

Baldwin County Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
January 21, 2020  
6:00 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the Baldwin County Commissioners was held Tuesday, January 21, 2020, at 6:00 p.m., Baldwin County Courthouse, Suite 319, 121 North Wilkinson Street, Milledgeville, Georgia with Chair Henry Craig presiding.

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

Also Present: David McRee  
Carlos Tobar  
Dawn Hudson  
Cindy Cunningham

Call to Order

Chair Henry Craig called the January 21, 2020 Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Sammy Hall made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2020 Public Hearing and Regular Meeting as submitted. Commissioner Emily C. Davis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Report on Baldwin County Regional Airport

Airport Committee Chair Jim Wolfgang presented the following update on Airport activities:

- (1) FAA/GDOT has made changes concerning qualifications for consulting engineering firms resulting in the disqualification of our engineer, Dexter Jones.
- (2) This change creates a time urgent situation; however GDOT has approved Mr. Jones' completion of the two current projects – west ramp and Airport Layout Plan (ALP)
- (3) GDOT has also approved the County contracting directly with Wilmer Engineering, the firm previously approved in the Task Order for the Runway/Ramp Coring Project, to expedite the work needed for this year's CIP project – Runway Rehabilitation Design Project. Newly selected consultant will evaluate the surface core testing and recommend appropriate actions.
- (4) County must move forward immediately to select a new engineering firm to meet FAA/GDOT fiscal year target dates.

Mr. Wolfgang requested the following action by the Board:

- (1) Approval for the County Manager to sign a contract with Wilmer Engineering for the coring and testing as submitted by D.A. Jones for approximately \$27,500 which will be paid 100% by the County until reimbursement is applied for on the next grant at 90% reimbursement.
- (2) Acknowledge County staff will continue working with D.A. Jones to finish and close out two (2) existing contracts.

- (3) Approval for staff to expedite advertisement for new airport consultant using approved FAA/GDOT procedure and utilizing previously used documents with minor revisions and date changes.
- (4) Allow the use of same personnel positions to form the selection committee and to make a recommendation to the Airport Committee and the Board of Commissioners for first and second choice candidates for final consideration.

Commissioner Sammy Hall made a motion to authorize the County Manager to execute a contract with Wilmer Engineering for coring and testing; to work with DA Jones to complete and close out two (2) existing projects; to advertise for new airport consultant and to use the same positions for a selection committee to make a final recommendation to the Board. Vice Chair Tommy French seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### Appointment to Region 5 EMS Council

Fire Chief Victor Young recommended the appointment of Mr. Lewis Osborne, Deputy Chief of Administration/Fire Marshal, to serve on the Region 5 EMS Council to replace Deputy Chief Phil Adams who currently fills the position on the Region 5 EMS Council.

Commissioner Emily C. Davis made a motion to appoint Deputy Chief Lewis Osborne to serve as a Baldwin County representative on the Region 5 EMS Council. Commissioner Sammy Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### Appointment of District 3 Representative to Board of Tax Assessors

Commissioner Sammy Hall made a motion to appointed Ms. Patricia Baugh to serve as District 3 Representative on the Board of Tax Assessors. Commissioner Emily C. Davis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### Statewide Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement

County Manager Carlos Tobar presented the Statewide Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement with the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency (GEMA/HS) which provides the framework to support mutual assistance in managing an emergency or disaster. He stated the Agreement outlines the terms of the agreement, the responsibilities of participating parties, eligible expenses and the process for requesting reimbursement of eligible expenses.

Commissioner John Westmoreland made a motion to approve the Statewide Mutual Aid and Assistance Agreement with GEMA/HS as presented. Vice Chair Tommy French seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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

#### Ocmulgee Drug Task Force Grant Award

Assistant County Manager Dawn Hudson presented the Drug Task Force Grant Award for the period January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 in the amount of \$151,896.

Commissioner Emily C. Davis made a motion to accept the Drug Task Force Grant Award as presented. Commissioner John Westmoreland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### Hazard Mitigation Planning Grant Application

Assistant County Manager Hudson presented information on the Hazard Mitigation Planning Application. She stated the Plan must be updated periodically, and the County's full update is due in 2023. Middle Georgia Regional Commission (MG-RC) will assist the County in the update, and FEMA has planning funds for the update. The County match is \$8,000 of the

total estimated project costs of \$40,000. Board approval of the Planning Application is required along with authorization for the Chair to execute the documents.

Commissioner Emily C. Davis made a motion to approve the submission of the Hazard Mitigation Planning Application as presented and to authorize the Chair to execute the documents. Vice Chair Tommy French seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### 2020 Tax Anticipation Note (TAN)

Assistant County Manager Hudson reported the County solicited bids from lending institutions for an interest rate for the 2020 Tax Anticipation Note. Option 1 was for the full TAN amount of \$7,500,000, and Option 2 was for a line of credit of \$7,500,000 to be drawn as needed. She stated only one response was received, and Century Bank and Trust submitted an interest rate of 2.18% for a \$7,500,000 line of credit to be drawn as needed.

Ms. Pam Beer addressed the Board and asked what the interest cost of the TAN would be. She also asked why Chair Craig and Commissioner Westmoreland were not in favor of a TAN in the past; however, they were now willing to use a TAN?

Chair Craig responded a written response would be made to her.

Vice Chair Tommy French made a motion to award the line of credit of \$7,500,000 at an interest rate of 2.18% to Century Bank and Trust. Commissioner Sammy Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### Old Business

Commissioners discussed the truck parking policy. County Attorney McRee stated he had spoken to the Sheriff and would report back to the Board on this matter.

#### New Business

Chief Young discussed the fire at the Veterans Home. He stated both the County and City Fire Departments responded, and there were no injuries and no evacuation was necessary.

#### County Manager's Report

County Manager Carlos Tobar reported on various county projects to include: continuation of the West Apron project at the Airport; slopes grassed at the West Apron; update on SPLOST projects; over 3,000 water meters have now been installed and software/hardware updates have occurred; training of office staff and meter readers to be held the first week in February; review of additional information provided by ACCG for Solar Development Ordinance; met with engineer, environmentalist and GDOT regarding surveyors being on property in February and March for the bike path project in the Airport area. Mr. Tobar reported he is working with Elections and Voter Registration on new voting equipment being brought in later in the week.

#### Public Comment Period

Ms. Meridith Styer addressed the Board regarding the establishment of a safe shelter in Baldwin County to address the situation of domestic violence victims and homelessness. She asked the Board to consider who could be community partners in this effort, i.e. legal representatives, realtors, counseling and financial.

Executive Session

Commissioner Emily C. Davis made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session at 6:47 p.m. to discuss potential litigation. Commissioner John Westmoreland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Regular Meeting

Vice Chair Tommy French made a motion to reopen the Regular Meeting at 7:25 p.m. Commissioner Sammy Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Adjournment

Commissioner Sammy Hall made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:25 p.m. Vice Chair Tommy French seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Henry R. Craig  
Chair



Cynthia K. Cunningham  
County Clerk