

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES  
REGULAR SESSION  
Tuesday, November 10, 2020

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT**

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

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

City of Valdosta Mayor Scott Matheson, Councilwoman Sandra Tooley and Councilman Andy Gibbs were in attendance and recognized by Chairman Slaughter.

**INVOCATION**

Vice Chairman Griner

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

Vice Chairman Griner

**MINUTES**

The minutes were presented for the work session of October 26, 2020, and the regular session of October 27, 2020. Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Commissioner Evans second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

**APPOINTMENTS**

**Valdosta Lowndes County Conference Center and Tourism Authority**, County Manager, Paige Dukes, presented the appointment. Mrs. Dukes stated the terms of Commissioner Joyce Evans and Mr. Michael Smith will expire on December 31, 2020. Both have expressed a desire to continue to serve. Chairman Slaughter recommended Commissioner Evans and Michael Smith be reappointed. There being no other nominations, Commissioner Joyce Evans and Mr. Michael Smith were reappointed by acclamation.

**Lowndes County Public Facilities Authority**, County Manager, Paige Dukes, presented the appointment. Mrs. Dukes stated there is one vacant seat and Mr. James "J.D." Rice expressed an interest to serve. Vice Chairman Griner recommended Mr. Rice be appointed with the term expiring

May 31, 2022. There being no other nominations, Mr. James "J.D." Rice was appointed by acclamation.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

**REZ-2020-16 Sandra Jones 7001 Simpson Rd (0031 047C & 047G) E-A to R-A, Well and Septic, ~11.19 acres**, Planning and Zoning Director, J.D. Dillard, presented the item. Mr. Dillard stated the applicant would like to sell four acres, which makes a change in zoning necessary. The Planning Commission recommended approval with the following condition, any new residential development be a stick-built home, adding the TRC had no objectionable comments. No one spoke for or against this request. Vice Chairman Griner made a motion to approve the request as presented, Commissioner Marshall second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

**REZ-2020-17 Adams Property Group 3833 Inner Perimeter Road (0149A 036D) R-10 to C-G, City Water & Sewer, ~7.41 acres**, Planning and Zoning Director, J.D. Dillard, presented the item. Mr. Dillard stated the applicant would like to develop a self-storage facility. Mr. Dillard further stated the applicant has asked to table this item until the next meeting being held December 8th. Vice Chairman Griner made a motion to table this rezoning request until the next commission meeting in December, Commissioner Orenstein second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

**REZ-2020-18 Water's Edge Rocky Ford Road (0059 093) E-A to M-2, Water & Sewer, ~37.12 acres**, Planning and Zoning Director, J.D. Dillard, presented the item. Mr. Dillard stated the applicant would like to develop a manufacturing facility. Mr. Dillard further stated the property is in the urban service area with the Planning Commission recommending approval and TRC had no objectionable comments. No one spoke for or against this request. Commissioner Wisenbaker made a motion to approve the request as presented, Commissioner Marshall second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

## **FOR CONSIDERATION**

**Grant Re-Application for the 5311 Rural Transportation Program and Associated Resolution**, Planning and Zoning Director, J.D. Dillard, presented the grant reapplication and resolution for the Commission's consideration. Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to approve this request, Commissioner Evans second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

**Adopt Resolution accepting Infrastructure for Knights Landing Subdivision Phase IV**, County Engineer, Mike Fletcher, presented a resolution to accept all infrastructure for Phase IV of Knights Landing Subdivision with four new roads, county water/sewer and drainage infrastructure. Vice Chairman Griner made a motion to approve the request, Commissioner Orenstein second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

**Approve the Purchase of 418, 420, and 422 North Lee Street Properties**, Projects Manager, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated the county was proposing the purchase of 418, 420 and 422 North Lee Street properties for \$70,000.00, from Blackwater Development, LLC.

Commissioner Evans made a motion to approve the purchase of 418, 420 and 422 North Lee Street properties, Vice Chairman Griner second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

**Waste Management Acquisition of Advanced Disposal Services**, County Manager, Paige Dukes, presented the item. Mrs. Dukes stated Advanced Disposal Services, Inc. has merged with Waste Management, Inc. as of October 30, 2020. Commissioner Marshall made a motion to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the consent letter from Waste Management, Inc., Commissioner Orenstein second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

## **BID**

**Approve Proposals for Disaster Debris Removal Services**, Finance Director, Stephanie Black, presented proposals for disaster debris removal services in accordance with FEMA guidelines. Ms. Black stated that after a weighted evaluation, staff proposed acceptance of proposals from Crowder Gulf, Ashbritt, and Southern Disaster Recovery. Ms. Black stated there would be no cost to the county unless a notice to proceed was submitted to and approved by the Commission. Commissioner Orenstein asked if this was a pre-negotiated arrangement, EMA Director, Ashley Tye, responded yes. Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to approve the proposal, Commissioner Marshall second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

**Approval of Debris Monitoring Services**, Finance Director, Stephanie Black, presented the proposals for disaster related debris monitoring services in accordance with FEMA guidelines. Ms. Black stated the debris monitoring services would work with the debris removal contractors and act on behalf of Lowndes County. Additionally, Ms. Black stated staff proposed acceptance of proposals from Thompson Consulting Services, LLC and DebrisTech, LLC. Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to approve this item, Vice Chairman Griner second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

## **Reports - County Manager**

County Manager, Paige Dukes, stated under the leadership of Probation Director, Ferlisha Rountree, the annual audit was held at the Lowndes County Probation office, at the state level, with no compliance issues. Mrs. Dukes mentioned the schedule for the January 5th election runoff. Mrs. Dukes reminded the Commission regarding the Mid Year Planning Retreat beginning at 8:30 a.m. in the multi-purpose room, Thursday, November 12, 2020. Furthermore, Mrs. Dukes stated this Friday she, as well as Projects Manager, Chad McLeod, will meet with ABM Industries, Inc. Mr. McLeod stated there should be a significant savings, energy related, with a few items left to complete. Lastly, Mrs. Dukes mentioned that the County is partnering with the City of Valdosta and Mainstreet for a Downtown Valdosta Food Truck Crawl, Thursday, from 5:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. in the downtown area. Commissioner Marshall asked regarding the grant which the Board of Elections received, if there would be enough money to cover the runoff election in January 2021, Mrs. Dukes responded yes.

**CITIZENS WISHING TO BE HEARD - None**

**ADJOURNMENT**

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