



**PAULDING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
WORK SESSION MINUTES  
February 28, 2023**

**Watson Government Complex  
Second Floor – Board of Commissioners Meeting Room**

**CALL TO ORDER:** David L. Carmichael, Chairman

**INVOCATION  
& PLEDGE:** David L. Carmichael, Chairman

**PRESENT:** David L. Carmichael, Chairman; Keith Dunn, Post 1; Sandy Kaecher, Post II; Virginia Galloway, Post III; Brian Stover, Post IV (via-telephone); Jayson Phillips, County Attorney; Frank Baker, County Manager; Rebecca Merideth, County Clerk.

**MINUTES:**

- 1. The February 14, 2023 Work Session Minutes and the February 14, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes were available for review.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Team Paulding: Consequences of Litter aired for the Commissioners and audience.

The Board of Commissioners recognized Mr. David Thompson for 41 years of service with Paulding County Department of Transportation.

**INVITED GUESTS:** None

**BID AWARDS:**

- 2. Award of the 2023 Asphalt Project Contract I to the lowest bidder, Northwest Georgia Paving Inc., in the amount of \$6,277,170.86. Roads scheduled in the Contract are located in Posts 1, 2, and 3. Funding of the project will be from the FY 2023 LMIG Grant, General Fund and SLOST.*

Discussed action to award the 2023 Asphalt Project Contract I to the lowest bidder, Northwest Georgia Paving Inc., in the amount of \$6,277,170.86. Roads scheduled in the Contract are located in Posts 1, 2, and 3. Funding of the project will be from the FY 2023 LMIG Grant, General Fund and SLOST. Erica Parish, Transportation Assistant Director, stated this Contract includes 14.68 miles on ten (10) County roads. The Contract was advertised on January 6, 2023. Ms. Parish stated three (3) bids were received on February 3, 2023 with the low bid being 31% lower than the County estimate.

- 3. Approve the 2023 Asphalt Project Contract II to the low bidder, Northwest Georgia Paving Inc., in the amount of \$4,961,377.60. Roads scheduled in the Contract are located in Posts 2, 3, and 4. Project will be funded by General Funds and SPLOST.*

Discussed action to approve the 2023 Asphalt Project Contract II to the low bidder, Northwest Georgia Paving Inc., in the amount of \$4,961,377.60. Roads scheduled in the Contract are located in Posts 2, 3, and 4. Project will be funded by General Funds and SPLOST. Erica Parish, Transportation Assistant Director, stated this Contract includes 13.6 miles on six (6) County roads. The Contract was advertised on January 6, 2023. Ms. Parish stated three (3) bids were received on February 3, 2023 with the low bid being 24% lower than the County estimate.

- 4. Award the Braswell Mountain Control Valve Contract for construction services to Wade Coots Construction Company Inc., in the amount not to exceed \$252,000.00 from the Renewal and Extension Fund. The project is located in Post 4.*

Discussed action to award the Braswell Mountain Control Valve Contract for construction services to Wade Coots Construction Company Inc., in the amount not to exceed \$252,000.00 from the Renewal and Extension Fund. The project is located in Post 4. Tabitha Pollard, Finance Director, stated that bids were open for this project on January 26, 2023. The County received three (3) bids with this bid being lower than the Engineer’s estimate. Garber Engineers recommends the award to Wade Coots Construction Company. This project will install a control

valve on the Braswell Mountain Water Tank, which will allow the decommissioning of the Braswell Mountain Pump Station. The Pump Station will then be used as a back-up.

**REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES & DEPARTMENTS:**

Deidre Holden, Elections and Registration Director, gave a presentation regarding an Update on 2022 Election Year and Audit to the Commissioners and the audience.

**Chairman Carmichael** asked what the Elections Department is doing for the Cities this year.

**Ms. Holden** stated the Elections Department will conduct the elections for the Cities of Dallas and Hiram. Early voting will begin in October.

**Commissioner Galloway** thanked the Elections Department, along with its Board, for completing the audit. She stated they went above and beyond what was asked of them. She also thanked the Citizens that came forward and voiced their concerns.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON AGENDA ITEMS:** None

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Chairman Carmichael read the following consent agenda items:

- 5. *Recreation Board appointments with a term of February 28, 2023 through December 31, 2027:*

<i>Paul Taylor</i>	<i>Post 3 Appointment</i>
<i>Debbie Lossick</i>	<i>Post 3 Appointment</i>

- 6. *Approve the Paulding County revised Alcohol License Fee Schedule.*

- 7. *Accept the below list of streets for perpetual maintenance by the County.*

<u><i>Cedar Mill / Phase Seven – A</i></u>	<u><i>Cedar Mill / Phase Seven – C</i></u>
<i>Park Chase Lane</i>	<i>Zimmer Woods Crossing</i>
<i>Park Chase Court</i>	

*Cedar Mill / Phase Seven – B*  
*Leyland Crossing*  
*Leyland Court*  
*Leyland Circle*

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- 8. *Adopt Ordinance 23-03 Amendment to Chapter 6 of the Official Paulding County Code to provide for the issuance of Distilled Spirits Manufacturing Licenses. .*

Discussed action to adopt Ordinance 23-03 Amendment to Chapter 6 of the Official Paulding County Code to provide for the issuance of Distilled Spirits Manufacturing Licenses. Jayson Phillips, County Attorney, stated the State of Georgia regulates three (3) types of alcohol: malt beverage beer, wine, and distilled spirits. There are also three (3) types of licenses. They are Consumption on Premises (Restaurant), Package Sales (Retail), and a Manufacturing License. He further stated with the passing of the Referendum in November, the County can have a Manufacturing License for Distilled Spirits. The License is modeled after the Brewery Ordinance and it conforms to the requirements of State Law.

- 9. *Authorize the County to participate in nationwide settlement agreements regarding opioid litigation with Teva, Allergan, CVS, Walgreens, and Walmart in conjunction with the State of Georgia and authorize the Chairman and County Attorney to execute all documentation related thereto.*

Discussed action to authorize the County to participate in nationwide settlement agreements regarding opioid litigation with Teva, Allergan, CVS, Walgreens, and Walmart in conjunction with the State of Georgia and authorize the Chairman and County Attorney to execute all documentation related thereto. Jayson Phillips, County Attorney, stated this is the third of the National Opioid Settlements. These settlements are designed to help alleviate the adverse effects of opioid addiction through education, training, treatment, and Narcan for Law Enforcement.

- 10. *Approve the May 1, 2023 Employee Benefits Plan renewal as presented.*

Discussed action to approve the May 1, 2023 Employee Benefits Plan renewal as presented. Tara Palmer, Human Resources Director, stated we have been working on this process since

November 2022. NFP sent this out for a market analysis. We received two (2) quotes from Aetna and Humera. The quote from Humera was a 44% increase. The quote from Aetna was a 16.5% increase. Human Resources is proposing a 10% increase in employee deductions and some plan design changes.

***11. Authorize the County Manager to sign a vehicle lease with Ford Credit for 2 Explorers. This is funded with ARPA Funds and General Funds.***

Discussed action to authorize the County Manager to sign a vehicle lease with Ford Credit for 2 Explorers. This is funded with ARPA Funds and General Funds. Tabitha Pollard, Finance Director, stated this lease will allow the D.A.'s Office to work remotely to bring more cases to court. The lease will last two (2) years through December 2024.

**Frank Baker**, County Manager, stated this item is an unusual request because the County usually does not lease vehicles. That is why it was put on the agenda.

**Commissioner Dunn** asked if the County can purchase the vehicles at the end of the lease.

**Ms. Pollard** stated the County can purchase the vehicles for \$1.00 at the end of the lease.

**CONCLUSION OF REGULAR BUSINESS**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** None

**Chairman Carmichael** asked if any of the Commissioners had any comments or announcements.

**Commissioner Kaecher** thanked Tammy Starkey and her group from NFP. She stated that we worked really hard on the Employee Benefits Plan.

**Chairman Carmichael** stated he and Erica Parish, Transportation Assistant Director, went to the General Assembly yesterday and listened to the Transportation Committee. He also stated Spring will be here soon and encouraged the Citizens to enjoy the County Parks.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:** Sandy Kaecher made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Virginia Galloway. Voting Yea: Chairman Carmichael, Post I Keith Dunn, Post II Sandy Kaecher, Post III Virginia Galloway, Post IV Brian Stover (via-telephone).