

DOUGHERTY COUNTY COMMISSION

DRAFT

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

November 04, 2019

The Dougherty County Commission met in Room 100 of the Albany-Dougherty Government Center on November 04, 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, other staff and representatives of the media.

After the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance by Commissioner Johnson, the Chairman called for approval of the October 7 Regular Meeting and October 14 Work Session Minutes.

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

The Chairman recognized Department of Behavioral Health & Development Disabilities – Region 4 (DBHDD) Board Members, Debbie Richardson and Gail Davenport, to provide an update to the Commission. As Dougherty County representatives of the DBHDD Board, Ms. Davenport and Ms. Richardson plan to host forums in the future for Dougherty County. The goal of DBHDD is to help identify the needs of the local community and provide the gaps in-service to the Commissioner of the State Department. The ladies shared a portion of the responses received from the Dougherty County and the statewide surveys that were being used to make recommendations for individuals with mental health, substance use, intellectual and development disabilities concerns. The representatives asked the Commission to review the survey results and implement some of the recommended actions.

There were two citizens who desired to speak on a matter to which the public hearing was held. The Chairman sought direction from the County Attorney. Mr. Lee confirmed that a public hearing was held and closed so no additional comments should be received. Commissioner Gaines disagreed feeling that this was done in the past. Attorney Lee said if it was done in the past, then it was a mistake and should not have been done. He added that it was clearly outlined under delegation [on the County's agenda] regarding comments being made; noting that the exception would be if the public hearing was re-advertised for additional comments to be provided.

The Chairman called for consideration of the resolution providing for the acceptance and execution of the proposal to upgrade software for security cameras at the Dougherty County Jail from Montgomery Technology Systems, LLC (Greenville, AL), in the amount of \$44,500 subject to the execution of the contract by the County Administrator. Funding is budgeted in SPLOST VII – Jail Facility Improvements.

Commissioner Jones moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Johnson, the motion passed unanimously. Resolution 19-063 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION
ENTITLED
A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE ACCEPTANCE AND EXECUTION
OF A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA AND MONTGOMERY TECHNOLOGY
SYSTEMS, LLC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$44,500.00 FOR THE PURPOSE OF
PROVIDING UPGRADES TO THE SOFTWARE FOR SECURITY CAMERAS
AT THE DOUGHERTY COUNTY JAIL; REPEALING RESOLUTIONS OR
PARTS OF RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES.

The Chairman called for consideration of the resolution providing for the acceptance and execution of the proposal to replace the Main Air Handler and Condensing Unit for the Tallulah Massey Library, from RHC Heating & Cooling (Albany, GA) in the amount of \$22,035.54 subject to the execution of the contract by the County Administrator. Funding is available in SPLOST VII- Library Building Improvements.

Commissioner Jones moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Edwards, the motion passed unanimously. Resolution 19-064 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION
ENTITLED
A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE APPROVAL AND EXECUTION
OF AN AGREEMENT/ CONTRACT BETWEEN BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA AND RHC
HEATING & COOLING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$22,035.54 FOR THE
PURPOSE OF PURCHASING AND INSTALLING A NEW AIR
CONDITIONING UNIT AT TALLULAH MASSEY LIBRARY; REPEALING
RESOLUTIONS OR PARTS OF RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT
HEREWITH; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

The Chairman called for consideration of the purchase of an equipment shed for Public Works from Smith-Built (Dawson, GA) in the amount of \$43,310.70. Funding is budgeted in SPLOST VI.

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

The Chairman called for consideration of the recommendation to accept the proposed updates for the Radium Springs Recovery Plan, Radium Springs Trailhead and Radium Springs Master Plan.

Commissioner Edwards moved for approval. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. Under discussion, Commissioner Johnson asked for clarification on the plan of action and Mr. McCoy

responded that the projects would occur concurrently. The Recreation Committee would meet in regarding the phase in process if forwarded by the Chairman. Chairman Cohilas said he would consider referring [to the subcommittee]. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

The Chairman called for consideration of the resolution authorizing the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission to execute and file the renewal of the annual application on behalf of Dougherty County with the Georgia Department of Transportation and the United States Department of Transportation for a grant for public transportation assistance under Section 5311 Regional Transit Program. County Administrator Michael McCoy addressed.

Commissioner Jones moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Gray, the motion passed unanimously. Resolution 19-065 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION
ENTITLED
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION
WITH THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR A GRANT
FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE UNDER TITLE 49
U.S.C., SECTION 5311.

The Chairman called for consideration of two zoning considerations. The first was for the zoning application of Willis John Wright, Jr, applicant, MRA Concrete/Precast, LLC owner; request to rezone 1.73 acres from C-1 (Neighborhood Mixed-Use Business District) to C-3 (Commercial District). The property fronts the south side of Leary Rd., approximately 235 ft. to the west of the intersection of Leary Rd. and Vanderbilt Dr; the property address is 3108 Leary Road. The Planning Commission recommended denial. The second was for the Special Approval request of Willis John Wright, Jr, applicant, MRA Concrete/Precast, LLC owner; to operate a precast concrete facility in the C-3 (Commercial District). The property fronts the south side of Leary Rd., approximately 235 ft. to the west of the intersection of Leary Rd. and Vanderbilt Dr; the property address is 3108 Leary Road. The public hearing was held on October 21, 2019. The Planning Commission recommended denial.

Commissioner Gray moved for approval of the requests. Commissioner Hudgins seconded the motion. Commissioner Gaines called for a substitute motion to deny both considerations. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motions to deny. Under discussion, Commissioner Gaines shared concerns from constituents. Mary Teter provided clarification that rezoning was required in addition to a special approval for precast operations. There was a lengthy discussion in reference to the use of the neighborhood, contrasting recommendations of the Planning Commission /Planning staff and prior action taken by the County Commission. The vote to deny carried by four ayes and three nays by Commissioner Hudgins, Commissioner Gray and Chairman Cohilas. Commissioner Johnson asked that Mr. McCoy contact the Payroll Development Authority (PDA) and other authorities to see if there were other locations for potential business use.

Commissioner Gaines read a formal letter from the residents of Indian Creek Subdivision commending the Public Works staff. Commissioner Jones informed the Commission of the District 6 Town Hall meeting that will be held on November 7, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. and mentioned other community events. Commissioner Johnson shared that there was a housing survey that needed to be completed to help develop a housing plan for Dougherty County and asked that individuals help distribute it. Chairman Cohilas provided an update and kudos to individuals in reference to the press conference held with the GBI Regional Drug Task Force. He added that this is the fourth location in the State of Georgia and shared that the target focus of the Task Force.

There being no further business, the Commission adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

ATTEST:

CHAIRMAN

COUNTY CLERK