

BID

2026 Local Maintenance and Improvements Grant (LMIG) Local Road Assistance (LRA) Resurfacing Bids

Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated the 2026 LMIG LRA Application was approved by the Commission on May 12, 2026. The grant was approved by the Georgia Department of Transportation, Lowndes County received the grant funds, and staff advertised the project for bids. The 2026 LMIG LRA Resurfacing bids presented are to include resurfacing the roads attached in the agenda packet. Bids were opened on July 30, 2026, and staff received two bids, from the Scruggs Company in the amount of \$1,808,850.75 and Reames and Son Construction in the amount of \$1,829,678.40. Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to approve the Scruggs Company as the low bidder in the amount of \$1,808,850.75, seconded by Commissioner Marshall. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

REPORTS - County Manager

County Manager, Paige Dukes, mentioned the items below:

- The Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) offering, by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, that was submitted for the paving of Riverside Road continues to move forward.
- Mrs. Dukes commended Finance Director, Stephanie Black and her staff, stating the millage rate will be presented to the commission at the next meeting for adoption. The proposed rate is a rollback rate, resulting in no tax increase with no public hearings being required.

CITIZENS WISHING TO BE HEARD

George Fisher, 5278 Hall Road, addressed the commission in opposition to data centers in our community. Mr. Fisher mentioned papers on the Withlacoochee River, Karst topography and our drinking water. Mr. Fisher stated that he would like to submit a list of terminology unique to our area for clarification of the terms being used. Lastly, Mr. Fisher mentioned a hole on 4637 Rustic Ridge is growing and is in the garage on the property and has doubled in size.

Treva Gear, 41 Antler Lane, addressed the commission in opposition to data centers in our community. Dr. Gear stated she is speaking on behalf of Dogwood Alliance and the concerned citizens of Cook County. Dr. Gear mentioned these AI Data Centers use additional water, electricity, noise and heat islands; she asked the commission to consider a moratorium in order to create an ordinance.

Micheal Noll, 2305 Glynndale Drive, addressed the commission in opposition to data centers in our community. Dr. Noll stated he has concerns regarding property values, noise, sink hole areas, and accountability. Dr. Noll asked the commissioners to consider a six-month moratorium in order to create an ordinance. Additionally, Dr. Noll mentioned the possibility of creating a task force, with members of our local government and the community, to discuss an ordinance.

Kelly Saxon, 8 Baldwin Place, addressed the commission to give announcements for the community. Ms. Saxon invited the residents to attend the South Georgia Community Resource and Empowerment Fair on Saturday, August 29th, from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. This event will be held at the Valdosta-Lowndes County Parks and Recreation Building located at 1901 North Barack Obama Blvd. The purpose of this event is to make it easier for residents to connect directly with organizations and to get information that can help strengthen individuals, families and communities with resources available.