



**PAULDING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORK SESSION MINUTES
October 26, 2021**

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

CALL TO ORDER: Brian Stover, Chairman Pro Tem

**INVOCATION
& PLEDGE:** Jason Phillips, County Attorney

PRESENT: David L. Carmichael, Chairman (via phone); Keith Dunn, Post I; Sandy Kaecher, Post II; Chuck Hart, Post III; Brian Stover, Post IV; Jayson Phillips, County Attorney; Frank Baker, County Administrator; Rebecca Merideth, County Clerk

MINUTES:

- 1. The October 12, 2021 Work Session Minutes, October 12, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes and October 14, 2021 Joint Board Meeting Minutes were available for review.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Team Paulding: A Proclamation for Red Ribbon Week aired for the Commissioners and the audience.

The Board of Commissioners presented a Public Safety Appreciation Award to Communications Officer, Dana Guerrero, with Paulding County E-911.

INVITED GUESTS: None

BID AWARDS:

- 2. Award the purchase of the HD2 Mastiff Tactical Robot in the amount of \$53,571.51.*
Discussed action to award the purchase of the HD2 Mastiff Tactical Robot in the amount of \$53,571.51. Tabitha Pollard, Director of Finance, stated this bid is a budgeted expense from this year's general fund budget and is a replacement item. There were three bids with the low bid recommended.

Col. Chad Hunton, Paulding County Sheriff's Office, stated the current robot is approximately ten years old and has been shot at least three times. The upkeep is expensive due to interchangeable parts and changes in software technology. He further stated the new robot will be more durable and easier to operate.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES & DEPARTMENTS: None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

CONSENT AGENDA: Commissioner Brian Stover, Chairman Pro Tem, read the following consent agenda items:

3. *Adopt Finance job classification for Accounting Technician.*
4. *Adopt Finance job classification for Grants Specialist/Administrator.*

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

5. *Ordinance 21-07, (Re-designated as Ordinance 21-08) an Amendment eliminating the Mobile Home Decal Display Requirement.*
Discussed action to adopt Ordinance 21-07, (Re-designated as Ordinance 21-08) an Amendment eliminating the Mobile Home Decal Display Requirement. Jason Phillips, County Attorney, stated the Mobile Home Decal Display Requirement is no longer needed because the status of tax payment can be obtained internally through the computer system.

6. *Resolution 21-32 regarding an increase in Homestead Exemption specific to County Maintenance and Operations.*
Discussed action to adopt Resolution 21-32 regarding an increase in Homestead Exemption specific to County Maintenance and Operations. Jason Phillips, County Attorney, stated the state-wide Homestead Exemption is \$2,000.00. This proposal increases the Exemption an additional \$4,000.00 in year one and an additional \$4,000.00 beyond year one, for a total County Exemption of \$10,000.00. He further stated this Resolution asks our Delegation to introduce a Bill to the General Assembly. If the Bill passes the General Assembly, the voters of Paulding County would have the opportunity to vote on a referendum to decide if this will become a law.

Commissioner Stover thanked James Stokes, Director/Chief Appraiser, and Tabitha Pollard, Director of Finance, for their hard work and for providing the backup information. He stated this has been needed for a long time.

7. *Agreement with the State of Georgia DHS/DFCS to participate in the Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP).*
Discussed action to approve an Agreement with the State of Georgia DHS/DFCS to participate in the Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP). Laurie Ashmore, Director of Water and Sewer Services, stated when talking about Customer Assistance Programs, the issues of funding and eligibility are always discussed. The funding for this program is through Congressional Appropriation and a third party, Tallatoona Community Action Agency, will decide the eligibility of the participant and disburse the money to the County on their behalf. Ms. Ashmore stated that upon the Board's approval of this Agreement, Paulding County would be the second County in the Tallatoona District to participate in the program.
8. *Authorize the Chairman to enter into a Contract with Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. (VHB), Inc., in the amount of \$654,999.76, for planning activities and delivery of a Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Update and a Comprehensive Plan Partial Update.*
Discussed action to authorize the Chairman to enter into a Contract with Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. (VHB), Inc., in the amount of \$654,999.76, for planning activities and delivery of a Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) Update and a Comprehensive Plan Partial Update. George Jones, Director of Transportation, stated the Board of Commissioners gave approval, a year ago, to secure funding through the Atlanta Regional Commission for a future CTP Update. The Atlanta Regional Commission provided \$500,000.00 in Federal Funding with

a 20% match from the County of \$125,000.00. Mr. Jones stated six teams provided proposals for the Contract. Two teams were short listed and interviewed by a committee including representatives of Paulding County DOT, Paulding County Community Development, Paulding County Economic Development, and the Cities of Dallas and Hiram. The VHB Team was selected for the Contract. Upon completion of the final document and approval from the Board of Commissioners and the Cities of Dallas, Hiram, and Braswell, the Atlanta Regional Commission will have access to this document for transportation purposes.

9. *Paulding County Adult Detention and Law Enforcement Center final Change Order No. 10 in the amount of \$704,416.00.*

Discussed action to approve the Paulding County Adult Detention and Law Enforcement Center final Change Order No. 10 in the amount of \$704,416.00. Scott Greene, Director of Operations, stated this Change Order will close out the funding for the Jail Construction Contract. He stated Turner Construction has the right to request additional compensation when time is added to the project or when items are added that are beyond their control. Mr. Greene stated the request has been negotiated down from \$1.3 million to the \$704,416.00.

Commissioner Stover asked Jason Phillips, County Attorney, if everything on the legal side was in order.

Jayson Phillips, County Attorney, responded yes and stated everything seems to be moving forward without any difficulties.

10. *Change Order No. 1 for Magnum Construction in the amount of \$16,108.00 to address existing septic field revisions and new pavilion lighting.*

Discussed action to approve Change Order No. 1 for Magnum Construction in the amount of \$16,108.00 to address existing septic field revisions and new pavilion lighting. Michael Justus, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, stated this Change Order was generated from the County, not from the Contractor. The changes are to purchase extra piping to tie into the existing storm water system and to get LED lighting for the new pavilion, replacing the old lighting.

CONCLUSION OF REGULAR BUSINESS

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Chuck Hart made a motion to go into Executive Session for the purpose of Pending and Potential Litigation, seconded by Keith Dunn. Voting Yea: Chairman Carmichael (via phone), Post I Keith Dunn, Post II Sandy Kaecher, Post III Chuck Hart, Post IV Brian Stover.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: None

ADJOURNMENT: Sandy Kaecher made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Keith Dunn. Voting Yea: Chairman Carmichael (via phone), Post I Keith Dunn, Post II Sandy Kaecher, Post III Chuck Hart, Post IV Brian Stover.