

DOUGHERTY COUNTY COMMISSION

DRAFT

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

May 18, 2020

The Dougherty County Commission met via a video conferencing platform to be in compliance with the Governor's Executive Order and the guidelines of the Center for Disease Control (CDC) in regard to the Coronavirus (COVID19) pandemic and social distancing on May 18, 2020. Chairman Christopher Cohilas presided. Commissioners participating were Victor Edwards, Gloria Gaines, Russell Gray, Lamar Hudgins, Clinton Johnson, and Anthony Jones. Also participating were County Administrator Michael McCoy, Assistant County Administrator Scott Addison, County Attorney Spencer Lee, County Clerk Jawahn Ware and other staff. The public and representatives of the media participated via live streaming of the meeting on the County's Facebook page and the government public access channel.

After the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance by Commissioner Edwards, the Chairman called for approval of the May 11th Special Called Meeting minutes.

Commissioner Edwards moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Jones, the minutes were unanimously approved.

The Chairman recognized EMS Director Sam Allen to accept the proclamation recognizing May 17-23, 2020 as Emergency Medical Services Week in Dougherty County and to recognize the entire staff of Dougherty County EMS for an outstanding job in providing the highest level of medical care during the COVID-19 Pandemic. All EMS Staff would be awarded a special COVID-19 Service Medal for the medical care given above and beyond during the pandemic. Mr. Allen provided appreciation to the Board and staff. Other sentiments were provided by the Commissioners. Also, Mr. McCoy and Mr. Allen addressed the questions of Commissioner Gaines and Commissioner Johnson. The proclamation read as follows:

WHEREAS, emergency medical services are a vital public service; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and

WHEREAS, access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, the emergency medical care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, the emergency medical services system consists of emergency physicians, emergency nurses, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, firefighters, educators, administrators and others; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams, whether career or volunteer, engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the value and the accomplishments of emergency medical services providers by designating Emergency Medical Services Week; now

THEREFORE, we, the Board of Commissioners of Dougherty County, Georgia in recognition of this event does hereby proclaim the week of May 17-23, 2020 as

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the County of Dougherty on this 18th day of May in the year of our Lord two-thousand and twenty.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA**

Christopher S. Cohilas, Chairman

The Chairman recognized Public Works Director Larry Cook to accept the proclamation recognizing May 17-23, 2020 as National Public Works Week in Dougherty County. Mr. Cook recognized Mechanic II Georgie Lily as Employee of the Year and Project Engineer Jeremy Brown as Manager of the Year. He stressed the appreciation of all staff during the pandemic. Assistant Public Works Director and APWA District Director Chuck Mathis provided comments. The proclamation read as follows:

National Public Works Week Proclamation

May 17 – 23, 2020

“It Starts Here”

WHEREAS, public works professionals focus on infrastructure, facilities and services that are of vital importance to sustainable and resilient communities and to the public health, high quality of life and well-being of the people of Dougherty County, Albany, Georgia; and,

WHEREAS, these infrastructure, facilities and services could not be provided without the dedicated efforts of public works professionals, who are engineers, managers and employees at all levels of government and the private sector, who are responsible for rebuilding, improving and protecting our nation’s transportation, water supply, water treatment and solid

waste systems, public buildings, and other structures and facilities essential for our citizens; and,

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest for the citizens, civic leaders and children in Dougherty County, Albany, GA to gain knowledge of and to maintain a progressive interest and understanding of the importance of public works and public works programs in their respective communities; and,

WHEREAS, the year 2020 marks the 60th annual National Public Works Week sponsored by the American Public Works Association/Canadian Public Works Association be it now,

RESOLVED, I, Christopher S. Cohilas, Commission Chair, do hereby designate the week May 17 – 23, 2020 as National Public Works Week; I urge all citizens to join with representatives of the American Public Works Association/Canadian Public Works Association and government agencies in activities, events and ceremonies designed to pay tribute to our public works professionals, engineers, managers and employees and to recognize the substantial contributions they make to protecting our national health, safety, and quality of life..

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the State (to be affixed),

DONE at the Dougherty County, Albany, Georgia this 18th day of May 2020.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA**

BY: _____
Christopher S. Cohilas, Chairman

The Chairman called for consideration of a resolution providing for the acceptance of the bid to complete the 2020 Road and Drainage Improvement projects from the most responsive and responsible vendor, Zane Grace Construction Company (Leesburg, GA) in the amount of \$372,617.64 subject to the execution of the contract by the County Administrator. Four vendors submitted bids with the highest being \$496,987.25. Funding will be provided from SPLOST VI – Stormwater Improvements. Assistant County Administrator Scott Addison addressed. Public Works Director Larry Cook, Project Engineer Jeremy Brown and City of Albany Buyer Kimberly Allen were available.

Commissioner Hudgins moved for approval. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion. Under discussion, Commissioner Johnson praised the work of Public Works. After no other additional discussion, the motion passed unanimously. Resolution 20-026 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION

ENTITLED
A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE APPROVAL OF A
DOUGHERTY COUNTY PROCUREMENT RECOMMENDATION
WITH ZANE GRACE CONSTRUCTION OF LEESBURG, GEORGIA IN
THE AMOUNT OF \$372,617.64 FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING
FOR STORMWATER DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS AT FOUR
DIFFERENT LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT DOUGHERTY COUNTY
AND FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH ZANE GRACE CONSTRUCTION
OF LEESBURG, GEORGIA RELATIVE TO THE PROJECT;
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 of the proposal for Inmate Medical Services for the Jail from the most responsive and responsible vendor, Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital (Albany, GA) in the amount of \$1,933,696 subject to the execution of the contract by the County Administrator. Funding will be provided from the General Fund. Three proposals were evaluated by the analysis group. Assistant County Administrator Scott Addison addressed. Chief Jailer John Ostrander and City of Albany Buyer Joshua Williams were available. Mr. Addison recognized the Proposal Analysis Group (PAG) Committee. He stated that this was a one-year contract with two possible year renewals with a total of a possible three-year agreement.

Commissioner Jones moved for approval. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. Under discussion, Mr. Addison answered Commissioner Gaines' question stating that there was a 3.21% price increase in comparison to the current contract. Also, Chief Ostrander answered Commissioner Johnson's question in reference to the bid fee of others. After no other additional discussion, the motion passed unanimously. Resolution 20-027 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION
ENTITLED
A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE APPROVAL AND EXECUTION
OF A CONTRACT BETWEEN PHOEBE PUTNEY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
AND DOUGHERTY COUNTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING
INMATE MEDICAL SERVICES AT THE DOUGHERTY COUNTY JAIL
FOR A TERM OF TWELVE MONTHS WITH TWO AUTOMATIC
EXTENSIONS OF ONE YEAR EACH; 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 Employee Benefits Broker for Dougherty County from NFP (Marietta, GA) for a three-year contract with two one-year options. The annual cost is not to exceed \$150,000 subject to the execution of the contract by the County Administrator. Nine firms submitted bids. Funding will be budgeted in the Group Health Fund. Assistant County Administrator Scott Addison and Consultants James Britt and John Scarborough addressed. City of Albany Buyer Joshua Williams and members of the Insurance Review Committee were available. Mr. Addison gave kudos to the consultant and recognized the Insurance Review Committee.

Mr. Britt described the three-phrase process and stated that fees would be reduced approximately \$50,000 from the current price being paid.

Commissioner Hudgins moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Johnson, the motion passed unanimously. Resolution 20-028 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION
ENTITLED
A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE APPROVAL AND
EXECUTION OF AN EMPLOYEE BENEFITS BROKER CONTRACT
WITH NFP OF MARIETTA, GEORGIA FOR A THREE YEAR TERM
AND TWO ONE YEAR OPTIONS WITH THE COST NOT TO EXCEED
\$150,000.00; REPEALING RESOLUTIONS OR PARTS OF
RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

The Chairman called for consideration a Resolution declaring a 2016 Ford Police Interceptor (from the Sheriff's Office) as surplus and authorize the sale through Underwriters Safety & Claims. Assistant County Administrator Scott Addison addressed. Mr. Addison stated that this was the standard process for total loss vehicles.

Commissioner Johnson moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Edwards, the motion passed unanimously. Resolution 20-029 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION
ENTITLED
A RESOLUTION TO DECLARE AS SURPLUS A SALVAGED 2016
FORD POLICE INTERCEPTOR (VIN NO. 1FAHP2MT3GG154384)
AND HAVE SAID SURPLUSSED SALVAGED VEHICLE DISPOSED OF
THROUGH UNDERWRITERS SAFETY AND CLAIMS, DOUGHERTY
COUNTY' S THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR; REPEALING
RESOLUTIONS OR PARTS OF RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT
HEREWITH; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

The Chairman called for consideration a joint resolution requesting that the public wear face coverings (masks) in the City of Albany and Dougherty County, Ga during the COVID-19 public health emergency and recovery. Chairman Cohilas addressed and stated that he and the Mayor wanted to have a resolution that was in line with the Governor's Executive Order. The attorneys for both entities provided a draft for the joint resolution. The proposed resolution was read.

Commissioner Edwards moved for approval. Commissioner Gaines seconded the motion. Commissioner Gray proposed an alternate motion that the resolution be edited in which the last paragraph provide clarity that this is not mandated but recommended. Chairman Cohilas clarified the procedural motion and Commissioner Gray's motion failed due to a lack of a second. There was no additional discussion and the original motion carried with six ayes and one nay by Commissioner Gray. Resolution 20-030 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION

ENTITLED
A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR ACCEPTANCE AND
APPROVAL OF A JOINT RESOLUTION WITH THE CITY OF
ALBANY ENCOURAGING ALL CITY AND COUNTY RESIDENTS
TO WEAR FACE MASKS IN PUBLIC DURING THE COVID-19
PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY AND RECOVERY; REPEALING
RESOLUTIONS OR PARTS OF RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT; AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Mr. McCoy informed the Commission that there will not be a meeting on Monday, May 25, 2020 in observation of Memorial Day.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 10:41 a.m.

CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

COUNTY CLERK