

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
REGULAR SESSION
Tuesday, November 14, 2023

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

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

Chairman Slaughter called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

INVOCATION

Commissioner Griner

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Commissioner Griner

MINUTES

The minutes were presented for the work session of October 23, 2023 and the regular session of October 24, 2023. No revisions were requested. Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Commissioner Evans second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENT

Valdosta - Lowndes County Development Authority (Joint Appointment)

County Manager, Paige Dukes, presented the appointment. Mrs. Dukes stated the seat held by Mr. John Crawford will expire January 1, 2024. This is a joint appointment by the Lowndes County Board of Commissioners and the Valdosta City Council. Mr. Crawford has expressed a desire to continue to serve. Commissioner Marshall nominated Mr. John Crawford for reappointment. There being no other nominations, Mr. John Crawford was reappointed by acclamation.

FOR CONSIDERATION

Approval of Solicitor General's VAWA Competitive Grant Application for 2024

Chairman Slaughter presented the item stating the Commission heard from Ms. Hayes with the Solicitor's Office during the work session. No further discussion took place. Commissioner Evans made a motion to approve the grant as presented to include the \$25,669.00, cash match as required, Commissioner Griner second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Cross Connection Control Plan

Utilities Director, Steve Stalvey, presented the item. Mr. Stalvey stated the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) requires Lowndes County to update our cross connection control plan. Utilities staff, in conjunction with Lovell Engineering Associates (LEA) has put together a cross connection control plan that meets Georgia EPD criteria. Also, this plan will ensure that our potable water is safe for consumption. Commissioner Marshall asked in order to activate this plan if contingency funds would be used? Chairman Slaughter answered not at this time. Commissioner Griner made a motion to approve the plan as presented, Commissioner Orenstein and Vice Chairman Wisenbaker second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

A New Addition to the Lowndes County Jail Construction

Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated the new addition for the Lowndes County Jail Construction Manager selection process began in September 2023 when staff advertised the Request for Proposals (RFP's) on the project for a Construction Manager. Mr. McLeod stated two rfp's were received and staff selected and interviewed with the selection committee. The maximum number of points to score is 630. Allstate Construction and Cauthan Construction scored 627 points and Gideon Construction scored 559 points. Commissioner Griner made a motion to approve Allstate Construction and Cauthan Construction as the Construction Manager, Commissioner Orenstein second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Code Red Service Agreement Renewal

EMA Director, Ashley Tye, presented the contract renewal in the amount of \$31,500.00. Commissioner Griner made a motion to approve the renewal agreement with Code Red as presented, Commissioner Evans second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

BID

Lowndes County 911 Bids

Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated the Lowndes County 911 project is an approved SPLOST VIII project. This project includes a new storage building, renovation of four (4) offices, and resurfacing of the existing parking lot. Staff received three bids with Chuck Smith & Son Construction submitting the low bid in the amount of \$192,780.00. Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to approve the low bidder, Chuck Smith & Son Construction in the amount of \$192,780.00, Vice Chairman Wisenbaker second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

REPORTS - County Manager

County Manager, Paige Dukes, recognized representatives with Allstate and Cauthan Construction present at the meeting tonight. Mrs. Dukes stated Moody Air Force Base was recognized by the Secretary of the Air Force, Frank Kindell for the Quiet Pines Project.

Mrs. Dukes mentioned the upcoming events:

Leadership Lowndes Youth Local Government Day is tomorrow at 11:30 a.m. in the multi-purpose room with a panel discussion.

On Friday morning at 8:30 a.m. there will be a small business Saturday proclamation with the Chamber of Commerce at the historic courthouse

Also, on Friday at 12:30 p.m. there will be a ribbon cutting at South Georgia Medical Center for a Women's Health Initiative.

On Wednesday, November 22nd beginning at 6:30 a.m., the annual Thanksgiving for Thousands food distribution, hosted by Second Harvest, will be held at Valdosta High School.

Mrs. Dukes stated on behalf of staff, we are thankful for the Commission's leadership, clear direction and vision. Chairman Slaughter thanked Mrs. Dukes and staff for representing Lowndes County and for serving the citizens of this community.

CITIZENS WISHING TO BE HEARD - There were no citizens wishing to be heard.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Vice Chairman Wisenbaker second. Chairman Slaughter adjourned the regular session meeting at 5:42 p.m.