

added that the ceremonies are being held at the conference center this time because the historic courthouse is not ready, but in the future, the ceremonies will be held in the historic courthouse.

Mrs. Dukes stated that last week Fire Rescue participated in active shooter training with the Sheriff's Office and EMS. Through the leadership of the Sheriff's Office, Lowndes County has a very aggressive strike team component for our public safety to respond, that would allow EMS and fire departments to work with an armed officer to be able to get victims out of an environment faster and on to medical care.

Mrs. Dukes asked Utilities Director, Steve Stalvey to provide a report on the Nanofiltration system at the Alapaha Water System that the Commission approved last year. Although staff has worked hard to get this in place, unforeseen issues with the vendor and contract arose; however, Mr. Stalvey will present plan B. Mr. Stalvey stated the Nanofiltration pilot was delivered and hooked up. They attempted to run it but the ground water in that area has issues with filtering things that are hard to filter out, not necessarily contaminants, but organics. Mr. Stalvey further stated we have come to an impasse, and the wells need some attention, such as deep cleaning and removing. Mr. Stalvey added, the unit will be sent back, the work will be done on the wells, we will regroup and then determine if we will bring that unit or another unit back. Mrs. Dukes thanked Mr. Stalvey for the report.

Mrs. Dukes called Public Information Officer, Meghan Barwick up to update the Commission on public education and marketing campaigns for Lowndes County. Mrs. Barwick stated that the media coverage has been off the charts, adding there have been at least seven stories that have been featured on the front page of the Valdosta Daily Times. Mrs. Barwick went on to say that local news outlets have been picking up our press releases and running them on their social media. Mrs. Barwick also stated that ACCG featured the Lowndes County Probation recognition in their newsletter. She then provided the Commission with statistics on Lowndes County's social media to give them an idea of how much it has skyrocketed in the last two months. Lastly, Mrs. Barwick mentioned a fun initiative that she and Community Development Director, Rachel Thrasher have worked on with the Griner Property, that they will present to the Commission soon. Mr. Dukes thanked Mrs. Barwick for the report.

Mrs. Dukes asked 911 Director, Danny Weeks to share news on CALEA. Mr. Weeks stated he and his staff had just returned from Chicago after receiving their seventh reaccreditation from CALEA. Mr. Weeks also stated they have been accredited since 2003. In addition, he mentioned that it takes the entire staff and a lot of work for this accomplishment. It helps protect the community and it helps protect the County from liability. Mrs. Dukes thanked Mr. Weeks, and Chairman Slaughter congratulated Mr. Weeks and his staff.

CITIZENS WISHING TO BE HEARD

Rebecca Beasley, 4813 Spring Brook Drive addressed the commission regarding rezoning case REZ-2022-14, which was denied at the previous Commission meeting. Mrs. Beasley believes all the information was not presented at the last meeting and she provided a survey to show what was already approved and what they want to have approved.

Benjamin Beasley, 4813 Spring Brook Drive addressed the commission regarding rezoning case REZ-2022-14, which was denied at the previous Commission meeting. Mr. Beasley does not believe that at their age, the great grandchildren are old enough to make decisions about the property, which is why they would appreciate the approval to rezone the property.