

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
REGULAR SESSION
Tuesday, March 23, 2021

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 meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

INVOCATION

Commissioner Marshall

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Commissioner Marshall

AWARD PRESENTATION

GFOA Financial Reporting Award, Chairman Slaughter recognized Ms. Stephanie Black, although she was unable to attend the meeting. Chairman Slaughter thanked her and her staff for their ongoing commitment to preparing and presenting financial information in a clear and precise manner. Chairman Slaughter further stated that the Lowndes County Finance Department continues to excel in governmental accounting.

GEMA/Homeland Security Presentation, County Manager, Paige Dukes, presented the award presentation for EMA Director, Ashley Tye. Mrs. Dukes stated Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) and Homeland Security has a list of ten (10) additional standards that local EMA's can meet to qualify for a reduced cost share in the event of a Federally Declared Disaster. Since Lowndes County EMA has met all ten (10) of these standards, Lowndes County and each of the cities, will be eligible to receive reimbursement at a higher rate than the standard cost share if we were to have a disaster over the next year. GEMA and Homeland Security began offering this incentive in 2011 and Lowndes County has qualified in each of the past ten (10) years. This has resulted in over \$75,000 in additional reimbursement, above and beyond the normal reimbursements available, for Lowndes County and the Cities over the past five (5) years. Chairman Slaughter recognized Mr. Tye for his countless hours of hard work in achieving this recognition.

Recognition of Firefighter of the Year, Chairman Slaughter stated the Exchange Club of Valdosta has named Ms. Bailey Holt, Firefighter of the Year. Chairman Slaughter recognized Ms. Holt, although she was unable to attend. Chairman Slaughter stated Ms. Holt is a state certified firefighter and an EMT-Basic. Chairman Slaughter stated Ms. Holt is a tremendous asset to the Lowndes County Fire Rescue Department.