

Washington County Board of Commissioners

Regular Meeting

November 14, 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 \$396,044.21
 - Road Department \$51,240.67
 - Sheriff Dept. & Jail \$71,386.56
 - Courthouse \$42,338.92
 - EMA \$852.69
 - E-911 \$120,386.64
 - Landfill \$46,146.58

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

Road Department Update

- Mr. Waller stated that Lamar's Creek Road is paved, with grassing, guardrail installation, signage installation, and final striping left to be done. He also stated that the Road Department is working on maintaining dirt roads and shoulders of paved road to stay as far ahead of wet weather as possible.

Appointments – None

Old Business – None

New Business

- Cooperative Agreement – Senior Center Meals
 - The County Administrator explained that this agreement is with the CSRA Area on Aging to provide meals to senior citizens. These meals are served at the senior center as well as delivered to the homes of seniors. The price per meal has not changed from the amount of the previous year.

- Chairman Daniel asked for a motion to approve the agreement. Commissioner Burten made a motion to approve the agreement, seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The motion was passed unanimously.
- Roundabout Lighting – SR15 Truck Route & SR242
 - The County Administrator explained that the Georgia Department of Transportation sent a letter to the County asking for lighting assistance, in which energy, operation and maintenance are provided. He stated that GDOT will design and install the lighting at no cost. He also stated that there have never been any issues with any of the existing lighting in the County with which similar agreements are in place, and that the County typically received a refund.
 - Chairman Daniel asked for a motion to approve the agreement. A motion was made by Commissioners Watkins to approve the agreement, seconded by Commissioner Burten. The motion was passed unanimously.
- Georgia Fund One
 - The County Administrator explained that Georgia Fund One is an investment account available to cities and counties in Georgia to invest reserve funds into for higher interest than what banks can offer. He stated that the average interest rate is currently around 2%, which is much higher than the 0.1% being received now. He stated that the County already has an account from the hospital bond activities from 2016, but will need to approve a resolution to change the account name to transfer money to the account.
 - Chairman Daniel asked for a motion to approve the resolution. Commissioner Burten made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The motion was passed unanimously.
- EMA – Emergency Equipment
 - EMA Director Russel Riner discussed the overall plan to have 4 rescue units in the County, with the unit in Deepstep the only one needing equipment. He stated that there is demo equipment (jaws of life, cutters, etc.) that are available for purchase in the amount of \$25,331.77, while new equipment is \$31,835. He stated that all emergency equipment purchased in the past was also demo equipment. The County Administrator stated that there is funding in the EMA budget to accommodate the request.
 - Chairman Daniel asked for a motion to purchase the equipment. A motion was made by Commissioner Watkins to purchase the emergency equipment, seconded by Commissioner Burten. The motion was passed unanimously.
- Beer/Wine Application – Quick Stop
 - The County Administrator explained that the Quick Stop owner will be transferring ownership of the business to his son and, due to the ordinance on alcoholic licenses, that he will have to apply for a new license since those cannot be transferred. He stated that Mr. Patel submitted the application and will go through the investigation process, and upon a favorable report will be presented at the next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners to vote on.
- Statewide Mutual Aid Agreement
 - The County Administrator explained that this agreement is with the Georgia Emergency Management Agency to receive assistance from the State of Georgia in the event of a disaster. This agreement is also required to receive any state or federal funding related to disasters.

- Chairman Daniel asked for a motion to approve the agreement. Commissioner Hitchcock made a motion to approve the agreement, seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The motion was passed unanimously.
- Kittrell Creek Road Engineering
 - The County Administrator explained that the County's new engineering firm, Moreland-Altobelli, submitted a proposal regarding the engineering for the Kittrell Creek Road project. The proposal includes database preparation (topographical and surveys), environmental screening and permitting, and engineering and plan preparation. He stated that this would provide for a new set of plans that will save the County from having to get a pipeline owned by Thiele to be lowered and will take care of all planning and permitting with EPD regarding Kittrell Creek.
 - Chairman Daniel stated that a new engineering firm was chosen due to the experience endured with the Lamar's Creek Road project, saying that it ended up costing the County much more than projected.
 - Chairman Daniel asked for a motion to accept the proposal. Commissioner Burten made a motion to accept the proposal from Moreland-Altobelli, seconded by Commissioner Watkins. The motion was passed unanimously.

Contract Ratification – None

Chairman Comments

Meeting Adjourned

Public Comment Session

- Mr. Manzie Broxton requested that the Board of Commissioners consider naming the Sheriff's office and jail building after former Sheriff Thomas H. Smith.
- Chairman Daniel stated that would be considered by the commissioners and the public.



Horace Daniel, Chairman

Attest: 



Dustin Peebles, County Administrator/Clerk