

DOUGHERTY COUNTY COMMISSION
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING MINUTES

DRAFT

December 11, 2023

The Dougherty County Commission met for a Special Called Meeting in Room 100 of the Albany-Dougherty Government Center on December 11, 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, Anthony Jones and Ed Newsome. Also present were Assistant County Administrator Barry Brooks, County Attorney Alex Shalishali, County Clerk Jawahn Ware 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.

After the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance by the Chairman, he called for approval of the minutes of the November 20th Regular Meeting and November 21st State Delegation Meeting.

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

The Chairman recognized Jana Dyke, President & CEO, Albany-Dougherty Economic Development Commission (EDC), to provide the quarterly update. Ms. Dyke thanked the Board for their support for TSPLOST II. She shared that the Kendrick Brothers purchased land in the Industrial Park that will host a studio for filmmaking and mentioned others could also use the facility. She announced the planned EDC 101 and supplemental classes that will be held for all the community partners including Commissioners and managers. A list of partners coming to Albany was shared. She asked the Board to support the ask to our legislators for a Job Tax Credit and other incentives. The plan to invest more in East Albany was mentioned, and she included other services provided by EDC. Expansion fairs for existing businesses were planned and will be announced in the first quarter. The job fair will be scheduled next year as well. Questions were answered and she was thanked by Commissioners for keeping the Board involved.

The Chairman recognized Coroner Michael Fowler who provided an update on the upcoming motorcade of hearses that will be held on December 19th at 2:00 pm. He shared that the purpose of this event was to bring awareness to the number of homicides in our community. The last time this was done was in 2017 and the homicide rates decreased with none for three consecutive months. The request was an attempt for positive publicity to be made to ideally not alter the intended message.

The Chairman called for consideration of the resolution providing for the acceptance and execution of the five-year renewal of the Judicial Alternatives of Georgia (JAG) Probation Services Agreement on behalf of the State Court of Dougherty County effective January 1, 2024. Assistant County Administrator Barry Brooks addressed. State Court Judge John Stephenson was present.

Commissioner Johnson moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Jones, the motion for approval passed unanimously. Resolution 23- 060 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION
ENTITLED
A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE JUDICIAL ALTERNATIVES OF
GEORGIA,INC,
PROBATION SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE COURT OF
DOUGHERTY COUNTY EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2024; REPEALING
RESOLUTIONS OR PARTS OF RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT HEREWITH;
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

The Chairman called for consideration to purchase one MSV Series 1000 Mobile Clinic for the Dougherty County Health Department from the most responsive and responsible vendor meeting specifications, Mathews Specialty Vehicles (Greensboro, NC) in the amount of \$308,142. Four proposals were received. Funding is budgeted in ARPA. Assistant County Administrator Barry Brooks addressed. City of Albany Buyer Corey Gamble and Director Vamella Lovett were present.

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

The Chairman called for consideration to accept the quote from Metro Power (Albany, GA) in the amount of \$173,260 to replace the generator at the EMS Main facility, 1436 Palmyra Rd. Three vendors submitted quotes with the highest being \$243,706. Funding is available in SPLOST VIII. Assistant County Administrator Barry Brooks addressed. Facilities Management Director Heidi Hailey was present.

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 resolution declaring a 2015 Hyundai Elantra SE (from the Albany Dougherty Drug Unit) as surplus and authorize the sale through Charles Taylor TPA. Assistant County Administrator Barry Brooks addressed.

Commissioner Johnson moved for approval. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion. Under discussion, Attorney Shalishali confirmed that Charles Taylor TPA acquired Underwriters. There being no further discussion, the motion for approval passed unanimously. Resolution 23-061 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION
ENTITLED
A RESOLUTION TO DECLARE AS SURPLUS A SALVAGED 2015
HYUNDAI ELANTRA (VIN NO.5NPDH4AE3FH635754) AND
HAVE SAID SURPLUS SALVAGED VEHICLE DISPOSED OF
THROUGH CHARLES TAYLOR TPA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY'S

THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR; REPEALING RESOLUTIONS
OR PARTS OF RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT HEREWITH;
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

The Chairman called for consideration of the resolution providing for the reappointment of the Dougherty County Police Chief through the extension of the employment agreement effective January 2, 2024 through December 31, 2024. County Attorney Alex Shalishali addressed.

Commissioner Jones moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Gray, the motion for approval passed unanimously. Resolution 23-062 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION
ENTITLED
A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE REAPPOINTMENT OF
THE POLICE CHIEF THROUGH THE EXTENSION OF THE
EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT EFFECTIVE THROUGH
DECEMBER 31, 2024; REPEALING RESOLUTIONS OR
PARTS OF RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT HEREWITH;
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Mr. Brooks provided an update per the request of Commissioner Gaines on the Sales Tax/ LOST comparison. He shared that he was planning to present a comparison for all of the funds and provided a handout for initial discussion with the Board for the Governmental Affairs Committee Meeting. Many wished all holiday sentiments. Commissioner Johnson gave kudos to ASU (Albany State University) graduates and offered prayers for those in the Tennessee storms. Commissioner Gray thanked the Board for the support of the mobile unit on behalf of the Dougherty County Health Department. He also provided information on the free diabetes clinic for the public located at the Health Department. Commissioner Gaines provided positive remarks on the recent service awards and gave appreciation to the staff. She also shared her concerns regarding youth actions and expressed a desire to change. Chairman Heard mentioned staff appreciation received for the lump sum distributions. He thanked the community and made closing remarks for 2023.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

COUNTY CLERK