

Baldwin County Commissioners
Regular Meeting
June 6, 2017
6:00 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Baldwin County Commissioners was held Tuesday, June 6, 2017, at 6:00 p.m., Baldwin County Courthouse, Suite 319, 121 North Wilkinson Street, Milledgeville, Georgia with Chair Sammy Hall presiding.

Members Present: Sammy Hall
Tommy French
Emily C. Davis
Henry Craig

Members Absent: John Westmoreland

Also Present: Ralph McMullen
David McRee
Dawn Hudson
Cindy Cunningham

Call to Order

Chair Sammy Hall called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Emily Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2017, Regular Meeting as submitted. Commissioner Henry Craig seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

CJCC Accountability Courts Grants

Finance Director Dawn Hudson presented two continuation grants - Family Drug Court in the amount of \$179,516, with a match of \$19,946 for a total of \$199,462; Adult Felony Drug Court with federal funds of \$214,840, match of \$23,871 for a total of \$238,711. She reported there will be no cost to the County since the match for both grants will be paid with court fines and fees.

Commissioner Emily Davis made a motion to accept the continuation grants for Family Drug Court and Adult Felony Drug Court as presented. Vice Chair Tommy French seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Bids for Generators

Finance Director Dawn Hudson reported the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security (GEMSHA) grant award was for fixed generators at six water and sewer pump/life stations. She stated the estimated funding for the project is \$274,187 in federal funds, \$36,558 in state funds and \$54,837 in local funds for a total of \$365,582. Two bids were received and opened on May 31st with the low bid from Fleming Construction in Augusta for \$470,393 and a bid of \$543,991 from Coggins Construction in Thompson. Ms. Hudson stated the low bid from Fleming in the amount of \$470,393 exceeds the estimated project cost of \$365,582 by \$104,801 and would require local matching funds of \$159,648.

Finance Director Hudson stated County Management recommends the Board reject all bids at this time and seek pricing directly from the different generator manufacturers.

Commissioner Emily Davis made a motion to accept the recommendation to reject the bids. Commissioner Henry Craig seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Operating Budget for Public Defender's Office

Finance Director Hudson presented the FY 18 Public Defender's Office Operating Budget request in the amount of \$199,994. She reported the budget period is July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 with no additional cost request for the upcoming year.

Commissioner Emily Davis made a motion to approve the FY 18 Public Defender's Operating Budget as presented. Commissioner Henry Craig seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Intergovernmental Water Contract with Jones County

County Manager Ralph McMullen presented an Intergovernmental Contract for the sale of water for the sale of water to Jones County in the case of an emergency. He stated Baldwin County will not incur any cost for this; Jones County will pay all costs associated with the project.

Chair Hall asked whether this contract could be affected by the County's contract with Sinclair Water Authority. He asked County Attorney McRee to review the SWA contract regarding the sale of water by Baldwin County to other counties.

Commissioner Henry Craig made a motion to approve the Intergovernmental Contract with Jones County subject to it not being in violation of the County's contract with Sinclair Water Authority. Commissioner Emily Davis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Personnel Handbook

County Manager McMullen reported a copy of the revised Personnel Handbook was distributed to Commissioners for their review and comment. He requested Board approval for the County Personnel Handbook.

Vice Chair Tommy French asked if County employees have had an opportunity to review the Handbook. County Manager McMullen stated a legal firm specializing in human resources and personnel was hired to review and revise the Handbook. He stated the update is to insure compliance with current personnel and labor laws. The County has updated the Handbook to clarify procedures that are currently in place and have been for many years. Finance Director Hudson stated this is being done to protect the County to be sure we are in compliance with all laws.

County Attorney David McRee stated that he, along with County Staff, met with the legal firm and reviewed the Handbook. A conference call with the firm was also held to review the document page by page.

Commissioner Henry Craig made a motion to approve the Handbook. Vice Chair Tommy French seconded the motion for discussion. After discussion, Vice Chair Tommy French requested an amendment to the motion to allow for a period of 30 days for employee input before action is taken.

Chair Hall called for a vote on the motion to allow 30 days for employee input. Commissioners voted as follows:

Aye: French, Davis

Nay: Craig, Hall

Chair Hall called for a vote on the motion to approve the County Personnel Handbook. Commissioners voted as follows:

Aye: Craig, Hall

Nay: French, Davis

The Handbook will be presented to the Board for approval at a later date.

Contract for Grant Writing Services

Finance Director Dawn Hudson presented a contract for grant writing with Allen-Smith Consulting for a 2018 Community Development Block Grant application. The County has contracted with the firm for many years for grant writing and administration. She stated the County has been very successful in obtaining grant awards for funding for much needed projects.

Commissioner Henry Craig made a motion to approve the contract for grant writing with Allen-Smith Consulting as presented. Commissioner Henry Craig seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A copy of the contract is herewith attached and made an official part of the minutes at pages _____ and _____.

Old Business

There was no old business to come before the Board.

New Business

Commissioner Emily Davis stated she has received a lot of calls from property owners regarding their tax assessment notice. Chair Hall responded the County had a revaluation to bring property values in line in order to get the digest in compliance with the Department of Revenue.

Chair Hall stated that July 4th holiday falls on the next Regular Meeting date; therefore the July 4, 2017 meeting will not be held due to the holiday. He stated a called meeting would be held if there are issues that need to come before the Board.

County Manager's Report

County Manager McMullen had no report for the Board.

Adjournment

Commissioner Emily Davis made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 6:45 p.m. Commissioner Henry Craig seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sammy Hall
Chair

Cynthia K. Cunningham
County Clerk

