Scott Addison, County Attorney Spencer Lee, County Clerk Jawahn Ware, and representatives of the media.

After the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance, the Chairman called for approval of the May 6 Regular Meeting, May 13 Work Session and May 13 Special Called Meeting Minutes.

Commissioner Jones moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Gray, the motion passed unanimously.

The Chairman called for consideration of the recommendation from County Attorney Spencer Lee to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing real estate acquisition and personnel matters.

Commissioner Jones moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Edwards, the motion passed unanimously. The Board entered into Executive Session at 10:02 a.m. and the Regular Meeting reconvened at 10:22 a.m.

The Chairman recognized Dougherty County Police Chief Cynthia “Jackie” Battle to receive recognition from the Board for 38 years of service. She provided comments and extended her thanks to Dougherty County.

The Chairman recognized Marty Adams present on behalf of Blue Springs Plantation to close portions of County owned and maintained Wildfair Road and Blue Springs Road. He shared that public access would still be accessible on River Road and there was no request to close that road. However, a mile stretch portion of Wildfair and Blue Springs Road was being asked to be closed. Based on the last request, Mr. Adams shared that he was informed if the public was not using the road, then it could be closed. He confirmed that there would not be any access blocked to the graveyard. Other citizens that were present did not need to speak after it was clarified that there would be no access changes to the church graveyard.

The Chairman recognized Public Works Director Larry Cook, Assistant Public Works Director Chuck Mathis and Project Engineer Jeremy Brown present to provide an update on the request to plant additional crepe myrtles in the median on Highway 82. Mr. Brown proposed the installation of 22 crepe myrtles in the amount of \$4,080 for 1.13 miles with an annual maintenance cost of \$7,920. He mentioned three issues for the project which included sight and distance, a required

approval from GDOT and execution of a 50 year maintenance agreement for the medians. He also shared that these crepe myrtles would be more sparsely planted than the others.

Representative Gerald Greene was recognized by the Chairman for attending the Dougherty County Commission Meeting.

The Chairman recognized Public Information Officer Wendy Howell who presented the new Dougherty County logo and seal options. Feedback was provided by the Commission to Mrs. Howell for review. Mr. Lee provided points of consideration for options in reference to simplicity, progressiveness and being more abstract when appealing to a younger crowd of citizens. Mrs. Howell will provide a new presentation of the logo and seal options within a month.

The Chairman recognized citizen Charlie Capps to speak in reference to the crepe myrtles. He urged the Commission to consider different types of storm water options and how water could be absorbed and expand trees and tree scape options. He shared that surrounding Georgia cities such as Atlanta, Macon and Savannah provided good examples of planting programs. Mr. McCoy was directed to work with Mr. Capps to create an additional presentation within 60 days.

The Chairman called for consideration the purchase of one John Deere R15 Flex Wing Rotary Cutter for Public Works from the GSA contract vendor Flint Equipment Company (Leesburg, GA) in the amount of \$20,311.06. Funding is budgeted in SPLOST VII- Road Equipment. Assistant County Administrator Scott Addison addressed. Public Works Director Larry Cook and City of Albany Central Services Procurement Manager Mike Trotter were present.

Commissioner Hudgins moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Gray, the motion passed unanimously.

The Chairman called for consideration the purchase of one 2019 F-150 4x4 Crew Cab Pickup Truck with running boards for Public Works from Sunbelt Ford Town (Albany, GA) in the amount of \$29,827.16. Pricing for the vehicle is 'piggy-backed' from the County's earlier bid award for the Landfill on April 2, 2018. Funding is budgeted in SPLOST VII- Storm Drainage Equipment. Assistant County Administrator Scott Addison addressed. Public Works Director Larry Cook and City of Albany Central Services Procurement Manager Mike Trotter were present.

Commissioner Jones moved for approval. Commissioner Gray seconded the motion. Under discussion, Commissioner Gaines requested that the County's future logo, when approved, appear on the write ups. Mr. McCoy shared that it would be a good use. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

The Chairman called for consideration the purchase of two 2019 F-150 Reg Cab 4x2 Pickup Trucks for Facilities Management from the GSA contract vendor Allan Vigil Ford (Morrow, GA) in the amount each of \$24,867 for a total expenditure of \$49,734. Funding is budgeted in SPLOST VII- County Department Vehicles. Assistant County Administrator Scott Addison addressed. Facilities Management Director Heidi Minnick and City of Albany Central Services Procurement Manager Mike Trotter were present.

Commissioner Jones moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Johnson, the motion passed unanimously.

The Chairman called for consideration of the proposal to replace the chiller for the Albany Dougherty Government Center, in the amount of \$278,552.10 from the U.S. General Service Administration (GSA) Contract holder, Johnson Controls (Albany, GA). The proposal includes the chiller, labor/installation and extended warranty. Funding is available in SPLOST VII-Government Center Improvements. County Administrator Michael McCoy addressed. Facilities Management Director Heidi Minnick was present. Mr. McCoy said that the current chiller had exceeded the current life cycle and due to extremely hot weather, he wanted to avoid failure.

Commissioner Johnson moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Jones, the motion passed unanimously.

The Chairman called for consideration the purchase of sixty Motorola APX6000Li 800 MHz portable radios, two Impres Six-Unit Multi-battery chargers, fifteen Motorola APX4500 800 MHz mobile radios, and one Motorola APX4500 800MHz Desktop Control Station Radio from the GSA contract vendor Mobile Communications America (Albany, GA) in the amount of \$323,992.10. Funding is budgeted in the General Fund. Chief Jail John Ostrander addressed. He stated that the end of life replacement was no longer supported by maintenance.

Commissioner Johnson moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Jones, the motion passed unanimously.

The Chairman called for consideration of the proposal from Information Matrix (Boca Raton, FL) to provide a documentary about Dougherty County, GA in the amount of \$27,000. The project will produce an educational segment highlighting Dougherty County as a great place to live, work and raise a family and will be distributed to all public television stations nationwide. Funding is available in General Fund – Contingency. County Administrator Michael McCoy addressed and stated that Dougherty County was selected to present a 3-5 minute snippet hosted by Laurence Fishburne for a documentary that could reach approximately 60 million households.

Commissioner Jones moved for approval. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. Under discussion, clarification of viewership for Commissioner Jones and Commissioner Gaines were provided by Mr. McCoy. Chairman Cohilas requested that information about other communities aired by the company be provided in addition to narrative evidence pertaining to the return on investment for the value of the program, even though it may be difficult to obtain. With no further discussion, the motion passed with 6 ayes and one nay by Commissioner Gaines.

The Chairman called for consideration of the resolution declaring the listed vehicles as surplus and authorizing the sale of same on govdeals.com or disposal by appropriate means. County Clerk Jawahn Ware addressed.

Commissioner Hudgins moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Gray, the motion passed unanimously. Resolution No. 19-029 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION  
ENTITLED  
A RESOLUTION DECLARING AS SURPLUS  
THE ATTACHED LIST OF VEHICLES;  
PROVIDING FOR DISPOSAL OF OR SALE OF SAME ON  
GOVDEALS.COM; REPEALING PRIOR RESOLUTIONS  
IN CONFLICT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

The Chairman called for consideration of the recommendation from Superior Court to accept the grant from the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council Agency in the amount of \$86,405 for a program coordinator for use in the accountability court program. The Commission approved the grant application in the March 18, 2019 Regular Meeting. County Administrator Michael McCoy addressed.

Commissioner Hudgins moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Jones, the motion passed unanimously.

The Chairman called for consideration of the appointment of Kenneth Johnson as the new Chief for the Dougherty County Police Department and the employment agreement effective June 7, 2019.

Commissioner Jones moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Edwards, the motion passed unanimously. Chief Johnson provided comments

The Chairman called for consideration the presentation and review of the proposed FY 2020 Budgets as recommended by the Finance Committee. Finance Committee Chairman Lamar Hudgins, County Administrator Michael McCoy and Finance Director Martha Hendley addressed. Commissioner Hudgins shared the projection which was to transfer \$1.2 million into the fund balance whereas in the years past, it was money coming out of the fund balance. Mr. McCoy shared the proposed budget for FY 19/20 budget is \$69,539,015 which is 0.7% less than last year. He reminded the Commission that the budget was very fluid and noted that we were still tracking to the projections of our financial consultant PiperJaffray. The projected increase in the General Fund is \$230,000 and the discussion of rationale for cost was given. Inflation is 1.9 % and the General Fund increased by 0.5%. Mr. McCoy stated that this presentation was a high-level review on the department level. Mr. McCoy shared that Dougherty County's budgets are overall flat; with estimated revenues as of June 30, 2019 at \$50,775,897 and expenditures at \$49,561,155. He shared that audited figures would be provided later.

The projected fund balance at end of the FY is \$11,362,855 and our 3 month operating reserve is \$13,108,000. Mr. McCoy shared that our revenues have to balance expenditures, so we are still projecting to use the fund balance to offset costs out but hope to have same results next year. The proposed budget of the General Fund Maintenance & Operation was reviewed. He highlighted the increase of LOST funding; and the VPILOT funding for Phoebe, which will cease. It was shared that one mil is proposed to generate \$2,006,174. The Capital Improvement Program is projected to have a 29.07% decrease with a budget of \$269,100. Mr. McCoy shared in the future

the County would need to consider putting money back into the CIP fund because all of our purchases could not be done with SPLOST.

The following funds were reviewed: the Special Services District, the Solid Waste Enterprise with its capital outlay projections, Confiscated Funds, the DHS Building, Lease Commercial, Grants and the Law Library. Commissioner Hudgins reminded the Commission that we have no longer have term debt. Mr. McCoy shared that our lease commercial fund may change because the University of Georgia (UGA) has requested to do month to month lease and may relocate. Commissioner Hudgins also commended Mr. McCoy, Martha Hendley and the other managers for their efforts with the budget. The Chairman also commended the Finance Committee.

Commissioner Gray left the Commission meeting at 12:00 p.m.

There being no further business, the Commission adjourned at 12:27 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

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ATTEST:

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COUNTY CLERK