

DOUGHERTY COUNTY COMMISSION
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING MINUTES

DRAFT

February 12, 2024

The Dougherty County Commission met for a Special Called Meeting in Room 100 of the Albany-Dougherty Government Center on February 12, 2024 immediately following the Work Session. Chairman Lorenzo Heard presided and called the meeting to order at 11:02 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.

The Chairman called for consideration of the resolution confirming the acceptance of a US Department of Transportation Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Planning and Demonstration Grant (#20.939) in the amount of \$263,000. The Commission approved the grant acceptance in the November 20, 2023 Regular Meeting, however, the grant stipulation required that the approval be supplemented by a resolution. County Attorney Alex Shalishali addressed.

Commissioner Johnson moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Edwards, the motion for approval passed unanimously. Resolution 24-005 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION
ENTITLED

A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE ACCEPTANCE AND APPROVAL OF
THE U.S. DEPARTMENT TRANSPORTATION SAFE STREETS FOR ALL
(SS4A) PLANNING AND DEMONSTRATION GRANT (#20.939) ; REPEALING
RESOLUTIONS OR PARTS OF RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT HEREWITH;
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

The Chairman called for consideration to accept the resolution providing for approval for professional services for the search for the County Administrator with Colin Baenziger & Associates (Daytona Beach, FL) in the amount of \$38,500. Funding is available in the General Fund. County Attorney Alex Shalishali addressed.

Commissioner Johnson moved for approval. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion. Commissioner Gray provided a substitute motion to the table and shared his rationale including the timing of potential litigation. After there was a parliamentary inquiry made by some, Commissioner Newsome seconded the substitute motion and Commissioner Gray continued his discussion. Chairman Heard disputed some of the statements made by Commissioner Gray and called for the substitute motion via roll call. The motion to table failed with three ayes by Commissioners Newsome, Gray, and Jones and four nays by Commissioners Johnson, Edwards, Gaines, and Chairman Heard. There being no further discussion, the original motion passed with

four ayes by Commissioners Johnson, Edwards, Gaines, and Chairman Heard and three nays by Commissioners Gray, Newsome, and Jones. Resolution 24- 006 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED
A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE
ENGAGEMENT OF COLIN BAENZIGER & ASSOCIATES;
REPEALING RESOLUTIONS OR PARTS OF RESOLUTIONS IN
CONFLICT HEREWITH;
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Commissioner Johnson requested that relief for seniors be reviewed during the budget season. Commissioner Gray shared disdain for being interrupted during discussion and his perception of not having an informed discussion. Commissioner Gaines shared that the Chairman has operated as others have in the past.

The Chairman called for consideration of the recommendation from the County Attorney to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel, pending litigation, and then to adjourn.

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

There being no further discussion, the Board entered into Executive Session at 11:20 a.m.

CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

COUNTY CLERK