

DOUGHERTY COUNTY COMMISSION  
WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES

DRAFT

April 25, 2022

The Dougherty County Commission met in Room 100 of the Albany-Dougherty Government Center on April 25, 2022. Chairman Christopher Cohilas presided and called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Present were Commissioners Victor Edwards, Gloria Gaines, 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, County Clerk Jawahn Ware 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.

The Chairman asked the Commission to review the minutes of the April 4th Regular Meeting and April 11th Work Session. Under discussion, Commissioner Johnson asked that the April 4<sup>th</sup> minutes be updated with a new resolution for ACCG to reflect the Commission amended motion. County Clerk will contact ACCG for a new resolution.

The Chairman recognized Andrew Wulf, Executive Director, Albany Museum of Art, to request SPLOST funding for the Museum of Art Downtown Project. Mr. Wulf asked for \$2 million. Mr. McCoy shared that there is \$700,00 in SPLOST V and clarified that Mr. Wulf is not limiting the request to only SPLOST funding. Chairman Cohilas shared that Mr. Wulf should meet with staff to create a recommendation on how to approach the funding request.

The Chairman recognized Tommy Gregors, Executive Director, Artesian Alliance, to update the Commission on projects and request SPLOST VIII funding. Mr. Gregors stressed that they want individuals to consider Albany as a place of destination for individuals specifically [residing] 3+ hours away. He shared the positive impact on the economy and highlighted the master plan for the Alliance and made an ask for \$4,750,000.

The Chairman recognized Al Masters, Walden & Kirkland Inc, Property Management to provide an update to the Commission on the improved garbage, trash, and other improvements made on the property at Brick Pointe on Holly Drive. He asked for assistance with alley paving and grading.

The Chairman called for a discussion to accept the quote for the repair design of the existing structure for the Radium Springs Water Tower from TAE, Inc. (Raleigh, NC) in the amount of \$15,000. This recommendation will be Phase 2 of the project. Assistant County Administrator Scott Addison and Project Engineer Jeremy Brown addressed. After the design repair study, the Commission will be presented the cost to determine if they want to proceed with the repair. Commissioner Gray shared his concerns by referencing the foundation of the tower and inquired if the structure could be moved. Mr. McCoy clarified that the funding will be the contingency fund of the Special Services District Fund. Radium Springs Neighborhood Association President Chris Harvey discussed concerns and desires of keeping the tower in the

same location. Attorney Lee shared how the County would be involved in the rehabilitation of the tower.

The Chairman called for a discussion to accept the quote to provide Drainage Improvements for Dougherty County Public Works from Jim Boyd Construction (Albany, GA) in the amount of \$171,479.10. Four contractors submitted a bid with the highest being \$272,216.22. Funding is budgeted in SPLOST VII. Assistant County Administrator Scott Addison addressed. Public Works Director Chuck Mathis, Project Engineer Jeremy Brown and City of Albany Buyer Kimberly Allen were present.

The Chairman called for discussion of the proposed Board appointment for Keep Albany Dougherty Beautiful. There is one appointment with an unexpired three-year term ending December 31, 2024. KADB recommended the reappointment of Simon T. Abela to replace Joanne Conger. County Clerk Jawahn Ware addressed.

Mr. McCoy shared that the Recreation Committee meeting will be in Room 120 after the Work Session.

Commissioner Edwards asked for the hard deadline of the pay study and Mr. McCoy shared that the completion date was projected in May 2022. Commissioner Jones asked that at the next work session, Putney Park be listed on the agenda for funding in future SPLOST projects. Chairman Cohilas stated that he wanted the Board to have a broad discussion prior to referring the topic to the Recreation Committee. Commissioner Gaines gave kudos on trash pickup to KADB and others. Commissioner Johnson wanted Mr. McCoy to have a representative participate in the upcoming infrastructure grant webinar.

Chairman Cohilas provide an update on the 12.5-million-dollar award to Radium Springs. He thanked everyone that was involved in this award and mentioned that this funding was in a future SPLOST. He added that he would like to have a broader discussion before sending it to the Recreation Committee.

There being no further business to discuss the Commission the meeting adjourned at 11:39 a.m.

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CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

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COUNTY CLERK