

Baldwin County Commissioners
Regular Meeting
September 18, 2018
6:00 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Baldwin County Commissioners was held Tuesday, September 18, 2018, at 6:00 p.m., Baldwin County Courthouse, Suite 319, 121 North Wilkinson Street, Milledgeville, Georgia with Vice Chair John Westmoreland presiding.

Members Present: John Westmoreland
Emily C. Davis
Sammy Hall
Henry Craig

Members Absent: Tommy French

Also Present: David McRee
Carlos Tobar
Dawn Hudson
Cindy Cunningham

Call to Order

Vice Chair John Westmoreland called the September 18, 2018 Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Emily C. Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 21, 2018 Regular Meeting and August 28, 2018 Called Meeting as submitted. Commissioner Henry Craig seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Update on Georgia Military College (GMC)

Georgia Military College President Lieutenant General William Caldwell and other GMC leaders presented an update on GMC's accomplishments since their report made last year. Lieutenant Caldwell discussed the mission statement, vision and student enrollment statistics at the numerous campuses across the State, dual enrollment program, tuition costs and articulation agreements with four year colleges and universities as well as technical colleges. General Caldwell stated Georgia Military College was selected as the # 1 Community College in the State of Georgia by The Best Schools organization and the 14th Best Community College in the Nation in 2018.

Other GMC leaders who presented before the Commissioners were Jeannie Zipperer, Interim Executive Director of the Milledgeville Campus, who provided an update on the success of the Milledgeville campus, Colonel Steve Pitt, Commandant of Cadets, who discussed the GMC Corps of Cadets and the opportunities they have at GMC and Colonel Pam Grant, Principal of Prep School, who discussed the addition of the 4th and 5th grade addition, the new construction of the Prep School Annex and Jenkins Hall, as well as the different programs that have been added.

Update by Aquatics Committee

Mr. Jason Arnold, Chair of the Baldwin County Aquatics Committee, addressed the Board regarding the efforts, recommendations and requests of the Committee. On behalf of the Committee, Mr. Arnold asked Commissioners for their commitment of the pool project, support for the location of the pool at the Old State Prison property, and support for the Committee's efforts to move forward.

Commissioners stated more information must be evaluated by the Board and staff before such determinations are made on this project.

Department of Public Health

Dr. Renee Haynes, District Director of the North Central Health District, introduced herself to the Board. She expressed her appreciation for the support the County provides to the Baldwin County Health Department and offered her assistance in any way she could to be of assistance to the County.

Public Comments on Agenda Item Related to the Aquatics Center

Vice Chair Westmoreland stated he failed to allow citizens who had signed up to speak on Agenda items to speak on the Aquatics Committee Agenda Item at the time it was addressed.

Mr. Russell Martin addressed the Board regarding his concern of the County's possible commitment of such a large amount of sales tax dollars to construct an Aquatics Center, as well as committing to the annual operating expenses. He asked where the money would come from to operate the center. He asked Commissioners to thoroughly investigate all aspects of such a commitment.

Ms. Hattie Williams addressed the Board stating that if the Aquatics Center is to be located at the Old State Prison site it should be tested to be certain the site does not have contaminants in the soil, and the site is safe to be used as the location of the Aquatics Center.

Airport Project Update

Mr. Alex Ferrand presented an update on airport projects. He discussed the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) that has been updated to reflect anticipated funding and the priority of projects for the five year period 2010 – 2014. He stated the CIP will be presented to the Airport Advisory Committee October 1st for their review and comments. He requested Board approval for submission of the CIP to the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) after the review by the Airport Committee.

Mr. Ferrand presented Task Order # 3, which has been approved by GDOT, for an update of the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Plan. He stated the maximum cost for the update will be \$11,000 and will be reimbursed by DOT at 90%. The cost will be included in the Apron Construction Grant. He requested authorization for Chair French to execute Task Order # 3.

He discussed the West Apron project which has been redesigned due to estimated project costs. He requested permission for Chair French to sign Task Order # 4 in the amount of \$15,115 for redesign, restructure of bid documents, bidding and assistance with selection process. He stated DOT is in the process of reviewing the proposal and will reimburse the County as a part of the construction project. Anticipated funding of 90% is expected from GDOT.

Commissioner Henry Craig made a motion to approve submission of the Capital Improvement Plan and to approve the execution by Chair French of Task Order # 3 and # 4 as presented.

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

Procurement of Professional Services

County Manager Carlos Tobar stated the County has undergone the Procurement process for professional services by requesting statements of qualifications and proposals from engineering firms with a strong record in successfully assisting local governments with the preliminary engineering report, design and construction

administration services for projects utilizing federal funds. He stated plans are to contract with a reputable engineering firm for these services for potential 2018-2019 EDA/CDBG/EIP/RDF/GEFA/USDA/FHA projects. He stated the Procurement Process is valid for twelve months should federally funding opportunities arise, and the selected firm will assist the County in identifying possible funding sources, preparing preliminary engineering reports, designs and studies for various type projects.

County Manager Tobar made a recommendation to select the current engineering firm of Carter & Sloope for a potential USDA application for sewer improvements so that the County can proceed with the application process. He stated the current engineering firm is very familiar with the sewer improvement projects, and he feels like the firm would be the best one to proceed with this particular application.

Mr. Tobar stated a review committee will make other recommendations at a later date for grant writing / administration firms and engineering firms for other type grant applications.

Commissioner Sammy Hall made a motion to select the engineering firm of Carter & Sloope for potential 2018-2019 USDA and other projects utilizing federal funds. Commissioner Emily C. Davis seconded the motion and it 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

County Manager Carlos Tobar presented an update on his activities to include receiving letters of support from Senators Purdue and Isakson for grant applications; approval of the Multijurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan, submission of the TAP grant for a multipurpose path around the Airport and connection of Airport Road to Log Cabin Road, notification that Baldwin County was not selected to participate in the Georgia Initiative for Community Housing (GICH), his upcoming attendance of meeting to learn more about GICH and CHIP grants and land banks, presentations to various organizations on T-SPLOST, and receipt of PetSmart grant for \$750 for an adoption event at PetSmart.

Public Comment for Non-Agenda Items

Mr. Edwin Atkins addressed the Board requesting signage at the Old Prison site and requesting that SHIPO conduct radar penetrations to determine if there are any graves at the site.

Executive Session – Property Acquisition and Potential Litigation

Commissioner Sammy Hall made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session at 7:30 p.m. to discuss property acquisition and potential litigation. Commissioner Henry Craig seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Regular Meeting

Commissioner Henry Craig made a motion to reopen the Regular Meeting at 7:50 p.m. Commissioner Sammy Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Commissioner Henry Craig made a motion to adjourn the September 18, 2018, Regular Meeting at 7:55 p.m. Commissioner Sammy Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Tommy L. French
Chair

Cynthia K. Cunningham
County Clerk
