

DOUGHERTY COUNTY COMMISSION  
WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES

DRAFT

March 28, 2022

The Dougherty County Commission met in Room 100 of the Albany-Dougherty Government Center on March 28, 2022. Chairman Christopher Cohilas presided and called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Present were Commissioners Victor Edwards, Russell Gray, Clinton Johnson, Anthony Jones and Ed Newsome. Also participating in the Chamber were County Administrator Michael McCoy, Assistant County Administrator Scott Addison, County Attorney Spencer Lee and other staff. 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. Commissioner Gloria Gaines was absent.

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

County Clerk Jawahn Ware entered the meeting at 10:06 a.m. after attending jury duty.

The Chairman recognized Flint River Fresh, Executive Director Fredando Jackson to update the Commission with their annual report.

The Chairman recognized Facilities Management Director Heidi Minnick to update the Commission with their annual report. Mrs. Minnick stated that she manages 27 staff and 1.3 million square feet of space. She added that her turnover rate is 14% and highlighted projects and the staff.

The Chairman called for a discussion to purchase six pursuit utility vehicles from Wade Ford (Smyrna, GA) in the amount of \$33,667.80 each for a total expenditure of \$202,006.80. Three vendors submitted bids with two meeting specifications and the highest bid received was \$207,505.32. Funding is budgeted in SPLOST VII. Assistant County Administrator Scott Addison addressed. Dougherty County Police Chief Kenneth Johnson and City of Albany Buyer Corey Gamble were present. Upon question by Commissioner Johnson, the cost between vendors were shared.

The Chairman called for a discussion to purchase fifty mobile radios for DCP from single source vendor Motorola Solutions (Albany, GA) in the amount of \$278,647.81. Parts are no longer available to repair aged inventory. Funding is available in the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Assistant County Administrator Scott Addison addressed. DCP Chief Kenneth Johnson was present. The last purchase for DCP was only for portable radios and Commissioner Johnson asked for a total of all radios purchased in this cycle. Mr. Addison shared that the number will be provided but the County is being proactive to use ARPA funding to update all equipment now.

The Chairman called for a discussion to purchase two 2022 F-350 Cab & Chassis with an Ambulance Prep Package and Patient Module from Wade Ford (Smyrna, GA) in the amount of \$158,289 each for a total expenditure of \$316,578. The purchase will be made from the State of Georgia Contract. Funding will be provided by SPLOST VII. Assistant County Administrator Scott Addison addressed. EMS Director Sam Allen and City of Albany Buyer Corey Gamble were present. Mr. Addison said that EMS is asking for this purchase now because the lead time may be greater, and the last purchase took approximately a year to receive.

The Chairman called for a discussion to accept the bid for the carpet/cove base replacement for the Dougherty County Health Department from Continental Flooring Company (Scottsdale, AZ) in the amount of \$326,900. Three vendors submitted bids with the highest base bid received was \$403,500. Funding is budgeted in SPLOST VII. Assistant County Administrator Scott Addison addressed. Facilities Management Director Heidi Minnick and City of Albany Buyer Kimberly Allen were present. Mr. Addison shared that this is the next phase of the DHS requests. Commissioner Gray answered questions for Commissioner Jones and Mrs. Minnick answered questions for Commissioner Edwards.

The Chairman called for a discussion to accept the quote to replace the air handler unit for the Dougherty County Health Department from RHC HVAC (Albany, Ga) in the amount of \$56,955.37. Three vendors submitted quotes with the highest bid received is \$74,514.30. Funding is budgeted in SPLOST VII. Assistant County Administrator Scott Addison addressed. Facilities Management Director Heidi Minnick was present. Commissioner Johnson asked for the budget for the DHS upgrades.

The Chairman called for a discussion to accept the proposal for Dougherty County's On-Site Medical Services from CareATC (Tulsa, Oklahoma) in the amount of \$492,863.89. Eight vendors submitted proposals. The recommendation is for a one-year firm price contract with three options to renew for an additional one-year term. The proposed cost for year two is \$514,170.39 and for year three is \$534,150.10. Funding is available in the General Fund. Assistant County Administrator Scott Addison addressed. Human Resources Director Dominique Hall and City of Albany Interim Procurement Manager Joshua Williams were present. Mr. Addison said that this was for the operation of the Dougherty County Health Clinic.

The Chairman called for a recommendation from the Finance Committee to reinstate the 401 (a) Defined Contribution Plan. Finance Committee Chairman Ed Newsome and ACCG Retirement Services Regional Client Manager Ron Rowe addressed. Consultant Ed Wall and Finance Director Martha Hendley were present. Currently, only two employees are on the plan which are former County Administrator Richard Crowdis and former ADDU Commander William Berry. This request will not cost the County any money. The reinstatement will allow future employees to be added when needed, if desired. The County does not have the mandate to fund the plan, but this is a tool that allows the County to attract and retain senior management. It was shared that there are IRS regulations that are required for reinstatement typically every 5-7 years. The renewal will have zero employees and positions listed. Commissioner Edwards requested there be a plan to attract lower classifications. Mr. Rowe

said there are plans available and Chairman Cohilas and Commissioner Newsome discussed the funded defined plan for employees.

Commissioner Edwards asked Mr. McCoy to discuss the concern for GED/diploma for employment. Mr. McCoy said that the barrier for laborers only has been removed administratively as a minimum qualification. Chairman Cohilas gave an update on the tennis center and potential joint projects with the City and asked Mr. McCoy to also work in with resourceful individuals.

There being no further business to discuss the Commission the meeting adjourned at 10:57 a.m.

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CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

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COUNTY CLERK