



WORK SESSION

June 12, 2023
10:00 AM

Albany-Dougherty Government Center
222 Pine Ave, Room 100, Albany, GA 31701

AGENDA

To comply with the request set forth by the Chairman of Dougherty County, GA and the guidelines of the Center for Disease Control (CDC) regarding the Coronavirus (COVID19) pandemic and social distancing, face coverings (masks) are optional for all meeting participants.

The public will also have access to the live meeting by accessing the Dougherty County Georgia Government Facebook page at facebook.com/Dougherty.ga.us or viewing the public government access channel (Channel 16).

1. Call the meeting to order by Chairman Lorenzo Heard.
2. Roll Call.
3. Minutes.
 - a. Minutes of the May 15th Regular Meeting, May 22nd Work Session and May 25th Special Called Meeting.
4. Public Hearing on the Proposed FY 2023-24 Budgets. ***(If you are interested in speaking in reference to the Budgets, please sign the Sign-In Sheet provided).***
5. Delegations *(The Commission will hear comments on those items pertaining to Dougherty County for which a public hearing has not been held or scheduled. Please be brief, to the point, and considerate of time for others).*
 - a. James Morgan, County Extension Coordinator, present to update the Commission with the quarterly report.
6. Zoning.
 - a. Deborah Johnson, owner and Johnathan Johnson, applicant (23-030) request Special Approval to convert an in-home daycare serving up to six (6) clients to a daycare learning center to allow an increase up to 18 daycare clients on a 1-acre parcel zoned R-2 (Single-Family Residential). The Planning Commission recommends approval. Angel Gray, Deputy Planning Director will address. *The Public Hearing and Action are scheduled for June 26, 2023.*

7. Purchases.

- a. Recommendation to accept the bid for six (6) 2023 Police Pursuit Utility AWD, from the lowest, responsive and responsible bidder, Wade Ford (Smyrna, GA) in the amount of \$261,960. Two bids were received with the highest being \$271,200. Funding is budgeted in SPLOST VII. Assistant County Administrator Barry Brooks will address. City of Albany Buyer Corey Gamble and Captain Jason Hager are present.

8. Additional Business.

- a. Recommendation from the Library to apply for the Georgia Public Library Service Grant in the amount of \$600,000 to renovate the Westtown Branch. This grant requires a 50% match. Funding for the local match in the amount of \$300,000 will come from SPLOST VI and VII. Finance Director Martha Hendley and Library Director Gail Evans will address.
- b. Recommendation from the Library to apply for the Georgia Public Library Service Capital Outlay Grant in the amount of \$1,000,000 for capital improvements at the Westtown Branch. This grant requires a 10% match. Funding for the local match in the amount of \$100,000 will come from SPLOST VII. Finance Director Martha Hendley and Library Director Gail Evans will address.
- c. Recommendation to retroactively apply and accept the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council and the Council of Accountability Courts Judges 2024 Accountability Court Operating Grant for FY 2024 (J24-8-064) in the amount of \$124,182 with a 12% match. The match is traditionally met through use of DATE funds. The grant is a reimbursement grant provided by the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council. The grant must be applied for and accepted by the Commission each year. Finance Director Martha Hendley and Grant Administrator Patricia Griffin will address.
- d. Recommendation to accept the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council and the Council of Accountability Courts Judges 2024 Accountability Court Operating Grant for FY 2024 (K52-8-004) in the amount of \$199,988. The grant is a reimbursement grant provided by the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council and no match is required. The grant must be accepted by the Commission each year. Finance Director Martha Hendley and Grant Administrator Patricia Griffin will address.
- e. Recommendation to accept the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council and the Council of Accountability Courts Judges 2024 Accountability Court Operating Grant for FY 2024 (K52-8-005) in the amount of \$177,776. The grant is a reimbursement grant provided by the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council and no match is required. The grant must be accepted by the Commission each year. Finance Director Martha Hendley and Grant Administrator Patricia Griffin will address.
- f. Board Appointments. County Clerk Jawahn Ware will address.

ASPIRE Behavioral Health & Developmental Disability Services Board – Three (3) appointments with a three-year term ending June 30, 2026. Incumbents Coroner Michael Fowler (Elected official appointment) and Richard Ware desire reappointment. Incumbent Leonard Minter is deceased. Two new applicants: Becky Farkas and Jeanette Henderson.

Chehaw Park Authority – One (1) appointment with a three-year term ending July 1, 2026. Incumbent Scott Steiner desires reappointment. No new applicants.

- g. Continued presentation and review of the proposed FY 2024 Budgets as recommended by the Finance Committee. Finance Director Martha Hendley will address. **See Budget Books.**
- 9. Updates from the Assistant County Administrator.
 - 10. Updates from the County Attorney.
 - 11. Updates from the County Commission.
 - a. In observance of the Juneteenth Holiday on Monday, June 19, 2023, there will not be a meeting held. The next meeting will be on Monday, June 26, 2023.
 - 12. Consider for action the recommendation from the County Attorney to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel issues and then to adjourn. **ACTION:**

Individuals with disabilities who require certain accommodations in order to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting, or who have questions regarding the accessibility of the meeting or the facilities are required to contact the ADA Coordinator at 229-431-2121 promptly to allow the County to make reasonable accommodations for those persons.

DOUGHERTY COUNTY COMMISSION

DRAFT

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

May 15, 2023

The Dougherty County Commission met in Room 100 of the Albany-Dougherty Government Center on May 15, 2023. Chairman Lorenzo Heard presided and called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Present were Commissioners Victor Edwards, Gloria Gaines, Russell Gray, Clinton Johnson, Ed Newsome and Anthony Jones. 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 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 by the Chairman, he called for approval of the minutes for the April 17th Regular Meeting and April 24th Work Session.

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

The Chairman recognized Dr. Emmett Griswold, new President of Albany Technical College, to introduce himself and provide an update to the Board. Dr. Griswold shared the 2023-2024 workforce development initiatives that include offering weekend courses, partnerships with Phoebe, and dual achievement programs which allows individuals ages 16-21 who officially withdrew from high school to obtain their diploma. During dialogue with the Commission, additional initiatives were shared, and kudos were received.

The Chairman recognized William Ashberry, Chairman of the Board of Tax Assessors, to update the Commission regarding the search and appointment of the Chief Appraiser role. Mr. Ashberry shared plans to promote internally and the need for auditors. An update on the cell tower audit and reevaluation was provided. The continued service and appreciation of Larry Thomas and Shonna Josey were shared. Mr. Thomas provided information regarding the internal ratios and said that the last full reevaluation was done in 2007. The new one will take about two years.

The Chairman recognized Public Works Director Chuck Mathis to provide an update on Putney Park. The update included plans to get DNR assistance to reneest buzzards in the area. Ms. Linda Jiddy spoke against using taxpayer money to move creatures that serve as valuable resources to the community. The Board was not aware of the concern and Mr. McCoy addressed sharing that the partnership with DNR is not to exterminate the animals but to relocate them in a humane manner. It was noted that the decision is at an operational level, but the social media posts and newspaper turned this into a "lightning rod issue." Community Neighborhood Watch President Mr. Willie Williams shared his concerns that the buzzards are a nuisance at the park and church. Commissioner Gray shared that the issue should be

mitigated by DNR. One citizen mentioned medical concerns about having buzzards in the area. He stressed that the concern arose after the cell tower was no longer available for the birds to roost. Mr. John Burns was concerned about the lack of things that are available in the Putney community for the children to do because the fields were removed. He encouraged the Board to reconsider adding at least two softball fields and added that the focus on the buzzards was good, but we need to focus on teens. Mr. Mathis shared that the plan to relocate the buzzards has been handled out by the County in the past.

The Chairman called for consideration to purchase four 2023 Pickup Trucks for Public Works from the lowest quoted vendor, Prince Automotive Group (Albany, GA) in the amount of \$152,566. The purchase will include two 2023 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Pickup Trucks (\$37,354 each) and two 2023 GMC Sierra 1500 Pickup Trucks (\$38,214 & \$39,644). The truck replacements are in stock and are available for immediate delivery. The purchase will fulfill the award that vendors have not been able to honor due to the pandemic. Funding is available in SPLOST V and SPLOST VII. County Administrator Michael McCoy addressed. Public Works Director Chuck Mathis was present. Mr. McCoy shared that this is out of our normal process, but the much-needed trucks are available and shared that we are having supply chain issues.

Commissioner Gray moved for approval. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. Under discussion, Mrs. Ware shared that it was an additional cost of \$19,000. There being no further discussion, the motion for approval passed unanimously.

The Chairman called for consideration to rescind the purchase of two 2021 Dodge Ram 1500 Pickup Trucks for the Public Works Department from Albany Chrysler-Dodge-Jeep-Ram (Albany, Ga) in the amount of \$52,880. The initial award was approved in the April 5, 2021, Regular Meeting and the vendor was not able to provide vehicles that meet specifications.

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

The Chairman called for consideration the recommendation to rescind the purchase of one 2022 F-150 Truck for Public Works from the State Contract Vendor Wade Ford (Smyrna,GA) for the total expenditure of \$30,467. The initial award was approved in the July 18, 2022 Regular Meeting and the vendor was able to provide one of the town vehicles awarded.

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

The Chairman called for consideration of the recommendation from the Commissioner Clinton Johnson to fund the 2023 Albany Dougherty Youth Unit (ADYU) Summer Program in the amount of \$15,000. The recommendation was provided in the May 1, 2023, Regular Meeting. Funding will be provided in the DATE fund. Commissioner Johnson addressed and said that we try to support our youth and modified the request to fund up to \$15,000.

Commissioner Edwards moved for approval. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. Under discussion, Commissioner Gaines asked why the request was changed to \$15,000 and the reason for the funding request. Captain Thomas shared that a request is being made to the City of Albany. There being no further discussion, the motion for approval passed unanimously.

The Chairman called for consideration of the resolution providing for the acceptance and execution of the Intergovernmental Support Agreement with the Marine Corps Logistics Base (MCLB) to provide mosquito spraying. County Administrator Michael McCoy addressed. Public Works Director Chuck Mathis was present. Mr. McCoy said that this request is on an as-needed basis and the 5-year agreement needed to be renewed.

Commissioner Jones moved for approval. Upon a second by Commissioner Johnson, the motion for approval passed unanimously. Resolution 23-025 is entitled:

A RESOLUTION
ENTITLED
A RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL, ACCEPTANCE AND EXECUTION
OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL SUPPORT AGREEMENT BETWEEN
MARINE CORPS LOGISTICS BASE AND DOUGHERTY COUNTY TO
PROVIDE MOSQUITO SPRAYING SERVICES; REPEALING
RESOLUTIONS OR PARTS OF RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT
HEREWITH;
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Commissioner Edwards asked Assistant Chief Irving to address the cameras on Lily Pond and the speed limit. She said that there must be a law enforcement need for changes and she discussed parameters for ticket citations. During the discussion, Assistant Chief Irving shared that she will have a traffic study done for 30 days, and this will identify the number of vehicles and average speed. Commissioner Johnson asked that the Urban Land Institute be contacted to identify the best way to develop a plan for our area to best use our land. Commissioner Gaines asked that the Board express well wishes to Mr. William Wright as his health has improves. Commissioner Jones suggested housing development be done at the National Guard property. The Chairman shared that the Board would develop a vision [for the property]. Mr. McCoy shared that a MOU has been sent to the City of Albany for the development of the National Guard property which is tied to the development of the tennis center. The Board cannot proceed unless they want to terminate the partnership with the City of Albany.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

COUNTY CLERK

Attestation for May 15, 2023 Minutes

DOUGHERTY COUNTY COMMISSION
WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES

DRAFT

May 22, 2023

The Dougherty County Commission met in Room 100 of the Albany-Dougherty Government Center on May 22, 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 and the invocation, Chairman Heard asked the Commission to review the minutes of the May 1st Regular Meeting and May 8th Work Session.

The Chairman announced an amendment to the agenda for Mr. McCoy to provide an update on the Assistant County Administrator position under the County Administrator Update.

The Chairman recognized Public Works Director Chuck Mathis who was present to accept the Proclamation recognizing May 21-27, 2023 as Public Works Week in Dougherty County. Mr. Mathis announced the Manager of the Year, Benita Dyes and Employee of the Year, Russell Malone. Prior to the presentation of the plaque, Board members and the Administrator provided kudos and sentiments. Mr. Mathis invited the Board to participate in the upcoming employee celebration. The Proclamation reads as follows:

National Public Works Week Proclamation
May 21–27, 2023
“Connecting the World Through Public Works”

WHEREAS, public works professionals focus on infrastructure, facilities and services that are of vital importance to sustainable and resilient communities and to the public health, high quality of life and well-being of the people of Dougherty County, Albany, Georgia; and,

WHEREAS, these infrastructure, facilities and services could not be provided without the dedicated efforts of public works professionals, who are engineers, managers, and employees at all levels of government and the private sector, who are responsible for rebuilding, improving, and protecting our nation's transportation, water supply, water treatment and solid waste systems, public buildings, and other structures and facilities essential for our citizens; and,

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest for the citizens, civic leaders and children in Dougherty County, Albany, Georgia to gain knowledge of and maintain an ongoing

interest and understanding of the importance of public works and public works programs in their respective communities; and,

WHEREAS, the year 2023 marks the 63rd annual National Public Works Week sponsored by the American Public Works Association/Canadian Public Works Association be it now, RESOLVED, I, Lorenzo L. Heard, Commission Chairman, do hereby designate the week May 21–27, 2023 as National Public Works Week; I urge all citizens to join with representatives of the American Public Works Association and government agencies in activities, events, and ceremonies designed to pay tribute to our public works professionals, engineers, managers, and employees and to recognize the substantial contributions they make to protecting our national health, safety, and quality of life.

DONE at the Dougherty County, Albany, Georgia this 22nd day of May 2023.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA

BY: _____
LORENZO L. HEARD, Chairman

The Chairman recognized EMS Director Sam Allen who was present to update the Commission to accept the Proclamation recognizing May 21-27, 2023 as Emergency Management Services Week in Dougherty County. Mr. Allen shared that there are four shifts and some members from Shift A were present. Prior to the presentation of the plaque, Board members provided kudos and sentiments. Many of the Commissioners noted that they have never received a complaint against the department. The Proclamation reads as follows:

WHEREAS, emergency medical services are a vital public service; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and

WHEREAS, access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, the emergency medical care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, the emergency medical services system consists of emergency physicians, emergency nurses, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, firefighters, educators, administrators and others; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams, whether career or volunteer, engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the value and the accomplishments of emergency medical services providers by designating Emergency Medical Services Week; now

THEREFORE, we, the Board of Commissioners of Dougherty County, Georgia in recognition of this event does hereby proclaim the week of May 21–27, 2023 as

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the County of Dougherty on this 22nd day of May in the year of our Lord two-thousand and twenty-three.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA

Lorenzo L. Heard, Chairman

The Chairman recognized SOWEGA Rising Founder and Executive Director Sherrell Byrd who was present to accept the Proclamation recognizing June 2, 2023 as National Gun Violence Awareness Day. The Board was asked to help rally with others in helping to pass legislation on gun laws. It was shared that Friday, June 2nd is National June Violence Awareness Day and the community is invited to wear orange. Mr. Tracy Taylor invited the Board to participate in the local community awareness event scheduled for Saturday, June 3rd. Ms. Shabrina Brigham, grandmother of Nigel Brown, a small child that was a victim of gun violence, also addressed the Board. The Proclamation reads as follows:

2023 DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA PROCLAMATION DECLARING THE FIRST FRIDAY IN JUNE TO BE NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY

This proclamation declares the first Friday in June to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day in Dougherty County Georgia to honor and remember all victims and survivors of gun violence and to declare that we as a country must do more to end this public health crisis.

WHEREAS, every day, more than 120 Americans are killed by gun violence and more than 200 are shot and wounded, with an average of more than 17,000 gun homicides every year; and

WHEREAS, in Georgia has 1,868 gun deaths every year, with a rate of 17.4 deaths per 100,000 people, a crisis that costs the state \$23.9 billion each year, of which \$597.8 million is paid by taxpayers. Georgia has the 10th highest rate of gun deaths in the US; and

WHEREAS, gun violence prevention is more important than ever as we see an increase in firearm homicides, and nonfatal shootings across the country, increased calls to domestic violence hotlines, and an increase in city gun violence;

WHEREAS, in January 2013, Hadiya Pendleton was tragically shot and killed at age 15; and on June 2, 2023 to recognize the 26th birthday of Hadiya Pendleton (born: June 2, 1997), people across the United States will recognize National Gun Violence Awareness Day and wear orange in tribute to –

- (1) Hadiya Pendleton and other victims of gun violence; and
- (2) the loved ones of those victims; and

WHEREAS, anyone can join this campaign by pledging to wear orange on June 2nd, the first Friday in June in 2023, to help raise awareness about gun violence; and

WHEREAS, by wearing orange on June 2, 2023 Americans will raise awareness about gun violence and honor the lives of gun violence victims and survivors; and

WHEREAS, we renew our commitment to reduce gun violence and pledge to do all we can to keep firearms out of the hands of people who should not have access to them, and encourage responsible gun ownership to help keep our families and communities safe.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Dougherty County declares the first Friday in June 2, 2023, to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day. I encourage all citizens to support their local communities' efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives.

This the 22nd day of May, 2023.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA

BY: _____
LORENZO L. HEARD, Chairman

The Chairman recognized ASPIRE CEO Dana Glass who was present to accept the Proclamation recognizing May as Mental Health Month. Ms. Glass provided an update to the Board pertaining to personnel, upcoming events, and services. Julie Cosper, from the Region

4 Field Office was also present and both addressed questions of the Board. The Proclamation reads as follows:

Mental Health Month 2023
“Look Around, Look Within”

WHEREAS, the area that someone lives in plays a significant role in their overall health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, surroundings can impact if, how, and when a person’s needs are met, which in turn affects mental health; and

WHEREAS, having safe, stable, and healthy home conditions set the foundation for achieving and maintaining good mental health; and

WHEREAS, with early and effective interventions, those individuals with mental health conditions can recover and lead full, productive lives; and

WHEREAS, with early and effective treatment, those individuals with mental health conditions can recover and lead full, productive lives; and

WHEREAS, each business, school, government agency, healthcare provider, organization, and citizen share the burden of mental health problems and has a responsibility to promote mental wellness and support prevention efforts.

THEREFORE, I Lorenzo L. Heard, do hereby proclaim May 2023 as Mental Health Month in Dougherty County. As the Chairman, I also call upon the citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, and schools in Dougherty County to recommit our community to increasing awareness and understanding of mental health, the steps our citizens can take to protect their mental health, and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental health conditions.

DONE at the Dougherty County, Albany, Georgia this 22nd day of May 2023.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA

BY: _____
LORENZO L. HEARD, Chairman

The Chairman recognized Operations Manager Melvin Williams and Heavy Equipment Operator Julius Barber present to be recognized for placing at the Solid Waste Association’s Equipment Road-E-O. Solid Waste Director Campbell Smith provided information regarding the accomplishment.

The Chairman called for a discussion to approve the Alcohol Application from JNKR Inc., Rushabh Bharat Patel licensee, dba Lotus, at 1000 Liberty Expressway for Package- Beer and Wine. The Albany-Dougherty Marshal's Office recommended approval. Chief Deputy Anthony Donaldson, Code Enforcement Department, addressed and confirmed that this a new construction and considering that the location is in the County, Sunday alcohol sales will be allowed.

The Chairman called for a discussion to declare one 2011 Peterbilt Dump Truck and one 2017 Adapco Guardian 190 G4 ULV Machine as surplus and authorize the sale in the amount of \$11,200 of the same to the Randolph County Board of Commissioners. This request was made on behalf of Randolph County Manager Dr. Deborah Jones. County Administrator Micheal McCoy addressed and clarified the surplus process to another government for Commissioner Johnson. Public Works Director Chuck Mathis was present.

The Chairman called for discussion to amend the SPLOST VII budget in the amount of \$10,556,060.58. SPLOST VII collections ended on March 31, 2023, and the budget must be amended to report the collections received over the budgeted amount. The SPLOST VII projects within the SPLOST Fund need to be amended by \$3,800,181.81 and interest earned amended by \$650,654.72. Projects approved by the Board in the May 1, 2023 Regular Meeting for Putney Park and Morgue need to be entered in the SPLOST Fund as approved, leaving an unappropriated amount of \$1,395,836.53. County Administrator Michael McCoy shared that this was administrative housekeeping. Due to an overcollection and interest earned, the funds need to be reallocated. He clarified that the handout listed the Government Center but needed to be renamed. Mr. McCoy shared based on Commissioner Johnson's question that the projects were part of a schedule replacement but were unfunded. Finance Director Martha Hendley was present.

The Chairman called for discussion to increase and amend the General Fund budget by \$3,198,040 for a total budget of \$62,179,734 and increase and amend the Special Services District Fund in the amount of \$221,362 for a total budget of \$9,213,290. The budgets must be amended to reflect the amounts recommended in the Payroll Cost Study. Funding is available in ARPA and was budgeted at the beginning of FY23, but the actual budget for each department was not known until the study was received. This amendment is necessary to allocate to each department the amount that the study increased the department's budget. County Administrator Michael McCoy shared in layman's terms that the ARPA funding is being utilized for the pay study implementation. It was clarified that there will be remaining funds carried over for FY24 and more details will be provided in the following Finance Committee Meeting. Finance Director Martha Hendley was present.

Under updates, Mr. McCoy reminded the Board that in observance of the Memorial Day Holiday on Monday, May 29, 2023 there will not be a scheduled meeting held. The next meeting will be on Monday, June 5, 2023. He announced the hiring of new Assistant County Administrator, Barry Brooks.

The Chairman shared the concern that he, nor the Board, were aware of the decision being made. Amidst the Chairman's statements, Commissioner Johnson inquired if this discussion

should be held in Executive Session and it was the preference of the Attorney. Commissioner Johnson then motioned to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. It was unanimously approved by roll call to enter into Executive Session at 11:31 am and the Board reconvened at 12:38 pm.

The Chairman made a motion that County Administrator Micheal McCoy be relieved of his duties, understanding by law, that he is to be paid out the full of his contract, to December 31st, and to rescind the hiring of the Assistant. A motion to deny was offered by Commissioner Gray. The second by Commissioner Edwards was clarified to be made to the initial motion of the Chairman and not that of Commissioner Gray. Commissioner Newsome seconded the motion of Commissioner Gray. A roll call was started and Commissioner Gray questioned parliamentary procedure and discussion was then held. Commissioner Gray was vocal about the potential liability that the County can face if the Administrator was removed. Commissioner Johnson asked for the opinion of the County Attorney, who discouraged the continuation of the conversation and encouraged the Board to take action on another agenda. Attorney Shalishi provided clarity on the County’s practice of not voting on motions in a Work Session. Upon Commissioner Jones’ inquiry of who will run the County, [if the initial motion was passed], the Chairman shared that the department heads will do so until there is a Special Called Meeting. Commissioner Newsome voiced his concerns about the potential removal of the Administrator and the impact it will have on the County. After the roll call was re-initiated by the Chairman for the denial of the initial motion, it failed with three ayes by Commissioners Gray, Jones, and Newsome and four nays by Commissioners Edwards, Gaines, Johnson and Chairman Heard. The original motion was restated and passed via roll call with four ayes by Commissioners Edwards, Gaines, Johnson, and Chairman Heard and three nays by Commissioners Gray, Jones and Newsome.

Commissioner Johnson asked that an economic development task force be created and comprised by Commissioners to discuss the economic future of Dougherty County. Commissioner Gaines echoed the need for the same. Commissioners Gray and Jones shared that this was a “sad day for Dougherty County”. The Chairman shared statistics pertaining to the County and shared that there needs to be a new way to attract people to the area and something different must be done and he stood by his commitment to making the County grow.

There being no further business to discuss the Commission the meeting adjourned at 12:58 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

COUNTY CLERK

DOUGHERTY COUNTY COMMISSION
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING MINUTES

DRAFT

May 25, 2023

The Dougherty County Commission met for a Special Called Meeting in Room 100 of the Albany-Dougherty Government Center on May 25, 2023. Chairman Lorenzo Heard presided and called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Present were Commissioners Victor Edwards, Gloria Gaines, Clinton Johnson, Anthony Jones and Ed Newsome. Commissioner Russell Gray and County Attorney Alex Shalishali participated via teleconference (with Attorney Shalishali being present in the meeting at 10:24 am). Also present were 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 discussion of the County's transition plan. Dave Wills, Executive Director of Association County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG) was present to provide guidance. Mr. Wills received a call from Commissioners Johnson and Jones on Monday regarding the situation that occurred. He shared that it is advisable to hire an interim Administrator; but suggested that it is not someone interested in the full-time position. The time of appointment can vary, but it is an average of three to six months. He shared that the Board would want to have time for the interim to assess [and provide feedback] prior to entertaining applications for a permanent replacement. He encouraged that there be an overlap period for the interim to work with the replacement. Regarding the hiring process, the Board should determine "what and not who they are looking for" and he provided suggested credentials. Mr. Wills encouraged the Board to agree on the process and recommended that there is a fixed time for individuals to apply [as opposed to having the position listed as open until filled]. He recommended that the Board utilize someone to vet the applications prior to them being involved in the interview process. He noted that the use of executive sessions is permitted but is not required, giving the pros and cons and other areas of consideration. He encouraged due diligence of checking backgrounds of potential candidates and answered questions of the Board. Mr. Wills suggested presenting Dougherty County's challenges as opportunities and encouraged the Board to always review their enabling legislation and code of ordinances.

There was an inaudible motion made by Commissioner Gray and there was discussion and clarity provided by the Attorney regarding the ability to add an item to today's meeting. Commissioner Gray then reiterated a motion for unanimous consent to add the request to rescind the actions taken by the Board on Monday [May 22, 2023]. Under a poll taken by the Chairman, there was not unanimous consent with four opposing (Chairman Heard and Commissioners Edwards, Gaines and Johnson) and three supporting (Commissioners Gray, Jones and Newsome).

Commissioner Gaines asked that a process and plan be provided by our Chairman and Attorney at the June 5 meeting pertaining to the hiring process of the administrator position and the Chairman agreed. Commissioner Jones asked that Mr. Wills provide direction on who

[specifically] should run the County. The Chairman interjected that the request was not the charge of ACCG and stated that Department Managers should continue to operate as they have and a decision will be made by the Board.

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

CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

COUNTY CLERK



MEMORANDUM

Date: June 9, 2023
To: The Board of County Commissioners
From: Albany Dougherty Planning Commission
Subject: 23-030 Special Approval (1713 Lily Pond Rd)

Johnathan Johnson (23-030) has submitted an application to the Albany Dougherty Planning Commission requesting Special Approval to convert an in-home daycare serving up to six (6) clients to a daycare learning center to allow an increase up to 18 daycare clients on a 1-acre parcel zoned R-2 (Single-Family Residential). The property is located at 1713 Lily Pond Rd (00208/00001/99D). The property owner is Deborah Johnson. District 6

Aaron Johnson offered a motion to move forward to approve the request for Special Approval for the property located at 1713 Lily Pond Rd; seconded by Charles Ochie; the Motion carried 4-2-3 with the following votes:

William Geer Tie or Quorum
Jimmy Hall Abstain
Sandford Hillsman No
Charles Ochie Yes
Willie Simmons No
Helen Young Yes
Yvonne Jackson Yes
Aaron Johnson Yes
Art Brown Abstain
Billy Merritt Abstain

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

P.O. Box 447 Albany, GA 31702 | Phone: 229.438.3901 | Fax: 229.438.3965 | www.albanyga.gov

**STAFF ANALYSIS AND REPORT
APPLICATION #23-030 SPECIAL APPROVAL**



OWNER: Deborah Johnson

APPLICANT: Johnathan Johnson

LOCATION: 1713 Lily Pond Road

CURRENT ZONING/USE: R-2 (Single-Family Residential District)

PROPOSED USE: Daycare Learning Center (up to 18 clients)

MEETING INFORMATION:

Planning Commission: 6/1/2023, 2:00 P.M., Central Square Building, 3rd Floor
240 Pine Avenue, Room 380

Public Hearing: **6/26/2023**, 8:30 A.M., Government Center,
222 Pine Avenue, Rm. 100

RECOMMENDATION: **Approval**

GENERAL INFORMATION:

The applicant requests Special Approval to operate a daycare learning center serving up to (eighteen) 18 daycare clients at 1713 Lily Pond Road. The property is currently zoned R-2(Single-Family Residential District) and permits the use of a Family daycare serving (six) 6 or fewer clients per the Dougherty County zoning ordinance.

SPECIAL APPROVAL CRITERIA

The Albany Dougherty Zoning Ordinance recommends that the Planning Commission consider the following factors for special approval requests:

1. The effect of the proposed activity on the adjacent transportation network.

Trip Generation:

Road Improvements: According to the **FY 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)** and the **Dougherty Area Regional Transportation Study: (DARTS 2045)**, for the Albany/Dougherty metro area, there are no state or federally funded projects taking place in this area.

Road Classifications: Street that provides access to the subject property is classified accordingly:

Lily Pond Road, classified as a Collector Road, provides access to the subject parcel.

Trip Generation: Current traffic volumes on Lily Pond Road to the nearest point are as follows:

- Lily Pond has a current estimated Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) Count of 1,750 trips per day.

According to the ITE Trip Generator, a daycare learning center would generate approximately 47.62 trips per day for a 1,000 sq. ft building. The subject building is 2,258 sq. ft. resulting in approximately 95 trips per day.

Analysis:

The proposed use might have a low adverse impact on the surrounding transportation network in the AM and PM peak hours resulting from one ingress and egress access point to the subject parcel.

The location of off-street parking facilities.

Off-street parking will adversely impact the surrounding neighbors. The applicant states that the (1) acre tract will facilitate adequate parking for the proposed use. Parking plan provided.

2. The number, size, and type of signs proposed for the site.

All signs must comply with the sign regulations in accordance with Bright from the Start and the Dougherty County Sign Ordinances. The applicant plans to install Parking signs 24"W x 18"H.

3. The amount and location of open space.

As stated by the applicant, the proposed site is a (1+) one-acre parcel with approximately (500+) five-hundred square feet of combined open space to the structure's North, South, and East. The applicant has no plans to erect any additional structures or make drastic changes to the landscaping.

Protective Screening.

The applicant plans to comply with protective screening regulations in accordance with Bright from the Start and the Dougherty County ordinance for the proposed use.

4. Hours and manner of operation of the proposed use.

The applicant states that the day care facility will operate Monday through Friday from 7:30 am to 5:30 pm. The hours of operation are not expected to interfere with other daycare and school operations in the area.

7. Outdoor lighting.

According to the applicant, there will be adequate outdoor lighting provided by the already existing lights within the parcel.

8. Ingress and egress to the property.

According to the applicant, the property will be accessed from the existing access drive from Lily Pond Road. The applicant provided a sketched site plan with labeled entrance and exit.

9. Compatibility with surrounding land use.

The proposed use is suitable with the adjacent land uses. The area is predominantly single-family and multi-family residential to the East, North, and South and commercial to the West of the subject parcel. The property is located within the A - 100 Year Flood Area - Areas of 1% annual chance flood, also known as the base flood. Base Flood Elevations (BFE) have not been determined.

10. Consistency with the Comprehensive Plan.

The **Future Land Use Map** recommends low density residential for this property. The proposed use would not conflict with this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommend **approval** of this application.




PROCUREMENT RECOMMENDATION

DATE: June 6, 2023

TITLE: DOCO Police Vehicles
REFERENCE NUMBER: 23-088
OPENING DATE: May 26, 2023
BUYER: Corey Gamble

DEPARTMENT: DOCO Police
ACCOUNT NUMBER: 321025036
BUDGETED AMOUNT: \$312,000.00
DEPARTMENT CONTACTS: Capt. Jason
Hager


Joshua Williams, Interim Procurement Manager

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend the purchase of Six (6) 2023 Police Pursuit Utility AWD, from Wade Ford for a total expenditure of \$261,960.00.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

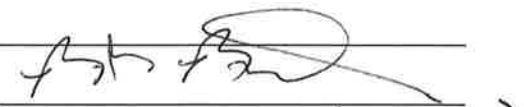
Bid Ref. #23-088 was advertised, on May 5, 2023, in the local paper, on the local access channel, Facebook, and on the Georgia Procurement Registry. Twelve (12) vendors were directly solicited. Two (2) vendors submitted proposals. After research, it was determined that the lack of responses from vendors, was due to a lack of available inventory. Wade Ford, of Smyrna, Ga was the lowest responsive, responsible vendor. Staff recommends the purchase of Six (6) 2023 Police Pursuit Utility AWD from Wade Ford for a total expenditure of \$261,960.00.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR ACTION:

APPROVED () DISAPPROVED () HOLD

COMMENTS:

6/7/2023
DATE


COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR (Assistant)

List of Documents Attached:

GRANT REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FORM



GRANT REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FORM

DATE:
June 7, 2023

DEPARTMENT:
Library

GRANT PROGRAM:
Westtown Library Renovation

GRANT AGENCY:
Georgia Public Library Service

CFDA # (IF FEDERAL GRANT)
N/A

PROGRAM TITLE:
Georgia Public Library Service Major Repair and Renovation Grant Program

FEDERAL	STATE	LOCAL MATCH	OTHER	TOTAL REQUEST
	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000		\$ 600,000

IF LOCAL MATCH IS REQUIRED, ARE FUNDS AVAILABLE IN CURRENT BUDGET?
No

Comments: (in-kind, direct appropriation, etc.)
Requesting SPLOST funds for match

INDIRECT COSTS?
N/A

AMOUNT:

REIMBURSEMENT GRANT:

PROJECT DIRECTOR: Gail Evans

PHONE:
(229) 420-3230

DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR OR OFFICIAL APPROVING SUBMISSION (PRINT NAME & TITLE)
Gail Evans, Library Director

SIGNATURE:
Gail Evans

DATE: 6/7/2023

REVIEWED BY FINANCE: Director
Martha B. Hendley

SIGNATURE:
Martha B Hendley

DATE:
6/8/2023

REVIEWED BY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR:

SIGNATURE:

DATE:

COUNTY COMMISSION ACTION:

APPROVED: Y/N

DATE:

GRANT REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FORM



GRANT REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FORM

DATE: June 7, 2023				
DEPARTMENT: Library				
GRANT PROGRAM: Westtown Library Renovation				
GRANT AGENCY: Georgia Public Library Service				
CFDA # (IF FEDERAL GRANT) N/A				
PROGRAM TITLE: Georgia Public Library Service Capital Outlay Grant Program				
FUNDING REQUEST:				
FEDERAL	STATE	LOCAL MATCH	OTHER	TOTAL REQUEST
	\$ 900,000	\$ 100,000		\$ 1,000,000
IF LOCAL MATCH IS REQUIRED, ARE FUNDS AVAILABLE IN CURRENT BUDGET?		Comments: (in-kind, direct appropriation, etc.)		
No		Requesting SPLOST funds for match.		
INDIRECT COSTS?	AMOUNT:			
N/A				
REIMBURSEMENT GRANT:				
PROJECT DIRECTOR: Gail Evans		PHONE: (229) 420-3230		
DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR OR OFFICIAL APPROVING SUBMISSION (PRINT NAME & TITLE)		SIGNATURE:		DATE: 6/7/2023
Gail Evans, Library Director				
REVIEWED BY FINANCE: Director		SIGNATURE:		DATE:
Martha B. Hendley				6/8/2023
REVIEWED BY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR:		SIGNATURE:		DATE:
COUNTY COMMISSION ACTION:		APPROVED: Y/N		DATE:

GRANT REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FORM



GRANT REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FORM

DATE: 2/10/2023				
DEPARTMENT: Dougherty Superior Court MH/SA Treatment Program				
GRANT PROGRAM: State of Georgia Accountability Court Funding Program				
GRANT AGENCY: State of Georgia / Criminal Justice Coordinating Council / Council of Accountability Court Judges				
CFDA # (IF FEDERAL GRANT)				
PROGRAM TITLE: Dougherty Superior Court MH/SA Treatment Program				
FUNDING REQUEST:				
FEDERAL	STATE	LOCAL MATCH	OTHER	TOTAL REQUEST
	\$ 300,000	\$ 40,000		\$ 340,000
IF LOCAL MATCH IS REQUIRED, ARE FUNDS AVAILABLE IN CURRENT BUDGET? Yes		Comments: (in-kind, direct appropriation, etc.) In prior years, we have had access to Date funds. We are requesting to do the same this year.		
INDIRECT COSTS?	AMOUNT:			
REIMBURSEMENT GRANT: yes				
PROJECT DIRECTOR: Patricia Griffin		PHONE: 229-302-3682		
DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR OR OFFICIAL APPROVING SUBMISSION (PRINT NAME & TITLE) Victoria S Darrisaw Judge, Superior Court		SIGNATURE: <i>Victoria S. Darrisaw</i>		DATE: 6/9/2023
REVIEWED BY FINANCE: Director Martha B. Hendley		SIGNATURE: <i>Martha B. Hendley</i>		DATE: 6/9/2023
REVIEWED BY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR: Michael McCoy		SIGNATURE:		DATE:
COUNTY COMMISSION ACTION:		APPROVED: Y/N		DATE:

ASPIRE Behavioral Health & Developmental Disability
Services Board

Incumbents

Coroner Michael Fowler

Richard Ware

Two new applicants

Becky Farkas

Jeanette Henderson



Dougherty County Board of Commissioners
Albany, Georgia

MAY 10, 2023

To whom it may concern:

My name is Becky Lori Farkas and I am interested in serving on your Aspire Behavioral Health board for Mental Health services. I graduated from Columbus State University in 1996 with a master's degree in Community Counseling. Because this program is CACREP accredited, I was able to become a licensed mental health counselor in Florida where I had moved. I practiced in Florida until I retired in 2007, due to illness.

Due to health concerns I recently returned to Albany. Reading the Albany Herald, I saw that you had two openings on your board. I am very interested in mental health issues in this community. My husband, Sam Farkas Jr., is a businessman, and he has called on me to advise some of his employees. I would like more information on what types of mental health options are available in this area.

I have been interested in mental health for years, which led to my pursuit of a license to practice mental health. As a cognitive behavioral therapist, I have worked with adults, children, and teens. I have run gang treatment programs for the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice, and worked for the state of Georgia at Autry Prison in Pelham, Ga. I have worked with the state of Florida's foster kids in providing therapeutic counseling, and doing comprehensive assessments.

In short, I have a complete resume in mental health studies and service provision. I would very much appreciate the opportunity to use this experience to enhance mental health services in this area. Being retired, I have a lot of available time and knowledge, and would appreciate the opportunity to put both to work, by serving on this board.

Thank you,

Becky Lori Farkas
Becky Lori Farkas

May 10, 2023



Dear Commissioners:

I am retired after working 35 years with the Albany Housing Authority. The Housing Authority taught me a great deal about everyday living. It also taught me to be humble, caring, and understanding of all mankind. It is my desire to take these qualities and apply them to my every day life.

It is my understanding that you have an opening on the ASPIRE Board of Directors. I am very much interested in being a part of that Board. I will give it my best professional experience if given the opportunity.

I may be reached at 229-894-0558 or 5909 Old Dawson Road, Albany, Ga 31721.

Sincerely,

Jeanette Henderson

Jeanette W. Henderson
5909 Old Dawson Road
Albany, Georgia 31721
Home: 229-435-9215 Cell: (229) 894-0588
Email: henderson4000@bellsouth.net



EXPERIENCE:

Albany Housing Authority, Albany, GA

Deputy Director of Housing Services, April 1983 to Present

- Senior Staff member and part of a team that managed 61 Section 8 Vouchers, 1185 Public Housing, Tax credit properties and 202 Elderly properties.
- Re-housing of Residents after the 1994 Flood, and bringing the new developments on line.
- Management of over 200 properties for the City of Albany
- Assisted with housing the hurricane Katrina family
- Supervise 7 Property Managers, with a total overall Staff of 50
- Supervise the Rental Collection department with an average monthly collections of all properties is over 233,000.00 per month
- Responsible for regulation compliance
- Monitors departmental policies relating to employees, resident relations, rent collections, resident charges and various areas of Housing Management activities
- Monitors and follows up and take immediate corrective action on delinquent accounts
- Assist the Executive Director in carrying out resolutions and orders of the AHA and requirements of HUD policy and regulations
- Hires all Housing Services Division personnel, conducts training programs for Housing Services Staff; holds weekly Staff meeting for instructions and explanation on new procedures and policies. Audits tenant's files and reviews daily statements of operation. Reviews all Property Managers monthly reports and reports findings to the Executive Director.

Accomplishments

- Achieved High Performer
- Vacancies at 98 percent for the Albany Housing Authority
- Provide a Mobile Health Fair for Residents with an opportunity to have an appointment with a Doctor onsite
- Provide Residents with an Easter Extravaganza in April
- National Night Out event AHA Partner with other Community Organizations for annual Crime Prevention event for Residents the streets are blocked off for a Neighborhood Block Party
- Red Ribbon Week/ Halloween Fest small carnival with Kid friendly games and kids pledge to be drug free
- Senior Prom A dance with a DJ for all Seniors we crown a King and Queen
- Bingo Game Household items are given for prizes
- Back to School Bash provide our youth with school supplies to return to school.
- Voter Registration provide resident with onsite voter registration forms.
- Movie Night Provide Resident with a favorite positive Movie of choice

Certificates & Current AFFILIATIONS:

- Leadership Albany class of 1987
- Sigma Gamma Rho Public Service Sorority
- Public Housing Manager, NAHRO (1986)
- Georgia Association of Housing and Redevelopment Authorities (GAHRA) Past President (2007-2008)
- Chairman of the Commissioners Committee – GAHRA
- Member of the GAHRA Scholarship Committee
- SERC/NAHRO Vice President of Housing-present
- NAHRO serves on the Housing Committee
- Chairperson of Keep Albany Dougherty Beautiful (KADB) present

Education:

Albany State University
Bachelor of Arts, June 1975
Major: Sociology

Chehaw Park Authority

Incumbent

Scott Steiner

No new applicants