

## Washington County Board of Commissioners

Regular Meeting

June 13, 2019

9:00am

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

**Prayer**

**Pledge**

**Call to Order**

### **Approval of Past Minutes**

- A motion was made by Commissioner Watkins to approve the minutes from the previous regular meeting, seconded by Commissioner Burten. 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 \$296,642.57
  - Road Department \$98,010.89
  - Sheriff Dept. & Jail \$54,891.64
  - Courthouse \$45,826.57
  - EMA \$23,200.24
  - E-911 \$7,502.45
  - Landfill \$57,691.46

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

### **Road Department Update**

- The Roads Superintendent Gary Waller gave an update on the mowing and dirt road maintenance being done in the County. He mentioned that most of the dirt roads held up very well after heavy rainfall received in the past week. Chairman Daniel stated that the crew pulling ditches have done a great job as he has had several citizens give compliments.

### **Appointments**

- Kevin Cobb – Prosser Road
  - Mr. Cobb inquired of the possibility of closing Prosser Road, or utilizing a gate to temporarily close the road while using a pivot to water crops. He stated that his farming operation owns both sides of Prosser Road and would like to use the pivot located near the road, as it can rotate in a full circle and water the other side as well, instead of spending a large sum of money to install a new pivot. He also mentioned that it would be next year at the earliest that the land could be farmed as there is clearing that would be required.
  - Commissioner Burten stated that he, Commissioner Watkins, and Mr. Waller went to the site with Mr. Cobb to get a better understanding of what was being requested. He

went on state that the County should help the farmers and was in favor of allowing Mr. Cobb to temporarily close the road while using the pivot to irrigate, with the proper installation of a gate and appropriate signage.

- Chairman Daniel asked for a motion to allow Mr. Cobb to temporary close Prosser Road while irrigating with the pivot system.
- A motion was made by Commissioner Watkins to approve the request, seconded by Commissioner Hitchcock. The motion was passed unanimously.

#### **Old Business – None**

#### **New Business**

- TIA Regional Projects

- The County Administrator explained that the TIA Roundtable has requested regional projects from each of the counties to consider for being completed with the regional TIA funds, as opposed to the local TIA funds. He also explained that for the each project submitted that the County would be required to provide estimates from engineering consultants regarding the cost of the projects, stating that Moreland-Altobelli would do the work on the estimates for the County. He stated that each of the cities were invited to attend the meeting to discuss which projects should be submitted on behalf of Washington County. The following represented the cities:
  - Sandersville – Mayor Jimmy Andrews, Judy McCorkle, and Robert Eubanks
  - Tennille – Mayor Pro Tem Brainard Crawford
  - Davisboro – Mayor Walter Thomas
  - Harrison – Mayor James Walker
  - Deepstep – Mayor Randy Veal
- The County Administrator stated that regional project ideas were requested from each of the cities, with three of the cities responding, and that a list was given to the commissioners to consider. The County Administrator asked the cities if they had any input as to which projects they would like to see submitted.
- The City of Sandersville mentioned that East Church Street, which connects Highway 15 and Highway 242, and has an industry located on the road receives high volumes of traffic on a daily basis. It was also mentioned that, in addition to the Highway 15 South four-laning project selected by the commissioners, that looking at Highway 15 North would be wise as well. The four-laning of Highway 15 North has been on the Governors Road Improvement Program for several years, with right of way acquisition slated to begin in 2021. The idea mention from the City of Sandersville would be to utilize TIA regional funding to expedite the construction phase of the project to coincide with the southern portion of Highway 15, which would result in Highway 15 begin four-lanes all the way through Washington County.
- The cities of Tennille, Deepstep, and Harrison did not have anything to add regarding the projects and agreed that the Highway 15 projects would benefit everyone in the County and be the most appropriate projects to submit. The City of Davisboro stated that they are in need of sidewalks, but also agreed that the Highway 15 projects would provide the most benefit.
- Chairman Daniel asked for a motion to approve the following projects to submit to the TIA roundtable for consideration:

- four-laning Highway 15 South from the truck route south of Tennille to the Johnson County line; and
    - four-laning Highway 15 North from the truck route north of Sandersville to the Hancock County line.
  - A motion was made by Commissioner Burten to submit the projects, seconded by Commissioner Hitchcock. The motion was passed unanimously.
- Contract Renewal – J&T Service Center
  - The County Administrator explained that J&T performs the maintenance on all the generators owned by the County. This renewal would combine all the generators into one contract, as each location has had a separate contract. The prices for the maintenance on each of the generators are based on size.
  - A motion was made by Commissioner Watkins to renew the contract, seconded by Commissioner Burten. The motion was passed unanimously.
- Contract Renewal – Quality Tire Recycling
  - The County Administrator explained that Quality Tire Recycling has been accepting the County's tires for several years and have always provided excellent service. The price for recycling tires is based on the tonnage of tires being recycled.
  - A motion was made by Commissioner Hitchcock to renew the contract, seconded by Commissioner Burten. The motion was passed unanimously.
- Road Dept. – Tractor/Mower
  - Mr. Waller explained that the Road Dept. is in need of a new tractor and mower to accommodate the creation of a second mowing crew to keep up with the grass cutting throughout the County. One of the tractors and mowers currently being used have many hours on them and would be better served as a back-up option to fill in if one of the newer ones malfunction, or if there is a special purpose for mowing. Mr. Waller procured three quotes for the following amounts: J & B Tractor in the amount of \$68,331.00; Atlantic Southern in the amount of \$66,445.00; and Flint Equipment in the amount of \$69,426.69. The warranties included from Flint Equipment and Atlantic Southern were nearly identical, while J & B Tractor did not have warranties of the same length. Atlantic Southern was the recommended bidder to supply the equipment.
  - A motion was made by Commissioner Hitchcock to purchase the equipment from Atlantic Southern, seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The motion was passed unanimously.
- Sheriff's Office – Vehicle Purchase
  - The County Administrator explained that the Sheriff has requested to purchase a 2019 Dodge Durango for his office. The Sheriff procured two quotes in the following amounts: Jacky Jones CDJ in the amount of \$32,766.00; and Ginn CDJ in the amount of \$39,560.00. Jacky Jones CDJ was the recommended bidder.
  - A motion was made by Commissioner Burten to purchase the vehicle from Jacky Jones CDJ, seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The motion was passed unanimously.
- FY 2019 Budget Amendment
  - The County Administrator explained that the budget amendment for this year included \$709,700 in revenues higher than what was budgeted, and \$198,700 in expenses higher than what was budgeted. Those numbers do not include revenues or expenses that are below budget. The overall budget amendment resulted in a net increase in revenues of

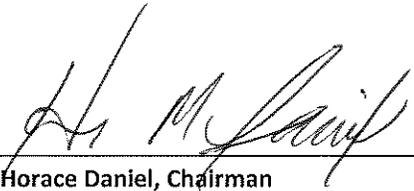
- \$511,000. The County Administrator explained that the revenue increases were from an improved economy and reimbursement from GEMA and FEMA for disaster response.
- A motion was made by Commissioner Watkins to approve the amendment, seconded by Commissioner Hitchcock. The motion was passed unanimously.
  - FY 2020 Budget
    - The County Administrator explained that the FY 2020 Budget had been completed, presented to all commissioners and department heads, as well as made available to the public for review. A public hearing was held in which no questions or concerns were submitted. The County Administrator explained that a resolution would need to be passed to approve the FY 2020 Budget, assuming no changes needed to be made on behalf of the commissioners.
    - A motion was made by Commissioner Burten to approve the FY 2020 Budget as presented, seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The motion was passed unanimously.

**Contract Ratification – None**

**Chairman Comments**

**Meeting Adjourned**

**Public Comment Session**



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Horace Daniel, Chairman

**Attest:**



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Dustin Peebles, County Administrator/Clerk