

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
WORK SESSION
Monday, September 21, 2020

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Chairman Bill Slaughter
Vice Chairman Clay Griner
Commissioners Joyce Evans
Commissioner Scott Orenstein
Commissioner Mark Wisenbaker
Commissioner Demarcus Marshall

Chairman Slaughter called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

MINUTES

The minutes were presented for the work session of September 8, 2020 and the regular session of September 8, 2020. No changes to the minutes were requested.

APPOINTMENTS

Board of Tax Assessors (Appointing Members), County Manager, Paige Dukes, stated this is the first time in Lowndes County's history to have members of the Board of Tax Assessors appointed. Chairman Slaughter reminded the commissioners that names would need to be submitted for this board by tomorrow night's meeting.

FOR CONSIDERATION

FY2021 Joint Funding Agreement with USGS, EMA Director, Ashley Tye, presented the agreement in the amount of \$22,500.00. The stream gauge for the Little River site is \$14,200.00, and the Withlacoochee River site is \$8,300.00. Chairman Slaughter stated these stream gauges are extremely important for our citizens living in flood areas.

Acceptance of Infrastructure for Val Del Villas, County Engineer, Mike Fletcher, presented the item. Mr. Fletcher stated the County is being asked to accept all infrastructure, adding the work is substantially complete. Commissioner Marshall asked the size of the lots, Mr. Fletcher responded 10,000-15,000 square feet.

Motorola SUAll (Evergreen), 911 Director, Danny Weeks, presented the item stating this renewal agreement with Motorola SUAll (Evergreen), will allow Lowndes County to maintain a current system by providing system upgrades every two years, as well as 24/7 support.

Grant Submission Request - COVID-19 Response Grant Application, County Manager, Paige Dukes, presented the item. Mrs. Dukes stated funds are available for the Board of Elections to

receive additional amenities / equipment as a result of COVID-19. Mrs. Dukes stated staff has been working with Ms. Cox, EMA Director, Ashley Tye, HR Director, Kevin Beals and Finance Director, Stephanie Black have been involved to verify no funds will be spent without reimbursement. Chairman Slaughter stated this is extremely important due to the large upcoming election and in helping the Board of Elections to have a good election, it is also imperative to make sure funding is reimbursable. Commissioner Marshall asked regarding any relief for small businesses, Chairman Slaughter responded, he hasn't had any requests personally, for that type of grant. Commissioner Marshall stated small business owners have contacted him.

Foxborough Lift Station Pump, Utilities Director, Steve Stalvey, presented a proposal in the amount of \$41,217.60 for a new pump at the Foxborough lift station. Mr. Stalvey stated due to the age of the pumps, staff recommends a new pump be purchased from Xylem, Inc.

Land Application System (LAS) Expansion Agreement, Utilities Director, Steve Stalvey, presented the item and stated due to growth and increased flow, additional spray fields are needed at the County's Land Application System (LAS). Nutter & Associates submitted a proposal to perform this work for \$19,800.00.

Firefighter Personnel Request, County Manager, Paige Dukes, presented the item. Mrs. Dukes stated the addition of three paid full-time firefighters, one added to each shift at station 10, will provide for two apparatus to respond to each structure fire call instead of one. This will improve response time and to be able to control the fire until volunteers arrive. Commissioner Wisenbaker, asked what the amount of \$170,767.42 covered, Mrs. Dukes responded this would be for salary and benefits to add three full-time firefighters.

BID

Drainage Improvements to Brinson Lane and Oak Hill Drive, County Engineer, Mike Fletcher, presented the bid for drainage improvements to Brinson Lane and Oak Hill Drive. Mr. Fletcher stated this is needed to eliminate flooding issues as a result of paving Oak Hill Drive. JWA submitted the low bid in the amount of \$34,169.28.

Grading, Drainage, Base, and Paving of Clyattstone Road and Simpson Lane, County Engineer, Mike Fletcher, presented the item with the Scruggs Company submitting the low bid in the amount of \$1,681,770.84. Mr. Fletcher stated this project is being funded entirely by T-SPLOST. Commissioner Wisenbaker asked the length of the road, Mr. Fletcher responded 2.6 miles. Mr. Fletcher also stated paved access out of Grove Pointe will be provided which is needed for first responders. Commissioner Wisenbaker asked if county sewer was being provided, Mr. Fletcher answered no.

Clyattstone Water Main Extension, Utilities Director, Steve Stalvey, presented the item. Mr. Stalvey stated this water main extension is in conjunction with the Clyattstone paving project and will provide additional coverage.

REPORTS - County Manager

County Manager, Paige Dukes, mentioned an email from Planning and Zoning Director, Mr. J.D. Dillard regarding an annexation request from Bates Precast Concrete. Mrs. Dukes stated the County Attorney reviewed this request and if the commission would like to object to this request, then it would

need to be added to the agenda. Commissioner Wisenbaker asked regarding the agenda item related to the three firefighter personnel request, were the firefighters certified and ready to begin work, Mrs. Duker replied yes,

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Griner second. Chairman Slaughter adjourned the work session at 8:45 a.m.