

Mr. McLeod explained the steps involved. Commissioner Wisenbaker asked when work on the road would begin. Mr. McLeod stated the plans are ready and scheduled to go out for bid in March, and staff is moving forward with a March timeframe. Vice Chairman Orenstein asked whether the underlying issue involves an unresponsive owner from out of town, Mr. McLeod responded no, there has been contact made, but a final agreement has not yet been reached with all parties involved.

Abandonment of Grice Road

Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated this item had been on the previous agenda in December and that staff, along with the County Attorney, will continue to review and evaluate the request. Mr. McLeod stated that the item would be requested to be tabled. Discussion ensued among the Chairman, County Manager, County Attorney and the Director of Engineering Services.

BID

Lakes Blvd Water Meter Relocation

Utilities Director, Steve Stalvey, presented the item. Mr. Stalvey stated Lowndes County is expanding its water service area on Lakes Blvd in order to meet commercial development needs in the area. This will require the water meter between the City of Lake Park and Lowndes County to be relocated. Staff advertised the project and three bids were received by James Warren & Associates \$63,801.00, Killeen Construction Company \$66,737.00, and RPI, Inc. \$76,100.00. Staff recommends approval and to authorize the Chairman to sign the contract with James Warren & Associates in the amount of \$63,801.00. Commissioner Marshall asked how far will this be expanding. Mr. Stalvey responded he would verify and have that number tonight. Commissioner Smith asked if this was being paid out of SPLOST VIII or SPLOST IX. Mr. Stalvey responded SPLOST VIII.

REPORTS- County Manager

County Manager, Paige Dukes, recognized the presence of Dr. Tenry Berry, a member of the Leadership Lowndes Class of 2026. Mrs. Dukes stated that Vice Chairman Orenstein, Commissioner Smith, Ms. Stephanie Black, Mrs. Jessica Ganas and herself spent the weekend with the Leadership Lowndes class facilitating their retreat. Mrs. Dukes stated that Dr. Berry is a tremendous leader and expressed her excitement about the insight he brings to the table regarding education.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chairman Orenstein made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Wisenbaker. Chairman Slaughter adjourned the meeting at 9:02 a.m.