

DOUGHERTY COUNTY COMMISSION
WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES

DRAFT

February 13, 2023

The Dougherty County Commission met in Room 100 of the Albany-Dougherty Government Center on February 13, 2023. Chairman Lorenzo Heard 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 present were County Administrator Michael McCoy, County Attorney Alex Shalishali, 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. After the roll call, Chairman Heard provided an invocation.

The Chairman asked the Commission to review the minutes of the January 23rd Regular Meeting, January 27th Annual Retreat and January 30th Work Session.

The Chairman recognized Bárbara Rivera Holmes, President and CEO, and Bridges Sinyard, Government Affairs Division Chairman, Albany Area Chamber of Commerce to update the Commission on the inaugural class of the nonpartisan Political Leadership Institute. Ms. Holmes shared that the primary goal was to get citizens engaged in the community. Members of the class were recognized and the Board provided sentiments.

The Chairman called for a discussion to accept the bid for Facilities Management to replace the flooring at the Dougherty County Police Department from Katz Flooring Covering (Leesburg, GA) in the amount of \$86,500. Five bids were received with the highest being \$250,000. Funding is budgeted in SPLOST VII. County Administrator Michael McCoy addressed. Facilities Management Director Heidi Hailey and City of Albany Buyer Ricky Gladney were present.

The Chairman called for a discussion to purchase three pumper trucks for use by the Albany Fire Department from Ten8 Fire and Safety Equipment of Georgia, LLC (Forsyth, GA) in the amount of \$3,020,103. Ten8 Fire and Safety is the authorized distributor for the Sourcewell Contract vendor Pierce Manufacturing. The pumpers will be the 2026 model and approval is requested because delivery is anticipated approximately 36 months after the order is received. Funding will be budgeted in SPLOST VIII. County Administrator Michael McCoy addressed. City of Albany Fleet Management Department Asset Supervisor Dale Henry was present. Mr. McCoy said that there are supply chain issues and we will have to wait 36 months, so approval is needed now for the replacement. He added that this will work well for the County because we will be collecting the funds. Chief Scott addressed the Board's questions and shared future needs. He provided updates on the ISO ratings, the trucks that would be impacted and shared short-term life-saving measures. Commissioner Johnson would like water needs to still be considered. Commissioner Edwards' concern was addressed by Chief Scott about the County logo being placed on the vehicles purchased by Dougherty County. In layman's terms, the Chief shared that it is not in the best interest [for any government] to draw unneeded

attention or create a problem that does not exist with the vehicles. Chief stated that it is not hidden how fire protection is provided and the City is the County's provider. Commissioner Edwards still requested to have the decal on the vehicles, and he wanted suggestions from Chief Scott and PIO Wendy Howell. Chairman Heard proposed that he speak to the Mayor on this matter. It was not clear how action would pursue. Other comments and concerns were shared by the Board.

The Chairman called for a discussion to approve the alcohol application from R and S 2023 LLC., Saif Ullah licensee, dba R and S Food Mart, at 700 Cordele Rd for Package- Beer. The Albany-Dougherty Marshal's Office recommended approval. Chief Deputy Anthony Donaldson, Code Enforcement Department, addressed. Commissioner Edwards had a question regarding a citizen not being able to use a vendor's restroom and wanted the Commission to enforce allowing the public to use the restrooms. Chief Donaldson responded with the different entity's role in the process and Attorney Shalishali said that he would do further research.

Commissioner Edwards asked that the youth program be placed on a work session to develop the program before the summer. Mr. McCoy shared that the information is pending prior to the Recreation Meeting being released on February 27, 2023. Commissioner Jones announced the recognition of United Way's 211 Day.

There being no further business to discuss the Commission the meeting adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

COUNTY CLERK