

acclamation. Commissioner Evans nominated Ms. Sandra Jones for a four-year term ending December 31, 2027. There being no other nominations, Ms. Sandra Jones was appointed by acclamation. Mrs. Dukes stated the appointees would need to report to the Clerk of Court's Office at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, January 10, 2024, to be sworn in.

FOR CONSIDERATION

2024 Georgia Department of Transportation Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant (LMIG) Application

Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated as a part of the Georgia Department of Transportation Local Maintenance and Improvement (LMIG) Grant Program, Lowndes County has been allocated \$1,337,694.10 for fiscal year 2024. Additionally, Mr. McLeod stated Lowndes County would be responsible for a minimum ten percent match in local funding. Vice Chairman Marshall made a motion to approve the grant application as presented, Commissioner Orenstein second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Arglass Road Extension - Engineer Selection

Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated the ValdostaLowndes County Development Authority (VLDA) will be requesting an EIP Grant to extend Arglass Road. The grant request will come at a later date as a request to Lowndes County to be the applicant. Mr. McLeod stated Lowndes County has to procure an engineer and a RFP for engineers was solicited with three bids being received. Lovell Engineering Associates, PC receiving a score of 67, Carter and Sloope Consulting Engineers received a score of 64 and AE Engineering, Inc. received a score of 58. Based on the scoring criteria, staff recommends Lovell Engineering Associates, PC to be approved as the Professional Engineer. Commissioner Orenstein asked if Lovell Engineering Associates was the Professional Engineer (PE) for the original Arglass project? Mr. McLeod answered yes, for the road. Commissioner Griner made a motion to approve Lovell Engineering Associates, PC as the Professional Engineer, Commissioner Wisenbaker second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Hazard Mitigation Planning Grant Application

EMA Director, Ashley Tye, presented the item. Mr. Tye stated this is a request for approval to submit the hazard mitigation planning grant application, which will allow us to acquire funding for the upcoming update. Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to approve the grant application as presented, Commissioner Evans second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

2024 Public Defender Contracts

Chairman Slaughter presented the item stating the Commission heard from the County Manager, Paige Dukes, during the work session and the contract hasn't changed. Vice Chairman Marshall made a motion to approve the contract as presented, Commissioner Wisenbaker second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Approval of Solicitor General's FY24 VOCA Grant Award

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 with a not to exceed cash match amount of \$33,232.00, Commissioner Orenstein second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.