

### **GDOT Safety Action Program Loch Laurel Road Project**

Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) has identified Loch Laurel Road for a possible 2024 Off System Safety Project. The project will be 100% federally funded. Mr. McLeod stated the project includes audible centerline striping and audible edgeline striping. Since Lowndes County already has audible edgeline striping, new edgeline striping will be substituted for that item. The County will be responsible for clipping the shoulders. Commissioner Griner made a motion to approve the request, Commissioner Orenstein second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

### **FY 2023 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant Application**

Fire Chief, Lloyd Green, presented the item. Mr. Green stated the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has a Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant Program which provides funding for the hiring of additional firefighters. Mr. Green stated this grant was applied for last year as well. Lowndes County Fire Rescue is requesting to apply for a SAFER Grant which would fund the hiring of nine (9) full-time firefighters and fully fund their salary for three (3) years. Mr. Green stated this grant requires no matching funds. However, it provides funding for salaries and benefits. Commissioner Orenstein asked for clarification that there would be no match by Lowndes County, Mr. Green responded correct, there would be no match from Lowndes County. Commissioner Marshall asked regarding the fiscal year, Mr. Green responded the fiscal year should be 2021, not 2023. Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to approve the request as presented, Commissioner Marshall second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

### **Valdosta-Lowndes County Parks and Recreation Authority Sales Tax Exemption**

County Manager, Paige Dukes, presented the item. Mrs. Dukes stated currently, Lowndes County is working with Valdosta-Lowndes County Parks and Recreation Authority (VLPRA) on some of their large SPLOST purchases especially to handle those through the county to save on sales tax. Mrs. Dukes stated when the authority was created it was not taken care of legislatively with regards to their tax exempt status. Additionally, Mrs. Dukes stated Representative John Corbett will carry legislation to hopefully get the General Assembly to approve for VLPRA. This is not statewide, this is only for our parks and recreation authority in Lowndes County. Mrs. Dukes stated in order to move forward a resolution that demonstrates the commission is in favor is needed. Commissioner Griner made a motion to approve the request as presented, Commissioner Marshall second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

### **Property Purchase – Building Valdosta, LLC**

County Manager, Paige Dukes, presented the item. Mrs. Dukes stated at the direction of the commission, staff has worked with the county attorney to prepare a purchase agreement that will provide for Lowndes County to purchase 41.543 acres of property on Highway 122 inclusive of development costs incurred by the current owners and as reflected in the agreement, for the purpose of protecting Moody Air Force Base from encroachment. Commissioner Griner made a motion to approve the property purchase with Building Valdosta, LLC for the amount of \$568,971.00 and the attached agreement, Commissioner Marshall second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

### **Reapportionment Resolution**

County Manager, Paige Dukes, presented the item. Mrs. Dukes stated approval of the attached resolution will provide Senator Russ Goodman with local verification indicating the commission's