

Tire, LLC. Commissioner Griner made a motion to approve the request as presented, Commissioner Orenstein second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

BID

ENG 2021-02: Repairing 3 Box Culverts, Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented a bid to repair three (3) box culverts. The culverts are located at Bemiss Knights Academy Road over Cherry Creek, Spring Creek Boulevard and Bemiss Knights Academy Road and West Lake Drive over Red Oak Branch (in Lake Alapaha Subdivision). Mr. McLeod stated Griffin Grading & Concrete, LLC submitted the low bid, in the amount of \$296,726.73. Commissioner Wisenbaker asked since the amounts were so close, if the local vendor preference could be used to keep the business here locally, Mrs. Dukes responded this was researched and the local vendor preference allowance does not apply to Public Works and Road projects. Commissioner Marshall asked to verify if the local vendor preference did not apply to the Public Works Department, Mrs. Dukes responded yes, that is correct. Additionally, Mrs. Dukes stated this is a state statute that can be discussed with the local delegation in the near future. Commissioner Griner made a motion to approve Griffin Grading and Concrete, LLC in the amount of \$296,726.73, Commissioner Orenstein second. Vice Chairman Evans, Commissioners Orenstein and Griner voted in favor of the request, Commissioners Wisenbaker and Marshall opposed. Motion carried.

Exit 22 Water Main Extension, Utilities Director, Steve Stalvey, presented the item. Mr. Stalvey stated this water main extension will provide much needed redundancy for the area. Additionally, Mr. Stalvey stated two bids were received with RPI, Inc. being the low bidder. Commissioner Griner made a motion to approve the request with RPI, Inc. in the amount of \$448,621.14, Commissioner Marshall second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

REPORTS - County Manager

County Manager, Paige Dukes, introduced Mrs. Rachel Thrasher, Lowndes County's Community Development Director. Chairman Slaughter and the Commission welcomed Mrs. Thrasher. Mrs. Dukes mentioned several meetings and reminded the Commission of the Ag Awareness Week breakfast on Friday, March 25th at 8:30 a.m. being held at the Urban Honeybee. Mrs. Dukes mentioned the ribbon cutting for the drafting pit being held on April 8th at Lowndes County Fire Rescue Station 10. Lastly, Mrs. Dukes asked Emergency Management Director, Ashley Tye, to update the Commission on the possible severe weather moving in our area.

CITIZENS WISHING TO BE HEARD - Catherine Smith, P.O. Box 7076, Thomasville, introduced herself to the Commission as one of the three candidates running for Superior Court Judge for the Southern Judicial Circuit.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Marshall made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Commissioner Orenstein second. Chairman Slaughter adjourned the regular session at 5:56 p.m.