



Jackson County Board of Commissioners

July 1, 2024 at 6:00 PM
Jury Assembly Room - County Courthouse

MINUTES

1. Call to Order - Chairman Tom Crow

Chairman Tom Crow called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioners Present:	Chairman Tom Crow Commissioner Jim Hix, District 1 Commissioner Chas Hardy, District 2 Commissioner Cole Elrod, District 5
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Staff Present:	Kevin Poe, County Manager Gina Roy, Assistant County Manager Ericka Johnson, Deputy Clerk
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Press:	None
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2. Invocation - County Manager Kevin Poe

County Manager Kevin Poe gave the invocation.

3. Pledge of Allegiance - Commissioner Cole Elrod

Commissioner Cole Elrod led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Minutes

A. June 17, 2024 Draft Minutes

To approve the minutes for June 17, 2024

Commissioner Hix moved to approve the minutes for June 17, 2024.
Commissioner Hardy seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 4 – 0)

5. Citizen Input

Each speaker is provided up to four (4) minutes to address the board on any item that is not listed on this agenda.

There were no comments.

6. Reports

There were no reports given.

7. New Business

A. Adopt Resolution calling for a Special Election related to imposition of a One Percent Transportation Special Purpose Local Option Sales and Use Tax

To adopt a resolution calling for a Special Election to vote on whether or not to impose a TSPLOST

Kevin Poe, County Manager, presented a resolution requesting the Jackson County Board of Elections call for a special election to be held on November 5, 2024 for the purpose of voting on the question whether to impose a one-percent TSPLOST for six-years. The special election will coincide with the general election that will take place on the same date. Mr. Poe noted there was an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) that had been approved by the Board of Commissioners and the nine (9) municipalities within Jackson County, that detailed, if approved, how TSPLOST would be disbursed between each jurisdiction and how each jurisdiction planned to spend their share of the TSPLOST proceeds. The approved IGA was part of Exhibit "A" of the attached Resolution.

He asked the board to vote on the matter since the Board of Elections would meet on July 12, 2024. There were no questions from the board. Chairman Crow moved to approve and adopt the resolution calling for a Special Election related to the imposition of a One Percent Transportation Special Purpose Local Option Sales and Use Tax. Commissioner Hardy seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 4 – 0)

8. Adjournment

Chairman Crow declared the meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Work Session Meeting

This portion of the meeting is to facilitate a discussion on matters requiring a more in-depth review, explanation, and analysis. No formal action will be taken on any of the items listed below.

9. Call to Order - Chairman Tom Crow

Chairman Crow called the work session meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

10. New Business

A. Approve the purchase of 10 new LUCAS devices for the Jackson County EMS Department

To approve the purchase of 10 new LUCAS devices for the EMS department

Kevin Poe, County Manager, presented the staff report for a request to purchase ten (10) Lucas chest compression devices for the EMS Department. The

department utilizes these devices as a life-saving measure in their day-to-day operations. He explained the device was a critical piece of equipment utilized to keep a patient breathing during transport to a medical facility. The EMS Department currently had fourteen devices. However, ten of them were now eight years old and were no longer going to be fully supported by the equipment vendor that sells and services the devices.

Mr. Poe stated it was crucial that these devices be replaced. He recommended the purchase of the devices using excess collections of SPLOST 6 funds designated for Public Safety Equipment. The total cost will be \$210,938.30 and included a seven-year factory warranty on each device. There were no questions from the board.

B. Recommendation to name the Jackson County Correctional Institute Fire Station after Joe Dalton

To consider recommendation to name JCCI Fire Station for Joe Dalton

Chairman Tom Crow presented a request to consider naming the Jackson County Correctional Institute Fire Station after Joe Dalton. Mr. Dalton was the first person to implement and head fire brigade with inmates from the Correctional Institute. Chairman Crow added he spearheaded this with no pay. He worked with the county after his tenure as warden for the correctional institute for many years. Chairman Crow thought it was honorable and befitting to name the facility after Mr. Dalton. Chairman Crow estimated the station saved the county approximately \$500,000 to \$1 million dollars per year as opposed to funding a paid department. There were no questions from the board.

C. Performance & Accountability Agreement between Jackson County Industrial Development Authority, Jackson County and Toyota Industries Electric Systems North America, Inc.

To consider approving a Performance & Accountability Agreement(PAA) with Toyota Industries Electric Systems North America, Inc.(TIESNA)

Kevin Poe, presented the staff report. He stated TIESNA planned to construct and operate a new manufacturing facility in Jackson County. He added a portion of the project included the construction of a turn lane along Valentine Industrial Parkway that would transition into the new plant entrance. TIESNA was seeking financial assistance with the required roadway improvements within the County's right of way.

The proposed Performance and Accountability Agreement (PAA) will allow reimbursement of up to \$500,000 of the cost to construct the road improvements investing that TIESNA meets certain performance standards, which include: creating 258 net-new full-time jobs with an average wage of \$58,000/year plus benefits; invest at least \$69,000,000 in private capital investment in the construction; and equipping the new manufacturing plant. Mr. Poe reminded members that the board previously approved a Memorandum of Understanding with TIESNA which laid the groundwork for the PAA.

If approved, TIESNA would receive a reimbursement of up to \$500,000.

However, if they don't meet the required criteria concerning jobs and investment, then they will only receive a percentage of the funds. The plan is currently under construction, and they hope to begin operations in December 2025. And reimbursement will likely occur in 2026 from the Economic Development Bonds.

D. New Georgia Fund 1 Prime Investment Account

To request approval for Finance to set up an alternative investment option for Jackson County through the Georgia Office of State Treasurer, Georgia Fund 1 Prime. The objective of the pool is to offer the potential for greater return for strategic cash investments, over Georgia Fund 1, by adding credit-oriented investments.

Kevin Poe, County Manager, explained this was a request for the county to establish an alternative investment option. Jackson County currently utilizes a local government investment pool, Georgia Fund 1. Mr. Poe said there was a new investment option that could potentially capture a higher percentage on investments, particularly regarding the county fund reserves.

Alisha Gamble, Finance Director, addressed the board. She explained the county averaged a 90-day return on investments. However, the new investment option will shorten that time to 60 days or fewer. Ms. Gamble advised the goal was to deposit the funds and not withdraw them as per the county's Fund Balance Policy and let them grow. Each year at the budget cycle, staff would adjust according to the Fund Balance Policy. Any extra funds, could be transferred and utilized for capital and operational funding. Ms. Gamble also confirmed funds could be transferred at any time and there was mandatory training for staff members prior to opening the account. She also stated staff recommended moving \$22.5 million based on the 2024 budget.

E. Award Contract for County Government Complex Entrance Landscaping

Award Contract for County Government Complex Entrance Landscaping to Worldscapes, LLC in the amount of \$358,765 and amend the Capital project budget to reflect the bid amount awarded

Kevin Poe, County Manager, reported sealed bids were received to complete wall installations and landscaping installation and maintenance at two primary entrance locations of the Jackson County Government Complex located off Jackson Parkway at the intersections of State Routes 15 and 82. Two bids were received, and the low bid was from Worldscapes LLC in the amount of \$326,150. Mr. Poe reported there would be significant landscaping improvements and most of the vegetation would be low maintenance.

The bid included a one year maintenance of everything installed. Staff also asked for a 10% contingency. The project was not budgeted, so a budget amendment was needed. Mr. Poe confirmed this project would not have a significant financial impact on the FY24 budget. The total, including the 10% contingency, was \$358,765.

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F. **Award Bid and Amend Budget for East Jackson Park Court Repair & Resurfacing**

To award bid and amend project budget for East Jackson Park Courts Repair & Resurfacing

Kevin Poe, County Manager, reported the staff wanted to piggyback off of a contract with Cobb County for the resurfacing of tennis and basketball courts for the county's Parks & Recreation Department. A low bid was received from Signature Tennis Courts in order to facilitate court resurfacing and repair of the tennis courts located at East Jackson Park for a total cost of \$72,070. The Recreation Department obtained a second quote that was higher than the bid from the recommended vendor. \$40,000 for this project was approved as part of the Jackson County Capital Project List for Fiscal Year 2024.

An additional \$32,070 will be added to the project in an adjustment to the capital fund upon Board approval. This bid has been reviewed by staff and our recommendation is to award the bid to Signature Tennis Courts. Mr. Poe reported the total cost was \$72,070. This would resurface two (2) tennis courts and the basketball court. He added this would also include striping for pickleball, which was becoming very popular.

11. **Adjournment**

Chairman Crow declared the meeting adjourned at 6:21 p.m.

Jackson County Board of Commissioners
Approved: July 15, 2024



Tom Crow, Chairman

Jim Hix, District 1 Commissioner

Chas Hardy, District 2 Commissioner

Vacant, District 3 Commissioner

Marty Seagraves, District 4 Commissioner

Cole Elrod, District 5 Commissioner

Attest: Ericka Johnson
Ericka Johnson, Deputy Clerk