

DOUGHERTY COUNTY COMMISSION  
WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES

DRAFT

February 28, 2022

The Dougherty County Commission met in Room 100 of the Albany-Dougherty Government Center on February 28, 2022. Chairman Christopher Cohilas presided and called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Present [in the Chamber] were Commissioners Victor Edwards, Gloria Gaines, Russell Gray, Clinton Johnson, Anthony Jones and Ed Newsome. Also participating in the Chamber were Assistant County Administrator Scott Addison, County Attorney Spencer Lee, County Clerk Jawahn Ware, and other staff. County Administrator Michael McCoy participated via the audio-conferencing feature. The public and representatives of the media participated in person via live streaming of the meeting on the County's Facebook page and the government public access channel.

The Chairman asked the Commission to review the minutes of the February 4th County Retreat, February 7th Regular Meeting, February 14th Work Session and February 14th Special Called Meeting.

The Chairman recognized Public Works Director Chuck Mathis to update the Commission with their annual report via a video presentation. Mr. Mathis highlighted accomplishments and noted that there is a 76% turnover in the department.

The Chairman called for a discussion to purchase a commercial washer and dryer for the Jail from single source vendor Commercial Coin and Laundry (Gulf Breeze, FL) in the amount of \$36,130.75. The recommendation is to purchase the equipment using the same vendor for past purchases. Funding is budgeted in SPLOST VI- Jail Facility Equipment. Assistant County Administrator Scott Addison addressed. Chief Jailer John Ostrander was present.

The Chairman called for a discussion to approve the alcohol application from Big E's Country Store LLC, Alpeshkumar Patel licensee, dba Big E's Country Store, at 2100 Cordele Road for Package- Beer and Package - Wine. The Albany-Dougherty Marshal's Office recommended approval. County Clerk Jawahn Ware addressed.

The Chairman called for a discussion to consider funding the proposed Priority 3 project for the Albany Rescue Mission (Facility Roof Improvement) in the amount of \$50,000 in the current FY22 ARPA Budget (Priority 1 & 2 projects only). County Administrator Michael McCoy and CORE Group of GA Consultant LaToya Cutts addressed. Ms. Cutts shared the qualifications to assist the organization. Mr. McCoy added that implementation will occur after a grant administrator is hired. After questions and concerns were posed, Chairman Cohilas requested that more research be done on the CDBG grant and for a future conversation with the Rescue Mission to occur. There was a discussion on how to expand the consulting services of Ms. Cutts to assist in expediting the process.

The Chairman called to review the resolution providing for the filing of a County Nuisance Abatement Petition relative to properties located at 2806 Barnaby Drive, 2510 Big Oak Court, 309 Pryor Street and 2604 Banks Avenue. County Attorney Spencer Lee addressed. Attorney Lee provided an update on the foreclosure of other properties and the process taken prior to discussing the current petitions. Mr. Forgey also addressed the concerns of Commissioner Gaines.

Commissioners Gaines would like for a discussion to be placed on our agenda referencing the feasibility of having mandatory pre-bids. Chairman Cohilas said he will place it on a future work session. Commissioner Gray asked that individuals help Keep Albany Dougherty Beautiful, especially during the Snickers Marathon this weekend. He also shared and sent condolences to Mr. McCoy for the passing of his father.

There being no further business to discuss the Commission the meeting adjourned at 11:01 a.m.

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CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

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COUNTY CLERK