

BID

Bid for Animal Services Chassis Box

Finance Chief Accountant, Rachel Bowen, presented the item. Mrs. Bowen stated bids were solicited for Animal Services to purchase a replacement chassis box due to wear and tear with the current box being unable to be repaired. One bid was received that met specifications; Jackson Creek Manufacturing, Inc. in the amount of \$41,650.00. Commissioner Marshall asked what is a chassis box? Chairman Slaughter stated it is like a work chassis on a 3/4 ton truck, this is a dog box to transport the animals. Commissioner Marshall asked how many dogs will it hold? County Manager, Paige Dukes, asked Sergeant Mike Brown, with Animal Services, to come up to answer this question. Sgt. Brown answered it has six compartments with a hydraulic lift. Commissioner Orenstein asked how many vehicles does the Animal Services Department have? Sgt. Brown responded five. Commissioner Orenstein verified that this chassis box has been repaired numerous times, Mr. Brown answered that is correct and it is the oldest chassis box. County Manager, Paige Dukes, stated Sgt. Brown has done research on the chassis boxes, so hopefully these will have a longer life than previous boxes purchased. Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to approve the sole bidder, Jackson Creek Manufacturing, Inc. in the amount of \$41,650.00, Commissioner Marshall second. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

REPORT - County Manager

County Manager, Paige Dukes, stated Commissioner Evans has been chosen to represent Lowndes County at the national level through the National Association of Counties as a member of the Justice and Public Safety Steering Committee. Commissioner Marshall also represents us on the federal level where NACO is concerned, which puts Lowndes County on the map as well as rural counties. Mrs. Dukes thanked those that supported Lowndes County Fire Rescue and their playground rehab initiative at the Clyattville Elementary School this morning. Vice Chairman Wisenbaker and Commissioner Evans attended as well as Lowndes County Fire Chief Billy Young and his staff and Public Information Officer, Meghan Barwick. Mrs. Dukes stated she emailed the commissioners with VSU's updated economic impact numbers, which increased 1.3 percent over last year, surpassing 409 million dollars. Hurricane season is picking up and personnel is staying prepared. Thursday, The Happening is at VSU, a welcome initiative for their new students, the Chamber Business Expo will be held at the Rainwater Conference Center and a welcome reception for Colonel Sheets will be held as well. There will be a dinner for the VSU Blazer Football Team at 7:00 p.m. on Friday at the field house and there is the 100 Black Men Annual Dinner on Friday evening as well. Mrs. Dukes stated this is Danny Weeks' last commission meeting and his retirement reception will be held on Thursday, August 31, 2023. Mrs. Dukes stated Danny will be missed and we are grateful for his service. Mrs. Dukes asked Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, to give an update on the historic courthouse. Mr. McLeod stated it is estimated to be complete by this Thursday and he and the architect will begin to start a punch list. Mr. McLeod stated the furniture will be moved in on September 12th and if everything goes according to plan, move in will begin late October. Mrs. Dukes stated the historic courthouse grounds should be ready for the 9/11 ceremony. Commissioner Orenstein publicly acknowledged 911 Director, Mr. Danny Weeks, for the great job he's done with the 911 Center on a daily basis. Commissioner Orenstein asked the Commissioners to join in a round of applause for Danny Weeks. Mr. Weeks thanked the Commissioners for their continuous support of the 911 Center and stated he is excited for the next chapter of his life.