

Washington County Board of Commissioners

Regular Meeting

March 9, 2019

9:00am

Commissioners Present: Horace Daniel, Doug Watkins, Edward Burten, James Hitchcock, Frank Simmons

Prayer

Pledge

Call to Order

Approval of Past Minutes

- A motion was made by Commissioner Simmons to approve the minutes from the previous regular meeting, seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The motion to approve those minutes passed with a show of hands.

Bills

- A motion was required to approve the bills for the past month as follows:
 - Administrative & Other \$213,679.55
 - Road Department \$87,193.63
 - Sheriff Dept. & Jail \$63,567.78
 - Courthouse \$50,766.69
 - EMA \$339.25
 - E-911 \$120,537.00
 - Landfill \$50,530.70

A motion was made by Commissioner Simmons to approve the bill for the past month, seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The motion was passed by a show of hands.

Road Department Update

- The Road Superintendent gave an update on the Lamars Creek Road project. He stated that the project is currently moving along well. He mentioned that a small area, less than one-quarter of a mile has bad dirt that will have to be removed, but should not be substantial nor take much time to get past.

Appointments

- Sunday Beer Sales – Hiren Patel & Vishal Patel
 - The owner of the convenience stores in Warthen and Sandersville, in the unincorporated areas, communicated to the commissioners and public that they would like to be able to sell beer on Sundays. They claim that it would help Washington County and their businesses, since people go to neighboring counties to buy alcohol on Sundays.
 - The County Attorney mentioned to the commissioners that the best route would be to allow the people of Washington County vote on the matter with a referendum in the next elections held in November.

Old Business – None

New Business

- Contract Renewal – Bateman
 - The County Administrator explained that this was a contract renewal for the meals provided to senior citizens that participate in the meals program through the regional commission area agency on aging. A non-delivery fee will be included in this contract for meals that cannot be delivered to homes of senior citizens.
 - Commissioner Simmons made a motion to renew the contract, seconded by Commissioner Burten. The motion was passed unanimously.
- Mutual Aid Agreement – City of Sandersville
 - The County Administrator explained that this mutual aid agreement was for coordinated efforts between the Sheriff's Office and the City Police Department, to allow for assistance or back-up in times of need. The Sheriff stated that he was satisfied with the agreement.
 - Commissioner Simmons made a motion to approve the agreement, seconded by Commissioner Burten. The motion was passed unanimously.
- Vehicle Purchase – Sheriff's Office Transport Van
 - The County Administrator explained that the Sheriff has requested the purchase of a new transport van, since the current van is not large enough to accommodate the needs of transporting inmates. The budget for the Jail is projected to result well below the total target, leaving room for the purchase of this vehicle. The Sheriff procured three quotes: Jacky Jones Ford in the amount \$28,600; Brannen Motor in the amount of \$38,565; Childre Ford in the amount of \$28,772.
 - Commissioner Simmons made a motion to award the bid to Jacky Jones Ford, seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The motion was passed unanimously.
- Road Dept. – Chemicals for Spraying
 - The Roads Superintendent discussed that spraying would begin soon as the grasses and weeds are beginning to grow quickly, with chemicals needed to do such spraying. Three quotes were procured for the purchase of the chemicals required: Producers Ag Service in the amount of \$93,145; Nutrien Ag Solutions in the amount of \$87,231; and Helena Chemical in the amount of \$74,751.
 - A motion was made Commissioner Hitchcock to award the bid to Helena Chemical, seconded by Commissioner Simmons. The motion was passed unanimously.
- Development Authority Project Proposal
 - The County Administrator explained that the Development Authority approached the County and City to join in on helping with a project that would locate a new business in Washington County, in which all three entities would contribute \$250,000. The President of the Development Authority explained that this project would be for constructing a new building, totaling approximately \$5.0 million, to locate the company behind Dura-Line on a parcel of vacant land. The company would ultimately provide for 40 jobs, an average pay range of \$55,000 per year, and receive minimal tax abatement. He mentioned that the Development Authority has already voted and approved providing its financial share of the project.
 - A motion was made by Commissioner Simmons to approve the financial assistance for the project, seconded by Commissioner Burten. The motion was passed unanimously.

- Department of Corrections – Work Detail Agreement
 - The County Administrator explained that this is a renewal for the work detail the County utilizes from the penitentiary center in Emanuel County. He also explained that, while the County is pursuing other options for work details, this renewal would ensure that the County has a work detail for the upcoming year. This agreement can be ended with 7 days notice per the contract, which gives the County flexibility on the choice of work detail.
 - A motion was made Commissioner Watkins to approve the agreement, seconded by Commissioner Simmons. The motion was passed unanimously.
- Board of Elections – Julius Warthen
 - The County Administrator explained that the Board of Elections has had a vacancy since the resignation of Tom Brett last November. Mr. Warthen brings exceptional experience through a career in law as an attorney, practicing in Washington D.C. before moving back home to Washington County. A resolution was required to install Mr. Warthen onto the Board of Elections.
 - A motion was made by Commissioner Simmons to approve the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Burten. The motion was passed unanimously.

Contract Ratification

- Helton Electric
 - The air conditioning unit located at the Service Center ceased working and needed to be replaced. Two emergency bids were procured: Helton Electric in the amount of \$11,240; Mel Daniel Heating and Cooling in the amount of \$11,987. Helton Electric was selected to replace the unit.
 - A motion was made by Commissioner Simmons ratify the contract, seconded by Commissioner Hitchcock. The motion was passed unanimously.

Chairman Comments


Meeting Adjourned

Public Comment Session



Horace Daniel, Chairman

Attest:



Dustin Peebles, County Administrator/Clerk