

for the jail. Mrs. Dukes stated if someone is on mental health medication and they are in jail, even though the medication is provided, you can't make them take it. If they commit additional crimes to end up in prison, the prison system can make them take it. Chairman Slaughter stated with the changes made ten years ago, mental health issues have come up short in being addressed in local communities and hopefully the state will look for improvements.

### **Purchase of Wetland Credits for Shiloh Road Bridge Project**

Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated Lowndes County is required to purchase 7.12 wetland credits as a result of the Shiloh Road Bridge Project. Mr. McLeod stated staff recommends the purchase of 7.12 wetland credits from Williams Investments, LLC in the total amount of \$85,440.00. Vice Chairman Wisenbaker asked is a credit an acre? County Engineer, Mike Fletcher, answered it depends on the type of wetland, some could be four (4) credits, per acre and some could be eight (8) credits, per acre. Chairman Slaughter asked what prompted this action? Mr. McLeod answered the bridge itself is being elevated and there will be a run around bridge with the original structure being temporarily closed. Vice Chairman Wisenbaker asked how many acres are needed? Mr. McLeod answered we will get that number for you.

### **FY25 5311 Regional Transit Resolution**

County Planner, J.D. Dillard, presented the item. Mr. Dillard stated this is a continuing resolution with the Southern Georgia Regional Commission (SGRC) 5311 Regional Transit. Mr. Dillard stated the FY2025 grant submission due date is October 31, 2023.

## **BIDS**

### **Grove Pointe Lift Station Access Road**

Utilities Director, Steve Stalvey, presented the item. Mr. Stalvey stated the Grove Pointe lift station is located at the end of Courtland Circle cul-de-sac. For the past few years, the County has had issues getting to this site to perform the required maintenance, due to the area bordering wetlands. Lowndes County Utilities and Engineering staff have determined the only solution is to build a concrete drive and turn around area to the lift station. Two bids were received, Rountree Construction for \$320,031.25 and Southland Contractors, Inc. for \$222,377.49. Mr. Stalvey stated both bids had clerical errors that did not affect the price. Staff recommends the low bidder, Southland Contractors, Inc. for \$222,377.49. Commissioner Orenstein asked why is this being requested? Mr. Stalvey answered due to the area being so wet, the amount of base, as well as several utilities that go through and use this area, including power, water and communications. Commissioner Orenstein asked if additional property was being purchased? Mr. Stalvey answered no sir, it is all on our easement. Chairman Slaughter stated in the past when clerical errors were made on bids, the bids were not considered. In this situation, staff reviewed the bids and both parties had clerical errors which were made, but did not affect the price.

### **TIA 2023-05 Briggston Road Grading, Drainage, Base, and Paving Bids**

Director of Engineering Services, Chad McLeod, presented the item. Mr. McLeod stated Briggston Road is a TIA approved project, 4.06 miles long, located just north of Clyattville and runs between Madison Highway and Old Clyattville Road. Mr. McLeod stated two bids were received with the low bidder being Reames and Son in the amount of \$3,892,229.54.