LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
WORK SESSION
Monday, September 12, 2016

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT
Chairman Bill Slaughter
Vice Chairman Clay Griner
Commissioner Joyce E. Evans
Commissioner Scott Orenstein

Commissioner Marshall and Commissioner Wisenbaker were not in attendance.

Chairman Slaughter called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

MINUTES

The minutes were presented for the work session of August 22, 2016, and the regular session of August 23, 2016. No changes to the minutes were requested.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

REZ-2016-16 Livingston Properties, Bemiss Knights Academy Rd and Merriman Ct, E-A & R-21 To R-10, Water/Sewer, 6.25 Acres, County Planner, Jason Davenport, presented the item. Mr. Davenport stated the applicant has expressed a desire to develop a residential subdivision on the property. Mr. Davenport further stated that while the TRC recommended approval of the request, the Planning Commission conditioned approval of the request with a requirement to have Merriman Court extended to Bemiss Knights Academy Road. Mr. Davenport added that the developer stated the cost was not something the development could handle.

REZ-2016-17 Grove Pointe Phase 6, Dasher Grove Rd, R-21, R-10 & R-1 To R-10, Water/Sewer, 124.62 Acres, County Planner, Jason Davenport, presented the item to include a proposed site plan that would increase the density in Phase 6, of the Grove Pointe Development. Mr. Davenport stated one neighbor expressed some concerns regarding density and house size, adding both the Planning Commission and TRC approved the request with no conditions.

Abandonment of Strong Road, County Engineer, Mike Fletcher, presented the item. Mr. Fletcher stated the Commission made the initial, required determination at their August 9, 2016, meeting. Mr. Fletcher further stated the request is ready for a public hearing and consideration by the Commission.

FOR CONSIDERATION

2015 CDBG, Children's Advocacy Center, Stafford Wright Rd and Skipper Bridge Rd, Property Transaction, County Planner, Jason Davenport, presented the item. Mr. Davenport stated approval by the Commission would transfer ownership of the property to Lowndes County in accordance with requirements set forth by the Department of Community Affairs.

2015 CDBG, Children's Advocacy Center, Stafford Wright Rd and Skipper Bridge Rd, County Planner, Jason Davenport presented the lease agreement between the Children's Advocacy Center and Lowndes County, as required by the Department of Commissioner Affairs.

Resolution to Adopt Lowndes County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update, EMA Director, Ashley Tye, presented the plan. Mr. Tye explained that a multi-jurisdictional update is required by Georgia Emergency Management to maintain local eligibility for grant funds. Mr. Tye further stated all local governments and stakeholder agencies participated in drafting the plan update which resulted in the identification of public health emergencies, which were added to the plan.

Abandonment of Unopened Right of Way Off of Pikes Pond Road, County Engineer, Mike Fletcher, presented the item. Mr. Fletcher stated a resident at 4868 Pikes Pond Road, would like to pave their driveway and needs the unopened right of way to be able to move forward with the project. Mr. Fletcher further stated once the initial determination is made, staff will move forward with advertising.

Quit Claim Deed for Abandoned Right of Way on Old Miller Concrete Property, County Engineer, Mike Fletcher, presented the item. Mr. Fletcher stated the County abandoned the right of way on February 12, 2008, adding a quit claim deed is needed so the owner can move forward with improving the property.

Section 5311 Rural Transportation Program Capital Contract, County Engineer, Mike Fletcher, presented the contract for the replacement of three conversion vans and one computer. Mr. Fletcher further stated the County's match is $13,549.50, of which all but $251.40, has been previously paid.

Surveying and Engineering Service for Old Quitman Road Bridge Replacement, County Engineer, Mike Fletcher, presented the item in the amount of an estimated $90,000.00. Mr. Fletcher stated staff has worked with CSX Railroad to determine a cost effective option for replacing the bridge that would not interfere with railroad operations. Mr. Fletcher further stated the proposed engineering services are the first step in moving forward with the project.

Surveying and Engineering Services for Jumping Gully Road Bridge Replacement, County Engineer, Mike Fletcher, presented the item in the amount of an estimated

$34,150.00. Mr. Fletcher stated that due to back flow from the river, the scope of the project will include a plan to raise the bridge.

BID

Bid for Firefighter Personal Protective Equipment, Finance Director, Stephanie Black, presented the bid in the amount of $112,571.55, with $87,074.80 awarded to Ten-8 Fire Equipment and $25,499.75 awarded to Fisher Scientific (Morning Pride), for the purchase of structural fire-fighting clothing and equipment for Lowndes County Fire Rescue.

REPORTS

County Manger, Joe Pritchard, requested two items be added to the agenda for consideration the following evening, a continuation of the Lowndes County Sheriff's Office's HEAT grant and emergency repairs to a box culvert on Snake Nation Road that was damaged by Hurricane Hermine.

LCSO Lieutenant, Mike Adams, stated the request represented a continuation from 2015 and would continue to provide labor, travel, and maintenance cost. Chairman Slaughter questioned travel funding. Lt. Adams stated the grant provides for LCSO to assist twelve smaller, surrounding agencies.

County Engineer, Mike Fletcher, stated a box culvert on Snake Nation Road had been identified for repair just before Hurricane Hermine hit. Mr. Fletcher stated that due to the amount of water moving through the culvert, it shifted and now needs to be replaced.

There was no objection to adding both items to the agenda.

EMA Director, Ashley Tye, and Public Works Director, Robin Cumbus, provided the Commission with an update regarding the County's overall response to Hurricane Hermine. Chairman Slaughter complimented both on their efforts and thanked all local first responders for their work during the storm.

Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Griner second. Chairman Slaughter adjourned the work session at 9:08 a.m.

Bill Slaughter, Chairman

K. Paige Dukes, County Clerk

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
REGULAR SESSION
Tuesday, September 13, 2016

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT
Chairman Bill Slaughter
Vice Chairman Clay Griner
Commissioner Joyce E. Evans
Commissioner Scott Orenstein
Commissioner Mark Wisenbaker
Commissioner Demarcus Marshall

Chairman Slaughter called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Commissioner Wisenbaker gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

MINUTES

The minutes were presented for the work session of August 22, 2016, and the regular session of August 23, 2016. No changes to the minutes were requested. Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to approve the minutes, Commissioner Evans second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

REZ-2016-16 Livingston Properties, Bemiss Knights Academy Rd and Merriman Ct, E-A & R-21 To R-10, Water/Sewer, 6.25 Acres, County Planner, Jason Davenport, presented the item. Mr. Davenport stated since the work session there had been one question related to the impact the development might have on sewer capacity. Commissioner Marshall asked for an explanation, to which staff replied they did not foresee an issue. No one spoke against the request. Nathan Livingston, 1357 Teeterville Highway, spoke in favor of the request as the developer. Mr. Livingston stated the proposed extension of Merriman Court was too costly to justify moving forward with the development, adding a cul-de-sac would be added to allow public safety vehicles an area in which to turn around. Commissioner Orenstein questioned the number of lots as compared to the requirement for two points of ingress and egress. County Engineer, Mike Fletcher, stated the development is one lot short of meeting the requirement. Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to approve the request as presented, Commissioner Marshall second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

REZ-2016-17 Grove Pointe Phase 6, Dasher Grove Rd, R-21, R-10 & R-1 To R-10, Water/Sewer, 124.62 Acres, County Planner, Jason Davenport, presented the item. Mr. Davenport stated the request would provide for an increase in density. No one spoke

against the request. Gary Cannon, 905 Moss Way, spoke in favor of the request. Commissioner Orenstein questioned lot sizes and location as related to the proposed site plan. Mr. Cannon stated he would prefer R-15, but it was not available. Mr. Cannon further stated lot sizes would be closer to a 15,000 square foot minimum. Mr. Davenport added the southern lots would be larger with the northern lots more of a standard R-10 size. Vice Chairman Griner made a motion to approve the request, Commissioner Evans second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Abandonment of Strong Road, County Engineer, Mike Fletcher, stated the Commission made the required determination on August 9, 2016. Mr. Fletcher further stated the matter has been advertised and remains ready for consideration. No one spoke for or against the request. Commissioner Wisenbaker made a motion to abandon the road, Commissioner Orenstein second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

FOR CONSIDERATION

2015 CDBG, Children's Advocacy Center, Stafford Wright Rd and Skipper Bridge Rd, Property Transaction, County Planner, Jason Davenport, presented the item in accordance with requirements set forth by the Department of Community Affairs. Mr. Davenport further stated approval would transfer the property from the Children's Advocacy Center to Lowndes County. Commissioner Marshall made a motion to approve the transaction, Commissioner Orenstein second. All voted in favor, no one opposed with one exception. Commissioner Evans abstained from voting due to her board position with the Children's Advocacy Center. Motion carried.

2015 CDBG, Children's Advocacy Center, Stafford Wright Rd and Skipper Bridge Rd, County Planner, Jason Davenport, presented the lease agreement. Mr. Davenport stated the lease agreement between the Children's Advocacy Center and Lowndes County is required by the Department of Community Affairs in order to move forward with the project. Commissioner Marshall made a motion to approve the lease, Vice Chairman Griner second. All voted in favor, no one opposed with one exception. Commissioner Evans abstained from voting due to her board position with the Children's Advocacy Center. Motion carried.

Resolution to Adopt Lowndes County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update, EMA Director, Ashley Tye, presented the plan update. Mr. Tye stated the plan is required to be updated every five years in order for local governments to remain eligible for grant funds. Commissioner Orenstein asked if all local governments participated, to which Mr. Tye replied yes. Commissioner Marshall recused himself due to his employment with the City of Valdosta. Vice Chairman Griner made a motion to adopt the update, Commissioner Evans second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Commissioner Marshall abstained. Motion carried.

Abandonment of Unopened Right of Way Off of Pikes Pond Road, County Engineer, Mike Fletcher, presented the item. Mr. Fletcher stated the property is part of a cul-de-sac that has never been opened and that it is now needed by a resident wanting to pave their

driveway. Commissioner Orenstein made a motion determining the section of the county road system has ceased to be used by the county to the extent that no public purpose is served by it and that its removal from the county road system is otherwise in the best public interest, Commissioners Wisenbaker and Griner second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Quit Claim Deed for Abandoned Right of Way On Old Miller Concrete Property, County Engineer, Mike Fletcher, presented the deed. Mr. Fletcher stated the County abandoned the property on February 12, 2008, adding the deed was needed for the owner to improve the property. Vice Chairman Griner made a motion to approve the deed, Commissioner Wisenbaker second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Section 5311 Rural Transportation Program Capital Contract, County Engineer, Mike Fletcher, presented the contract for three conversion vans and one computer. Mr. Fletcher stated the County's match of $13,549.50, has been previously paid with the exception of $251.40. Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to approve the contract and the balance due, Commissioners Evans and Griner second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Surveying and Engineering Service for Old Quitman Road Bridge Replacement, County Engineer, Mike Fletcher, presented the item in an estimated amount of $90,000.00. Commissioner Marshall asked if the project estimate was recent, to which Mr. Fletcher replied yes. Commissioner Orenstein asked if the proposed estimate included right of way and road design. Mr. Fletcher stated there would be no right of way and the cost of the estimate includes the road. Commissioner Marshall asked how long it would take to complete the project. Mr. Fletcher said the timeline would depend somewhat on the railroad, but construction was expected by next summer. Commissioner Marshall made a motion to approve the proposal as presented, Vice Chairman Griner second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Surveying and Engineering Services for Jumping Gully Road Bridge Replacement, County Engineer, Mike Fletcher, presented the item in an estimated amount of $34,150.00. Mr. Fletcher stated the bridge will have to be raised due to back flooding from the river. Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to approve the proposal, Vice Chairman Griner second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Snake Nation Road Culvert Emergency Repairs, County Engineer, Mike Fletcher, presented a quote from Dunmon Construction, in the amount of $168,928.00, to repair the culvert. Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to accept the quote as presented, Vice Chairman Griner second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

High Enforcement of Aggressive Traffic (Heat), Chief Deputy, Joe Crow, presented the item. Vice Chairman Griner questioned the percentage the grant would reimburse during the second year. Chief Crow stated the grant would continue to reimburse at one hundred percent due to traffic counts. Chief Crow further stated that as counts go down,

the reimbursement will decrease. Commissioner Orenstein expressed his concern with the fact that fatality numbers are not decreasing, stating that if enforcement funded by the grant is not having an impact, efforts need to be evaluated for effectiveness. Chief Crow stated that he agreed and that the three positions could easily be absorbed back into the Sheriff's Office through attrition, if the grant isn't working. Chairman Slaughter asked if the Sheriff's Office is seeing a benefit from the current grant, to which Chief Crow replied yes. Commissioner Marshall made a motion to approve the renewal with a continuation plan indicating the County will seek to identify strategies to maintain the program when federal funds are no longer available, Commissioner Orenstein second. Chairman Slaughter asked Chief Crow if the Sheriff's Office could provide the County with at least a quarterly report indicating the performance of the grant to include traffic numbers, to which Chief Crow replied yes. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

BID

Bid for Firefighter Personal Protective Equipment, Finance Director, Stephanie Black, presented the bid in the amount of $112,571.55, with $87,074.80 awarded to Ten-8 Fire Equipment and $25,499.75 awarded to Fisher Scientific (Morning Pride), for the purchase of structural fire-fighting clothing and equipment for Lowndes County Fire Rescue. Commissioner Marshall made a motion to approve the purchase as presented, Commissioner Wisenbaker second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

REPORTS – no additional information was reported.

Commissioner Wisenbaker made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Vice Chairman Griner second. Chairman Slaughter adjourned the regular session at 6:19 p.m.

Bill Slaughter, Chairman

K. Paige Dukes, County Clerk