

Mrs. Dukes further stated that currently there are more than 1,000 animals in Lowndes County that are being euthanized. The shelter is overpopulated, and this is a direct result of the lack of spays and neuters in Lowndes County. Mrs. Dukes stated rescues, volunteers, Lowndes County staff, and other concerned citizens in the community work tirelessly to try to find homes for these pets. Mrs. Dukes stated we developed our template off of actions that other communities have taken in addressing the overpopulation of pets in retail sales as well. Commissioner Marshall asked Mrs. Dukes to clarify what unaltered animal means, Mrs. Dukes responded an animal that has not been spayed or neutered. Commissioner Smith asked if this only pertains to cats and dogs, Mrs. Dukes responded, correct. Commissioner Orenstein made a motion to adopt the ordinance, second by Commissioner Marshall. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

BID

Moody Water Storage Tank Rehab

Utilities Director, Steve Stalvey, presented the item. Mr. Stalvey stated Moody Air Force Base (AFB) has a 500,000 gallon water storage tank that is in need of rehab. Moody AFB has secured funds for this project to be performed under the water and wastewater contract with Lowndes County. Two bids were received, with Razor Back, LLC submitting the low bid in the amount of \$149,370.00. Commissioner Marshall made a motion to approve the bid as presented, second by Commissioner Wisenbaker. All voted in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

REPORTS - County Manager

County Manager, Paige Dukes mentioned the below items:

- On Thursday, September 11th, at 10:00 a.m. there will be a 9/11 ceremony held at the Lowndes County Historic Courthouse on the second floor. This year law enforcement is hosting and Senator Russ Goodman will be the guest speaker.
- On Friday, September 12th, there is the Recovery Walk at 10:00 a.m. at the Lowndes County Historic Courthouse sponsored by the Lowndes County DUI Court.
- Next week, Lowndes County will be the host community for the Georgia Peanut Tour, bringing in over 300 attendees.
- Last week, city and county leadership, along with EMA Director, Ashley Tye, met with FEMA, who provided an update stating that everyone who requested and qualified for housing has received it.

Lastly, Mrs. Dukes asked County Attorney, Walter Elliott, to provide an update on the Service Delivery Strategy (SDS). Mr. Elliott stated the SDS statute was recently amended, and the amended new statute will be effective January 1, 2026. It changes the connection between the Comprehensive Plan due date and the SDS process. Under the new statute, the county must initiate the SDS process between April 1 and July 1 of the year after the Comprehensive Plan is due. The due date for the SDS agreement is December 31 of the year after the Comprehensive Plan is due. Lowndes County's Comprehensive Plan is due October 31, 2026. The SDS process would be initiated between April 1 and July 1, 2027, and the statutory due date for the Lowndes County SDS would be December 31, 2027. Mr. Elliott stated yesterday clarification was received from the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) office and that they agree with that analysis.

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