

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES  
WORK SESSION  
Monday, August 8, 2022

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Chairman Bill Slaughter  
Vice Chairman Scott Orenstein  
Commissioner Joyce Evans  
Commissioner Mark Wisenbaker  
Commissioner Demarcus Marshall  
Commissioner Clay Griner

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

**MINUTES**

The minutes were presented for the work session of July 25, 2022 and the regular session of July 26, 2022. No changes were requested.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**REZ-2022-09 Flannigan, James Rd. R-1 to C-G, Water/Sewer ~7.8 acres**, Planning and Zoning Director, J.D. Dillard, presented the item. Mr. Dillard stated this item was heard two months ago and had been tabled at the request of the applicant. Mr. Dillard stated this request represents a change in zoning on the subject property from Low-Density Residential (R-1) zoning to General Commercial (C-G) zoning. Mr. Dillard stated there were no wetlands on the property. Mr. Dillard stated the applicant submitted a site plan to the TRC, which was reviewed and returned with comments based on the proposed uses of the property as shown. If the C-G zoning is approved, additional TRC meetings would be required before any development occurs. The Planning Commission heard this request at their May meeting and discussed the concerns of specific commercial uses versus higher density residential uses and recommended denial. Commissioner Wisenbaker asked if this was the same site plan presented at the TRC meeting, Mr. Dillard responded yes. Chairman Slaughter stated this is the proposed site plan, but there is nothing binding the applicant to this site plan.

**FOR CONSIDERATION**

**State Route 122 (Highway 122) @ State Route 125 (Bemiss Road - Walkers Crossing) Roundabout Maintenance Agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation**, Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated this maintenance agreement includes mowing and landscaping for portions that are located in Lowndes County, once the project is complete. Commissioner Marshall asked about the rotation of the maintenance schedule, Mr. McLeod stated a schedule would be developed by staff as needed and more than likely it would be mowed at least once a month. Commissioner Marshall asked the dates to begin this project, Mr. McLeod answered he would have that information available at tomorrow night's meeting.

Chairman Slaughter mentioned he had spoken to the Chairman of Berrien County and Berrien County has an interest in working with Lowndes County to maintain this area with possible compensation required.

**Vertiv Service Contract for the Liebert UPS at the 911 Center & the Four (4) Tower Sites**, 911 Director, Danny Weeks, presented the request in the amount of \$27,400.00. Mr. Weeks stated this agreement will provide maintenance and battery replacement for the 911 Center and four tower sites used by 911 operations.

**Motorola SUAll (Evergreen)**, 911 Director, Danny Weeks presented the item stating this agreement with Motorola SUAll (Evergreen) will allow Lowndes County to maintain a current system by providing system upgrades every two years, as well as 24/7 support. Mr. Weeks stated this is a budgeted item and Lowndes County will pay Motorola a monthly amount of \$40,776.00.

**Abandonment of a Portion of Boring Pond Lane**, Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated the Commission made the initial determination at the July 12, 2022 regular session meeting, adding the request remains ready for final consideration. Mr. McLeod stated this item should be listed under the 'Public Hearings' section instead of the 'For Consideration' section on the agenda.

**Adopt Resolution Accepting the Water and Sewer Infrastructure for West Schoolhouse Pond Subdivision**, Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated Lowndes County is only accepting water and sewer infrastructure.

#### **REPORTS - County Manager**

County Manager, Paige Dukes, requested an executive session for the purpose of privileged attorney-client communication regarding potential or pending litigation. At 8:40 a.m. Vice Chairman Orenstein made a motion to enter into executive session for the purpose of privileged attorney-client communication regarding potential or pending litigation, Commissioner Evans second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:11 a.m. Chairman Slaughter reconvened the work session with no additional information being discussed. Commissioner Griner made a motion to adjourn the work session meeting, Commissioner Marshall second. Chairman Slaughter adjourned the meeting.

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES  
REGULAR SESSION  
Tuesday, August 9, 2022

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Chairman Bill Slaughter  
Vice Chairman Scott Orenstein  
Commissioner Joyce Evans  
Commissioner Mark Wisenbaker  
Commissioner Demarcus Marshall  
Commissioner Clay Griner

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

**INVOCATION**

Commissioner Orenstein

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

Commissioner Orenstein

**MINUTES**

The minutes were presented for the work session of July 25, 2022 and the regular session of July 26, 2022. Commissioner Evans made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Commissioner Wisenbaker second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**REZ-2022-09 Flannigan, James Rd. R-1 to C-G, Water/Sewer ~7.8 acres**, Planning and Zoning Director, J.D. Dillard, informed the Commission the request had been withdrawn by the applicant yesterday, Monday, August 8, 2022.

**Abandonment of a Portion of Boring Pond Lane**, Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the abandonment. Mr. McLeod stated the Commission made the initial determination at the July 12, 2022 regular session meeting that the subject portions of Boring Pond Lane have ceased to be used by the public to the extent that no substantial purpose is served by them. Mr. McLeod stated the request has been advertised and remains ready for consideration. No one spoke against this request. Billy Yeomans, 900 Broadway Street, Lake Park, spoke in favor of the request as an adjoining property owner. Commissioner Wisenbaker made a motion indicating the road has ceased to be used by the public 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, Commissioner Marshall second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

## FOR CONSIDERATION

**State Route 122 (Highway 122) @ State Route 125 (Bemiss Road - Walkers Crossing) Roundabout Maintenance Agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation**, Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated this maintenance agreement includes mowing and landscaping for portions that are located in Lowndes County, once the project is complete. Additionally, Mr. McLeod stated the proposed start date is January 2024. Commissioner Marshall made a motion to approve the item as presented, Commissioner Evans second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

**Vertiv Service Contract for the Liebert UPS at the 911 Center & the Four (4) Tower Sites**, 911 Director, Danny Weeks, presented the request in the amount of \$27,400.00. Mr. Weeks stated this agreement will provide maintenance and battery replacement for the 911 Center and four tower sites used by 911 operations. Vice Chairman Orenstein made a motion to approve the agreement as presented, Commissioner Griner second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

**Motorola SUAll (Evergreen)**, 911 Director, Danny Weeks presented an agreement with Motorola SUAll (Evergreen) in the amount of \$489,310.00, for maintenance and upgrades related to the system used by 911. Mr. Weeks stated the agreement provides for all maintenance and upgrades and will be paid monthly in the amount of \$40,776.00. Vice Chairman Orenstein made a motion to approve the agreement as presented, Commissioner Evans second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

**Adopt Resolution Accepting the Water and Sewer Infrastructure for West Schoolhouse Pond Subdivision**, Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated Lowndes County is only accepting water and sewer infrastructure. Mr. McLeod stated there will be 31 lots with no new roads. Commissioner Wisenbaker made a motion to accept the infrastructure, Commissioner Griner second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

## REPORTS - County Manager

County Manager, Paige Dukes, stated Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod and herself will be taking a tour of the historic courthouse on Thursday, August 11th, beginning at 8:30 a.m. Mrs. Dukes stated on Thursday, August 18th the Valdosta-Lowndes County Chamber of Commerce will host the 2022 Business Expo from 5:00 pm - 8:00 p.m. being held at the Rainwater Conference Center, with Lowndes County Department Heads scheduled to attend. Further, Mrs. Dukes stated Monday, August 15th, is City Hall Selfie Day and staff will be visiting the local City Halls. Mrs. Dukes mentioned the mid-year pre-retreat in November, which is currently in the process of being scheduled. Mrs. Dukes mentioned the Valdosta-Lowndes County MPO distributed an annual report which was emailed to the Commissioners this afternoon. Lastly, Mrs. Dukes asked Public Works Director, Robin Cumbus, to express her gratitude and appreciation for the work the mowing crew has been doing.

## CITIZENS WISHING TO BE HEARD

Bill Love, 2207 Azalea Drive, Valdosta, addressed the Commission, regarding the outstanding job performed by the Lowndes County Utilities Department. Mr. Love stated he is in charge of all the buildings in Kinderlou and on Friday, August 5th, there was a leak on the edge of the grass beside the road. Lowndes County responded after 4:00 p.m. and stated the leak was small and they would repair it on Monday. Mr. Love stated he called James Rosenbaum, the Lowndes County Utilities

Superintendent, around 6:00 p.m., and explained he had water coming through the conduit in the restaurant. Mr. Rosenbaum and his crew went out to assess the issue again. It was determined that the water line and conduit had been nicked by a boring machine, allowing the water to enter the conduit. Mr. Love stated that Mr. Rosenbaum and his crew immediately went to work making the repairs to the water line and resolving the issue by 2:30 a.m. Mr. Love commended the work of the Utilities Department and also was very grateful since there was a tournament scheduled that weekend. Chairman Slaughter agreed with Mr. Love, stating Lowndes County is very fortunate to have Utilities Director Steve Stalvey and his great team.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Leadership Lowndes class members were in attendance and recognized by Chairman Slaughter. Vice Chairman Orenstein made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Evans second. Chairman Slaughter adjourned the regular session meeting at 5:47 p.m.