

LOWNDES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
REGULAR SESSION
Tuesday, June 8, 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 meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

INVOCATION

Commissioner Marshall

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Marshall

MINUTES

The minutes were presented for the work session of May 24, 2021, and the regular session of May 25, 2021. No changes to the minutes were requested. Commissioner Evans made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Commissioner Orenstein second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENT

Valdosta-Lowndes County Parks and Recreation Authority, County Manager, Paige Dukes, presented the appointment. Mrs. Dukes stated the seat held by Bubba Highsmith will expire June 30, 2021, adding Mr. Highsmith has expressed a desire to continue to serve. Being that no additional candidates were presented, Chairman Slaughter stated Mr. Bubba Highsmith will be reappointed by acclamation.

FOR CONSIDERATION

Agreement for HVAC Service for Additional Lowndes County Buildings, Finance Director, Stephanie Black, presented the item. Ms. Black stated a previous agreement with ABM did not include other county buildings for HVAC service. Commissioner Marshall made a motion to approve the agreement with ABM in the amount of \$28,842.00, Vice Chairman Griner second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Acceptance of Quitclaim Deeds for a portion of Gaines Lane, County Engineer, Mike Fletcher, presented the item. Mr. Fletcher stated that Lowndes County has received signed quitclaim deeds for a portion of Gaines Lane, a private dirt road. Mr. Fletcher stated Lowndes County will add Gaines Lane into the county road inventory for maintenance. Vice Chairman Griner made a motion to approve the request, Commissioner Marshall second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

Insolvent List - Tax Commissioner, County Manager, Paige Dukes, presented the item stating this item was tabled from the last meeting in order for staff to provide additional information regarding this list. Mrs. Dukes stated after conversations with the Tax Commissioner's staff and Finance Director, Stephanie Black as well as County Attorney, Walter Elliott, reviewing the information, a recommendation is being made to honor the Tax Commissioner's request and approve this item. Commissioner Wisenbaker made a motion to approve the insolvent list as presented, Commissioner Marshall second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

BID

Fender Road Improvement Project, County Engineer, Mike Fletcher, presented the item. Mr. Fletcher stated the project includes Fender Road being paved from Whitewater Road to its intersection with Williams School Road. Mr. Fletcher further stated The Scruggs Company submitted the low bid, in the amount of \$618,767.14. Vice Chairman Griner made a motion to approve the low bidder as presented, Commissioner Evans second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

REPORTS - County Manager

County Manager, Paige Dukes, stated The Bandit movie is currently filming in Downtown Valdosta and will be filming next week in the Lowndes County Historic Courthouse. Mrs. Dukes stated staff will be meeting with our Southern Marketing Coordinator, with the Georgia Department of Agriculture, Beth Meeks next week regarding a Farmer of the Year recognition. Additionally, Mrs. Dukes mentioned State Court Judge, John Edwards, was notified that Judge Melton has sent the last order extending the emergency order for the courts through June 30th. Lastly, Mrs. Dukes commended Mr. Tye's leadership in providing a renewal of our 'storm ready' designation in Lowndes County; Mrs. Dukes asked Mr. Tye to give the commission an update. Chairman Slaughter stated this would not have happened without the partnerships with emergency management and thanked Mr. Tye for his efforts and dedication.

CITIZENS WISHING TO BE HEARD - There were no citizens wishing to be heard.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Marshall asked regarding the time frame with the revised assessment notices, Mrs. Dukes responded they were being mailed this week. Commissioner Marshall made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Orenstein second. Chairman Slaughter adjourned the regular session meeting at 5:44 p.m.