

DOUGHERTY COUNTY COMMISSION

DRAFT

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

February 7, 2022

The Dougherty County Commission met in Room 100 of the Albany-Dougherty Government Center on February 7, 2022. Chairman Christopher Cohilas presided and called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. Present [in the Chamber] were Commissioners Victor Edwards, Gloria Gaines, Clinton Johnson and Anthony Jones. Commissioner Russell Gray, Commissioner Ed Newsome and County Administrator Michael McCoy participated via the audio-conferencing feature. Also present were Assistant County Administrator Scott Addison, County Attorney Spencer Lee, 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.

After the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance, the Chairman called for approval of the minutes for the January 3rd Regular Meeting and January 10th Work Session.

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

The Chairman recognized William Wright, dba Afram-Tech, Inc. to discuss his concerns on the way the funds for the current agenda items will be spent. He also said he will come back to the Board before the end of February with additional concerns.

The Chairman called for consideration of the resolution providing for the acceptance and execution of the contract to accept the bid to upgrade the fire alarm system at the Dougherty County Jail from Metro Power Inc. (Albany, GA) in the amount of \$865,000 subject to execution by the County Administrator. Funding is budgeted in SPLOST VII.

Commissioner Jones moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Johnson, the motion for approval passed unanimously. Resolution 22-006 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION

ENTITLED

A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE APPROVAL OF A  
PROCUREMENT RECOMMENDATION WITH METRO POWER INC.  
(ALBANY, GA) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$865,000 FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
UPGRADING THE FIRE ALARM SYSTEM AT THE DOUGHERTY  
COUNTY JAIL; REPEALING RESOLUTIONS OR PARTS OF  
RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT HEREWITH;  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

The Chairman called for consideration to purchase thirty-five portable radios for Public Works from single source vendor Motorola Solutions (Albany, GA) in the amount of \$104,223.35. Funding is available in the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

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

The Chairman called for consideration to purchase forty-seven portable radios for EMS from single source vendor Motorola Solutions (Albany, GA) in the amount of \$201,525.84. Funding is available in the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

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

The Chairman called for consideration to purchase two Zoll Medical X Series Monitor/Defibrillators for the EMS Department from sole source vendor Zoll Medical Corporation (Chelmsford, Mass) in the amount of \$55,490.60. Funding is budgeted in SPLOST VII.

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

The Chairman called for consideration to purchase two Stryker Power PRO XT Stretchers for the EMS Department from sole source vendor Stryker Medical (Chicago, IL) in the amount of \$35,432.32. Funding is budgeted in SPLOST VII.

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

The Chairman called for consideration of the resolution providing for the acceptance and execution of a contract to accept the bid for the installation of Phases II & III of a concrete trail in the Radium Springs area from the second lowest responsive and responsible bidder meeting the specifications, HTS Construction, Inc. (Albany, GA) in the amount of \$985,397.64 subject to execution by the County Administrator. The first apparent lowest bidder was found to be unresponsive. Funding is budgeted in SPLOST VII, TSPLOST, and State Funding. Assistant County Administrator Scott Addison addressed. Public Works Director Chuck Mathis, City of Albany Interim Procurement Manager Joshua Williams and Buyer Kimberly Allen were present.

Commissioner Johnson moved to deny the acceptance of the bid award to HTS Construction Inc. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion. Commissioner Gray made a substitute motion to approve the award to HTS Construction and a second was provided by Commissioner Newsome. The substitute motion to approve the award to HTS Construction failed with three ayes by Commissioner Newsome, Commissioner Gray and Chairman Cohilas and four nays by Commissioner Jones, Commissioner Gaines, Commissioner

Edwards and Commissioner Johnson. The vote for the initial motion to deny the award was also roll called with Commissioners Jones, Commissioner Gaines, Commissioner Johnson and Commissioner Edwards voting aye and Commissioner Gray, Commissioner Newsome and Chairman Cohilas voting nay. Chairman Cohilas allowed Attorney Lee and Interim Manager Joshua Williams to provide information for the record. Attorney Lee stated that C & S Construction had been notified that their bid would not be accepted and Mr. Williams outlined the process followed to obtain clarification from the initial low bidder (C & S Construction) on discrepancies in the bid document and why the vendor was deemed nonresponsive. Commissioner Johnson attempted to offer a motion to award to C & S Construction. Parliamentary inquiries of Commissioner Johnson and Chairman Cohilas were addressed by Attorney Lee with no second provided to the last motion. Attorney Lee read a letter from Dougherty County's outsourced attorney Jim Edge that was addressed to the lawyer of C&S Construction. The document outlined that the County has a legal responsibility to accept the lowest responsive and responsible bidder per Georgia Law and the County's bidding documents. Attorney Lee provided other options for the project and clarified how a Commissioner could amend a previous vote. After a lengthy discussion ensued Commissioner Jones stated that he felt that he received more information and rescinded his previous vote by making a substitute motion to accept the responsive and responsible bidder HTS Construction as initially provided on the agenda. Commissioner Gray seconded the motion. The vote passed with four ayes by Commissioners Jones, Gray, Newsome and Chairman Cohilas. There were three nays by Commissioners Johnson, Edwards and Gaines. Resolution 22-007 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION  
ENTITLED  
A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE APPROVAL OF A  
PROCUREMENT RECOMMENDATION FOR THE  
INSTALLATION OF PHASES II AND III OF A CONCRETE  
TRAIL IN THE RADIUM SPRINGS AREA WITH HTS  
CONSTRUCTION, INC. (ALBANY, GA) IN THE AMOUNT OF  
\$985,397.64 ALONG WITH THE EXECUTION OF A  
CONTRACT BY THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR;  
REPEALING RESOLUTIONS OR PARTS OF RESOLUTIONS  
IN CONFLICT HEREWITH;  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

The Chairman called for consideration of the resolution declaring the listed vehicles as surplus and authorizing the disposal of or sale of same via an online auction. Assistant County Administrator Scott Addison addressed.

Commissioner Johnson moved for approval. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion. Under discussion, Commissioner Johnson wanted to make sure that some of the funds are used for purchasing new vehicles. Mr. Addison confirmed that it does and said that he will follow up with an email with a percentage of new sales for vehicles. There being no further discussion, the motion for approval passed unanimously. Resolution 22-008 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION  
ENTITLED  
A RESOLUTION DECLARING AS SURPLUS THE  
ATTACHED LIST OF VEHICLES; PROVIDING FOR DISPOSAL  
OF OR SALE OF SAME ON AN ONLINE AUCTION;  
REPEALING PRIOR RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT; AND FOR  
OTHER PURPOSES.

Commissioner Gaines confirmed that the redistricting information has been introduced and asked for a copy of the economic outlook presentation to distribute to the Government Affairs Committee. Mr. McCoy shared that we are waiting to receive the information from the EDC (Economic Development Commission). Commissioner Johnson said that he appreciated the Board and charged the procurement department to try to reach out and make an effort to support all business including small businesses during the bidding process. Commissioner Jones, Commissioner Gaines and Commissioner Edwards echoed similar requests for changes to be made in the bidding process which included contractors being contacted when not responsive, bid award revisions and mandatory pre-bids. There was no direction made to staff by the Chairman regarding the changes. Chairman Cohilas commented on the productive annual retreat and he challenged the Board to think of ways to build our community.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 11:23 a.m.

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CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

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COUNTY CLERK