

DOUGHERTY COUNTY COMMISSION

DRAFT

WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES

August 28, 2023

The Dougherty County Commission met in Room 100 of the Albany-Dougherty Government Center on August 28, 2023 immediately following the Special Called Meeting. Chairman Lorenzo Heard presided and called the meeting to order at 10:11 a.m. Present were Commissioners Victor Edwards, Gloria Gaines, Clinton Johnson, Anthony Jones and Ed Newsome. County Attorney Alex Shalishali participated via teleconference. Also present were Assistant County Administrator Barry Brooks, Deputy County Clerk Bristeria Hope and other staff. 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 Russell Gray was absent.

After the roll call and the invocation, Chairman Heard asked the Commission to review the minutes of the August 7th Regular Meeting, August 14th Work Session and August 14th Special Called Meeting.

The Chairman called for a recommendation to accept the bid for the Tax and Tag Office Renovation in the amount of \$216,366 from the lowest responsive and responsible bidder meeting specifications, JVS Associates (Albany, GA). The qualified bids were received with the highest being \$274,916. Funding is budgeted in SPLOST VI and VII. Assistant County Administrator Barry Brooks was present. City of Albany Buyer Ricky Gladney and Facilities Management Director Heidi Hailey addressed. Ms. Hailey shared that they will be renovating the floors and lights and planned on providing an electrical modification for the employees. Upon a question from Commissioner Edwards, Ms. Hailey clarified that no minorities applied out of the five bids that were received. Mr. Gladney explained the bid process and shared that a bid conference was held. Commissioner Johnson asked if we could have an officer monitor the Tax and Tag area. Mr. Brooks said that he would look at the security arrangements for the Government and Tax & Tag buildings. A proposal will be coming, and he shared that he has reached out to the Sheriff's Office for assistance. Due to the majority of homeless citizens, there was an ask to provide upgraded cameras in the County buildings. Commissioner Jones suggested securing Mrs. Buckley's area and Mr. Brooks said that he would work with the City of Albany on a cost share.

The Chairman called for a recommendation to purchase six 4RE in-car video camera systems from the single source vendor Motorola Solutions (Allen, TX) in the amount of \$41,972.40. This quote includes the in-car camera system, microphone bundle kits, unlimited data/cloud storage, and programming. The vendor provides in-car video camera systems for local public safety offices and the in-car cameras will be placed in the new fleet of patrol vehicles. Funding is budgeted in the Special Services District Fund. Assistant County Administrator Barry Brooks addressed. Assistant Chief Tateshea Irving was present. Commissioner Johnson asked for a running inventory and wanted to discuss potentially combining more units at one time for the Sheriff's Office and Dougherty County Police Department to ideally obtain discount pricing on equipment.

The Chairman called for a recommendation to accept the annual resolution authorizing the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission (SWGRC) to execute and file the renewal of the annual application on behalf of Dougherty County with the Georgia Department of Transportation and the United States Department of Transportation for a grant for public transportation assistance under Section 5311 Regional Transit Program. Assistant County Administrator Barry Brooks addressed. Commissioner Edwards said that he would like to see a list of how many homes had been built in Dougherty County. Commissioner Jones shared that the information can be obtained by Executive Director Suzanne Angell and asked that SWGRC provide an annual update to the Commission.

The Chairman called for a recommendation to declare the listed equipment and vehicles as surplus and authorize the disposal of or sale of same via an online auction. Assistant County Administrator Barry Brooks addressed.

Commissioner Edwards wanted an overview from the Public Works subcommittee meeting. Commissioner Newsome shared that the revised adoption will be presented to the full Commission. Commissioner Johnson wanted a lighting survey done in his district and shared concerns about the curb and gutter issues. He wanted SWGRC to apply for an additional \$600,000 CHIP grant that could help with housing, planning, and new construction. Commissioner Gaines shared concerns relative to the contractor (iVueit) who did surveys in the residential areas. She wanted a policy to be considered for those individuals to have something to identify them as Dougherty County employees. Mr. Brooks shared an update regarding this concern and said that a policy should be put together for future reference. Commissioner Jones wanted to make sure that the citizens were educated in advance on the iVueit process. He wanted to have a moment of silence for the shooting that took place in Jacksonville, Florida where individuals lost their lives. Commissioner Johnson asked about the plans from the emergency management relative to the upcoming storm.

There being no further business to discuss the Commission the meeting adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

COUNTY CLERK