

Baldwin County Commissioners
Regular Meeting
June 20, 2017
6:00 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Baldwin County Commissioners was held Tuesday, June 20, 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
John Westmoreland

Also Present: Ralph McMullen
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 Henry Craig made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2017, Work Session and Regular Meeting as submitted. Commissioner John Westmoreland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Grants and Small Business Workshop

Ms. Carolyn Dallas, Field Representative for Congressman Jody Hice, issued an invitation to Commissioners to attend the Congressman's Annual Grants and Small Business Workshop to be held Wednesday, June 21st at the Oconee Fall Line Technical College in Sandersville. She stated this is a free informational session and an opportunity to network with state and federal agencies. She stated attendees will learn strategies to grow small business, secure economic development funds and apply for federal grants.

Tax Abatement for Project Julian

Chair Sammy Hall stated this item would be removed from the Agenda since the Development Authority is not ready at this time to make their presentation.

Intergovernmental Agreement with Baldwin County Hospital Authority

Chair Hall reported a Called Meeting was held June 13th to discuss whether the County would provide financial assistance to Oconee Regional Medical Center to ensure the medical facility remains open to provide health care to the citizens of this area. Chair Hall stated the County has been working with Oconee Regional Medical Center to find means to assist during their reorganization. At that Called Meeting the Board voted to provide support in the amount of \$500,000 per year to Oconee Regional Medical Center for 10 years.

Chair Hall presented the Intergovernmental Agreement between the County and Baldwin

County Hospital Authority for the Boards consideration.

Commissioner Henry Craig made a motion to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement as presented. Commissioner John Westmoreland seconded the motion.

During discussion, Commissioner Emily C. Davis stated she did not want County needs to be compromised by committing \$500,000 per year to support the hospital. Chair Hall responded the Board would have to make a decision as to how the funds would be raised.

Chair Hall called for a vote on the motion to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with Baldwin County Hospital Authority. The motion passed unanimously.

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

21st Century Partnership

County Manager Ralph McMullen reported he was notified in writing by the 21st Century Partnership Deputy Director with a request for support in the amount of \$8,083.44. He stated the County's assessment is based on the number of personnel in the County that currently work or are retired from Robins Air Force Base. The Board has voted in previous years not to participate in funding the 21st Century Partnership.

No action was taken to provide funding in the amount of \$8,083.44 for the 21st Century Partnership.

Appointment to Board of Family and Children Services

Chair Sammy Hall stated that a vacancy will occur July 1st on the Board of the Department of Family and Services Board due to the expiration of Sheriff Bill Masee's term. Sheriff Masee has stated he would like to be considered for another term on the Board.

Commissioner Emily C. Davis made a motion to reappoint Sheriff Bill Masee for a five year term beginning on July 1, 2017 and expiring on June 30, 2022. Commissioner Henry Craig seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Communications Contract

Finance Director Dawn Hudson reported the County has held numerous meetings with representatives from Motorola, Sheriff Masee and staff, administrative staff and Commissioners regarding communication options. All parties feel the County will be better served by the purchase of an equipment switch for a radio control center for public safety rather than continuing to participate in the OARS group. The center would move the current network from the Oconee Areawide Radio System. She presented information on the Motorola Communications Contracts for a master site and upgrade in the amount of \$1,264,100 and a ten year maintenance agreement in the amount of \$856,490. Ms. Hudson stated the system will be paid for through 911 user fees and SPLOST funds approved in March. Ms. Hudson reported payments for the equipment will begin in 2018 and payments on the maintenance contract will begin after the equipment is installed.

Commissioner Emily C. Davis made a motion to approve proceeding with the Communications Project and Contracts. Commissioner Henry Craig seconded the motion for discussion.

After discussion, Vice Chair Tommy French made a motion to approve both the equipment purchase contract and maintenance contract with Motorola as presented. Commissioner Emily C. Davis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A copy of the Equipment Contract and Maintenance Contract is on file in the Commissioners' office.

Solid Waste Contract

County Manager Ralph McMullen stated the County is continuing to finalize the solid waste contract for Board approval. He stated the contract will be brought before the Board to approve once necessary revisions are made based on recommendations by Commissioners, staff and legal counsel.

Mr. McMullen stated the Commissioners addressed this issue at their June 6th Work Session at which time Finance Director Dawn Hudson reported on the cost / charge for services. The County management recommendation regarding the fee was also presented at the Work Session. The recommendation is to (1) increase the fee to \$15.00 now and by the contract CIP rate increase each year or (2) increase the fee to \$16.50 now to cover 3 years, assuming a 3% increase each year.

County Manager McMullen requested the Board authorize an increase in the fee to become effective beginning July or August at the latest.

Commissioner Emily C. Davis made a motion to make any increase effective August 1st in order for citizens to be given adequate notice of the increase. Vice Chair Tommy French seconded the motion for discussion and it passed unanimously.

After discussion, Commissioner Henry Craig made a motion to amend Commissioner Davis' motion to state that the fee for solid waste collection and disposal be increased by \$1.50 to \$15.00 per month effective August 1, 2017. Commissioner Davis accepted the amendment and the motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

There was no old business to come before the Board.

New Business

There was no new business to come before the Board

County Manager's Report

Mr. McMullen provided an update on the discount prescription drug program

Public Comment Period for Non-Agenda Items

Mr. Hudman Evans addressed the Board stating he would like for the Board to go on record that they officially support the expansion of Medicaid and a resolution be sent to governor and legislative delegation.

Adjournment

Commissioner Emily C. Davis made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 p.m. Commissioner Henry Craig seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sammy Hall
Chair

Cynthia K. Cunningham
County Clerk