

## Washington County Board of Commissioners

Regular Meeting

March 9, 2023

9:00am

**Commissioners Present:** Horace Daniel, Doug Watkins, Bobby Jackson, Frank Simmons

**Prayer**

**Pledge**

### **Approval of Previous Minutes**

- Commissioner Simmons made a motion to begin the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The motion was passed unanimously.

### **Bills**

- Chairman Daniel read the bills to be ratified in the following categories and amounts:
  - Administrative & Other \$284,526.60
  - Road Department \$86,333.37
  - Sheriff's Office & Jail \$67,736.09
  - Courthouse \$39,369.93
  - EMA \$3,610.05
  - E-911 \$2,096.31
  - Landfill \$66,711.91
- Chairman Daniel asked for a motion to approve the expenditures. Commissioner Simmons made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The motion was passed unanimously.

### **Road Department Update**

- Mr. Holmes stated that work is currently being done on Smith Robson Road in order to get it back open. Crews are pulling ditches while roads have been able to dry out for the time being in order to get ahead of rains that will be coming. He stated that the prison detail is in the area of Deepstep Road picking up trash. He went on to say that he would like to have 3 motor grader crews running to catch up on maintaining dirt roads. With the extra crew running that will allow for more rounds on each road. He stated that the project being done on New Road has led to issues with pipes not being installed correctly or at all on certain driveways.

### **Appointments**

- Brantley Yu – Cedar Creek Road
  - This item was discussed at the work session on March 7<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Yu asked for his request to close the road on the portion designated to be reconsidered by the commissioners, as there are constant issues with trash and dead animals being dumped, late night recreation vehicles going through the area with loud music, and items being stolen. Commissioner Hitchcock stated that dozens of citizens signed a letter opposing the closure and did not feel like it was the appropriate decision at this time. More evidence of issues should be brought forward in the future to bring about further consideration.

## Old Business

- Alcohol Licenses
  - The County Administrator stated that there were 2 applications read aloud in the previous meetings, with both being publicized and no public pushback. The first was an application from Ms. Nimmala, who will be taking over the convenient store in Warthen, and the second was from Mr. Ellison requesting to add the sale of distilled spirits.
  - Chairman Daniel asked for a motion to approve the applications. Commissioner Simmons made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The motion was approved unanimously.

## Business

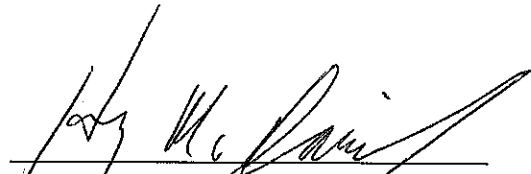
- Chamber of Commerce Agreement Update
  - The County Administrator explained that this document was for purely for updating purposes, as the previous update was done in 2016. This update was requested by the County's insurance provider, as the president of the Chamber of Commerce participates in the County's insurance programs. No provisions of the agreement were changed.
  - Chairman Daniel asked for a motion to approve the update. Commissioner Watkins made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Simmons. The motion was approved unanimously.
- Board of Elections Reappointment
  - The County Administrator explained that Ms. Laura Simmons was up for reappointment and was recommended by the Elections Board for a new term.
  - Chairman Daniel asked for a motion to approve the reappointments. Commissioner Simmons made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The motion was approved unanimously.
- Recreation Department – Concessions Roofing
  - The County Administrator stated that the concessions building for the football and soccer fields, which also houses the electrical room for the lighting, was leaking badly and needed a new roof. 3 quotes were obtained for the work from Washington County Machine Shop, Fraser Roofing, and Danny Batten Contractor. Fraser Roofing was the recommended quote as they were the only company to include a warranty in their quote.
  - Chairman Daniel asked for a motion to award the work to Fraser Roofing. Commissioner Simmons made a motion to award, seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The motion was passed unanimously.
- Fuel Station Tank Removal
  - The County Administrator stated that the fuel tanks at the County fuel station needed to be removed per EPD guidelines. If the County wishes to return to having its own fuel station in the future, above ground tanks may be installed to avoid any interaction with EPD. He stated that the Road Department has been communicating with Jet Food Stores representatives and using their contacts to retrieve quotes to remove and dispose of the

- tanks properly, while taking care to meet all EPD guideline while doing so. One quote was received from Hawe Environmental in the amount of \$16,215.00 to do the work.
- Chairman Daniel asked for a motion to award the work to Hawe. Commissioner Simmons made a motion to award, seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The motion was passed unanimously.
  
  - Road Department – Asphalt Patching Machine
    - Mr. Holmes stated that he searched everywhere possible to locate patching machines and quotes for a new or refurbished machine. He stated that his searches circled back to Duraco Equipment. He stated that the outfit selling this equipment in Georgia is Adams Equipment Company from Austell, Georgia. They were the only company to provide a quote, in the amount of \$94,650 with a 2 year warranty and an option for a 5 year warranty. The 5 year option was recommended for extra protection.
    - Chairman Daniel asked for a motion to purchase the patching machine from Adams Equipment. Commissioner Simmons made a motion to purchase, seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The motion was passed unanimously.

**Meeting Adjourned**

**Comments from Chairman**

**Public Comment Session**



Horace Daniel, Chairman

**Attest:**



**Dustin Peebles, County Administrator/Clerk**