



Jackson County Board of Commissioners

November 7, 2022 at 6:00 PM
Jury Assembly Room - County Courthouse

MINUTES

1. Call to Order - Commissioner Chas Hardy

Commissioner Chas Hardy, serving as vice-chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Commissioners Present: Jim Hix, Commissioner District 1
Chas Hardy, Commissioner District 2
Marty Seagraves, Commissioner District

Staff Present: Kevin Poe, County Manager
Gina Roy, Assistant County Manager
Jamie Dove, Public Development Manager
Ericka Johnson, Deputy Clerk

Press: Mike Buffington, Mainstreet New/Jackson Herald

2. Invocation - Commissioner Jim Hix, District 1

Commissioner Jim Hix gave the invocation.

3. Pledge of Allegiance - Commissioner Chas Hardy

Commissioner Chas Hardy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Minutes

A. Consider approval of the minutes for October 17, 2022

To consider approval of the minutes for October 17, 2022

Commissioner Hix moved to to approve the minutes for October 17, 2022. Commissioner Seagraves seconded the motion. The vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. (Vote 3 – 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.

- Beverly Valliere, who lived Doster Road, addressed the board. She reported on the dangers of vehicles approaching mail delivery trucks while delivering the mail. She thought reflectors on the trucks were needed for awareness.

- Gabe Stewart, 136 Sawtooth Oak Drive, Jefferson, GA spoke to bring awareness concerning the Gum Springs school crossing on Gum Springs Church Road. He shared that there were many kids who had to cross the road for school. Currently, there are no school crossing guards. He suggested something was needed to slow the traffic in the area.
- Leslie Wirght, 57 Chickasaw Trail, Jefferson, GA spoke, along with her son, Reece, regarding how dangerous it was to cross the street at Gum Springs Church Road. Ms. Wright said her son, who was blind, often walked to school. She wanted something placed to deter the speed in the area.

6. Reports

From Assistant County Manager Gina Roy: 1) She reported the County offices will be closed on Friday, November 11, 2022 in observance of Veterans Day and 2) She also advised of a special award and presentation of a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) grant awarded to the Jackson County Senior Center in the amount of \$1 million dollars. The Board of Commissioners matched the grant in the amount of \$1.2 million dollars. A group photograph was taken of the Board of Commissioners, Ms. Roy, and Kathy Branyon, Senior Center Director.

7. New Business - Work Session

A. Request Renewal of Annual Audit Contract with Mauldin & Jenkins

Mauldin and Jenkins has been the County's audit firm since 2017, with the last contract expiring with the 2021 audit. The purpose of this request is to renew the contract at a 5-year term as presented.

Gina Roy, Assistant County Manager, presented the staff report on the request to renew the annual audit contract with Mauldin & Jenkins. Ms. Roy reported Mauldin & Jenkins was the County's audit firm since 2017 and the contract was scheduled to expire. A quote was provided to renew the contract for a 5-year term. Historical prices were provided. She recommended approval of the contract to renew the 5-year contract with Mauldin & Jenkins. There were no questions from the board.

B. Renovations & Site Work, Gordon Street Center

To award contract for Renovations & Site Work at the Gordon Street Center. Gina Roy, Assistant County Manager, presented the staff report. This was a request for renovations and site work at the Gordon Street Center. Bids were taken for the proposed work for an area in front of the facility for the Elections & Voter Registration Department. The proposed work included providing for ADA compliance and to provide for additional parking. One bid was received from Scroggs & Grizzel Contracting, Inc. from Clermont, GA. The base bid was \$421,264, which was reviewed by the engineer/architect and by county staff.

C. Fiscal Year 2023 Aging Services Contract

SFY 2023 Aging Services Contract with the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission. The contract is for the period from July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023. Authorize the Chairman to sign contract.

Gina Roy, Assistant County Manager, reported this was the annual renewal of the Aging Services contract with the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission for the Senior Center. The contract was for the period beginning July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. The funding provides services to help with the senior center activities. There were no questions from the board.

D. Sign and acknowledge the formation of the Commerce Land Bank

Agree to the formation of the Commerce Land Bank

Gina Roy, Assistant County Manager, reported the City of Commerce had expressed a desire to form a Commerce Land Bank, a formal board that will acquire tax delinquents, heir property, or lost property from the Tax Commissioner's Office. She explained that per the Georgia State Code, in order for a land bank to be created by a municipality, the county must be named in the creation of the land bank. She further explained Jackson County will provide the acknowledgement needed by law to allow the City of Commerce to form a Land Bank. There was no representation by Jackson County and there was no financial obligation under the agreement.

E. Revision of the Solid Waste Transfer Station Tipping Fee Schedule

To request that the Board of Commissioners approve a revised tipping fee schedule for the Solid Waste Transfer Station.

Gina Roy, Assistant County Manager, presented the staff report. She explained in order to absorb increases in operational costs and to provide funding for capital improvements to the Transfer Station facilities, it was recommended to revise the tipping fee schedule. She reviewed the proposed rates as follows:

- 0 - 500 Tons - Current rate was \$58/ton; Proposed New Increase to \$65/ton
- 501 - 1000 Tons - Current rate was \$56.50/ton; Proposed New Increase to 63.50/ton
- Over 1,000 tons - Current rate was \$55/ton; Proposed New Increase to \$62/ton

She advised this was basically supply and demand. She also noted, if approved, these fees would not be the highest in the region nor were they the lowest. There were no questions from the board.

F. 2023 Local Maintenance Improvement Grant (LMIG)

Approve the 2023 list of roads for resurfacing under the LMIG program.

Gina Roy, Assistant County Manager, presented the staff report for the 2023 Local Maintenance Improvement Grant (LMIG). This is the annual grant for the resurfacing of county roads with funding from the Georgia Department of Transportation. The 2023 LMIG formula amount for Jackson County was \$931,111.25. There was a 30% local match in the amount of \$279,333.38 and will be covered by SPLOST funds classified for Roads and Bridges. Staff proposed 11.78 miles of county roads for resurfacing with a total project cost of \$1,210,444.62. Commissioner Hix anticipated if SPLOST 7 were to pass, the county could possibly double the amount of proposed paving.

G. Fairview Community Center & Property

Board of Commissioners approval to accept offer from Fairview Community Club of building and 2 acres of property located at 102 Fairview road off Highway 60

Gina Roy, Assistant County Manager, presented the staff report. The Fairview Community Club offered the use of their community center building and two (2) acres to the Jackson County Board of Commissioners for use by the Parks and Recreation Department. The building is approximately 4,000 square feet with a kitchen, restrooms, storage areas and a great room. Ms. Roy reported some additions were needed to the property. The additions would include a small playground, a sand volleyball court, a pavilion with a fire pit, an outdoor pickle ball court, perimeter fencing, and a paved parking lot. The commission reviewed the letter submitted by the Fairview Community Board outlining four (4) conditions.

1. The center and land will be used for its intended purpose for recreation and community events thru the Jackson County Parks and Recreation Department.
2. If Jackson County ceases to use the land and center for its stated purpose of recreation or community use, it will revert back to the Fairview Community Board.
3. No athletic field lighting will be stalled on the property. This is not a restriction on security lighting for the parking lot or Center.
4. A perimeter fence or barrier be installed to allow access to the Center and land during normal operation hours or scheduled events.

It was noted that this was a great opportunity to provide a center in the area where services were lacking. Ricky Sanders, Parks and Recreation Director, advised the club used the facility for a number of years. But now, many are older and are unable to maintain it. Mr. Sanders also believed this opportunity was a great opportunity to provide additional space to rent for birthday parties, gatherings, and other social events. There were no questions from the board.

H. Change Order #5 - Motorola Solutions, Inc. - P25 Public Safety Radio System Installation

To approve Change Order #5 with Motorola Solutions, Inc. related to installation of the new P25 Public Safety Radio System.

Gina Roy, Assistant County Manager, advised this was a request for the P25 Public Safety Radio System installation project with a budget impact of \$302,053. SPLOST 6 will fund the project and approximately 50% of the cost will be reimbursed by other agencies utilizing the radio system. Ms. Roy stated this was a change order for a number of items. \$22,500 of the change order involved the installation of radio towers. \$3,000 of the change order was to cover the cost of adding a feature that would allow the county the ability to enable/disable the mutual aid function on a certain radio if necessary. Most importantly, Jackson County EMS requested to provide a radio console to St. Mary's, Piedmont, and Northeast Georgia hospitals to have a dedicated radio to communicate with hospitals while transporting patients. The majority of the change order was for the purchase of additional radios and accessories. Also, the Jackson County Water & Sewer Authority has expressed interest and now wants to be added to the system and they will be ordering

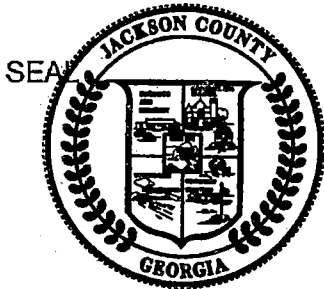
equipment. Additional radios were also added for use by the JCCI Fire Brigade. Bryan Bullock, EMA Director, reported staff had saved money in other areas by installing weather sirens in-house and by applying for a FEMA grant for approximately \$1 million dollars.

8. **Adjournment**

Commissioner Chas Hardy declared the meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

Minutes Approved: November 21, 2022

Jackson County Board of Commissioners



Attest:

Ericka Johnson
Ericka Johnson, Deputy Clerk

Tom Crow

Tom Crow, Chairman

Jim Bix

Jim Bix, District 1 Commissioner

Chas Hardy

Chas Hardy, District 2 Commissioner

Ralph Richardson, Jr.

Ralph Richardson, Jr., District 3 Commissioner

Marty Seagraves

Marty Seagraves, District 4 Commissioner