

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
WORK SESSION
Monday, September 26, 2022

COMMISSIONERS PRESEN:

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

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

MINUTES

The minutes were presented for the work session of September 12, 2022 and the regular session of September 13, 2022. County Attorney, Walter Elliott, requested in writing, that the regular session minutes be revised to reflect changes with the REZ-2022-10 rezoning item.

FOR CONSIDERATION

Beer and Wine License - Parulben Patel of Burlington, LLC., DBA Kraftland - 4592 North Valdosta Road, Suite B, Valdosta, GA, Finance Accounts Receivable Technician, Lorraine Taylor, presented the item. Mrs. Taylor stated the applicant is requesting a beer and wine license at 4592 North Valdosta Road, for consumption off premises. Mrs. Taylor further stated this is for a new establishment.

South Lowndes LAS Expansion Assessment and Testing, Utilities Director, Steve Stavley, presented the item. Mr. Stavley stated as part of the South Lowndes Land Application System (LAS) Expansion, additional assessments and testing is required. Mr. Stavley stated Nutter and Associates has submitted a proposal in the amount of \$45,460.00.

Transportation Investment Act (TIA) Old Clyattville Road Widening Project Agreement, Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) has approved the Transportation Investment Act Local Government Application for the Lowndes County Old Clyattville Road widening project. Mr. McLeod stated this is the Project Agreement which is required to be executed prior to beginning work.

Comprehensive Facilities Energy Savings Project Amendment Resolution, Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated the comprehensive facilities energy savings project with ABM is nearing completion on the mechanical side of the project. ABM and staff have been concerned regarding the current condition of the two existing chillers located inside the Judicial and Administrative Complex. Mr. McLeod stated chiller #1 is currently inoperative due to an oil separator issue and chiller #2 runs at 90% on days with higher temperatures and leaks a large amount of oil. Mr. McLeod stated staff is also concerned with one boiler that was not changed

during the original contract and would like to move forward with the replacement of the boiler. Mr. McLeod stated that due to the nineteen (19) week lead time, the chillers will be ordered as soon as possible, if this request is approved. The project can be completed by amending the existing contract and lease financing to include both chillers and boiler plant upgrades. Vice Chairman Orenstein asked how old are the chillers, Mr. McLeod answered thirteen (13) years old. Vice Chairman Orenstein asked regarding a maintenance contract with the chillers, Mr. McLeod responded that the previous warranty information is being reviewed. Additionally, Mr. McLeod stated the manufacturer discontinued this model and parts are difficult to order for the chillers. Mrs. Dukes stated the chillers should last 30 years or longer. Mrs. Dukes stated in addition to ABM inspecting these chillers, Johnson Controls was brought in for a second opinion. Chairman Slaughter stated the chillers will need to be replaced and this is the best option, to amend the current plan with ABM. Commissioner Marshall asked if funding through ARPA was an option, Mrs. Dukes answered no, what can qualify under ARPA funds are those measures put in to make the air cleaner or to filter more and that has already been done with the ABM plan and this part of the hardware would not qualify. Chairman Slaughter mentioned it is important to go ahead and order this equipment, due to the delay in manufacturing and shipping.

REPORTS - County Manager

County Manager, Paige Dukes, asked Emergency Management Director, Ashley Tye, to update the commission regarding the potential hurricane impact of Hurricane Ian. Chairman Slaughter thanked Mr. Tye for his preparation and leadership during this time in helping the local governments and the citizens of Lowndes County to prepare. Mrs. Dukes stated there is a 1:00 p.m. meeting scheduled with all of the Department Heads today. Additionally, Mrs. Dukes mentioned the possibility of standing up the EOC on Wednesday, if necessary.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chairman Orenstein made a motion to adjourn the work session meeting, Commissioner Wisenbaker second. Chairman Slaughter adjourned the meeting at 8:48 a.m.

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
REGULAR SESSION
Tuesday, September 27, 2022

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Vice Chairman Scott Orenstein
Commissioner Joyce Evans
Commissioner Mark Wisenbaker
Commissioner Clay Griner

Chairman Bill Slaughter and Commissioner Demarcus Marshall were not present.

Vice Chairman Orenstein called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and recognized Leadership Lowndes class members in attendance.

INVOCATION

Vice Chairman Orenstein

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Vice Chairman Orenstein

MINUTES

Vice Chairman Orenstein stated if there were no objections, staff would like to add an item to the agenda, a Declaration of Local Emergency. There being no objections, Vice Chairman Orenstein asked that the item be added as requested, item #5e.

The minutes were presented for the work session of September 12, 2022 and the regular session of September 13, 2022. Commissioner Griner made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Commissioner Evans second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

FOR CONSIDERATION

Beer and Wine License - Parulben Patel of Burlington, LLC., DBA Kraftland - 4592 North Valdosta Road, Suite B, Valdosta, GA, Finance Director, Stephanie Black, presented the item. Ms. Black stated the request is for a new establishment, adding all requirements have been met. Ms. Black stated this establishment is opening a smoke shop. Commissioner Griner made a motion to approve the license, Commissioner Evans second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

South Lowndes LAS Expansion Assessment and Testing, Utilities Director, Steve Stavley, presented the item. Mr. Stavley stated as part of the South Lowndes LAS Expansion, additional assessments and testing is required. Mr. Stavley stated Nutter and Associates has submitted a proposal in the amount of \$45,460.00. Commissioner Wisenbaker made a motion to approve the South Lowndes Land Application System Expansion Assessment and Testing agreement with Nutter

and Associates in the amount of \$45,460.00, Commissioner Evans second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Transportation Investment Act (TIA) Old Clyattville Road Widening Project Agreement, Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) has approved the Transportation Investment Act Local Government Application for the Lowndes County Old Clyattville Road widening project. Mr. McLeod stated this is the Project Agreement which is required to be executed prior to beginning work. Commissioner Griner made a motion to approve the request as presented, Commissioner Wisenbaker second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Comprehensive Facilities Energy Savings Project Amendment Resolution, Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated a resolution is being requested to amend the current comprehensive facilities energy savings project with ABM. Mr. McLeod stated there have been issues with the two chillers located in the basement of this facility. Mr. McLeod stated chiller #1 is currently inoperative due to an oil separator issue with an estimate of over \$100,000.00, to get this equipment running to examine to see if there are any other issues. Mr. McLeod stated chiller #2 runs at 90% on days with higher temperatures and leaks a large amount of oil. Mr. McLeod stated we have the opportunity to change these two chillers out with the current program with ABM. Mr. McLeod stated staff is also concerned with one boiler that was not changed during the original contract and would like to move forward with the replacement of the existing boiler. Vice Chairman Orenstein asked if these were the only chillers in our county buildings, Mr. McLeod responded, no sir. Commissioner Evans asked who serviced the chillers previously, Mr. McLeod responded Johnson Controls provided that service, then Siemens and currently the service is with ABM. Vice Chairman Orenstein acknowledged Jason Anderson with ABM in the audience, if the commissioners have any additional questions. Commissioner Evans made a motion to adopt the comprehensive facilities energy savings project amendment resolution, Commissioner Wisenbaker second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Declaration of Local Emergency, Vice Chairman Orenstein presented the agenda item which was added at the beginning of tonight's meeting, the Declaration of Local Emergency. Vice Chairman Orenstein stated Governor Kemp declared a state of emergency for the entire State of Georgia today. Commissioner Griner made a motion to approve the item as presented, Commissioner Wisenbaker second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

REPORTS - County Manager

County Manager, Paige Dukes, thanked Public Works Director, Robin Cumbus, Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, and Jason Anderson with ABM for keeping the buildings cooled as needed for the last few weeks. Mrs. Dukes stated the resurfacing of Jumping Gully Road is complete and Peterson Road is fifty percent complete. Animal Services, through a partnership with the Best Friends organization, will be hosting a reduced vaccination clinic on October 8th, with a mobile clinic being used. Mrs. Dukes reminded those in attendance that Saturday, October 1st, Governor Kemp will be having a reception at 10:00 a.m. in Hahira. The employee health fair will be held on Thursday, October 6th at the civic center. Mrs. Dukes stated the Department Heads have worked with vendors to collect door prizes for the employees the week of the Winnersville Classic. Mrs. Dukes thanked the staff of Lowndes County and the community for their support in preparing for the potential hurricane impact. Mrs. Dukes asked Emergency Management Director, Ashley Tye, to update the

commission on the current status of Hurricane Ian. Mr. Tye gave the commission a brief update and thanked the commission for approving the Declaration of Local Emergency and further stated Mayor Matheson signed a Declaration of Local Emergency for the City of Valdosta today as well.

CITIZENS WISHING TO BE HEARD

Mr. Robert Tracey, 4073 Cane Mill Circle, submitted his request after 5:30 p.m. Vice Chairman Orenstein stated that he would speak with Mr. Tracey after the meeting was adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Wisenbaker made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Griner second. Chairman Slaughter adjourned the regular session at 5:50 p.m.