

**APPLING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
CALLED MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, February 6th, 2024 @ 3:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME/INVOCATION/PLEDGE

The Appling County Board of Commissioners held the regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 6th, 2024 at 3:00 P.M. in the Courthouse Annex.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Leslie Burch and he welcomed all those in attendance.

Commissioner Doug Harris gave the invocation and Commissioner Daryl Edwards led the group in the pledge.

Present were Chairman Leslie Burch; Commissioners Randy Sellers, Theodore Wilkerson, Daryl Edwards, Doug Harris and Charlie Leggett. Also, present were County Manager Al Meadows, County Attorney Tracy Brown and Personnel Clerk Yvonne Sellers.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Doug Harris made a motion to approve the agenda, Commissioner Randy Sellers seconded; unanimously approval.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Review status of remaining 2018 SPLOST Projects

County Manager Al Meadows stated the reason for this meeting is to discuss and make recommendations for the funds remaining in the 2018 SPLOST Fund.

The outstanding projects include:

1. Appling County Roads and Infrastructure
2. Construction of a new County Shop/Road Department Facility
3. Appling County and Baxley Fire Departments
4. Heritage Center repairs
5. Agriculture Facility

Commissioners Sellers recommended to complete Piney Bluff Road paving project.

After discussion on the projects the board approved to move forward on the road projects including Piney Bluff Road, Old Field Cemetery Road and Cray Road.

Linton Deloach, Fire Chief, has a comprehensive plan for the remainder of the funds.

The repairs for the Heritage Center should be complete this calendar year.

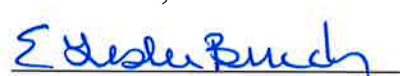
With regards to installing bleachers at the Young Farmers' Tractor-Pull area, County Manager and Ms. Marchant are to meet on February 7th to discuss seating capacity for total seats.

There being no further discussion, Chairman Leslie adjourned the meeting at 4:00 P.M.

Yvonne Sellers, Personnel Clerk



Leslie Burch, Chairman



**APPLING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
February 6th, 2024 @ 5:30 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME/INVOCATION/PLEDGE

The Appling County Board of Commissioners held the regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 6th, 2024 at 5:30 PM in the Courthouse Annex.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Leslie Burch and he welcomed all those in attendance.

Linton DeLoach gave the invocation and Jamie Gardner, Baxley News Banner, led the group in the pledge.

Present were Chairman Leslie Burch; Vice Chairman Charlie Leggett; Commissioners Randy Sellers, Theodore Wilkerson, Daryl Edwards and Doug Harris. Also, present were County Manager Al Meadows, County Attorney Tracy Brown and County Clerk Robyn Evans.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve the agenda; Vice Chairman Leggett seconded; unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Regular Monthly Meeting - January 9th, 2024

Commissioner Harris made a motion to approve these minutes; Commissioner Wilkerson seconded; unanimously approved.

B. Called Meeting/Work Session – January 25th, 2024

Commissioner Harris made a motion to approve these minutes; Commissioner Edwards seconded; unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Award Bid for 2024 CDBG Engineering Consulting

County Manager Meadows shared the following: “The HOGARC is required to advertise for civil engineering services associated with the preliminary engineering for the Appling County Community Development Block Grant we are in the process of applying for. The HOGARC received proposals from two firms for the Engineering, Design, Project Management, and Construction Oversight. Both have met the qualifications set forth by the HOGARC.” They are as follows: Hofstadter & Associates – 9-12% of overall construction costs and Roberts Civil Eng. – Not to exceed 11% of construction costs. Vice Chairman Leggett made a motion to approve a bid award to Hofstadter; Commissioner Sellers seconded; unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Contract Approval for 2024 CDBG Professional Management Services w/HOGARC

County Manager Meadows shared the following: “The HOGARC wishes to enter into a contract with Appling County in order to implement the CDBG. This contract describes certain services in connection with the preparation of a grant application and grant administration. Mr. Chairman, I would like to recommend a vote to accept the agreement with the HOGARC to render services in connection with the preparation of the grant application and grant administration.” Commissioner Wilkerson made a motion to approve; Commissioner Edwards seconded; unanimously approved.

B. Contract Approval for 2024 SPLOST Consulting w/Robert's Civil Engineering (RCE)
Roberts Eng. presented their proposal for civil engineering services associated with administration of the completion of the 2024 SPLOST projects for Appling County. Commissioner Edwards made a motion to approve this contract; Vice Chairman Leggett seconded; unanimously approved.

C. Lease Amendment Approval to Renew Appling Co. USDA Service Center Agreement
County Manager Meadows shared with the board that he'd spoken to Ben Rose, the USDA District representative, prior to this meeting. He was notified today that the USDA is moving forward on the construction of a new building in Appling County. The original lease was for five (5) years. He will discuss this new information with his board and will ask for a new lease to be drawn up and I will present at our next scheduled meeting. Manager Meadows suggested the Board table this item until further communication is received. A motion to table this item was given by Commissioner Edwards; seconded by Commissioner Harris; unanimously approved.

D. Resolution Approval to Amend and Add 457 Deferred Compensation Plan Option
ACCG now offers a Roth option for employees' retirement planning. The Roth Contribution Account, under a 457 Deferred Compensation Plan, holds after tax contributions plus earnings in an account for the employee. It then allows the employee to receive the accumulated earnings tax free. This will enhance the current retirement plan offering, may increase participation, and is at no cost to the county. Commissioner Harris made a motion to amend the current plan and add this option; Commissioner Edwards seconded; unanimously approved.

E. Request from Appling Co. Sheriff's Office regarding Sale of Timber
Sheriff Mark Melton requested the land behind the Sheriff's Office be cleared and to utilize the funds collected from the timber to be used to secure fencing around the property. Sheriff Melton stated that he'd spoken to Jerome Murray and that a canal would need a pipe for access. The six (6) acre price would be about \$10,000. He stated that fencing would need to be around 7-8 acres because the area really needs to be secured – there's evidence there like vehicles and folks can walk up to the jail as it is now. He also shared that adjoining land owners were clearing their land and the Sheriff's Office will be even more visible. Vice Chairman Leggett stated he's willing to donate his section of this land to the county to have timber cut and proceeds included toward this project. No estimates for fencing have been completed but Sheriff Melton will get quotes for the bob-wire, chain link fencing.

County Attorney Tracy Brown suggested that sealed bids be completed instead of quotes. Commissioner Harris made a motion to let bids for approximately 6 acres of timber to be cut and sales be applied to fencing project; Commissioner Wilkerson seconded; unanimously approved.

Commissioner Harris made a motion to let bids for area on the northside of the Sheriff's Office; Vice Chairman Leggett seconded; unanimously approved.

F. Approval of Agreement/Elevator Repair Order and Costs
County Manager Meadows shared that the Otis Elevator Company maintains servicing and repair of the two elevators, Courthouse and Annex. "We have received two Service and Repair orders from Otis to complete modifications to comply with the ASME 17.3 2020 Door Monitoring Code. These door lock modifications will prevent elevators from leaving the floor with their doors open due to accidentally or intentionally bypassed door circuits. The price for these service orders is \$15,156, per elevator, for a grand total of \$30,312." Commissioner Harris made a motion to accept the contracts for repair; Vice Chairman Leggett seconded; unanimously approved.

G. Approval of Payment for Reforestation – Rowland Land Clearing, Inc.

Rowland Land Clearing has completed the land preparation and planting of slash pine seedlings on county owned property located on US#1 South. The total acreage was 230; however, only 215 acres were suitable for planting. The remaining 15 acres consist of a large pit well and several canals that serve as drainage for the area. County Manager Meadows stated, "Rowland Land Clearing outfit has a great reputation in South GA, and they did a good job for the county." Vice Chairman Leggett made a motion to approve this invoice for payment; Commissioner Harris seconded; unanimously approved.

PUBLIC INPUT

There was no public input at this meeting.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE – Mark Melton

Given above with request.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Dwight Watts

No report was given at this meeting.

RECREATION – Timmy McGuirt

No report was given at this meeting.

ROADS & BRIDGES – Carroll Weaver

Mr. Weaver shared various updates for the department: flipping/building up shoulders has begun; ditch work is being completed on some roads – trying to hit the roads that will be part of near future contract work. Mr. Weaver stated they are restocking the dirt kept on yard. Vice Chairman Leggett asked if any pits have been dug lately for the dirt and Mr. Weaver stated not in the last five years.

LANDFILL – Robert Eunice

Mr. Eunice shared statistics for the landfill for various collections including scrap metal, non-construction and demolition waste and stated the landfill is estimated to be at max capacity by 2062 if the current rate of collection remains the same. He stated they are getting estimates for a well, for water to wash and maintain equipment. He also applied for another tire collection grant.

Vice Chairman Leggett made a motion to close the regular meeting session in order to enter executive session; Commissioner Harris seconded; unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Personnel
- B. Sale/Acquisition of Real Estate

Vice Commissioner Leggett made a motion to close executive in order to re-enter the regular meeting; Commissioner Sellers seconded; unanimously approved.

Vice Chairman Leggett made a motion to sell approximate 1.5 acres on Zoar Road (used to be the old dumpsite where receptacles were kept); Commissioner Sellers seconded; unanimously approved.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

County Manager Meadows shared that Brooks Johnson tendered his resignation as the Public Works Director for Appling County on January 19, 2024; Carrol Weaver was appointed to act as Interim Public Works Director. The job vacancy has been posted internally until February 16th, 2024.

County Manager also shared that the second 2023 Motor Grader arrived yesterday; it's getting the radio and safety equipment installed and will be on the road within a week.

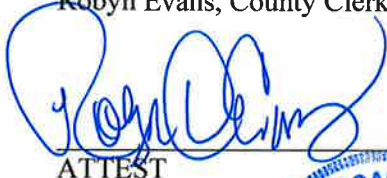
CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Chairman Burch thanked everyone for attending.

ADJOURN

There being no further business or discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Robyn Evans, County Clerk



ATTEST

Leslie Burch, Chairman

