

DOUGHERTY COUNTY COMMISSION

DRAFT

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

July 6, 2020

The Dougherty County Commission met in Room 100 of the Albany-Dougherty Government Center on July 06, 2020. Chairman Christopher Cohilas presided. Commissioners present were Victor Edwards, Russell Gray, Lamar Hudgins and Anthony Jones. Commissioners Gloria Gaines and Clinton Johnson participated via the audio-conferencing feature. Also present 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 in person and via live streaming of the meeting on the County's Facebook page and the government public access channel.

The Chairman recognized citizen Arlington "A.J." Neely to discuss a petition to enforce compliance conditions of operation for Southern Industrial Coating, LLC (S.I.C). His specific complaint pertained to the sand dust that blows from the company and he would like S.I.C to adhere to compliance conditions. He voiced additional concerns of possible contamination of the wells of residents and potential EPD (Environmental Protection Division) violations. Code Enforcement Chief Robert Carter addressed by sharing that he and Officer Ray visited the property and did not find any violations, nor have they received any complaints or notices from the EPD. The Chairman recognized citizens Mr. Jerry and Mrs. Renee Green to discuss their concerns. Mr. Green voiced specific complaints and emphasized that he and his wife have to curtail their daily activities due to the company's extended hours of operation. Mrs. Green shared the possible impact of the air quality on her health and provided a copy of violation letter from the EPD. Commissioner Jones proposed that a meeting occur with all parties, to include the business owner. After a lengthy discussion ensued, Chairman Cohilas directed Attorney Lee, Administrator McCoy and Chief Carter to follow up and provide a recommendation for rectification for the next agenda meeting. As the discussion ended, the parties requested that the Commission enforce the regulations in place.

The Chairman recognized citizen Henry Thomas, Georgia Music Association, to discuss restoration for the city. Mr. Thomas shared that he has a five-year plan proposed from a citizen perspective to make the community a better place. Mr. and Mrs. Upshaw who are affiliated with the organization spoke about the need to work with the youth, especially the younger ages. They shared that the goal of the plan extends beyond music but [creating] a better way of life. Commissioner Victor Edwards requested that Mr. Thomas provide a copy of his plan to the County Administrator for review. After discussion ensued, the Chairman directed Administrator McCoy to have a phone conference with Mr. Thomas and provide an update to him later.

The Chairman called for consideration of the Alcohol Application from Bloc Stop Inc, Jefferson Bradwell Lanier, III licensee, dba Bloc Stop Travel Center, at 1400 Moultrie Road for Beer and Wine Package. The Albany-Dougherty Marshal's Office recommends approval. County Clerk Jawahn Ware was present to address. Commissioner Hudgins moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Gray, the motion for approval passed unanimously.

The Chairman called for consideration of the Resolution providing for the approval of the FY 2021 Contract between the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia on behalf of the UGA Cooperative Extension Service and Dougherty County Board of Commissioners. The contract is for the salary, retirement and social security/Medicare costs for five County Extension Agents for the fiscal year. County Administrator Michael McCoy addressed.

Commissioner Gray moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Edwards, the motion for approval passed unanimously. Resolution 20-037 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION
ENTITLED
A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE APPROVAL AND
EXECUTION OF THE FY 2021 CONTRACT BETWEEN THE
BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF
GEORGIA, ON BEHALF OF THE UGA COOPERATIVE
EXTENSION SERVICE, AND DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA;
REPEALING RESOLUTIONS OR PARTS OF RESOLUTIONS IN
CONFLICT HEREWITH;
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

The Chairman called for announcements. Mr. McCoy shared that all County Commission meetings will now be held in Room 100. Commissioner Gaines asked for any remedies that the Commission will have be in the report for Southern Industrial Coating, LLC. Commissioner Edwards shared his appreciation for the pay raise for the lower paid employees, provided kudos for the videos produced by the Public Information Officer and offered special thanks to the State Delegation for providing funding [for local projects]. Commissioners Gray and Jones echoed the same sentiments.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

COUNTY CLERK