

last time he heard, there was potential for the County to get something put in the road to make it stable so that they can continue to work during the process of the County taking it over and he has not heard anything regarding this situation. He went on to say that it is no longer raining, the majority of the water is gone, there is a path, and there is a good foundation for the County to bring in dirt. County Manager, Paige Dukes responded, we needed it to dry and we also needed the Commission to take official action tonight which puts us legally on that path. She further stated it was already planned for staff to go out to the area this week to take a look at what the County can do so that if there is a tremendous amount of rain again, it does not wash out all of your good work and so that you all are not stranded again. Mrs. Dukes went on to say that it will take a little time for the surveyor to prepare the plat and the attorneys to prepare the right of way deeds. Mrs. Dukes stated we can schedule a time for you all to sign the right of way deeds. Mrs. Dukes further stated there is an additional legal signature that is needed in order to be able to move forward. Mr. Kimmons thanked Mrs. Dukes and the Commission and asked about the dirt for the road and Mrs. Dukes responded, that is what staff will come out to look at this week to see what can be done.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Orenstein stated he did not know Chief Guyton very well nor does he know what his vision was for Lowndes County Fire Rescue, but he thinks that EMA Director Ashley Tye recognized that what we were doing a few years ago was not going to sustain and that we had to make changes. He further stated that he could not be more proud of the transition to Chief Green, Gary Williams, Terry Parsons, and the whole crew. Commissioner Orenstein went on to say that it seems like every day they hear more positive comments from the public and internally about what is going on under Mrs. Dukes' and Chief Green's leadership. Commissioner Orenstein added that he is proud of the group that saw the need and took it to the next level and provided the citizens what they need in our community. He also stated he could not be more proud of the direction the Fire Department is going, as well as EMA, and 911.

Chairman Slaughter stated he agrees with Commissioner Orenstein. He further stated that the direction taken to support the expansion of fire services in Lowndes County is a historical moment. Chairman Slaughter went on to say that when the Census numbers are out, you will be surprised at how much the unincorporated areas of Lowndes County are growing. He stated that it puts a lot of pressure on the Commission and staff to make sure that things are in place to support the growth and provide the services that the growth is going to call for. In addition, Chairman Slaughter stated that this is a step forward and thanked the Commission again for their decision. Commissioner Wisenbaker stated we do not ever need to forget about the tax payers. He further stated this puts a hardship on some people and he thinks that it is premature to make the decision. Commissioner Griner stated he thinks they moved in the right direction from a fire rescue standpoint.

Commissioner Griner made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Vice Chairman Evans, second. Chairman Slaughter adjourned the regular session meeting at 6:00 p.m.