

DOUGHERTY COUNTY COMMISSION

DRAFT

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

May 16, 2022

The Dougherty County Commission met in Room 100 of the Albany-Dougherty Government Center on May 16, 2022. Chairman Christopher Cohilas presided and called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. Present were Commissioners Victor Edwards, Gloria Gaines, Clinton Johnson, Anthony Jones, and Ed Newsome. Also present were County Administrator Michael McCoy, Assistant County Administrator Scott Addison, County Attorney Spencer Lee, County Clerk Jawahn Ware, and other staff. Commissioner Russell Gray participated via the audio-conferencing feature. 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.

After the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance, the Chairman called for approval of the minutes for the April 18th Regular Meeting and April 25th Work Session.

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

The Chairman recognized Public Works Director Chuck Mathis to accept the proclamation recognizing May 15-21, 2022 as Public Works Week in Dougherty County. The proclamation reads as follows:

National Public Works Week Proclamation

May 15 – 21, 2022

“Ready and Resilient”

WHEREAS, public works professionals focus on infrastructure, facilities and services that are of vital importance to sustainable and resilient communities and to the public health, high quality of life and well-being of the people of Dougherty County, Albany, GA; and,

WHEREAS, these infrastructure, facilities and services could not be provided without the dedicated efforts of public works professionals, who are engineers, managers, and employees at all levels of government and the private sector, who are responsible for

rebuilding, improving, and protecting our nation's transportation, water supply, water treatment and solid waste systems, public buildings, and other structures and facilities essential for our citizens; and,

WHEREAS it is in the public interest for the citizens, civic leaders, and children in Dougherty County, Albany, GA to gain knowledge of and to maintain ongoing interest and understanding of the importance of public works and public works programs in their respective communities; and,

WHEREAS, the year 2022 marks the 62nd annual National Public Works Week sponsored by the American Public Works Association be it now,

RESOLVED, I, Christopher S. Cohilas, Commission Chair, do hereby designate the week

May 15 – 21, 2022 as National Public Works Week; I urge all citizens to join with representatives of the American Public Works Association and government agencies in activities, events and ceremonies designed to pay tribute to our public works professionals, engineers, managers, and employees and to recognize the substantial contributions they make to protecting our national health, safety, and quality of life.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the State (to be affixed),

DONE at the Dougherty County, Albany, Georgia this 15th day of May 2022.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA

BY: _____
Christopher S. Cohilas, Chairman

The Chairman recognized EMS Director Sam Allen to update the Commission with their annual report and accept the Proclamation recognizing May 15-21, 2022 as Emergency Management Services Week in Dougherty County. Mr. Allen highlighted that there was a call volume of 23,952 and base [billing] rates are the same. He added that an average response time is about 5 minutes and 44 seconds. He shared that the pay raises received have helped with retention and EMS is very active with opioid responses. There were a total of 2,632 vaccinations administered which peaked at about 205 people per hour by the 3rd event. The proclamation reads as follows:

WHEREAS, emergency medical services are a vital public service; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and

WHEREAS, access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, the emergency medical care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, the emergency medical services system consists of emergency physicians, emergency nurses, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, firefighters, educators, administrators and others; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams, whether career or volunteer, engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the value and the accomplishments of emergency medical services providers by designating Emergency Medical Services Week; now

THEREFORE, we, the Board of Commissioners of Dougherty County, Georgia in recognition of this event does hereby proclaim the week of May 15-22, 2022 as

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the County of Dougherty on this 16th day of May in the year of our Lord two-thousand and twenty-two.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA

Christopher S. Cohilas, Chairman

The Chairman recognized William Wright, a representative for AFRAM Tech, Inc. to continue discussing the request to recognize/commemorate the "157th Anniversary of the

Juneteenth Holiday" with their "New Deal." He discussed having an oversight committee to review money that the County received to ensure funds are dispensed with equity.

Commissioner Gray left the meeting.

The Chairman recognized Henry Thomas CEO of the Georgia Music Association to invite the Commission to his upcoming community events. Commissioner Johnson directed him to the Georgia Arts Council to possibly receive funds. Mr. Thomas requested a meeting with Commissioner Johnson and Chairman Cohilas and wanted his Commissioner [Gaines] to follow up with him.

The Chairman called for recess from 11:13 am to 11:18 am. Upon returning, the Chairman said that we will reestablish decorum regarding how the Board will be addressed and how the Board will address citizens.

The Chairman opened the public hearings for both Zoning Considerations 22-021 and 22-022 pertaining to the Fish House Campgrounds, Inc.

The first for Fish House Campgrounds, Inc., owner and Lanier Engineering (22-021), applicant, request is to rezone 73.261 acres from C-2 (General Mixed-Used District) and C-7 (Mixed Use Planned-Development District) to C-1 (Neighborhood Mixed-Use Business District). The property is located at 2908 Gillionville Road. The Planning Commission recommended approval. Angel Gray, Planning Manager, addressed.

The second for Fish House Campgrounds, Inc, owner and Lanier Engineering, Inc., applicant (22-022) request is for Special Approval to operate a Women's Recovery Center in a C-1 (Neighborhood Mixed-Use Business District). The parcel is a 73.261 acre developed parcel. The property is located at 2908 Gillionville Road. The Planning Commission recommended approval. Angel Gray, Planning Manager, addressed. Due to law statutes, the Public Hearing will be held only; action will be scheduled in the Fall. Mr. Bob Lynch, Director for "The Anchorage", Bobby Donley, Lanier Engineer and Mr. Barrow all spoke in favor of the requests and the need for a Women's Facility. Anchorage Board members were also present. There being no additional comments regarding the proposed matters, the Chairman closed the public hearings.

The Chairman called for consideration to purchase 400 sign posts and anchors for the Public Works Department from Big Green Sign Company (Dublin, GA) in the amount of \$29,440. Funding is available in TSPLOST.

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

The Chairman called for consideration to purchase forty body-worn cameras and the supporting cloud storage software from single source vendor Motorola Solutions (Allen, TX) in the amount of \$253,760. Funding is available in the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

Commissioner Jones moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Edwards, the motion for approval passed unanimously.

The Chairman called for consideration of the resolution providing for the approval and execution of the contract to accept the proposal for ARPA Grant Administration and Management Services for Dougherty County from Government Services Group (GSG – Tallahassee, Florida) in a not to exceed amount of \$350,000 subject to execution by the County Administrator. Funding is available in ARPA funds.

Commissioner Jones moved for approval. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion. Under discussion, Commissioner Edwards asked for a start date and Mr. Addison shared that it will be after the contract process is complete. There being no further discussion, the motion for approval passed unanimously. Resolution 22-026 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION
ENTITLED
A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE ACCEPTANCE AND
EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT FOR ARPA GRANT
ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR
DOUGHERTY COUNTY WITH GOVERNMENT SERVICES
GROUP (GSG-TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA) IN AN AMOUNT NOT
TO EXCEED \$350,000; REPEALING RESOLUTIONS OR PARTS
OF RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES.

The Chairman called for consideration to approve the alcohol application from Sandhu Bro LLC., Faisal Ijaz licensee, dba Pace Car Express, at 3503 Sylvester Hwy for Package- Beer and Wine. The Albany-Dougherty Marshal's Office recommended approval.

Commissioner Jones moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Edwards, the motion for approval passed unanimously.

The Chairman called for consideration to accept the proposed amendment to the Dougherty County American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Project Spending Plan for Fiscal Year 2022. The budget amount of \$8,454,000 will remain the same.

Commissioner Jones moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Edwards, the motion for approval passed unanimously.

The Chairman called for the zoning consideration of Fish House Campgrounds, Inc., owner and Lanier Engineering (22-021), applicant, request to rezone 73.261 acres from C-2 (General Mixed-Used District) and C-7 (Mixed Use Planned-Development District) to C-1 (Neighborhood Mixed-Use Business District). The property is located at 2908 Gillionville Road. The Planning Commission recommended approval.

Commissioner Jones moved for approval. Commissioner Newsome seconded the motion. Under discussion, Commissioner Gaines asked for clarification regarding the process for the special approval and Ms. Gray addressed. There being no further discussion, the motion for approval passed unanimously. The zoning resolution is entitled:

A RESOLUTION
ENTITLED
A RESOLUTION TO REZONE A
LOCATION WITHIN UNINCORPORATED AREA OF
DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Dougherty County, Georgia, and IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by authority of same:

SECTION I: That from and after the passage of this Resolution, the official Zoning Regulations and Map of the unincorporated area of Dougherty County, adopted December 1, 1969, as amended, be, and the same are hereinafter described as follows:

CHANGE FROM:	C-7 (Mixed-Use Planned Development District) and C-2 (General Mixed-Use Business District) Meeting Place for Church Groups
TO:	C-1 (Neighborhood Mixed-Use Business District)
OWNER/APPLICANT:	Fish House Campgrounds Inc
LOCATION:	2908 Gillionville Road

All that certain tract or parcel of land lying in and being part of Land Lot 82 of the Second Land District, Dougherty County, Georgia and being more particularly described as follows:

Commence at the northwest end of the miter at the intersection of the west right-of-way of Westover Road (15' r/w) and the south right-of-way of Gillionville Road(100'r/w) and go South 87 degrees 40 minutes 00 seconds West along the south right-of-way of Gillionville Road a distance of 1758.35 feet to the Point of Beginning.

From this Point of Beginning, leaving said right-of-way line, go South 02 degrees 19 minutes 04 seconds East a distance of 3.46 feet; go thence along the arc of a curve concave to the northeast a distance of 176.29 feet, having a radius of 186.19 feet, a chord bearing of South 29 degrees 26 minutes 32 seconds East and a chord distance of 169.78 feet; go thence South 56 degrees 34 minutes 04 seconds East a distance of 1432.99 feet; go thence South 18 degrees 05 minutes 04 seconds East a distance of 215.72 feet; go thence along the arc of a curve concave to the southwest a distance of 199.28 feet, having a radius of 522.96 feet, a chord bearing of South 07 degrees 10 minutes 04 seconds East and a chord distance of 198.08 feet; go thence South 03 degrees 44 minutes 56 seconds West a distance of 1274.84 feet; go thence North 86 degrees 18 minutes 04 seconds West a distance of 400.00 feet; go thence South 75 degrees 05 minutes 10 seconds West a distance of 480.00 feet; go thence North 01 degree 03 minutes 58 seconds West a distance of 779.83 feet; go thence North 00 degrees 17 minutes 13 seconds West a distance of 1587.11 feet to the south right-of-way of Gillionville Road; go thence North 87 degrees 40 minutes 56 seconds East along the south right-of-way of Gillionville Road a distance of 145.34 feet to the Point of Beginning.

Said tract or parcel contains 73.261 acres.

SECTION II: That all resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith be and the same hereby are repealed.

CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

CLERK

APPROVED: May 16, 2022

Mr. McCoy reminded the Board that the Dougherty County Police Department will be hosting the Fallen Officers Memorial Ceremony at 1 pm at the Albany Technical College Kirkland Conference Center.

Commissioner Edwards shared that he expected the discussion regarding funding for Juneteenth to be on the agenda. He also said that he did get the opinion from the Attorney for the request. Chairman Cohilas shared he will speak to the County Administrator and would like to volunteer his time to help find private dollars. Mr. McCoy shared that the ask was for in-kind donations. Commissioner Johnson wanted the County to provide \$2500 from either the community component of ARPA or the enterprise fund. After discussion, Chairman Cohilas shared that it will be on the next Work Session and added that his concern was if an organization would come that stands for a lesser cause and represent hate, etc [would funding be provided]. He also wanted to ensure that we have considered all options and ensure that measures are in place that can solve this problem. Commissioner Edwards wanted an added section from the County Clerk to have community events added to the agenda. Commissioner Jones asked for a moment of silence for those impacted by the recent mass shooting in Boston. He also wanted a follow-up from Marshal Norman in reference to the litter and a statement made by the Mayor regarding possible purchases by the City and County for land. He ended with wanting an update on the discussion regarding Putney Park and Commissioner Johnson responded to both. Chairman Cohilas asked about removing the safety partitions in Room 100 and there were mixed responses received from the Board.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

COUNTY CLERK