



BALDWIN COUNTY REGULAR MEETING

December 21, 2021

1601 N Columbia St, Suite 220

6:00 PM

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Henry Craig
John Westmoreland
Kendrick Butts
Emily Davis
Sammy Hall

ALSO PRESENT

David McRee
Carlos Tobar
Dawn Hudson
Jill Adams
Cindy Cunningham

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Craig called the December 21, 2021 Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Emily Davis made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2021 Planning Session and December 7, 2021 Public Hearing and Regular Meeting as submitted. Vice Chairman John Westmoreland seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

PRESENATIONS

Certificates of Commendation

Chairman Henry Craig presented Certificates of Commendation to Lieutenant Darien Alexander, Baldwin County Fire Rescue and Officer Jalen Webb, Milledgeville Police Department in appreciation for their heroic actions in saving a citizen from a burning house.

ADMINISTRATIVE / FISCAL MATTERS

2022 Local Maintenance Improvement Grant (LMIG) Program

County Engineer Brian Wood presented the 2022 LMIG Program road list for the Board's approval and submission to the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT). He stated the GDOT LMIG formula amount for 2022 is \$610,724 with a 30% County match of \$183,217 for a total of \$793,941. He stated the scoring system is based on GDOT standards and with the limited amount of resources three (3) roads will be resurfaced with 2022 LMIG funds. These roads are Montego Bay, Lowe Road and Old Plantation Drive.

Commissioner Hall asked what the cost is for resurfacing a mile of road at today's costs. Mr. Wood responded \$125,000 per mile. Chairman Craig stated there are 450 miles of roads in Baldwin County which means a road would be repaved every sixty (60) years at the current LMIG allocation.

Engineer Wood reported the project will be bid and resurfacing should begin fall of 2022.

Vice Chairman Westmoreland made a motion to approve the 2022 LMIG list of roads for submission to the Georgia Department of Transportation. Commissioner Sammy Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Grant Awards

Assistant County Manager Dawn Hudson presented the following grant awards for the Board's consideration:

Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Award for the Solicitor General's office in the amount of \$120,213 with matching funds in the amount of \$30,054 being waived by the granting agency.

Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Award for the District Attorney's office in the amount of \$264,953 with matching funds in the amount of \$66,238 being waived by the granting agency. The District Attorney's office also received a Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Allocation in the amount of \$58,000.

Ocmulgee Judicial Circuit Family Treatment Court Enhancement and Innovation Award in the amount of \$35,504.

Commissioner Emily Davis made a motion to accept all grant awards as presented for the Solicitor General's Office, District Attorney's Office and the Family Treatment Court. Commissioner Kendrick Butts seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Appointment to Twin Lakes Library Board

Chairman Henry Craig stated there is a vacancy on the Library Board due to the expiration of Kathy Nelson's term. He reported Commissioners have received biographical information of Mr. Andrew Herren who has agreed to serve in this position.

Commissioner Sammy Hall made a motion to appoint Mr. Andrew Herren to serve on the Twin Lakes Library Board. Commissioner Emily Davis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Chairman Craig, on behalf of the Commissioners, thanked Mr. Herren for serving in this important capacity.

Airport Committee

Airport Committee Chairman Jim Wolfgang presented recommendations for the Airport Advisory Committee for 2022-2023: Mr. Connor O'Rourke, Ms. Kalina Milani and Mr. Ted Zarkowsky. He discussed each individual and stated that he felt with their backgrounds and aviation experience these members would be great assets to the Committee.

Commissioner Sammy Hall made a motion to approve the recommendations for the Airport Advisory Committee. Commissioner Emily Davis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Wolfgang presented an update on the activities at the airport. He stressed how important the airport is to the community and the region. He thanked Board Members and staff members for their support and service to the airport.

Chairman Craig recognized Jim Wolfgang for volunteering his service to Baldwin County and all the many hours he dedicates to the Airport.

OLD BUSINESS – Update on Old Heath Dept. Building

Vice Chairman John Westmoreland requested an update on the building previously used by the Health Department. County Manager Tobar reported Grady EMS will move into the rehabbed building on December 27th. He stated the Emergency Management Agency (EMA) has already relocated to the building.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Emily Davis requested that a letter be sent to the legislative delegation opposing the incarceration of juveniles. She reported she is not in favor of putting young children in jail. Commissioner Kendrick Butts also stated he will never be in agreement of putting young children in jail. Chairman Craig responded the proposed bill being discussed by legislators will increase the age of minors to 18 years old who would then be considered minors in the judicial system. County Manager Tobar relayed what District Attorney Barksdale said about young affiliates in gangs. He stated the minors are committing the crimes for the gangs because they will be prosecuted as juveniles. District Attorney Barksdale felt this would help deter so much criminal activity by minors.

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT

County Manager Tobar distributed a list of achievements in Baldwin County for the years 2018 – 2021.

COMMENT PERIOD FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Hudman Evans addressed the Board about comments by Department of Transportation representatives at the December 7th meeting. He stated he felt they were very ill prepared in soliciting support for the project especially when presenting a request for a perpetual financial obligation. Mr. Evans commented he is aware that Baldwin County needs to have a good working relationship with the State; however, he feels Commissioners should be given all facts before making a financial commitment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Sammy Hall made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session at 6:58 p.m. to discuss litigation. Commissioner Kendrick butts seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

REOPEN REGULAR MEETING

Commissioner Emily Davis made a motion to reopen the Regular Meeting at 7:55 p.m. Commissioner Sammy Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Emily Davis made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:55 p.m. Commissioner Sammy Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Henry R. Craig
Chairman

Cynthia K. Cunningham
County Clerk