



**PAULDING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORK SESSION MINUTES
February 09, 2021**

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

CALL TO ORDER: David L. Carmichael, Chairman

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

PRESENT: David L. Carmichael, Chairman; 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 January 26, 2021 Work Session Minutes and the January 26, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes were available for review.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Team Paulding video featuring Employee of the Month Katie Shipman, aired for the Board and audience.

INVITED GUESTS: None

BID AWARDS:

- 2. Award the purchase of the Mobile Command SWAT Trailer to the lowest bidder, Millennium Trailer Sales, in the amount of \$62,267.11:*

Tabitha Pollard, Finance Director, stated this item is a budgeted item and is not listed within our capital. It is included in the SWAT budget for 2021. She stated there were three bids ranging from \$62,267.11 to \$95,965.00. This is a replacement trailer.

Commissioner Hart asked what was on the back of the trailer.

Col. Hunton, Paulding County Sheriff's Office, stated it was an antennae system. He stated that the picture shown was only a representation and not the exact trailer the PCSO will receive. Also, he stated the new trailer will replace an 18 year old truck that is no longer cost effective.

Chairman Carmichael asked how many SWAT members would usually travel in one of those trailers.

Col. Hunton stated the trailer will not be used for transport. The truck used to pull the trailer will transport five members. Another vehicle, called the Assault Van, will transport up to 12 members.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES & DEPARTMENTS: None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

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

- 3. Authorize the Chairman to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Agreement with the College and Career Academy, Cybersecurity, as a partner.*
- 4. Adopt Resolution 21-03 adopting the Title VI Plan update for 2021 and authorize the Chairman to sign the Resolution.*

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- 5. Discussed action to approve the May 1, 2021 Employee benefits Plan Renewal as presented:*

Tara Palmer, Human Resources Director, gave a presentation on the Employee Benefits Plan Renewal. She stated the Plan continues to be an important recruitment and retention tool and is critical to the well-being of our employees and their families. She believes she has an obligation to maintain a comprehensive, competitive, and cost-effective plan. The NFP team was able to negotiate a plan with a 0% increase, which means there are no changes to the employee contribution and no changes to the plan or premium. There will be a new voluntary ancillary coverage with AFLAC offered to and paid by the employee. If this plan is approved, open enrollment will be in March for the May 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022 insurance plan.

Commissioner Hart asked when was the last time the County had a budget neutral situation at the end of the year.

Ms. Palmer stated that she was not aware of this happening in the past. She stated NFP has been great to work with. There will be on-line enrollment and perhaps some face-to-face meetings.

Commissioner Hart asked if the call center has helped her staff.

Ms. Palmer replied absolutely. The employees were directed to the call center for answers. We have had good feedback from the employees.

Chairman Carmichael asked Ms. Palmer about positive health training.

Ms. Palmer stated the County has a wellness grant through ACCG. Also, Blue Cross/Blue Shield provides a wellness fund. These grants are used for training, masks, hand sanitizer, and lunch and learns for employee education.

6. Discussed action to approve the Application for a \$600,000.00 Appalachian Regional Commission Grant for the Hiram (SR92) Sewer Extension:

Laurie Ashmore, Water System Director, stated the SR92 Hiram Sewer Extension is a team effort involving the Environmental Health Department, the Water System, the Finance Department, the City of Hiram, the Paulding County Economic Development, Prime Engineering, and the Northwest Georgia Regional Development Commission. This project is outside of the Capital Improvement Program. Ms. Ashmore contacted the NWGARDC for information on potential grant funding. They suggested the Appalachian Regional Commission Grant. This project will tie into the Downtown Hiram Sewer, which will become part of the County system. The grant amount is for \$600,000.00 of the \$1,700,000.00 total project cost. Ms. Ashmore stated the Water System is doing preliminary work to position the County to get a loan from GEFA due to failing septic tanks in the area.

Chairman Carmichael thanked Ms. Ashmore for the hard work on this project and asked if she had a timeline for this project to be completed.

Ms. Ashmore stated the sewer line is scheduled to be in service at the end of 2022.

CONCLUSION OF REGULAR BUSINESS

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

Chairman Carmichael asked the Commissioners if they would like to make any comments or announcements.

County Administrator, Frank Baker, recognized the renovation of the Commissioner's panel. He thanked County Clerk, Rebecca Merideth, for coordinating the project. He also thanked Jimmy Renfroe and his crew for their professional work.

Chairman Carmichael stated that he was trying to track vaccinations in Paulding County. He met with Nickie Ivey, Nurse Manager, with the Health Department the week before last. At that time, the Health Department had administered 578 Paulding County vaccines.

Commissioner Kaecher wanted to encourage people to go to the Flight Museum located at the Paulding County Airport. She stated it is amazing and the kids will love it.

Commissioner Hart thanked Frank Moran, Hiram Mayor, and Jody Palmer, Hiram City Manager, for being present and for their leadership in Hiram and the County.

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