

DOUGHERTY COUNTY COMMISSION

DRAFT

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

April 3, 2023

The Dougherty County Commission met in Room 100 of the Albany-Dougherty Government Center on April 3, 2023. Chairman Lorenzo Heard presided and called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Present were Commissioners Victor Edwards, Gloria Gaines, Russell Gray, Clinton Johnson and Ed Newsome. Also present were County Administrator Michael McCoy, County Clerk Jawahn Ware, and other staff. County Attorney Alex Shalishali participated via teleconference. The public and representatives of the media participated in person and via live streaming of the meeting on the County's Facebook page and the government public access channel. Commissioner Anthony Jones was absent.

After the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance by the Chairman, he called for approval of the minutes for the March 6th Regular Meeting and March 13th Work Session.

Commissioner Johnson moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Newsome, the minutes were unanimously approved.

The Chairman recognized Ga Department of Community Affairs, Project Manager Joshua Norris and Community Development Block Grant- Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Program Manager Kathy Tremblay to provide an update on the CDBG-DR Homeowner Rehabilitation Program. It was shared that the State receive \$13 million in grant funds for homes that were damaged by Hurricane Michael. The application process can be completed online or with a case manager. It is projected that construction will begin in the summer of 2023. The most impacted and distressed counties are Dougherty, Seminole and Decatur. The plans include expanding 80% of funds in these areas with 70% of funds being utilized for households considered low to moderate income based on area median income. Ms. Trembley clarified for Commissioner Edwards that there must be two separate procurement processes for the 2017 and 2018 storms. Ideally, contractors will show interest and qualify for both programs. She also replied to Commissioner Gray by saying that they are always receptive to obtaining data. She mentioned that if there was a need for rental assistance in the 2018 program, the request can be reviewed. It was shared that rental assistance was provided within the 2017 grants and the Board requested that the citizens in Dougherty County be better informed.

The Chairman read the proclamation by the Dougherty County Board of Commissioners commemorating April as National Counties Month. County Administrator Michael McCoy and Public Information Officer Wendy Howell were present to share the county's upcoming initiatives. Mr. McCoy shared that this is an initiative of NACo and ACCG. Ms. Howell mentioned that the engagement was planned to be conducted via social media. The national

theme is “Counties Rise!” and Mr. McCoy said that a banner will be placed at the government center. Based upon a question from Commissioner Jones, Ms. Howell said that she has marketing funds that could help with recruiting efforts and highlighting employees and Commissioners. The proclamation reads as follows:

**A PROCLAMATION
BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY,
GEORGIA DECLARING APRIL 2023 NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT
MONTH**

"COUNTIES RISE!"

WHEREAS, the nation’s 3,069 counties serving more than 330 million Americans provide essential services to create healthy, safe and vibrant communities; and

WHEREAS, counties fulfill a vast range of responsibilities and deliver services that touch nearly every aspect of our residents’ lives; and

WHEREAS, Dougherty County, Georgia and all counties take pride in our responsibility to protect and enhance the health, well-being and safety of our residents in efficient and cost-effective ways; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of the National Association of Counties President, Denise Winfrey, NACo is highlighting how “Counties RISE!,” demonstrating exemplary Resiliency, Inclusion, Solvency, and Empowerment; and

WHEREAS, each year since 1991 the National Association of Counties has encouraged counties across the country to elevate awareness of county responsibilities, programs and services; and

WHEREAS, Dougherty County, Georgia remains committed to its mission of improving the quality of life for all citizens by being accessible and good stewards of our resources, while delivering cost-effective, responsive services with integrity, fairness and friendliness.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Commissioners of Dougherty County, Georgia does hereby proclaim April 2023 as National County Government Month and encourage all county officials, employees, schools and residents to participate in county government celebration activities.

This the 3rd day of April, 2023.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA

BY: _____
LORENZO L. HEARD, Chairman
Dougherty County Commission

The Chairman called for consideration to purchase playground equipment for Robert Cross Park from the lowest quoted vendor Playworld Preferred (Lewisburg, PA) in the amount of \$70,921. Funding is budgeted in ARPA.

Commissioner Johnson moved for approval. Commissioner Gray seconded the motion. Under discussion, Mr. Mathis answered the questions by Commissioner Edwards in reference to the disposal of old equipment. There being no further discussion, the motion for approval passed unanimously.

The Chairman called for consideration to purchase a 25-gallon electric tilting kettle for the kitchen at the Jail from the lowest quoted vendor, Hobart Sales & Service (Albany, GA) in the amount of \$21,222.83. Funding is budgeted in the General Fund.

Commissioner Johnson moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Gray, the motion for approval passed unanimously.

The Chairman called for consideration to purchase two 2023 F-550 Cab & Chassis with Ambulance Prep Package and Patient Module from state contract vendor Wade Ford for the EMS Department in the amount of \$208,724 each for a total expenditure of \$417,448. Funding is budgeted in SPLOST VII.

Commissioner Johnson moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Newsome, the motion for approval passed unanimously.

The Chairman called for consideration to rescind the purchase of one 2020 Freightliner 114 SD in the amount of \$109,027 to Four Star Freightliner (Montgomery, Al). The initial award of \$173,277 for the freightliner and 2021 Polar SRX 800-1 Tank Trailer for Solid Waste was approved in the February 15, 2021 Regular Meeting.

Commissioner Johnson moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Gray, the motion for approval passed unanimously.

The Chairman called for consideration to purchase one 2024 Peterbilt 567 Daycab from the Sourcewell Contract vendor Peterbilt of Atlanta (Jackson, GA) for the Solid Waste Department in the amount of \$168,733. Funding is budgeted in Solid Waste Capital Outlay.

Commissioner Johnson moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Gray, the motion for approval passed unanimously.

The Chairman called for consideration to purchase and install elevator controllers for the Jail from a service provider, Albany Elevator Service (Albany, GA) in the amount of \$42,400. Funding is budgeted in SPLOST VI. County Administrator Michael McCoy addressed. Chief Jailer John Ostrander was present. Mr. McCoy recommended approval.

Commissioner Gray moved for approval. Commissioner Newsome seconded the motion. Under discussion, Mr. McCoy shared upon a question by Commissioner Gaines that this is an emergency repair and it was not listed in the Work Session. He added that the elevator was out of code compliance and not operational. Chief Ostrander addressed technical questions. There being no further discussion, the motion for approval passed unanimously.

The Chairman called for consideration of the resolution declaring the listed cellular phones as surplus and authorizing the sale through Firefly IT Asset Recovery, Inc.

Commissioner Johnson moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Gray, the motion for approval passed unanimously. Resolution 23-019 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION
ENTITLED
A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE ATTACHED LIST OF
CELLULAR PHONES AS SURPLUS AND AUTHORIZING THE
SALE THEREOF THROUGH FIREFLY IT ASSET RECOVERY,
INC.; REPEALING PRIOR RESOLUTIONS
IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

The Chairman called for consideration of the recommendation from the Juvenile Court to apply for a Criminal Justice Incentive Grant Program in the amount of \$450,000 for Functional Family Therapy use. This is an annual request for the 100% grant with no local match. Juvenile Court Clerk Tequilla Woods was present. Mr. McCoy shared that this is administrative housekeeping.

Commissioner Johnson moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Gray, the motion for approval passed unanimously.

Commissioner Newsome recognized the Easter holiday and Mr. McCoy answered a question by Commissioner Edwards relative to an update on the summer internship program. It was noted that an update will be in the next Work Session. Commissioner Johnson recognized

former state representative Winfred Dukes. Commissioner Gaines asked about the budget hearings and the status of the District Attorney appearance and Mr. McCoy addressed. Chairman Heard acknowledged the presence of Winfred Dukes and his [personal] family.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

COUNTY CLERK