

DOUGHERTY COUNTY COMMISSION

DRAFT

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

September 23, 2019

The Dougherty County Commission met in Room 100 of the Albany-Dougherty Government Center on September 23, 2019. Chairman Christopher Cohilas presided. Commissioners present were Victor Edwards, Gloria Gaines, Russell Gray, Lamar Hudgins, Clinton Johnson and Anthony Jones. Also present were Assistant County Administrator Scott Addison, County Clerk Jawahn Ware, other staff and representatives of the media. County Administrator Michael McCoy and County Attorney Spencer Lee were absent.

After the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance, the Chairman called for approval of the August 19 Regular Meeting and August 26 Work Session Minutes.

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

The Chairman recognized Assistant Director Chuck Mathis, present to update the Commission on the proposed safety measures for Hardup and Wildfair Roads. He informed the Commission that during the time of the citizens concern, the grass was scheduled to be mowed on the west side of the area. An update was provided on the cutting of the grass. Signs from Google Earth showed previous signage prior to Hurricane Michael and was scheduled to be replaced by the contractors; but staff moved forward with replacing some of the signs and showed new signage. On Wildfair Road, there are still rumble strips. Currently, Dougherty County is working with the City of Albany to replace the rumble strips on Hardup Road. Citizen Ms. Yvonne Reese asked that a stop sign for citizens coming from Baker County be installed; Mr. Mathis shared that the stop sign replacement is already on the list. Commissioners Gaines and Jones asked that lighting be placed in the area so that citizens could see the signs better. Mr. Mathis said that he would speak to the Chairman and County Administrator about the request. Commissioner Gaines commended Public Works Director Larry Cook and other staff on the excellent information about the canals provided to the citizens in the Indian Creek subdivision.

The Chairman called for consideration of acceptance of the bid to install a concrete trail at the Old Radium Springs Golf Course from the lowest responsible and responsive bidder meeting specifications, AAA Concrete (Albany, GA) in the amount of \$74,450. Funding is available in SPLOST V – Radium Springs Improvement.

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

The Chairman called for consideration of a resolution providing for the acceptance and execution of the proposal for the Radium Springs Storm Memorial & Renovation of the Entrance Gate, Ticket Booths, Gazebo, and Exterior Feature Lighting from the lowest responsible and responsive

proposer meeting specifications, LRA Constructors, Inc. (Albany, GA) in the amount of \$572,791 subject to the execution of the contract by the County Administrator. Funding is available in SPLOST V – Radium Springs Improvement.

Commissioner Jones moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Edwards, the motion passed unanimously. Resolution 19-051 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION
ENTITLED
A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE ACCEPTANCE AND EXECUTION
OF A PROCUREMENT RECOMMENDATION DATED SEPTEMBER 12, 2019
BETWEEN DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA AND LRA
CONSTRUCTORS, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$572,791.00 PROVIDING
FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW RADIUM SPRINGS STORM
MEMORIAL AND RENOVATION AND RESTORATION OF THE
ENTRANCE GATE, TICKET BOOTHS, GAZEBO AND EXTERIOR
FEATURE LIGHTING AT RADIUM SPRINGS; REPEALING RESOLUTIONS
OR PARTS OF RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES.

The Chairman called for consideration of a resolution providing for the acceptance and execution of the proposal for the Survey & Design of Alley Improvements from the lowest responsible and responsive proposer meeting specifications, Reliable Engineering LLC (Albany, GA) in the amount of \$127,600 subject to the execution of the contract by the County Administrator. The engineering service will be for the fifteen alleys listed in the Dougherty County Alley Improvements proposal and 2019 T-SPLOST project. Funding is available in TSPLOST – Alley Paving.

Commissioner Gray moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Jones, the motion passed unanimously. Resolution 19-052 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION
ENTITLED
A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE ACCEPTANCE AND
EXECUTION OF A PROPOSAL BETWEEN DOUGHERTY
COUNTY, GEORGIA AND RELIABLE ENGINEERING LLC IN THE
AMOUNT OF \$127,600.00 FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR AN ALLEY SURVEY AND
DESIGN OF FIFTEEN ALLEYS IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA
OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY; REPEALING RESOLUTIONS OR
PARTS OF RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT HEREWITH;
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

The Chairman called for consideration of the transfer of ownership approval for the Alcohol Application of Ohn Namoh Rudra Corp., Palak Pithawala licensee, dba Cowboy Bill's, at 4502

Sylvester Rd for Consumption – Liquor, Beer and Wine. The Albany-Dougherty Marshal’s Office recommended approval.

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

The Chairman called for consideration of a resolution creating the 2020 Albany-Dougherty Local Complete Count Committee for the U.S. Census Bureau.

Commissioner Gray moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Johnson, the motion passed unanimously. Resolution 19-053 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION
ENTITLED
A RESOLUTION CREATING THE 2020 ALBANY-
DOUGHERTY LOCAL COMPLETE COUNT COMMITTEE;
REPEALING PRIOR RESOLUTIONS OR PARTS OF RESOLUTIONS
IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

The Chairman initially called for consideration of the recommendation to amend the Robert Cross Park Multipurpose Facility One Day Rental Fee from \$400 to \$600. (The damage deposit of \$200 remains the same and is refundable if there are no damages during the event); but then requested a motion to table the discussion. The motion was confirmed by Commissioner Hudgins followed by a second from Commissioner Gray. The motion to table the discussion failed by 3 ayes from Commissioner Gray, Commissioner Hudgins and Chairman Cohilas and 4 nays from Commissioner Edwards, Commissioner Gaines, Commissioner Johnson and Commissioner Jones. Commissioner Johnson made a new motion to charge a \$600 flat fee. After an unconfirmed second of the motion, there were 4 ayes by Chairman Cohilas, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Edwards and Commissioner Hudgins and 3 nays by Commissioner Gray, Commissioner Jones and Commissioner Gaines. Additional discussion took place and Public Works Director Larry Cook addressed the Board stating that the recommended fee by staff included costs for chairs, tables, cleaning, labor and maintenance. Commissioner Gaines requested that the discussion be tabled until the budget was reviewed. Additional discussion was held regarding the legal use of (a public) facility if the fee does not cover the cost of usage. The Chairman ended the discussion and stated that the topic would be back on the agenda for discussion and action.

The Chairman called for consideration of the Disaster Recovery Fund Budget for FY 19 in the amount of \$4,508,120. The Department of Audits requires an official approved budget showing the total expenditures in a fiscal year.

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

The Chairman called for consideration of the CDBG-DR Grant Budget for FY 19 in the amount of \$36,600. The Department of Audits requires an official approved budget showing the total expenditures in a fiscal year.

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

The Chairman called for consideration of the CHIP Grant Budget for FY 19 in the amount of \$249,650. The Department of Audits requires an official approved budget showing the total expenditures in a fiscal year.

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

The Chairman called for consideration of the transfer of \$82,619.58 from the Fund Balance of the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund to the Special Services District Fund for the purpose of paying an invoice from Ceres.

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

The Chairman called for consideration of the payment of one invoice from Ceres in the amount of \$82,619.58. The services rendered are for tipping fees.

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

The Chairman called for consideration of a resolution providing for the use of Dougherty County Nuisance Abatement Resolution Number 02-034 as a means to abate nuisances (dilapidated property) at 946 Barbragale Ave, 2417 Betty's Drive and 2611 Radium Springs Road.

Commissioner Jones moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Edwards, the motion passed unanimously. Resolution 19-054 is entitled:

**A RESOLUTION
ENTITLED**

**A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR INVESTIGATION AND/OR
INSPECTION BY THE PUBLIC OFFICER AS DESIGNATED UNDER
DOUGHERTY COUNTY NUISANCE ABATEMENT RESOLUTION
NUMBER 02-034 AND/OR HIS OR HER DESIGNEE AND PROVIDING
FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE DOUGHERTY COUNTY NUISANCE
ABATEMENT RESOLUTION RELATIVE TO CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY
LOCATED IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA OF DOUGHERTY
COUNTY; REPEALING RESOLUTIONS OR PARTS OF RESOLUTIONS
IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

The Chairman called for consideration of a resolution declaring the listed equipment as surplus and authorizing the sale of same via an online auction.

Commissioner Jones moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Gray, the motion passed unanimously. Resolution 19-055 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION
ENTITLED
A RESOLUTION DECLARING AS SURPLUS THE
ATTACHED LIST OF EQUIPMENT;
PROVIDING FOR DISPOSAL OF OR SALE OF SAME ON
VIA AN ONLINE AUCTION; REPEALING PRIOR RESOLUTIONS
IN CONFLICT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

The Chairman called for consideration of the recommendation to approve the following Health and Dental Plan Renewal and Plan Design changes for the 2020 Plan Year from the Insurance Review Committee:

- a. Allow the employee premiums to remain the same;
- b. Change the dental plan carrier to Delta Dental and increase the annual benefit maximum and the orthodontia lifetime maximum;
- c. Change the “Buy Up Plan” to the “Premium Plus Plan” and increase the deductibles, medical out of pocket maximum and urgent care copay; and
- d. Change the “Base Plan” to the “Premium Plan” and increase the deductibles, medical out of pocket maximum and urgent care copay.

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

The Chairman called for the zoning consideration of Danny L. Redding, Jr., owner & applicant request to rezone 2.573 acres from C-5 (Office-Institutional-Residential District) to M-2 (Heavy Industrial District). The property fronts S. Mock Rd at its western boundary and the Georgia and Florida Railway at its eastern boundary; the property address is 1434 S. Mock Road. The Planning Commission recommended approval to rezone to M-1 (Restricted Industrial District) with the following condition: the use of the property is restricted to motor vehicle repossession, not to include selling of motor vehicle parts and/or motor vehicle repairs. The Public Hearing for this consideration was held on August 19, 2019.

Commissioner Johnson motioned to deny. Upon a second by Commissioner Jones, the motion to deny passed unanimously.

The Chairman called for consideration of a resolution providing for the acceptance and execution of a Memorandum of Agreement between the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission and Dougherty County, GA to provide technical assistance for the development of a Housing Plan in the amount of \$10,000. Funding is available in the General Fund. Assistant County Administrator Scott Addison addressed. Mr. Addison stated that this housing plan was time sensitive and it

would assist with future grant applications. Commissioner Hudgins moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Jones, the motion passed unanimously. Under discussion, Commissioner Gray clarified Commissioner Johnson's question about possible duplication of service by stating that this request was separate from the retreat goal of a housing plan. This plan would assist with funding for the future grants. Resolution 19-056 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION
ENTITLED
A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE APPROVAL AND EXECUTION OF
A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN DOUGHERTY COUNTY,
GEORGIA AND SOUTHWEST GEORGIA REGIONAL COMMISSION IN
THE AMOUNT OF \$10,000.00 FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A HOUSING
PLAN; REPEALING RESOLUTIONS OR PARTS OF RESOLUTIONS IN
CONFLICT HEREWITH;
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Commissioner Gray wanted to take a moment and recognize the passing of Dr. Charles Lingle who was a great asset to the Dougherty County Commission and the community.

There being no further business, the Commission adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

ATTEST:

CHAIRMAN

COUNTY CLERK