

## DOUGHERTY COUNTY COMMISSION

DRAFT

### REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

November 2, 2020

The Dougherty County Commission met in Room 100 of the Albany-Dougherty Government Center on November 2, 2020. Chairman Christopher Cohilas presided. Commissioners present were Victor Edwards, Lamar Hudgins, Russell Gray and Clinton Johnson. Commissioners Gloria Gaines and Anthony Jones participated via the audio-conferencing feature. Also present were County Administrator Michael McCoy, Assistant County Administrator Scott Addison, County Attorney Spencer Lee, Administrative Specialist 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 October 12th Work Session and October 12th Special Called Meeting minutes.

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

The Chairman recognized Minister William Revills to discuss transfer trucks violating posted signs in the community. Minister Revills wanted assistance in stopping the variety of transfer trucks from speeding and being in violation. Chairman Cohilas asked Mr. McCoy to provide a public update about this manner. Chief Kenneth Johnson provided an update and stated that Dougherty County Police have written four citations since last week and he sent his staff member out to talk to Georgia Pacific and Southern AG. He also mentioned that he will be working with the Public Works Department to increase the size of the signs to help prevent this issue.

The Chairman called for consideration of the purchase of two 2021 F-350 Type 1 Ambulances for the EMS Department from the state contract vendor Wade Ford (Smyrna, GA), in the amount of \$158,289 each for a total expenditure of \$316,578. Funding is budgeted in the SPLOST VII – EMS Ambulances & Equipment.

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

The Chairman called for consideration of the installation of an equipment shed at the Solid Waste Landfill from the lowest responsive and responsible vendor meeting specifications, Smith-Built Buildings (Dawson, Ga) in the amount of \$23,879.49. The shed will replace a previously demolished building. Funding is budgeted in Solid Waste Capital Outlay.

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

The Chairman called for consideration of the resolution to accept the quote to replace six security cameras at the Jail from the lowest responsive and responsible vendor meeting specifications, CooperCraft (Tifton, Ga) in the amount of \$23,676.99. Funding is budgeted in SPLOST VII - Jail Improvements.

Commissioner Hudgins moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Edwards, the motion for approval passed unanimously. Resolution 20-065 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION  
ENTITLED  
A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE ACCEPTANCE AND  
EXECUTION OF A QUOTE PREPARED BY COOPERCRAFT  
COMMUNICATIONS INC FOR THE PURPOSE OF INSTALLING,  
TERMINATING AND PROGRAMMING THE CAMERA EQUIPMENT AT  
THE DOUGHERTY COUNTY JAIL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$23,676.99;  
REPEALING RESOLUTIONS OR PARTS OF RESOLUTIONS IN  
CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

The Chairman called for consideration of the purchase of six 2021 Ford Police Interceptor Utility Vehicles (each in the amount of \$39,422.21) for Dougherty County Police from Sunbelt Ford (Albany, GA) for a total expenditure of \$236,533.26. The purchase will be “piggy-backed” from the Commission’s award in the October 19, 2020 Regular Meeting. Funding will be provided by SPLOST VII. Assistant County Administrator Scott Addison addressed. Chief Kenneth Johnson and City of Albany Buyer Christina Strassenberg were present. Mr. Addison said that this was the annual replacement of the vehicles.

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

The Chairman called for consideration of the alcohol application from Creekside 02 LLC., Sunita Patel licensee, dba Creekside 2, at 1900 Weymouth Dr. Ste B for Beer and Wine Package. The Albany-Dougherty Marshal’s Office recommended approval.

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

The Chairman called for consideration of the alcohol application from Temp Coffee & Brew, LLC, Viral Patel licensee, dba Temp Coffee & Brew, at 1900 Weymouth Dr. Ste B for Beer and Wine Consumption. The Albany-Dougherty Marshal’s Office recommended approval.

Commissioner Hudgins moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Gray, the motion for approval passed unanimously.

The Chairman called for consideration of the alcohol application from Shiv 2020 LLC., Bhagvatiben Patel licensee, dba Hill Corner Food Store, at 335 N. County Line Road for Beer and Wine Package. The Albany-Dougherty Marshal’s Office recommended approval.

Commissioner Hudgins moved for approval. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion. The motion passed with six ayes and one nay by Commissioner Jones.

Mr. McCoy asked Mrs. Nickerson to provide an update to the Commission regarding the voting turnout. Mrs. Nickerson said that the advanced voting was down with a total amount of 14,368 from the 2016 Presidential Elections. She added that the advanced voting total as of this year is 13,076. She gave kudos to Mr. McCoy for his assistance in the voting process. Commissioner Gaines wanted to applaud the citizens for the turnout in voting this year. Mrs. Nickerson clarified for Commissioner Hudgins that the Voter Registration Office does not cancel ballots. The cancelled ballots slot on the write up sheet was for individuals who decline voting. Chairman Cohilas clarified for Commissioner Jones that 37.6% was the most current statistic for Dougherty County. Mr. McCoy reminded the citizens to physically bring in any ballots. The option to mail it in is no longer valid and the vote would not be counted if citizens send ballots in this way. Commissioner Gray gave kudos to Mrs. Nickerson for running a smooth operation during the pandemic and she mentioned that she would encourage individuals to continue to practice social distancing. Commissioner Gaines wanted Attorney Lee to provide an update report of the dilapidated structures of Leary Road. Commissioner Jones wanted an update on the lighting on East Oglethorpe and asked Mr. McCoy to follow up with GDOT and update the Board. Mr. McCoy said that the City of Albany was responsible for the cost and the project is currently under consideration.

Chairman Cohilas provided an update on behalf of the Recreation Committee regarding the work on the tennis complex project. He mentioned that Albany State was not interested in working with the County to enhance their tennis facilities. He asked the Recreation Committee to make a recommendation possibly within the next 30 days on how the project could become viable.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

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CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

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COUNTY CLERK